

Carine Cats Ball Club  
Teeball Division  
(CCBC)

Umpires Booklet

2018/2019 Season

## Table of Contents

Introduction	Page 3
Basic Safety	Page 3
Friendly Playing Environment	Page 4
Preparing as an Umpire & TBAAWA Resources	Page 4
Local Rule Modifications	Page 6
Opening Ceremony	Page 8
Game Times	Page 8
Grounds	Page 9
Reduced Sized Diamonds	Page 9
Balls	Page 9
New Rules / Modifications	Page 9
Helmets	Page 9
Mouth guards	Page 9
Club Policy	Page 9
Game Procedures and Information	Page 10
Cancellation of Games due to Inclement Weather	Page 11
Closing Ceremony	Page 11
Committee	Page 11

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2018/2019 Tee Ball season and thank you for taking on the role of Umpire.

Umpiring is an important job and the following outlines the commitment required of umpiring and provides some suggestions for how you can make the best of it and enjoy this role throughout the season.

Like all positions responsible for the care of juniors, umpiring carries a duty of care. This responsibility is something that people should take seriously.

To help discharge this responsibility, there are two things the club suggests you do:

1. Rapidly apply basic safety rules
2. Know the rules well, have fun and be confident.

By following these guidelines, you should run safe and enjoyable games. TBAWA puts on clinics to assist you to achieve this. The rest is up to you.

You will also be provided with an official TBAWA Annotated Rule Book & Umpire Manual Edition 5. Please refer to this for continued training and guidance. It is also recommended that this rule book be carried with you when umpiring, whether Plate or Base umpire.

## BASIC SAFETY

There are lots of safety tips throughout the rule book and manual. Some of the more important tips that you should always follow include:

- Pick up the tee - for every play
- After removing the tee – get out of the way
- Throwing the bat – Simply do not allow it
- Injuries – Stop play immediately
- Enclosed footwear – must be worn by all persons (players, coaches and umpires) on the diamond (cros are not considered enclosed footwear)
- Exposed jewellery must not be worn during games. This includes fit bits and google/Samsung/apple watches.
- Correct uniforms are worn, including shirts tucked in, and all players are wearing caps.

There are many more rules and guidelines that relate to safety – most of them are common sense. Make sure you know and understand them and put them into practice. Ensuring the safety of players, spectators, coaches and yourself is your most important role whilst umpiring.

An important consideration at ovals such as Carine is to ensure, **prior** to the game commencing, that the diamond is free of debris such as sticks and that there are no holes in the grass that may contribute to injury. This is the role of **both** umpires.

Make it common practice to always walk the diamond prior to each game commencing (irrespective if it is the first or second game of the day) to ensure the playing surface is safe. If you notice any pot holes/large divots, then request someone in your team to proceed to the Club shed (open on game days) retrieve a bucket, fill it with sand and fill the holes/divots. Also, in your address to the coaches advise them of any holes/divots so they can warn their players.

### **FRIENDLY PLAYING ENVIRONMENT**

A very important, the most important aspect of playing sport is that it is played in great competitive spirits and fun is had by all.

Please refer to TBAWA Rule 1.1 General Responsibilities.

Issues are very few, however if you or anyone does encounter any issues which may contravene TBAWA Rule 1.1 and you are not sure how to handle it then please do speak to the Umpiring Coordinator (details at end of this document)

### **PREPARING AS AN UMPIRE & TBAWA RESOURCES**

Carine Cats Tee Ball Club encourages all umpires to at least attain level 1 accreditation. The cost of this is borne by the club.

Attaining accreditation is done in 2 stages.

(Where there is a reference to a website link to proceed to that webpage simply Ctrl+Click on the link to follow link to that webpage)

First you must go to the TBAWA website –

<http://www.tbawa.com.au/about/for-umpires/training-and-accreditation/>

There is a link to a [Level 1 Umpire Video](#)

Please take your time to watch this 75 minute video prior to the start of the season. This video and all TBAWA online resources are very helpful even if you haven't completed your Level 1 Accreditation.

There are links on the same webpage for the following:

- [Rule Book Edition 5 \(Electronic Version\)](#)
- [Umpires Manual Edition 5 \(Electronic Version\)](#)  
(The difference between the two is the Umpires Manual has annotations and examples)

The second stage to accreditation is to attend a 3 hour theory/practical session. For the 2018-19 season, TBAWA will run approximately 8-10 Level 1 practical umpiring courses.

