**SOSU Intramural Cornhole Rules**

***The Intramural Office reserves the right to make amendments to these rules deemed essential to the success of the program.***

**What is Cornhole?**

It has been called many things: Corn Toss, Bean Bag, Bean Toss, Soft Horseshoes, Indiana Horseshoes, but to many of us born in the Midwest, the game is passionately referred to as Cornhole. It has been said that the game originated in Germany in the 14th century. The truth is, who really knows, but the game is great fun for all ages and can be played anywhere! Cornhole or Corn Toss is similar to horseshoes except you use wooden boxes called cornhole platforms and corn bags instead of horseshoes and metal stakes. Contestants take turns pitching their corn bags at the cornhole platform until a contestant reaches the score of 21 points. A corn bag in the hole scores 3 points, while one on the platform scores 1 point. Scoring can be swift and the lead may change hands several times in a match before the winner is decided. The game is generally played tournament style with an individual or team being named the champion at the end of the tournament.

Why play Cornhole / Corn Toss? The biggest reasons to play Cornhole or Corn Toss instead of horseshoes or other similar games is that Cornhole can be played anywhere and everyone can play Cornhole. If you can aim and toss a corn bag 30 feet, you can master the game of Cornhole - It's great for family outings or in our case Intramural Fun! Cornhole can be played anywhere - driveways, parks, backyard, campgrounds, beaches and even in-doors in our SE Student Union Gym. Safe for everyone - no metal or pointed objects. Corn bags are made of extra soft 12 oz. duck canvas material and filled with pliable high quality feed corn.

**Cornhole Rules:**

* First you have to set the two boxes 27 feet apart from front to front.
* You then have 2 teams of 2 (each team at different boxes). You can also play one on one and walk from box to box after each round of throws.
* To see who throws first you can either flip a coin or play paper, rock, scissors.
* Each person stands along either side of a box without stepping over the front of the box.
* Each team gets four bags of the same color.
* The 2 teams alternate throws until all 8 bags have been thrown.
* **Scoring goes as follows**
  + 1 point for a bag on the box
  + 3 points for a bag in the hole
  + 0 points for a bag off of the box
  + 0 points for any bag that hits the ground even if ends up on the box
  + The points cancel each other out
    - Example: If Team A gets 2 on the box and 1 in the hole (5 points) and Team B gets 3 on the box and 1 in the hole (6 points) then Team B would get 1 point (the points cancel each other out). If you want the game to faster don’t cancel the points out.
    - Whichever team scores the most points in an inning throws first the next inning
  + The first team to 21 wins
  + A skunk is 12-0
* **Layout**
  + A Cornhole court is a rectangular area 8 ft wide and a minimum of 42 ft long. Each board is placed 27 ft away from each other. Pitcher must remain in 4x3 ft pitcher area on either side of box while tossing bag. Front edge of box acts as foul line.
* **Pitching Distances**
  + Pro - 27ft Amateur (casual) - 24ft Junior/Wheelchair - 20ft
* **Game Play**
  + Cornhole can be played as doubles or singles. In doubles play one team members pitch from opposite boards. So each team has one player throwing from the left pitcher's box and one throwing from the right. In singles play, a player competes against another player (both pitch from the same board). All other rules are the same for doubles or singles play. Every match is broken down into frames of play. Players alternate pitching until all 8 bags have been pitched, completing the frame. The player who scored in the preceding frame shall pitch first in the next frame. If neither pitcher scores, the player who pitched first in the preceding frame shall pitch first in the next frame.
* **Points**
  + *Cornholes*- A bag thrown through the hole in the board. A bag can be pushed in by other bags from either player.
    - Cornhole **=** 3 points.
  + *Woody or Boarder* - A bag that is not in-the-hole but lands with any portion resting on the board.
    - Woody or Boarder = 1 point.
  + If the bag touches the ground before hitting the board or lands hanging off the board while also touching the ground it is called a "*Dirty*." Any "*Dirty*" bags must be removed from play before the next bag is tossed.
  + *Stanker or Foul Bag* - Any toss that is not a Cornhole or a Woody.
    - Stanker or Foul Bag = 0 points.
  + Bags knocked into foul territory by a foul bag should be returned as closely as possible to their original position. This also applies to bags that are knocked into the hole by a foul bag.
* **Scoring**
  + Traditional 21 Scoring - In this game opposing players' frame points cancel one another out. Only those points that do not cancel out apply to the total overall score. Example: Team A scores 5 points in a frame and Team B scores 6 points in the same frame. Team B scores 1 points for that frame.
  + Frame Game Scoring - Players try to accumulate as many points as possible over 13 frames, with the maximum amount of points being 156.
* **Length Of Game**
  + Traditional 21 Game - The game is played until a team reaches 21 points at the completion of a frame. If a team pitching first reaches or exceeds 21 points, the game is not over until the other side is allowed to pitch all of their bags to complete the frame.