

1st Annual Diocese of Des Moines BOLDLY SENT Dodgeball Tournament

Rules and Regulations

FORMAT: The format of the tournament will be either double elimination or pool play with single elimination bracket, to be determined on Friday, October 12th. Tournament schedule will be sent out on that date.

BALLS: Softer gator balls will be used, NOT the cheap hard plastic balls traditionally associated with dodgeball. Dodgeballs will be provided at games. If you would like to practice with what we'll play with, go to www.sswv.com, enter "8" Gator Skin Special Foam Balls (set of 6)" in the search bar.

TEAMS: A team consists of 7 high school players or 7 middle school players (there will be separate brackets), all of whom must be wearing athletic attire. Sneakers, shirts, and shorts are required. No street shoes or marking shoes will be allowed. Standard youth group dress codes for appropriate attire will be observed and all other youth group rules and code of conduct are in effect. Please refer to the youth code of conduct on the waiver form for details. We reserve the right to disqualify any team for inappropriate attire, poor sportsmanship, or conduct including but not limited to intentionally throwing the ball at an opponent's head. All jewelry must be removed prior to the start of a match. All players on the court must be listed on the registration form submitted at registration, without exceptions.

Seven players are allowed on each team, but teams can compete with as few as five if approved at registration. If your parish is not bringing at least 5 players, you may request to be grouped with a nearby parish group. Parishes cannot have any teen play on multiple teams. Each team must have at least 2 boys and 2 girls start each game on the court. If a team plays with only five or six members because of illness, injury, or sudden drop out, they must still have at least 1 boy and 1 girl on that team. It is recommended that all players wear a mouth guard during game play and when on the court.

RULES: Rules will be enforced primarily by the honor system. Players are expected to leave the court immediately after they are eliminated. Volunteer referees will be on site, and will only blow their whistles if a player does not exit the court after they have been eliminated. Youth Ministers and Parish Adult Leaders are responsible for communicating this and helping to enforce it with their teams.

All youth and adults should be polite and respectful to their teammates, their opponents, and the referees. All players are responsible for their own actions and their own conduct. Nobody is allowed to taunt or use profanity towards anyone on the premises (or in general, honestly). At the end of the game all players will line up and shake hands with one another.

GAME FORMAT: A match consists of one game. Each game will last a maximum of 7 minutes. The game is over when all of one team's players are eliminated, or if time elapses, the team with the most players left wins. If, after time has expired, there is a tie, then there be a two-minute sudden-death period between the remaining players where the first team to have a player eliminated loses. If there is still a tie then it is a double sudden-death overtime in which there will be a "duel" between the two team captains. There will be no re-matches, and all calls by referees are final.

Six balls will be used. Officials will place all six balls at the mid-court line. Players must start behind their own baseline before the start of play. Play will commence upon the sounding of the referee's whistle. Any or all members of either team may try and gain possession of any of the six balls located at the mid-

court line. Once in play, the balls must be carried back to the end line, then play can begin. In other words, a ball can't be thrown until it is carried back to the end line.

All players are confined by the out of bounds lines. Players may intentionally leave the playing area on their own side of the court to retrieve a ball. Players retrieving balls must quickly return with the ball to the court. If a player goes out of bounds to avoid getting hit by a ball, the official will call them out. If a ball is thrown out of bounds, it must be given to the team that is on that side. Players must not have either foot on or across the mid-court line or out of bounds lines throughout the game. Anyone breaking the plane of the line will be deemed eliminated. For the sake of your practicing, we'll be on basketball courts.

A player will be eliminated when at least one of the following occurs:

1. They are struck below the neck by a ball thrown by their opponent (the player will still be considered eligible if they or a teammate catch the ball before it hits the ground).
2. The ball they throw is caught (before it hits the ground or wall) by someone on the opposing team. If this happens, the opposing team also gets a player back from elimination, in the order in which they were eliminated. A ball is considered dead once it hits the floor or wall. It must be a direct hit in order to consider the person out of the game. Deflections off the floor, wall, bleachers, rafters, and ceiling do not count as an out if caught. Deflections off a teammate—where the ball does not hit the ground or wall before hitting the second player do count, and both players would be out.
3. They step out of bounds in an attempt to avoid being hit by a ball.
4. They drop a blocking ball while using it to block.

Once a player is out, they must immediately leave the court and stand in the elimination area in the order in which they were eliminated. If a player is stalling or making no attempt to play a ball on the ground, they will first be given a warning. If the stall continues, the player will be ordered to roll the ball to the other side by the referee.

YOUTH MINISTER/PARISH ADULT LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES: If time allows, at the end of the tournament there will be an adult bracket. All of the same rules and formatting apply here as well, and any priest, vicar, seminarian, deacon, brother, sister, college student, young adult, Core team member, catechist, parent, or volunteer is allowed to be on the team. As always, EVERY adult must be able to show ID on site and proof of Safe Environment certification, as well as pass a background check. They must be registered by the same date as the youth teams.

During the games, you are expected to be present when your team(s) is/are playing, for two reasons: to cheer them on and accompany them in their efforts, and to supervise for proper conduct and address any issues that arise. You are responsible for addressing and resolving any issues of conduct your youth may be involved in.