



2021 Stonewall Sports Tournament & Summit Kickball Rulebook

Sport Leadership

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Sport Location:

Henderson Softball Complex
500 Forest Lawn Drive
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1. PLAYING FIELD & SET UP:

- 1.1. The League is responsible for determining a suitable playing field for all games and sponsored-events. The League and/or its designated Umpires & Referees will prepare the playing field in accordance with the following set-up guidelines below.
- 1.2. Like baseball, playing infield is diamond-shaped with equal angles (90° angle) and sides measuring sixty feet (60') – approx. twenty (20) paces – with a base located at each corner. When measuring the distance between Home Plate and/or each Base, place measuring tape at back corner of Home Plate and/or each Base and then measure from that point, placing the base at the appropriate 60' location.
- 1.3. Pitching Strip is placed in the center of playing infield along the First (1st) Base and Third (3rd) Base diagonal – the exact measurement should be forty-two feet and five inches (42'5") or approx. fourteen (14) paces from Home Plate.
- 1.4. Cones are placed at the outside corner of each base but cannot touch the base.
- 1.5. Cones are placed on the foul lines in a straight line extending ten to thirty feet (10' - 30') beyond First (1st) Base and Third (3rd) Base. Cones may be placed near Home Plate to help determine kicking box.
- 1.6. KICKING BOX: This area is a rectangular space where the front of the box aligns with the front of Home Plate and the back of the box aligns with the sideline cones behind Home Plate in an 8' x 8' box – the lines extending forward from the sideline cones perpendicular to the front of Home Plate make up the sides of kicking box. The area directly forward the kicking box is fair territory.
- 1.7. STRIKE ZONE: This area is a three-dimensional irregular pentagon based on the shape of Home Plate. Aligned with the front of Home Plate, strike zone is six inches (6") in height and extends one foot (1') to either side of Home Plate (see Rule 8.2). It is not permissible to physically mark the boundaries of the strike zone by cones or other raised objects as these objects could potentially interfere with play – drawn/painted lines are permitted in accordance with Rule 8.2.
- 1.8. After notifying the Umpire of any improper field set-up, the field layout shall be corrected before the beginning of next play.
- 1.9. A "safety base" must be placed next to First (1st) Base in foul territory (see Diagrams) and must be used for all regulation games in accordance with Rule 7.2.
- 1.10. All participants must respect and obey all rules and regulations pertaining to the field used for games. In addition, park permits may have stipulations that participants must abide by to play at those facilities. Participants breaking any field rules may be ejected from the game and may be considered by League Leadership for possible disciplinary action.

2. EQUIPMENT:

- 2.1. OFFICIAL ATTIRE: While participating, players must wear coordinating team uniforms. Uniforms must cover at least the upper chest area and players are not permitted to play shirtless. On Saturday teams should wear uniforms provided SSI for the national tournament, on Sunday teams may choose their own coordinated uniforms. Teams with uniforms branding inappropriate images or offensive language will be removed from the tournament.
- 2.1.1. Players may wear additional layers of clothing due to colder weather conditions and/or rain – either over or under uniform. The uniform does not need to be visible, but Players must wear the uniform in accordance with 2.1 and may be requested to verify use by the League and/or Umpire.
- 2.2. SHOES: Without any exceptions, Players are required to wear athletic shoes when playing. It is recommended that Players wear cleats; however, metal cleats are not allowed.
- 2.3. PERFORMANCE ENHANCING EQUIPMENT: Players may wear protective equipment providing it does not offer the wearer an unfair performance advantage (such as gloves) when playing. Any equipment deemed by the Umpire as "performance enhancing" must be removed or the Player will be removed from play.

2.4. OFFICIAL KICKBALL: The official kickball will be provided by the League – it is a 10” diameter rubber ball that should be pressurized to approximately 1.25 psi (but not greater than 1.5 psi. Do not over or under inflate the ball.

3. PARTICIPANTS:

3.1. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY: In order to be considered a Player, all participants must be (a) twenty-one (21) years of age or older by the date of first game; (b) adequately and currently health insured against all injury that may arise from kickball play; (c) properly registered through the approved registration process; and (d) sign the Tournament liability waiver. Participants can only play on one (1) Kickball team during the tournament.

3.2. OFFICIALS: Each game must be officiated by one (1) Umpire and at least two (2) Referees. These officials will be designated and furnished for games as scheduled and provided by the League.

