

Guy Fortin Co-ed Broomball Tournament

Rules & Regulations

Broomball is a game very much like hockey. In our tournament, the game is played with a non-regulation foam dodgeball a little larger than a softball. This modification helps level the playing field between teams with varying level of experience. Sticks are short with a small, plastic “broom” shaped paddle on the end. Sticks and balls will be provided by Newport Parks & Recreation. Players are encouraged to bring their own sticks if they have them. Games are played at Gardner Memorial Park on the outdoor hockey and recreational skating rinks. Newport Parks & Recreation reserves the right to revise or update tournament rules at any time.

I. Player Equipment & Requirements

- All participants must sign the tournament waiver and be 16 years or older. Participants under the age of 18 must have a guardian sign for them.
- Footwear: Rubber soled tennis or basketball type shoes suitable for running on ice are recommended. No skates, spikes, cleats or similar dangerous footwear is allowed. Broomball shoes are permitted.
- Helmets are mandatory to play. Any type of helmet can be used – bike, ski, skateboard, hockey etc.
- Knee pads, gloves, elbow pads, padded shorts, mouth guards and other protective equipment is optional, but highly recommended.
- Bulky goalie pads/leggings are not allowed in the net, but goalies may dress similar to other players with standard protective gear. Hand protection for goalies is limited to the use of mittens or gloves. Softball gloves can be used by goalies; however, no ice hockey goalie gloves or blockers can be used. The official will make the final decision on acceptable equipment. Helmets with facemasks are recommended for goalies.
- Sticks from Newport Parks & Recreation are available for use during the tournament if players do not have their own. Non-regulation game balls will be provided by Newport Parks & Rec and must be used during tournament games unless both teams consent to using a regulation broomball instead (which is harder and heavier than our recreational league ball).

II. The Game

- Broomball is played in a 6v6 format with 5 players and one goalie (mandatory) for each contest. Games will consist of two 15-minute halves running time, and one 5-minute half-time. Teams switch ends at half-time. No time-outs.
- Teams must be co-ed, up to 10 players, with a minimum of 6 on each roster. Subs are highly recommended. At least **two** of each gender must be present on the ice at all times.
- Games will begin on time to ensure punctuality of the overall tournament. Players or teams that arrive late to the start of the game will forfeit or be forced to play short-handed until more teammates arrive.
- Players may substitute anytime during play but must wait until their teammate is completely off the ice before entering the playing area. Any team found with too many players on the ice or in violation of gender rules will be subject to a 2-minute penalty.
- In the event of a tie, one 5-minute, 5v5 (no goalies) sudden death over-time will determine the winner. If there is still no victor, a winner will be decided by coin toss. This is a double elimination tournament.

III. Volunteer Officials

- Each team must declare a team captain responsible for relaying schedule and other information to teammates and reporting to the bracket station during the tournament. **Captains are responsible for officiating at least one game during the tournament if needed, or designating a teammate to do so.** Newport Parks & Recreation will appoint officials before the start of each game to keep time, facilitate the rules and keep score.
- Volunteers are NOT professional referees, and must be treated with respect regarding any call or decision made. If any team fails to do so, they will forfeit the remainder of the game. Officials have the power to make decisions on any points not specifically covered in the rules.

IV. General Rules of Play

- THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO CHECKING! Players must play the ball, not the body at all times. Sliding into opponents (both intentional and unintentional) after repeated warnings may result in a penalty. Throwing brooms or gloves is not allowed.
- The penalty for unnecessary roughness is 5 minutes. Repeat offenders will be ejected.
- If time must stop for misconduct, play will resume with a face-off at center ice. A face-off at center ice also occurs after each goal is scored and at the beginning of each period. Any face-off requires all players not facing off to be at least six (6) feet from the face-off spot. There will be no offsides or icing in this tournament.
- The ball can be passed from player to player using the stick, body or feet.
- Players may not catch the ball. They may knock it down with their hand, but if this occurs, they must be the first to play it with their broom before it touches another team member. No hand passes.
- To score, the ball must be hit with a broomball stick into the goal. No goal for a ball diverted into the goal by a player's foot or body. The entire ball must cross goal line.
- A broom may never be swung above waist height when near other players. If this results, the ball will be awarded to the opponent at the spot of the infraction for an indirect shot.
- A ball knocked out of play will be put back in play by the other team. If it's unclear who hit the ball out, a face-off will be taken at the nearest spot where the ball was last touched by a player.

V. Goalies

- Goalies can use their hands and may catch and/or freeze the ball as long as they are near the net. A goalie in possession of the ball has 5 seconds to get rid of it. Opponents must back off enough to allow the goalie to pass the ball. The goalie may not roll or throw the ball outside their half of the ice. If this occurs, possession of the ball will be given to the opponent at center ice for an indirect shot.
- The goal crease is a four (4) foot radius making a half-circle and extends from the center point of the goal line perpendicular from the front of the goal. No player (offensive or defensive), except the goalie, is allowed in the crease area. Any goal scored by an offensive player while in the crease area will be disallowed.
- A goalie leaving the goal area loses all goalie privileges.

VI. Minor Violations/Indirect Shots

The following violations will be penalized by awarding the ball to the opponent at the spot of the infraction for an indirect shot. A goal may not be scored directly from an indirect shot- the ball must be touched by a teammate or an opponent first before going into the goal. When the offensive team breaks the rule, the official shall stop play immediately and award the indirect shot. When the defensive team violates this rule, the official may hold the call (allowing offense the chance to score) until the ball has come into the possession of the defensive team.

- Playing the ball with a high stick when near others or in a dangerous manner.
- Hand passes to another team member. Players other than goalie catching/freezing the ball.
- Knocking the ball out of play.

VII. Sportsmanship

- The mission of Newport Parks & Recreation is to provide a recreational environment for the community that is safe and enjoyable. While the game atmosphere may be competitive, it is most important that we ensure participant safety, provide a fun atmosphere, and promote sportsmanlike behavior among participants and spectators. The tournament should remain good-natured at all times. Spectators are invited, but heavy drinking during the tournament is discouraged.

- The team captain is responsible for educating and informing all players and spectators affiliated with his/her team about the expectations. Anyone showing disrespect will be asked to leave, and your team may be penalized for their misconduct.
- To encourage proper conduct during games, officials, administrative personnel, and supervisors shall make decisions on whether to warn, penalize, or eject players or teams for poor sportsmanship. These decisions are final!