

## **Brown County 4-H Bean Bag Toss Tournament Rules**

**TEAM ROSTER:** Only the players listed on the registration form will be allowed to play. Players can play on only one team and must be a Cloverbud or 4-H member by March 1 of the current year, with the exception of the Adult Division. Teams can be all girls, all boys, or co-ed. Clubs can combine with other clubs to form teams as long as the intent is **not** to form a super team.

**DIVISIONS:** There will be five divisions – Cloverbuds (Kindergarten-grade 2); Junior (grades 3-5); Intermediate (grades 6-8); Senior (grades 9-4-H graduation); Adult. Players can move up to a higher division, but **cannot** move down to a lower division.

*Please note: If playing in both bean bag and basketball we are asking that you stay in the same division for both events (i.e. If a member is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and playing up to the intermediate division for basketball, they will also need to play in the intermediate division for the bean bag tournament.)*

**FORMAT:** Each team is guaranteed two (2) matches. Each match consists of 3 games.

### **GAME PLAY**

1. The boards will be the following distances apart (from front to front of the boards):
  - 15' apart for the Cloverbud Division
  - 20' apart for the Junior Division
  - 27' apart for the Intermediate, Senior and Adult Divisions
2. The object of the game is to score 10 points (Cloverbud Division) and 15 points (all other Divisions) before the opposing team.
3. A coin flip will determine which team has the option of choosing whether to throw first or second to begin the match.
4. Partners will face each other from opposite boards. Alternating sides between games.
5. Play will start at either board with all 8 bags. Each team will play with 4 bags of the same color throughout the match.
6. Opponents alternate throws until all 8 bags are in play. After all 8 bags are thrown the round is scored. The highest scoring team will then throw first.
7. Play is repeated in the same way as above to complete the 'inning'.
8. The game continues in the same way until one team scores or exceeds 10 points (Cloverbud Division) and 15 points (all other Divisions).

### **SCORING BEAN BAG VALUE**

A bag thrown in the hole is worth 3 points. A bag thrown on the board or comes to rest anywhere but in the hole or on the board is worth 1 point. A bag thrown that hits the floor prior to the board is worth 0 points, with the exception of the Cloverbud division in which a bean bag that hits the floor and any part of it comes to rest on the board will be worth 1 point.

## **WINNING THE GAME**

The game shall be played until the first team reaches (or exceeds) 15 points (10 for Cloverbuds) at the completion of an inning. The winning team does not need to win by two or more points. The game can never end in the middle of an inning. Thus, if a team that pitches first reaches or exceeds 15 points (10 for Cloverbuds), the game can not end until the other side is allowed to pitch all of their bags and the inning is completed. If the game is tied at 15 (10 for Cloverbuds) or more at the end of an inning, play continues until one team achieves a higher score at the end of an inning and wins the match.

## **THROWING THE BAGS**

The first side of contestants alternate pitching bags until they have thrown all four bags, then the remaining contestants (pitching from the other bags platform) continue to alternate in the same manner until all four bags are delivered and the inning completed. A contestant may deliver the bag from either the left or right pitchers box (3 ft. to the left or right of the box, the same length of the box) but, in any one inning, all bags must be delivered from the same pitcher's box. The team which scored in the preceding  $\frac{1}{2}$  inning shall pitch first in the next  $\frac{1}{2}$  inning. If neither team scores, the team will pitch the same as they did the previous  $\frac{1}{2}$  inning. The pitcher must maintain constant contact with the designated pitcher's box during the entire address and release of the bag.

## **FOUL BAGS**

A foul bag is a bag which was delivered in non-compliance with one of the rules of the game. It is to be removed from the board before any more bags are pitched. Bags already on the board that have been knocked into foul territory by a foul bag should be returned to the scoring area. Additionally, bags that are in-count, but are knocked into the hole by a foul bag must be returned to their original scoring position. The following are rule violations that must be spotted and called by a contestant. The penalty is to declare the bag a foul bag, which requires the bags to be removed from the board prior to resuming play.

- 1) Any bag pitched when the contestant has made contact with or crossed over the foul line before the bag is released.
- 2) A bag pitched from a different pitchers box than the first bag.
- 3) Any bag that contacted the floor or ground before coming to rest on the bags board, with the exception of the Cloverbud division.
- 4) Any bag that leaves a contestant's hand once the final forward swing of the delivery process has started shall count as a pitched corn bag. A bag that accidentally dropped by a contestant before the final forward swing has started shall not be considered foul and may be picked up and pitched. A contestant's bags shall be called foul if the contestant removes any bag before the scoring of that bag has been agreed upon.