

# **Dodgeball Rules**

#### **Basics**

- Samford ID must be shown to an Intramural Sports staff member to check into the match.
- A team has won a game when they have one or more players in play and all the players on the other team are out.
- Matches are played in a best-of-5 game series. 6 balls will be used.
- Each game in the series is 6v6. A team can have a minimum of 4 players. A forfeit will be recorded if a team does not have at least 4 players. Grace period of 5 minutes may be given.
- Substitutions are unlimited but can only occur between games. All players must be on the roster to participate.
- COED The official gender ratio is 3/3. That is, at most 3 players of any one gender may be on the court at once.
- OPEN May be played with any gender with no modifications. May be played with 6 men. May be played with 6 women. May be played with 5 men and 1 woman. (etc.)
- There is a 3-minute maximum time per game. After the first two minutes, the court will be moved into a smaller space for the last-minute remaining. Play will be paused while this transition of courts takes place. If there is an even number of opponents left at the conclusion of the 3 minutes, the game will then move to sudden victory. The next team to lose a player on the court, will lose the game.

### Court

- Games are played within the basketball court lines. If the game is still occurring after 2 minutes, play will be paused and moved into the volleyball court lines.
- In all cases, the line is considered in play, but if any part of a player's body touches the ground outside/over the line, they have crossed it.

## Gameplay

- Each game is set up with the 6 players from each team behind their own end line. The 6 balls are placed on the middle line. An official will then countdown "3, 2, 1, GO!" and players can then run to the middle to get balls.
- If someone leaves their line early, they must give the ball they retrieved to the other team. Each player may only take one ball from the middle. They must take the ball back to their end line before they are allowed to throw it at the other team.
- Players may use a ball they are holding to block balls that are thrown at them. If, however, a ball deflects
  off of this "blocking ball" and hits someone (themselves included), the person who was hit is out. And if a
  player blocks a throw with a ball and it causes them to drop the ball, they are out.
- As soon as a ball hits the ground, it can no longer cause anyone to be out. That is, it cannot be caught or hit anyone on a short hop and get them out.
- If Team X is playing Team Y and all the balls are on Team Y's side of the court, Team Y has 10 seconds to get at least one ball to Team X's side.

- A player who is out-of-bounds at the time of an opponent's throw cannot get out by being hit by that ball.
   Neither can they catch that ball (rather it has no effect if they do catch it).
- Players may go out-of-bounds at any time to retrieve balls. However, if Player A tries to go out-of-bounds right before Player B throws at him/her to become an ineligible target, Player A is out for attempting to abuse the out-of-bounds safe zone. ONLY ONE PLAYER MAY BE OUT OF BOUNDS AT ONE PARTICULAR TIME.
- A player with any part of their body on the court (i.e. one foot) is an eligible target.
- Players may only reenter the court from out-of-bounds via their end line.

# **How Players Can Get Out**

- By getting hit with a ball thrown by the other team. This includes clothing (i.e. grazing a shirt or shorts). If the player was out of bounds when the ball was thrown, or it was a headshot (these cases are addressed below), they are not out.
- One throw can get any number of players out. That is, if a player from Team X throws a ball at Team Y and it ricochets hitting three different players on Team Y before hitting the ground or a wall (net) all the players hit by the ball are out.
- By stepping over the middle line at any point during the game (touching the ground on the other side of the court).
- By throwing a ball that is caught by the other team (catching is covered in more detail below).
- By "blocking" with a ball and dropping it (as mentioned above).
- By going out of bounds in the process of dodging (again, addressed in detail below).

# **Points of Subjection**

- CATCHES: Player A throws a ball at the opposing team (Team X). If the ball is caught by anyone on the opposing team before it hits the ground or a wall (net), Player A is out and the player who has been out the longest on Team X gets to return to play. This includes any number of deflections off anything other than the ground or wall (net). However, only players who were not out-of-bounds at the time of Player A's throw are eligible to catch the ball. Ineligible players may not aid in catching in any way. Players may go out-of-bounds in the process of catching a ball and, if they succeed, it is a valid catch and the player who made the catch is still in. Any time a player is going for a catch even if out-of- bounds that player is an eligible target.
- DODGING OUT-OF-BOUNDS: If a player goes out-of-bounds while dodging a throw, they are out. This is defined as follows: A ball or balls are thrown at Player A:
  - Player A is not out if they have finished dodging (i.e. there are no more balls in the air that have yet to reach them) and landed solidly in bounds. This means they have landed with two feet or a large portion of their body (i.e. their side or their butt) completely in bounds. If, after this "landing", their momentum carries them out-of-bounds or they fall backwards onto their hands out-of-bounds, they are still not out.
  - Player A is out if any part of their body touches out-of-bounds before all balls thrown at them
    have gone past them (are no longer a danger of hitting them) or if they fail to establish a legal
    "landing" after their dodge (i.e. they jump to dodge and land with one foot in bounds and one foot
    over the line).
- HEADSHOTS: If Player A throws a ball at Player B and it hits player B in the head:
  - Player A is out if Player B did not move their head at all in the vertical plane while attempting to dodge.

Player B is out if Player B moved their head vertically (up or down) whilst dodging.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Sportsmanship is vital to the success of each and every program we offer to the university community. In order to encourage proper conduct before, during and after a scheduled contest, the Intramural Sports Department has developed a rating system. The rating procedure is as follows:

## Acceptable Rating (3)

The team exhibits respect and cooperation and sporting behavior towards all sport programs staff, teammates, and opponents. The team has no issues or minor disagreements with the judgement of the officials. Captain demonstrates control over spectators, teammates, and him/herself.

# Average Rating (2)

The team exhibits some respect and cooperation towards all sports programs staff, teammates, and opponents. The team has several minor disagreements with the judgement of the officials.

Captain demonstrates mild or little control over spectators, teammates, and him/herself. Teams receiving one unsportsmanlike penalty fall into this category as well.

### Unacceptable Rating (1)

The team does not exhibit respect and cooperation with unsporting behavior towards any sport programs staff, teammates, and opponents. The team displays issues and disagreements with officials. Captain demonstrates no control over spectators, teammates, and him/herself. Teams receiving more than one unsportsmanlike penalty fall into this category as well.

If a team receives two unacceptable ratings in a season, the team will be removed from the league and have to meet with the Sports Programs Office. Teams may face additional suspension and sanctions for one unacceptable rating depending on the situation and severity of the incident.