



DODGEBALL RULES

1. Teams will consist of six to eight players, at least two of which must be female.
2. Failure to display good sportsmanship may result in a team being ejected from the tournament.
Unsportsmanlike Conduct includes:
 - a. Flagrant head and/or body shots to another player
 - b. Not leaving the court upon elimination
 - c. Foul Language
 - d. Fighting
 - e. Delaying of GamePenalties for Unsportsmanlike Conduct include (at the discretion of the court official, head tournament official, and/or tournament director):
 - a. Warning
 - b. Ejection of Player from Game
 - c. Ejection of Player from tournament
 - d. Ejection of Team from Tournament
3. The game begins with six players (minimum of 4) of each team in a line along their own end line.
Players showing up after a game starts are not allowed to play in that game.
 - a. The Court Official will call teams to the court by number, 1 versus 2, with the 2 team being to the right of the official, who will be at the centerline. (Each team will have up to 2 minutes to warm-up. After 2 min. the game will start with the players present- must have at least 4)
 - b. Matchups are best-of-three games, and teams will change sides after each game.**
 - c. Each team will have three balls. All six balls will be of the same color, and should be of a different color than those used on adjoining courts.
 - d. Substitutes and eliminated players must occupy a Team Area along the sideline and near the end line on the same side of the court as the Court Official.
 - e. The Court Official will call out "Play" to start the game. **Games will be 5 minutes max.**
4. The object of the game is to eliminate the opposing team members by hitting them with balls thrown from any position within the boundary lines and on their own side of the centerline.
 - a. A ball touching the ground immediately becomes a dead ball (no bounce hits).
 - b. A player is eliminated if they mishandle (unable to catch) a thrown ball, but they may bobble and catch it as long as it does not touch another player or the ground and they remain in their playing area/inbounds.
 - c. A thrown ball eliminates only one player, no deflections off a second player.
 - d. Players may use a held ball to deflect an incoming ball. The wrist through the fingertips is considered part of the ball.**
 - e. Players may not overly compress a ball in order to get a better grip. Penalty for compressing the ball will be ejection from that game.
 - f. A player must leave the court immediately upon being put out or called out. They are to drop a ball if they have one in possession and go to the Team Area immediately. Failure to do so may result in Unsportsmanlike Conduct and the game could be forfeited as determined by the Court Official.

5. **The game ends when all members of one team have been eliminated or at the end of 5 minutes.**
- a. The Court Official will call out "One Minute" with 1 minute remaining.
 - b. A team with a player advantage at the end of 5 minutes is the winner.
 - c. If the players are equal in numbers, the Court Official will call out "overtime" and the game will continue until the next player is eliminated. Only players that were in play at the end of regulation will be allowed to start the overtime game. No Substitutions or Timeouts in Overtime. Additional players may only enter the game through caught balls.
6. Players must remain inside the court and not leave the court to avoid being hit or to make a throw. Stepping on a boundary line is out-of-bounds, and the player is eliminated. Players may not dive out-of-bounds to catch a bobbled or self-tipped ball. A player may cross the end line only (not the side or center line) to retrieve a ball, but they must be making an actual attempt to retrieve a ball, not to dodge a ball. If a player is hit while trying to retrieve a ball behind the end line, **they are considered out**. A player may not reach over a Side or Center Line to retrieve a ball.
7. When a player catches a thrown ball, their team is allowed one eliminated player to return to the game, and the player throwing the ball is eliminated. Only the players that are on the court at the end of regulation play are allowed to start the overtime game.
8. A volunteer, spectator or inactive player may retrieve a ball out-of-bounds but must roll the ball to the backstop and not onto the court. **An active player may not run out-of-bounds to retrieve a ball.**
9. The Court Official will use his judgment in the case of players' intentionally delaying the game.
- a. A ball may not be held longer than five seconds.
 - b. A ball may not be intentionally thrown out of bounds.
 - c. A ball may not be left lying on the court.
 - d. A ball may not be intentionally dropped
 - e. A ball can not be tossed back and forth between team mates
- Penalties for Delay of Game:
- a. Warning
 - b. Ejection of the player(s) for the remainder of game
10. Each team will be allowed one timeout in a game, and there must be a clear slowdown in play before calling the timeout. The Court Official will confirm a timeout when play has significantly slowed, and must count the players on court at the time. The timeout period is one minute.
11. A substitute player is allowed only in the event of an injury or during a timeout.
- a. Play and time is suspended for an injury. The injured player may not return until the following game. A player who begins to bleed must leave the court immediately, receive medical attention, and may not return until the following game. The team is allowed to substitute this player from a player from their team area.
12. Officials Timeout will be used in the following situations:
- a. Rules or Call Clarification
 - b. Injury or Equipment
If 2 or less balls remain on the court, the Court Official may stop the game clock to retrieve the 6 balls allocated for the court.
 - c. During an officials' timeout, substitutions are only allowed for injuries.
 - d. During an Officials Timeout, team members on the court are to go to the end line and players in the team area are to remain in the team area. Court Monitors are to remember how many and which players were on the court.
 - e. To resume play, the Court Official will ensure the correct players for each team are on the court and behind their end line. The balls will be equally distributed between each team and the Court Official will Announce PLAY and start the game clock.