



# KICKBALL RULES

## // QUICK LINKS

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## // PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. All Players must be at least 21 years of age and have current, adequate health insurance.
2. All players must be properly registered on a team during the season for which they are playing.
  - a. If a player is registered on more than one team within the league, they may only play for one team in the playoffs.
  - b. All players must agree to the Fray Liability Waiver as described in the Fray Terms and Conditions section of Player Registration.
3. Any use of an ineligible player will result in a forfeit.

## // GAME PLAY

1. Games will be played through at least three innings or up to a time limit, whichever comes first. Game times may vary based on a specific location.
  - a. 5 innings or 45 minutes with no new inning once 40 minutes has elapsed

2. The league host will bring team captains to home plate. The captains will play rock, paper, and scissors with the winning captain to choose if they would like to be the home team or the away team. The home team will be on the field first.
3. Regular Season Games can end in a tie. Playoff games will continue until a winner is decided.
  - a. Semi-finals and championship games will play the full inning amount as time allows.

## // Outs

1. Strike Out: A count of 3 Strikes OR 3 Fouls. Strikes and fouls are counted separately.
2. Fielded Out
  - a. Any pitched ball contacting the Kicker after a kick/bunt or caught in the air prior to touching the ground.
  - b. Any time during a live play where the ball makes contact with a Baserunner while not on base.
    - i. If any part of a thrown ball makes contact with the Baserunner above their shoulders, the Baserunner shall be awarded the base to which they were running.
  - c. Any time a Fielder has control of the ball and touches a base a Baserunner is forced before the Baserunner reaches the base.
3. Baserunning Out
  - a. The baserunner is running more than 4 feet outside the baseline.
  - b. Baserunner intentionally interferes with a Fielder making an active play on the ball.
  - c. Baserunner is not on base when the ball is kicked.
  - d. Baserunner passes another Baserunner.
  - e. Baserunner is physically assisted by any team member including base coaches.
  - f. Baserunner, not immediately advancing to 2nd base, fails to use the safety base with a Fielder present after warning to use safety base.

## // Kicking

1. All kicks must be made by foot or by leg below the knee.
  - a. **Bunting:** Bunting is allowed however, if the ball does not travel past the line of encroachment, it will be deemed a foul, unless the ball is played before crossing the threshold.
2. All kicks must occur at or behind home plate. No part of the kicker's plant foot may be in front of the plate.
3. Double Kicks are when a kicker contacts the ball 2 or more times during an attempt to kick the ball. This results in a foul ball.
4. **Glow:** Kickers may use a one-step approach when kicking the ball. Both full kicks (with the intent to blast the ball to infinity and beyond) and bunts are not permitted and the kicker will be called out. This is to protect kickers, base runners, and fielders.

## // Fair Ball

1. A legally kicked ball that lands in fair territory or in the Catcher's Zone in front of the kicker and remains in fair territory until it passes the 1st base or 3rd base cone or completely stops in fair territory.
  - a. A legally kicked or bunted ball that does not reach the line of encroachment that is put into play by a fielder is considered a fair ball.
2. A legally kicked ball that lands in fair territory beyond the 1st base or 3rd base.
3. A legally kicked ball that lands in fair territory or in the Catcher's Zone, and touches or is touched by a Fielder or Baserunner in fair territory prior to the ball traveling into foul territory.
4. A legally kicked fly ball that is in fair territory when it is touched by a Fielder or Baserunner.
5. A legally kicked fly ball that is caught in foul territory by a Fielder

## // Strikes

1. The Strike Zone is 41 inches wide (1 foot to either side of the home plate) and approximately 1 foot high as measured from the bottom of the ball to the home plate. If any part of the ball touches any part of the strike zone, it is a strike.
2. Any attempted bunt or kick that does not make contact with the ball (swing and a miss).

## // Balls

1. Any pitch that is not a strike or foul. Four (4) balls is a walk.
2. Any time a Catcher makes contact with a pitched ball before the ball has traveled past the Kicker whether or not the Kicker was intending to kick it.
3. A Pitcher may intentionally walk a kicker by informing the Host before throwing any pitches. A Pitcher is not required to throw any pitches to intentionally walk a kicker.

