

LOMBARD PARK DISTRICT



TEE BALL

2023

Parent's Manual

Dear T-Ball Parents,

Welcome to the Lombard Park District T-Ball program! We are excited to have you in the program and we look forward to working with you and your child. The number one objective of the Lombard Park District T-Ball program is for your child to have fun! The fun factor is what we try to emphasize throughout the program. We hope that your child has an enjoyable experience, and we will strive to teach your children basic T-ball skills including batting, fielding, catching, throwing, and running the bases, in a fun, friendly atmosphere.

It should be known that this program is for **players who have never played before**. We will be starting at the very beginning and slowly work our way into games. If your player has played before you may find that this program is not for you. This season we will be incorporating more parent involvement to help facilitate a better learning experience.

In this manual, you will find a variety of helpful information that will help clarify everything you need to know about the 2023 T-Ball program. We are excited about the opportunity to provide this recreational program to your child, and we are confident that he/she will enjoy the program. If you have any comments, concerns, or questions please ask one of the instructors at practice, or contact Chris Zamora or Jake Pawlak, Athletics Program Manager.

Best wishes for a great summer and positive experiences,

Jake Pawlak
Program Manager
Lombard Park District

Lombard Park District Contacts

Sunset Knoll Registration Office

(630) 620-7322

Hours: M-F 8:30a-7p; Sat 9:00a-12:00p; Sun: Closed (Hours subject to change)

Jake Pawlak-Athletics Program Manager

jpawlak@lombardparks.com

630-953-2371

Main Contact: Chris Zamora (athletics intern): Contact information to come.

Rainout Line

For cancellation information/or class delay related to weather you can:

-View online at rainoutline.com and search for the Lombard Park District

<https://rainoutline.com/search/dnis/6309959491>

-Download the free app, rainout line, and search for the Lombard Park District

-Call the rainout line automated phone message at 630-995-9491

***Notice!** The Lombard Park District provides a staff of coaches to instruct this program. This staff of coaches will rotate around to different groups of participants during games and practices.

Your assistance is needed!

Our instructors will be very patient with your child, however, if your child is having a tough day and repeatedly not listening to the instructors or being disruptive, we will ask for your assistance in removing your child from the game/practice for a short period of time. The instructors need to be able to devote their efforts and energy toward all participants, rather than most of their energy on one participant who is having trouble listening on a particular day. Please be understanding and helpful in these situations. This season with additional parental help on the field for drills we believe this will not be a problem. We will continue to work with parents and players.

Important T-Ball Information

What to bring:

- Your child should bring a **water bottle** and **baseball mitt**. All other equipment for the program is provided. At this time if you have your own bats, helmets, etc, you may bring them. Please make sure each item has a first and last name written on them.

Location:

- T-Ball will take place at fields 12 and 13, located in the Northeast portion of Madison Meadow Park (near the corner of E Madison St and Ahrens Ave.) Practices and games will take place on both fields.

Volunteering:

- As stated earlier this season parents will be working with their players in addition to the coaches. We welcome and encourage the assistance and participation of all parents! During practices, we would like parents to join in on the fun and help assist their T-ball player. The instructor will explain to the players the drill or skill that we will be focusing on. They will then have a short explanation for parents. Instructors will then be around encouraging players and offering helpful tips to the players. Parents help will allow for more individualized attention to each child. For games, parents will act as base coaches/outfield coaches. This will assist in keeping all players attention, directing runners, as well the safety of the players.

Rainouts & Cancellations:

- If you are wondering about field playability or if your practice/game will be cancelled, your first step is to check out the cancellation reporting app/website rainoutline.com. The app/website will be updated as soon as possible. Please bear in mind that the field status can change after 4pm as conditions change. Please check shortly before practice/games for the most up-to-date message. Generally, makeups for rainouts will be scheduled on Fridays at the same time as the normal schedule. If there is more than one day rained out in a given week, then the 2nd makeup will take place the following Friday. If in doubt, please call Sunset Knoll.

Uniforms:

- Your child will receive his/her uniform at practice, the uniforms will be available for pickup at subsequent practices or games. The uniform consists of a T-shirt & hat. The uniforms are included at no charge as part of the program.

Teams:

- We begin the team formation process the 1st week of the program. These teams will be used for the second half of the program when we start our games. Friend requests are often accepted as long as both participants put each other as their request but are never guaranteed.

What to wear:

- For practices, your child should wear comfortable clothing (ie: pants or shorts and a t-shirt), and gym shoes. Don't forget sunscreen! For all games, your child should wear their uniform with pants or shorts and gym shoes (that are allowed to get dirty since they'll be on the infield).

Game Schedule & Times:

- Games begin on July 10th or 11th. Game Schedules will be emailed to you before then, and will also be posted online at lombardparks.com/youth-athletics. **Please note that for the evening classes some games will be at 5:30 and some will be at 6:30, regardless of which time you signed up for.**

Withdrawal & Refunds:

- While we make every effort to provide a fun program for your child, some children just do not take to the sport of T-Ball. If you call the Sunset Knoll Registration Office during the first two weeks of the program, you may receive a partial pro-rated refund.

Questions:

- Please ask one of the T-Ball Instructors on-site, or you may contact Jake Pawlak, Program Manager.

T-Ball Timeline

	<u>Activity</u>
Week 1:	Practice/Skill building
Week 2:	Practice/Skill building
Week 3:	Practice/Skill building & Practice Games
Break Week	7/3-7/7
Week 4:	First week of games
Week 5:	Second week of games
Week 6:	Third week of games

Procedure for Practices

On practice/skill building days, please follow the following procedure:

-Arrive to the playing area near the backstop of field #12 and check in with the T-Ball Supervisor (Because of the size of the program, we recommend arriving at least 10 minutes prior to the class time so that we can maximize the time we have for T-Ball activities). If you arrive late, please make sure you check in with the T-Ball coach.

-If you'd like a ball to warm up with please ask an instructor.

-When the class is ready to start, we will call "balls in." Please give the child the ball as they will be using it for the warm up drills.

-Each class will begin with a group stretch, in which the instructors will lead the class in stretching

-Once stretching is finished, the class will be broken down into smaller groups. Each instructor will take a group of kids over to a designated area and work with the small groups on whatever skills/activities are planned for the day. **We would appreciate if parents also participate in stretching and warmups.**

-Once every 10-15 minutes, instructors will call for a water break, and we will continue with drills.

Procedure for Games

Please Note: Once Games begin, your child games may start at **5:30pm or 6:30pm, regardless of which time you're registered for.**

On game days, please follow the following procedure:

-Arrive to your designated field and check in with the team's Head Coach/Instructor (Because of the size of the program, we recommend arriving at least 10 minutes prior to the game time so that we can maximize the time we have for T-Ball activities).

-If you'd like, ask a coach for a ball so you may warm up with your child please ask for one from a coach. Please stay near the rest of the team and the coach.

-When the class is ready to start, we will call “balls in.” Please return balls to the bucket and gather with the coach for stretching

-After stretching is completed, the game will begin.

-Each player will get the chance to bat each inning. They will also get to run to all bases each inning. The emphasis is on FUN and score is not kept.

-Water breaks will be taken between each inning.

-Volunteers will be needed at first base, second base, third base, and outfield. Coaches and volunteers will be out there to help remind players where to run, and to pay attention.

-There are no outs recorded, we do not keep track of the score, and every participant will bat every inning. This program is designed to give your child a positive experience with the game for them to continue to play throughout their lifetime.

If you have any questions feel free to contact:

Jake Pawlak
Athletic Program Manager
Lombard Park District
jpawlak@lombardparks.com