

FORRESTFIELD TEE / BASE / SOFT BALL ASSOCIATION - POLICY

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2	LEONIE DOWNING	9 MAY 2014
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4	MARK BAKER	9 DECEMBER 2019

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Official Positions

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Assistant Secretary / Treasurer
Registrar / Recorder
Chief Umpire
Chief Coach
(The above positions form the executive)

Assistant Chief Umpire
Assistant Chief Coach
Property Officer
Officer Grounds Marksperson/s
TBWA Delegates (2)
Club Coordinator
State Coordinator

2. Age Groupings

Category	Types	Age
Sub Juniors	Mixed	Boys and Girls who are under seven at June 30 after the season
Juniors	Mixed	Boys and Girls who are under ten at June 30 after the playing season
Seniors	Mixed	Boys and Girls who are under thirteen at June 30 after the playing season

A player may be moved from their allocated category upon

- Recommendation of the Chief Coach; and
- Endorsement of the Executive Committee; and
- Approval of the Parent or Guardian.

Players outside the age grouping may be included:

- When a player is invited by the committee; or
- When a parent puts a written request into the committee; and
- The nomination is supported by the Chief Coach; and
- The nomination is endorsed by the Executive committee.

3. Game Times

- 3.1. Games shall be played at FTBSBA home grounds, Forrestfield;
- 3.2. Game times shall be decided upon by the committee prior to the start of each season and dependent on the number and age of teams, and how many diamonds are available for use;
- 3.3. Other games as directed by the Committee.

4. Training

- 4.1. All age groups shall train at FTBSBA home grounds, Forrestfield on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday ONLY, for a 45min-2 hour session, with Monday and Fridays reserved specifically reserved for State team training.

FTBSBA HOME GROUNDS IS THE VENUE THAT IS COVERED BY THE INSURANCE GIVEN TO US BY THE TEEBALL ASSOCIATION GOVENING BODY – IF ANY COACH WISHES TO TRAIN OUTSIDE OF THE CURRENT PLAYING FIELDS CONSENT MUST BE GIVEN BY THE EXECUTIVE.

- 4.2. Teams are not permitted to train on the diamonds after the third playing date

5. Recording Game Counts

Players will be credited games as follows:

- 5.1. One game per player per day for allocated teams
- 5.2. One game if filling in for another team.
- 5.3. One game for each game played in the TBAWA Lightning (club) Carnival
- 5.4. One game for any inter-club scratch match played in the lead up to State Championships.
- 5.5. One game for each TBAWA “State Championship” game.
- 5.6. One game for each TBAWA affiliated pre-State Championships Carnival game played.
- 5.7. One game for each TBAWA “Super Squad” game played
 - 5.7.1. Official game count MUST be confirmed by TBAWA prior to awarding the final game count for Super Squad Players.

6. Team Allocation

- 6.1. A grading committee that comprises of committee personnel invited to attend by the President will allocate players to teams.
- 6.2. Requests will be considered in relation to team allocation; subject to committee discretion based on supporting a fair and even competition..
- 6.3. All allocations made by the grading committee will remain confidential until the team lists are made available to the coaching staff.
- 6.4. Players who continue not to show up at training may be delegated to the bench for the first innings. The Chief Coach will be the sole arbitrator should there be any dissention over that player.
- 6.5. Parents should forward a written submission if their child has a disadvantage / disability, which will be considered by the grading committee on an individual basis.
- 6.6. No grading committee member shall be involved in the grading of an age group that their child plays in, or intends to play in, in the upcoming season.
- 6.7. All team selections shall be overseen and endorsed by the Chief Coach

7. Codes of Behaviour

There shall be no smoking or partaking of alcohol or drugs during any club sanctioned activities. Players and parents MUST sign a Code of Conduct at the start of each season. Parents shall sign on behalf of the family and any person/s invited by them or their child to watch the child's tee ball game or training session (eg, grandparents, family friends, etc). Any breaches of the code shall be dealt with accordingly. The Code of Conduct is based on that below:"