3.2.1. UMPIRES: The Umpire is located at Home Plate, governs game play, and issues all final rulings (including but not limited to those described below), and has final authority on equipment issues. Referees assist the Umpire.

3.2.1.1. Umpires have jurisdiction over play and may (a) call a time out; (b) call off any game still in play after 45 minutes; and/or (c) penalize a Player, including game ejection, for any reason – this includes but is not limited to un-sportsmanlike conduct, fighting, delay of game, and excessive verbal abuse (see 15.3).

3.2.1.2. Umpires have jurisdiction over play and must (a) cancel the game if lightning is seen in close proximity and each Captain and/or Co-Captain agrees to call game, and/or (b) call off a game due to darkness, rain, or other cause at the Umpire's discretion with the tournament managers approval.

3.2.1.3. Umpires may make rulings on any points not specifically covered in the rules (at the time of occurrence), but the ruling shall not be deemed as precedent for future rulings.

3.2.1.4. Umpires may seek the advice of the Tournament Manager who will review the situation and advise on all applicable rules. If necessary, the League Leadership will consider call protests and provide advice on unsettled or unclear matters; however, decisions cannot be overturned on appeal and will only be prospective towards future games.

3.2.2. REFEREES: Each Team is required to provide two knowledgeable and capable (2) Referees to assist officiating games when assigned by League. Referees will be positioned at First (1st) and Third (3rd) Bases Referees decide whether Runner is “safe” or “out” and if encroachment infractions occur, among other calls. Referees are required to pay attention to the game at all times.

3.2.3. FIELD SET-UP & TAKE-DOWN: The Umpires scheduled, and Referees assigned to officiate the first games of the day are responsible for setting-up the playing fields as described in Section 1. Likewise, the Umpires scheduled, and Referees assigned for the last games are responsible for taking-down the playing fields after final game. Equipment can be picked-up and dropped-off at designated location as specified by League.

3.3. TEAMS:

3.3.1. PLAYERS NEEDED TO PLAY: Each Team must field at least eight (8) Players – but no more than eleven (11) Players – at a scheduled game. If a Team cannot meet the minimum requirement, then that Team receives a Forfeit for that scheduled game.

3.3.2. The fielding Team must assign and field one (1) pitcher and one (1) catcher in an inning during the game.

3.3.3. Only the Captain(s) may dispute calls for rule infractions with the Umpire but must accept Umpire's final ruling.

3.3.4. PARTICIPATING PLAYERS: All participating Players must kick in the written kicking order – but are not required to field. If a Player cannot kick for whatever reason, then that Player is not permitted to field because the Player did not meet the minimum requirement of kicking. A “participating player” is any Player who is present and dressed to play (which means, but is not limited to: wearing official team t-shirt; athletic shorts, tights, or pants; and shoes or cleats) unless that Player is injured or has a legitimate medical condition. Umpire has discretion to determine whether the player has a legitimate medical condition.

3.3.5. EXCHANGE OF KICKING ORDER: Team Captains must provide a copy of their Team’s written kicking order to the Home plate umpire prior to the start of game. The first base umpire will keep track of kicking orders for both teams throughout the game.

3.3.5.1. Both teams must exchange their Team’s written kicking orders. Failure or refusal to provide a written kicking order will result in a “Game Forfeit” of the day’s game.

3.3.5.2. IMPROPER KICKING ORDER CLAIMS: A claim of improper kicking order must be made to the Umpire, who will make the final determination. The claim must be made on the field no sooner than the first pitch thrown to the accused “wrong” Kicker and no later than the first pitch thrown to the subsequent Kicker. The first base umpire will check the records to see if there was a kick out of order. Any resulting play is nullified by a finding of improper kicking order and an out will be recorded for the player who was supposed to be kicking. The next kicker is the player who follows the proper kicker who was called “out”.

3.3.6. ADDING PLAYERS TO KICKING ORDER: Players not present when the game starts are to be removed from the original kicking order. If Player arrives after the game starts, regardless of inning, that Player must be added to end of Team’s kicking order. However, Player may not be added to kicking roster after Team has been once through the kicking order – the late-arriving Player may still play defensively in the field (exception to Rule 3.3.4).

3.4. BASE COACHES: Two members of the Team at kick may coach First (1st) Base and Third (3rd) Base. Base Coaches may switch with other Team members to remain in proper kicking order. However, Base Coaches may not physically assist Runners while the ball is in play nor can they interfere with game play – doing so results in an out (see 11.2(h)).