Future clinics are listed on the TBAWA website. Click on the following link to proceed to the TBAWA website for Umpiring Clinic Date/Times. [Click here](#)  
Registration for a Level 1 Umpiring clinic is done online by selecting / (click) the relevant clinic you wish to attend. After choosing the clinic, the next page will have a [Register](#) icon to click on and you will be directed to another page whereby you enter your details. If you choose a particular clinic and it is full you will be prompted by the following 'Registrations are closed for this event'.

It is during these clinics that a TBAWA accrediting umpire will assess you. Alternatively you can speak to the CCBC Teeball Umpire Coordinator for more assistance if you are having difficulty accessing a clinic.

At the successful pass/completion of the Level 1 clinic you will receive to keep, a Level 1 umpires green shirt and a cap. Umpires that are accredited are then encouraged to wear their green shirt and hat when umpiring. This shows the coaches and spectators that you are accredited and instills a feeling of confidence in you as an umpire.

For those who are not accredited and who cannot attend one of these umpiring clinics please find the time to at least watch the [Level 1 Umpire Video](#) posted on the TBAWA website.

Once you have completed the level 1 accreditation you can then choose to complete the Level 2 accreditation (yellow shirt). This is done via contacting TBAWA direct.

For those that are interested there is an online quiz (multiple choice), which you can do as many times as you like. This will further assist you in undertaking the role of Umpire and it does have tricky/more complex situations/calls. The link to the online quiz can be found [here](#).

Carine Cats Tee Ball Club will also supply a blue umpire's shirt to each team (for those umpires that are not Level 1 or 2.. Umpires are required to at least wear this blue shirt when umpiring.

## **LOCAL RULE MODIFICATIONS**

Carine Cats Tee Ball Club has children in 5 age divisions. Children in the older divisions will have far different abilities to children in the younger divisions. Therefore, we have a few “local” rules for the U7’s and U9’s to help with participation.

1. Under 7’s - Do not enforce the 3 strikes and out rule in the U7’s for the whole season. Batters get as many attempts as required to hit the ball. Please encourage coaches to help out when the child has difficulties. If a child has 3 or more strikes, then has a very large hit that would otherwise be a home run, please stop that child after getting to second by calling TIME and explaining to the coach why you are stopping the play. Remember Teeball is about enjoyment and participation.
2. Under 7’s - 3 out rule applies for all. Both coaches for each game can agree to bat through to nine batters (including any outs), if you wish.
3. Under 7’s – Obstruction rule (TBAWA Rule 20) will not apply to U7’s for whole season. Younger players are learning to hit, catch and field the ball let alone understand more difficult rules. If umpires do see a pending collision call TIME immediately, then decide what the situation would have been if TIME wasn’t called. However on an obstruction no outs will apply. Umpire judgment call.

Coaches of batting team are encouraged to ask runners to run behind a fielder (if fielder is on or near line) so as not to collide with that fielder. Coaches of fielding team are encouraged to ask fielders to field off the line. Umpires are also encouraged to ask fielders to field off the line due to the possibility of being hit by a runner. However, it is the fielding coach that ultimately decides where a player fields.

Only the Pitcher can field inside the diamond.

4. Under 7’s – No extra base for dead ball, classified as over throws. (TBAWA Rule 17.3). Encourage the fielder to throw the ball to the base. If the ball is missed or it is a wild throw and goes over the dead ball line, then there will be no penalty. The runner stays at the base they were running to. Do not encourage fielder to hold ball in the air while a play may happen.
5. Under 7’s – Interference rule (TBAWA Rule 18) will not apply for the whole season. On an ‘interference’ umpires to call time and let that play stand without any further plays. No outs on interference will apply. Umpire judgment call.
6. Under 7’s – Umpire to call time slightly earlier before batter or runner arrives at base and ball is in hands of infield player and in your judgement no extra play will happen. This discourages 3<sup>rd</sup> base coaches to call runners to third or push runners home and potentially force an error.

Umpires to watch for 3<sup>rd</sup> base coaches consistently pushing children home. Coaches please discourage this action by base coaches.

