

Official Off Season Cornhole League Rules

Layout

In doubles and team play, players on the same team will line up directly across from each other in the same lane, not diagonally from each other in opposite lanes.

The foul line is designated as the front end of the board, which is also marked by the front edge of a [layer's pitcher's box.

Length of Games

The game shall be played to the predetermined number of twenty-one (21) points. The first player/team to reach (or exceed) that amount at the conclusion of a frame is the winner.

Scoring Points & Bag Terms

Woody: Refers to any bag that has been pitched and remains on the board at the conclusion of the frame. Each woody is worth one (1) point.

Cornhole: Refers to any bag that has been pitched or knocked through the board hole at any time within the frame. Each conrhole is worth three (3) points.

Foul Bags: Refers to any cornhole bag(s) that has not been determined as a "woody" or "cornhole", or was designated a foul bag as the result of a rules violation.

Scoring is always completed at the end of a frame, not during. Bags "hanging" on the hole are valued at one (1) point.

If a bag is pinned by another bag and is hanging off the side of the board touching either the ground, board support brace, or board legs, the pinned bag is immediately deemed dead. An official must be called to remove the pinned bag. If the other bag remains on the board after the official has removed the pinned bag, the bag will count as one (1) point. If the other bag also falls off the board when the pinned bag is removed by the official, the bag counts as zero (0) points.

Designated Foul Bags

The following are rule violations that must be spotted and called by a player or official. The penalty is to declare the bag foul, which requires the bags to be removed from the court prior to resuming play.

Any bag pitched without one (1) foot or appendage completely inside the pitcher's box at the time of release.

When pitching a bag, a player's foot or appendage crosses the foul line at any time even after the bag has been released.

Any bag not pitched within the twenty (20) second time limit.

A bag pitched from a different pitcher's box than their designated pitcher's box.

Any bag that contacted the court or the ground before coming to rest on the board.

Any bag that comes to rest touching the ground and the board.

Any bag which struck a previously defined object such as a tree limb, wire, indoor court ceiling, etc.

Cancellation Scoring

The approved method of scoring for the sport of Cornhole is "cancellation" scoring. In cancellation scoring, the points of on e player cancel out the points of their opponent. Using this method, only one player/team can score in each frame.

Recording the Score

No bags shall be moved before the scoring is determined. If this decision is in doubt, an official shall be called to determine the scoring for the frame in question.

If all bags are believed to have been thrown and both teams/players clear the board of bags and proceed to start the next round only to find that a single bag has not yet been thrown, the round is still over and the

points are scored as the round is finished. The single bag leftover is simply forfeited.

Players must pay close attention to the score at all times.

If a player refuses to finish a game, that player will forfeit the game by a score of 21-0. If one partner of a doubles team cannot finish the match for any reason that game will be forfeited by the team that could not finish by a score of 21-0.

Boards & Bags for Game Play

Boards and bags are supplied by the individual league however, players may use their own bags as long as they are approved. For tournaments, boards are supplied however, players must use their own bags.

Single, Double & Team Play

Each game begins with rock, paper, scissors or a bag spin.

The winner will choose to pitch first or choose their lane.

Players shall stay in their designated lane for the entire game. Please note: Players always pitch next to their opponent.

Players start the game from their pitching boxes and will alternate pitching bags until each player has pitched all four (4) of their bags.

In doubles and team play, once the first frame is over the other players from both teams will alternate pitching bags from the other end of the lane until each player has pitched all four (4) of their bags.

Scoring is recorded after each frame.

Unless unanimously decided otherwise by all players on a court, it is customary to complete a practice round before beginning a game.

Pitching Bags

Players alternate pitching bags (one player at a time) until each player has pitched all four (4) of their bags.

A player must pitch all four (4) bags from their designated pitcher's box.

Players must deliver the bag with an under-hand release.

One (1) foot or appendage must be completely within the pitcher's box at the time of releasing the bag.

When pitching a bag, a player's foot or appendage cannot cross the foul line at any time even after the bag has been released.

One (1) foot or appendage can be outside of the left, right or back of the pitcher's box as long as one (1) foot or appendage remains in the box.

Pitching Rotation

The player/team who scored in the preceding frame shall pitch first in the next frame. If frame ends in a tie, the player/team who pitched first in the preceding frame shall retain first pitch in the next frame.

Accidental Release

Any bag that leaves a player's hand once the final step (if taken) and final forward swing of the delivery process has started, shall count as a pitched bag.

A bag that is accidentally dropped by a player before the final step (if taken) and final forward swing has started, shall not be considered a foul bag and may be picked up and pitched.

Pitching Out of Turn

If a player pitches out of turn at any time during a frame, their pitch will be considered a Foul Bag and will be swept from the playing surface. Then, to reestablish the correct sequence of pitching, the opposing player will pitch two (2) consecutive bags.

If the out-of-turn bag affects any bags in play, their opponent has the option of returning all cornhole bags to their original position on the playing surface or leaving all bags as they are.

If the error is not discovered until after two (2) bags have been pitched, the frame shall continue and be scored accordingly.

If no agreement can be reached an official shall be called. The official shall either determine the scoring or void the inning and order it to be re-pitched.

Touching the Bags Illegally

If any bags in scoring positions are touched by a player, intentionally or unintentionally, before all bags during the frame are pitched, the frame is over.

The offending team (team who touches the bags) forfeits all remaining bags and tallies the score for the bags they have already thrown during the game. The non-offending team tallies twelve (12) points as if they had thrown four (4) cornholes during the frame.

Time Limits for Pitching

A player must pitch each bag within twenty (20) seconds of their opponent's bag coming to rest.

A player has one (1) minutes to start the new frame from when the last bag from the previous frame comes to rest.

Failure to pitch a bag in time results in loss of bag.

Time Limits for Scoring

The frame will be scored five (5) seconds after the last bag is pitched, comes to rest, and all bags on the playing surface have stopped moving.

Any bag that moves in position after five (5) seconds will be scored based on its previous position.

If timing cannot be agreed on, the official will score or negate the frame.

Moving Boards & Bags

A player can only straighten the boards in between frames and with the approval of their opponent. An official may be called to determine replacement if a discrepancy is in question.

The penalty for adjusting boards during an opponent's throw is the forfeiting of the next bag.

Crossing the Foul Line

A player may only cross the foul line and approach the opposite board during a frame under three (3) circumstances:

1. A timeout has been called
2. To rake bags piled inside the board hole
3. To sweep bags that are considered foul bags from the playing surface

Timeouts

Each player or team is allowed two (2) one minute time outs per game.

A player may only call a timeout when it is their turn to pitch. Players may walk to the other boards to examine bag position during the time out.

Players may not touch the bags or boards during a timeout.

Raking Bags

If bags become piled inside the board hole and interfere or obstruct the playing area a player may request to "rake" the bags that have fallen inside the hole. To request a rake, the player must audibly ask.

Sweeping Bags

If a foul bag lands on the playing surface or comes to rest touching the ground and the board, it must be removed immediately.

If a player pitches a foul bag which affects any bags in play, their opponent has the option of returning all bags to their original positions on the playing surface or leaving all bags as they are.

EQUIPMENT

Approved Equipment

Equipment must comply with the specifications below for all league and tournament play.

Bags

- Each bag measures six (6) square inches and weights 15.5 to 16.25 ounces
- Bags must have a thickness no less than 1.125 inches and no greater than 1.5 inches
- Bags may not be filled with any material other than plastic resin
- The bags should be made from a durable fabric like canvas, twill, or synthetic suede