DODGEBALL RULES

Participants must present a physical copy of their UGA ID card, a picture of their UGA ID card (front and back), or their Digital Student Profile from Athena before every game... NO EXCEPTIONS!

A. COURT
   a. A player must stay in bounds, which is the area inside the lines that regulate a volleyball match.
   b. Players may only leave the boundary area to retrieve a ball. If they do, they must return immediately.

B. PLAYER SAFETY
   a. The following items are not permitted to be worn at any time while participating in IM sports:
      i. Earrings with hoops
      ii. Casts
      iii. Combat boots, five-fingered (Vibram) shoes, open-toed shoes, metal cleats
      iv. Participating without footwear
      v. Ridged or pointed jewelry which, in the opinion of the staff, may cause harm to any participant
      vi. Jewelry (rings, necklaces, ankle bracelets, watches, fitness trackers, non-hoop earrings, rubber bands, etc.) which is not prohibited by the above rules may be worn.

C. TEAMS
   a. Each team is allowed 15 players on their roster.
   b. Each team plays with 8 players on the court at a time.
   c. A minimum of 5 players are required to start the game, and to avoid a default.

D. STARTING THE GAME
   a. 6 dodgeballs will be placed at the middle line to start the game.
   b. All players must remain at their end line until the whistle blows.
   c. All players must stay on their side of the middle line.
   d. Players must return the balls past their “volleyball serving line” before throwing a ball.

E. ELIMINATION
   a. Any player hit with a ball thrown from the opposing team (shoulders and below) will be out and must exit the playing field.
      i. Balls that hit the ground first are dead balls.
   b. If an opposing player catches a ball in the air, the throwing player is eliminated and must exit the playing field.
      i. If a ball is caught, the first player who was eliminated on the team of the person who caught the ball will re-enter the game.
      ii. A player may only save themselves if a ball hits Player X, only Player X may catch the deflection to avoid being out. If this occurs, the person who threw the ball is eliminated.
   c. Eliminated players must stay in order of elimination along the sideline on their team’s side.

F. DEAD BALLS
   a. Balls that hit the ground first are considered dead.
   b. If a thrown ball deflects off a ball in a player’s possession, the ball is dead.
G. ENDING THE GAME
   a. During the match, when there are 4 players or less remaining on the court, the referee shall call OPEN COURT and players may advance anywhere on the court.
   b. Whichever team has the last player standing will win the game.
   c. The team that wins the best 3 out of 5 games will be declared the winner.

H. REFEREES
   a. Final decisions will be made by the referee.
   b. Referees will have Yellow & Red Cards to use as needed for disciplinary actions or argumentative participants.
      i. A yellow card will serve as a warning.
      ii. Two yellow cards in one match will result in a player ejection.
      iii. Three Yellow cards in a season will be a minimum one game suspension.
      iv. If a player receives a red card that player is ejected (red card), he/she will be ineligible to play in the remainder of that match and the next scheduled match.
   c. Any player caught violating this rule or any other rules/policies will face the disciplinary action listed in the IM Sports Participant Guide.

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