

Westampton Township Recreation Department
Adult Coed Kickball League
Rules & Regulations

CAPTAINS' DUTIES

1. Make sure you have a full team and at least one reserve for every game.
2. Do not let your players face suspension by allowing them to argue a call.
3. You are responsible for taking charge of your team's and your spectator's conduct. Abusive language, improper drinking, littering, and other irresponsible acts will not be tolerated.
4. Any schedule information, changes, make-ups, or other league information will be sent to you. Make sure we have your current address (and/or e-mail address). It is your responsibility to pass this information on to your players.
5. Know the rules. Tell your players the rules. This will help the game run smoothly and help your team concentrate on playing.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Westampton Township Recreation Department (WTRD) is interested in ensuring that a high level of sportsmanship be maintained in this sports program, directed by the WTRD. Therefore, the following policy for dealing with cases of unsportsmanlike conduct will be instituted:

1. For any player, coach, or manager reported and investigated for an unsportsmanlike act (e.g., profanity, verbal abuse, tantrum behavior, or other unsportsmanlike conduct), action will be taken depending upon the severity of the act.
 - a. Game(s) suspension will result for profanity, tantrum behavior, verbal abuse, etc., for that game plus at least the next game.
 - 1) A suspended player may not be present at any site where league games are in progress.
 - a) Violation will result in an extended period of suspension.
2. Any player, coach, or manager reported and investigated for a second time during the year, from any sport, for unsportsmanlike conduct, shall be prohibited from participating in the remaining season.
3. An individual retains the right to a hearing when the action to be taken is *expulsion* from participation in the league.
 - a. The player will provide a written explanation of the situation that resulted in his/her ejection from the game.
 - b. Present at the hearing will be the player, his/her manager, the League Director, and representatives from the WTRD.

ELIGIBILITY

Minimum age for players is 21 years of age or older.

ROSTERS

The minimum number of players that must be on the roster is 8; maximum is 15.

Westampton Township Recreation Department
Adult Coed Kickball League
Rules & Regulations

GAME TIMES & LOCATIONS

Games will be played on Saturdays late in the afternoon and early evenings. The season will start in August and run until early October. Games will be played at various fields located throughout Westampton and surrounding towns if needed.

KICKBALL OVERVIEW

For those who have never played kickball or have forgotten the beautiful act of kicking a little red ball on a playground ball field, kickball is actually very similar to softball and baseball. The object is to advance more runners across home plate than the opposing team.

PLAYING FIELD AND EQUIPMENT

Similar to baseball and softball, the kickball infield consists of home plate and three bases; first, second, and third. The pitcher's mound will be 50 feet. The distance between home plate and first base, first base and second base, second base and third base and between third base and home plate will be 65 feet, thus forming a symmetrical square. Bases and home plate will be provided by the WTRD. Equipment consists of one beautiful bright red, **10-inch kickball**. Teams will be provided game balls. Additional equipment, such as cleats or any protective equipment, must be provided by the participants. Metal cleats are not allowed.

All participants must respect and obey all rules and regulations pertaining to the respective field used for play during the game.

OFFICIATED LEAGUE

All games will be officiated by an umpire. Assaults and indignities to an umpire will result in an automatic suspension from participation in ALL WTRD sports programs until reinstated by WTRD Directors.

TEAMS

Each team must register at least 12 players on the roster with a maximum of 15.

1. If fielding the minimum of 6 players (a minimum of 2 females must always be in the field), it is recommended that the team place two players in the outfield and the remaining four in the infield (1st base, 2nd base, 3rd base, and pitcher).
2. If fielding the maximum of 8 players (a minimum of 3 females must always be in the field), 3 players must play in the outfield while the remaining five will play the infield (1st base, 2nd base, 3rd base, shortstop, and pitcher).
3. A team failing to field at least 8 players within five minutes after the scheduled game time will forfeit the game. A forfeit shall count as a loss.
4. Roster should have at least 5 females minimum.
5. All players playing the field must be in the kicking order. Any players who are not playing the field should still be in the kicking order but must remain so during the course of the entire game. (All team players must kick in a consistent kicking order.) If you have kicked at least once, you must stay in that same kicking order unless you are injured.

