



Dodgeball General Rules

1. Any malicious play during the course of the tournament will not be tolerated and may lead to the player or team expulsion. Remember, we are all out here for fun, not to hurt each other!
2. Teams shall consist of a minimum of 6 players and max of 8 players; teams may have up to 2 substitutes. Minimum 2 players of each sex on playing field, required.
If a team doesn't have the minimum, they play short the number of players missing.
Players must be at least 18 years of age to play.
Maximum of 8 players on playing field at a time. Others can be available as substitutes.
Substitutes may enter a game that has already been started, but only in the case of injury.
3. Field size will be at least 50 feet long and 30 feet wide, divided into two equal sections by a mid-line.
4. Games will consist of match play.
 - A. Match play consists of 3 games. All games are played, regardless of who wins first two.
 - a. 1 point per game won.
 - b. 3 points for winning a match (at least 2 out of 3 games).
 - c. 1 bonus point for winning all three games within a match, a shut-out.
 - B. Each game will be not longer than 6 minutes. 18 minutes per match, max.
 - C. No stalling is allowed. Balls must be thrown within 15 seconds, to keep game play moving.
 - D. Winner is determined by:
 - a. Elimination of all opposing team players.
 - b. Or team with most remaining players at the end of the 6 minute time limit.
 - A. If the same numbers of players remain, on each side, a 2 minute sudden death will occur.
 - B. Eliminated players do not re-enter at any time during sudden death play.
5. Start of games consist of:
 - A. Each team starting behind their respective end line on their stomachs.
 - B. An initial whistle or horn will sound.
 - C. Three 8.5 inch and two 6 inch balls are placed at the mid-line.
 - a. Male players can only use the 6 inch balls when all of the opposing teams' females have been eliminated. If male player throws smaller ball prior, they are considered eliminated.
 - b. Females may use either size ball, at any time.
 - D. Teams will race to the mid-line to try and retrieve balls.
 - a. Crossing of the mid-line will result in player being eliminated and can only reenter upon a caught ball by a teammate (see rule #11B).
 - b. Once all balls are retrieved a second whistle will start actual game play and elimination shall begin.
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6. Head shots are not allowed.
 - A. A player hit in the head is not out of the game. Deflected balls off a teammate or held ball do not count as head-shots.
 - B. A headshot does not count if player hit with ball is not in an upright position when hit.
 - C. Person throwing, head-shot ball, is eliminated from play, but can return on a caught ball by a teammate (see below, #11B).
 7. You are eliminated or can eliminate opposing team players by:
 - A. Hitting them with a ball, minus head shots (see rule #6C).
 - B. Catching a ball an opposing player throws, on the fly or on a deflection off a teammate.
 - C. Dropping a held ball after trying to block an incoming ball with it (held ball must hit the ground).
 - D. Crossing of the center line into the opposing team's field of play, either during the start or during game play.
 - E. Getting hit by a deflected ball off of a "held ball" used for blocking an incoming ball.
 - F. Getting hit by a deflected ball off of another teammate.
 8. You can only retrieve balls on your side of the court, but may leave your field of play to retrieve a loose ball that has gone elsewhere on your side. You are then determined a non-target and cannot be eliminated or eliminate others until you return to your field of play. You must re-enter the field of play at the end line and in a timely manner.
 9. Any ball hitting the ground, wall or netting prior to hitting a player or being caught by a player is considered a dead ball.
 10. Eliminated players must stand on the sideline, out of the field of play. Designated area will be determined per venue.
 11. Eliminated players may re-enter the game when:
 - A. A new game/match starts.
 - B. If a throw from the opposing team is caught by a fellow teammate.
 - a. All eliminated team members re-enter if this occurs.
 12. Rules will be enforced primarily by the "honor system". Players will be expected to rule whether or not a hit was legal or whether they were legally eliminated. All contests will be supervised by a Field Monitor. The Field Monitor's responsibility will be to rule on any situation in which teams cannot agree.

THE FIELD MONITOR'S DECISION IS FINAL - NO EXCEPTIONS!