

# **CRUSH KICKBALL RULES**

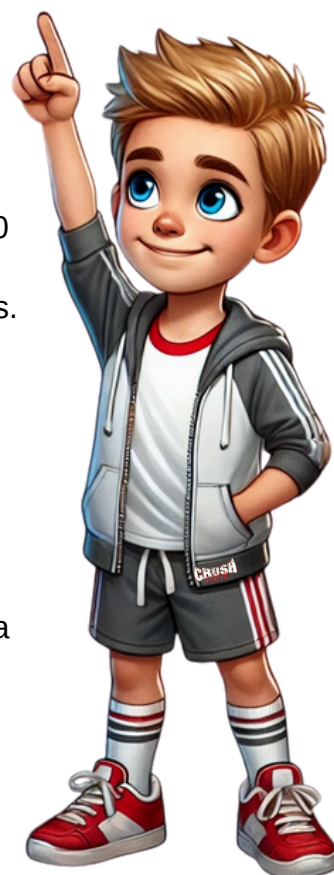
## **All Division Rules**

- An 8.5" ball will be used for all divisions.
- Home team is listed first on the schedule and will occupy the 3rd base dugout.
- There are no forfeits: teams may only borrow players from the opposing team unless approved by league staff.
- Based on division size, teams may have double-headers or bye weeks to keep the schedule balanced.
- All kicks must be made behind home plate; kicking in front of home plate results in a foul.
- Bunting (contacting the ball without fully extending the leg) is not allowed and will be determined at the umpire's discretion.
- A kicked ball must travel beyond the 15-foot restraining line (an imaginary arc from home plate) to be in play; otherwise, it will be ruled a foul.
- Only first base may be overrun.
- On close plays, ties go to the runner.
- Stealing is only permitted during loose or sloppy ball handling, such as when the pitcher drops or misses the ball after it is thrown back from the catcher or other fielder. Runners may not lead off, steal on a clean throw, or advance while the pitcher has control of the ball.
- A runner may not pass the runner ahead of them. If this occurs, the passing runner is out.
- Runners must stay in the baseline, while fielders must stay out of it. If a runner is hindered by a fielder, the runner is safe at the base they were advancing to.
- If a fair kicked ball touches a runner before being fielded, the runner is out.
- When throwing the ball at a runner, the ball must not bounce before making contact with the runner.
- Any throw that contacts a runner above the shoulders, including the head or face, is not permitted and the runner will be awarded the base they were advancing to.
- A ball thrown at a runner is not considered an overthrow, and the runner may advance freely until the play is ruled dead.
- Except in overthrow situations, runners may advance as many bases as possible until the ball is returned to the pitcher and the pitcher has control of the ball on the mound.
- An overthrow is defined as a ball thrown to the base the runner is advancing to that goes past the intended fielder and is not immediately playable.
- On the first overthrow, the runner is awarded one base only. If fielders continue to overthrow the ball in an attempt to stop the runner, the runner may continue advancing until the pitcher has control of the ball on the mound.
- If a ball is overthrown and lands in the stands while attempting to throw a runner out, it is considered a dead ball. The runner will be awarded one base beyond the last base they had established at the time of the throw.
- First and third bases as well as the base lines are considered fair territory.
- Fair and foul are determined by where the ball first touches the ground or where it is at first or third base. A ball that is fair first remains fair, and a ball that is foul first remains foul, even if it later rolls into the opposite territory.
- For safety reasons, any kicked ball that lands in another field while a game is in progress is ruled an automatic double and the play ends.
- Double plays are allowed and occurs when the defensive team makes two outs during the same continuous play, such as forcing one runner out at a base and then hitting another runner with the ball before the play is ruled dead.
- If the third out is a force out and a run scores, the run does not count. If the third out is a tag out on a runner who was not forced to run, and a run scores before the tag, the run counts.
- There is no "mercy rule". If a team is leading by a significant margin, coaches are encouraged to rotate players into different positions to help balance play and maintain a fun, competitive experience for all.

# **CRUSH KICKBALL RULES (continued)**

## **4-8 Division Rules**

- Bases will be spaced 50' apart.
- One coach is allowed on the field during defense but may not touch the ball.
- Games will be 5 innings or 60 minutes. A new inning may not be started after 50 minutes. However, once an inning begins, it must be completed.
- Everyone on the roster plays offense and defense with no more than 6 infielders.
- Outfielders must remain behind the white baseline and may not play as extra infielders. Once the ball is kicked, they may move in to field the ball.
- Batting order must be followed throughout the game.
- Coaches will pitch to their own team.
- There are no walks in this division.
- If a player kicks four fouls, they are called out.
- Three outs per inning can occur through an unsuccessful plate appearance, a force out, a tag out, catching a kicked ball in the air (even if foul), or throwing a runner out.
- The tag-up rule does not apply.
- Each inning is capped at 5 runs per team, except for the final inning.
- The umpire will declare when the final inning begins. During this inning, the "last inning open rule" applies, meaning teams can score an unlimited number of runs. This rule allows for comebacks and keeps the game competitive, even if a team trails by more than five runs.



## **9 (and older) Division Rules**

- Bases will be spaced 60' apart.
- Games will consist of 6 complete innings or 75 minutes, whichever is first. A new inning may not be started after 65 minutes. However, once an inning begins, it must be completed.
- A maximum of 10 players are allowed on the field, with no more than 6 infielders.
- Outfielders must remain behind the white baseline and may not play as extra infielders. Once the ball is kicked, they may move in to field the ball.
- In this division, players serve as pitchers, rolling the ball from the 40 feet.
- A strike is called if the ball touches any part of the inside or outside edge of the batter's box.
- A ball is called if the pitch does not touch the batter's box, if it bounces higher than the kicker's knee, or if it bounces on the plate.
- Four foul balls are considered an out, three strikes result in an out, and four balls result in a walk.
- Bunting is not allowed and will be considered a ball. Umpires have full discretion in determining whether a kick is a bunt.
- The tag-up rule is in effect.
- Three outs per inning can occur through an unsuccessful plate appearance, a force out, a tag out, catching a kicked ball in the air (even in foul territory), throwing a runner out, or a failure to tag-up.
- Each inning is capped at 7 runs per team, except for the final inning.
- The umpire will declare when the final inning begins. During this inning, the "last inning open rule" applies, meaning teams can score an unlimited number of runs. This rule allows for comebacks and keeps the game competitive, even if a team trails by more than seven runs.