



AMERICAN CORNHOLE ORGANIZATION



# ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL GUIDE 16



ACO SEASON 16





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# 1 ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIALS AND ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL DEALERS



## 1.1 WHAT IS AN ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL?

An ACO Certified Official (CO) is an individual qualified to coordinate ACO World Series Regionals according to the standards set by the ACO.

### ACO Certified Officials are eligible to:

- » Coordinate ACO Regional tournaments
- » Sell ACO Memberships
- » Sell ACO Sponsorships
- » Be contracted to run various ACO Corporate activities

## 1.2 WHAT IS AN ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL DEALER?

An ACO Certified Official Dealer (COD) is an individual qualified to coordinate ACO Regionals according to the standards set by the ACO. In addition to coordinating ACO Regionals and selling ACO Memberships, CO Dealers have more benefits.

### ACO Certified Official Dealers are eligible to:

- » Coordinate ACO Regional tournaments
- » Sell ACO Memberships
- » Purchase ACO Products and Merchandise at wholesale or discounted prices
- » Purchase Regional tournaments at a discounted price
- » Sell ACO Sponsorships
- » Be contracted to run various ACO Corporate activities
- » Maintain a zip code of exclusivity

## 1.3 BENEFITS OF BECOMING AN ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL OR ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL DEALER

### ACO Certified Officials:

- » Earn money from ACO Memberships sold
- » Earn money from entry fees by coordinating ACO Regional tournaments
- » Earn commission on sponsorship sales—Many opportunities
- » Earn money by being contracted for other ACO event

### ACO Certified Official Dealers:

- » Earn money from ACO Memberships sold
- » Earn money from entry fees by coordinating ACO Regional tournaments
- » Earn exclusive rights to coordinate Regionals in your zip code
- » Purchase ACO products and merchandise at wholesale or discounted prices and sell for a profit
- » Purchase Regional tournaments at a discounted price
- » Earn commission on sponsorship sales—Many opportunities
- » Earn money by being contracted for other ACO events

### Tools for your organization - ACO Certified Officials and ACO Certified Official Dealers

Certified Official Admin Site - Online login website site which allows you to watch tutorial videos, enter and manage your ACO Members, schedule tournaments, submit results and update standings, shop the products market, and more – Everything you need to organize and run your ACO Cornhole Organization.

**NEW FOR ACO SEASON 16** - The ACO will be partnering with Scoreholio to provide tournament software. COs will be able to login to Scoreholio and choose players from the ACO database. The software will then seed the tournament for you and submit the results at its conclusion.

COs will not be required to use Scoreholio, but if they choose to use another software, they will be required to manually seed the Regionals and manually add results

ACO Certified Official FaceBook Group – The CO Facebook Group is a private group only for Certified Officials. This is where most of our communication takes place. We discuss issues, vote on items, ask questions, and more. You will have direct communication with the best tournament directors in the World.

ACO State/Country Facebook pages:





# 1 ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIALS AND ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL DEALERS



When you become an ACO Certified Official/Dealer you will be added as an editor on your ACO State Facebook page so that you can promote your cornhole organization and interact with players within your state

If you are a new international Certified Official without an existing ACO facebook page, a page will be created by the ACO and you will be added as an editor

Advertisement – Get your Cornhole organization recognized by advertising yourself and your tournaments on the main ACO website: AmericanCornhole.com, the ACO Mobile site, and on our heavily trafficked FaceBook page.

Film or livestream your own league matches, and when approved they can be added to the ACO Digital network.

Standards and guidelines for filming and submitting videos will be provided through online training

**Be the first in your area!** The ACO is growing quickly, always improving, and gaining new sponsors and partnerships. Become the first Certified Official/Dealer in your area and become established. You never know when a new opportunity within the ACO may arise!

**Become a part of the ACO Family!** Players and COs who attend ACO Regionals and Majors know what it's all about: Meeting new people, seeing old friends, sharing drinks and laughs, and experiencing the best competition on the planet!

## 1.4 CERTIFIED OFFICIAL/DEALER REQUIREMENTS

**Certified Officials/Dealers must have or create a PayPal account.** All Certified Official/Dealer purchases throughout the season will be processed through the Certified Official/Dealer login site with PayPal. Sign up for a free account at PayPal.com

**Certified Officials/Dealers must have a computer, internet access, and a working knowledge of email and basic programs.** Much of the Certified Official/Dealer's responsibility is to manage their Organization through the Certified Official/Dealer Login Site by entering Membership info and Tournament Results, and scheduling Regional tournaments. Training in these processes will be provided through video training, but prior knowledge of computer basics is essential and required.

**Certified Officials/Dealers must have or create a FaceBook profile.** Much of the communication between the ACO and Certified Officials/Dealers is done through the Certified Officials/Dealers private page on Facebook.

## 1.5 TERRITORY EXCLUSIVITY

### ACO Certified Official Dealers Only.

All Certified Official Dealers maintain an area of exclusivity, in which no additional Certified Officials will be added, and no other Certified Officials will be permitted to coordinate ACO Regional tournaments.

