



**Kickball Rules
Adult League
Revised 8/2020**

All players must be on the active roster in order to be eligible to play. **The City of Reynoldsburg Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to modify any rule as deemed necessary.**

1. Equipment

- 1.01 The official Kickball is a red, round 10-inch 3-ply cross-textured rubber ball.
- 1.02 The Bases are heavy-duty, white bases.
- 1.03 All fielders and kickers must have footwear; bare-feet are not allowed. Metal cleats are never allowed.
- 1.04 All teams must provide their own team shirts. Shirts must have numbers on the back and be worn every game.
- 1.05 Player's attire is considered to be an extension of the player.

2. Field

- 2.01 The bases are set up in the shape of a diamond with the bases 60 feet apart.
- 2.02 1st base includes both a Fielder's base and a Runner's base. The Fielder's base is located inside the 1st baseline in fair territory, while the Runner's base is located outside the 1st baseline in foul territory and they both touch each other.
 - 2.02.1 The Runner's base is used when a runner is traveling from home plate to 1st base and does not intend to advance to 2nd base.
 - 2.02.2 Fielders attempting to make an out at 1st base may only use the Fielder's base to make an out, unless an errant throw takes the fielder into the path of the runner. In that case, the fielder may tag the outside base and the runner can use the inside base to avoid a collision.
- 2.03 The strike zone is 2 feet wide on either side of home plate and 6 inches above home plate.
- 2.04 The entirety of the foul lines including all bases and home plate are in FAIR territory.

3. Player and Team Eligibility

- 3.01 Each team ideally consists of 12-20 players and everyone must be 18 and over. If you need help adding additional players, please contact our office.
- 3.02 In order for a team to be game eligible, there must be at least 4 females and 8 total players at the start of the game. Only players on the original team roster submitted may play for that respective team.
- 3.03 Team Roster Ratios: Roster Ratios must be a model of the list below:
 - A. 4 Men/ 4 Women (includes automatic out)
 - B. 5 Men/ 5 Women
 - C. 5 Women/ 4 Men
 - D. 5 Men/ 4 Women
 - E. 6 Men/ 4 Women
 - F. 6 Women/ 4 Men
 - G. 5 Men /6 Women
 - H. 6 Women/5 Men
 - I. 7 Men/ 5 Women
 - J. 7 Women/ 5 Men

3.04 Game time is starting time. However, if one team does not have 8 players or the required roster ratio, a 5 minute grace period will be given with the understanding that the 50 minute game clock has started. If after the

5 minute grace period one or both teams does not have 8 players or the proper roster ratio the game will be forfeited.

3.05 A forfeit game results in a 3-0 victory for the non-forfeiting team.

3.06 If neither team is game eligible, then the game will be considered a forfeited tie.

3.07 Managers must exchange line ups with opposing team prior to the game beginning along with providing the umpire/field supervisor a **legible** copy to record.

3.08 Only a max 12 players are allowed to kick. All others must be listed as a sub.

4. Referees and Field Supervisors

4.01 A referee will be provided for each game.

4.02 Referees are responsible for making calls on balls, strikes, outs, and runs scored for their respective fields, and the referee's call is the final decision in all matters.

4.03 Challenged calls may only be made by the team captains.

4.04 Referees will report the final scores of each game to the Field Supervisor.

4.05 Referees and Field Supervisors are trained and responsible for conducting games in a professional manner, and are empowered at their discretion to give a Warning and/or Eject any player that instigates arguments, uses foul language and/or flagrant abuse towards the opposing team, referee, or field.

4.06 Referees are responsible for suspending a game due to rain or lightening. If a game is in progress and the remaining innings are canceled due to lightning, three innings will constitute a complete game. However, please stay in the area if the referee requests players to, as the game may be able to be completed after a time delay. Games in progress will be picked up from where they were suspended. If a team leaves and does not come back as the referee requested, that team will take a forfeit.

