

Boston Ski + Sports Club
Kickball Rules
Updated: April 13, 2026

Team Make-up

There can be any number of players on a team roster, and rosters are open to players of all gender identities and expressions. For kickball, rosters must have a minimum of 3 players who identify as women (“female players”). After this minimum is satisfied, all other roster spots are open to any gender.

Players may be added until the last week of the league. Any player that plays on your team, even if just a sub, must be added to the online roster.

Start of Game

Captains or team reps will meet 5 minutes before start of game for a coin toss to decide which will be the home team. Play starts immediately after, regardless of the number of players. No warm-ups. There will not be a grace period. If a team does not have 8 players, including at least two female players, by the end of the second inning, a forfeit will be awarded.

Time

Games are 7 innings or 45 minutes. If there is a tie after 7 innings, extra innings can be played if the 45 minute time limit has not expired. NO new inning will start 5 minutes before the following game’s start time. No time limit in Playoffs, games must be completed. There is an 8 run limit per team, per inning. However, if after scoring 8 runs, a team is not ahead by at least 8 runs, they may continue until ahead by 8. One exception: if the opposition has already been limited to score 8 runs in an inning, your team must also be limited to 8 runs one time. This rule does not apply in the playoffs

Legal Game

If game cannot be finished for any reason: 4 completed innings is a legal game (3 1/2 if home team is ahead). Game length is 7 innings or 45-minutes -time and weather permitting. Ties will stand if game is called, due to weather. If inning cannot be completed due to darkness or weather, score reverts back to last completed inning (unless game is in bottom of inning and home team is now ahead), and a winner is declared (unless 3 innings have not been played). During Playoffs, games must be completed, if stopped due to weather or darkness it will be continued at point of interruption with same lineups.

Players

- **On the Field.** 3 of the 10 fielding spots are reserved for players who identify as female. Teams may play with as few as 8 players as long as 2 of the spots are filled by players who identify as female.
- **Kicking Order.** Everyone who attends the game must be in the kick order regardless of whether or not they played the field that inning. The kicking order must be maintained throughout the game. Each lineup must have at least 3 players that identify as female. *A team with fewer than 3 will take an out for that missing player each time that spot in the order is scheduled to kick.*
- **Late arrivals.** All late arriving players are added to the end of the lineup unless a team is playing with *less than 3 players that identify as female*, in which case the late arriving female player is inserted into the next at bat to occur upon her arrival.
- **Players leaving early.** A player who cannot kick due to injury in their designated spot, and cannot be substituted for, is not penalized. That spot in the order is simply skipped. A forfeit will be declared if a team is left with less than 8 players.
 - If a player that identifies as male leaves the game early not due to injury, the above policy is enforced
 - If a player that identifies as female leaves the game early not due to injury and the line-up is left with less than 3 players that identify as females, then an out must be taken in the line-up for the female who has left.
- **Eligibility for Playoffs.** All players on the roster are eligible for the playoffs.

Outs

- A runner touched by a ball any time while not on base
- Any kicked ball that is caught (fair or foul – before touching the ground)
- **Three** foul kicks equals an out
- A ball in possession of the fielder on the base to which a runner is forced to run
- A runner off their base when the ball is kicked (no leading)

Pitching

- The ball must be pitched from the marked spot (14 paces from home plate)
- No bouncies, ball must be rolled smoothly on the ground
- The pitcher must stay behind the pitching strip until the ball is kicked
- NO WALKS – even though there will be balls and strikes there are no walks. Ball must be pitched correctly!
- The catcher cannot cross home plate until after the ball is kicked.

Infield Fly/Cheese Rule

Since catching a fly ball in kickball is no sure thing, there is no infield fly rule. HOWEVER, there is a no "cheese" rule. If the umpire thinks a fielder intentionally misses or does not try to catch a fly ball in an effort to make a double play, both runners are safe.