#### Guidelines:

- » During registration, the new Certified Official Dealer will be asked to name their "home base" zip code
- » The home base zip code is not required to be affiliated with a home address, venue address, tournament address, etc. The only restriction is that it may not already be claimed by another CO Dealer
- » No other Certified Officials/Dealers will be permitted to coordinate Regional tournaments within the home base zip code
- » Certified Official Dealers who wish to renew for the following season will be given the right of first refusal on all previously claimed zip codes.
- » Certified Official Dealers may acquire additional zip codes to add to their existing zip codes and/or zip codes in an entirely new area by purchasing additional New Certified Official Dealers Packages





# 1 ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIALS AND ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL DEALERS



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** For each new territory acquired, the CO Group must coordinate a minimum of 6 Regionals in that territory during the Season.

**NOTE:** Based on population density, player base, Commissioner and CO input, etc., the ACO reserves the right to grant access to additional zip codes or deny access to open zip codes.

## 1.6 HOW TO BECOME A NEW ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL

It's simple and FREE! – Just complete the ACO Certified Official steps on AmericanCornhole.com. The website will walk you through the steps!

*The steps include:*

- » Completing and submitting your ACO Certified Official Application/NDA
- » Finding an open zip code to coordinate events
- » Completing and submitting your ACO Certified Official Exam
- » Completing and submitting the final info form
- » Congratulations! You are an ACO Certified Official!

## 1.7 HOW TO BECOME AN ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL DEALER

*Application:*

- » Once you complete the ACO Certified Official steps above and receive your ACO Login credentials, you visit the ACO Market and purchase the ACO Certified Official Dealer package for \$250
- » Directions on this process are also available in the ACO Video Tutorial Library in the ACO login site

*Renewal:*

- » \$50, and covers the first two COs in the group. After the initial two Cos, each additional CO joining a CO Dealer group, must also purchase the \$50 renewal.
- » Must have been a Certified Official Dealer during ACO Season 14 to qualify
- » Includes player Membership
- » All renewals must take the ACO Season 15 Certified Official Exam before renewing

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

Each Group can have an unlimited number of Certified Officials. To add a Certified Official to your group, simply have the new CO go through the Certified Official steps on AmericanCornhole.com and list your organization as the group they will be joining on the final info page.

Free COs add additional COs for free.

Dealers add additional Dealers for \$50 each.

ACO Certification will be valid thru July 31st, 2021.

## 1.8 I'VE BEEN CERTIFIED! NOW WHAT?

*Once your certification has been approved, your Group:*

- » Will be added to our online directory of ACO Certified Officials/Dealers
- » Will be added to the private ACO Certified Official Facebook Group page. The FB Group is a forum exclusively for COs to ask questions, interact with other COs from around the country, vote on issues, receive early notifications, and more.
- » Will be set up as an Organization in the ACO Members Login site
- » Training on all processes are provided through online video tutorials.
- » When you login in for the first time as a Certified Official, go to the "Tools" tab and click on video #1

*ACO Certified Officials are now eligible to:*

- » Host ACO Regional tournaments
- » Sell ACO Memberships
- » Sell ACO Sponsorships
- » Be contracted to run various ACO Corporate activities

*ACO Certified Officials Dealers are now eligible to:*

- » Host ACO World Series Regional tournaments
- » Sell ACO Memberships
- » Purchase ACO Products and Merchandise at wholesale or discounted prices
- » Purchase Regional tournaments at a discounted price
- » Sell ACO Sponsorships
- » Be contracted to run various ACO Corporate activities





# 2 ACO MEMBERSHIP



## 2.1 IMPORTANT - NEW FOR ACO SEASON 16 – ACO MEMBERSHIP

**ACO Majors:** ACO Membership is not required for participation in any Division at ACO Majors, however, players will NOT be eligible to receive points or prizes/prize money unless they have a paid Membership PRIOR to the start of the tourney. Points will not be retroactively added after the tournament has passed.

### Exception

- » Only for the month of September 2020- Players may participate in ACO Majors without a Membership, but still receive their points. To receive points, they must purchase a Membership from their Certified Official at their first Regional, prior to October 1, 2020.

**ACO Regionals:** ACO Certified Officials will be able to choose their own Membership option when scheduling their Regional.

*At the time of scheduling a Regional, Certified Officials will be given two options under their tournament listing. The tourney listing will be listed on the public ACO Schedule, Americancornhole.com and ACO FaceBook.*

- » Option #1 - Non-ACO members may participate, but will not be eligible for points or prizes
- » Option #2 - All players must have an ACO Membership to participate

Each CO chooses the option for their Regional.

Only for the month of September - Players may participate in an ACO Major without a Membership, but still receive their points. To receive the points, they must purchase a Membership from their Certified Official at their first Regional.

## 2.2 ACO WORLD MEMBERSHIP COST:

- Price for Certified Official = \$25
- Recommended resale to players = \$35
- Online at AmericanCornhole.com = \$50

## 2.3 ACO MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

### ACO World Members:

- » Allows participation in all Divisions and grants eligibility to earn points and prizes/prize money: World Singles Division, World Doubles Division, World Seniors Division, World Womens Division, World Juniors Division, World Womens Doubles Division, World Seniors Doubles Division Coed Division Division, Blind Draw Division
- » Are added to all eligible online ACO Standings lists
- » Are eligible to earn ACO World Standings points at ACO Regionals and ACO Majors
- » Are eligible to earn prizes and/or money purses at ACO Regionals and ACO Majors when available
- » Receive a welcome email with login credentials to access to the ACO Members Site which allows them to view their own Season stats and manage their player profile
- » Are eligible to be invited to compete in the ACO World Championships of Cornhole 16
- » Are CornyForty eligible
- » Are TopGun Twenty eligible
- » Are eligible to earn player or team of Season