5. General Rules

5.01 A maximum of 10 may play the field, this includes a catcher. However, teams are not required to have a catcher.

5.02 At least two outfielders and two infielders must be female. 4 females must take the field at all times. **The catcher position is not considered an infield position.**

5.03 Teams must include all players on the lineup card whether they are playing in the field or not. The kicking order must alternate male/female or female/male. Once alternating genders has been exhausted, the same gender may kick in a row to finish the lineup for a max of 12 kickers.

5.04 If you have additional players on your roster but not in your line up, a substitution rule will apply but it must always be male for male and female for female in order to keep. They should be listed as substitute on your lineup card.

5.05 If a team is only batting 8, they will be forced to take an automatic out in the 9th spot.

Exception: If the 8th batter walks with 2 outs, the automatic out will be skipped and the first batter will come up to kick.

5.06 If a team member cannot kick at their designated spot in the kicking order, their "at kick" will be counted as an out.

5.07 Fielders can be changed anytime between and within innings but must be male for male or female for female.

5.08 Teams may choose to have 1st base and 3rd base coaches. Coaches may not interfere with play or physically assist the runners.

5.09 Any attempt to circumvent or go against the spirit of the rules will be at the ref's discretion to rule on the appropriate action.

5.10 Alcohol is not permitted at the fields. No bottles, cans or cups of alcohol may be present at the park/fields before, during or after a game. Referees and field supervisors are instructed to review the sidelines and field for any alcoholic beverages, and if found they are instructed to delay the start of the game until all alcoholic beverages are removed from the premises. The delayed time does count against the game time and the game will be shortened and played once all alcohol has been removed. If a player or team does not remove alcoholic beverages when requested, then the respective player will be ejected from the game and the team may be forced to forfeit their game at the discretion of the referee and field supervisor.

6. Regulation Game

6.01 A regulation game will be 7 innings or 50 minutes in length, whichever comes first. No new inning should be started after 50 mins have been played.

6.02 If a game is shortened due to rain or other externalities, 3 full innings constitutes an official game.

6.03 If the game is tied at the end of 7 innings, extra innings will be allowed as long as time permits. Each team gets a chance to kick in extra innings and receives the same number of outs.

6.04 If after 50 minutes the game is still tied, it will be recorded as a tie.

6.05 Tournament Rules Tie-Breaker: In the event of a tournament tie game, a winner must be crowned so the game will complete extra innings until one team wins outright. For tournament game extra innings, teams will place any male or female player on 2nd base to start and there will be 1 out. Additionally, each kicker will start with 2 balls on the count. The first team to have a higher run total at the end of a full extra inning wins the game.

6.06 Each team gets to kick in each inning. Once 3 outs have been recorded against a team, their "at kick" is over. Once both teams have kicked, the inning is over.

6.07 Mercy rule will be in effect for all games. If a team is losing by 15 or more runs after 4 innings(3 ½ if home team is winning) or 10 runs or more after 5 innings(4 ½ if home team is winning) the game will be declared official and over.

7. Fielding

7.01 Each team's roller must roll the ball to the opposing team's kicker. **Slow to moderate pitches only, no "fast balls."** Teams will be issued a warning from the umpire if a pitch is deemed a "fast ball". A 2nd infraction will result in that pitch being called a "ball" and the team must sub in a new pitcher for the remainder of the game. The umpire's discretion will be used to determine if a ball is not slow or moderate. The umpire will have the final say with help from the site supervisor if necessary.

7.02 The Roller must release the ball behind the roller's mound and within two feet on either side of the roller's mound, mirroring the two feet on each side of the home plate strike zone.

7.03 The Roller cannot sidearm or overhand roll the ball when delivering the ball to the kicker.

7.04 The Roller MUST roll or bounce the ball multiple times in route to home plate. If the Roller one-hops the ball across home plate or throws the ball in the air and hits home plate without the ball bouncing or rolling that roll is considered a ball regardless if it is less than 6 inches or not.

7.05 The Roller must roll the ball within a 5 ft wide "Roller's Path" that starts from the Roller's mound and extends to home plate with the path being 5 foot wide and in-line with the strike zone cones on each side of home plate. If a ball starts rolling or bouncing outside that path and then spins inward across home plate and less than 6 inches above home plate, the roll is still a ball.