## // Fouls

1. Any bunt or kick that lands in foul territory outside of the Catcher's Zone.
  - a. **"Bunt Line" or "Line of Encroachment"**: Any kick that lands in the no-bunt area and does not travel in fair territory beyond the line of encroachment.
2. Any kick during which the kicker steps in front of the Home Plate.
3. Double Kicks: When a kicker contacts the ball 2 or more times during an attempted kick
4. Any kick that does not occur below the knee.
5. Any legally kicked ball that lands or is touched by a Fielder in foul territory or in the Catcher's Zone.

## // Scoring & Baserunning

1. Run Differential per inning:
  - a. Teams can score a maximum of six (6) runs per inning. If a team scores 6 runs in one inning before 3 outs, the game will move on to the next half-inning.
  - b. This rule does not apply for the losing team during the last inning if the losing team is behind 6 or more runs.
2. Baserunners may not lead off or steal bases.
3. Baserunners may not run more than 4 feet outside of the baseline.
4. Baserunners have the right-of-way within the baseline unless a Fielder is making a play on a fair ball in the baseline. In that instance, the Fielder has the right-of-way.
  - a. In rare circumstances, a Baserunner and Fielder in the act of making a play on the ball may collide due to Baserunner/Fielder movement. It is up to the discretion of the Host whether to call the Baserunner out for interference or declare the contact as incidental and allow the play to stand.

5. Baserunners may overrun 1st base if they continue their run into foul territory. If a Baserunner turns towards 2nd base as if attempting to advance, they are in play and may be tagged out.
6. Players of the same gender may substitute baserunners if the runner is injured during the play. The injured player must then sit out of the game for 2 innings. If their spot in the kicking order comes up, their spot is skipped.
7. To advance on caught fly ball, Baserunners must 'tag-up' on their original base at or subsequent to the Fielder's first contact with the ball. Failure to tag up allows the defense to make an out by either tagging the runner with the ball before they return to the original base or by a Fielder in control of the ball touching the original base before the runner returns to it.
  - a. Failure to tag up is not an automatic out. The defense recognizes the failure and makes a play to get the runner out.
8. If a Baserunner passes another Baserunner, the passing runner is out.
9. If any other team member assists a Baserunner, the runner is out.
10. Once the Pitcher has the ball and has touched the pitching stripe all Baserunners must stop at the base they are running toward unless the Pitcher, after receiving the ball, attempts to make a play on a runner.

## // Pitching

1. A Pitcher must pitch the ball from behind the front edge of the pitching strip AND remain completely behind the front edge of the pitching strip after releasing the ball.
2. A pitched ball must touch the ground at least twice prior to reaching the plate.
3. **Traditional:** Pitchers must throw the ball by hand in an underhanded manner. Overhand and/or sidearm pitching are not allowed.
4. **Alternate:** Pitchers must throw the ball by hand. Underhand, overhand, and/or sidearm pitching are permitted.
5. **Glow:** Pitchers must throw the ball by hand in an underhanded manner at a reasonable speed. **Fast pitching is not permitted.**

## // Catching

1. Teams may have only 1 catcher while on defense who stands behind or parallel to the kicker within the Catching Zone

2. Catchers may not cross in front of the kicker nor be positioned outside the Catcher's Zone until the ball is kicked.
3. If the Catcher impedes the kicker intentionally or unintentionally, the Kicker will be awarded 1st base and any runner's advance if forced.
  - a. If, in the Host's opinion, the Kicker makes an unnatural move and initiates contact in an attempt to draw a Catcher Interference call, the Kicker shall be called out.

## **// Fielding**

1. All fielders except Catcher must be positioned in fair territory.
2. No fielder may cross the 1st base/3rd baseline until the ball is kicked.
3. Fielders may not stand within the baseline unless they are making an active play on the ball. Interference with a Baserunner results in the runner being awarded the base they were running to.