# 2 ACO MEMBERSHIP



## 2.4 HOW TO BECOME AN ACO-PRO PLAYER

*ACO-PRO status is only achievable through World Singles play. To achieve ACO-PRO status, a player needs to accomplish one of the following goals:*

- » Finish ACO SEASON 16 ranked in the top 80 of the ACO World Singles Standings
- » Finish in the Top 96 in World Singles at the ACO World Championships of Cornhole 16

*Players who achieve ACO-PRO status are:*

- » Eligible to purchase an ACO-PRO Jersey
- » Eligible for ACO-PRO Only Invitational tournaments or Events that may arise

### IMPORTANT NOTE:

Once a player achieves ACO-PRO status, they will retain an active status for the following 2 Seasons

Players who achieved ACO-PRO status at any time in the past may be subject to tournament or divisional restrictions

## 2.5 ACO WORLD SINGLES CHAMPIONS

*ACO World Singles Champions will receive:*

- » Lifetime ACO-PRO status
- » Lifetime ACO Membership
- » Lifetime unlimited free entries to the ACO World Championships, ACO Majors, and Conference Championships

### Congrats to the World Singles Champions who have earned these benefits:

Matt Guy (KY), World Singles Champion  
ACO Worlds I, II, III, IV, V, X, XI, 14, 15

Eric Zocklein (KY), World Singles Champion  
ACO Worlds VI

Isidro Herrera (IL), World Singles Champion  
ACO Worlds VII

Bret Guy (KY), World Singles Champion  
ACO Worlds VIII

Jeff Reynolds (OH), World Singles Champion  
ACO Worlds IX

Jamie Graham (NC), World Singles Champion  
ACO Worlds XII

Ryan Windsor (IL), World Singles Champion  
ACO Worlds 13

**NEW for ACO Season 16** – All past ACO World Champions (1st place at an ACO Worlds) will receive free entry to the Division in which they won at all ACO Majors throughout ACO Season 16

ACO SEASON 16





# 3 ACO TOURNAMENTS



### 3.1 ACO REGIONALS

Events coordinated by ACO Certified Officials in his/her local market at a location and date of his/her choice in which players compete at a local level for World Standings and Social Standings points and prizes.

**Certified Officials can pick and choose which Regional Divisions they would like to coordinate in their areas based on the demand from players in that market.**

**Certified Officials can choose from these Divisions:**

- » World Singles – Open to all players
- » World Doubles – Open to all players
- » World Womens – Open to all female players (sex based on what state recognizes on official driver license)
- » World Seniors – Open to all players 55 years and older  
*A player can start the season if they are 54 yrs. old, if they turn 55 yrs. old by July 24, 2021.*
- » World Juniors – Open to all players 17 years and younger  
*A player may compete throughout the season as a Junior if they are 17 as of 9/1/20, regardless of turning 18 during the season.*
- » World Womens Doubles Division – Open to all female players  
*Doubles play with teams consisting of two females*
- » World Seniors Doubles Division – Open to all Seniors players  
*Doubles play with teams consisting of two players, each 55 yrs or older*
- » World Coed Doubles Division – Open to all player  
*Doubles play with teams consisting of 1 male and 1 female*
- » World Blind Draw Doubles Division – Open to all players

### 3.2 ACO REGIONALS GENERAL RULES

Players/teams may compete in as many monthly Regionals as they would like, in as many Divisions in which they qualify, either at the same location or different locations.

A player or team's 6 best finishes of the Season will count toward their final point total. Once a player/team competes in their 7th Regional, their lowest score will be dropped from the list, and so on.

**DOUBLES NOTE:** A player may switch partners an unlimited number of times during the Season. A new World Doubles Standings spot will be created for each new team assembled. For example: The team of Chris Clark and Dale Tanner may be ranked 23rd, and the team of Chris Clark and April Clemons may be ranked 75th.

**Minimum Players: In order for Regional points to count, the following participation minimums for each Division must be reached:**

- » World Singles – Minimum of 7 players
- » World Doubles – Minimum of 3 teams
- » Womens Singles – Minimum of 2 players
- » Seniors Singles – Minimum of 2 players
- » Juniors Singles – Minimum of 2 players
- » World Womens Doubles – Minimum of 2 teams
- » World Seniors Doubles – Minimum of 2 teams
- » Coed Doubles - Minimum of 2 teams
- » Blind Draw Doubles - Minimum of 4 players

### 3.3 ACO REGIONALS POINTS SCALE

**All Divisions:**

- » 1st Place = 25pts
- » 2nd Place = 24 pts
- » 3rd Place = 23 pts
- » 4th Place = 22 pts
- » 5th Place tie = 20 pts
- » 7th Place tie = 18 pts
- » 9th Place tie = 16 pts
- » 13th Place tie = 14 pts
- » 17th and over = 12 pts







# 3 ACO TOURNAMENTS



### 3.4 ACO REGIONAL TOURNAMENT FORMAT

**Seeding** – Regional Divisions will be seeded based on that Division’s Standings.

If no Standings are available for the first Regional of the Season, then the bracket will be randomly seeded

Once the seeding has been determined, bracket play can begin. Double elimination bracket

A player can come from the loser’s bracket and earn first place

#### **New for ACO Season 16** – Scoreholio

The ACO will be partnering with Scoreholio to provide tournament software. COs will be able to login to Scoreholio and choose players from the ACO database. The software will then seed the tournament for you and submit the results at its conclusion. Tutorial videos for Scoreholio will be available in the Certified Official Admin Site.

