**RULES –CORNHOLE RULES**

* Cornhole will offer Singles Play and Unified Doubles Play.
* Unified Cornhole will be Open competition divisioned by Level & Age.
* Unified Doubles Teams will consist of one Special Olympics Athlete and one Special Olympics Unified Partner.
* Tournament Format will consist of at least 2 games guaranteed.
* **Glossary of Terms**
* **Pitch** – Underhand toss of the bag toward the board in play.
* **Frame** – time period when 1 member of each Team pitches their 4 bags.
* **Inning** – period of time it takes for all 4 members to pitch their bags.
* **Top of the Inning** – time period for one member of each Team to pitch their 4 bags toward the board – both pitching toward the same board in alternating pitches.
* **Bottom of the Inning** - time period for the other members of each Team to pitch their 4 bags toward the board – both pitching toward the same board in alternating pitches.
* **Woody** – refers to any Cornhole bag that has been pitched and remains on the Cornhole board playing surface at the conclusion of the frame. *Each Woody is 1 point*
* **Cornhole** – refers to any Cornhole bag that has been pitched and passes through the hole at any time within the frame. *Each Cornhole is 3 points*
* **Foul Bag** – a bag that comes to rest touching the board AND the ground – or a bag that touches the ground before coming to rest on the board - does **not** count as a point.
* **Equipment**
	+ Cornhole Boards will be 2’ wide & 4’ long.
	+ The hole will be 6” in diameter – centered 9” from the top of the board.
	+ A foul line will run 3’ wide perpendicular on either side at the front of each platform.
	+ The front of the board shall be 3”- 4” from top to bottom.
	+ The back of the board shall be approximately 12” from the ground to the highest point of the deck.
	+ The bags shall be made from 2 fabric squares 6.25” x 6.25” with a stitched seam on all 4 sides.
	+ Each bag shall be filled with approximately 2 cups of feed corn or plastic or resin pellets, and finished bags should be roughly 6 square inches and weigh 14-16 ounces.

**Cornhole Levels**

* + - Level 1 – Ages 8 – 11 and Athletes using a Wheelchair

Courts shall be 18 feet apart from front of the board to the front of opposite board. Oldest player on the team determines the age of the team.

*\* An 11 year old athlete and 12 year old partner do not qualify for Level 1.*

All participants in Level 1 will throw from the 18’ mark.

* + - Level 2 – Ages 12+ - Courts shall be 27 feet apart from front of the board to front of the opposite board.
		- Athletes must be able to throw their own bags unassisted – from the appropriate distance for their Level.

**Field of Play**

* Boards are placed 27 feet from front edge to front edge.
* Games are played to 21 or more points or a set time limit – whichever comes first.
* Unified Doubles Play – Team A competes against Team B – 2 people per Team.
* Each Unified Doubles team has a team member at opposite boards to play.

**The Game**

* A flip of the coin will start the game. Winner will pitch first. Loser will choose the lane to play in for the first inning.
* Each team member will play from their same lane for an entire inning, then Teams will switch lanes for the next inning.
* Singles will play from their same lane for an entire inning, Pitching 4 bags, walking to other end and pitching 4 bags back. Alternating sides at the start of each inning.
* Team members – at opposite boards – alternate pitching their bags until each team member has pitched all 4 of their bags.
* If a pitched bag hits the ground before landing on the board, that pitch is foul and the bag must immediately be removed from the board.
* If a pitched bag is partially on the board, but touching the ground in any way, it is foul and must immediately be removed from the board.
* When not actively pitching – participants must be behind the back line of the set of boards where they are playing to stay out of the way of those pitching.
* Players must deliver the bag with an underhand release.
* Players have 20 seconds to pitch their bag once their turn comes.
* Players may not step on or over the foul line when pitching.
* An official will keep & record the score for both Teams at the end of each frame.
* The game is over when a Team scores 21 or more points. If 21 is reached but the frame is not over, play will continue until all 4 bags of each Team have been pitched.
* The Team who scored in the previous frame shall pitch first in the next frame. If no Team scored, the Team who pitched first in the previous frame pitches first.

**Cancellation Scoring**

* The points of one player cancel out the points of their opponent in a frame.
* Using this method of scoring, only one Team can score each frame.
	+ Example:
	+ Team A scores 1 woody & 2 cornholes during the frame – 7 total points
	+ Team B scores 2 woodies & 0 cornholes during the frame – 2 total points
	+ 7 points minus 2 points = Team A scores 5 points for that frame.

