

JACKSON RECREATION DEPARTMENT

2017 WINTER DODGEBALL LEAGUE RULES

THE TEAM

Teams will be made up of 6-10 players. Six(6) players will compete on a side; others will be available as substitutes. Substitutes may enter the game only during timeouts or in the case of injury.

THE COURT

The dodgeball court will be played within the boundaries of a basketball court, with the half court line dividing the two teams. No out of bounds on the end lines, but sidelines and half court are out of bounds.

THE EQUIPMENT

The official ball used in tournament and league play will be a 7" rubber-coated foam ball.

THE GAME

The object of the game is to eliminate all opposing players by getting them "OUT". This may be done by:

1. Hitting an opposing player with a LIVE thrown ball.
2. Catching a LIVE ball thrown by your opponent before it touches the ground.

Definition: LIVE: A ball that has been thrown and has not touched anything, including the floor/ground, another ball, another player, official or other item outside of the playing field (wall, ceiling, etc)

BOUNDARIES

During play, all players must remain within the boundary lines. Players may leave the boundaries through their end-line only to retrieve stray balls. They must also return through their end-line.

THE OPENING RUSH

Game begins by placing two dodgeballs along the center line – one (1) on one side of the center hash and one (1) on the other. Each team will start with two dodgeballs each. Players then take a position behind their end line. Following a signal by the official, teams may approach the centerline to retrieve the balls. This signal officially starts the contest. Players may only cross the centerline during the opening rush in attempts to retrieve a ball from the centerline, provided that at least one foot remains in their own territory.

WINNING A GAME

The first team to legally eliminate all opposing players will be declared the winner.

RULE ENFORCEMENT

During pool play or regular-season matches, 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 court monitor*. The court monitor's responsibility will be to rule on any situation in which teams cannot agree. THE COURT MONITOR'S DECISION IS FINAL – NO EXCEPTIONS.

OUTS

- player shall be deemed "out" when a live ball hits any part of the player's body, clothing, or uniform.
- If a player is hit by a live ball rebounding off another player or ball lying on the court.
- A defending player catches a live ball
- Players shall return from the Queue in the order they were put "out" (i.e. first "out," first "in").
- A caught ball results in a team member from the catching team re-entering the game.
- **A ball can only eliminate a single player** (i.e. a ball that deflects off one player into another player, only the player most recently struck is eliminated)

BLOCKING

- Players can defend themselves by blocking the ball in flight with another ball but must retain control over the ball they are blocking with. A player dropping or losing possession of the blocking ball is deemed "out."
- Any blocked ball rebounding off another ball is considered live. Any player hit by the rebounding ball is deemed "out."

OUT OF BOUNDS RULE

- If any part of the player's body touches the sidelines or centerline (except during opening rush), the player shall be deemed "out".
- Momentum may carry a player out of bounds while making a catch. Providing control of the ball was established prior going out of bounds. (i.e. NFL rule)

MATCHES

Matches will consist of MULTIPLE individual games, with teams switching sides of the court after each game. Each individual game will count towards final standings (i.e. A team that wins a match 5-2 will have an overall record of 5-2). Each game has a 5 minute time limit. Team with more remaining players at end of game wins. If there are the same number of players left on each team, sudden death play will continue until a player is eliminated.

PLAYOFFS

The end of season tournament will be held to determine league champion. Format will be determined based on number of teams.

REMINDER:

No fighting of any kind will be tolerated. Failure to comply will result in suspension from league. Court official's decision is FINAL.