COs will not be required to use Scoreholio, but if they choose to use another software, they will be required to manually seed the Regionals and manually add results

### 3.5 BLIND DRAW DOUBLES FORMAT

Each player must register individually

No walkers. There must be an even number of players. Last person to register may be required to drop out

Once all players have registered, doubles teams are randomly drawn. Randomly draw teams by allowing players to choose their own cards or chips, or use a randomizing software such as Brackelope or The Hat.

Place randomly seeded teams into a double elimination bracket

A team can come from the loser’s bracket and earn 1st place

ACO Blind Draw Doubles points will be awarded to each individual player on the team based on their finish, and the Standings will consist of the individual players

Directions for entering results will be available in the Certified Official Admin Site.

### 3.6 ACO REGIONAL SCHEDULING

The CO may choose to schedule Regionals anytime during the season in which they choose but there must be 1 week between scheduling the same Division in the same zip code

#### **Examples**

- » A CO may choose to coordinate all their Regionals over a 6-week period to complete their players’ season
- » A CO may choose to spread Regionals out over several months or the entire season
- » A CO may schedule as many Regionals in a zip code during a season as they like if there is 1 week between scheduling the same Division.
- » All Regionals must be scheduled in the login site or they will not count for points
- » Certified Officials may schedule Regionals in one location or different locations within their approved or any territory that is unoccupied by another CO.
- » Certified Officials may schedule their Regional Divisions on the same day or split them up on different days
- » The login site will not allow the same division to be scheduled in the same location within 1 week of the same division
- » Directions for scheduling Regionals will be available in the Tutorial Video Library in the login site.





# 3 ACO TOURNAMENTS



### 3.7 SPLITTING REGIONALS

On the day of a Regional, if there are 34 or more players/teams registered for any Division, the Certified Official has the option of splitting the Division into separate 17 player/team brackets and awarding separate Standings points to each, without prescheduling.

For every additional 17 players/teams registered thereafter, the CO has the option of splitting again, and so on.

Each split bracket must have a minimum of 17 players/teams to ensure that least 1 player/team in each bracket receive the lowest amount of points available.

Each time a CO splits, they'll be required to purchase an additional Regional tournament to add the points.

COs are not required to split and have the option of keeping all players in one big bracket.

### 3.8 ACO MAJORS

**Events in which players from all Regions come together at one location to compete for points and prizes.**

Coordinated by the ACO Corporate Team

Playing format at each Major will be standard from one location to the next throughout the Season

Players/teams may participate in as many Majors as they like during the Season.

Of the Majors held throughout the season, a player/team's (3) best finishes will count toward their Standings total. Once a player/team competes in their 4th ACO Major, their lowest score will be dropped from the list, and so on

Check the event calendar on [AmericanCornhole.com/events](http://AmericanCornhole.com/events)

### 4.10 ACO MAJORS POINT SCALE

#### *World Singles and World Doubles*

- » Players/teams who advances from Pool Play will play in the Championship bracket and will be awarded according to the scale below:
- » 1st Place = 50 pts
- » 2nd Place = 49 pts
- » 3rd Place = 48 pts
- » 4th Place = 47 pts
- » 5th Place tie = 45 pts
- » 7th Place tie = 43 pts
- » 9th Place tie = 41 pts
- » 13th Place tie = 39 pts
- » 17th Place tie = 37 pts
- » 25th Place tie = 35 pts
- » 33rd Place tie = 33 pts
- » 49th and over = 31 pts
- » Every player/team who advances from Pool Play will play in the Championship bracket for an additional set of points, according to the Regional above

**NEW for ACO Season 16** – At select Majors with appropriate space, players who do not advance to the Championship bracket in Singles and/or Doubles will have an extra opportunity to earn points by dropping into Single elimination Tier tournaments.

- » Tier 2 = 1 pts for each game won in the bracket
- » Tier 3 = 1/2 pt for each game won in the bracket

#### *World Womens, World Seniors, World Juniors, World Seniors Doubles, World Womens Doubles, World Coed, and World Blind Draw*

- » 1st Place = 35pts
- » 2nd Place = 34 pts
- » 3rd Place = 33 pts
- » 4th Place = 32 pts
- » 5th Place tie = 30 pts
- » 7th Place tie = 28 pts
- » 9th Place tie = 26 pts
- » 13th Place tie = 24 pts
- » 17th and over = 22 pts





# 3 ACO TOURNAMENTS



## 3.10 ACO CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

ACO Conference Championship tournaments will crown the best players within each ACO Conference

ACO Corporate and ACO Conference Commissioners will determine the location and date of each Conference Championship

Tournament format will be determined by the Conference Commissioners and ACO Corporate

Only players who reside within the Conference will be permitted to participate. A Valid Driver's License or State ID will be required

The ACO Conference Championship tournaments will be points-earning events, however, the points will only count towards the players/team's Conference Standings. They will not count towards World Standings.