Rules to Keep in Mind

- The pitcher and all fielders must stay behind the pitching strip line until the ball is kicked. The catcher must play behind the kicker
- **The kicker must kick at or behind home plate.** If you kick the ball in front of the plate it will be called a foul ball.
- Once the pitcher has the ball in control and on the mound, the play ends, runners cannot advance
- All fielders must stay out of the baseline - fielders may have their foot on the base but must lean out of the baseline.
- NO BOUNCIERS – a pitch that is higher than one foot at the plate is a ball. If the ball stops in front of the plate, it will be called a no pitch and the pitcher must throw the ball harder.
- No leading or stealing
- No hitting above the shoulder. If hit the runner is safe and advances one base.
- No more than **one base on an over-throw** (if ball is out of play)
- Runners must tag up on a pop-up
- Runners crossing the home plate before a non-forced third out counts
- **No Sliding/No Diving into the bases.** It is an OUT if you do
- **No Bunting.** If the ump rules that you bunted you will be called for a foul ball. The kicker must kick in full range of motion, no stopping dead in front of the ball
 - Cones will be placed half the distance from home to first and half the distance from home to third. A line will be painted between these two cones. The ball must pass this line or it will be deemed a bunt.
 - If there is no painted line, an imaginary line will be inferred by the umpire for determining if a ball is bunted.
- **Courtesy Runners** - Before a player's at-bat, they may request a courtesy runner from the umpire, which will then be announced to the fielders. Once a batter asks for a courtesy runner, it is automatic for the rest of the game but should still be announced to the fielders each at-bat. The replacement runner will be the last person to have completed their turn at bat, and is not currently a base runner. Males will be runners for males, females will be runners for females.

Sportsmanship

No arguing, swearing, or the like. This league is for Fun! Honesty is the best policy. Remember, tie goes to the runner. Only captains may discuss the outcome of a disagreement.

NO ALCOHOL - Consumption of alcohol is strictly forbidden before, during, and after the game at the playing field. Violation of this rule jeopardizes the use of the field for the entire league. Violators will be expelled from the league without refund.

Forfeit Policy/Picking Up Players

A. Picking Up Players –

- a. The minimum number of players needed to field a team is 8, with at least 1 player who identifies as female.
- b. The minimum number of players that must be on the official roster to avoid forfeit is 6.
- c. The maximum number of players a team can pick up is 6.
- d. The complete BSSC Picking up Players Policy can be found on the league's page at BSSC.com.

B. Forfeit Policy –

- a. If there is a forfeit at the field BUT the teams can still scrimmage, captains are each responsible for paying the official's fees. The game is recorded as a loss and not a forfeit.
- b. If there is a forfeit at the field and the teams CANNOT or DO NOT scrimmage, the losing captain is responsible for paying both teams official's fees and the game is recorded as a forfeit.
- c. The full BSSC Forfeit Policy can be found on the league's page at BSSC.com.
- d. **Protesting:** If your team thinks that the opponent picked-up too many people, or neglected to inform you & the referee, or that an illegal player was used; you must bring it to the attention of the referee BEFORE the game is over. The referee will note the protest and talk to the opposing team after the game, the referee will NOT make a decision on the protest but will gather information and forward to BSSC, so the BSSC staff person can decide the appropriate penalty.

Facility Issues and Cancellations

A. Weather Cancellations - In the case of inclement weather, games may be postponed, delayed, or relocated. Please use the multiple resources available for scheduling notices:

- a. Notifications via League Apps
- b. Weather Cancellation Hotline ([617-789-4070 ext 700](tel:617-789-4070))

B. Problems At the Field - For any issues during non-business hours (on weekends or after 5pm on weekdays), please call our After Hours Hotline (**617-462-8844**) to get in touch with a BSSC Rep. Reasons for this may include, but are not limited to:

- c. **Another group on the field** - BSSC has permits for all fields in use, so if the other group does not have one, then field is for our use. Sometimes fields get accidentally double booked, please let the umpire handle the other group.
- d. **Lights not turning on, or going out early** - While most fields have their lights on a timer, some are required to be turned on manually. In most cases the umpire is responsible for this, so please wait for them to arrive.
- e. **Umpire not present** - If umpire has not arrived by game time, please call the After Hours Hotline and we will get someone there ASAP. In this instance, please start your game without them. Teams will call their own balls, strikes, and outs until someone arrives.
- f. **No opponent present** - Scheduling mistakes, while rare, do happen. If nobody from the opposing team has arrived by game time, they may have misread the schedule and/or be at the incorrect field. Call the After Hours Hotline and we will try to contact them. Do not leave the field until BSSC has reached out to your opponent.

Boston Ski & Sports Club reserves the right to add, remove, or modify any rules as it feels necessary.

For questions or comments, please call Cassidi at 617-789-4070 x723 or email cassidi@bssc.com.

Thank you for playing softball with BSSC and have a great season!