

# **AVON LAKE RECREATION**

## **ADULT COED KICKBALL**

A non-competitive program for men and women over the age of 21 (as of 8/21/17). Games will be on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6pm – 9pm at Bleser Park's Mannino & Virgei Fields. Players form their own teams and decide on a Team Captain. Players sign up individually under the Team Captain's name. Minimum team size is 9 players/maximum team size 15 players. All teams must have at least a 60/40 ratio of men/women. The season will run August 28<sup>th</sup> - October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Cost: \$10/resident; \$20/non-resident. Registration ends August 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **PHILOSOPHY**

The Avon Lake Kickball League program is a non-competitive program that allows adults to participate in a fun and healthful activity. While score can be kept during each game, winning is not at the heart of this program. Team standings and records will not be kept, and end-of-season playoffs will not be held. A small number of rules have been established for this program - and they are expected to be kept - but many aspects of the game are based on participation, sportsmanship, and fun.

### **TEAM CAPTAINS**

Team Captains are responsible for organizing and communicating with the players on their team. Disseminating dates, times, and rules to the members of their team is at the forefront of their responsibilities.

Team Captains will also be given access to a storage area that will contain such items as kickballs, bases, chalk and spreader, and rakes. In the event that games will be played after dark, Team Captains will also be given access to the light control for the fields. It will be the responsibility of the Team Captains to make sure that all such items are returned to their original positions, and locked up, at the end of a night of play.

Interpretation of rules and 'judgment' calls (i.e. fair balls, 'out' or 'safe' calls, etc.) is the responsibility of both Team Captains participating in a game.

Team Captains are responsible for all actions and behaviors of the players on their team.

### **PLAYERS/TEAMS**

All players must be age 21 (as of 8/21/17) or older, and be officially registered for the program.

All Teams must have a ratio of male/females no greater than 60% of either sex.

No more than 10 players can play the field at any one time. All players may be freely substituted. All players 'kick' in a set order regardless if they play in the field. This order should not change unless players permanently leave the game, or show up late. Late players should be inserted into the 'last' kicking position.

### **UNIFORMS**

This program will not provide any hats or uniforms. It is the responsibility of the Team to provide some level of unique identification. Team Captains need to submit colors and schemes to the Recreation Department for approval. Team colors and schemes will be approved on a first-come first-served basis. All team members should wear the 'team uniform' during play to reduce confusion with other teams. Steel cleats are prohibited.

We suggest deferring the individual cost of team T-shirts through a business sponsorship. Also, Randall's Team Shop – as a form of sponsorship – has agreed to print T-shirts for the teams in this program at a reasonable price, and to add a small Parks & Recreation logo to each shirt.

## **EQUIPMENT**

Kickballs will be provided.

Bases for the field will be either in place, or provided in a storage unit. Bases already in place will be left in place, and bases obtained from the storage unit will be returned to the storage unit.

Chalk and a spreader may be provided to stripe the baselines. Rakes may be provided to smooth out rough areas. Both of these, if provided, will be in the storage unit, and they have to be returned there after use and/or play.

## **SCHEDULING/GAME TIMES**

Games will be played on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Bleser Park's Mannino and/or Virgei Fields. Practices may take place before the season that will start on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Games cancelled for any reason (field conditions or weather do not have to be made up. Exact game times will be determined by the number of registered teams.

Teams may 'warm-up' no more than 30 minutes before their game time. Warm-up time on the field should be shared equally between the two opponents.

A game is 6 innings, or 1 hour with a hard stop (i.e. one last batter).

The last game of the night will start no later than 8:30pm. No new inning may begin after 10pm.

All players must be prepared to play at the scheduled game time.

The Recreation Department will try to do everything possible to ensure that teams will be able to play the maximum number of games scheduled.

## **OFFICIALS**

No Umpires will be assigned to this program. It is up to the Team Captains to fairly officiate each game.

## **GENERAL PLAYING RULES**

The game of Kickball is played very similar to baseball. Differences include:

- Home Team will be determined by coin flip before start of the game.
- Pitches must be delivered at a low speed and without bounces. Failure to do so will result in a ball.
- The strike zone extends 1 foot on either side of home plate.
- Kicking of a pitched ball needs to take place within the strike zone, and not more than 1 foot in front of home plate.
- Three foul balls during a single 'at bat' is considered an out.
- The 'kicking order' must alternate between males and females as possible.
- Defensively, a team may not field more than 10 players. This includes:
  - Pitcher
  - Catcher
  - 'Base' infielders
  - Shortstop
  - Mid-fielder
  - Outfielders
- 'Base' infielders, shortstop, and mid-fielder, may not total more than 5 players, and only the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman can start inside the 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> baselines when the ball is kicked.

- Defensive substitutions can take place without restriction – including pitcher.
- Active runners may be ‘tagged’ out by hitting them with a thrown ball. Any hit above the shoulders will not be considered an out, and the runner will advance to the next base.
- There are no primary leadoffs, or base stealing.
- There is no sliding.
- One base is awarded on an overthrow that goes ‘out of play’.
- Bunting is allowed by discouraged.

### **SPECIAL RULES OF CONDUCT**

Poor sportsmanship, arguing, profanity, or purposeful taunting is not allowed. Complaints of such should be made to the Recreation Department. Team Captains will be contacted and will be responsible for eliminating conduct, and recurrence will result in a player being dismissed from the program. Alcoholic beverages and/or drugs are strictly prohibited at all fields, parks, parking lot, or City facilities. No smoking is allowed on any field of play or the players’ benches.

### **WEATHER & FIELD CONDITIONS**

Weather delays, and field conditions will be posted on the City’s Facebook page, and via our free Text Messaging subscription (text ALSHORTS to 36000). Viewing of lightning, or the sound of thunder requires a 30 minute stoppage of play. During this time, players (and fans) are required to retreat to the safety of their car (and not the dugout!). Each recurrence resets the 30 minute delay. Such delays cannot effect subsequent games.