



2012 Updates and Revisions to KICKBALL: Official Rules of the Game (Selected highlights)

This document highlights the most important revisions to the Official WAKA Rules in the 9/2012 edition. New language is in red, additional notes are in blue. For more information visit www.kickball.com/rules, www.kickball.com/rulesfaq and www.kickball.com/policies. Thank you & happy kicking!

NEW:

1.01h the foul lines are fair territory

CHANGED:

1.04 Any player or Referee wholly or partly in fair territory is an extension of fair territory. Any live baserunner is fair even when wholly in foul territory. A player jumping from fair territory is in fair territory while in the air. A player in foul territory does not extend foul territory by jumping or reaching into fair territory.

MOVED:

Sideline area moved to 1.07 from section 14

CHANGED:

3.02 Prior to each game, the Head Referee must conduct a meeting with the Captains of each team, to address any ground rules in effect, to ensure the exchange of team lineups (see Rule 4.01), and to identify the designated Captains who will be authorized to discuss calls with the Referees during the game (see Rule 5.03).

MOVED:

3.07 renumbered to 3.05:

3.05 Referees may make rulings on any points not specifically covered in the rules (at the time of occurrence), but the ruling shall not be deemed as a precedent for future rulings.

MOVED:

A claim of improper kicking order moved to 4.02 from section 5

CHANGED:

5.03 For a given game, each team shall have one Captain and one Co-Captain (collectively "the Captains") who are jointly responsible for the team. The Captains may discuss calls with the Head

Referee, but must accept the Head Referee's final ruling. Other players besides the Captains that dispute calls with the Referees are subject to ejection from the game (see Rule 3.03c).

Emphasizing the point that given game has 2 captains, which needn't conform to the captain/moderator roles as set in system

CHANGED:

7.01

b. If the Home team (see Rule 5.01) already leads the game when the bottom of the final inning is reached, that team wins the game instantly and the game is over.

c. If the Home team (see Rule 5.01) takes the lead during the bottom of the final inning, that team wins instantly and the game is over.

CHANGED:

8.02 Proper Field Position must be maintained by all fielders while a pitch is in progress, and until the pitched ball reaches the kicker. Failure to be properly positioned will result in a Position Warning to the team that caused the infraction. The team's second and each subsequent Position infraction **by that team that game** will result in the kicker being awarded first base regardless of the outcome of the kick.

Proper Field Position is --

a. **for Fielders:** All fielders besides the catcher must **remain in fair territory** behind the 1st-3rd base diagonal;

b. **for Pitchers:**

- The pitcher must start the act of pitching **with at least one foot** within the pitching mound (see Rule 1.01d);

- The pitcher must have at least one foot on or directly behind the pitching strip (see Rule 1.01c) when releasing the ball;

- No part of the pitcher's front foot may be in front of or across the front edge of the pitching strip.

c. **for Catchers:**

- **The catcher must be positioned within or directly behind the kicking box and behind the horizontal plane of the kicker, parallel to the front edge of home plate.**

- The catcher may not make contact with the kicker, nor position so closely to the kicker as to restrict the kicking motion.

- **The kicker may not trigger a position violation through maneuvers judged by the Ref to be deliberately tricky or unsportsmanlike.**

- basically a restructuring for clarity, and formal adoption of nuances long expressed in the Rules FAQ

- specifies up front that the time frame for all position issues is "while a pitch is in progress, and until the pitched ball reaches the kicker"

CHANGED:

13.02 A foul ball is:

a. a kicked ball **first touching the ground** in foul territory (see Rule 1.01h, Diagram 3G, 3H, 3J);

b. a kicked ball **first touching a fielder or Referee wholly in foul territory, while the ball is over foul territory** (see Rule 1.04);

c. a kicked ball landing in fair territory, but touching **the ground in foul territory** on its own at any time before **crossing the 1st-3rd base diagonal** (see Rule 1.01h, Diagram 3I, 3K);

d. a kicked ball landing in fair territory, then entering foul territory before crossing the 1st-3rd base diagonal, and touching a fielder or Referee wholly in foul territory (see Rule 1.01h, Rule 1.04);

...

g. a kicked ball **first kicked outside of the kicking box** (see Rule 9.02) (see Diagram 3L, 3M);

h. a kicked ball **first touching a permanent object, such as a batting cage or fence.**

13.03 A fair ball is:

- a. a kicked ball landing and remaining in fair territory (see Rule 1.04) (see Diagram 3C, 3D, 3E);
 - b. a kicked ball landing in fair territory then traveling into foul territory beyond the 1st-3rd base diagonal (see Diagram 3A, 3B, 3F).
 - c. a kicked ball first touching a player or Referee in fair territory (see Rule 1.04);
 - d. a kicked ball landing in fair territory, then touched by a participant in fair territory before touching the ground in foul territory (see Rule 1.04);
 - e. a kicked ball that touches a runner before touching the ground in foul territory (see Rule 1.04);
 - f. a kicked ball that touches the kicker once outside the kicking box before touching the ground in foul territory (see Rule 1.04);
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CHANGED:

14.02 An out is:

- b. any kicked ball (fair or foul) that is caught by a fielder. Any part of the ball may incidentally touch the ground during the act of catching and still be ruled an out if the fielder first displays full control of the ball and maintains control after touching the ground;
 - c. a Force Out, being the tag by any part of a fielder's body of a base to which a runner is forced to run, before the runner arrives at the base, while the fielder has control of the ball. The ball may be touching the ground if the fielder displays full control of the ball while simultaneously tagging the base;
 - ...
 - e. a kicker or runner that interferes with the ball (see Rules 15.02b and c);
 - f. a tag of a base by any part of a fielder's body, while the fielder has control of the ball (see Rule 14.02c), before the runner originating at that base can tag-up as required due to a caught ball (see Rule 10.05);
 - ...
 - n. A runner touched by the ball while on a base they are forced to vacate by the kicker becoming a runner;
 - ...
 - p. a player improperly occupying the sideline area after their team has been issued a warning (see Rule 1.07).
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CHANGED:

15.02

- b. when any runner on or off base intentionally touches a ball, or hinders a fielder. This interference causes the play to end, the runner to be out, and any other runners shall return to the base from which they came, unless forced to advance (see Rule 14.02d);
 - c. when any kicker intentionally touches a pitched ball by hand or arm before the pitch is called a Ball or Strike, or intentionally touches a kicked ball to render it foul. This interference causes the play to end, the kicker to be out, and any runners shall return to the base from which they came (see Rule 14.02e).
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MOVED:

Sections 17/18 renumbered after deletion of Ghost Men section (moved to Policies)

CHANGED:

16.02 If a player is ejected, injured, or becomes ill and cannot continue, the written kicking order will continue in the same formation, less the removed player. There is no "automatic out" when the removed player's spot in the order is reached.