

WELCOME TO



# ***PLAYERS GUIDE***

AMERICAN CORNHOLE



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# MEET THE ACO



## AMERICAN CORNHOLE (ACO)

### ABOUT THE ACO

Established in 2005, headquartered in Camp Dennison, Ohio. American Cornhole Organization (ACO) is the World Governing Body of the Sport of Cornhole, offering Official Cornhole Rules, certified products, tournament listings, and comprehensive information about cornhole events.

[AmericanCornhole.com](http://AmericanCornhole.com)

### MISSION

Our mission as the official worldwide governing body of the sport of cornhole, since 2005, is to provide programs and services to set cornhole standards, ensure its integrity, preserve its future, and enhance the cornhole experience for players of all ages.

**NEW**  
FOR SEASON 19

*Look for this banner throughout the Players Guide, or see the list below for the NEW updates for this Season!*

- 1.4 Pro Status Updates
- 1.5 ACO PROs Advance in World Singles Bracket
- 2.7 Bag Masters Quads Division
- 2.9 Pro Series
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- 5.1 Code of Conduct

### THE ACO OFFERS:

- **ACO REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS** Players participate in ACO Regionals to earn points towards their ACO World Standings. Regionals are coordinated by ACO Certified Officials in their local areas.

ACO World Standings are used to seed players for future tournaments, award prizes (Jersey, Player/Team of the Season, Corny Forty, TopGun Twenty, etc.), designate ACO-PRO players, and earn spots in the ACO World Championships of Cornhole.

- **ACO MAJOR TOURNAMENTS** Players participate in ACO Majors against players from other Regions and earn points towards their ACO World Standings. Majors are coordinated by ACO Corporate in 30+ locations per Season across the US.
- **ACO INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS** Invited players compete for cash, prizes, and prestige. ACO Invitationals are coordinated by ACO Corporate and may be added to the schedule during the Season. Players do not earn ACO World Standings points.

» Examples of Invitational Tournaments (Season 19):

- ACO Gulf Coast Classic
- ACO Field of Dreams Go the Distance Festival

ACO players may earn invitations based on World Standing, ACO-PRO status, or other credentials. All formats TBD.

- **ACO STATE CHAMPIONSHIP OF CORNHOLE** Players who reside within a State compete for purses and Championship titles and jerseys. ACO Officials may apply to be the coordinator for a State Championship. More details on this process TBA.
- **ACO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS OF CORNHOLE** The ACO World Championships of Cornhole is the annual ACO Season ending tournament held in July which crowns the best cornhole players in the World, on ACO World Cornhole Day, the last Saturday in July every year.

# MEET THE ACO



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## ACO MEMBERSHIP

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### 1.1 LEVELS OF ACO MEMBERSHIP

There are 2 levels of ACO Membership for players:

- » ACO Points Membership
- » ACO World Membership
- An ACO Membership (either one) is required for all players to participate in ACO Regionals, ACO Majors, and the ACO World Championships of Cornhole.
- All players must obtain their Membership from AmericanCornhole.com, or an ACO Affiliate link provided by their local ACO Certified Official.
- All ACO Certified Officials are required to have a current season's ACO World Membership (\$50).

### 1.2 ACO POINTS MEMBERSHIP

**ACO Points Membership Cost: \$20**

- Minimum requirement for participation in any Division at ACO Regionals and ACO Majors.
- Can be purchased by the player at AmericanCornhole.com/membership
- Or ask your local Certified Official for a link to purchase.
- ACO Points Members are UNABLE to participate at the ACO World Championships.
- ACO Points Members must create a Scoreholio account with full first and last names. The player's email used to sign up for ACO Membership must match their Scoreholio account email in order to receive points!

**ACO Points Membership Benefits**

- Are added to all eligible online ACO Standings lists
- Are eligible to earn ACO World Standings points at ACO Regionals and ACO Majors

#### IMPORTANT ACO POINTS MEMBERSHIP NOTES

- ACO Points Members will not be eligible for money/prizes at ACO Regionals or ACO Majors unless they upgrade to an ACO World Membership PRIOR to the start of the tournament.
- ACO Points Members will not receive the ACO World Members' 500 Bonus points.

