

HOLE

Magazine

THE RISING STARS

CORNHOLE KIDS

WIN BIG IN VEGAS



WEST GOES EAST

HOW CORNHOLE BECAME
THE PERFECT SPORT IN
"THE VERTICAL CITY"
OF HONG KONG

17-Time World Record Holder
Eyes Cornhole Next



PAULA STEVENS: How It All Began

WORLDS 15 ISSUE: 2020 PROGRAM AND SPECTATOR GUIDE



CHAMPIONS TALK:
MEET THE ACO
WORLDS 14
DEFENDING
CHAMPS



Experience the
Unexpected
Energy of
Columbia, SC



ACO INK'D

LIFETIME MEMBERS

WORLDS 15
SUMMER
2020
\$7.95



WHO ARE WE?

American Cornhole Organization, the ACO, is the governing body for the sport of cornhole. Established in 2005 and headquartered in Milford, Ohio, the ACO offers official cornhole rules, sanctioned products, tournament listings, and comprehensive information about cornhole events.

WHAT'S OUR MISSION?

As the Governing Body of the Sport of Cornhole the ACO has as its mission to increase awareness and competition of the sport of cornhole by governing the rules and regulations of the sport, hosting tournaments, and fostering a community of players, both social and professional.

CONTACT INFO:

American Cornhole, LLC
208 Locust St., Milford, OH 45150
play@americancornhole.com
888-563-2002





OUR STORY OUR VISION

THE ACO VISION IS TAKING SHAPE.

For a year that's proved to be incredibly uncertain, one thing is certain: **The ACO had a great Season.**

We saw a 40% growth in our player base, the addition of 35 new Certified Official groups, a line of ACO Tournament Boards through a rock-solid manufacturing partner, a fast-turnaround player jersey program through Glover Designs, and a continued strong relationship with Loco Canopies. We also brought on new sponsor partnerships with Anheuser Busch and Hampton Farms, plus built an ACO version of the popular Scoreholio app.

It's mind blowing to sit back and think about the amount of money spent, the 10's of thousands of working hours the ACO team and it's partners have dedicated to this vision, the sheer number of miles traveled and the millions of bags pitched in this time span. It brings a smile to my face to know that this DREAM, the vision I crafted over 16 years ago drinking beers with some friends after work one evening, is truly evolving into what I always believed it could become, a product made for television. A professional sport that men and women can compete at on equal levels. A sport that one day soon, our best players will be able to make a living playing.



ACO President Frank Geers with ACO Commissioner Eric Hubbard from Las Vegas

People thought cornhole might be a fad and fade out in time. It's long past the fad phase. Cornhole is here to stay and fast becoming a billion dollar industry. It is exciting to see the overall cornhole industry growth year after year. We see more bag makers, board makers and event organizers, joining the "Cornhole Madness". The more the merrier we say, anything to bring more awareness of the game, awareness of the sport, awareness of how great cornhole is. What's really fun is thinking about how the ACO, our players and our certified officials are the nucleus to this movement that we started over 16 years ago.

We are cornhole. We will always be cornhole.
We are the ACO Cornhole Family.

GAME ON!

FRANK GEERS

**President & CEO,
American Cornhole, LLC**

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RECOGNITION OF THE SPORT

Wall Street Journal article published June 2007

ESPN Magazine article published Sept. 2010

WCPO-Channel 9 "Sports of All Sorts" aired summer 2010

Cincinnati Business Courier article published Jan. 2011

Cornhole for Wii

Cornhole: Throwing Bags in a Hole book published 2010

Topps Company introduces first Cornhole Players Card featuring ACO King of Cornhole Matt Guy, Summer 2011

"Brotherhood of Bags: Cornholing America" book by Paul Nelson, published 2010

Wikipedia recognizes the ACO as the organization for the Sport of Cornhole

ESPN's Wider World of Sports with Kenny Maynes Aired October 9, 2013, featuring the ACO World Cup

ESPN Sports Center Live Broadcast July 11, 2015, at the World Championships of Cornhole X in Knoxville, TN

DudePerfect Summer 2017, Nickelodeon's DudePerfect features ACO-Pros Matt & Bret Guy

Eastpoint Sports puts ACO Brand into 3800 plus **Walmart** stores with backyard board and bag sets, March 2019

ACO MARKETING STATS

- ✓ **46,650+** Active Facebook Followers
- ✓ **3,215** Ranked Active Players
- ✓ **180** Certified Officials representing **39** States
- ✓ **41,000+** Average Unique Website Hits a Month
- ✓ **1.7 Million** Livestream Views at a single cornhole event

"If NASCAR is a nation of 75 million people, then there's 75 million people in cornhole nation."

Kyle Petty, Kyle's Corner
NASCAR.com

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HOW TO PLAY CORNHOLE

When you're ready for the next level, view the complete ACO Rules Guide for the Sport of Cornhole at AmericanCornhole.com. Below are the ACO Basic Rules for the Game of Cornhole and can be used to get the backyard fun started.

WHAT EQUIPMENT DO YOU NEED?

2 CORNHOLE BOARDS: Approximately 24" x 48" with a 6" diameter hole, centered 9" from top of board and centered 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.

8 BAGS: 4 each of two different colors. Each bag is made from two fabric squares with double stitched seaming. The bags should be made from a durable fabric like canvas, twill, or synthetic suede. Each bag measures roughly 6" by 6" and weighs between 15 and 16 ounces.

