



1 – Cornhole rules for equipment

Bean bags – Dimension of each bag is about 6 x 6 inches and it weighs about 15-16 ounces (~450 grams). If you are creating a bag by yourself using some DIY tutorial, you can get corn feed at any tractor supply or local feed shop. Insert 1 pound of whole kernel corn into each bag – which is about 2 cups.

However, if you want it to be water-resistant then put recycled plastic resin pellets, this will also extend the lifetime of the bags.

Each team must have different bag colours. So make sure that 4 bags are made out of one colour and other 4 out of different colour. You can use any colour that is easy to spot. We suggest that bag colours are opposite of board colour. That way it will be much easier to see the exact spot of the bag on the board.

Boards – the standard board measurement is 24 x 48 inches with a rectangle shape.

The position of the hole should be width centred 9 inches from the top and 12 inches away from each side edge. The hole size should be 6 inches in diameter.

The front side of the board should be 4 inches high from the ground while the backside should be 12 inches high. The board should be placed on a flat surface. The angle of the board surface and back leg should be 90 degrees.

2 – How to play Cornhole instructions

Doubles – team competes against other teams where each team has two players, also known as team partners. So in doubles, there are 4 players in total – 2 versus 2. Each player of a team pitches bags from opposite platform, but on the same side. So at one cornhole platform, on each side, there is a player from a different team. Like in singles, each cornhole team should have 4 bags in one colour.

Each team must stay in the same lane in which they started the first round. They can not change lanes during the whole game. You are allowed to throw a beanbag underhand in cornhole. Every overhand, above the head or two hand release is considered to be a foul.

If there are too many bags already inside the hole making it impossible for another bag to fall into the hole, a player may ask for bags to be raked out of the board, so that other bags can fall into the hole as well. It's important that during a rake neither of the bags that are currently on the board surface is moved. Even those that are hanging in the hole edge can not be moved. If the bag accidentally falls into the hole during a rake, it's calculated as a 3 point strike.

Who throws first in the first round? Well, a coin flip will decide. For each next round, the winner of the previous round has the honour to throw first. The bag is thrown alternately until players have thrown all 8 bags (4 per each player).

In doubles, first, the players at one platform alternately throw bags while players on the opposite platform keep the score. In the next round, they switch sides. Now the ones that were keeping the score throw bags, and the others that were throwing the bags now keep the score.

The player must throw using the same arm during the whole game unless it's a medical injury so he/she needs to switch hands.

Each contestant has a maximum of 20 seconds to throw a bag. The time starts once a player has entered the pitching box.

Each player must remain in their pitcher box when pitching a bag. If a player steps out of the pitching box while throwing a bag it's considered as a foul. In

that case team of the player who caused the foul gets 0 points for that bag pitch and if the bag landed onboard it should be immediately removed.

If you are playing on a cornhole tournament, a common-sense rule is that you can not vocally disturb opponents or distract them in any way. If it happens, you will receive a warning from the tournament judge. If you continue to distract opponents, you will be disqualified.

This is the list of rule violations that should result in the bag being removed from the court. Off course any bag that is removed doesn't carry any points. Tournament judge or contestant can report any of the following rule violations:

- Player stepped on or crossed the foul line before tossing a bag
- Corn bag was thrown 20 seconds after stepping into the pitching box or when it was players turn. It results in the player being out of turn
- Player changed pitching box in the same round
- Bag on the board surface that is touching the ground is a foul bag and carries 0 points
- If a corn bag ends anywhere but on the cornhole board (example: tree, lawn or on other objects) it's considered to be a foul bag and also carries 0 points
- If a corn bag accidentally falls out of player's hand when a bag wasn't being tossed, then it's not considered to be a foul. However, if a bag was dropped after the swing then it's a foul bag. Again, the foul bag carries zero points and should be removed immediately
- If a bag hits the ground first and then jumps onto the cornhole board it's considered to be a foul bag

3 – Scoring rules

According to traditional rules, the game is played until one team reaches or exceeds 21 points. The team who first reaches 21 points wins.

Scoring is calculated at the end of each round.