7.1. Player Responsibilities

- 7.1.1. Learn the rules of Tee Ball and always play them well.
- 7.1.2. Never argue with an umpire, players, coaches or officials. If you have a problem, discuss it with your coach and allow them to take the necessary action.
- 7.1.3. Your coach or umpires will not tolerate verbal abuse, spitting on hands or deliberate interference with opponents.
- 7.1.4. Strive to play to the best of your ability at all times, both at practice and during games.
- 7.1.5. Respect the time and efforts put in by your coaches and officials. They deserve your support and full commitment.
- 7.1.6. Tee Ball is a team game. Encourage your team mates even when they make mistakes. Remember every player makes errors and has off days. Never ridicule opponents or team mates.
- 7.1.7. Accept that at times you may be required to take a turn on the bench. When on the bench encourage your team and be prepared to play at all times.
- 7.1.8. Respect your opponents and appreciate their good play. Without opposition you would not be able to play the game of Tee Ball.
- 7.1.9. Play to enjoy the game and improve your Tee Ball skills.
- 7.1.10. Respect the equipment provided for your use. Tee Ball equipment is very expensive and should be used responsibly. Abuse of equipment such as throwing helmets or bats will not be tolerated.
- 7.1.11. Always think safety to avoid injuries to yourself and others.
- 7.1.12. Foul language of any sort will not be tolerated.
- 7.1.13. Players must still maintain their obligations to their club teams at both training and games.

7.2. Parent Responsibilities

- 7.2.1. Children play Tee Ball for fun. Accept any mistakes as part of their learning process. Remember they are playing for their enjoyment not yours.
- 7.2.2. Don't leave your child at Tee Ball. Stay and support the team, volunteer to help and discuss your child's progress with the coach.
- 7.2.3. Applaud good play from both teams and encourage your child to accept that an honest effort is as important as victory.
- 7.2.4. Encourage your child to always play within the rules of Tee Ball and accept the umpire's decision.
- 7.2.5. Never ridicule, abuse or yell at a child for making mistakes or losing a game.

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- 7.2.6. Offensive behaviour from parents or spectators is not acceptable under the rules of Tee Ball and stern action will be taken against offenders
- 7.2.7. Recognize the value and importance of the volunteer coaches and officials. They give their time and knowledge to provide organized Tee Ball for your child and deserves your respect and support.
- 7.2.8. Tee Ball is a team game. Accept and understand that at all times your child may be asked to take a turn on the bench.
- 7.2.9. Not all children can be champions. Do not force an unwilling child to participate in teeball or accept more from your child than their best efforts.
- 7.2.10. If you disagree with an official or coach, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than question the person in public.
- 7.2.11. Foul language of any sort will not be tolerated.
- 7.2.12. Support and encourage all of the team, not only your child, remember that the coach is there for the whole team and not individuals.
- 7.2.13. As commitment to training is essential, the coach must be advised if a player cannot attend a training session. It is important to note that training for State Squads often proceeds through the Christmas break
- 7.2.14. Must advise the coach by the previous evening if their child is not going to be available through either injury or illness to enable a substitute player to be called in.
- 7.2.15. Derisive comments aimed at the umpire are unacceptable and only bring the club into disrepute.
- 7.2.16. Videotaping of club and state games are to be given consent by parents in both teams before videoing commences. No video is to be released into public viewing and gallery

7.3. Coach Responsibilities

- 7.3.1. Be reasonable in your demands on young player's time and energy.
- 7.3.2. Always think safety first.
- 7.3.3. Know the rules of Tee Ball and ensure your players always play within the rules.
- 7.3.4. Develop team respect for opponents and officials. Do not abuse or ridicule players or officials and do not allow your players to do so.
- 7.3.5. Ensure any discussions with umpires are kept below the level of an argument. Remember your players look to you for example, how you accept a decision will be reflected in your players.
- 7.3.6. Discipline should be fair and consistent. Ensure your players know what is expected of them at training and during games.
- 7.3.7. Do not tolerate players abusing equipment or misbehaving to the detriment of the other players at the time.
- 7.3.8. Keep yourself informed of sound coaching principles and seek more skilled advice when necessary.
- 7.3.9. Remember your players are playing Tee Ball for their enjoyment. Endeavor to make the learning process both pleasurable and informative.

