

Basic Rules for Kickball

1. Pitching: Each team will pitch to the other team. Pitchers must pitch from the pitching mound and cannot go in front of plate until the ball is kicked. Slow to moderate pitches only, no fireballs allowed, otherwise it will be a ball. If the kicker requests a slower pitch then the pitcher is obligated to do so. If the request is not honored then a ball will be called. No bouncies allowed. Basically, you are not allowed to use pitching styles as a part of a defensive strategy of any kind. The pitcher should try his/her best to give the kicker a pitch that they feel most comfortable kicking.
2. Kicking: All kicks must be made by foot. A ball must cross within 1 foot of the home plate to be called a strike. The umpire will try to mark this area for you. The ball is put in play when the pitcher rolls the ball toward home plate and the kicker attempts to kick the ball. The kicker must kick the ball either on or behind the home plate. If the kicker kicks in front of the plate the kicker will receive a strike and have to come back to kick, unless an out(s) occur. The opposing team should not be penalized by a small technicality. A kicker can be called out if they let 2 strikes go by and walked if 3 balls are thrown. Two foul balls will be called an out. A foul ball is considered a strike.
3. A play ends when the pitcher has control of the ball and is near the mound/pitching circle. Keep in mind, if a runner is running around the bases and he/she doesn't stop and you give the ball to the pitcher, this rule does not mean the runner must stop. The play is still active and can only end when it is clear that the runners are basically stopped on, or proceeding back to, a base. It is the same rule that applies to baseball/softball. Any runner who interferes with the ball on its way back to the pitcher will be called out. This rule also applies when the pitcher fields the ball. They still have to stop the play and head back to the pitching circle. The umpire will call time when he/she feels the play is over. Keep in mind the umpire has the discretion to call time even if the pitcher does not physically have the ball in hand, as long as the ball is headed back to the pitcher near the mound.
4. Catcher plays along side the 3rd/home base line and cannot enter into fair territory until the ball is kicked. There is a guideline marked for positioning yourself in that area. The catcher must have one foot on the ground in the catcher's box. No part of the catcher's body may touch the ground outside the box prior to the kick. If the catcher leaves early and is the first to touch the ball, the play is dead and the kicker is awarded 1st base and all runners advance one base no matter if it is a force or not. Basically, CATCHERS, keep yourselves behind that line!!!
5. Defensive players cannot cross the 1st-3rd diagonal line and outfielders must start in the grass until the ball is kicked otherwise a ball will be called for the kicker. On the big field infielders need to position themselves approximately 3 feet in front of the grass and outfielders can come up 3 feet into the dirt. Each team will only be given one warning on this rule. After that the kicker will receive a "walk" if it happens after the one warning has been given.
6. Women can kick short kicks as long as it crosses in front of home plate where the grass area starts, otherwise a foul will be called. Men must kick away. The umpire

- has the discretion to call back any male player if he/she feels that the kicker did not do so.
7. The ball can be thrown at any player and must hit shoulder and below. The runner will be called safe if it hits their head unless they are sliding/ducking the ball. If a player is hit in the head they get the base they are running to plus one(1) extra base. Any player that is hit by the ball at anytime and is not on a base is out.
 8. No leading off or stealing is allowed. A runner off his/her base when the ball is kicked is out.
 9. Players must tag when the ball is caught in the air. If a defensive player tries catching the ball and they miss it but another player catches it before it hits the ground then the runner still must tag after the player who actually ends up with the catch. If the defensive team feels like the runner left early then they should give the ball to the pitcher. The pitcher states the protest then throws the ball to the base in which the player allegedly left early. The umpire will then make the call.
 10. There is no infield fly rule. However, if a player deliberately drops the ball for the purpose of a double play, the umpire(at his discretion) can allow just one out. The kicker will be the one out and not the other runner.
 11. Absolutely NO WHINING ALLOWED. Umpires rulings are final!!! Remember, we are out here for fun!! If a player is getting out of hand, depending on the situation, the umpire has the right to warn or eject any player(s) from the game. If the offense is severe and inappropriate, the director will be made aware of it will be up to him as to what action he will take.
 12. Line-up: You may put the line-up together anyway you'd like, but only 2 guys are allowed to kick back to back ONCE in the line-up. A male at the top of the line-up and a male at the bottom of the line-up constitutes for 2 guys back to back. If you do not have enough women to arrange your line-up in this manner, then any female may step in to kick. All you have to do in the line-up is write "girl" in that spot. Please try to make sure that the girl who will kick will not be on base when she has to kick again. Spread them out. If both teams have the same issue then both teams can eliminate the "girl" position and play with 2 guys in the line-up twice if the other team has the same equal advantage as well. Must be Guy 1st/ Guy last and 2 together somewhere else in the line-up. This needs to be determined by both coaches before the start of the game.
 13. Softball cleats are allowed.
 14. Time limit: Please make sure you at the field approximately 10 minutes before game time so we can start them on time. We will play 60 minutes. At this point if you are in a top of the inning then that inning will be played out. If you are at the bottom of the inning, then one more inning will be played after bottom of inning is finished. (If a game is going quickly, you could end up playing more than 7 innings)
 15. If you have 10 players then 5 girls/5 men defensively. You can never have more than 5 men out on the field.
 16. You can start the game with 8 players without a forfeit.
 17. The defensive player must stay out of the baseline; otherwise the runner advancing to the base will be called safe. The defensive player is allowed to be in

- the baseline if making an active play and the runner must run around them. In a play to first, the first baseman must make every attempt to position their foot on the side of the base to leave room for the runner, otherwise interference can be called by the umpire. If the first baseman is making a play and may have to step back into the base, interference cannot be called. The umpire has discretion when deciding whether or not there was interference.
18. Any player deliberately, with great force crashes into a defensive player holding the ball, waiting to apply a tag, will be ejected from the game.
 19. All players listed on the team's roster are the only ones who are allowed to play. Substitute players can be picked up from the other teams in the tournament.
 20. Runners will advance one base on a ball that goes out of bounds. On an overthrow the runner may advance at their own risk.
 21. If an out occurs on a forced run that happens behind the other bases then it will take the force off the other runners(in front) advancing so they must be tagged in order to get them out. (Example: Bases are loaded, the kicker gets out running to 1st base, and they try to get the player at home, he/she must be tagged by the ball before she touches the plate. It would not be a forced out!) The runners where the force has been taken off have the option to go back to the base they started at before the kick.

IF YOU NEED ME TO ELABORATE ON SOME OF THESE RULES FOR A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THEM, PLEASE GET WITH ME AND I WILL GO OVER THEM WITH YOU!!