7. Under 9's - 3 strikes and out rule, For first 5 rounds only, if there are new players to Teeball and are struggling to hit the ball, then please consult with coaches as to not enforce the 3 strikes and out rule. Batters get as many attempts as required to hit the ball. Please encourage coaches to help out when the child has difficulties. If a child has 3 or more strikes, then has a very large hit that would otherwise be a home run, please stop that child after getting to second by calling TIME and explaining to the coach why you are stopping the play. Remember Teeball is about enjoyment and participation.
8. Under 9's - For first 5 rounds only, do not enforce the 3 strikes out rule for the U9's. If the batter is having difficulty hitting the ball, ask the coach to help after 2 or 3 strikes. As per U7's if the child then after 3 or more strikes has a large hit that would be a home run, please stop them at second base by calling TIME and explain to the coach why you are stopping the play.
9. Under 9's - For first 5 rounds only, No extra base for dead ball, classified as over throws. (TBAWA Rule 17.3). Encourage the fielder to throw the ball to the base. If the ball is missed or it is a wild throw and goes over the dead ball line, then there will be no penalty. The runner stays at the base they were running to. Do not encourage fielder to hold ball in the air while a play may happen.
10. Plate Umpire. Note your start time. Games are normally 1 hour. If your game is at even innings and time is past 55 minutes, call "Time and game". If you are at even innings and time is less than 55 minutes play another complete innings, i.e., both teams bat again. Be sensible on this, if it hot and the players (U7 and U9) are feeling the heat and the coaches agree, you may call time and game at approximately 50 minutes. The duration of the game is by your watch only.
11. For entire season, **do not enforce "automatic outs"** for less than 9 players in U7's and U9's. Bat though the order to a total of 9 batters. This may mean some batters get to bat twice in an innings. Another solution is if the other team has more than 9 players, is to lend players to the team that is short. Coaches should agree on this prior to starting and ask you for permission to do this. Give permission.

Coaches can accommodate less than 9 fielders on the diamond by:

- Older age groups – player starts at pitcher's position then moves to catcher's position if he/she does not field the ball at the pitcher's position.
- Younger age groups – not having a center field position
- Opposition coaches are encouraged not to take advantage of gaps caused by teams fielding with reduced numbers and instill a sense of fair play into the attitudes of our children. Please make the game enjoyable for all involved and accommodate those teams that may have reduced numbers for whatever reason. Under 7's, Under 9's and Under 11's Girls teams may also "lend" a player to their opposition should they have sufficient to do so.

**For all other divisions TBAWA rule 16.1 (d) "automatic outs" should apply.**

12. SAFETY BASES will be used in Under 7's age group. Fielding players must not stand on the safety base (yellow portion).

## **ALL OTHER TBAWA RULES APPLY TO ALL AGE GROUPS**

If you are not sure on a ruling, first call TIME and talk to the other umpire with NO ONE else listening. Coaches may come running out and saying the rule is different. Send them away politely until you are finished and then involve them if necessary.

Remember, no one gets it right all of the time. If a mistake is made, get on with the game. We are there to help the players get as much play time as possible and it is not a “good look” for umpires and coaches to be “discussing events” for an extended period of time with the players waiting.

Generally, make your call promptly and stick to it. If coaches want to discuss your decision do so quickly or after the game is complete.

Judgement calls are made by both umpires. They are the sole decision of that umpire and cannot be called into discussion. The plate umpire **cannot** overrule a base umpire on a judgement call. Umpires work as a team.

If after your game you would like assistance, look for a committee member in blue shirt or a level 2 or 3 umpire. Level 2 and 3 umpires will be in a yellow shirt and hat.

Alternatively contact the Umpiring Coordinator on the details at the end of this document.

Set yourself the goal of becoming a TBAWA accredited umpire this season – it is not hard, does not take much time and makes a large difference to the games you umpire.

## **OPENING CEREMONY**

The opening ceremony will be conducted between the two fixtures of the opening round on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018 immediately after the conclusion of the first games of the morning (therefore at 9.30am).

## **GAME TIMES**

Note that games are 60 minutes in length. Commencement times are as follows:

Under 7's	8.30am
Under 9's	10.00am
Under 10s Mixed	8.30am
Under 10-13 Girls	8.30am
Under 11-13 Mixed	8.30am

See Fixtures on Carine Cats Teeball Club website for more information. Fixtures can be found [here](#).