### 1.3 ACO WORLD MEMBERSHIP

**ACO World Membership: \$50**

- Permits players to participate in all ACO Regional, ACO Majors, and the ACO World Championships of Cornhole with full benefits.
- Can be purchased by the player at AmericanCornhole.com/membership
- Or ask your local Certified Official for a link to purchase.
- Only World Members are permitted to play in the World Divisions at the World Championships of Cornhole.
- ACO World Members must create a Scoreholio account with full first and last names. The player's email used to sign up for ACO Membership must match their Scoreholio account email in order to receive points!

**ACO World Membership Benefits**

- Are added to all eligible online ACO Standings lists
- Are eligible to earn ACO World Standings points at ACO Regionals and ACO Majors
- Will be awarded 500 "Bonus Points" towards their ACO Standings in all eligible Divisions!
- Are eligible to earn prizes and/or money purses at ACO Regionals and ACO Majors when available
- Are eligible to be invited to compete in the ACO World Championships of Cornhole 19 in July
- Are Corny Forty eligible
- Are Top Gun Twenty eligible
- Are eligible to earn Player or Team of the Season

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## ACO MEMBERSHIP

### 1.4 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 in the Top 64** in World Singles at the ACO World Championships of Cornhole 19 ("Worlds")
  - » Takes effect at the conclusion of the World Singles Division at ACO Worlds 19
  - » Valid for Seasons 20 and 21
- **Finish ACO Season 19 ranked in the top 96** of the ACO World Singles Standings
  - » Takes effect as soon as the Standings are finalized for the Season (approx. June 5th, 2024)
  - » Valid for Seasons 20 and 21

### 1.5 PLAYERS WHO ACHIEVE ACO-PRO STATUS

- All ACO Season 19 PROs will advance into the World Singles Main Bracket at all ACO Majors during Season 19.
  - » ACO PROs will NOT participate in the World Singles Pool Play Brackets. ACO PROs will advance to the main bracket.
  - » ACO registration tent will have a copy of all current ACO-PROs for Season 19.
- Players who begin ACO Season 19 as ACO-PROs are eligible to participate in the ACO-PRO Series Division at select ACO Majors during ACO Season 19
- Eligible to purchase and/or win an ACO-PRO Jersey
  - » The Top 80 PROs earn a free ACO-PRO jersey
- Eligible for ACO-PRO only Invitational tournaments

#### IMPORTANT NOTES

- 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

### 1.6 ACO WORLD SINGLES CHAMPIONS BENEFITS

**The ACO World Singles Champion (King of Cornhole) receives:**

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

*Congratulations to the World Singles Champions who have earned these benefits:*

- » Jeremiah Ellis (OH), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds 18
- » Craig Ervin (MO), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds 17
- » Gary Ferguson (TN), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds 16
- » Matt Guy (KY), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds I, II, III, IV, V, X, XI, 14, 15
- » Ryan Windsor (IL), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds 13
- » Jamie Graham (NC), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds XII
- » Jeff Reynolds (OH), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds IX
- » Bret Guy (KY), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds VIII
- » Isidro Herrera (IL), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds VII
- » Eric Zocklein (KY), World Singles Champion ACO Worlds VI

## ACO TOURNAMENTS

### 2.1 ACO REGIONALS

- Tournaments that are coordinated by ACO Certified Officials, Dealers, or Governors in their local market at a location and date of their choice in which players compete at a local level for World 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.