7.06 Fielders must be in line with or behind the roller's mound until the ball is rolled. Once the ball is rolled, the roller can advance past the imaginary line between 1st and 3rd base. No other fielders can cross the imaginary line between 1st and 3rd until the ball is kicked.

7.06.1 For female kickers, the roller is not allowed to advance past the imaginary line between 1st and 3rd base until after the ball is kicked.

7.06.2 If a fielder comes across the imaginary line before the ball is kicked and attempts to interfere with the play in the judgment of the referee, the kicker will be awarded an automatic walk. If the next kicker is a female, the walked kicker advances to 2nd base (See Rule 7.10).

7.06.3 If the ball is kicked and the encroaching player fields the ball or interferes with the play in the judgment of the referee, the kicker will be awarded an automatic walk unless the result of the play allows the runner to advance past 1st base. The runner may advance past 1st base on an errant throw at their own risk.

7.07 The catcher must play behind the line formed by the two strike-zone cones until after a kicked ball passes the cones. If the kicked ball makes contact with the catcher, and the ball is in foul territory the ball is ruled a foul.

7.07.1 If the catcher opts to play near the cone line, then they must stand at least 2 feet outside of either strike-zone cone, and may not block the kicker's attempt to kick the ball in any way.

7.07.2 If any part of the catcher's body moves within 2 feet of the strike zone cones before the ball passes the cones or interferes with the kicker's ability to kick the ball in any way, as determined by the referee, the kicker will be awarded a walk. If the next kicker is a female, the walked kicker advances to 2nd base (See Rule 7.10).

7.08 There is no In-Field Fly Rule since a kickball is more difficult to catch than a baseball or softball.

7.09 If a player (male or female) is walked at any time (intentional or unintentional) and a female kicker is next at-kick in the lineup, the player automatically walks to 2nd base. If there are 2 outs, the female kicker next in the lineup has the option of also walking to 1st base or kicking.

7.10 Walking a player intentionally is allowed and no pitches have to be rolled.

7.11 Any runner not safely on a base can be hit with the kickball by a fielder. The runner is out unless the ball hits them in the head or neck.

7.12 If the ball is thrown or kicked by the defense out of the field of play, each base runner is awarded the base they were going to plus one additional base. Foul territory is still in play as long as the ball has not been ruled out of play by the referee, and base runners may advance as many bases as they desire at their own risk.

7.13 At least two outfielders and two infielders must be female and the catcher is not considered an infielder.

7.14 Players positioned in the outfield must stay in the outfield grass until the ball is kicked.

8. Kicking

8.01 The kicker must wait for the ball to reach home plate before kicking the ball. If any part of the kicker's "plant foot" (non-kicking foot) breaks the plane in front of home plate when the kick occurs then it is considered a FOUL ball. If the kicker kicks the ball in the air and it is caught, then the kicker is OUT, and runners may tag up. Else the call is a strike/foul against the kicker.

8.02 The kicker may kick the ball anywhere behind the line formed by the strike zone cones as long as their plant foot is not in front of home plate. If the kicked ball travels into fair territory before passing 1st or 3rd base and is touched or comes to rest, then it is a FAIR ball.

8.03 A kicker may not touch the ball a second time after first contact while in the kicking motion. This is called a "double kick" and results in a foul ball. Once the kicker begins to run to 1st base, if the ball touches them in fair territory, they are out and it is a dead ball. All baserunners must return to their previous base.

