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## **KICKBALL RULES**

### **Perry Leisure Service**

Kickball is a simple game consisting of 2 teams, bases and a big red ball. Played like baseball, the object is to score more runs than the opposing team. Kickball games are played with 10 fielders, 7 innings, 2 base coaches, no head shots, one base on an overthrow, forced outs, and no bunting is allowed. The following rules will govern our kickball games.

#### **Field and Equipment:**

- The bases are set up in the shape of a diamond with the bases 60 feet apart with the pitching strip in the center of the diamond.
- The strike zone is 2 feet wide on either side of home plate and 6 inches above home plate.
- The kicking box is a rectangle with the front of the box aligned with the front of home plate, the back of the box is aligned with the sideline cones behind home plate. Lines extending forward from the sideline cones perpendicular to the front of home plate make up the sides of the kicking box.
- The entirety of the foul lines including all primary bases and home plate are in FAIR territory.
- The official Kickball is a round 10inch 3ply cross-textured rubber ball.
- All fielders and kickers must have footwear. NO bare-feet and NO metal cleats allowed.
- Player's attire is considered to be an extension of the player. Team match shirts/jerseys are required.

#### **Players and Team Eligibility:**

- Each team consists of 15-25 players and everyone must be over 16 years of age.
- Each team must be registered with official team roster through the Athletic Department.
- In order for a team to be game eligible, there must be at least 4 females and minimum 8 (maximum 10) total players at the start of the game. Only players registered through team roster may play for that respective team.



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-If a team is short one female player and the opposing team agrees (which cannot be changed later) the teams may play with the respective team playing with one short on the field and an automatic out at the end of their lineup.

#### **Officials:**

-There will be at least one authorized official.

-Officials will have jurisdiction over

- Play
- Time-outs
- Cancellation (due to weather)
- Un-sportsmanship (to include but not limited to fighting, delay of game, verbal abuse)

-Officials may make rulings on any points not specifically covered in the rules but the rulings shall not be deemed as a precedent for future rulings.

#### **Regulation Games:**

-Regulation games will consist of 7 innings or one hour whichever comes first.

-In the event of a tie at the end of the game, the game shall be marked as a tie.

-If the home team already leads the game when the bottom of the final inning is reached, that team wins the game and the game is over.

-If the home team takes the lead during the bottom of the final inning, that team wins instantly and the game is over.

-A game that is called off by the Referee after three (5) full innings of play shall be considered a regulation game. The game score at the end of the last full inning shall determine the winner.

-A game that is called off by the Referee for any reason before three (5) full innings of play shall not be considered a regulation game and the remainder of the game will be rescheduled.



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#### **Pitching, Catching & Fielding:**

-Balls must be pitched by hand. There are no restrictions on style.

-Proper Field Positions

##### a) Fielders

- All fielders besides the catcher must remain in fair territory behind the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> base diagonal.

##### b) Pitchers

- The pitcher must start the act of pitching with at least one foot within the pitching mound.
- The pitcher must have at least one foot on or directly behind the pitching strip when releasing the ball.
- No part of the pitcher's front foot may be in front of or across the front edge of the pitching strip.

##### c) Catchers

- The catcher must be positioned within or directly behind the kicking box and behind the horizontal plane of the kicker, parallel to the front edge of home plate.
- The catcher may not make contact with the kicker nor position so closely to the kicker as to restrict the kicking motion
- The kicker may not trigger a position violation through maneuvers judged by the referee to be deliberately tricky or unsportsman like.

-Proper field position must be maintained by all fielders while a pitch is in progress and until the pitched ball reaches the kicker. Failure to be properly positioned will result in a position warning to the team that caused the infraction. The teams second and each subsequent position infraction by that team that game will result in the kicker being awarded 1<sup>st</sup> base regardless of the outcome of the kick.

#### **Kicking:**

-All kicks must be made by the foot.



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-Kicks must occur

a) At or behind home plate. The kicker may step on home plate to kick, however no part of the planted foot may be in front of or cross the front edge of the home plate.

b) Within the kicking box. The kicker must have at least a portion of the plant foot within the kicking box during kick. The kicker may line up outside of the kicking box.

-NO BUNTING.

### **Running & Scoring:**

-Runner must stay within the baseline. Any runner outside the baseline is out.

a) Runners may change their course (return to a base)

b) When runners are attempting to avoid a ball tag they may not move more than the arch of the baseline.

c) Runners hindered by any fielder within the baseline, not making an active play for the ball, shall be safe at the base to which they were running.

-Neither leading off a base nor stealing is allowed. A runner may advance once the ball is kicked. A runner off base when the ball is kicked is OUT.

-Hitting a runner's neck or head with the ball is not allowed, exception is when the runner is sliding. Any runner hit in the neck/head shall be considered safe at the base they were running toward. If the runner intentionally uses the neck/head to block the ball and is so called by the Referee the runner is OUT.

-A tag up is requirement to retouch or stay on a base until a kicked then caught ball is first touched by a fielder; after a tag up a runner may advance at their own risk.

-A runner traveling from home plate to first may over run first base, and may only be tagged out if actively attempting to advance to second base.

-A runner may advance only one base beyond the base the runner is on or running toward when the ball travels into foul territory.

-One base on an overthrow is a restriction on the runner – not an automatic right for the runner to advance.

-If any fielder attempts to make an out prior to returning the ball to the pitcher, runners may commence base running.



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-Running past another runner is not allowed. The passing runner is out.

-A run scores when a runner touches home plate before the third out is made except that no run can score when the third out is made during a force play situation, when the kicker is put out before touching first base. At the end of a game the team with the most runs wins.

#### Strikes:

-A count of three (3) strikes is an out.

-A strike is a

a) Pitch that is not kicked and is not called a ball that enters any part of the strike zone.

b) An attempted kick missed by the kicker inside or outside of the strike zone

c) Foul balls never count as strikes; however 4 fouls balls will count as an OUT.

#### Balls:

-A count of four (4) balls advances the kicker to first base

-A ball is

a) A pitch outside of the strike zone as judged by the referee where a kick is not attempted.

b) A pitched ball that does not touch the ground and roll before reaching the kicking box.

#### Fairs and Fouls:

-A count of four (4) fouls is an out.

-A foul ball is any ball kicked outside the fair territory of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base diagonal.

-A fair ball is any ball kicked inside the fair territory of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base diagonal.

#### Outs:

-A count of three (3) outs by a team completes the teams' half of the inning.

-An out is

a) A count of three (3) strikes or four (4) fouls

b) Any kicked ball (fair or foul) that is caught by a fielder.



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- c) A forced out (tagging the base in which the runner is advancing to or tagging the runner).
- d) A kicker or runner interfering with the ball.
- e) A runner off base.
- f) A runner outside base lines.
- g) A runner missing a base (called by the referee)
- h) A runner failing to tag up on a caught ball.
- i) A runner passing another runner.
- j) A runner physically helping or assisting another person.

#### **Other:**

- Once the referee calls time the play ends.
- If a player is ejected the written kicking order will continue in the same formation, the removed player and will be an out each time around. The ejected player will be suspended for the remainder of the current game and the next scheduled game (the ejected player must leave the premise and not be present during such game/s).
- If a player is injured, or becomes ill and cannot continue the written kicking order will continue in the same formation, the removed player and will not count as an out.
- Injured players who do not kick cannot play in the game.
- These rules are to ensure a fun environment and participant enjoyment. All games are to be played in a sportsmanlike manner.



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