## 3.11 ACO STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

ACO State Championship tournaments will crown the best players within each ACO State

ACO Corporate and ACO Conference Commissioners will determine the location and date of each State Championship

Tournament format will be determined by the Conference Commissioners and ACO Corporate

Only players who reside within the State will be permitted to participate. A Valid Driver's License or State ID will be required

The ACO State Championship tournaments will be points earning events, however, the points will only count towards the players/team's State Standings. They will not count towards World Standings.

## 3.12 ACO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS OF CORNHOLE

The ACO World Championships of Cornhole is the annual ACO Season ending tournament held July which crowns the best cornhole players in the World, on ACO World Cornhole Day, the last Saturday in July every year.

- » [ACO Membership is required for all World Divisions](#)
- » [Qualifying details and ticket pricing TBA](#)

ACO SEASON 16





# 4 ACO STANDINGS

**NEW for ACO Season 16** – All Standings lists will be updated at the time of results being entered.

**NEW for ACO Season 16** – The ACO will be partnering with Scoreholio to provide tournament software. COs will be able to login to Scoreholio and choose players from the ACO database. The software will then seed the tournament for you and submit the results at its conclusion.

COs will not be required to use Scoreholio, but if they choose to use another software, they will be required to manually seed the Regionals and manually add results

Certified Officials must submit their results within 48 hours of completion of the Regional

## 4.1 ACO WORLD SINGLES STANDINGS

The ACO World Singles Standings is the list of ACO Members who have earned points competing in the World Singles (one-on-one play) Division at ACO World Series Events. The list is arranged with players who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

### *World Singles Standings Points are used to:*

- » Position players to win cash and prizes
- » Earn invites to ACO Invitational Tournaments
- » Seed players at various ACO Events
- » Identify the CornyForty
- » Earn a spot for a World Championships ticket
- » Identify ACO-PRO players

### *World Singles Standings consists of:*

- » A player's 6 best Regional finishes (any location)
- » A player's 3 best Major finishes (any location)

## 4.2 CORNYFORTY

The CornyForty refers to top 40 players in ACO World Singles Standings. Players earning a position in CornyForty at the conclusion of the points season win a free Golden Ticket to the ACO World

Championships and direct entry into the World Singles bracket, bypassing the RPI tournament. The CornyForty will be seeded 1-40 in the World Singles Bracket.

The player finishing the season ranked #1 in the ACO World Singles Standings will be named "ACO World Singles / Player of the Season".

## 4.3 ACO WORLD DOUBLES STANDINGS

The ACO World Doubles Standings is the list of the Teams (2 player per Team) who have earned points competing in Doubles Tournaments at Masters Series Events. The list is arranged with Teams who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

### *World Doubles Standings Points earned are used to:*

- » Position teams to win cash and prizes
- » Earn invites to ACO Invitational Tournaments
- » Seed teams at various ACO Events
- » Identify the TopGun Twenty

### *World Doubles Standings consists of:*

- » A team's 6 best Regional finishes (any location)
- » A team's 3 best Major finishes (any location)

## 4.4 TOPGUN TWENTY

The TopGun Twenty refers to top 20 teams in ACO World Doubles Standings. Each member of a team earning a position in TopGun Twenty at the conclusion of the points season win free a free Golden Ticket to the ACO World Championships and direct entry into the World Doubles bracket, bypassing the RPI tournament. The TopGun Twenty will be seeded 1-20 in the World Doubles Bracket.

The team finishing the season ranked #1 in the ACO World Doubles Standings will be named "ACO World Doubles / Team of the Season"



# 4 ACO STANDINGS



## 4.5 ACO WORLD WOMENS STANDINGS

The ACO World Womens Standings is the list of ACO Members who have earned points competing in Womens Singles (one-on-one play) Tournaments at ACO World Series Events. The list is arranged with players who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

**World Womens Standings Points are used to:**

- » Position players to win cash and prizes
- » Earn invites to ACO Invitational Tournaments
- » Seed players at various ACO Events

**World Womens Standings consists of:**

- » A player's 6 best Regional finishes (any location)
- » A player's 3 best Major finishes (any location)

The player finishing the season ranked #1 in the ACO Womens Standings will be named "ACO World Womens / Player of the Season".

## 4.6 ACO WORLD SENIORS STANDINGS

The ACO World Seniors Standings is the list of ACO Members who have earned points competing in Seniors Singles (one-on-one play) Tournaments at Masters Series Events. The list is arranged with players who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

**World Seniors Standings Points are used to:**

- » Position players to win cash and prizes
- » Earn invites to ACO Invitational Tournaments
- » Seed players at various ACO Events

**World Seniors Standings consists of:**

- » A player's 6 best Regional finishes (any location)
- » A player's 3 best Major finishes (any location)

The player finishing the season ranked #1 in the ACO Seniors Standings will be named "ACO World Seniors/ Player of the Season".

## 4.7 ACO WORLD JUNIORS STANDINGS

The ACO World Juniors Standings is the list of ACO Members who have earned points competing in Juniors Singles (one-on-one play) Tournaments at Masters Series Events. The list is arranged with players who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

**World Juniors Standings Points are used to:**

- » Position players to win cash and prizes
- » Earn invites to ACO Invitational Tournaments
- » Seed players at various ACO Events

**World Juniors Standings consists of:**

- » A player's 6 best Regional finishes (any location)
- » A player's 3 best Major finishes (any location)

The player finishing the season ranked #1 in the ACO Juniors Standings will be named "ACO World Juniors / Player of the Season".

