

LSPR Kickball Rules

I. Field/Equipment/Misc.

- All games shall be played on softball sized diamonds. Fields with or without home run fences are acceptable, although no fence is preferable.
- Metal spikes are not allowed
- An Umpire will be provided by the league. The umpires word is final and not to be disputed unless a blatant contradiction to the official rules. Umpires may eject players for unsportsmanlike behavior. Any occurrences which are not covered in the rules shall be settled by the Site Supervisor and noted for later rules updates.
- **Players will remember we are all out here for fun.**

II. Number of participants

- Rosters may hold 15 players.
- A maximum of 11 players can be on the field for the fielding team, with a minimum of 7 players. A catcher is not necessary for teams with less than 9 players. The maximum number of male players would be 6 players.
- Teams must have a minimum of 4 players of each sex. If a team does not have four females/males for a particular game, a “ghost” player shall be written into the batting order and represents an automatic out for each female/male under the minimum. If both teams agree, the ghost rule would not be enforced. A team having 11 players that is missing a required male/female player must play short the spot of the missing player plus one additional. This only applies for teams with 11 players or more.
- Teams with fewer than 7 players shall have a 10 minute grace period before a forfeit is declared. **Subs may be used at any time so long as the opposing team is not opposed!!**

III. Regulation games

- A regulation game shall consist of 7 innings or a time limit of 55 minutes. If a game starts late, it shall be played until 5 minutes before the next games starting time.
- The “away” team shall bat first. The “home” team gets last at bats if the time limit is near. The umpire may call a game due to time an inning may not reasonably be completed before the 55 minute time limit. As such, an inning cannot begin 50 minutes after the hour unless score is tied or if it is the last scheduled game.
- A game is considered official once 4 full innings have been completed.
- Each team may have base coaches at first and third bases.

IV. Pitching/Fielding

- A legal pitch must be no higher than knee level of the batter. Anything higher over the plate is a ball. Whether a pitch is a ball or strike based on bounciness should be based on the height of the last bounce before it crosses home plate.
- Pitches from male to female player should be thrown at a reasonable rate in the context of LSPR sportsmanship. Pitches exceeding a reasonable roll rate to female players will be deemed a ball.

- The pitcher must pitch from the rubber (**running up to the rubber is not allowed**). Infield players may not cross the base line between 1st and 2nd, and 2nd and 3rd until the ball is kicked. The catcher must give the batter ample room to bat. The catcher may not break the plane of the front of home plate until the ball is kicked and may not interfere with the batter. An infraction will result in a called ball. If the ball is kicked, the result does not count.
- A strike consists of a ball that is rolled over any part of home plate and below knee level. Any ball that is kicked into foul territory shall also be considered a strike. Two strikes of any kind will result in an out.
- A “ball” shall be called on anything that does not pass home plate. Three called “balls” shall result in the ball being placed on a tee within two feet from either side of home plate. If the batter kicks the ball foul off the tee, they are automatically out. Infield players cannot advance until the ball is kicked. Pitchers who repeatedly pitch for the tee may be replaced at the discretion of the field monitor.
- The batting team has three outs per inning. An out results due to the following:
 - two strikes
 - a ball caught on the fly
 - base runner is forced out
 - base runner is hit with ball while not on base (if runner hit with ball before run scores in third out situations, run does not score)
 - see ghost batter rule above
- As even the most innocent looking pop ups are potential hits in kickball, there is no infield fly rule. Due to potential abuses of this, there will be a “No Cheese” rule for situations where a fielder is judged to have intentionally allowed the ball to drop to turn a double play. For example, team A has a runner on first. The batter from team A kicks the ball in the air to the first baseperson on team B. The runner on team A stays on first, while the batter runs to first. The first baseperson intentionally (and these are generally obvious) muffs the pop fly, tags the waiting runner and tags the base. As this is contrary to fair sportsmanship MUSA promotes, the tactic will be deemed Cheesy and the runner who was on first will not be called out by staying at first. If however the baserunner leaves first before the play is made/not made, they will be considered a target.