HOW DO YOU SET UP THE COURT?

CORNHOLE BOARDS: Boards are positioned 27' from the front edge to the front edge of the board.

CORNHOLE PITCHER'S BOX: A designated pitcher's box is a 4' x 3' area at each end of the court and on each side of each board.

CORNHOLE FOUL LINES: The front edge of the cornhole board is the foul line.

HOW DO YOU KEEP SCORE?

TRADITIONAL 21: The game shall be played to the pre-determined number of 21 points. The first player/team to reach or exceed that amount at the conclusion of a frame is the winner.

VALUES: A pitched bag that remains on the cornhole board playing surface at the conclusion of the frame is a 'woody', worth 1 point. A pitched bag that passes through the cornhole board hole at any time in a frame is a 'cornhole' and is worth 3 points.

FOUL BAGS: Refers to any cornhole bag that has not been determined as a 'woody' or a 'cornhole', or was designated a foul bag due to a rules violation. Bags contacting the ground prior to reaching the playing surface and bags pitched when a player has crossed the foul line are foul bags. If a foul bag lands on the playing surface or comes to rest touching the ground and the board, it must be removed immediately.

FAULTS: A fault occurs if a player puts his or her foot over the foul line front edge of the board during the throw, or if a player throws out of turn. A fault results in the bag from the faulted throw being removed from the playing surface, if applicable.

CANCELLATION SCORING: The approved method of scoring for the sport of cornhole is cancellation scoring. In cancellation scoring, the points of one player cancel out their opponent. Using this method, only one player/team can score in each frame. Example: Team Red achieves 1 woody (worth 1 total point) and 2 cornholes (worth 3 points each, 6 total points). Team Blue achieves 2 woodies (worth 1 point each, 2 total points) and 1 cornhole (worth 3 total points). This means that Team Red scored 7 total points in that frame, and Team Blue scored 5 total points, which nets Team Red 2 points for that frame (7 - 5 = 2).



PLAY OF THE GAME:

SINGLES PLAY: Player A will compete against Player B. These players will both stay in their designated lane for the whole game. Players start the game at the headboard and will alternate pitching bags until each player has pitched all 4 of his or her bags. Players will then walk to the end of their lane to the other board, and resume pitching back towards the original board.

DOUBLES PLAY: Team A will compete against Team B – each team is comprised of 2 people. Each team will stay in their designated lane for the whole game. Players at the headboard will alternate pitching bags until each player has pitched all 4 of his or her bags. Players at the footboard will then resume pitching back towards the headboard.

PITCHING: Players alternate pitching bags (one player at a time) until each player has pitched all 4 of his or her bags. A player must pitch all 4 cornhole bags from their designated cornhole pitcher's box. One foot must be completely within the pitcher's box at the time of release of the bag. Players must not cross the foul line with their feet before the bag has landed.

PITCHING THE NEXT FRAME: The player/team who scored last shall pitch first in the next frame. If neither player/team scores in a frame, the player/team who pitched first in the preceding frame shall retain first pitch in the next frame.

RAKING CORNHOLE BAGS: If bags become piled inside the cornhole board hole and may interfere with or obstruct the next pitch, or if there is a question whether a bag would've fallen through the hole naturally, a player may request to 'rake' the cornhole bags that have fallen inside the hole. During raking, all efforts should be made to leave bags on the playing surface undisturbed, including any 'lippers' that may fall in unnaturally during the raking process. If a bag is resting on the raked bags, and unavoidably falls in the hole as a result of raking, it shall be counted as a cornhole.

TALK THE TALK:

FRAME: A frame consist of a player pitching his or her four bags from one board to another. Players must pitch all four bags from the same side of the board in frame.

PITCHER'S BOX: The area from which a player throws their bag.

WOODY: A pitched bag that remains on the cornhole board playing surface at the end of a frame, worth 1 point.

CORNHOLE: A pitched bag that passes through the cornhole board hole at any time within a frame, worth 3 points.

FOUL BAG: Any cornhole bag that is not a woody or a cornhole, or has been designated a foul bag as a result of a rules violation. Foul bags touching the board and the ground must be removed from the playing surface immediately.

LIPPER: A woody that is hanging on the lip of the hole and ready to drop in

SLICK WOODY: A pitched bag that slides up the board into the hole

CORNBREAD: A pitched bag landing between the front of the cornhole board and the hole

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ACO JERSEYS

ACO Jerseys are awarded to ACO Members who earn them. ACO Player jerseys are also available for purchase. Take a look at the guide below, then the next time you see a player at an ACO tournament wearing one of these jerseys, you'll know what status they are!



TOP GUN 20
Awarded to the top
20 Ranked Teams

CORNLY 40
Awarded to the top
40 Ranked Players



ACO PRO
Awarded to the players
recognized as PROS

ACO PRO
Awarded to the players
recognized as PROS



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ACO PLAYER
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your ACO Conference



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player/team of the Season



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Champions at an ACO
Major



STATE CHAMPION
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Champions at an ACO
State Championship



CONFERENCE CHAMPION
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ACO Conferece Championship



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Champions at Worlds

KING OF CORNHOLE
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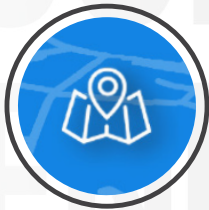
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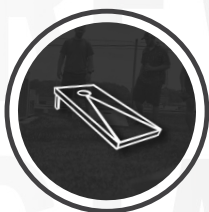
ACA TOURNAMENT APP

PLAYCORNHOLE.ORG



FIND TOURNAMENTS

Interactive map to find the hottest cornhole events near you.