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7.3.10. Remember players need a coach they can respect. Be generous with your praise when deserved and set a good example.

7.3.11. Foul language of any sort will not be tolerated.

8. Umpiring

- 8.1. The FTBSBA relies on volunteer, generally accredited, to umpire club and state games. It is a direct contravention of TBAWA bylaws that anyone should argue with or harass (verbally or implied) an umpire, particularly a Level 1 umpire.
- 8.2. The FTBSBA will not tolerate the use of video film of teeball games to attack the credibility of umpires. Any appeals or protests should be lodged in the correct manner and in accordance with the TBAWA rules. If any person comes under notice for using video film in the above manner, then that person will be requested to attend the next meeting of the committee where further consideration will be given to the matter.
- 8.3. All members will have the opportunity to attend a TBAWA umpiring accreditation course with the cost covered by the club. Coaches will also be encouraged to attend an umpiring accreditation course to ensure a full understanding of the rules and expectations of umpires.
- 8.4. Those attending an umpiring clinic will be expected to AT LEAST base umpire 3 games within the season for FTBSBA.
- 8.5. The Chief Umpire shall intervene at any club game as required to settle a dispute or rectify incorrect calls as an opportunity to educate umpires, coaches, players and parents of rule interpretations.
- 8.6. Players umpiring will be subject to assessment and at the final discretion of the Chief Umpire.

9. Coaching

- 9.1. The FTBSBA shall cover the cost of coaches attending the TBAWA level "A" coaching clinics
- 9.2. That any person between the ages of 15 to 18 be able to coach a team, but must always be accompanied by an adult at all training sessions and games.
- 9.3. At the beginning of game, one coach per team is to be stipulated to call "Time"

10. Awards and Trophies

- 10.1. Medallions or trophies will be awarded for 50, 100, 150, 200 and 250 games respectively
- 10.2. The "Club Person/s of the Year" award, which is a perpetual trophy or honour board, is awarded as follows:
 - 10.2.1. The recipient will be selected by the executive.
 - 10.2.2. Executive members are excluded.
 - 10.2.3. Nominations can be provided by any person in the association and the award must be for services to the association over the current season that the Executive determines is worthy of recognition.
- 10.3. The following trophies will be presented at the closing ceremony (windup):
 - 10.3.1. Premiership teams in Juniors and Seniors will receive the respective perpetual shield and individual trophies to each member of the teams.

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10.4. All other playing members will receive participation trophies

10.4.1. To receive a participation trophy at the end of the season a player must pay all fees, attend most training sessions and play at least 50% of games within that season unless there is illness or other reason which prevents the child from playing. A doctor's certificate may be required for proof of illness. Any other claim must be put to the committee in writing.

10.5. State Championship representatives will receive an additional trophy, medallion or other recognition of club representation.

11. Uniforms

11.1. The club shirt shall be Royal Blue and Red with a printed or embroidered motif.

11.2. The club hat will be blue with red and white trim bearing the Forrestfield Flyers logo

11.3. The club playing hat will be a blue Legionnaire style cap bearing the "Forrestfield Flyers" logo in red with white highlighting.

11.4. The coach is responsible for the uniforms and they are not to be worn to and from the games.

11.5. Each child is to purchase their own blue tee ball pants and red knee-high socks at the beginning of season to be worn at each game.

11.6. Disposal of old uniforms is at the discretion of the committee and cannot be utilized for another sport without approval.

11.7. No deviation from the uniform standard will be considered.

12. Equipment

12.1. Coaches will be issued with a kit bag containing all required equipment for the season. Extra items can be requested from the Property Officer and all equipment is to be returned at the end of the playing season.

12.2. Issued equipment shall not be swapped between teams without written consent of the Property Officer.

12.3. Shades are provided for protection from the sun for teams and scorers. Shades for twilight games will be erected at the discretion of the committee.