V. Batting

- The batter may not kick the ball until the ball crosses home plate. Kicking the ball before the plate is a strike. The resulting result of a kick over the plate is a dead ball (no out on the fly, etc)
- Bunting is allowed. Man bunting may not be executed by a team that is up by 10 or more runs.
- Runners must stay in the base path. Fielders impeding the runners path to the base shall result in the runner being awarded the base.
- Leading off and stealing are not allowed. Leading off/leaving early will result in a do-over.
- Sliding is legal. Please do so with caution (keeping fielders and yourself in mind)
- One base on an overthrow. An overthrow constitutes a ball that is thrown out of play. Out of play means beyond the bench line extended. **A ball thrown past the base or target that remains in play is not considered an overthrow, the ball must be out of play!!**

- After contact on a fly ball that is caught, the runner must tag up before advancing to the next base. Failure to tag up before advancing results in an out if the runner is tagged or the ball is thrown to the previous base.
- Balls throw at the baserunner must be below the shoulders. Any head shot results in advancement to the next base. Any intentional hitting of the ball with the head by a runner will result in an out.
- If a ball hits the kicker in fair territory after being struck, the batter is out. Intentionally kicking the ball out of play by the batter then results in a dead ball.

VI. Mercy Rule

- Teams may opt to submit if down 15 runs or more

VII. **PLAYER / MANAGER EJECTION RULE**

- Unsportsmanlike Conduct: This league is sponsored by the Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Department for the recreation value of the participant involved.
- The Recreation Supervisor, Complex Staff and/or umpire reserve the right to eject a player from the complex, without warning. The amount of time will be determined by the severity of the act.
- A player or manager ejected from a game for misconduct will be subject to the following:
 - a. First ejection – Suspension from the remainder of the game and player must leave the park for the night.
 - b. Second ejection – Fourteen (14) day suspension from all league and tournament play with any team at the complex and must leave the park for the night. Additionally players or teams will be subject to a probation or banned from the park for a period of 6 months.
 - c. Third ejection – Thirty (30) day suspension from all league and tournament play with any team at the park and must leave the park for the night. Additionally players or teams will be subject to a probation and or banned from the park for a period of 12 months.

NOTE: A player or manager may appeal the fourteen (14) and thirty (30) day suspension to a board consisting of the Complex Manager, A.S.A. representative, Umpire representative, Player representative and park representative. The board will meet within 72 hours of the appeal. The player's suspension will begin at the time of the ejection, regardless of appeal. If a suspended player participates in a game during suspension, the player will be suspended for one year and the team will forfeit that game. In addition, the team may be subject to a one-year suspension from the league and tournament play at the park without a refund.

- Any person making verbal assaults and/or physical contact with the intent to bring harm to an umpire, complex employee, league director, spectator or other player, will be asked to leave the park and will be suspended for a period of one year from the time of the incident. In addition, if conditions warrant, criminal charges will be brought

against said person, and he/she could be barred from participating at any other Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation facility.

- **FIGHTING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!** Any fighting in a game will result in a one-year suspension.

VIII. **GAME TIMES**

- Schedules are available for **ONLY TEAM MANAGERS** to pick-up at the complex office and concession stand during league nights. Please do not call the office for game times. The park will not be responsible for incorrect game times given over the phone. Please call your manager or teammates for game times.

IX. **FIELD CONDITIONS**

- When weather conditions warrant, the status of games will be available after 4:00 PM (Monday-Friday) and at 2:00 PM (Sundays) by calling 969-1516. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE OFFICE REGARDING GAME STATUS. NO DECISION WILL BE MADE UNTIL 4:00 PM (Monday-Friday) and 2:00 PM (Sundays).**

RAINOUT LINE 816-969-1516

X. **WARM UP AREA**

- All players are requested to warm up in designated warm up areas only.

XI. **VULGAR AND OBSCENE LANGUAGE**

- Obscene language will not be tolerated. Umpires have been instructed to eject violators. Complex management may eject any individual using obscene and vulgar language from the complex.

XII. **PETS**

- Pets will be allowed in the Complex but must be on leash, a maximum length of 6 ft. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

XIII. **DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY**

- Any person guilty of willfully destroying property will be required to pay for the damages and suspended indefinitely from the Complex. In addition, if conditions warrant, the violator will be prosecuted.

XIV. **ALCOHOL**

- Per City Ordinance: Chapter 19 Art. III: **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR BEER WILL BE ALLOWED ON PARK PREMISES BY ANYONE.** This includes fans, players or teams. Such infractions might result in suspension of player or team from game(s) or league play with no refund.

XV. SMOKING

- Smoking is prohibited within 50' of LSPR's playgrounds; Youth Sports Venues; Designated Youth Practice Fields

XVI. COMPLEX RULES

- Lee's Summit Parks & Recreation reserves the right to interpret any and all rules and situations. Further, Lee's Summit Parks & Recreation reserves the right to insert, delete, or change rules at any time and make decisions retroactive should it be deemed necessary for the benefits of the leagues.