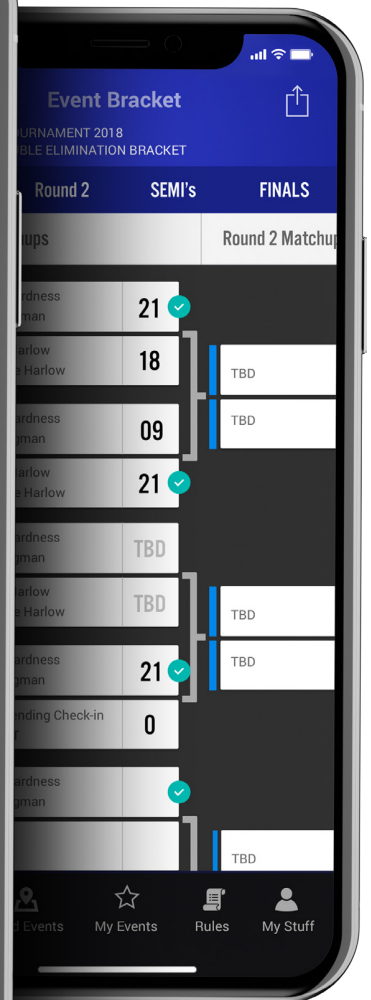
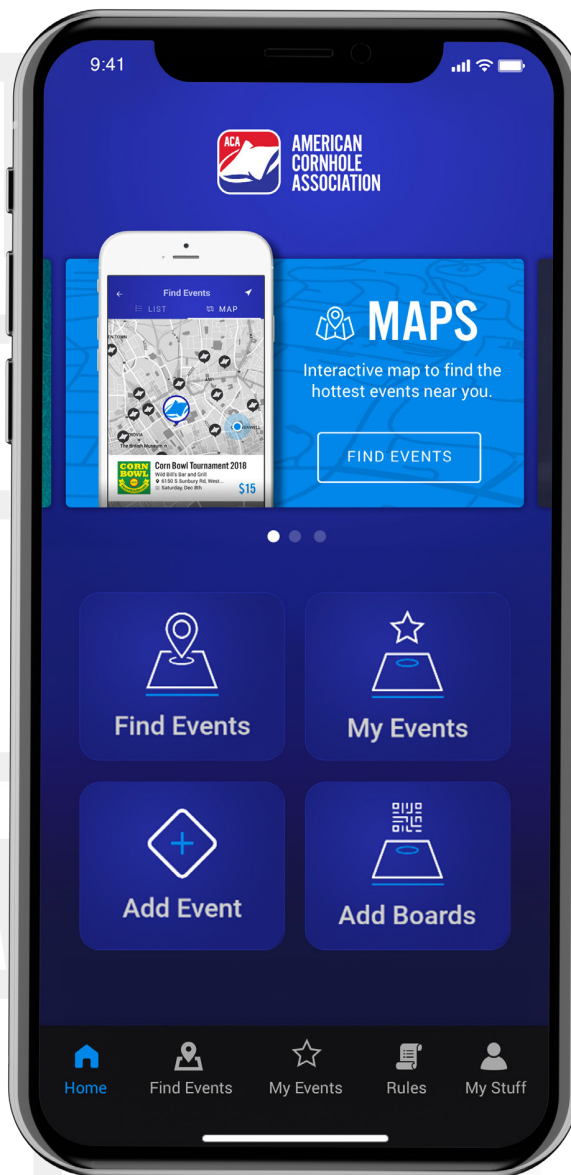
CREATE CORNHOLE EVENTS

Schedule private or public cornhole games and invite your friends to join.



QR LABELS

Turn any cornhole board into a tournament ready board.



THE ORIGINAL AND OFFICIAL
GOVERNING BODY OF CORNHOLE





WEST GOES EAST

HOW CORNHOLE BECAME THE PERFECT SPORT IN "THE VERTICAL CITY" OF HONG KONG

Hong Kong has been called "Asia's World City", the "Vertical City" and even "Fragrant Harbour", but it may soon be known as the "Cornhole Capital of the East".

The ACO spoke with Wong Ka Chun, Chairperson of Hong Kong Cornhole Association (HKCA) about the growing popularity of this sport in their beautiful city.

As physical educators, we're always looking for new sports opportunities for youth, and at the same time, to nurture young sports talent.

When we first watched a cornhole match on YouTube, we were amazed by this new American game, especially how it's so well suited for people of all ages and can be played anywhere. It's



Wong Ka Chun,
Chairperson of
Hong Kong Cornhole
Association (HKCA)

relatively simple... but can be very challenging too. We've seen kids as young as 3 years old enjoy the game.

In a city like Hong Kong, where every inch of space is precious, it's great to introduce a game like cornhole which requires simple set up and a small playing area. We also believe that it is feasible to set up the game at schools in Hong Kong.

To begin, we set up the HKCA, and our next step is to bring it to primary school students. We're going to encourage primary school teachers to begin building teams, and many teachers are already members of the HKCA.