## **GROUNDS**

Unless otherwise notified all games are played at Carine Regional Open Space. Most games are played Saturday morning with potentially 1 or 2 midweek twilight games during the season.

Ground and diamond locations can be found [here](#).

## **REDUCED SIZED DIAMONDS**

Under 7's boys and Under 7's Girls are played on reduced sized diamonds, approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  the size of a standard Teeball diamond. Games scheduled for these age groups will be on diamonds that are marked to reflect this reduced size.

## **BALLS**

All Under 7's and Under 9's will use tee balls.

Under 10's, Under 10-13s Girls and Under 11-13 Mixed will use base balls

## **NEW RULES/MODIFICATIONS**

There are no new rules introduced by TBAWA.

## **HELMETS**

If helmets are supplied in the equipment for your age group then it is club policy that each batter, catcher and pitcher to wear a helmet during every game and at each training session.

Where necessary, outfielders may be requested to wear helmets during a game.

## **MOUTHGUARDS**

Carine Cats Teeball strongly recommends the wearing of mouth guards by all players.

## **CLUB POLICY**

There will be a compulsory rotation of all players through different fielding positions such that in every 4 innings each player will have played a minimum of 2 infield positions, 1 outfield position and rested once. This applies to a 12 player rotation. If less than 12 players are allocated to a team then rotate the players with a 2 infield 1 outfield ratio and share the resting evenly.

TBAWA rule 19.2. No player is to be rested for 2 consecutive fielding innings.

## **GAME PROCEDURES AND INFORMATION**

The HOME TEAM is mentioned first on the fixture. They are responsible for:-

1. Supplying the PLATE umpire;
2. Supplying a scorer;
3. Setting up the diamond with bases provided in the coach's equipment bag and removal after the completion of the game;
4. For Carine Open Space games:
  - a. If your team is scheduled to play first at 8.30am then your team is responsible for collecting and erecting a shelter, bench seats (x2) and bat stand, available from the equipment shed. Please leave the shelter, bench seats and bat stand for the next game (unless otherwise advised by attendants at equipment shed).
  - b. If your team is scheduled to play at 10.00am then your team is responsible for returning shelter, bench seats (x2) and bat stand to equipment shed. Each equipment bag contains a hammer to assist in erecting the shelter. Do not use bats for banging in the pegs. Shelters are optional and it is up to team management to assess the need;

This task should be undertaken by Parents, not Coach, Manager or Umpire.

5. Prior to each game collect the pre-printed scorecard from the equipment shed, complete and return in the box at the equipment shed at the completion of the game (Task undertaken by Manager);
6. For WJTBC visiting teams to Carine Open Space the home team is also required to erect and return a shelter and benches for the visiting team. Games played at Percy Doyle, WJTBC will provide shelters (there are no benches). It will be up to the Carine team to bring benches if they so desire.

The AWAY TEAM is responsible for:-

1. Supplying the base umpire. This umpire is responsible for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> bases.
2. Supplying a scorer;
3. For Carine Open Space games:
  - a. If your team is scheduled to play first at 8.30am then your team is responsible for collecting and erecting a shelter, bench seats (x2) and bat stand, available from the equipment shed. Please leave the shelter, bench seats and bat stand for the next game (unless otherwise advised by attendants at equipment shed);
  - b. If your team is scheduled to play at 10.00am then your team is responsible for returning shelter, bench seats (x2) and bat stand to equipment shed.

## **CANCELLATION OF GAMES DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER**

The Club will use its discretion whether to cancel games due to inclement weather. In the event of inclement weather, a cancellation notice will be communicated through team managers. Refer to Inclement weather policy.

## **CLOSING CEREMONY**

The closing ceremony for Teeball will be announced by the Club on the website. Details will be finalised closer to the date, players and parents will be notified.

## **COMMITTEE**

With so many teams, communications can be difficult, so please take the initiative and contact the appropriate Committee person if you have any issues.

Please remember the committee consists entirely of volunteers who undertake their role in their spare time.

Your efforts are greatly appreciated. The committee is committed to the development of our children under the 4 "F" philosophies:

### **Fun, Fundamental Skills, Fair Play and Family Involvement**

**This has been prepared for the Carine Cats Ball Club – Teeball Division Revision  
October 2018**

#### **Carine Cats Teeball Club**

##### **Umpire Coordinator**

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Remember I am still a Volunteer!