

## Plumstead Park & Rec

### ADULT CO-ED KICKBALL RULES

Kickball is a simple game consisting of two teams, bases and a red ball. Played like baseball, the object is to score more runs than the opposing team. For this program teams will play with 10 players in the field, one or two base coaches (team choice) and one umpire. For the enjoyment of all, proper respect and civility is required of all players toward one another.

#### A. REGISTRATION

1. Each team will elect a captain who will be in charge of turning in all paperwork.
2. A completed registration form, fee, and signed waivers are due at the time of registration.
3. EVERY PLAYER MUST SIGN A WAIVER.
4. If you do not have all waivers, your registration will not be accepted.
5. No late registrations will be accepted after the set deadline.

#### B. PLAYERS

1. Teams must have a minimum of 11 players. Each team must have at least four men and four women.
2. A player must be 18 years or older by the first game of the season.
3. All participants must be assigned to a single team.
4. Shoes with metal cleats are not permitted. All players and umpires must wear appropriate footwear when on the field. No sandals.
5. Players may wear protective equipment providing it does not offer the wearer an unfair performance advantage.

#### C. CAPTAINS

1. Each team will have a team captain who will be responsible for the team.
2. Team captain must ensure that all players kick in the same order.
3. Only the team captain may dispute calls by the umpire.
4. Team captain will insure proper behavior and language by players. No cursing.

#### D. TEAMS

1. Teams can start the game with 9 players. Teams can start with 8 players IF both sides agree before the start of the game. If agreed the larger team will provide 1 of their players to be the catcher. This catcher will only throw the ball back the pitcher, they will not assist in any plays. If the 8 man team wants to move one of their players to the catcher's position for 1 or 2 batters, they may do so.
2. Both teams are required to maintain the same batting order throughout the game. Late arrivals will be added to the end of the list. All players shall be included in the kicking order.
3. Teams will have identifying colors on. Matching shirts, hats, or bandannas are acceptable.

#### E. GENERAL GAME RULES

1. Games will be controlled by an umpire. If an assigned umpire fails to show, than teams will agree to pick 1 from their ranks to officiate the game. Please notify the Parks and Recreation Coordinator if this occurs.
2. Games are 7 innings in length with the game being official after 3.
3. Games will be no more than 1 hour. After 50 minutes of play no new innings may start.
4. Umpire has the right to call the game early due to rain or darkness.
5. If a game is called for rain, the official score will go back to the last FULL inning of play.

6. A team captain may raise a protest with the umpire for blatant rule infraction, but will accept the umpire's ruling.
7. No infield fly rule. However, if teams pull double or triple plays due to intentionally dropping balls the umpire may award just the 1<sup>st</sup> out for sportsman reasons. (Discretion)
8. **Pitching must be underhand.** The arm should start close to the pitcher's side and swing forward. Backswing will be tolerated for slow-pitched balls. NO FIREBALLS. The kicker is allowed to pick up the ball and request slower pitches without penalty.
9. Fielders may not be in front of the base paths until the ball is kicked. Infringement on the kicker will result in the kicker's choice of a). re-kick, or b). the result of the play.
10. **Participants playing a base position are under strict rule to avoid the runner at all cost. This is particularly important when receiving a thrown ball as a runner is approaching your base. NEVER STAND ON THE BASE. You should always await thrown balls with only one foot on the base to avoid collisions with the runner. Runner has the right of way and if a runner (who's likely to beat the throw) needs to slow up/stop to avoid colliding with a base player who's blocking the bag, the umpire MAY call the runner safe (discretion). On plays where the throw beats the runner by a large margin, the runner will be called out. First base will have a double base so the chances of a collision are reduced.**
11. There is a free substitution

#### F. PITCHING AND CATCHING

1. Pitch speed slow to medium – no missiles.
2. The pitcher must stay on the pitching mound until the ball is kicked. Failure to do so will result in a single if the ball is kicked.
3. No player may field in front of pitcher other than the catcher and no player may advance to within half the distance of first or third base. Failure to abide by this rule may result in a single if the ball is kicked.
4. The catcher must field directly behind the kicker and may not cross home plate before he ball is kicked. Failure to abide by this rule may result in a ball or single if the ball is kicked.

#### G. BASE COACHES

1. Two members of the team at bat may coach first and third base. The base coaches will assist in retrieving foul balls and may switch with other team members to remain in the proper batting order.