13. State Championships

13.1. State Coach Selection

13.1.1. State coach nominations for each respective age group will be called for by the State Coordinator and submitted to the Executive for consideration no later than 7 days prior to the first trial. Where there is more than one nomination for each position, the Executive and the State Coordinator will conduct a vote for the position. Should an Executive member nominate for State Coach, then that person will not be permitted to vote on his or her own appointment.

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13.2. State Team Selection.

- 13.2.1. State team try-outs to be commenced within the first three weeks of November.
- 13.2.2. All financial registered players are eligible to try out for a state team. Nomination forms should be submitted no later than 7 days prior to the first trial.
- 13.2.3. The Executive committee shall appoint a selection committee prior to trials. It is recommended to have an uneven number on the selection committee.
- 13.2.4. Chief Coach is the sole arbitrator should there be any discussion over players selected for a state team.
- 13.2.5. Players are to be judged primarily on their merits throughout the trials with consideration placed on previous performance within that current season.
- 13.2.6. There should be a minimum of two and a maximum of three trials before selection commences. The selection committee shall decide at the end of a second trial if a third trial date is required.
- 13.2.7. Players **MUST** attend a minimum of two trials to be considered for a state squad position. If unable to attend a minimum of two trials, the reason for non-attendance should be submitted in writing to the committee for approval.
- 13.2.8. State team trials should be for a maximum of two hours per session.
- 13.2.9. Criteria of skills levels should be clearly defined by the HEAD Coach prior to try-outs commencing (e.g. throwing, batting, catching and game knowledge).
- 13.2.10. No player shall be recalled unless they are to be utilised.
- 13.2.11. Team selection is to be finalised within 24 hours of the final prestate carnival.
- 13.2.12. The final team is to consist of a maximum of 12 players. Substitutes can only be utilised to cover illness or injury.
- 13.2.13. No player should sit two or more consecutive innings on the bench when the team is fielding, AS PER TBAWA OFFICIAL RULES.

13.3. Conduct

- 13.3.1. As per "Codes of Behavior" section 7.

13.4. Training

- 13.4.1. FTBSBA Home grounds.

13.5. Training Times

- 13.5.1. State training days shall be on Monday and/or Friday for a 1-2 hour session
- 13.5.2. Commencement time and day at the coaches discretion

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13.6. Dress

13.6.1. Dress standards for players

- 13.6.1.1. Shirt tucked in
- 13.6.1.2. Socks up
- 13.6.1.3. Sporting footwear

13.6.2. Dress standards for coaches and team officials

- 13.6.2.1. Club shirt
- 13.6.2.2. Enclosed footwear
- 13.6.2.3. A maximum of four club shirts may be issued for each State team for use by team officials, to be returned on completion of their duties.

13.7. Inter Club Scratch Matches

- 13.7.1. Teams to be in uniform
- 13.7.2. The Chief Coach has the responsibility for coordinating inter-club scratch matches.

13.8. State Team Windups

- 13.8.1. Location to be determined at the February committee meeting.
- 13.8.2. All teams to attend agreed location.
- 13.8.3. State teams to be presented with State Championship participation medallions at club closing ceremony.

13.9. State Coach Development

The sub-committee believes that:

- a) All coaches should actively be must attain level A coaching standard.
- b) In house instruction on tactics for post level A coaches be organised.
- c) Group discussions involving past and present State Coaches are organised to ensure "downstream" use of experience gained at State Championships over many years.

13.10.State Team Sponsorship

- 13.10.1. The Club will endeavor to arrange sponsors for all participating state teams.
- 13.10.2. The Club will charge the sponsors an amount equivalent to the cost of providing the players recognition.

13.11.State Team Fees

- 13.11.1. A fee may be charged to a child playing in a State Championship team to cover the costs of club entry to carnivals, uniforms and various functions. This fee shall be determined by the committee each season.
- 13.11.2. Fees must be fully paid prior to the 31st December of the playing season.