Westampton Township Recreation Department
Adult Coed Kickball League
Rules & Regulations

GAME PLAY

1. Home team will be decided by a coin flip before the game.
2. Regulation games last 7 full innings or 55 minutes, whichever comes first. In the event of a tie score at the end of the game, the game will be marked as such. If both teams scheduled to play each other forfeit the game, the game will be marked as a 0-0 tie.
3. A game that is called off by the umpire or the League Director due to inclement weather or other reason, after 3 full innings of play, shall be considered a regulation game. The game score at the end of the last full inning shall determine the winner. If a regulation game that is called off after three full innings ends in a tie, it will be marked as such.
4. A game that is called off by the umpire before 3 full innings of play shall not be considered a regulation game and will be rescheduled or resumed at the point the game was stopped, if possible.
5. There will be a **7-run rule** in effect per team per inning. When a team scores 7 runs in one inning, even if the team has less than three outs, they must stop kicking and switch places with the opposing team. This rule is in effect for all innings except the 7th inning or last inning called by the umpire; in those innings, unlimited runs may be scored.
6. A runs-ahead rule will be used as follows:
 - a. 20 runs after four innings
 - b. 10 runs after five innings

BALL IN PLAY

1. No player may advance forward of the 1st – 3rd base diagonal line until the ball is kicked. Failure to abide by this rule results in a ball. *(If the umpire observes a defensive player[s] violating this rule and the ball is kicked, if in the umpire's judgment an advantage was gained by the defense violating the diagonal and an out was made by the player[s] violating the diagonal, the runner[s] put out will be declared safe.)*
2. When a defensive player in the infield has control of the ball, the play ends.
3. If a runner intentionally touches or stops the ball, even if he/she is on base, the play ends. The runner will also be called out.
4. Players in the field are allowed to kick the ball (as opposed to throwing) toward another team player in the field. This is particularly helpful if you have a long throw from the outfield.
5. There is no in-field fly rule. However, if the umpire feels a ball is intentionally dropped to turn a double play, all runners will be safe.

Westampton Township Recreation Department
Adult Coed Kickball League
Rules & Regulations

PITCHING

1. Pitchers must "Roll" the ball to the batter.
2. The strike zone extends to 1 foot on either side of home plate and 1 foot high.
3. No bouncing pitches are allowed. A pitch that is higher than one foot at the plate, and called as such, results in a ball (see "Ball in Play #1).
4. If the ball falls short of the plate and does not cross over, the pitch will be called a ball.
5. The pitcher must stay behind the pitching rubber until the ball is kicked. Failure to do so results in a ball.
6. Pitchers may only be replaced twice per inning.

KICKING

1. The order of the kicking shall be determined prior to start of game.
2. No player may kick more than once until the entire team rotation per gender has had a chance to kick.
3. All kicks must be made with the foot.
4. All kicks must occur at or behind home plate.
5. Bunting is **NOT** allowed. Any kicker in the umpire's discretion deemed bunting will be called out (runners may not advance but must return to original base).
6. As in coed softball, if a team intentionally walks a male player with two outs, he will advance to 1st base. If the next person in the line-up is a female player she has the option of kicking or taking 1st base.

BASE RUNNING

1. Runners must stay within the base line. Fielders must stay out of the base line. Fielders trying to make an out on base may have their foot on base, but must lean out of the baseline. Runners hindered by any fielder within the base line shall be safe at the base to which they were running.
2. The play ends when all runners have reached a base and a defensive player has control of the ball in the infield.
3. Neither leading off base nor stealing a base is allowed. A runner off of his or her base when the ball is kicked will be called out.
4. Sliding is allowed.
5. If a base runner advances in front of another runner or touches the runner in front of him/her, he/she will be called out.
6. Hitting a runner with the ball above shoulder level is not allowed. Any runner hit above the shoulders as he/she is running or sliding to a base will be safe. ***If a player intentionally throws at the head of another player, he/she will be ejected.*** If the runner intentionally uses his/her head to block the ball, the runner is out.
7. After a kicked ball is caught, runners must tag their originating base before running to the next base.
8. All ties will go to the runner.

Westampton Township Recreation Department
Adult Coed Kickball League
Rules & Regulations

9. One extra base is awarded on an overthrow. A ball is considered an overthrow if it goes at least 30 feet out of the field of play or into the dugout when it is thrown to first or third base and is not caught or fails to hit the runner.
10. All attempts necessary should be made to avoid a collision with the catcher during plays at the plate. Catchers please know where you are standing to avoid unnecessary collisions.

STRIKES

A count of 2 strikes is an out. A strike constitutes:

1. A pitch within the strike zone either not kicked or missed by the kicker.
2. A kick occurring in front of home plate. (Kicks occurring in front of home plate that are caught by the fielding team are called out.)