## 4.8 ACO WORLD WOMENS DOUBLES STANDINGS

The ACO Womens Doubles Standings is the list of the teams (2 player per Team, 2 females per team) who have earned points competing in the Womens Doubles Division. The list is arranged with teams who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

**The Womens Doubles Standings Points are used to:**

- » Position teams to win cash and prizes
- » Earn invites to ACO Invitational Tournaments
- » Seed players at various ACO Events

**ACO World Womens Doubles Standings consists of:**

- » A team's 6 Regional finishes (any locations)
- » A team's 3 best Major finishes (any locations)

The team finishing the season ranked #1 in the ACO Womens Doubles will be named "ACO Womens Doubles / Team of the Season"





# 4 ACO STANDINGS



## 4.9 ACO SENIORS DOUBLES STANDINGS

The ACO Seniors Doubles Standings is the list of the teams (2 player per Team, 2 Seniors per team) who have earned points competing in the Seniors Doubles Division. The list is arranged with teams who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

**The Seniors Doubles Standings Points are used to:**

- » Position teams to win cash and prizes
- » Earn invites to ACO Invitational Tournaments
- » Seed players at various ACO Events

**ACO World Seniors Doubles Standings consists of:**

- » A team's 6 Regional finishes (any locations)
- » A team's 3 best Major finishes (any locations)

The team finishing the season ranked #1 in the ACO Seniors Doubles will be named "ACO Seniors Doubles / Team of the Season".

## 4.8 ACO COED DOUBLES STANDINGS

The ACO Coed Doubles Standings is the list of the Teams (2 player per Team, 1 male and 1 female) Tournaments at Masters Series Events. The list is arranged with teams who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

**Coed Standings Points are used to:**

- » Position players to win cash and prizes
- » Earn invites to ACO Invitational Tournaments
- » Seed players at various ACO Events

**World Coed Standings consists of:**

- » A player's 6 best Regional finishes (any location)
- » A player's 3 best Major finishes (any location)

The team finishing the season ranked #1 in the ACO Coed Doubles will be named "ACO Coed Doubles / Team of the Season"

## 4.9 ACO BLIND DRAW STANDINGS

The ACO Blind Draw Doubles Standings is the list of individual players who have earned points competing in the Blind Draw Division at ACO World Series Events. The list is arranged with players who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

**The Blind Draw Standings Points are used to:**

- » Position players to win cash and prizes
- » Earn invites to ACO Invitational Tournaments

**ACO World Blind Draw Standings consists of:**

- » A player's 6 best Regional finishes (any location)
- » A player's 3 best Major finishes (any location)

The player finishing the season ranked #1 in the ACO Blind Draw Standings will be named "ACO Blind Draw Player of the Season".

## 4.10 ACO CONFERENCE STANDINGS

The ACO Conference Standings are the lists of ACO Members who have earned points competing in points earning events within a given Conference. World Singles, World Doubles, World Womens, World Seniors, World Juniors, Coed, and Blind Draw Doubles will all have their own individual Standings lists. The lists are arranged with players/teams who have earned the most points at the top of the Standings.

**ACO Conference Standings consists of:**

- » A player/team's 6 best Regional scores (from Regionals within the Conference only)
- » A player/team's 3 best Major finishes (from Majors within the Conference only)
- » The player/team's finish at the ACO Conference Championship





# 4 ACO STANDINGS



NOTE: Players who do not reside within a Conference are permitted to participate in any Regionals and/or Majors within the Conference, however, those points earned will only be applied to their World Standings and will not apply to that Conference's Standings. Players who do not reside within the Conference will not be listed on the Conference Standings; they will only be listed on the Conference Standings in which they reside.

## 4.11 TIEBREAKERS

There will be a separate Standings list on AmericanCornhole.com for each Division

*Tiebreakers for all Standings lists will be as follows:*

- » 1 - Most major points earned
- » 2 - Best finish in a major
- » 3 - 2nd best finish in a major
- » 4 - Best finish in a regional
- » 5 - 2nd Best finish in a regional
- » 6 - 3rd Best finish in a regional
- » 7 - 4th Best finish in a regional
- » 8 - 5th Best finish in a regional
- » 9 - Random

If there is a tie for 1st place in any Division, there will be a playoff at the ACO World Championships of Cornhole 15 for Player/Team of the Season and Divisional seeding.



ACO SEASON 16



# 5 ACO CONFERENCES



## 5.1 ABOUT ACO CONFERENCES

ACO Conferences and ACO Conference Standings provide an opportunity for players to complete in a complete "Series" and even qualify for the Championship Brackets at the ACO World Championships of Cornhole 14 without ever traveling outside of their Conference all season!

The U.S. is split into 11 ACO Conferences

An ACO Conference Commissioner will oversee all Certified Officials within the Conference

There are Conference Standings lists on AmericanCornhole.com for each Division in each Conference

Each Conference will have a Conference Championship tournament, exclusively for players who reside within the Conference, in which players will have the opportunity to earn points towards their Conference Standings and win Conference titles. These points will not be applied to World Standings.