8.04 A kick can be made with any part of the leg.

8.05 There will be a 15 run rule in effect per team per inning.

8.06 **If a kicked ball hits either cone in the batting area, it is a foul ball.**

9. Outs

9.01 Three (3) outs by the kicking team constitutes their at-kick for the inning.

9.02 An out is:

9.02.1 A count of 3 strikes (fouls count as strikes)

9.02.2 Any kicked ball that never hits the ground and is caught by a fielder regardless of whether the ball is in fair or foul territory

9.02.3 A forced out made by the defense by controlling the ball and touching a base that a runner must run to (and cannot run back to the prior base since another runner is behind them) before the runner reaches the base

9.02.4 A runner that leads off the base before the ball is kicked

9.02.5 A runner hit by a thrown ball below the neck by a fielder while not safely on a base

9.02.6 A runner hit by a kicked ball regardless of where the ball hit them while not safely on base

9.02.7 A runner impeding a fielder from fielding a ball (i.e. bumping, pushing or distracting the fielder while the fielder is in the motion of playing a ball)

9.02.8 A runner that does not make it back to their base before tagging up by the time the fielder has control of the ball on that base or by tagging the runner with the ball (See "Tag Up" rule 14.04)

9.02.9 A runner outside of the 5 foot baseline unless trying to avoid a fielder blocking the baseline

9.02.10 A runner or kicker that intentionally interferes with the ball

9.02.11 A runner that is physically assisted by a base coach or other team member

9.02.12 A runner that passes another runner

9.02.13 A kicker that cannot kick at their designated spot on the kicking order unless they are injured

9.02.14 If a player misses their turn in the kicking order due to injury, they are out for the remainder of the game

10. Balls

10.01 Four (4) balls by the roller to the kicker is a walk, and the kicker is awarded 1st base.

10.02 A ball is:

10.02.1 Any roll that results in the ball being outside the strike zone

10.02.2 Rolls that hit one of the strike zone cones

10.02.3 Any roll that is more than 6 inches off the ground when it crosses the plate

10.02.4 Any rolled ball that does not bounce multiple times before reaching home plate

10.02.5 A roll that is thrown sidearm or overhand

11. Strikes

11.01 (3) strikes by the kicker is an out.

11.02 Any roll that is not kicked and not considered a ball is a strike

11.03 An attempted kick that is missed by the kicker is a strike.

12. Foul and Fair Balls

12.01 Foul balls are considered strikes.

12.02 Foul balls can count as the third strike.

12.03 A foul ball is:

12.03.1 Any ball that is kicked and touches in foul territory without going into fair territory

12.03.2 Any ball that is kicked and touches in fair territory, but crosses into foul territory before passing 1st base or 3rd base

12.03.3 A "double-kick" or the ball bouncing up and hitting the kicker a second time while still in the kicking motion. This is a dead ball and cannot be caught if kicked in the air.

12.03.4 A ball that is kicked and hits a 'back-stop', trees, wires or anything extraneous to the playing area before going into fair territory

12.04 A fair ball is:

12.04.1 Any ball that touches and stays in fair territory

12.04.2 Any ball that touches in fair territory and then crosses into foul territory after passing 1st base or 3rd base

12.04.3 Any ball that touches a player or referee that is in fair territory before crossing into foul territory

12.04.4 Essentially, we play by "baseball" foul ball rules. The fair/foul ruling is based upon where the defensive player is.

13. Play Ends (Dead Ball)

13.01 When any defensive player has the ball within 5 ft of the rollers mound and the lead base runner has stopped reasonable advancement to the next base in the determination of the referee the play is over.

13.02 When a kicked ball hits a base runner off base or a baserunner on base that is forced to run, it is a dead ball and the runner is out. The kicker is awarded 1st base and all other base runners must return to their previous base. (See Rule: 9.02.6)

13.03 When a live ball goes out of the field of play as determined by the referee, it is a dead ball. The referee will go over with the captains before the game what areas for each field are considered out of play. Foul territory is considered in play otherwise and the ball is live until the play ends normally.

13.04 When a base runner interferes with a fielder's opportunity to make a play or deliberately disrupts the play it is a dead ball and the runner is out. All other base runners must return to their last base touched prior to the interference.

13.05 A delayed dead ball is when a defensive infraction has occurred, but the result of the play determines the outcome.

