

PLAY OF THE GAME

Innings

Every Cornhole match is broken down into innings of play. During each inning of play each contestant must pitch all 4 Cornhole bags.

In doubles play, the top of an inning is completed when both contestants pitching from the first Cornhole board pitch all 4 Cornhole bags; the bottom of the inning is completed when the remaining contestants (pitching from the other Cornhole board) pitch all 4 bags.

Value Of The Cornhole Bag

1. Cornhole Bag In-The-Hole – A Cornhole bag in-the-hole (or Hole-In) is a bag which is thrown through the hole in the Cornhole board or otherwise comes to rest inside the Cornhole board (knocked in by another player or an act of God). A Cornhole bag in-the-hole has a value of 3 points.

2. Cornhole Bag In-The-Count – A Cornhole bag that is not in-the-hole but lands with any portion of the bag resting on the Cornhole board is in-the-count (sometimes called on-the-board). A bag in-the-count has a value of 1 point. For a bag to be in-the-count, it must not touch the ground or any other portion of the court prior to coming to rest on the Cornhole board. If a bag touches the ground before coming to rest on the Cornhole board, it is a foul and must be removed from the Cornhole board prior to the continuation of play.

Pitching Rotation During The Game

The contestant who scored in the preceding inning shall pitch first in the next inning. If neither pitcher scores, the contestant who pitched second (last) in the preceding inning shall pitch first in the next inning.

Position Of Contestants During The Game

Rock, paper, scissors will be played to decide the side of the board you will be tossing from for the entirety of the game.

Foul Cornhole Bags

A foul Cornhole bag is a bag which was delivered in non-compliance with one of the Cornhole rules of the game. It scores as a bag out of the count and is to be removed from the Cornhole court before any more bags are pitched. Cornhole bags already in the court that have been knocked into foul territory by a foul bag should be returned to the scoring area. Additionally, bags that are in the count, but are knocked into the hole by a foul bag must be returned to their original scoring position.

1. The following are rule violations that must be spotted and called by a contestant or assigned judge. The penalty is to declare the Cornhole bag a foul bag which requires the bags to be removed from the court prior to resuming play.

(a) Any Cornhole bag pitched when the contestant has made contact with or crossed over the foul line before the bag is released.

(b) Except as provided above, any Cornhole bag pitched when the contestant has started or stepped over the foul line

(c) Any Cornhole bag that contacted the court or the ground before coming to rest on the Cornhole board.

(d) Any Cornhole bag that contacted the Cornhole board but came to rest on the court or ground.

(e) Any Cornhole bag which struck a previously defined object such as a tree limb, wire, indoor court ceiling, etc.

(f) Any Cornhole bag that leaves a contestant's hand once the final forward swing of the delivery process has started shall count as a pitched bag. A bag that is accidentally dropped by a contestant before the final forward swing has started shall not be considered foul and may be picked up and pitched.

(g) Any Cornhole bag that contacted the Cornhole board but came to rest on the court or ground.

2. A contestant's Cornhole bags shall be called foul if the contestant removes any bag before the scoring of that bag has been agreed upon. A judge shall be called if a decision cannot be reached. The judge shall determine the scoring for the inning.

Section H. Protests – If a contestant desires to make a protest, the protest shall be made to the judge or tournament official at the time the problem occurs. The tournament judge shall make the final ruling on all protests.

LENGTH OF THE GAME

Point Limits

The Cornhole match shall be played until the first team of contestants reaches (or exceeds) 21 points at the end of a top or bottom inning. The winning team does not need to win by 2 or more points.

Ties At The End Of An Inning

If the Cornhole match is tied at 21 or more at the end of an inning, play continues until one team or the other achieves a higher score at the end of an inning and wins the match.

SCORING

Cancellation Scoring

In cancellation scoring, Cornhole bags in-the-hole and bags in-the-count pitched by opponents during an inning (in singles play) or half of an inning (in doubles play) cancel each other out. Only non-canceled bags are counted in the score for the inning.

1. Cornhole Bags In-The-Hole: Hole-ins (HI's) cancel each other. A bag in-the-hole of one contestant shall cancel a bag in-the-hole of his competitor and those bags shall not score any points. Any non-cancelled bag in-the-hole scores 3 points.

2. Cornhole Bags In-The-Count: Bags in-the-count cancel each other. A bag in-the-count of one contestant shall cancel a bag in-the-count of the opponent and those bags shall not score any points. Any non-cancelled bags in-the-count score 1 point each.

Score Calculation:

Cancellation scoring may be easily calculated as follows:

1. The points of both contestants are calculated for hole-ins and in-the-count Cornhole bags.
2. The points of the lowest scoring contestant for hole-in bags are subtracted from the points of the highest scoring contestant for hole-in bags. The result is the hole-in score for the highest scoring contestant. The hole-in score for the lowest scoring contestant is zero.
3. The points of the lowest scoring contestant for in-the-count bags are subtracted from the points of the highest scoring contestant for in-the-count bags. The result is the in-the-count score for the highest scoring contestant. The in-the-count score for the lowest scoring contestant is zero.
4. The hole-in score for each contestant is added to the in-the-count score for each contestant to derive the recorded score for the inning.
5. In this manner hole-in and in-the-count Cornhole bags from each contestant or team of contestants are cancelled out and only non-canceled bags are counted in the score.