**NOTE:** To have a Conference Championship, a conference must have a minimum of 100 ACO Members

## 4.2 GOALS OF ACO CONFERENCES

To allow players more localized opportunities to compete in a ranked series

To allow players a more localized opportunity to earn prizes and titles

To allow players a more localized opportunity to earn a spot into the Championship brackets or the RPI tourneys at the ACO World Championships of Cornhole 16

Top players from each Conference will be granted reserved spots at the ACO Worlds 16

## 3.3 ACO CONFERENCES AND COMMISSIONERS BREAKDOWN

### Mid-Atlantic Conference

States included: WV, VA, MD, DE, PA  
Commissioner: Katherine Kennedy  
kkennedy@americancornhole.com / 804-212-7470

### Heartland Conference

States included: MI, IN, OH, KY  
Commissioner: Scott Melby  
scott@indycustomcornhole.com / 317-339-0780

### South-Atlantic Conference

States included: NC, SC, GA, FL  
Commissioner: Ryan Labelle  
rynlbl@yahoo.com / 864-706-2126

### Mid-West Conference

States included: IL, WI, IA, MO, NE  
Commissioner: Brian Jones  
bjonesjcc69@gmail.com / 618-779-9824

### Big South Conference

Commissioner: Troy Houser  
States included: TN, AL, MS, AR, LA  
blackjackcornhole@gmail.com / 423-845-0558

### Mountain West Conference

States included: NV, UT, CO, AZ, NM  
Commissioner: Erik Hubbard  
erikhubbard@ymail.com / 702-499-7043

### Old West Conference

States included: OK, TX, KS  
Commissioner: Eric Rico  
ericrico7@gmail.com / 316-807-7565

### West Coast Conference

States included: CA, HI  
Commissioner: William Howell  
whowell@americancornhole.com / 951-440-6489

### North Pacific Conference

States included: WA, OR, ID, AK  
Commissioner: Open for future development  
play@americancornhole.com / 888-563-2002

### Great North Conference

States included: ND, SD, WY, MT, MN  
Commissioner: Open for future development  
play@americancornhole.com / 888-563-2002

### North-Atlantic Conference

States included: ME, VT, MA, NH, CT, RI, NY, NJ  
Commissioner: Open for future development  
play@americancornhole.com / 888-563-2002







# 6 EQUIPMENT & RULES



## 6.1 RULES FOR ACO EVENTS

ACO Rules MUST be followed during all ACO Events. Please refer to our complete ACO Rules Guide, refer to [www.americancornhole.com](http://www.americancornhole.com)

## 6.2 ACO APPROVED EQUIPMENT

Not limited to ACO branded equipment – it need only comply with the following criteria to be ACO Approved Equipment Specs

### Boards

- » Hardwood plywood playing surface of 47.5" to 48" x 23.5" to 24" rectangle.
- » The playing surface has a minimum thickness of 5/8" with cross-section backing, or 3/4" with or without cross-section backing.
- » Each hole is 6" diameter, centered 9" from the top of the board and 12" from each side edge.
- » The front of the board is 3" to 4" from the ground to the top of the playing surface.
- » The back of the board is 12" from the ground to the top of the playing surface.
- » The playing surface should be finished - sanded to a very smooth texture. There should be little to no blemishes in the wood surface that may disrupt or distort play.
- » The playing surface can be painted with a high gloss latex paint or varnish. The surface should allow bags to slide when thrown, but not be so slippery that the bags slide back down the platform.

### Bags

- » Visit [americancornhole.com](http://americancornhole.com) for a complete list of ACO Approved Bags and guidelines

## 6.3 WHAT TYPES OF EQUIPMENT DO I NEED FOR MY REGIONAL?

### For ACO Regionals:

- » ACO Approved Boards
- » May provide ACO Approved bags and/or require/ask players to bring their own bags (Option given at the time of scheduling Regional)d



ACO SEASON 16





# 7 MEMBERSHIP & FEES

## 7.1 ACO WORLD MEMBERSHIP COST

\$25 for Certified Officials and Certified Official Dealers

Recommended resale for players = \$35

## 7.2 CERTIFIED OFFICIAL FEES TO THE ACO FOR COORDINATING REGIONALS

### *\$45 per Division*

- » World Singles
- » World Doubles

### *\$25 per Division*

- » World Seniors
- » World Womens
- » World Juniors
- » World Seniors Doubles
- » World Womens Doubles
- » Coed Doubles
- » Blind Draw

## 7.3 CERTIFIED OFFICIAL DEALER FEES TO THE ACO FOR COORDINATING REGIONALS

### *\$35 per Division*

- » World Singles
- » World Doubles

### *\$15 per Division*

- » World Seniors
- » World Womens
- » World Juniors
- » World Seniors Doubles
- » World Womens Doubles
- » Coed Doubles
- » Blind Draw

## 7.4 FEE FOR REGIONALS INCLUDES:

- » Ability to award World Standings, Social Standings, and/or Conference Standings Points
- » Rights to use ACO logo upon approval for marketing purposes only
- » Exposure through ACO websites and event calendars
- » Tournament listing on AmericanCornhole.com
- » FaceBook event created in which the CO will be made host and can use to promote and invite
- » Email Blasts

## 7.5 SUBMITTING PAYMENTS TO THE ACO

Certified Officials are required to submit all payments through the Login Site Market. Video training and instruction will be provided on this process

## 7.7 MAKING MONEY AS ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL/DEALERS

### *Selling ACO World Memberships: CO's and Dealers*

- » When selling an ACO World Membership, the Certified Official will charge the player \$35. The Certified Official can then purchase the Membership through the login site for \$25, keeping a \$10 profit.