#### H. KICKING AND BASE RUNNING

1. Teams bat any combo of M/F or M/M/F or F/F/M, so as three M or three F never bat in a row.
2. The **strike zone** extends 18 inches on either side of home plate. The ball must roll between (or over) the strike zone lines and below the kicker's knees to be a strike.
3. **Bunting** is permitted for female players but not for the male players and will be an automatic out. Bunting is loosely defined as a kick without a backswing/follow-through.  
Men: balls must travel at least a distance of ten feet from home plate. A bunted ball by a male batter is an OUT. If a fielder touches a kicked ball BEFORE advancing past the imaginary ten foot line then the ball is in play and the previous rule does not apply.
4. If any part of the ball falls within the strike zone, then it is a 'strike'. Every pitched ball will either be a strike or ball. Batter can request the pitcher to correct their style (slow down).
5. A foul is:
  - a. A kick landing out of bounds
  - b. A kick landing in bounds but traveling out of bound on its own before reaching first or third base. Any ball touched by an in-bounds fielder is automatically in play.

c. Any ball that touches first or third base and rolling foul are fair.

6. Three fouls will be an out.
7. Four balls – batter walks to first.
8. A popped ball when kicked is a dead ball. At bat kicker will not be charged with a ball or strike.

#### I. BASE RUNNING

1. There is no stealing or leading off the bases. If a runner leaves before the ball is kicked, he/she will be called out.
2. A runner may safely run through first base only.
3. There is no sliding. Ties go the runner.
4. Runners must stay within the base path. Fielders must stay OFF OF THE BASES and out of the way of the runner unless attempting to tag the runner. Runner always has the right of way. Fielders must wait for the throw with only one foot on the base or throw at the runner, AFTER the catch.
5. 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 out.
6. Any time a runner is hit with the ball and is not on base, that runner is out.
7. Pegging a runner in the head is not allowed and runner advances to next base, except if runner is ducking (dodging ball) falls, or intentionally 'heads' ball, the runner is out.
8. Runners advance a single base on balls overthrown 'out of bounds'. Runners continue to advance on overthrown that remain 'in bounds'. 'Out of play' determined at the umpire's discretion. Continue to play unless you hear differently. Thrown balls striking runner are still 'live', play does not stop until pitcher has possession of ball and be within several feet of the pitcher's mound. At that time, runners not half-way (or more) to the next bag must retreat. Ultimately the fielding team should force runners to retreat and then return the ball back to the pitcher.
9. After a kicked ball is caught, runners must tag their originating base before running to the next base. All ties go to the runner.
10. One base on an overthrown which goes out of bounds.

#### J. OUTS

1. A count of three strikes is an out and three outs by a team completes the team's half of the inning.
2. An out is:
  - a. A runner touched by the ball at ANY time while not on base
  - b. Any kicked ball (fair or foul) that is caught
  - c. A ball tag on a base to which a runner is forced to run
  - d. A runner off of his/her base when the ball is kicked
  - e. A ball kicked in front of the plate
  - f. Batting out of order (if caught). Opposing team must notify umpire while player is at bat.

#### K. BALL IN PLAY

Once the pitcher has the ball in control and near the mound, the play ends. If a runner is between bases when pitcher has ball on the mound, he/she may only advance to the next base at his/her own risk.

#### L. EQUIPMENT

1. All equipment provided by the Township will be placed in a storage bin or shed prior to the season starting.
2. Team captains will be notified of location and any combination needed to access the equipment.

3. If a ball is popped, the captain must notify the Parks and Recreation Coordinator to ensure equipment is replaced if necessary.
4. First-aid kits are placed at all fields.
5. Second first bases are available to place on the field to ensure safety for the runners and fielders. These temporary bases need to be returned to storage after each game.
6. DO NOT REMOVE ANY PERMANENT BASES PLACED BY BASEBALL/SOFTBALL.

#### M. MISCELLANEOUS

1. ALCOHOL IS NOT PERMITTED AT ANY PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP PARK. You may not bring alcohol to any game.
2. ALL CONTAINERS, TRASH, ETC. ARE TO BE PICKED UP. If you brought it into the park, you must leave with it. Trash containers are not provided within all parks.
3. Team photos can be sent to the Parks and Recreation Coordinator to place on social media and the website.
4. If captains agree to a playoff tournament at captain's meeting prior to the season starting, the date will be picked and will not change.
5. If there are any questions or concerns that arise during the season, you can contact the Parks and Recreation Coordinator via email at [plumsteadparks@plumstead.gov](mailto:plumsteadparks@plumstead.gov)