

# Autumnfest Youth Dodgeball Tournament

## Rules & Regulations

### How can I participate in this event?

- Registrations for all players will take place between 10:30-11:15am on Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup> at the Basketball Courts, WWII Memorial Park,(East School St) Woonsocket RI 02895
- **Registration will close promptly at 11:15am. No additional registrations will be accepted after 11:15am.**
- **All players are required to present a signed parental consent form in order to register for this event. No Exceptions...**
- Teams will be formed from the registered players at 11:15 on the event day.
- The Elementary School Division (2 categories) shall consist of grades 3 thru 5.
- The Middle School Division (2 categories) shall consist of Grade 6 thru 8.
- There shall be 2 age-related categories in each division. The age-related categories will be determined by age, ability, and size. Players will compete within their own category of which the winner shall be determined as the Champions. There will be 4 Championship Teams. Each Championship Team members will receive an Autumnfest Dodgeball Champion T-Shirt.

### The Playing Field

- All games will be played on Saturday starting at 11:30am at World War II Memorial Park in the new basketball courts during the Autumnfest Columbus Day Weekend.

### Dodgeball Terminology

- **LIVE Area:** Is the court area where players are positioned to start the game. LIVE Players will play there until they have been determined OUT.
- **OUT Area:** The area located in the back court area where OUT players must now play. This area is located behind the opposing team's LIVE Area.
- **OUT Player:** A player that has been struck by the ball and the ball has touch the ground.
- **LIVE Player:** A player that has NOT been struck by a ball which was thrown by the opposing team and has touched the ground. LIVE players are located in the LIVE Area. All players start in the LIVE Area.
- **Saved Player:** If a player/players have been struck by the ball which was thrown by the opposing team and caught before touching the ground, that player/players will be saved from being determined an OUT Player.
- **Referee:** A game official who will officiate each game to assure the rule and regulations are enforced. Only the team captain can approach the referee to question a rule or call made by the referee. Unresolved matters will be decided by the tournament coordinators which will be final.

- **Five Second Violation:** No player can hold a ball for longer than five seconds. If determined by an official, the player must roll the ball on the ground to the opposing team area.
- **Time Limit:** This ruling has been put in place to assure that the tournament schedule is maintained. The team with the most LIVE Players at the 15 minute time limit will be determined the game winner. This ruling does not apply to the any final championship game.
- **LIVE Throw Line:** Also known as the center court line. No LIVE player can cross this line. If so done, the player's throw is determined dead by the referee.
- **OUT Throw Line:** Also known as the back court line. No OUT player can cross this line. If so done, the player's throw is determined dead by the referee.

## The Game

- The object of the game is to eliminate all the opposing LIVE players by getting them "OUT".
- A player will be declared "OUT" when struck by the ball thrown by the opposing team which touches the ground. If the ball strikes multiple players, and touches the ground, all players struck are declared "OUT".
- A player/players may be saved if a member of the same team catches the ball before it touches the ground.
- Once a player has been determined OUT, he or she is NOT to be hit by a ball. If so, the thrower will be determined OUT and subject to removal from the tournament by the referee or the tournament coordinators.

## The Boundaries

- During the game, No player is allowed to cross the Live Throw Line for any purpose.
- Players may leave the side boundaries to retrieve a stray ball but must return to the LIVE Area before they can throw the ball.
- Once a player is OUT, they must immediately proceed to the rear of the opposing team back court area. From that position, the out player may still play but never cross the back court line.
- Out players cannot return to LIVE status.
- No player is allowed to cross the center to throw or retrieve a ball. If a player crosses the center line, the ball is considered dead.
- No player is allowed to cross the back court line once an out player is in the backcourt area. No out player can cross the back court line to throw or retrieve a ball. If so, the ball will be declared dead and must be released.

## The Equipment

- The Elementary School Division will utilize a No-Sting 6" Rhino Skin Dodgeball.
- The Middle School Division will utilize both 6" No-Sting Dodgeballs and 8.5" Mikasa Rubber Dodgeballs. A total of 6 balls will be utilized in a game.
- Players may utilize protective gear i.e. helmet, gloves, groin protector, elbow pads, faceguard. Protective gear is subject to the referee's approval.
- Team players will be identified by wearing a colored wrist band.
- Team apparel must be safe and appropriate. No inappropriate attire or expressed politically incorrect language will be allowed. All subject matters will be determined by the tournament coordinators. All decisions are final.

## **The Starting Rush**

- The game will begin at the referee's whistle with 6 balls being placed on the LIVE Throw Line. The LIVE Players must have one foot on the OUT Throw Line in their court.

## **Safety**

- **As always, safety and sportsmanship will be strictly enforced.**
- NO HEAD SHOTS will be allowed at any time within the tournament grounds. Violators could be removed from the tournament subject to the referee and/or tournament coordinators decision. We understand, that players may get hit as they avoid being hit and inadvertently being struck in the head. The officials will make that determination which result in a warning with the LIVE Throwing Player being determined OUT or being ejection from the tournament for willfully attempting to injure a player.
- All shots/throws will be directed BELOW the shoulders. Any player determined by the officials to willfully intend to injure could be removed from the tournament.

## **Rules Enforcement**

- During the game, players are expected to be on the Honor System. Players are expected to self-rule as to whether or not they have been hit and determined OUT. Referees are there to enforce all rules & regulations were teams cannot agree on. **The official's decision is final.**

## **Winning the Game**

- The first team to legally eliminate all of the opposing teams LIVE Players, shall be determined the winner.
- Dive, Duck, Dodge, Dip and Keep Your Head UP!!!

## **Winning the Championship**

- This is a double elimination tournament. The loss of two games will eliminate a team from the tournament.
- Dodgeball Championship T-Shirts will be awarded to each Elementary and Middle School Age-Related Category Champions.

## **Code of Conduct**

- Team members must understand, appreciate and abide by the tournament rule and regulations.
- Respect the integrity and judgement of the game officials
- Respect the opponents and congratulate them in a courteous manner following each game, whether in victory or defeat.
- Be responsible for your actions and maintain self-control
- Do not taunt or bait opponents and refrain from using foul or abusive language.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should there be any questions or concerns. You contact me cell at 401 527-8959 or e-mail at [rtsavaria@cox.net](mailto:rtsavaria@cox.net).

Cheryl Savaria  
Autumnfest Sporting Event Coordinator