### 2.2 ACO REGIONAL DIVISIONS

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

- Singles – Open to all ACO Members
- Doubles – Open to all ACO Members
- Womens – Open to all female ACO Members (State recognized license/ID)
- Seniors – Open to all ACO Members 55 and older  
*A player can start the season as a Senior if they are 54, if they will turn 55 during the Season (before 7/24/24)*
- Juniors – Open to all ACO Members 17 and younger.  
*A player can start the season as a Junior if they are 17, even if they will turn 18 during the Season (until 7/24/24)*
- Coed Doubles – Open to all ACO Members  
*Doubles play with a team of 1 male and 1 female*
- Womens Doubles – Open to all ACO Members  
*Doubles play with a team of 2 female players*
- Seniors Doubles – Open to all ACO Members  
*Doubles play with a team of 2 Seniors players*
- Juniors Doubles – Open to all ACO Members  
*Doubles play with a team of 2 Juniors players*
- Blind Draw Doubles – Open to all ACO Members

### 2.3 ACO REGIONAL GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Players or Teams may compete in as many Regionals as they would like, and also in as many Divisions in which they qualify, either at the same location or different locations.
- A Player or Team's **8 best finishes of the Season** will count toward their final Points. Once a Player or Team competes in their 9th 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, but 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:

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

### 2.4 ACO REGIONAL POINTS SCALE

#### ACO Regionals (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 Place tie = 12 pts

## ACO TOURNAMENTS

### 2.5 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 1st.

#### Scoreholio

- All players are required to use the same email in Scoreholio as they used for their ACO Membership. If the emails are different, you will need to let Whitney Garner know ASAP at: [co@americancornhole.com](mailto:co@americancornhole.com).

**NOTE:** When players' emails are not the same in Scoreholio and ACO, their points will not sync correctly.

#### Membership

- Players that DO NOT have a current Season 19 World Membership or Points Membership will not be allowed to participate in any ACO event until a Membership has been purchased.
  - » Players can still participate in Regionals even if they obtain a Worlds or Points Membership the day of the event. Proof of purchase must be shown to the Certified Official at the event.

#### 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 by Scoreholio.
- Randomly seeded teams are placed into a Double Elimination bracket.
- A Team can come from the loser's bracket and earn 1st.
- 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.

### 2.6 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 ACO Major will be standard from one location to the next throughout the Season.
  - » Players or Teams will participate in pool play with the top finishers from each pool advancing to the Championship bracket and/or Tiers.
- Players or Teams may participate in as many Majors as they like during the Season.
- Of the Majors held throughout the season, a Player or Team's 4 best finishes will count toward their Standings total. Once a Player or Team competes in their 5th Major, their lowest score will be dropped from the list, and so on.
- Majors schedule: [AmericanCornhole.com/majors](http://AmericanCornhole.com/majors)

### 2.7 ACO MAJOR DIVISIONS

#### Divisions offered at all ACO Majors:

- Singles – Open to all ACO Members
  - » Singles Tier 3
  - » Singles Tier 2
- Doubles – Open to all ACO Members
  - » Doubles Tier 3
  - » Doubles Tier 2
- Womens – Open to all female ACO Members  
(State recognized license/ID)
- Seniors – Open to all ACO Members 55 and older  
*A player can start the season as a Senior if they are 54, if they will turn 55 during the Season (before 7/24/24)*
- Juniors – Open to all ACO Members 17 and younger.  
*A player can start the season as a Junior if they are 17, even if they will turn 18 during the Season (until 7/24/24)*
- Coed Doubles – Open to all ACO Members  
*Doubles play with a team of 1 male and 1 female*
- Blind Draw Doubles – Open to all ACO Members
- Bag Master Quads

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## ACO TOURNAMENTS

### 2.8 ACO-PRO SERIES DIVISION

The ACO-PRO Series Division is exclusively offered to ACO-PRO players during ACO Season 19.