4. REGULATION GAMES:

4.1. REGULATION GAMES: To be considered a regulation game, the game must last at least three (3) full innings or forty (40) minutes, whichever occurs first. Official tournament games (excluding tournament semifinals and finals) may last a maximum of five (5) innings or forty-five (45) minutes – but a new inning is not permitted to start if the game has already played for Thirty-five (35) minutes or more. Game clock officially starts when first pitch of the game is thrown. Tournament semifinal and final games will play a full 5 inning game without a time restriction.

4.1.1. If a game is called according to Rule 3.2.1.2 after being considered a regulation game, then the game score at the end of the last full inning shall determine the winner.

4.1.2. If a game is called according to Rule 3.2.1.2 before being considered a regulation game, then the game will resume after appropriate caution has been taken for weather.

4.2 HOME/AWAY TEAM DESIGNATION: During tournament pool play captains will participate in a pregame coin toss to determine home and away sides. Winning captains will be able to decide if their team has the “Away” designation (Kicking first) or the “Home” designation (Kicking last).

4.3. SLAUGHTER RULE: Teams may score a maximum of 10 runs per inning. Once 10 runs have been scored the half inning will be considered complete per the slaughter rule.

4.4. WINNING/LOSING: The Team with the most runs at the end of the game wins. If the team winning after the top of the final inning is set to kick in the bottom of the inning, then the game ends without the bottom of the inning being played. If a regulation game is ended by the Umpire for whatever reason (including Rule 4.3) before the inning is completed, the recorded score will be the score at the end of the last completed inning.

4.5. TIES: If there is a tie score at the end of a pod game, then the game shall be marked as a tie. During elimination play, if the game ends in a tie, then additional innings will be played. Before the start of the inning, the last kicker will be placed on Second (2nd) base and each kicker will receive one (1) pitch per at bat. A strike or foul ball will be recorded as an out, a ball will result in a walk, and a kicked ball will be played live. The game will continue in this manner until there is a winner.

4.6. FORFEITS: The League has predetermined and enumerated scenarios that will result in a “Forfeit” being assessed against a Team under the rules. Forfeits cannot be waived. There are two types of forfeits with distinctly different consequences:

4.6.1. GAME FORFEITS: When assessed, counts as both a “20-0 Loss” and “Forfeit” against the offending Team – and a “20-0 Win” for the other Team.

4.6.2. PAPER FORFEITS (ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY): When assessed, does not count as a “Loss” but does count as a “Forfeit” and ten (10) runs will be applied against the offending Team towards their total “Runs Allowed” for the season. Paper Forfeits DO NOT affect the game played or to be played by the offending Team on the date of the offending incident. ****Need to relook at this****

4.7. Teams will have a five (5) minute grace period for any game delay. Failure to abide by this rule results in a Game Forfeit.

4.8. NON-REGISTERED PERSONS: A Team playing a non-registered person, an improperly registered person (see 3.1), or a person not registered on that Team will receive both a Game Forfeit and Paper Forfeit.

4.8.1. If such an infraction is claimed during the game, the Team accused of the infraction bears the burden of proof. The Team must present acceptable identification (ex. Government-issued photo ID or Team roster).

4.8.2. If such an infraction is claimed after a game, the infraction must be announced to the Tournament Head Referees and Kickball Managers before the end of the Team’s next scheduled. The burden of proof rests with claimant Team.

4.9. RANKINGS/STANDINGS: Calculated using approved protocol established by Tournament (see Appendix B).

5. PITCHING, CATCHING, AND FIELDING:

5.1. PITCHING: Balls must be pitched by hand. There are no restrictions or limitations on pitching style.

5.2. POSITIONING & ENCROACHMENT: Proper field position must be maintained by all defensive Players during the start of play. Failure to be properly positioned will result in an encroachment infraction.

