

2nd Annual Archdiocese of Washington Dodgeball Tournament



Double Elimination Tournament or Pool Play: the format of the tournament, either double elimination or pool play with single elimination bracket, determined on Friday, March 22nd, and including in the tournament schedule 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. To purchase: go to <http://www.ssw.com>, and enter "8" Gator Skin® Special Foam Balls (set of 6)" in the search bar.

1. A team consists of 7 high school players, all of whom must be wearing athletic attire. Sneakers, shirts, and shorts are required. No street shoes or marking shoes will be allowed. All teams must be in uniform/matching attire. Although we strongly encourage creativity with uniforms, please note that this is a church sponsored event and standard youth group dress code 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 the match. All players on the court must be listed on the registration form submitted at registration – no exceptions. This is a high school tournament and we also allow 8th grade students to help them connect with other youth from the parish. Seven players per team, however, teams can compete with as few as five if approved at registration. Acceptable reasons for less than seven players: illness, injury, or sudden drop out. Teams cannot have any student play on multiple teams. Each team must have at least 2 guys and 2 girls start on the court. (If a team plays with only five or six students because of an illness, injury, or sudden drop out, they must still have at least 1 guy 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 will be enforced primarily by the "honor system." Players are expected to leave the court immediately after they are eliminated. (Referees will only blow their whistles if a player does not exit the court after they have been eliminated.) Youth Ministers/Parish Adult Leaders are responsible for communicating this to their team(s).
 - All players should be polite and respectful to their teammates, their opponents, and the referees.
 - All players are responsible for his or her actions and their own conduct.
 - Players are not allowed to taunt or use profanity towards anyone on the premises.
 - At the end of the game all players will line up and shake hands with each other.
2. 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 will be a 2 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 double sudden death overtime in which there will be a "duel" between the two team captains. There will be no re-matches. All calls by referees are final.
3. 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 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.
4. **Boundary Lines:** All players are confined to 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. ***(Teams should practice within boundary lines and mid-court lines as these are frequent causes of elimination. The dodgeball court size is the same as a volleyball court.)***

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5. Individual Elimination: A player will be eliminated when at least one of the following occurs:
 - 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.)
 - The ball they throw is caught (before it hits the ground or wall) by someone on the opposite team. If this happens the opposite team also gets a player out of the penalty box. (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 are out.
 - They step out of bounds in an attempt to avoid being hit by a ball.
 - A player drops a blocking ball while using it to block. (If a player is using a ball to block a thrown shot by their opponent, they must make sure they have a firm grip on the ball they are using to block.)
6. Once a player is out, they must immediately leave the court and stand in the penalty box in the order they were eliminated.
7. 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 official.

Youth Minister/Adult Parish Leader Responsibilities:

1. Ask your pastor, parochial vicar, and any seminarians, deacons, brothers, sisters, priests, college students, Core Members, CYO coaches, and parents you know if they would like to participate in the exhibition match at the half way point of the tournament from 4:30 – 4:45 p.m. The more the merrier. Youth Ministers/Adult Parish Leaders should sign up all individuals from their parish who would like to participate in the exhibition match at the registration table. We would like to announce the names of these individuals before the game(s). Feel free to announce any local celebrities you are bringing for the exhibition match.
2. Please inform your parish youth groups of the following details: (1) they are invited to the 7:00pm Mass at St. Patrick (2) There will be a concession stand with soda, water, Gatorade, chips, and candy available for purchase – students should bring cash.
3. Collect student waivers from every student participant and keep them on your person during the match. You or the adult in charge of your group will be responsible for every member of your parish present.
4. **Submit team name, number, and \$35 for every parish team to Tex Phelps, Office of Youth Ministry, 7202 Buchanan Street, Landover Hills, MD 20784. The team registration form be received by Friday, March 22, 2019 by noon.** All participants must have a signed liability waiver before they will be permitted to participate in a match. The tournament schedule will be emailed to parish leader on Friday by 3:00pm.

Student Responsibilities:

1. Submit the Dodgeball Tournament Waiver form signed by a parent/guardian to your Youth Minister/Adult Parish Leader along with payment.
2. Dress in team uniform/matching athletic apparel – see above.
3. Bring spending money to the event for the concession stand.
4. Review the tournament rules carefully!
5. Practice, have fun, and keep participating in your parish's Youth Ministry program!