### 2.9 ACO-PRO SERIES OVERVIEW

- The ACO-PRO Series will take place at 5 ACO Majors during ACO Season 19, approximately 1 every other month. See schedule at [AmericanCornhole.com/majors](http://AmericanCornhole.com/majors)
  - » ACO Charleston (Pro Series)- Sept 8 & 9
  - » ACO Atlantic City (Pro Series)- Nov 10 & 11
  - » ACO Owensboro (Super Major + Pro Series)- Jan 5 & 6
  - » ACO Dalton (Pro Series)- Feb 16 & 17
  - » ACO Branson (Pro Series)- May 24 & 25
- All players recognized as ACO-PRO players will be invited to participate. ACO Season 19 World Membership required for participation.
- All ACO-PRO players who would like to participate in an ACO-PRO Series must be registered 2 Sundays (11 days) prior to the event by 11:59pm EST
  - » Players who wear an ACO Season 19 Pro Jersey (Red, Black, or Blue) throughout the event (Qualifier and Championship Bracket) will participate for FREE
  - » Players who wear an ACO "Sponsor" Black Jersey throughout the event (Qualifier and Championship Bracket) will participate for FREE
  - » Players/Sponsors may purchase an ACO Sponsor Black Jersey from the ACO which will provide space for up to 4 sponsor logos of their choice (up to \$450)
  - » Players who would like to wear a non-ACO sponsored jersey of their choice will pay \$200 entry fee
  - » Player can wear any other sponsored jersey:
    - Design MUST be approved by the ACO
    - Cannot have logos of other national cornhole brands
    - Must be collared, and in the same style as the ACO PRO jersey
    - Can be printed with any sponsor logos
    - Must have a 4" ACO Shield logo on the right sleeve, with no other logos in that location

- Qualifying Round - ACO Frame Games
  - » All registered ACO-PRO players will be assigned a start time between 9am and 12pm on Friday to perform an ACO Frame Game
  - » All ACO Frame Games will be scored by a CO
  - » The players with the best 16 Frame Games will advance to the ACO-PRO Series Championship Skins Bracket on Friday afternoon/evening
  - » Players will still be eligible to participate in Womens, Juniors, Seniors, and/or Blind Draw

### 2.10 ACO-PRO SERIES STANDINGS

- At the conclusion of the ACO Season, top players in the ACO-PRO Standings will be awarded prize purse payouts based on their finish
- ACO-PRO Series Rankings are a separate ranking from World Singles Rankings and are comprised of 2 elements:

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#### 1.) The player's best ACO Frame Game SCR

Each time a player improves on their ACO Frame Game, that new score will be used in the Rankings. All players earn their Frame Game SCR regardless of advancing to the Championship Bracket or not.

#### 2.) The player's Total Points of their 4 best ACO-PRO Series finishes in the Championship Brackets.

See Points Scale below. Once a player advances into their 5th Championship Bracket, their lowest score will be dropped, etc.

Points Scale (Championship Brackets)

1st Place = 50 pts  
2nd Place = 40 pts  
Top 4 tie = 30 pts  
Top 8 tie = 20 pts  
Top 16 tie = 10 pts

**NOTE:** All ACO-PRO players who participate in the ACO Frame Game will earn their Frame Game score towards their Standings regardless of advancing to the Championship Bracket or not





## ACO TOURNAMENTS

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### 2.11 ACO-PRO SKINS

- The 16 Players who advance from the Qualifying Round will be seeded according to their Frame Game score and placed into a single elimination bracket

#### ACO Skins Format

- Each game will be worth a total of 13 "Skins".
- Each Frame of a game is equal to one 1 Skin.  
A Player earns a Skin by outscoring their opponent during the given Frame. It doesn't matter if they are outscored by 10 points or 1 point, the result is winning 1 Skin.
- Each Skin is worth a certain dollar value (TBA).
- If the Frame is a push, then that Skin carries over to the next Frame, and so on.
  - » Example: During Frame #1 of the game, Player 1 and Player 2 "push" the Frame by each throwing 8pts. The Skin from Frame #1 now carries over, making Frame #2 worth 2 Skins.

- Once a Player wins 7 Skins, the game is over, and that player is the declared the winner and advances to the next round of the bracket.
- All remaining Skins of the original 13 will be awarded to the winner.