5.2.1. TYPES OF ENCROACHMENT:

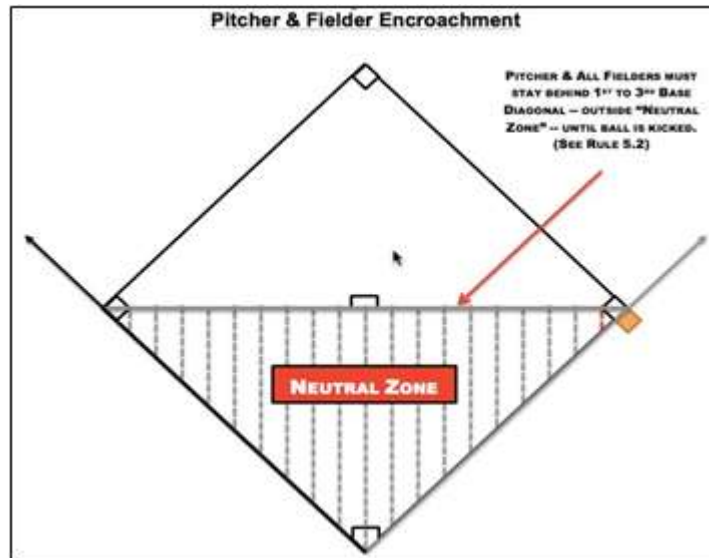
5.2.1.1. FIELDER ENCROACHMENT: Except for the Catcher, all Fielders must start play AND remain in fair territory behind the First/Third (1st/3rd) Base diagonal – outside of the “Neutral Zone” (see Diagram) – until the ball has been contacted by the kicker.

5.2.1.2. PITCHER ENCROACHMENT: Pitcher must pitch the ball from behind the front edge of pitching strip AND remain completely behind that front edge of pitching strip after releasing the ball – outside of the “Neutral Zone” (see Diagram. No part of Pitcher’s foot may be in front of or across the front edge of the pitching strip until the ball is pitched. After the ball is released, the Pitcher will follow fielder encroachment rules.

5.2.1.3. CATCHER ENCROACHMENT: Catcher must be behind or parallel to the Kicker when they are in the kicking box. The Catcher may not be positioned forward of the Kicker during the play before the ball is kicked. In addition, Catcher is not permitted to come into contact with the Kicker nor position so closely to the Kicker as to restrict kicking motion.

5.2.2. ENCROACHMENT PENALTIES: The penalty for the Team's encroachment regardless of the type or effect on the play will result in an **AUTOMATIC** ball awarded to the kicker. However, if the offensive team prefers to have the result of the play stand instead of the call of "ball" awarded to the kicker, then the captain of the offensive team must immediately tell the home plate umpire he/she/they would like to decline the encroachment call and keep the play as is. The umpire must respect the captain's decision. This will **NOT** count as a challenge.

5.3. Fielders are permitted to intentionally let kicked balls drop in order to attempt a double play – there is no "infield fly" rule nor any countermeasures against fielders who find it to their tactical advantage to let a ball drop rather than catch it.



5. KICKING:

6.1. Each Kicker must make all kicks by foot or leg below the knee (see 10.2(e)). Any ball touched by the foot or leg below the knee is considered a kick, including kicks made to pitches that would otherwise be considered a "ball" (see Section 9). Therefore, it is the Kicker's responsibility to evade a pitched ball that they do not wish to kick. However, the Umpire may call a pitch a "ball" if the Umpire judges it to be a deliberate and an unsportsmanlike throw at the Kicker.

6.2. All kicks must occur at or behind Home Plate within the Kicking Box. 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 Home Plate (see 10.2(h)). Kicker must have at least a portion of the planted foot within the kicking box during the kick (see 10.2(g)).

6.3. Bunting is permitted.

6.4. Intentional fouls are permitted but are discouraged. An "intentional foul" is when a Kicker deliberately kicks the ball into foul territory in an effort to avoid a pitched ball that would otherwise be called a strike in accordance with Rule 8.2 in order to advance the foul count.

7. RUNNING AND SCORING:

7.1. Runners traveling from Home Plate may overrun First (1st) Base and may only be tagged out if actively and intentionally attempting to advance to Second (2nd) Base. An idle left turn where the Runner returns directly to First (1st) Base does not constitute an active attempt to advance – must be a deliberate move towards advancing to Second (2nd) Base.

7.2. SAFETY BASE: the "safety base" must be used when the Kicker is traveling to First (1st) Base from Home Plate.

7.2.1. Safety Base is ONLY available for Runners traveling from Home Plate (see 7.5). No additional base may be used at any other base.

7.2.2. Fielders trying to make an out on First (1st) Base must touch the base in fair territory (the First (1st) Base). Runners hindered by a fielder touching the Safety Base will be "Safe".