13.06 A delayed dead ball is:

13.06.1 Obstruction on the defense either by blocking a base or interfering with the runner's right to the baseline when not making an active play on the ball

13.06.2 When a fielder (or pitcher against a female kicker) is in front of the imaginary line between 1st and 3rd base before the ball is kicked and makes a play on the ball or interferes with play. If the kicker does not reach first base safely then the delayed dead ball results in an automatic walk to the kicker.

14. Advancing the Bases

14.01 When runners advance from one base to the next, they must stay in the imaginary "base line" which is a straight line between two bases and approximately 5 ft in width. If the runner runs outside the base line to elude a ball thrown at them or a tag attempt they are out. The runner may only run outside the base line to elude a fielder that is making an active play on the ball.

14.02 If a fielder obstructs a runner from reaching a base (i.e. blocking the base or base line) and they are not making an active play on the ball, the runner will be considered safe at the intended base if they would have reasonably made it, in the referee's judgment, if not for the obstruction.

14.03 Runners are allowed to over-run first base, but must not show intention to round first and head to second base. If the runner shows intention to head to second and is hit by the kickball below the neck then the runner is out. No other bases can be over-run (except for home). Rule of thumb is to veer to the right after overrunning the base. This will show you are not attempting to run to 2nd base.

14.04 If a ball is caught in the air by a fielder, runners must return to their base and "tag-up" before advancing to the next base.

14.04.1 Runners can advance on a caught ball as long as the runner has tagged their original base after the ball was originally touched by a fielder. One fielder can tip and then later catch or tip to another player, but the runner can tag up when less than 2 outs once the first contact happens between fielder and ball.

14.04.2 Runners may not "tag-up" on foul balls under any scenario.

14.05 Runners are allowed to slide into a base. If the runner slides or ducks to elude the ball and is hit while off the base (including the neck or head), they are out.

i. Slides: Head first slides are not allowed. The result will be a team warning followed by an out for second offense.

14.06 After a ball is kicked inside the field of play, the ball is considered "live" and runners can advance until the ball is controlled by the defense within a 5 foot radius of the roller's mound or the ball is ruled "out of play" by the referee.

14.07 Runs are scored when runners cross home plate. Runners must cross and touch each base on the way to home plate. If the runner crosses home plate during the 3rd out in the field and the 3rd out was a force out, then the run does not count.

14.08 If a base is displaced for any reason, the original placement of the base shall be used during the play as the base. Once the play is over, the base shall be replaced.

14.09 If a baserunner misses a base while rounding the bases they are out.

14.10 If a baserunner knocks the ball away from the defense on purpose, the runner will be out and no one is allowed to advance further on the bases. This will also result in a warning to that player.

14.11 Pinch runners are allowed only when a player on base is injured. The pinch runner must be a male replacing a male or female replacing a female and has to be the last male/female player that was out if no substitutions are available.

15. Ejections

15.01 Any player, coach, spectator, or sponsor ejected from any league game must leave the complex and may not return until that person(s) have spoken directly with the Recreation Superintendent.

15.02 Disciplinary Actions may include any & all of the following depending on the situation:

- i. Verbal Warning
- ii. Written Warning
- iii. One (1) game suspension
- iv. Two (2) game suspension
- v. Removal from the league
- vi. Banned from all Parks & Recreation Youth Sports Leagues/programs

15.03 Any player, coach, spectator or sponsor ejected from any league game is subject to a minimum of (1) league game suspension and/or removal from league.

15.04 Any player, coach, spectator or sponsor on suspension is not allowed at the field for practices and/or games until suspension is over.

15.05 Any suspension that occurs will carry over into post-season play.

16. Facility Rules & Conduct

- 16.01 There will be NO tobacco use on the field or anywhere in the park. Spectators are not allowed to smoke in the stands, around other spectators and/or near the fields (City Ordinance 971.23)
- 16.02 Teams are required to wear a uniform with a whole number on the back of their shirt/jersey for easy identification.
- 16.03 The official ball will be determined by the Reynoldsburg Parks and Recreation Department for league play.
- 16.04 The captain is responsible for the conduct of his/her: team and spectators.

Weather Hotline: 614.322.6834