

Des Moines Parks & Rec / Iowa WiffleBall Association (IWA) Rules

This is for fun! If issues arise... figure it out. Fighting and arguing will not be tolerated!

THE PLAYING FIELD

We will be playing in the big gym at Pioneer Columbus on SE 5th.

Pitchers rubber is roughly 45 feet from home plate. The strike zone is three feet behind home plate.

All balls and bats will be supplied.

No gloves are used.

Tennis shoes only as this will be in a gym.

Teams will be made up of no more than 6 people per roster. All people on roster must bat and play in the field at some point. 4 in the field at a time.

Team must bat in same order throughout the game.

Pitchers will not be allowed to pitch back to back innings. (This may change)

A game is 3 innings with 3 outs per inning. 7 run limit per inning. If the game is tied and goes into extra innings there will be no run limit.

Four balls is a walk. Three strikes is an out. Fouls are unlimited, but a foul on the 3rd strike that hits the strikezone is considered a strikeout. (A.K.A. catcher holding onto a foul tip.)

If a batter watches a ball hit the strikezone without swinging at it, no matter the count, the batter is called out looking. (Backwards K)

Extra innings will start with the bases loaded.

GAME SITUATIONS

- In order to 'field' a ground ball for an out, the ball must be fielded cleanly but can be bobbled (unless a double play). bobbled. Any fair ball that goes past the infield line will be ruled a single. Runners advance 1 base, unless two outs. ***See below.**
- If a fielder drops a ball, it is **considered** an error. Everyone goes one base, no matter how many outs.
- Any ball that hit the ceiling/rafters, then comes down and bounces in the infield, must be picked up after the 1st bounce, or it will be considered an infield single – Runners advance 1 base only.
- Any ball that touches beyond the infield line in foul territory is a foul ball, even if it bounces back into fair territory. In the infield it is where it stops. (baseball rules)
- A ball that hits the 'back' wall below the mats is a double. (**Runners advance 2 bases unless two outs***). If it hits a side wall, it is a single. (**Runners advance 1**)
- A fly ball clearing the top of the mats on the far wall is a home run.

BASE RUNNERS

Base runners move as follows: One base on a single, two bases on a double and three bases on a triple. ***With two outs** all runners advance one extra base on a clean hit through the infield.

Groundouts always force the lead runner, all others advance 1 base.

DOUBLE PLAY RULE: If a player hits a ground ball in the infield with less than two outs and a force situation, the fielder may attempt a DOUBLE PLAY. The fielder must field the ball and in less than two seconds throw the ball and hit the strike zone anywhere, in the air or on the bounce. If it hits the zone, the **two lead forced runners are out**, if the throw misses the strike zone, then only the lead runner is out. Other runners move one base, except they will stay at third.

SAC FLY RULE: Sac Fly is only with a runner on third base and less than two outs. The batting team may try and score only the runner on third base on a fly ball. When the ball is in the air the offensive team can yell, "TAG" to activate the runner. The fielder must catch the ball, throw home and hit the strike zone *anywhere*. It may bounce or hit it in the air.

If the ball misses; the runner on 3rd scores. If it hits the zone; the runner is out at the plate. All other runners will stay where they were. The offensive team must yell, "TAG" as soon as the ball is hit, without delay. The fielder has two seconds to make the throw after the catch.

THE BATTER

If the batter is ruled by the pitcher to have intentionally moved into the path of the pitch (leaning in) in an attempt to block the pitch from hitting the strike zone, he shall be called for batter's interference, and the pitch called a strike. A warning must be given first, the warning remains with batter for the rest of the game.

Hitting a batter is only a ball, the hands are part of the bat, no matter if they swung or not.

OFFICIATING AND SCORE KEEPING

Fair and foul calls will be the responsibility of the batter because he is looking down both foul lines.

Line calls (Single, Double and Triple) will be made by the fielder closest to the ball because he has the best view of the play.

Check swings and fouls off the hands will be called by the batter.

The pitcher will call interference by the batter.

Both teams will keep official score.

Rules not stated herein, will follow the rules in accordance with Major League Baseball.