7.2.3. When a play is attempted at First (1st) Base, the Runner must touch the Safety Base – and not First (1st) Base. If the Runner touches First (1st) Base prior to being called "Safe" at the Safety Base, then the Runner shall be called "Out", unless an exception below applies:

7.2.3.1. The Runner may use First (1st) Base if attempting to advance to Second (2nd) Base or if there is no Fielder on First (1st) Base. A runner using or touching First (1st) Base in any other circumstance is "Out".

7.2.4. Once a Runner has reached First (1st) Base safely, the Runner must start the next play on First (1st) Base. Any Runner standing on or touching the Safety Base at the beginning of the next play will be "Out".

7.3. Kickers may NOT slide into First (1st) Base.

7.4. Runners must stay within the baseline. Any Runner that runs outside the baseline is "Out" unless the Runner is merely following a natural running arc or changing course to avoid interference with a Fielder making a play (see 11.2(k)). Runners may move no more than four feet (4') outside the baseline when attempting to avoid a ball tag.

7.5. Fielders must stay out of the baseline. Fielders trying to make an out at a base may have their foot on base but may not block the base and must lean out of the baseline. A fielder completely blocking a base will result in the runner being "safe". Runners hindered by any Fielder within the baseline or standing on the base – not making an active play for the ball – shall be "Safe" at the base to which they were running (see 12.2.1). Runners may choose to advance beyond this base.

7.6. Runners are not permitted to lead off base nor steal bases. Runners may advance once the ball is kicked. A Runner who is off base when the ball is kicked is "Out" (see 11.2(g)).

7.7. FORCED SITUATION: A force is a situation when a Base Runner is compelled (or forced) to vacate their then-occupied base and try to advance to the next base because the Kicker became a Runner. For our kickball purposes, a Kicker becomes a Runner at the moment a kicked ball is not caught and touches the ground within fair territory.

7.7.1. Runners cannot remain on the base in a force situation as described above (see 11.2(n)). Runners who become out while running from one base to the next do not negate the previous force situation.

7.7.2. Runner at First (1st) Base is always forced to attempt to advance to Second (2nd) Base when the Kicker becomes a Runner as described above. Runners at Second (2nd) or Third (3rd) Bases are forced only when all bases preceding their then-occupied base are also occupied by other Base Runners and the Kicker becomes a Runner as described above.

7.8. Hitting a Runner's neck or head with the ball is not allowed, except when the Runner is sliding. If occurs, then Runner is "Safe" and advances to the base they were running toward when the ball hits the Runner. However, if the Runner intentionally uses the head or neck to block the ball, and is so called by the Umpire or Referee, the Runner is "Out".

7.8.1 A fielder kicking a ball at a runner is not allowed. Fielders may kick the ball to other team members but if a ball that is kicked by a fielder strikes a runner, the runner will be deemed safe, and the play will result in an automatic dead ball.

7.9. TAGGING UP: To "tag up" is a requirement for a Base Runner to retouch or remain on their starting base until (or after) the ball is kicked and either (1) lands or is first touched within fair territory, or (2) is caught in flight within foul territory. Base Runners must tag up when a fly ball is caught in flight by a Fielder. Runners are free to attempt to advance at their own risk after a legal tag up, even if the ball was caught in foul territory. A Runner failing to tag up as required is out (see 11.2(f) & 11.2(m)).

7.10. All ties go to the runner.

7.11. **OVERTHROWS:** An overthrow is a ball thrown, kicked, or deflected into foul territory while making a defensive play toward a Player or base. When the overthrow rules apply, depends on the location of the regulation game.

7.11.1. Overthrows only apply at first base. Otherwise, Interference Rules in section 12.2.

7.11.2. When an overthrow made in the direction of 1st base is made, the kicker may only advance to 2nd base. All other runners may continue to advance as many bases as they please.

7.12. Running past another Runner is not allowed – the passing Runner is out (see 11.2(j)).

7.13. A run counts when a Runner touches Home Plate before the third (3rd) out is made, EXCEPT that no run can score when the third (3rd) out is made during a force play situation, or when the Kicker is put out before touching First (1st) Base.

7.14. When a base is displaced during play, any Runner is safe while in contact with the base's original and correct location. All displaced bases should be restored at the end of each play.

8. STRIKES:

8.1. A count of three (3) strikes is an out. Foul balls will count towards the strike count (see 10.1).

8.2. A “strike” is a pitch that is not kicked and is not called a ball in accordance with Rule 9.2 and where any part of the pitched ball enters the strike zone as described herein (see 1.7). Furthermore, “any part of the pitched ball” means even the slightest amount of the ball entering strike zone as defined in Rule 1.7. Additionally, a strike is an attempted kick missed by the Kicker inside or outside of the strike zone.