Right now, we're introducing the game in our own school, and we'll organize some competitions among different districts, and we believe that cornhole will become a very popular sport among the primary level in a short period of time.

We are also working hard to organize the Hong Kong Cornhole Open with local rankings. This will allow us to select top players to represent Hong Kong at ACO Tournaments in the USA. If everything is on schedule – hopefully – we will be able to send our players to compete in the ACO Season 16, and hopefully ACO Worlds 16!

Other projects we're working on is setting up our own office in Hong Kong, developing local rules for different levels, and creating our own boards with our logo on it.

We thank the ACO for their guidance and support, and strongly believe that everything will be easier and more effective with their support. Game On, Hong Kong!

ACO PLAZA MAJOR

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ENTER TO WIN

We know you have a competitive streak. Visit (1) one attraction and (5) five local dining & entertainment venues listed below, take a picture at each stop and tag **#RealColumbiaSC** and **#ACOWorlds15** to be entered to win a prize.

For the most up-to-date information on attractions and dining, please visit **ExperienceColumbiaSC.com**.

MAJOR ATTRACTIONS

1. COLUMBIA MUSEUM OF ART

1515 Main St. - Columbia
ColumbiaMuseum.org

2. EDVENTURE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

211 Gervais St. - Columbia
Edventure.org

3. HISTORIC COLUMBIA

1601 Richland St. - Columbia
HistoricColumbia.org
**Only Gardens Open*

4. RIVERBANKS ZOO & GARDEN

500 Wildlife Parkway - Columbia
Riverbanks.org

5. SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM

301 Gervais St. - Columbia
SCMuseum.org

BREWS, BITES & FUN

6. HICKORY TAVERN

907 Senate St. - Columbia
TheHickoryTavern.com

7. LIBERTY TAP ROOM

828 Gervais St. - Columbia
LibertyTapRoom.com

8. WORLD OF BEER

902 Gervais St., Ste. F - Columbia
WorldofBeer.com

9. CRAFT AXE THROWING

700 Gervais St., Ste. B - Columbia
CraftAxeThrowing.com

10. TWISTED SPUR BREWING

705 Gervais St., Ste. A - Columbia
TwistedSpurBrewing.com

11. CAROLINA ALE HOUSE

708 Lady St. - Columbia
CarolinaAleHouse.com

12. WILD WING CAFE

729 Lady St. - Columbia
WildWingCafe.com

13. COLUMBIA CRAFT BREWING

520 Greene St. - Columbia
ColumbiaCraft.com

14. THIRSTY FELLOW

621 Gadsden St. - Columbia
ThirstyFellow.com

15. THE GRAND ON MAIN (BOUTIQUE BOWLING)

1621 Main St. - Columbia
TheGrandOnMain.com

16. MAIN COURSE/FULL SWING GOLF SUITES

1626 Main St. - Columbia
MainCourseSC.com

17. STEEL HANDS BREWING

2350 Foreman St. - Cayce
SteelHandsBrewing.com



● = Games that are OPEN to any spectator (no ACO Membership required)

★ = Championship Games

MONDAY, JULY 20

● ACO WORLDS KICK OFF BASH

7:00 PM

TUESDAY, JULY 21

TAILGATOR DOUBLES - ROUND #1

12:00 NOON

See appendix below for complete Tailgator Championship details

TAILGATOR DOUBLES - ROUND #2

4:00 PM

See appendix below for complete Tailgator Championship details

★ ACO WORLD BIG BLIND DRAW WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

6:00 PM

Only players ranked 1-128 on the ACO Blind Draw Standings are eligible to participate

Online registration only

\$40 per player (Not included in Golden Ticket)

50% payout up to maximum of \$2,560.00

Trophies for the top 2 teams

Players will be awarded points based on their finish. Those points will be added to their ACO Season 15 points. The player with the most points on ACO Blind Draw Standings at the conclusion will be named "ACO Blind Draw Player of the Season" and will be awarded a custom jersey

Teams are randomly drawn

Double elimination

1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket

Traditional double-dip finals match

● ACO OPEN BIG BLIND DRAW DIVISION

7:00PM

Open to all players. ACO Membership not required

Walk-up registration only

\$20 per player (Not included in Golden Ticket)

50% payout

Teams are randomly drawn

Double elimination

1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket

Traditional double-dip finals match

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

DOORS OPEN: 9:00 AM

● CREW CUP - OPEN BLIND DRAW

10:00AM

Open to all players. ACO Membership not required.

Walk-up registration only.

\$10 per player (Not included in Golden Ticket)

50% payout

4 players will be randomly drawn for each team

Two teammates toss from each end of the boards, alternating pitches every bag

Double elimination. 1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket. Traditional double-dip finals match

TAILGATOR DOUBLES - ROUND #3

12:00PM

See appendix below for complete Tailgator Championship details



*All start times may be adjusted based on participation

● **ACO SLYDER CUP - OPEN DIVISION**

2:00PM

Open to all players. ACO Membership not required.
Walk-up registration only.

\$125 per team / \$25 per player
(Not included in Golden Ticket)

70% payout

5 players per team

For each match, teams will play (2) doubles games and
(1) singles game against their opponents

The winner of 2 out of 3 of the individual games will
win the match and advance

Double elimination. 1 match in the winner's bracket, 1
match in the consolation bracket. Traditional double-
dip finals match

● **ACO SLYDER CUP - NON-PRO DIVISION**

2:00PM

Open to all non ACO-PRO players or non-"PRO" players
from any other organizations. No ACO Membership
required. Walk-up registration only.