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14. Sponsorship

Tee Ball - Reviewed annually and adjusted accordingly as determined by the Executive Committee.

15. Fees

- 15.1. Fees shall be determined by the committee prior to each playing season.
- 15.2. Fees to be paid prior to the FOURTH playing date and a non-refundable deposit of \$20 must be paid on registration day.
- 15.3. If fees or a payment plan are not implemented on behalf of the player with the treasurer by the FOURTH playing date the players' coach will be advised and the said player will not be able to participate in any further games including state games and lead up carnivals. This is to be placed onto the registration form.
- 15.4. Any exceptions shall be approved by the Executive committee.

16. Financial Assistance

The FTBSBA support past and present members who have been selected to play in State or National teams for baseball or softball, provided that:

- a) The application is in writing
- b) Approval is at the discretion of the FTBSBA committee.
- c) Past and present members must have been a member of the FTBSBA for at least three years to be eligible for the maximum of \$200.
- d) Maximum of \$600 per year is allocated for junior participation.
- e) Any exceptions shall be approved by the Executive committee.
- f) single, one-time payment for past members under age 18.

17. General Rulings

17.1. TBA Oval Ground Rules

- 17.1.1. Balls hit over the boundary fence ON THE FULL result in a home run.
- 17.1.2. Balls that hit the fence and bounce back into play will NOT stop play.
- 17.1.3. Balls hit UNDER the fence, or that bounce before going over the fence, shall award the batter 2 more bases from where the player was when the ball passed the fence line.
- 17.2. An infield hit means a sub-junior player can run a MAXIMUM of 1 base. An outfield hit means a player can run a MAXIMUM of 2 bases.
- 17.3. A player must occupy a different position after each second innings. No player can re-occupy that same position in that game.
- 17.4. Players must not change positions in an innings unless injured.
- 17.5. No player should sit two or more consecutive times on the bench when the team is fielding, AS PER TBABA OFFICIAL RULES.
- 17.6. In the first four innings a player must play at least once in an infield and at least once in an outfield position.

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- 17.6.1. Coaches are expected to rotate players fairly so each player spends equal time in each position throughout the season.
- 17.7. Stronger players should be encouraged to backup and support weaker players and not “overplay” their team mates. If an out is the result of “overplay”, the runner shall be deemed “safe”.
- 17.8. No player in the sub-junior competition may be run down by the pitcher whilst attempting to run to first base.
- 17.9. Pitchers in all age groups must wear a helmet with a facemask and a chest plate for protection.
- 17.10. Orange safety bag is to be used for sub-juniors and juniors.
- 17.11. Under age players are not permitted to play in a higher age group unless there are less than nine players of the correct age in that team.
- 17.12. Players borrowed from other teams must meet the criteria set by the Chief Coach of the season.
 - 17.12.1. Teams may not borrow a player in order to strengthen their team significantly, but must look to develop younger or weaker players in the first instance.
- 17.13. “Super Squad” selection will be by ballot of the committee, however, nominees must satisfy the following criteria:
 - 17.14. An excellent ambassador of the FTBSBA
 - 17.15. Must be mobile and able to attend “Super Squad” games throughout the metropolitan area.
 - 17.16. Among the club’s better players
 - 17.17. Super squad players nominated MUST be in the last two eligible years of playing at the club.
 - 17.18. Players shall be expected to pay fifty-percent of the TBAWA Super Squad fees.
 - 17.19. The executive committee at the ground will make a decision as to cancellation of games due to inclement weather on the day.
 - 17.20. Working with Children checks
 - 17.21. Adult officials without children playing at the club MUST have a valid Working With Children check. The Registrar must sight the certificate/licence prior to the season.
 - 17.22. Other adult officials are encouraged to also have a valid Working with Children check.

18. Extreme Weather Rulings

18.1. Heat

- 18.1.1. All players must have a water bottle. Tap water will be made available if required – please see the canteen.
 - 18.1.1.1. Water will also be for sale during the day from the canteen.
- 18.1.2. Sunscreen should be applied to all players. This should be arranged with the parents to ensure it is applied correctly.
- 18.1.3. Shade covers will be provided for scorers and teams. Players should be kept under cover or in the shade when not on the diamond or in the warm up circle.
 - 18.1.3.1. Parents must bring their own shade and not share player tents.