8.3. A pitched ball that has passed through the strike zone and passes completely through the back of the kicking box will be considered a strike, even if the ball is touched after passing through the box.

9. BALLS:

9.1. A count of four (4) balls advances the Kicker to First Base.

9.2. A “ball” is (a) a pitch outside the strike zone as judged by the Umpire when a kick is not attempted (see 1.7); (b) a pitched ball that does not touch the ground at least twice or roll before passing Home Plate; (c) a pitched ball that exceeds 6 inches (6”) in height from bottom of the ball as it passes through the strike zone.

9.3 An intentional walk, defined as 4 consecutive balls at the beginning of a count (4-0), will result in a double base walk where the kicker will automatically advance to second base.

10. FAIR AND FOUL BALLS:

10.1. Foul balls count towards the strike count. However, a foul ball that occurs with two (2) strikes in the count will result in one “courtesy foul”, any subsequent fouls after that will result in a third strike and an out.

10.2. **TYPES OF FOUL BALLS:**

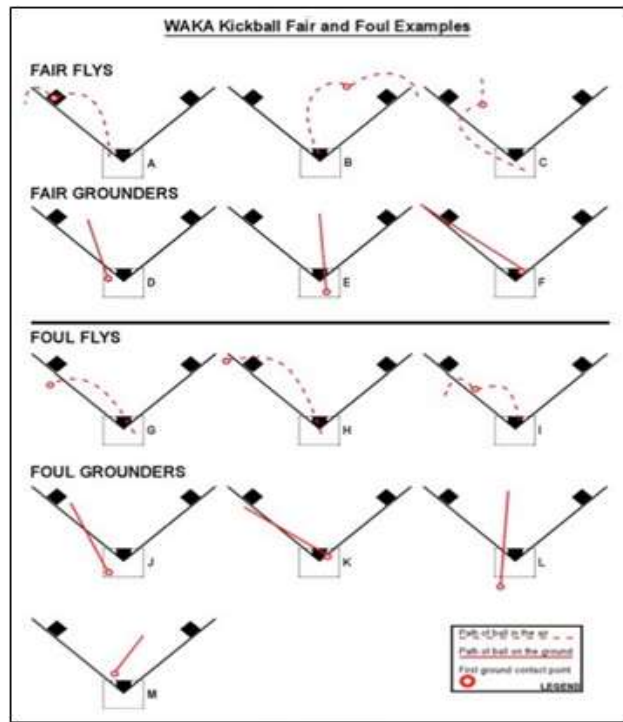
10.2.1. A “Live Foul Ball” is a kicked ball that: (a) Lands within foul territory; (b) Is touched in foul territory; (c) that lands in fair territory but touches foul territory on its own before reaching 1st or 3rd base; (d) Whose direction is altered by contact with an

object (except a fielder) other than the ground in foul territory; (e) a kicked ball outside of the kicking box (except in the case of 8.3)

10.2.2. A “Dead Foul Ball” is a play that is immediately dead, and all runners must stay or return to their respective bases. A dead foul ball occurs when: (a) a kick is made on or above the knee; (b) A kicked ball is touched more than once or stopped in the kicking box (a double kick where the second contact made by the kicker with the ball is outside of the kicker’s box results in an OUT).

10.3. A “fair ball” is (a) kicked ball landing and remaining in fair territory (see Diagram at C, D & E); (b) a kicked ball landing in fair territory then traveling into foul territory once beyond the First or Third base (see Diagram at A, B & F); (c) a kicked ball that lands or is touched in fair territory but is knocked into foul territory by a Fielder.