\$75 per team / \$15 per player

50% payout

5 players per team

For each match, teams will play (2) doubles games
and (1) singles game against their opponents

The winner of 2 out of 3 of the individual games
will win the match and advance

Double elimination. 1 match in the winner's bracket,
1 match in the consolation bracket. Traditional
double-dip finals match

TAILGATOR DOUBLES - ROUND #4

4:00PM

See the end of this schedule for complete
Tailgator Championship details

★ **PLAYER OF THE SEASON PLAYOFFS**

5:00PM

Players/Teams who earned a minimum of (3) 1st
place Major finishes and (4) 1st place Regional finishes
during ACO Season 15 in their respective Divisions

The winner/s of each playoff will be named
"ACO Player/Team of the Season" for their Division

The winners will be awarded custom
Player/Team of the Season Jerseys

The winners will be the #1 overall seeds in the
Championship brackets for their respective Divisions

*Note: All other playoff players will be seeded in
the Championship brackets according to the ACO
Standings, NOT their finish in the playoff*

Players/teams with (2) players/teams in their playoff
will play a best 2 of 3 match. Players/teams with 3 or
more players/teams in their playoff will be randomly
placed in a double elimination bracket. 1 game in the
winners, 1 game in the losers. The final match will be
straight-up best 2 of 3.

WHO'S IN THE RUNNING FOR PLAYER OF THE SEASON:

SINGLES PLAYOFF

- Erick Davis
- Matt Guy
- Tanner Halbert

SENIORS PLAYOFF

- Bobby Mumper
- Mike Arrington Sr
- Wayne Rau

WOMENS PLAYOFF

- Megan Maupin
- Paula Stevens
- Maggie Geiger
- Tammy Williams

JUNIORS PLAYOFF

- Austin Cameron
- Dylan Aufdenberg

WEDNESDAY,
5:00PM



● = Games that are OPEN to any spectator (no ACO Membership required)

★ = Championship Games

ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIAL SHOOTOUT

8:00PM

Open to all ACO Certified Officials

Walk-up only

FREE to enter for Certified Officials

\$500 to top finishers

The winner will receive a custom championship jersey

Certified Officials will compete in (2) separate tourneys:

Blind Draw Doubles, and Singles

Players will accumulate points from each tourney to determine overall winners



If your heart is in the game, and you want to make some extra income, join the ACO family as a Certified Official in your area.

HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN:

- Host points-earning ACO Regional tournaments for yourself and your friends
- Qualify for the ACO World Championships of Cornhole
- Get FREE advertising for your Cornhole organization and tournaments through the ACO's highly trafficked website and FaceBook page
- No ACO equipment? No problem. Use the ACO Approved equipment you already have to get started
- Earn money coordinating events
- Earn money signing up ACO Members
- FREE access to great tools to help you run great tourneys and manage your own Cornhole organization
- Join an exclusive group – Get advice from, and interact with the best Cornhole tournament directors in the Country
- Play, and earn ACO Standing points to qualify for tournaments, get special invites, and become an ACO-PRO Player! (Yes, ACO Certified Officials can play in their own tournaments!)
- Become a part of the ACO community and family- Great people, great times, and the best competition!

Does this sound like you? If so, visit AmericanCornhole.com and click the 'Officials' tab, or contact Eric Hinerman by email at ehinerman@AmericanCornhole.com or call (888)-563-2002.

THURSDAY, JULY 24

8:00AM - DOORS OPEN

ACO WORLD SINGLES RPI (RANKED PLAYERS INVITATIONAL)

9:00AM

The RPI is mini-bracket pool play structured tournaments used to qualify players into the ACO Singles Championship Bracket

Online registration only

Golden ticket or Singles ticket is required

Maximum of 440 players

Open to all ACO players ranked 41st and over on the ACO World Singles Standings who earned a minimum of 12pts during ACO Season 15

Players ranked 1-40 bypass the RPI and are placed directly into the ACO World Singles Championship bracket

A minimum of 88 players will advance from the RPI Singles into the ACO World Singles Championship bracket

NOTE: If any players ranked 1-40 on the ACO World Singles Standings do not attend the Worlds, more qualifying spots will open from the RPI.

Players will not "bump up" automatically

Based on participation, there will be a maximum of 44 mini-bracket pools with up to 10 players per pool

Mini-brackets pools will be established and seeded according to the ACO World Singles Standings

Each mini-bracket pool will be a double elimination bracket

A minimum of 2 players will advance from each pool into the ACO World Singles Championship bracket

NOTE: If an odd number of players are to be taken into the Championship bracket, ties may be broken by ACO World Singles Standings



**All start times may be adjusted based on participation*

ACO WORLD SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET

12:00PM

128 players will be admitted

Players Ranked 1-40 on the ACO World Singles Standings

A minimum of 88 players from RPI

50% payout up to maximum of \$20,000.00

Trophies for the top 8 players

The winner will receive the ACO World Singles Champion jersey and earn all lifetime benefits associated with the title

Seeded based on ACO World Singles Standings

Double Elimination bracket

1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket

IMPORTANT: Once the double elimination bracket is narrowed to (8) final players, play will stop for the day. When play resumes on Saturday, the (8) remaining players will be reseeded according to the ACO World Singles Standings. The (8) remaining players will then be placed into a best 2 of 3, SINGLE ELIMINATION bracket. The Championship match will be a straight-up best 2 of 3 match played Saturday