BALLS

A count of 3 balls advances the kicker to first base. A ball is:

1. A pitch outside the strike zone.
2. A ball falling short of the plate and does not cross over the plate.
3. A bouncing ball that is higher than 12 inches as it crosses home plate.
4. Any fielder advancing forward of the 1st – 3rd base diagonal line before the ball is kicked.
5. A pitcher advancing in front of the pitching rubber before the ball is kicked.
6. Any catcher advancing forward of home plate before the kicker kicks the ball.

FOULS

A foul is a kicked ball landing fair but traveling foul on its own before reaching first or third base. Any ball touched by a fielder while it is in fair territory is automatically fair even if the ball goes foul.

COUNT

Each kicker will be allowed a 3-ball--2-strike count with no courtesy foul.

OUTS

A count of 3 outs by a team completes the team's half of the inning. An out is:

1. A count of 2 strikes.
2. A runner touched by the ball at ANY time while not on base.
3. Any kicked ball (fair or foul) that is caught.
4. A ball tag on a base to which a runner is forced to run. The fielder must have control of the ball (i.e., it must be off the ground).
5. A runner off of his/her base when the ball is kicked.
6. When a base runner advances in front of another runner or touches the runner in front of him/her, he/she will be called out.

Westampton Township Recreation Department
Adult Coed Kickball League
Rules & Regulations

DESIGNATED RUNNER

In cases of injury or illness, a time out may be requested for participant removal and replacement with a substitute of the same sex. If the participant later returns to play, the participant must be inserted in the same kicking order position previously held. If a player is ejected, injured, or becomes ill and cannot continue, the lineup will continue in the same formation, less the removed player.

The pitcher may only be replaced twice per inning; however, switching other player positions during the course of the inning is allowed.

BEHAVIOR

1. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated. Each team member is responsible for his or her conduct. Respect yourself and others.
2. Casual profanity is prohibited.
3. ***No drinking of intoxicating beverages is allowed at fields/games.***
4. No smoking on the field or in the dugout area.

LATE ARRIVAL AND FORFEITS

1. A team must have 6 players to start a game; no team shall start short.
2. A team not ready to play at game time will be given a 5-minute grace period.
3. At 5 minutes, the game is forfeited.
4. Forfeits are frowned upon, but if it is an emergency and your team cannot field enough players to participate, the team manager is responsible for contacting the team you are scheduled to play and the league director as soon as possible.

EQUIPMENT AND APPAREL

1. Metal spikes are not allowed.
2. One official game ball is required by each team, ***10" Diameter.***
3. Team-issued T-shirts are required to participate in the league.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

1. Go to www.westampton.com and click on recreation, then click on the kickball tab. The information will be posted if games are canceled. You also can call the Recreation office at 609-267-1891, ext. 8 and listen to the posted message.
2. Please wait until 3:00 PM to check the status for the day's games.
3. If the weather worsens after 3:30 PM, the decision as to whether to cancel is left up to the umpire at the field.

STANDINGS

No playoffs in this league – This is a coed fun league – Remember that.....

**Westampton Township Recreation Department
Adult Coed Kickball League
Rules & Regulations**

Rule Clarification

1. Where can the catcher stand?

- The catcher must stand behind the kicker and may not cross home plate nor be positioned in front of the kicker before the ball is kicked. Failure to abide by this rule will result in the pitch being called a ball regardless of where it crosses the plate (if not kicked).
- If the ball is kicked and the umpire determines the catcher was in front of the kicker or crossed in front of home plate before the kicker and the umpire feels an advantage was gained by the defense violating this rule and an out was made by the catcher violating the rule, the runner(s) put out will be declared safe. Know where you are standing at all times!!

2. What if a kicker kicks a ball and is in front of home plate?

- If the kicker is in front of home plate and kicks the ball, he/she will be called out. All base runners must return to their original base.

3. What if the umpire observes a defensive player stepping in front of the diagonal line from first to third prior to the ball being kicked?

- When the umpire observes a defensive player stepping in front of the diagonal line from first to third prior to the ball being kicked (and the ball is not kicked), the umpire will call the pitch a ball regardless of where it crosses the plate.
- If the kicker kicks the pitch and in the umpire's judgment an advantage was gained by the defense violating the diagonal and an out was made by the player(s) violating the diagonal, the runner(s) put out will be declared safe.

The WTRD has the right to change or add rules for the betterment of all participants as needed.