

Cuyahoga Falls Parks and Recreation Coed Kick League Rules

REGULATION GAMES:

- Games will last for 7 innings, with the game being official after 4 innings (3 ½ if the home team leads). Umpires will determine when 50 minutes is close and will finish the current inning (the game will be shortened if necessary).
- Unlike baseball, there are no extra innings; the game can end in a tie.
- Any team that is not ready to take the field at the scheduled kick off time shall forfeit the match.
- There is a limit of nine runs per inning except for the last inning.
- If a team leads by ten runs or more after 5 innings the game will be declared over.

Hitting the base with the ball does not count as an out. The fielder must hit the runner with the ball or maintain control of the ball on the base on a forced run.

- Your team is found using a player who is NOT on the roster, it is an automatic forfeit for your team.
- The official batting order must be provided to the umpire before the start of the game.
- Once official batting order is submitted it can't be changed.
- Players that arrive after the start of the game and after all other players on the kicking team have already kicked once may only be used as substitutes for players of the same gender.

Outfielders are to be in their respected positions in the grass before the ball is pitched.

PITCHING/CATCHING:

- If the ball is bouncing higher than 1 foot off the ground (as measured from the bottom of the ball) when it reaches the plate then it is a ball; however, the kicker does have the option of kicking it if he/she wishes.
- The pitcher must stay inside the pitching area on the mound until the ball is kicked. If the pitcher crosses outside of the pitching area, or on the line, an illegal pitch will be called.
- No fielder may advance forward the 1st-3rd base diagonal until the ball is kicked, however anyone can field a bunt.
- If a pitcher or fielder makes an out by illegally advancing beyond the 1st-3rd base diagonal, the runner will be declared safe.
- Runners must return to their original bases unless they are forced to advance.
- The catcher must be positioned at least 3 feet from the kicker and behind the plate until the ball is kicked. The catcher cannot interfere with the kicker.
- If the catcher interferes with the kicker and it is called by the umpire, the kicker will receive base. This is a judgment call by the umpire.
- The fielding team cannot change catchers during an inning (except in cases of injury)
- The count begins at 1 ball, 1 strike.
- Pitching must be underhand only.

KICKING:

- The kicker begins with a count of 1 ball and 1 strike. (1-1).
- All kicks must be made by foot (below the knee).
- All kicks must be taken at or behind the home plate (determined by the position of the

plant foot) or an illegal kick will be called and the kicker will be declared out (no runners can advance).

- Males and females must kick the ball past the 1st-3rd baseline. The ball must stay beyond the line to be fair.
- Any kick that does not reach this line will be considered a foul unless the ball is fielded before it reaches this line, then it is in play and considered fair.
- If the ball is fielded before it reaches this line, it is in play and considered fair.
- Kickers may not stop the ball with their foot and then kick it.
- If a player double-kicks the ball accidentally and the ball is still in the kicker's box, the kick is considered a foul, and therefore, a strike.
- If a player double-kicks the ball accidentally and the ball is in fair territory, the kicker is out.

BUNTING:

- Bunting is not allowed.
 - A kicked ball must cross the bunt line. The bunt line will extend between 1st and 3rd base.
A kicked ball that does not cross the bunt line will be called out.
A kicked ball that is touched by a defender before it reaches the bunt line will be a live ball.
- Please see **APPENDIX A** for more info.

RUNNING:

- Runners must stay within the base line.
- Fielders must stay out of the base line unless they are attempting to tag the runner or catch the kicked ball.
- Fielders trying to make an out on base may have their foot on base (except for first), but must lean out of the baseline.
- If a fielder attempts to physically obstruct a runner from advancing, the runner may advance as many bases as they would have potentially earned had they been able to run unobstructed. This is a judgment call by the official.
- There will be an extra first base placed next to first base. The extra base is for the fielder to tag and an out will be called when the fielder tags this base and not the regular base. The fielder may not interfere in any way with the runner tagging first base.
- It is the responsibility of the runner to avoid a collision. Please save yourself and your opponents from injury by paying attention. Ties go to the runner...there's no need to take out the baseman.
- Neither leading off base, nor stealing a base is allowed.
- A runner leading off base before the ball is kicked is out.
- Hitting a runner with the ball above shoulder level is not allowed and the runner is safe and advances one (1) base except for the following situations:
 - If the runner intentionally uses the head to block the ball, and is so called by the official scorer, in which case the runner is out.
 - If the runner is ducking, diving or sliding (i.e. attempting to dodge the ball) and is hit in the head because of this is an out. It is the umpire's judgment.

- If the runner intentionally hits or kicks the ball after being tagged out, the ball is dead and all runners must return to their original bases.
- When a runner is hit with the ball above shoulder level, other runners on base are permitted to advance to the base to which they were running, but do not receive additional bases unless forced.
- The runner may leave base as soon as a fly ball is touched by a member of the fielding team. (See softball rules for further clarification, if needed.)
- All ties will go to the runner.
- On an overthrow, all players advance as far as they can get even if the ball is out of bounds.
- Certain fields may have out of bounds areas. Please consult the umpire for details.
- When two runners are on the same base at the same time, the fielder has the choice of tagging either runner with the ball. The runner who is tagged is out and the other runner is safe and may stay on the base.

COMMITMENT AND SCORING LINES:

- A commitment line will be placed 30 feet from home plate, perpendicular to the third base line. A baserunner that crosses this line is committed to cross the scoring line.
- A baserunner that attempts to return to third base after crossing the commitment line will be called out.
- For safety, a scoring line will extend from the kicker's box, perpendicular to the third base line. A baserunner must cross this line to score a run.

Any part of the baserunner's foot must contact the ground behind the scoring line before the defender touches home plate with the ball to be called safe.

A baserunner that crosses through the kicker's box will be called out.

FOULS:

- A foul will count as a strike even on the third strike.
- A foul is:
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 touching a fielder in fair territory is automatically in play).

TEAMS:

- Teams shall consist of a maximum of 10 players on the field and a minimum of 8 players with at least 4 women on the field at all times. If you don't have enough women you must play short and will get an automatic out when that position is reached in the batting order. If you play with fewer than 10 players but have at least 4 women you do not have to take an automatic out. One of the players must be catcher.
- The kicking order cannot change but you can change the fielders as long as you keep 4 women in the field.

Team Manager's Responsibilities

While each individual is responsible for his/her own actions, Team Managers will also be held responsible for the conduct of their team members, coaches, and spectators. Team Managers are expected to assist the Adult Sports Staff and game officials in maintaining a positive playing environment. To aid in this, only the Team Manager (or acting Team Manager) is permitted to confer with game officials and Adult Sports Staff.

Prohibited Behavior

The following actions are grounds for ejection, game forfeiture, and/or suspension:

Inappropriate behavior

Unsportsmanlike behavior

Obscene language or gestures

Verbal abuse

Physical assault

Verbal threats

Threatening behavior

Non-Players

For safety and liability purposes, any non-playing person (other than coaches and scorekeepers) will not be allowed to sit in the dugout area.

Pets and any children under 18 years of age must be supervised by non-playing adults.

APPENDIX A