TAILGATOR DOUBLES - ROUND #5

12:00PM

See the end of this schedule for complete Tailgator Championship details

● CREW CUP - BRING YOUR OWN TEAM

2:00PM

Open to all players. ACO Membership not required

Walk-up registration only

\$80 per team / \$20 per player (Not included in Golden Ticket)

50% payout

4 players per team

Two teammates toss from each end of the boards, alternating pitches every bag

Double elimination. 1 match in the winner's bracket, 1 match in the consolation bracket

Traditional double-dip finals match

TAILGATOR DOUBLES - ROUND #6

4:00PM

See the end of this schedule for complete Tailgator Championship details

ACO WORLD WOMENS

5:00PM

Open to all ACO Women players who earned a minimum of 12pts on the ACO World Womens Standings during ACO Season 15

Maximum of 96 players

Online registration, walk-up if space remains

\$40 for individual tickets. Included in Golden ticket

50% payout up to maximum of \$1,920.00. Trophies for top 3 finishers. The winner will receive the custom ACO World Womens Champion jersey

Seeded based on ACO World Womens Standings

Double Elimination bracket. 1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket. The Championship match will be a straight-up best 2 of 3 match played Saturday

ACO WORLD SENIORS

5:00PM

Open to all ACO Seniors players who earned a minimum of 12pts on the ACO World Seniors Standings during ACO Season 15

Maximum of 96 players

Online registration, walk-up if space remains



● = Games that are OPEN to any spectator (no ACO Membership required)

★ = Championship Games

\$40 for individual tickets. Included in Golden ticket
50% payout up to maximum of \$1,920.00. Trophies for top 3 finishers. The winner will receive the custom ACO World Seniors Champion jersey

Seeded based on ACO World Seniors Standings

Double Elimination bracket. 1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket. The Championship match will be a straight-up best 2 of 3 match played Saturday.

ACO WORLD JUNIORS

5:00PM

Open to all ACO Juniors players who earned a minimum of 12pts on the ACO World Juniors Standings during ACO Season 15

Maximum of 96 players

Registration:

Online registration, walk-up if space remains

Entry fee:

\$20 for individual tickets. Included in Golden ticket

Awards

50% payout in prizes up to maximum of \$960.00 in prize value

Trophies for top 3 finishers

The winner will receive the custom ACO World Juniors Champion jersey

Format:

Seeded based on ACO World Juniors Standings

Double Elimination bracket

1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket

The Championship match will be a straight-up best 2 of 3 match played Saturday

FRIDAY, JULY 25

8:00AM - DOORS OPEN

ACO WORLD DOUBLES RPI (RANKED PLAYER INVITATIONAL)

9:00AM

The RPI is mini-bracket pool play structured tournaments used to qualify teams into the ACO Doubles Championship Bracket.

Online registration only

Golden ticket or Doubles ticket is required

Maximum of 440 teams

Open to all ACO teams ranked 41st and over on the ACO World Doubles Standings

Players who have reached a minimum of 12 ACO World Doubles points with any partner during ACO Season 15 may register with any other player who has earned 12 points

Teams ranked 1-40 bypass the RPI and are placed directly into the ACO World Doubles Championship bracket

A minimum of 88 teams will advance from the RPI Singles into the ACO World Singles Championship bracket

NOTE: If any teams ranked 1-40 on the ACO World Doubles Standings do not attend the Worlds, more qualifying spots will open from the RPI.

Teams will not "bump up" automatically

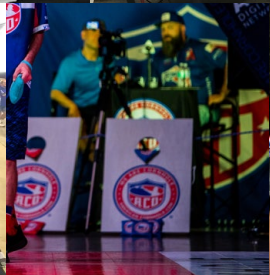
Based on participation, there will be a maximum of 44 mini-bracket pools with up to 10 teams per pool

Each mini-bracket pool will be a double elimination bracket

A minimum of 2 teams will advance from each pool into the ACO World Doubles Championship bracket



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WeCast and more.



● = Games that are OPEN to any spectator (no ACO Membership required)

★ = Championship Games

ACO WORLD DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET

12:00PM

128 teams will be admitted

Teams Ranked 1-40 on the ACO World Doubles Standings

A minimum of 88 players from RPI

50% payout up to maximum of \$25,000.00. Trophies for the top 4 teams. The winning team will receive ACO World Doubles Champion jerseys

Seeded based on ACO World Doubles Standings

Double Elimination bracket. 1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket

IMPORTANT: Once the double elimination bracket is narrowed to (4) final teams, play will stop for the day. When play resumes on Saturday, the (4) remaining players will be reseeded according to the ACO World Doubles Standings. The (4) remaining teams will then be placed into a best 2 of 3, SINGLE ELIMINATION bracket.

