



Howard Parks, Recreation & Senior Services Department 2011 Kickball League Rules

A. Policies

1. Eligibility: All players **must be** 18 years or over by the date of their first league game. This is an adult league.
2. Kickball team names may not contain reference or implication to political agenda, issue, candidates, elected officials, religion, or overt alcohol, drug, or sexual reference. The Recreation Supervisor has the right to reject or accept any and all team names.
3. New players must be officially entered on the team roster with the Recreation Supervisor at least 24 hours prior to his/her first game. No new players may be added or transferred after mid-season.
4. A player may only be placed on one roster per night and that team will be his/her permanent team for the season. If a team is short a player they may pick up a player from another team on the same night as long as the opposing teams manager says it is OK. If the opposing manager allows the player then the game will be considered a legal game.
5. The league or the sponsor will not be responsible for the expenses incurred due to injury to any player, nor will they be responsible for valuables.
6. Any act of unsportsmanlike conduct, including the use of profane, abusive, or insulting language shall cause the offender to be ejected from the playing area for the rest of the game and a one game suspension. Any player ejected a second time will be out for the rest of the season.
7. Smoking is **not** allowed on the field or in the dugout areas.
8. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the field. No glass containers are allowed in the park.

B. Equipment

1. Athletic shoes are required. Rubber tipped cleats are permitted, metal cleats are not allowed.
2. Players may wear protective equipment providing it does not offer the wearer an unfair performance advantage

C. Game Rules

1. A team shall be composed of ten (10) players. Failure to field eight (8) players at the start of the game will result in a forfeit and a \$15.00 forfeit fee will be charged. Any team forfeiting two games will be liable to expulsion from further league competition.
2. Games will be seven innings or a one-hour time limit whichever comes first. No new innings shall be started after the time limit expires. A tie game at the end of the time limit will be recorded as a tie. Once the time limit is up the current inning being played must be completed. The second game's time will start 5 minutes after first game is over. If a game is still tied after seven innings and the time limit has **not** expired, a new inning may be started.
3. Games will start as scheduled. All teams and players are expected to be at the field 10 minutes before game time and on the field at the scheduled time. The umpire will use a coin flip to determine the home team and then will start the time limit at the scheduled game time.
4. Two members of the team at kick must coach first and third base. The base coaches will assist in retrieving foul balls and may switch with other team members to remain in the proper kicking lineup.
5. **Pitching / Catching:** No bouncing pitches are allowed. A pitch that is higher than one foot at the plate, results is a ball. The pitcher must stay behind the pitching strip until the ball is kicked. No player may field in front of the pitcher other than the catcher, and no player may advance forward the 1st-3rd base diagonal until the ball is kicked. The catcher must field directly behind the kicker and may not cross home plate before the ball is kicked.
6. **Outfielders:** All outfielders must stay on the outfield grass until the ball is kicked.
7. **Kicking:** All kicks must be made by foot and occur at or behind home plate. A kick in front of home plate is called a foul. Bunting is allowed.
8. **Running:** Runners must stay within the base line. Fielders must stay out of the base line. Fielders trying to make an out on base may have their foot on base, but must lean out of the baseline. Runners hindered by any fielder within the base line shall be safe at the base to which they were running. Neither leading off base, nor stealing a base is allowed. Hitting a runner with the ball above shoulder level is not allowed. A runner hit above the shoulders is safe and advances 1 base.
9. **Overthrows:** If the ball stays inside the fence the ball remains in play and the base must be made. If the ball goes outside the fence the runner will automatically be entitled to one extra base. The base they go to plus 1. If the runner was not advancing it will be 1 base (umpire's call).
10. **Strikes:** A count of 3 strikes constitutes an out. A strike is a pitch within the strike zone either not kicked, or else missed by the kicker. The strike zone extends to 1 foot on either side of home plate, and 1 foot high.

11. **Balls:** A count of 4 balls advances the kicker to first base. A ball is a pitch outside of the strike zone, an illegal bouncing pitch, any fielder or pitcher advancing on home plate before the ball is kicked, any catcher crossing home plate before the kicker, or failing to field behind the kicker.
12. **Fouls:** A count of 4 fouls constitutes an out. A foul is a kick landing out of bounds; a kick landing in bounds but traveling out of bounds on its own before reaching first or third base (any ball touched by an in-bounds fielder is automatically in play); or a kick made in front of home plate. A foul that is caught counts as an out, but is a dead play for the offense, meaning that runners may not advance or tag up. Also, any pop-up foul that is attempted to be caught and is contacted by the fielder before it hits the ground, is in play.
13. **Outs:** A count of 3 outs by a team completes the team's half of the inning. An out is a count of 3 strikes or 4 fouls; a runner touched by the ball at ANY time while not on the base; any kicked ball (fair or foul) that is caught; a ball tag on a base to which a runner is forced to run; or a runner off of his/her base when the ball is kicked.
14. **Run Rule:** There is a 10 run rule anytime after 5 innings of play.

D. Team Regulations

1. **Free Substitution:** Players not in the game may sub in & out, both in the field and at kicking. Players already in the line-up may not switch to another spot in the line-up. Once a player subs in at a specific kicking spot they may only kick at that spot for the remainder of the game. In cases of injury or illness, a time-out may be requested for participant removal and replacement with a substitute of the same sex. If the participant later returns to play, the participant must be inserted in the same fielding and kicking order position previously held. The pitcher may only be replaced on the mound once per inning.
2. There will be ten players in the field, five men and five women. A team may not have more men than women in the field at any time, however, they can have more women than men.
3. Teams must alternate women and men in the kicking order. Teams may kick as many women as they like in a row, but any men in the line-up must be alternated women & men.
4. Teams must play with an equal number of men and women in the infield.
5. Leagues will be playing the full season with no play-off unless the top two teams in the league have a tied record. League awards will be agreed upon at the managers meeting
6. Only the players and managers will occupy the team's dugout. Managers will see that this rule is followed and that the dugouts are cleaned after each game.

E. Poor Weather Conditions

1. The Recreation Supervisor will make cancellation of games if it is determined that the fields are unplayable. Players should call the Information Line and not the office for field conditions. The Information Line is updated as weather and field conditions are reported, generally after 3:30pm.

Information Line: 434-5559

2. In case of rain during a game, after 4 complete innings the game will be considered a full game. If it is tied at that time it will be re-scheduled, beginning from the exact spot where it was stopped and with the same line-up. Any players removed from the game prior to the rain will not be allowed back into the game after it is rescheduled. Any rainout game less than 4 complete innings will not be considered a full game and the whole game will be rescheduled.
3. Rainouts may be made up on the next available date if the season permits. If there too many rainouts the Recreation Supervisor will make a schedule accordingly.

**THIS LEAGUE IS MEANT TO BE FUN SO
LET'S DO OUR BEST TO KEEP IT THAT WAY!!**