### *Running your Events: CO's and Dealers*

- » The entry fee for each Division will be at the discretion of the Certified Official
- » The percentage of entry fees that the Certified Official keeps, and the amount that they choose to payout (if any), will be at the discretion of the Certified Official

### *Being contracted by the ACO to run various ACO Corporate activities – Certified Official Dealers only*

- » ACO Corporate may contract Certified Officials in good standing to run tournaments and/or events when needed (Not obligated). In order to be contracted, COs must have an ACO Certified Official Jersey, available on the CO Login Site for purchase.

### *ACO Product Sales: Dealers only*

- » Purchase ACO Products at wholesale/discounted pricing for personal use or resale

ACO SEASON 16



# 7 MEMBERSHIP & FEES



## 7.8 PRODUCT DISCOUNTS CERTIFIED OFFICIAL DEALERS ONLY

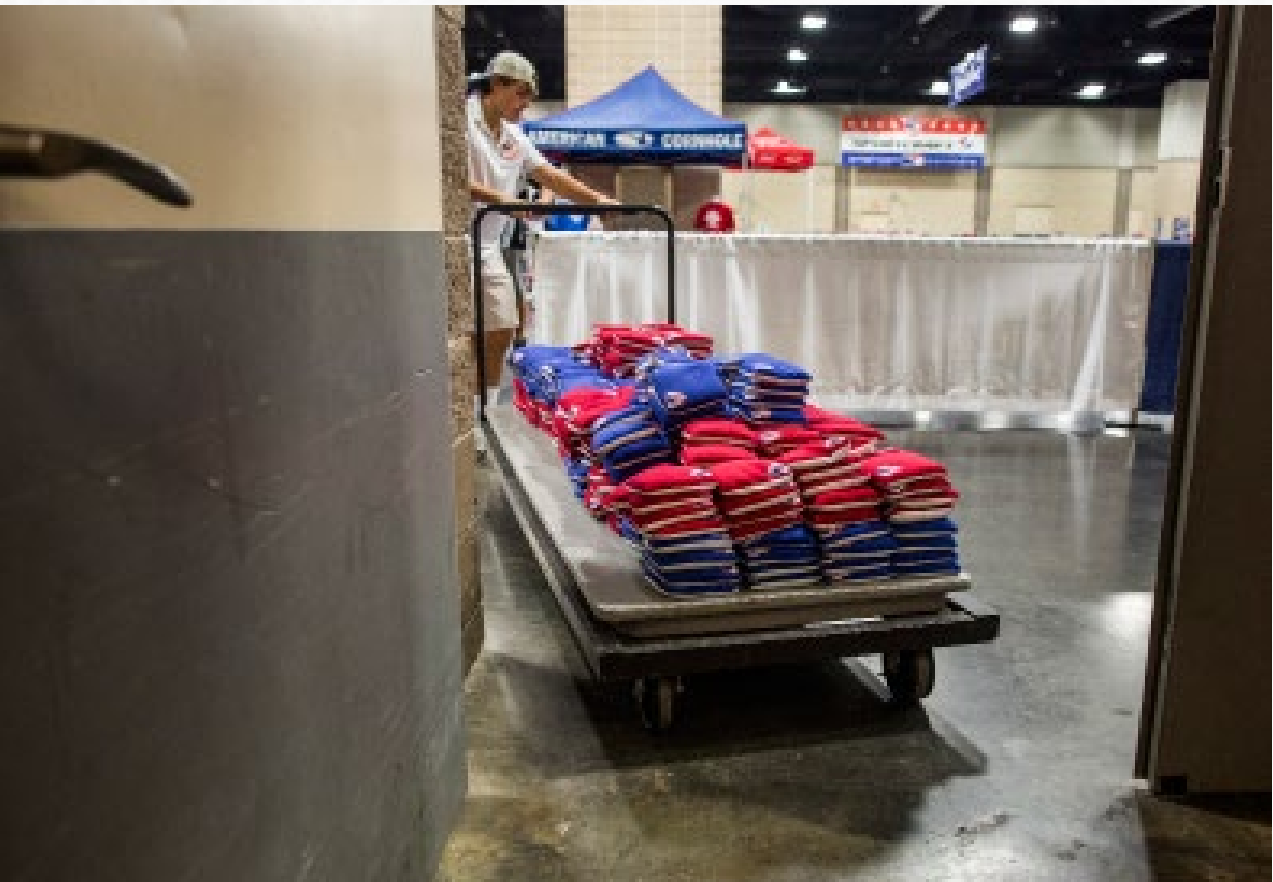
ACO Certified Officials Dealers receive discounts on all ACO merchandise for personal use or resale. At the time of approved certification, the Certified Official will have access to the online login market which reflects all CO pricing

## 7.9 HOW TO ORDER PRODUCT

Memberships, Tournaments, and Product all MUST be purchased through the Certified Official Login site.

All pending Certified Officials must have a Paypal account prior to becoming a Certified Official. Sign up for a free account at [Paypal.com](https://www.paypal.com)

ACO SEASON 16





AMERICAN CORNHOLE ORGANIZATION

# GAME ON!



CORNHOLE SEASON 16