10.4. Foul lines are considered fair territory.



11. OUTS:

11.1. A count of three (3) outs by a Team completes the Team's half of the inning.

11.2. An “out” occurs when (a) kicking count is three (3) strikes (see 8.1 & 10.1); (b) any kicked ball (fair or foul) is caught by a Fielder; (c) a forced out by ball tag at the base to which a Runner is running prior to the Runner arriving at that base; (d) a Runner is touched by the ball at any time while not on base while ball is still in play (see 12.2.3); (e) a Kicker touches the ball with their hand or arm; (f) a Runner is tagged by the ball on base when the Runner fails to tag--up as required when a ball is caught (see 7.6); (g) a Runner is off base when the ball is kicked (see 7.3); (h) a Runner is physically assisted by a Team member or Base Coach during play (see 3.4); (i) a Kicker does not kick in the proper kicking line up (see 3.3.4); (j) a Runner passes another Runner (see 7.11); (k) a Runner runs outside of the baseline (see 7.1); (l) a Runner who misses a base but fails to tag up, as called by a Referee upon the conclusion of the play; (m) a Runner who fails to properly tag up on a caught ball (see 7.6); (n) a Runner tagged by the ball while on a base they are forced to vacate by the Kicker becoming a Runner (see 7.7); and/or (o) a Runner coming from Home Plate who steps on First (1st) Base when required to use the Extra Base (see 1.10.3).

12. BALL IN PLAY:

12.1. Play ends when the pitcher has possession of the ball and returns to the Pitcher's mound. Pitcher's mound extends twelve feet (12') from the center of the pitching strip. Runners who are off base at this time and in forward motion may advance only one (1) base. Runners who are off base at this time but not in forward motion must return to the base from which they were running.

12.2. INTERFERENCE:

12.2.1. **BY FIELDER:** When Runner is hindered by any Fielder within the baseline or standing on the base – not making an active play for the ball – the Runner shall be safe at the base to which they were running. Runners may choose to advance beyond this base while the ball is still in play.

12.2.2. **BY RUNNER:** When Runner physically hinders Fielder attempting to make a play in a deliberate and unsportsmanlike manner, the interference causes the play to end, the Runner is out, and other Runners must go back unless forced forward.

12.2.3. **BY RUNNER WHO TOUCHES BALL:** When any Runner (on or off base) intentionally touches a ball (see 11.2(d)), the interference causes the play to end, the Runner to be out, and any other Runners shall return to the base from which they came, unless forced to advance.

12.2.4. **BY NON-PERMANENT OBJECT:** When any non-Fielder or non-permanent object – except an Umpire, Referee or Runner – touches or is touched by a ball in play in fair territory, the interference causes the play to end and Runners shall proceed to the base to which they were headed.

12.2.5. **BY PLAYER ON OPPOSITE FIELD:** When a Player from the game on the opposite playing field (1) touches the ball and the interference gives either Team an unfair advantage OR (2) deliberately and intentionally hinders a fielder to prevent a play (not mere incidental contact) and the interference gives the Kicking Team an unfair advantage – so much so that play should cease due to fairness and sportsmanship. This interference causes play to end. The Umpire has the ultimate discretion to determine whether interference occurred and the location of base-Runner(s) before the interference. However, the Umpire may not advance the Runner(s) greater than to the base they were headed.

12.2.6. **INTERFERENCE BY NON-FIELDING PLAYERS:** When non-fielding players (such as supporters, spectators, bystanders, etc.) significantly hinder or prevent a Fielder from retrieving a ball in foul territory – so much so that play should cease due to fairness and sportsmanship, this interference causes play to end. The Umpire has the ultimate discretion to determine the location of base-Runner(s) before the interference. However, the Umpire may not advance the Runner(s) greater than to the base they were headed.

12.3. If a ball is popped or deflates significantly, that play shall be replayed with a properly inflated ball.12.

13. INJURY AND SUBSTITUTIONS:

13.1. The Captain (and/or Co-Captain) is permitted to substitute/replace a fielding position during an inning for any reason. However, the fielding position (including pitcher and catcher) may only be substituted/replaced once per inning – unless injury forced another substitution. The clock continues to run while a substitution is occurring, but the umpire has absolute discretion to stop the clock and (if deemed necessary) add a reasonable amount of time back on the clock if the substitution or frequency of substitutions is unfairly delaying the game. Abuse of this rule as a time management strategy will be treated as unsportsmanlike conduct and will not be tolerated.

13.1.1 The substitution for pitcher can only be made when the count pitch count for a batter is at 0-0-0, unless due to an injury.

13.2. In case of injury or illness, the Captain (and/or Co-Captain) may request a timeout for the participant's removal and replacement. If the participant later returns to play, the participant must be inserted into the same kicking order position previously held.

13.3. If a Player is ejected, injured, or becomes ill and cannot continue, the kicking order will continue in the same formation less the removed Player. Injured Players who do not kick cannot play in the game.