## **// Encroachment**

1. Pitcher's Encroachment occurs when a pitcher crosses the 1st base/3rd base line before the ball is kicked. The Kicking Team can take the result of the play or take a ball in the count.
2. Catcher's Encroachment occurs when the catcher crosses in front of the kicker or is positioned outside the Catcher's Zone before the ball is kicked. The Kicking Team can take the result of the play or take a ball in the count.
3. Fielder's Encroachment occurs when any non-pitcher crosses the 1st base/3rd base line before the ball is kicked. The Kicking Team can take the result of the play or take a ball in the count.

## **// Overthrows**

1. An Overthrow is considered any attempt at a base or Baserunner that misses its intended target and goes into foul territory.
2. An Overthrow allows a Baserunner to advance up to 1 base beyond the base they were running toward when the ball traveled into foul territory.
  - a. If the defense attempts to make a play on the Baserunner while advancing after an overthrow, all Baserunners may attempt to advance as many bases as they choose. It is up to the host's discretion as to what constitutes the defense 'making a play' on the runner.

- b. If a ball is thrown at a Baserunner and contacts that runner while not on base and deflects into foul territory, the runner is out and the ball is live. All other Baserunners may attempt to advance as many bases as they choose.
3. If an overthrown ball becomes trapped in any object or a Fielder faces an impediment in getting to the ball, the Host may, for player safety, enforce an Overthrow without allowing the defense to attempt a play.

## // Dead Ball Plays

1. If a Baserunner intentionally touches the ball, the runner is out, the play is dead, and any other Baserunners must return to the base they were on at the beginning of the play.
2. If a fair ball becomes trapped in any object or a Fielder faces an impediment in getting to the ball, the runner shall be awarded a ground-rule double, and all other Baserunners may advance 2 bases beyond the base they began the play on.
3. Any play where a potentially serious injury occurs, play will be stopped by the Host immediately.
4. **GLOW:** If any ball is kicked and the light goes out the play will be considered dead and the kicker will kick again.

## // Officials

1. We know umpires/referees are essential to a kickball game. Each of our leagues varies on required reffing, so be sure to check the league information provided on our website.

## // GOLDEN RULE

First and foremost, all Fray leagues are 50% Social and 50% Sport. While we have staff // officials, we expect individuals to respect the league's culture of fair and fun play. Foul language and rough play will not be tolerated. Individuals who cannot adhere to our standards of fair play and sportsmanship may be asked to leave the league. We want everyone to have fun and be social while enjoying a great sport. We will do whatever we can to make sure all players are having fun!

## // SHIRT NOTICE

**During week 2 of the season, all players will be given DC Fray shirts for their team that are required to be worn for the duration of the season. Failure to wear the DC Fray team shirt for a game will result in a player not being able to play in that week's game.**

**Wearing the designated season's team shirt will be required during both the regular season and playoffs in order to participate in the game.**

## // GENERAL POLICIES

Fray is proud to relieve captains of the burden of paying for full teams. We accept individual player payments and allow prepayment for additional players and/or full teams. We are also proud to welcome those who do not have a full team (small groups and free agents) to participate in our league.

Because our mission is to make fun possible, these policies make it easier for people to get involved with and build community through social sports.

All registrations are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Any roster that does not reach our official size (based on each sport) can receive free agents and/or small groups. Rosters made up of primarily free agents and/or a collection of small groups may have more players than the standard roster size. This policy is in place to help ensure free agent teams can consistently field a team each week.

### // Roster Size Chart

| <b>Sport</b>           | <b>Promotion Size</b> | <b>Official Size</b> | <b>Max Roster Size</b> | <b>Woman Minimum</b> |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Kickball (Traditional) | 14                    | 18                   | 24                     | 3                    |
| Kickball (Alternate)   | 14                    | 18                   | 24                     | 0                    |

### // Teams & Substitutions

- Traditional:** A maximum of 11 players can be on the field (Coed - 3 players must be a woman)
  - Teams must have 8 players to start the game (Coed - 2 players must be a woman).
- Alternate:** A maximum of 10 players can be on the field
  - Teams must have 8 players to start the game.
- Substitute players (not on the roster) may be used at any time in the regular season. Substitutes are not permitted during playoffs.
  - All substitutes must be a registered player on another team and/or in another Fray league currently in play.