#### Example:

- » A Skin is valued at \$25.
- » Player 1 wins the game by a score of 7 Skins to their opponent's 3 Skins.
- » The remaining 3 Skins will be added to the winner's total, equaling 10 Skins.
- » Player 1 will earn \$250 for the game, and Player 2 will earn \$75 for the

## ACO TOURNAMENTS

### 2.12 ACO MAJOR - SPLITTING CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKETS

Splitting brackets will be necessary when the number of Players reaches a certain threshold:

- Singles
  - » If 64 or less players advance to the Championship bracket (combination of ACO-PRO players who automatically advance and players who advance from pool play), it will remain in one bracket.
  - » If 65-128 players advance to the Championship bracket (combination of ACO-PRO players who automatically advance and players who advance from pool play), it will be split into two brackets.
  - » If 129-256 players advance to the Championship bracket (combination of ACO-PRO players who automatically advance and players who advance from pool play), it will be split into four brackets.
- Doubles
  - » If 64 or less teams advance to the Championship bracket from pool play, it will remain in one bracket.
  - » If 65-128 teams advance to the Championship bracket from pool play, it will be split into two brackets.
  - » If 129-256 teams advance to the Championship bracket from pool play, it will be split into four brackets.
- Womens, Seniors, Juniors, Coed Doubles, Quads
  - » 64 or less total Players/Teams = 1 bracket
  - » 65-128 total Players/Teams = split into 2 brackets
  - » If 129-256 total Players/Teams = split into 4 brackets
- Blind Draw Doubles
  - » If 128 or less total Players = 1 bracket
  - » If 129-256 total Players = split into 2 brackets
  - » If 257-512 total Players = split into 4 brackets

**When splitting is necessary, each split bracket will play till its conclusion, then the Champions of each split bracket will play each other until there is an "Overall Champion."**

- Two-Bracket Split: The two split bracket Champions will be placed into the Overall Championship Match with their wins/losses carried over from their split brackets.
  - » If each Player or Team brings 1 loss from their split bracket, the Overall Championship Match will be 1 game
  - » If 1 Player or Team brings a loss, and 1 Player brings no losses, then the Overall Championship Match will be a traditional double-dip
  - » If each Player brings no losses, then the Overall Championship Match will be a best 2 of 3
- Four-Bracket Split: The four split bracket Champions will be placed into the Overall Championship Bracket with their wins/losses carried over from their split brackets and placed into either the winners bracket or the elimination bracket accordingly.
  - » The Overall Championship Match will be a traditional double-dip



## ACO TOURNAMENTS

### 2.13 ACO MAJOR POINTS SCALE - ALL DIVISIONS

#### One Bracket Points Scale - All Divisions:

- » 1st Place = 53 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 - 64th tie = 31 pts

#### Two Bracket Split Points Scale - All Divisions:

- » Overall Champion (Championship Match winner) = 53 pts
- » Overall Runner-Up (Championship Match 2nd place) = 50 pts
- » Split Bracket 2nd Place = 49 pts
- » Split Bracket 3rd Place = 48 pts
- » Split Bracket 4th Place = 47 pts
- » Split Bracket 5th Place tie = 45 pts
- » Split Bracket 7th Place tie = 43 pts
- » Split Bracket 9th Place tie = 41 pts
- » Split Bracket 13th Place tie = 39 pts
- » Split Bracket 17th Place tie = 37 pts
- » Split Bracket 25th Place tie = 35 pts
- » Split Bracket 33rd Place tie = 33 pts
- » Split Bracket 49th Place tie = 31 pts

#### Four Bracket Split Points Scale - All Divisions:

- » Overall Champion (Championship Match winner) = 53 pts
- » Overall Runner-Up (Championship Match 2nd place) = 52 pts
- » Overall 3rd Place (Championship Bracket 3rd place) = 51 pts
- » Overall 4th Place (Championship Bracket 4th place) = 50 pts
- » Split Bracket 2nd Place = 49 pts
- » Split Bracket 3rd Place = 48 pts
- » Split Bracket 4th Place = 47 pts
- » Split Bracket 5th Place tie = 45 pts
- » Split Bracket 7th Place tie = 43 pts
- » Split Bracket 9th Place tie = 41 pts
- » Split Bracket 13th Place tie = 39 pts
- » Split Bracket 17th Place tie = 37 pts
- » Split Bracket 25th Place tie = 35 pts
- » Split Bracket 33rd Place tie = 33 pts
- » Split Bracket 49th Place tie = 31 pts

### 2.14 TIER POINTS SCALES - WORLD SINGLES AND WORLD DOUBLES ONLY

- Players or Teams in World Singles and/or World Doubles who do not advance from Pool Play into the Championship bracket will fall into Tier Bracket play.
- Players or Teams will be placed into either Tier 2 or Tier 3 based on their Pool Play Record.

