

## **Cornhole League Rules and League Information**

### ***Team Size & Rosters:***

1. 2 player minimum per team
2. 6 player maximum per team
3. Minimum of 2 players per team needed to start and/or continue a game (from the team's league roster)
4. Somers Recreation has no roster requirements for male/female ratios, residency or age.
5. Team Captain must register and pay the fee with the Recreation Department prior to the registration deadline. Full roster must be emailed two weeks prior to league start.

### ***Fee: \$100/team***

### ***Game:***

1. 2 games per week for each team.
  - a. Each game is best of 3 matches. The match shall be played until the winning team reaches 21 points (or higher) at any time. The winning team does not need to win by 2 or more points.
2. Each game is not to exceed 40 minutes from the scheduled start time.
3. Winning team must report the final score to the League Director.

### ***Setup:***

1. Two boxes will be set up facing each other with 27 feet from front edge to front edge.
2. The front of the box constitutes the foot "foul line".

### ***Game Play:***

1. Two teams of 2-6 players shall play.
  - a. Teams will form pairs amongst their players.
  - b. Partners will stand at opposite boxes on the same side (from the perspective of a third person) and face each other so there is no advantage given to one team.
  - c. Each team will have 4 bags of one color.
  - d. All 8 bags begin at one end.
  - e. A coin flip shall determine who has honors in round one.
  - f. One of the partners on the team with honors shall begin play by throwing, underhand, a bag at the opposite box.
  - g. A player may throw, underhand, from anywhere behind the foot foul line.
  - h. Match continues by alternating, underhand, throws between the two opponent players until all 8 bags have been thrown.
  - i. If a bag hits the ground, then bounces up onto the board, that bag will be taken off the playing surface.
  - j. The next frame starts when the other player on the team which has honors, throws their first bag.
  - k. A five-minute warning will be given and at the end of regulation time the teams playing will be allowed to finish the last round.

### ***Fouls:***

A foul occurs when any of the following happens:

1. A player steps a foot past the foul line when throwing, termed a foot foul.
2. A player goes out of turn. The player who caused the foul will have their bag removed if it landed on the playing surface.

### **Forfeit:**

1. A team will be dropped from the league after their second forfeit (no refunds). Games scheduled for dropped teams shall stand as played and the remainder of the games shall count as wins for the opposing teams.
2. A team needs 2 individuals to play. If there are not 2 individuals ready to play after a 5-minute grace period, that game will count as a forfeit.
3. A team that is suspended from the league may also be suspended for the following season; this will be at the discretion of Somers Recreation.
4. No alcoholic beverages allowed. Teams will be expelled from game with forfeiture.

### **Scoring:**

1. The score shall be taken after all bags have been thrown for a frame. Each team will add the score from each frame and round together to come with an over-all match score.
  - a. Team A gets 3 on the board and Team B has 1 on the board. The score for that frame will be 2 points to Team A.
  - b. If team A and Team B both have 2 points on the board, neither team will receive a point.
2. The contestant who scored in the previous frame shall pitch first in the current frame.
3. After each match, teams will switch sides/boards.
4. Points shall be given as follows:
  - a. Three points for a bag that goes through the hole.
  - b. One point for a bag that is on the playing surface.
  - c. One point for a bag that is hanging into the hole.
  - d. One point for a bag that is hanging off the edge, but not touching the ground.
  - e. Zero points for a bag that is touching the ground, even if it is partially on the playing surface.
    - Unless the bag is hanging off the front edge and resting on a ground bag where the ground bag can be removed without making the hanging bag fall to the ground, then one point is given.
5. If bags become piled inside the cornhole board hole and may interfere or obstruct with the next pitch, or if there is a question whether a cornhole bag would have naturally fallen through the hole, a player may request to "rake" the cornhole bags that have fallen inside the hole.
6. Each team is given a frame score according to the point system.
  - a. The team who wins the frame is awarded with the first throw in the next frame. In case of a tie, the game score stays the same and the first throw goes to the team who had it the previous frame.
  - b. The winner of the match is the team who reaches 21 first or has the most points at the 40-minute time limit.
  - c. Scores may exceed 21 points. Once a team reaches 21 points, players should complete the frame and calculate the score.
  - d. In the event of a tie, the game ends in a tie.
    - The exception is playoffs as an extra round(s) shall be played to break the tie. The winner must only win by one point.
7. There is no referee. Players are responsible for calling infractions of the rules as appropriate to the division on play.
  - a. **Teams are here to have FUN!**
  - b. **Matches are played in the spirit of competitiveness and fair play. Sportsmanship is the key goal. The enjoyment of the game and the quality of the league depends on every player's cooperation.**
  - c. Due to the time restrictions, there are NO time-outs during a match.

***\*\*Unsportsmanlike behavior could result in the ejection of your team from the league permanently.***