- b. Teams may use additional substitute players above the player minimum with the opposing team's consent. Teams who agree to play under these conditions must notify the Host before the start of the game, and the outcome of the game will stand as is.
  - c. **Alternate: Substitute players may not play pitcher, catcher, or 3rd base, otherwise known as the triangle.**
4. Teams have until 10 minutes past the designated start time to field the minimum number of players. The 10-minute grace period is considered part of the overall game time. The game will be deemed a forfeit if a team cannot reach the minimum number of players.
- a. Teams may play a "legal game" with less than the required minimum number of players with the opposing team's consent. Teams who agree to play under these conditions will lose the option of receiving a forfeit win, and the game's outcome will stand as is. Teams must notify the Host before the start of the game.
  - b. Teams may not use the grace period if they have the minimum number of players present in order for more players to arrive.
5. Mercy Rule: If there is a twelve (12) run difference at the end of the 4th inning or the end of any full inning after that, the losing team may opt to end the game. If the losing team chooses to continue playing, the score will be recorded as is, and the game will end exactly when time expires, even if time expires in the middle of an inning.
6. Teams must designate a captain before the start of the game. **They are the only team member allowed to discuss calls with hosts.** Judgment calls by the host may not be disputed.

## // Field Set Up, Equipment, Uniforms & Facility Use

1. The field will consist of a diamond of equal sides. Bases are placed 50 ft. apart. The pitching strip is placed in the center of the diamond directly in line with 1st-3rd base and home-2nd base, or 42.42 ft from home plate. The Kicker's Box is a 12 ft. by 12 ft. square. The home plate should be in the middle of the top boundary line of the box.
2. Safety bases are used to prevent collisions between baserunners and fielders.
  - a. **First base:** A safety base at first base will always be used such that 1 base is in fair territory and 1 base is in foul territory. The base in fair territory is for the fielder and runner already on 1st base. The base in foul territory is for the kicker to run to.
3. All equipment will be provided on-site.
4. All players must wear the official Fray division shirt to play.
5. Metal cleats are not permitted.

6. If an individual or team violates the facility's Code of Conduct, they may be asked to leave, and a refund will not be issued.

## // Playoffs, Standings & Overtime Rules

1. Playoffs are determined after the regular season has concluded and are based on scheduling and other league logistics. Playoffs are not guaranteed.
2. Standings are automatically sorted in Commish based on teams' Win-Loss-Tie record. If there is a tie in the standings, we sort based on the following information in order until the tie is resolved:
  - a. Head-to-head matchups
  - b. Score differential
  - c. Points For
  - d. Points Against
3. Overtime Rules will be as follows:
  - a. 1st OT: The last kicker will go to second base, and the kicking team will start with one (1) out.
  - b. 2nd OT: Will follow the rules of 1st OT
  - c. 3rd & subsequent OTs: Last kicker will go to second base, the team will start with one (1) out, and the pitcher will follow the one pitch rule:
    - i. Each batter gets 1 pitch. Foul Ball = Out / Strike = Out / Ball = Base / Kicked ball = outcome of play

## // Forfeits

1. Teams have until 10 minutes past the designated start time to field the minimum number of players. The 10-minute grace period is considered part of the overall game time. If a team cannot reach the minimum number of players, the game will be deemed a forfeit.
  - a. **First Forfeit** - Loss of game and warning issued
  - b. **Second Forfeit** - Loss of game and Fray reserves the right to remove team the playoffs.
  - c. **Third Forfeit** - Loss of game and removal from the league with no refund
2. In the case of a forfeit, the final score is recorded as 5-0.

## **// Weather Cancellations**

1. One week is built into the end of each season
2. All players will be notified via email if games are canceled
3. If more than one weather cancellation occurs, Fray will try to find another week to make up the games, but it is not guaranteed.
4. Should inclement weather or other factors limit the normal scheduled game duration and more than half the game has been played, the game shall count as full. If a game does not make it to the full 3 innings, it will be deemed incomplete and rescheduled.