#### ACO Singles Tier 2 / ACO Doubles Tier 2

- » Players who fall into Tier 2 at ACO Majors will receive points toward their ACO World Standings AND their Tier 2 Standings
- » 1st Place: Trophy and a free entry for a future Major
- » 2nd Place: Free entry for a future Major

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#### • Tier 2 Points

- » 1st Place = 28 pts
- » 2nd Place = 27 pts
- » 3rd Place tie = 26 pts
- » 5th Place tie = 25 pts
- » 9th Place tie = 24 pts
- » 17th Place tie = 23 pts
- » 33rd Place tie = 22 pts

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#### ACO Singles Tier 3 / ACO Doubles Tier 3

- » Players who fall into Tier 3 at ACO Majors will receive points toward their ACO World Standings AND their ACO Tier 3 Standings
- » 1st Place: Trophy

#### • Tier 3 Points

- » 1st Place = 21 pts
- » 2nd Place = 20 pts
- » 3rd Place tie = 19 pts
- » 5th and over = 18 pts

## ACO TOURNAMENTS

### 2.15 ACO INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

- Invited Players compete for cash, prizes, and prestige
- ACO Invitationals are coordinated by ACO Corporate and may be added to the schedule during the Season
- Players do not earn ACO World Standing Points
- ACO Players may earn invitations based on World Standing Points, ACO-PRO status, or other credentials
- All formats TBD
- Examples of ACO Season 17 Invitational tournaments:
  - » ACO Gulf Coast Classic
  - » ACO Field of Dreams Go the Distance Festival

### 2.16 ACO STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS OF CORNHOLE

- Players who reside within a State compete for purses, Championship titles, and jerseys
- State of residence determined by Driver's License or other government issued ID
- ACO Certified Officials may apply to be the coordinator for a State Championship
  - » ACO State Championship tournaments can be scheduled from January 1st, 2024 to May 31st, 2024

### 2.17 ACO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS OF CORNHOLE

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

- ACO World Membership is required for all Divisions at the ACO World Championships of Cornhole
- Minimum Points:
  - » All Singles Divisions: 600pts
  - » World Doubles and World Coed Doubles: 100pts
  - » Seniors, Womens, and Juniors Doubles: No Minimum
- Ticket pricing TBA

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## ACO STANDINGS

### 3.1 ACO STANDINGS OVERVIEW

**ACO Standings are used to seed players for future tournaments, award prizes, designate ACO-PRO players, and earn spots in the ACO World Championships of Cornhole**

- ACO Standings consist of:
  - » Player or Team's best 8 ACO Regional finishes (any locations)
  - » Player or Team's best 4 ACO Major finishes (any locations)
- Standings will be updated at the time of submission and approval by the ACO
- Regionals results must be entered/submitted before 12:00 PM EST on each Wednesday to be included in the upcoming weekend's Major seeding.
- Players or Teams finishing the Season ranked #1 in their respective Divisions will be named "ACO World Player/Team of the Season"
  - » Ties for 1st place will require a playoff at the ACO World Championships of Cornhole

### 3.2 ACO STANDINGS DIVISIONS

**The following ACO Divisions each have their own ACO Standings:**

- ACO-PRO Series Standings
- ACO World Singles Standings
- ACO Singles Tier 2 Standings
  - » Players who fall into Singles Tier 2 at ACO Majors will receive points toward their ACO World Singles Standings AND their ACO Singles Tier 2 Standings
- ACO Singles Tier 3 Standings
  - » Players who fall into Singles Tier 3 at ACO Majors will receive points toward their ACO World Singles Standings AND their ACO Singles Tier 3 Standings