TAILGATOR DOUBLES - ROUND #7

12:00PM

See the end of this schedule for complete Tailgator Championship details

● WOMENS DOUBLES

2:00PM

Open to all Womens Doubles teams. No ACO Membership required

Online registration, walk-up if space remains

\$40 per team (\$20 per player)

50% payout. Trophies for 1st place

Two women players per team

Randomly seeded

Double elimination. 1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket. Traditional double-dip finals match

● SENIORS DOUBLES

2:00PM

Open to all Seniors Doubles teams (55+). No ACO Membership required

Online registration, walk-up if space remains

\$40 per team (\$20 per player)

50% payout. Trophies for 1st place

Two seniors players per team

Randomly seeded

Double elimination. 1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket. Traditional double-dip finals match

ACO WORLD COED

4:00PM

Open to all ACO Coed teams

Maximum of 128 teams

Players who have reached a minimum of 12 ACO World Coed points with any partner during ACO Season 15 may register with any other player who has earned 12 points

Online registration, walk-up if space remains

\$40 per team (\$20 per player) (Included in Golden Ticket)

50% payout up to maximum of \$2,560.00. Trophies for top 3 teams. The winning team will receive ACO World Coed Champion jerseys

Seeded according to ACO World Coed Standings

Double elimination. 1 game in the winner's bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket. The Championship match will be a straight-up best 2 of 3 match played Saturday

TAILGATOR DOUBLES - ROUND #8

4:00PM

See the end of this schedule for complete Tailgator Championship details



**All start times may be adjusted based on participation*

SATURDAY, JULY 25

★ TAILGATOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

10:00AM

8 qualifying teams
Single Elimination best 2 of 3

LIFETIMER MATCHES

10:00AM

Open to ACO Lifetime members with ACO Tattoos
Single Elimination, one and done. Seeded according to
ACO World Singles Standings

OPENING CEREMONY / NATIONAL ANTHEM

11:30AM

★ LIFETIMER CHAMPIONSHIP

11:45AM

★ ACO WORLD COED CHAMPIONSHIP

12:30PM

Championships - Best 2 of 3

★ ACO WORLD JUNIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

1:00PM

Championships - Best 2 of 3

★ ACO WORLD SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

1:30PM

Championships - Best 2 of 3

★ ACO WORLD WOMENS CHAMPIONSHIP

2:00PM

Championships - Best 2 of 3

ACO WORLD DOUBLES

2:30PM

Final 4 Match One - Best 2 of 3

ACO WORLD DOUBLES

3:00PM

Final 4 Match Two - Best 2 of 3

★ ACO WORLD DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

3:30PM

Championships - Best 2 of 3

AWARDS CEREMONY

4:00PM

ACO WORLD SINGLES

5:00PM

Final 8 Match One - Best 2 of 3

ACO WORLD SINGLES

5:30PM

Final 8 Match Two - Best 2 of 3

ACO WORLD SINGLES

6:00PM

Final 8 Match Three - Best 2 of 3

ACO WORLD SINGLES

6:30PM

Final 8 Match Four - Best 2 of 3

ACO WORLD SINGLES

7:00PM

Final 4 Match One - Best 2 of 3

ACO WORLD SINGLES

7:30PM

Final 4 Match Two - Best 2 of 3

★ ACO WORLD SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

8:00PM

Championships - Best 2 of 3

CROWNING KING OR QUEEN OF CORNHOLE

8:45PM

CLOSING PARTY

9:00PM

DETAILS TO COME



COLUMBIA, SC • JULY 2020
ACO WORLDS 15

THE ACO TAILGATOR CHAMPIONSHIPS IS A SERIES OF 8 “SOCIAL” QUALIFYING DOUBLES TOURNAMENTS PLAYED THROUGHOUT THE WEEK AT THE ACO WORLDS. THE WINNING TEAM FROM EACH QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT WILL BE ENTERED IN THE 8-TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET ON SATURDAY.

DETAILS:

- Doubles Competition (Teams)
- Each qualifier will be a Double Elimination tournament (pool play may be used if needed). 1 game in the winners bracket, 1 game in the consolation bracket
- \$25 per team per qualifier advance registration (\$50 for walk up)
- Prizes will be awarded to the top teams in each qualifier
- A team is eligible to compete in as many of the 8 qualifier tournaments as they would like if space is available.
- However, a team is only eligible to win one qualifying tournament. Once a team qualifies, they are no longer eligible to compete in other qualifier tournaments. That team will now advance to Championship Saturday, July 25, 2020. If that team purchased other Tailgator World Tournament Qualifier entries for later in the week, they will be credited back \$25.00 per tournament that they are no longer eligible to participate in.
- Tailgator World Championships will take place Saturday July 25, 2020.
- The eight (8) qualifying teams will compete in a single elimination, best 2 of 3 bracket.
- There will be prizes and trophies for top 8 teams (TBD).
- Players will not need to be ACO Members to participate
- No recognized ACO-PRO players or PRO players from any other organizations will be eligible to compete
- No ACO team from the top 150 in World Doubles Rankings for Season 15 will be eligible to compete as a team



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FROM HERE



MINUTES

ACO LAKE COUNTY MAJOR
& FLORIDA STATE
CHAMPIONSHIPS
OF CORNHOLE



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UNEXPECTED ENERGY OF

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GET IN ON THE SECRET AND COME DISCOVER ALL
THAT MAKES IT THE REAL SOUTHERN HOT SPOT.

COLUMBIA

WILL LEAVE YOU

EXCLAIMING

“WHO KNEW!?”

In the heart of South Carolina, Columbia has all the gracious charm you'd expect from a Southern destination. A mid-size city, it feels more like a small town that's all grown up with dynamite restaurants, great shopping and a robust arts and festival scene. To top it off, it's still got a few things that make life just a little easier. Whether you're looking to rollick through downtown or take

a break on the banks of the Congaree River, you can't miss the palpable energy borne of a capital city crossed with a college town located smack in the middle of a great Southern state. You'll soon see why Columbia SC is the coolest city you've never heard of....yet.

