



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS T-BALL

### EASTERN SUBURBS JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE

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Tee Ball (and Baseball) are great games for children of both sexes involving batting, running and ball handling skills, featuring quick games for younger teams. Children around 6 years and up to 7 years of age (as at 1<sup>st</sup> September start of the summer season) play T-Ball. Players who have turned 8 years old by the start of the season generally play "machine pitch" inter-club baseball. That is followed by normal "player pitch" baseball at League Ages 10 to 16 [Refer to the FAQ - Interclub Competition]. Some flexibility exists for age cut-off in T-ball, decided by the Junior Club Registrar.

The Eastern Suburbs Junior Baseball League ("**Dolphins**") has been operating since 1992 as a friendly, not-for-profit, volunteer run baseball club, operating with qualified baseball coaches. Our club has a COVID19 Safety Plan to help ensure a safe playing and training environment.

- **Q1 WHAT IS T-BALL?**

T-Ball involves batting a ball from a Tee with a round bat, running bases and throwing/catching a safety baseball. The game helps develop hand-eye coordination, teamwork and running and strategy skills and is non-contact. All club teams are mixed boys and girls. T-ball is a great fun activity for young children. We emphasise team participation with the aim of introducing children to T-Ball and letting them enjoy themselves while learning skills so when older they can move into the inter-club competitive teams, where our club teams compete with teams from other junior baseball clubs.

- **Q2 IS IT COMPETITIVE?**

T-ball teams compete against each other with scores kept for that game only, but winning is not emphasised, it's more about having a fun game! There are no final rounds played and results are not published or retained after a game. All children receive a trophy with their name at the end of the season.

- **Q3 CAN I HELP?**

We appreciate the support of parents in club administration, coaching, scoring and umpiring etc. and we provide free training for those activities. Please consider helping us provide your child with access to this exciting sport by becoming a qualified T-ball/baseball coach, manager or scorer or club official. We will help you get there. It is very satisfying! We also need assistance to operate our canteen and bbq during games and we roster parents on to help.

- **Q4 WHERE DO WE PLAY and TRAIN?**

T-Ball teams (generally up to four club teams) compete against each other. All games and training are held at our home baseball fields, Chifley Sports Reserve – 801-899 Bunnerong Rd Chifley (opposite Botany Cemetery).

- **Q6 WHAT TIMES DOES T-BALL PLAY and TRAIN?**

T-Ball is played in summer on Saturday mornings. T ball game times are currently 9-10am and 10-11am. Games are approximately 55 minutes long. Training is for 1 hour on one week-night (usually Thursdays), either 4-5pm or 5-6pm depending on the number of teams we have. Two teams train combined in each 1 hour period, to which players are allocated.

- **Q7 HOW LONG IS THE SEASON?**

Training starts in early September. Games begin the second or third week of September and finish at the end of February (ie 17 or 18 rounds) with holiday breaks. Due to COVID19, games this season will start in early October.

- **Q8 WHAT ARE THE FEES?**

Fees are listed on the club's web site JUNIOR REGISTRATION page. Each T-Ball player must be registered on-line by their parent/guardian. The fee comprises a club fee to cover basic costs plus a state baseball fee and national baseball organisation fee. The club fee component for T ball players includes a Baseball glove plus a T-Ball uniform (tee shirt plus a baseball cap), which players keep. T ball players can wear shorts or long pants and closed shoes (eg joggers; sandshoes) to play. Bats, balls and helmets are provided by the club for both games and training. Optionally, players may bring their own T ball bat if they prefer. Check with the coach.

- **Q9 HOW DO I REGISTER FOR T-BALL?**

When advised by the club go to the club's web site <http://easternsuburbs.baseball.com.au> select JUNIORS page and then select JUNIOR REGISTRATIONS page. Complete the online registration process and payment. Registrations generally open in early/mid July for each summer season. Every attempt is made to accommodate all those players who register but a full refund is provided if we end up with too many registrations. Early registration is recommended!

- **Q10 CLUB PHILOSOPHY?** To introduce young players to T-ball and baseball, develop their skills, have some healthy fun, as well as develop teamwork, sportsmanship, respect for self and others and giving their best!