

Hillsboro Parks & Recreation

Cornhole League Rules

Length of Games

Traditional 21: The game shall be played to the pre-determined 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.

Methods of Scoring

Cancellation Scoring: The approved method of scoring for the sport of cornhole is “cancellation” scoring. In cancellation scoring, the points of one player cancel out the points of their opponent. Using this method, only one player/team can score in each frame.

Board: Each bag on the board is worth one (1) point

Cornhole: Each cornhole is worth three (3) points

Recording the Score

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

Recording the Score: Players are encouraged to pay close attention to the score at all times. Players are required to verbally call out the score so that both teams are aware of the points. Players may call upon the official between frames if any discrepancy occurs regarding the correct score.

Calling the Score: At the completion of each “set”, the winning team will update the score to the facility official.

Pitching Rotation, Lane Assignments, & Bag Color

- The home team chooses their bag color, lane assignment and pitches first in the initial set.
- Teams will keep the same bags and lane assignments for the remaining sets.
- After Set #1 is completed, each winning team will throw 1st in the following sets.

Pitching Cornhole Bags

Pitching

- Players alternate pitching bags (one player at a time) until each player has
- pitched all (4) of his/her bags.
- A player must pitch all (4) cornhole bags from their designated cornhole pitchers
- box.
- Players must deliver the bag with an under-hand release.
- One foot must be completely within the pitchers box at the time of releasing the
- bag.
- Players must not fully cross the foul line (front of board) with their feet before the bag has landed.

Pitching the Next Frame: The player/team who scored in the preceding frame shall pitch first in the next frame. If neither player/team scores, the player/team who pitched first in the preceding frame shall retain first pitch in the next frame.

Accidental Release:

- Any cornhole 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.

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

Time Limits – Pitching and Scoring:

- Pitching – A player must pitch each cornhole bag within fifteen (15) seconds of their opponent's bag coming to rest.
- Scoring – The frame will be scored 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 after 5 seconds will be scored based on its previous position.
- If timing cannot be agreed on, the facility official will score or negate the frame.

Designated Foul Bags

- Any bag pitched when the player foot has fully crossed over the foul line (front of the board) before the bag lands.
- Any bag not pitched within the 15 second time limit.
- Any bag that contacted the court or the ground before coming to rest on the playing surface.
- Any bag that comes to rest touching the ground and the board or another bag touching the ground.

Other General Rules

Board Distance: The boards shall be placed 27 feet apart from each other (front of board to front of board).

Moving Cornhole Boards and Bags: A player can only straighten cornhole boards in between frames and with the approval of their opponent. The facility official may be called to determine re-placement if a discrepancy is in question.

Raking Cornhole Bags: If bags become piled inside the cornhole board hole and may interfere or obstruct with the next pitch or if there is 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.

- The facility official may be called to rake the bags if a discrepancy is in question.
- Anytime 4 cornhole bags have entered the hole or piled bags are visible in the hole a player may request a "rake".

Important note: During raking, all efforts should be made to leave bags on the playing surface undisrupted, in their natural state, and to leave bags that may hang on the rim of the hole from falling inside the hole unnaturally. If a bag is resting on a piled bag, and unavoidably falls into the hole as a result of raking, then it shall be counted as a "cornhole."