**NEW**  
FOR SEASON 18

**NEW**  
FOR SEASON 18

- ACO World Doubles
- ACO Doubles Tier 2 Standings
  - » Teams who fall into Doubles Tier 2 at ACO Majors will receive points toward their ACO World Doubles Standings AND their ACO Doubles Tier 2 Standings
- ACO Doubles Tier 3 Standings
  - » Teams who fall into Doubles Tier 3 at ACO Majors will receive points toward their ACO World Doubles Standings AND their ACO Doubles Tier 3 Standings
- ACO World Coed Doubles
- ACO World Womens
- ACO World Seniors
- ACO World Juniors
- ACO World Blind Draw
- ACO Bag Masters Quads

**NEW**  
FOR SEASON 19

**NEW**  
FOR SEASON 19

**NEW**  
FOR SEASON 19

### 3.3 CORNYFORTY

- The CornyForty refers to top 40 Players in ACO World Singles Standings. Players earning a position in CornyForty at the conclusion of the Season win a free Golden Ticket to the ACO World Championships. The CornyForty will be seeded 1-40 in the World Singles Bracket.
- » The Player finishing the Season ranked #1 in ACO World Singles Standings is named "ACO Player of the Season"

### 3.4 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 Season win a free Golden Ticket to the ACO World Championships. 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 Team of the Season"

## ACO STANDINGS

### 3.5 STANDINGS TIEBREAKERS

- There will be a Standings lists on AmericanCornhole.com for each Division
- For Players or Teams who are tied in Standings points with other Players / Teams in any Division, the following tiebreakers will be used:
  - » 1st tiebreaker: PPR (Point Per Round)
  - » 2nd tiebreaker: DPR (Differential Points per Round)
  - » 3rd tiebreaker: Random Draw

### 3.6 PLAYERS/TEAMS OF THE SEASON PLAYOFFS

- Players or Teams who reach the maximum number of ACO Standings Points in a Division at the conclusion of ACO Season 19 will be invited to participate in the ACO Player of the Season or Team of the Season Playoffs for their respective Divisions at the ACO World Championships of Cornhole 19.

#### Guidelines:

- Eligible Players or Teams for the Playoff will be determined by their overall Points total. This will NOT include the number of Major or Regional wins, or tiebreakers. Total points only.

#### Format:

- Players or Teams with 2 Players / Teams in their playoff will play a best 2 of 3 match, seeded by final PPR.
- Players or Teams with 3 or more Players / Teams in their playoff will be placed in a double elimination bracket and seeded by final PPR. 1 game in the winners bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket. The final match will be a traditional double-dip.

#### Awards:

- The winner(s) of each playoff will be named "ACO Player of the Season" or "ACO Team of the Season" for their respective Division.
- The winners will be awarded a custom Player of the Season or Team of the Season Jersey.
- The winners will be the #1 overall seeds in the Championship brackets at the ACO World Championships of Cornhole for their respective Divisions.

**NOTE:** All other playoff players will be seeded in the Championship brackets according to their finish in the playoff



## EQUIPMENT AND RULES

### 4.1 RULES FOR ACO EVENTS

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

### 4.2 ACO APPROVED 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 Board in a set should weigh no less than 25 lbs.
- 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 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.

### 4.3 ACO APPROVED BAGS

Bags for ACO Regionals and ACO Majors

- Only ACO Stamped bags manufactured by ACO Season 19 Bag Partners can be used in any ACO Divisions at Regionals and Majors.

**NOTE:** Older models of ACO stamped bags (from ACO Season 18) may be used if the bag manufacturer is still an ACO Bag Partner for ACO Season 19.

- See a complete list of bags at:  
[AmericanCornhole.com/bags](http://AmericanCornhole.com/bags)

### 4.4 ACO APPROVED BAG SPECS

- Each bag must be filled with plastic resin/beads which will not break down
- Each bag must weigh between 15.75 ounces (447g) and 16.25 ounces (461g)
- When flat, each bag is not to exceed a thickness of 1.5 inches (3.8cm)
- When flat, each bag must have a minimum thickness of 1.125 inch (3.18cm)
- When flat, each bag must be a minimum of 5.75 inches (14.60cm) across at its narrowest point (side to side)
- When flat, each bag is not to exceed 8.25 inches (21cm) across at its widest point (corner to corner)
- Each bag must have a clearly printed manufacturer logo/name and series name
- Bags must be one primary color
- Bags may have rounded corners, but cannot be rounded more than 0.5" from the corner on a 6" x 6" bag