Round (or frame) is considered to be completed once all cornhole bags are thrown.

Scoring breakdown:

- Bag goes directly in the hole = **3 points**
- Bag was on the surface and ended in the hole after being hit by another bag = **3 points**
- Bag stays on cornhole board surface = **1 point**
- Bag is almost in the hole (hanging a bit in) = **1 point**
- Bag hanging on the edge of a cornhole board but not touching the ground = **1 point**
- Bag is on the board but is touching the ground (this bag needs to be removed before continuing the game) = **0 points**
- Also if a bag is on the board but is touching a bag that is already off the surface = **0 points**

But there is one exception to this. If a bag that is off the surface can be removed with another bag, then the bag that was previously touching the bag that was on the surface is not touching it anymore. So, 1 point goes to the hanging bag.

Foul bags – the cancellation of scoring when a player breaks a rule. Foul bags simply don't carry any points. Basically, if a bag is not in the hole or on the board (while not touching the ground) it is considered to be foul bag and gets 0 points. If a bag is touching the ground but still on the surface board, if it's not on the board at all and if the players have stepped on a foul line the bag is considered to be foul! If a foul bag moved non-foul bag into a foul zone (for example, off the board), the bag that was previously non-foul should be returned to the original position and the foul bag needs to be removed. Once all the bags are thrown, the round ends.

Round score = Score of the highest-scoring team – Score of the lowest-scoring team

Example: Team A scores 7 – Team B scores 5 = Team A adds 2 points to the overall score.

Team with the highest score adds the point difference to the total game score.

Round winner has the honour to throw first in the next round.

If the round score is equal, then the team who was previously throwing first continues to do so in the next round.

In the round robin stage throwing order will be decided by a coin flip.

The higher seeded team will get to throw second

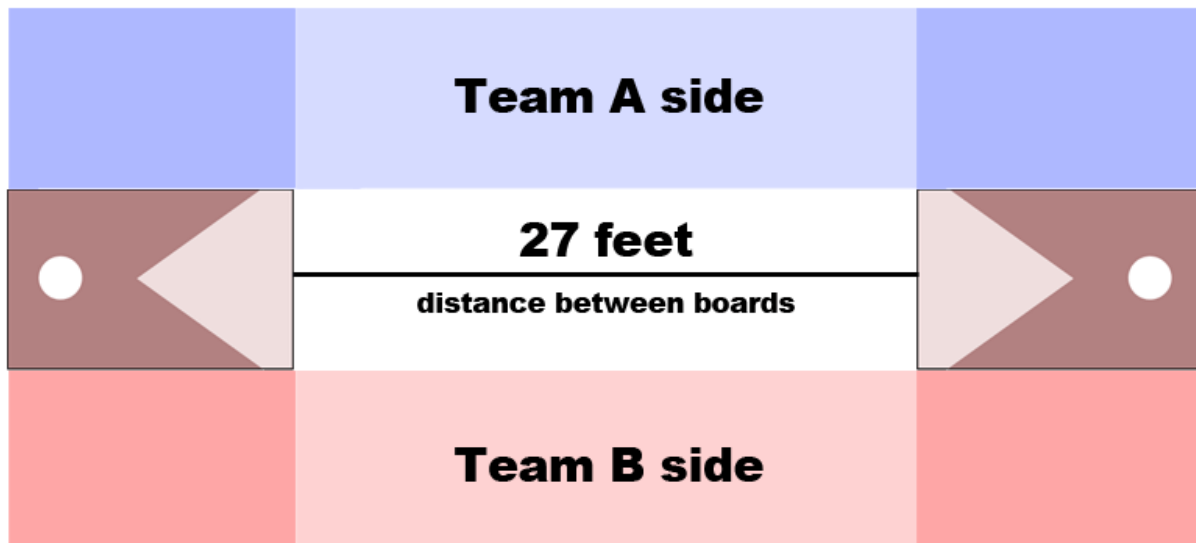
If a player spots irregularities during a tournament, the player can approach the scorer to resolve an issue. Otherwise, if the scoring issue can't be resolved so that both teams are satisfied, a tournament judge must be called to give the final decision.