13.4. If a Kicker is injured before reaching or being able to reach First (1st) Base, then the Kicker is deemed “out”.

13.5. A substitution for an injured Runner is only allowed if the injured Runner successfully made it to base. The substitution must be the last out that was made or the last kicker in the batting order if no outs have been made.

13.6. An individual Runner may be substituted no more than twice per game. After second substitution, the Player will be removed from the game and no longer allowed to participate.

14. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

14.1 Competition Bracket: The tournament will last two (2) days. All teams will have the opportunity to play on both days. The first day of the tournament will be “pod play” where teams will be randomly assigned a pod to play within. Each team will play each other team in the pod on the first day. The tournament leadership will attempt to place no more than two (2) teams from the same city in a pod while still trying to maintain the fairness of the random draw. On the second day teams will be placed into an elimination tournament bracket. The tournament will run an A, B, and potentially C level bracket depending on the number of teams. The overall tournament winner will be considered the A bracket winner.

14.2 Recreational Bracket: The tournament will last two (2) days. All teams will have the opportunity to play on both days. Teams will be randomly assigned 4 teams to play against in a round robin format over the course of 2 days. A team will play a maximum of 3 games per day. Once all teams have finished their round robin play the top two teams based on results will play one final game for the recreational bracket winner.

15. SPORTSMANSHIP:

15.1. While games are often competitive, ensuring participant safety and providing a comfortable atmosphere is important to the League – on and off the field. Game atmosphere should try to always remain good--natured. Proper sportsmanlike behavior is subjective and should be viewed as how the reasonable person would interpret the behavior in a game situation. However, certain instances are inherently unacceptable, and the Tournament team will exercise zero tolerance when handling these situations.

15.2. Public drunkenness; physical violence or threats of violence; excessive swearing, discriminatory comments, and/or name--calling; sexual harassment and/or inappropriate sexual touching of the same or opposite sex; bullying of any kind; and/or any conditions creating an unsafe environment are not permitted. The Umpire has discretion to penalize violating Players (see 3.2.1.1). Additional penalties may be assessed on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of League.

15.3. On field punishments: If an unsportsmanlike act occurs during the course of the game, tournament umpires and/or managers may give direct punishments during game play as follows:

15.3.1 Yellow Cards: Can be given as a direct punishment and serve as an official warning for unsportsmanlike behavior. Yellow cards are Cumulative; players who have already received two (2) yellow cards in prior games will be ejected from the game upon their third yellow card.

15.3.2 Red Cards: Can be given as a direct punishment or are given to a player who has already received a yellow card earlier in the game. Players receiving a red card are *immediately ejected from the game. They are also not permitted to play the following game. Players receiving a straight red card may appeal the suspension from the following game with the Tournament Kickball Manager. Depending on the nature of the violation, the player may also be ejected from the tournament completely at the Tournament Managers discretion.*

15.4. Alcohol is not permitted on the field. This includes, but is not limited to: beer, liquor, wine, champagne, or pre-mixed drinks. Additionally, participants are not permitted to bring Sponsor Bar cups onto the field. First offense will result in a Paper Forfeit. Additional penalties may be assessed.

15.5. Bullying is never permitted. First offense will result in Player suspension or participant ejection and Game Forfeit. Second offense will result in Player expulsion from the League and both Game Forfeit and Paper Forfeit assessed to the Team.

15.6. Captains and Co-Captains are responsible for maintaining proper sportsmanlike behavior for their Team.

15.7. In addition to the penalties enumerated above, the Tournament may apply additional penalties as it deems necessary and appropriate.

15.8. This section applies to all Tournament games and extends to all Tournament-affiliated events, including (but not limited to) post-game events at Sponsor locations and awards ceremonies.

16. TOURNAMENT RANKINGS FOR ELIMINATION ROUNDS:

16.1 In order to determine rankings for the elimination brackets the following system will be used:

- A win is 2 points
- A tie is 1 point
- A loss is 0 points

16.2 After points are accumulated, if there are any ties in the rankings, the following tiebreakers will be used in the order they are listed. (1) Team with more wins; (2) "Head-to-Head" play; (3) Team with less yellow and red cards (yellow =1, red = 3); (4) Teams with less points scored against (i.e., runs allowed); (5) If not resolved, then by leadership coin toss.

16.3 Final standings from pool play will be transitioned into multiple brackets. The number of brackets and the number of teams in each bracket will be subject to tournament registration and disclosed to the captains prior to the tournament.

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For Questions, please email the tournament managers or Stonewall Sports Inc. Sports Director.