**NEW**  
FOR SEASON 19

## CONDUCT

**NEW**  
FOR SEASON 19

### 5.1 AMERICAN CORNHOLE ORGANIZATION PROHIBITED CONDUCT

American Cornhole Organization may, in our sole and absolute discretion, immediately terminate a your membership privileges if we believe that you have engaged or are engaging in certain conduct, or have been alleged to have engaged in certain conduct, including, without limitation, conduct involving harassment, discrimination, violence, intimidation, criminal activity or moral turpitude of a nature which, in American Cornhole Organization's sole and absolute discretion, reflects or could reflect unfavorably upon the reputation of American Cornhole Organization. Such a termination will be effective immediately and shall be without refund of any membership fees and/or ticket purchase fees. In the event of any such termination, the American Cornhole Organization will use our best efforts to notify you/the member of such termination. No terminated member may participate in any American Cornhole Organization events, nor shall any terminated member identify himself or herself as being a member of or being in any way affiliated with the American Cornhole Organization.

As a participant in these sporting events, you are expected to uphold the highest standards of sportsmanship, integrity, and respect. Your behavior both on and off the field reflects not only on yourself but also on the event, your team, and the entire sporting community. By participating, you agree to abide by the following code of conduct:

#### 1. Respect for Opponents:

Treat your opponents with courtesy and respect, both during competition and outside of it.

#### 2. Fair Play:

Adhere to the rules and spirit of the game. Avoid any form of cheating or unsportsmanlike conduct. Compete to the best of your abilities while maintaining fairness and integrity.

#### 3. Respect for Officials:

Treat event officials with respect, even if you disagree with their decisions. Their role is essential in maintaining a fair and organized competition.

#### 4. Team Spirit:

Support your teammates and foster a positive team environment. Encourage and celebrate each other's achievements, showing camaraderie both in victory and defeat.

#### 5. Dignity in Victory and Defeat:

Win with humility and grace, acknowledging the efforts of your opponents. Similarly, accept defeat with dignity, learning from it and using it as motivation for improvement.

#### 6. Control of Emotions:

Manage your emotions, even in intense situations. Avoid actions and words that may incite conflict, disrespect, or harm to others.

#### 7. Anti-Discrimination:

Respect and value the diversity of athletes, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or background. Discriminatory behavior or language will not be tolerated.

#### 8. Responsible Behavior:

Avoid any behavior that could damage your reputation, the event's reputation, or the reputation of the sport. This includes refraining from any form of substance abuse.

#### 9. Safety First:

Prioritize the safety of yourself, your teammates, opponents, and spectators. Follow all safety guidelines and rules set forth by the event organizers.

#### 10. Positive Role Model:

Recognize that you are a role model for aspiring athletes and the broader community. Your conduct should inspire others to participate in sports and to embody the values of sportsmanship.

#### 11. Cooperation with Media:

Be cooperative with the media and respect their responsibilities. However, refrain from making statements that could harm the reputation of others or the event.

#### 12. Environmental Responsibility:

Show respect for the environment by properly disposing of waste and adhering to any environmentally friendly practices set by the event organizers.

#### 13. Adherence to Regulations:

Comply with all event regulations, protocols, and requirements communicated by the organizers before and during the event.

#### 14. Reporting Misconduct:

If you witness any violation of this code of conduct, promptly report it to event officials. Upholding the integrity of the sport is everyone's responsibility.

#### Consequences of Violation:

Violation of this code of conduct may result in disciplinary action, including warnings, suspension, or disqualification from the event. The severity of consequences will depend on the nature and frequency of the violation.

By participating in these sporting events, you signify your commitment to upholding these principles and contributing to a positive, respectful, and competitive environment for all athletes.

Game On!



WELCOME TO



# ***PLAYERS GUIDE***

AMERICAN CORNHOLE