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18.2. Wet Weather

- 18.2.1. Rain will NOT stop play unless deemed dangerous by the committee or the umpire of a particular game.
- 18.2.2. In the event of lightning, games shall be called off by the committee or umpire if there is deemed to be a possible danger to players and/or others in the vicinity.
- 18.2.3. Games MUST have 2 complete innings for the determination of a winner.
 - 18.2.3.1. Any games called off with less than two complete innings shall be declared a tie, with the final score being 7 runs each.

19. Penalties

- 19.1. When the registrar finds that a team offends club policy, a warning will be issued. Any further contravention of club policy will be taken to the committee for further decision.

20. Communications & Social Media Policy

20.1. Our Commitment

Electronic communication is essential for sharing club news and information with our members. Our communication will be timely, appropriate and related to club business.

20.2. What we will do

We will use a range of electronic tools to communication with our members. Our communication will protect members' privacy, maintain clear boundaries and ensure that bullying and harassment does not occur.

Web administrators will be appointed to provide accountability and control over material published on our club's website and any related discussion groups or social media websites, such as Facebook, YouTube or Twitter. These administrators will consist of at least 2 Executive Committee members.

20.3. Website

- Our website will include current information on competitions, social events, committees, policies, constitution, rules and by-laws.
- No offensive content or photos will be published.
- If we intend to publish a photo of a child, we will first seek permission from his or her parents and take care not to provide identifying information. Permission from parents shall be indicated on the registration form of the child.
- We will seek feedback from members to improve the information available on the site.

20.4. SMS and email

Committee members, coaches and team managers may use SMS and email to provide information about competitions, training, club-sanctioned social events and other club business, however:

- SMS messages should be short and about club/team matters
- Email communication will be used when more information is required
- Communication involving children will be directed through their parents

The club may decide to pass on information from other sporting clubs in the area regarding their registration days, special offers, fundraising, etc at the request of the other club. The decision to pass on such information shall be fair and equitable to the requesting club and shall not in any way be deemed to negatively affect the membership base of our club.

20.5. Social Media Websites

- We treat all social media postings, blogs, status updates and tweets as public 'comment'.
- Postings (written, photos or videos) will be family-friendly and feature positive club news and events.
- No personal information about our members will be disclosed.
- No statement will be made that are misleading, false or likely to injure a person's reputation.
- No statements will be made that might bring out club into disrepute.
- Abusive, discriminatory, intimidating or offensive statements will not be tolerated. Offending posts will be removed and those responsible will be blocked from the site.

The club's Facebook page shall be closed to the public and available only to members of the club. Administrators reserve the right to either grant or not grant permission for access to the club's Facebook page by the club's members. This decision will be made on an individual basis and shall be fair and equitable to all members requesting permission for access. A decision shall be made by the Administrators in a reasonable amount of time.

20.6. What we ask you to do

We expect our members to conduct themselves appropriately when using electronic communication to share information with other members or posting material on public websites connected to the club.

Electronic communication:

- should be restricted to club matters
- must not offend, intimidate, humiliate or bully another person
- must not be misleading, false or injure the reputation of another person
- should respect and maintain the privacy of members
- must not bring the club into disrepute.

Coaches and others who work with children and young people must direct electronic communication through the child's parents.

20.7. Non-compliance

Members may face disciplinary action for send inappropriate electronic communication or posting online content or comments that harass, offend, intimidate or humiliate another member, as outlined in the club's Code of Conduct.

Under certain circumstances, cyber bullying (eg bullying that is carried out through an internet service such as email, a chat room, discussion group, instant messaging or website) is a criminal offence that can be reported to the police.

In addition, members who publish false or misleading comments about another person in the public domain (eg Facebook, YouTube or Twitter) may be liable for defamation.