4 – Cornhole court regulations

You can play it anywhere as long as the distance between cornhole boards is 27 feet (front to the front of a board) and it can be placed on a flat surface. For kids (juniors), the distance between boards can be lowered to 15 feet.

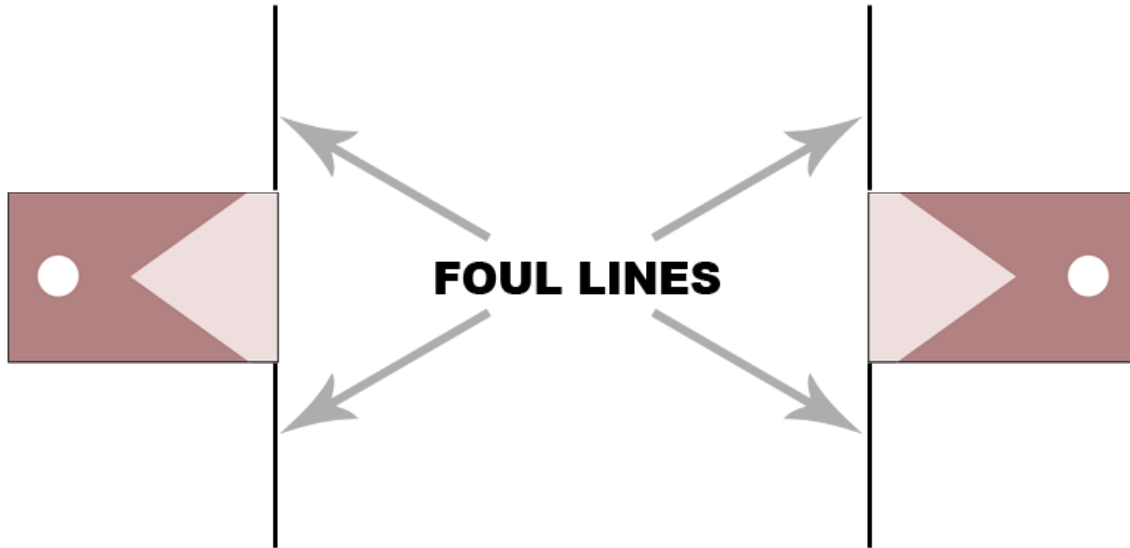
However, if you intend to play cornhole indoor make sure that the distance between the roof and board is at least 12 feet. Indoor cornhole rules and regulations are the same as when played outside.

If there are two or more cornhole games played at the same area or yard, make sure that each cornhole court is separated from others by at least 10 feet. This is to ensure safety and that bags don't go into other courts.



Also, you need to clearly mark pitch boxes for each of the 4 players. The front end of a pitch box is called foul line.

Players can not cross the foul line when tossing a bag.



Foul lines of each pitching box

So make sure that the place where you are playing cornhole has enough width so that two players can stand on the left and right side of the board. That area is called pitcher box. It has the same dimension as cornhole board (4 x 3 feet) and it's located on the left and right side next to the board. Pitcher box is the place in which player should stand when tossing a bag. Take a look at the image below:



Pitching boxes for doubles

Players should not make changes to cornhole court during a match without permission of the opponent's team. This is to ensure distraction-free playing.

Every other accessory, such as scoreboard or drink holders, should be placed behind players and boards outside the court in order to ensure maximum concentration of the players without any distractions.

The official scoring method is a cancellation. A team wins the game when its score reaches or goes past 21.

Skunk: A skunk win happens when you outnumber your opponent by 13-0 or 7-0.

A score above 21: If you go above 21 during an inning, you will be reverted to 13 or 11 points, and the game will continue. This scoring method is used by players who like playing for extended times.

Win by 2 or more Points: You must have a lead of 2 or more points to win the game at the end of an inning. The game continues until one team leads by at least 2 points.

Tie Breaker: A tie breaker is used when both teams have a score of 21 at the end of an inning. The game continues until one team gets the lead, and the final score is decided according to the scoring version followed for gameplay. Do you have any comments, suggestions or strategy on how to play cornhole? Please feel free to share them in the comment section below