

ANKENY PARKS & RECREATION

KICKBALL LEAGUE RULES

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INTRODUCTION

Please review the enclosed rules and materials with your team. The Ankeny Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to make changes to this document as necessary during the course of the season. Managers will be notified of any changes.

LIABILITY STATEMENT

The City of Ankeny, Parks and Recreation and its employees or appointed agents assume no responsibility for any personal injury or loss that any team member or spectator may incur as a result of our programs. Individuals are encouraged to have their own personal health/accident plans for any such injuries, which could occur. Players may be held responsible for unnecessary damage, which may occur as a result of misconduct in a facility.

ELIGIBILITY

- All players must be 18 years of age prior to the start of league play.
- The fee for participation by a non-resident is \$10 per person.
- All team and non-resident fees must be paid at the Parks and Recreation Office before participating in the league.

ROSTER

1. Teams shall consist of 10 players 5 male and 5 female. A team may play with 8 players but can never have more males than females in the line-up. You must alternate male/female in the batting order and can have up to 20 players bat/kick.
2. Defensive positions shall be 2males/2 females in the outfield, 2 males/2 females in the infield and 1 male/ 1 female in the pitcher/catcher positions.
3. No player is allowed to play on more than one team within the same league in Ankeny, in the same season. Any violation of these rules will result in suspension.
4. Players may be added to a team roster anytime prior to the third game of the season. All rosters are frozen after the third game.
5. Teams are required to keep their own score and the home team's book will be the official book. The home team is also required to keep the score on the scoreboard. The third base dugout is the designated "home" dugout.
6. **WINNING TEAM – needs to report the score to the concession worker after the game.**

LENGTH OF GAME

1. Games will be seven innings or 45-minute limit.
2. A game will be considered official after 4 innings; if 4 innings are not completed due to rain the game will be rescheduled.

3. If the score is tied after 7 innings or 50 minutes, the game will be played with the batter beginning with a 3-2 count – the game will continue until a winner is declared.
4. Mercy Rule: The **20** run rule will be in effect after 5 innings.

5. **GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME**

More than one forfeit in a season or if the entire team no shows, without notifying the Recreation office will result in immediate release from the league with no refund of fees. You must notify the opposing team manager and Recreation Supervisor before 4:30 p.m. on the scheduled game day.

PITCHING/FIELDING

1. A legal pitch must roll along the ground and bounce no higher than the top of the batter's knee while crossing the plate. Any pitch higher than the batter's knee as it crosses the plate shall be ruled a ball.
2. Pitches must be thrown at slow speeds. No **Fireballing!** Basically, pitch as though your grandma is up to kick. If you still don't know what rate of speed that is then don't be the pitcher!
3. No defensive player is allowed to try and block a kick.
4. The strike zone will extend approximately one foot from each side of home plate, to discourage excessive "looking." Any ball entering this zone without being kicked will be called a strike.
5. The count begins at 1 ball, 1 strike.
6. A foul kick counts as a strike even on the third strike.
7. The play ends once the pitcher has the ball in control and is near the mound.

KICKING

1. All kicks must be made by foot.
2. All kicks must be taken at or behind the home plate. If the ball is kicked in front of home plate, the play will be called dead (this call must be made immediately), and the result will be a called strike.
3. Bunting is allowed, but tends to expose the kicking team to excessive ridicule by the opposing team.
4. **Home Run Limit – One (1) home run per inning; if a team goes over that it will be ruled an out.**
5. **A fly ball touched by a defensive player that goes over the fence is a four-base award. It's scored a homerun but DOES NOT count against your homerun limit for that inning**

RUNNING

1. Runners must stay within the base line. Runners who are obstructed by passive fielders (fielders not making a play on the ball) within the base line shall be awarded the base.
2. Stealing or leading off base is not allowed. A runner off of his/her base when the ball is kicked is out.
3. Hitting a runner's neck or head with the ball is not allowed. Any runner hit in the neck or head shall be awarded the next base. A runner may not intentionally put his or her head in the path of the ball while being tagged out or the result will be an out.
4. If a kicked ball is in fair territory and hits the runner or the kicker himself, the player is out.
5. It is the responsibility of the runner to avoid 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.

OFFICIALS & SPORTSMANSHIP

1. The team batting will provide the plate umpire and the base umpire each inning.
2. Each manager will be held responsible for the conduct of his/her team players and is responsible to see that all rules are observed. The manager must maintain complete control of him/herself and his/her team members at all times; this includes before, during or after a game and any other time involved with the kickball program. If you are not going to be at the game, assign a responsible person to take your place. The key to a successful program is in the hands of the manager and, in turn, his/her players. Good leadership will ensure a good program.
3. Unsportsmanlike conduct, disrespect, vulgarity, or profanity will not be tolerated at any time.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

1. If there has been inclement weather, teams may call the Weather Hotline at 963-3575 or check for updates on www.teamsideline.com/ankeny after 4:30 pm.
2. If games have been canceled for the evening by Parks & Recreation, games may not be played that evening. Any games played on these days will not be recorded.
3. If it rains during the evening, City staff must decide if the field is playable enough to start a game.
4. After the game has started City staff will make the decision as to whether a game will be called or not.

TIEBREAKER

1. In the event of identical league records, head-to-head competition will be used to determine the winner. If the teams split the head-to-head games, the team with the largest margin of victory in the head to head games shall be declared the winner. If a tie remains, the team with the most total runs throughout the season will be declared winner.

BEER RULE

No alcohol is allowed to be brought onto or leave the premises! No beer is allowed in the dugouts or on the field.

1. Customer must be (21) twenty-one years of age and provide adequate photo identification to purchase beer.
2. Purchaser can buy no more than two cans of beer at a time.
3. Beer sales are allowed:
 - Weekdays beginning at 5:30 p.m. and ending no later than 9:20 p.m.
 - Weekends beginning at 10:30 a.m. and ending no later than 9:20 p.m.
4. Hawkeye Park is a smoke free facility; if you desire to smoke it must be done out in the parking lot. Smoking is forbidden by the concession stand or ball field.
5. **First Warning** – Player or players will be asked to leave the complex
6. **Second Warning** – Team will be disqualified from the league with no refund
7. The City of Ankeny does not serve to intoxication, nor does it serve the intoxicated.
8. We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone believed to be intoxicated.