COLUMBIA IS UNIQUELY SITUATED AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THREE RIVERS, MAKING IT POSSIBLE TO GO FROM THE MIDDLE OF TOWN TO WHAT FEELS LIKE THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE IN NO TIME FLAT.

Kayak, tube, fish or paddle your way down the Congaree River against the backdrop of the downtown Columbia skyline. Or trek further and get lost in your thoughts amidst the fresh air and cool waters of Lake Murray or the old growth hardwood forest of Congaree National Park. Not only is Congaree National Park the only National Park in the state, but it's also one of the only locations in the



“It feels more like a small town that’s all grown up.”

world where you can witness the rare natural phenomenon of firefly synchronization each year in late-May to mid-June (free of charge, we might add).

Downtown, you’ll find several distinct neighborhood districts, each offering its own vibe and collection of shopping, restaurants,

nightlife and events. From the open-air Soda City Market every Saturday morning along Main Street and the boutique shopping experiences down Devine Street to the nightlife of the Vista and al fresco dining of Five Points, plus many more, Columbia grants you front row access to all of

this with affordable prices, manageable traffic, lots of parking, walkability and public art transforming humdrum spaces into unexpected places around every corner.

Definitely fit for foodies, Southern staples like shrimp and grits, pimento cheese, chicken and waffles and



pulled pork barbecue with our legendary mustard-based barbecue are off the charts. With plentiful multicultural cuisine options like Thai, Jamaican, Ethiopian, Argentinian and everything in between, expanding your palate and trying something new is made easy. And with a climate conducive to year-round farm-fresh ingredients, lucky for us, chefs who know just what to do with them have flocked from all over.

Why not bring the family? That's right, home to the award-winning Riverbanks Zoo and EdVenture, the largest children's museum

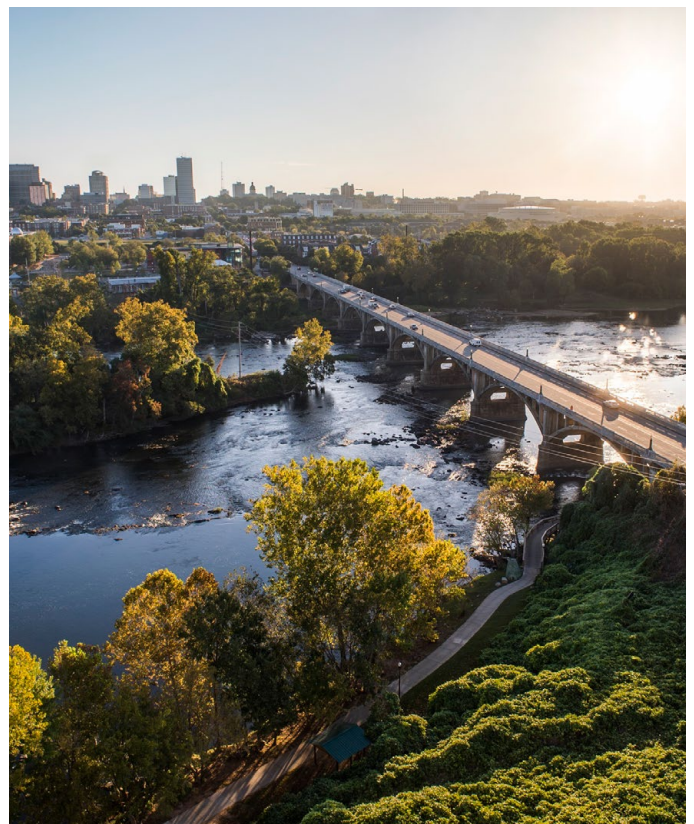
“ *Get in on the secret and come discover all that makes it the real Southern hot spot.* ”

in the Southeast, Columbia keeps your tribe as busy as you want it to be. Or get in some adults-only time with a visit to our premier international art museum, the Columbia Museum of Art, followed by brewery hopping. Might we recommend checking out Hunter-Gatherer Brewery at The Hangar, located inside an historic airplane hangar that once had the likes of Jimmy Doolittle and Amelia Earhart pass through its doors.

Plan ahead and shape your trip around an annual signature event. Experience the arts

through music, film, video games and more at Indie Grits or get a culinary crash course with the Columbia Food and Wine Festival in April, share a toast at the Drink Pink Rosé Festival in May, sample summer's bounty with the Lexington County Peach Festival in July, immerse yourself in history at Jubilee: Festival of Black History & Culture in September or dine above the Congaree River at the Gervais Street Bridge Dinner in October. Trust us when we say this doesn't even begin to scratch the surface of the jam-packed calendar of events.

Whatever it is that draws you in, we know one thing's for sure – Columbia SC will leave you exclaiming, “Who knew!?” Get in on the secret and come discover all that makes it the real Southern hot spot.





Don't



miss



the action



in



South Bend!



November 27-28



at



Century Center.



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15 YEARS. 100 P







15 YEARS. 100 P



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PHOTOS. 1 FAMILY.

(and 1 engagement!)





CHAMPIONS TALK

THE ACO SITS DOWN WITH A FEW OF THE ACO WORLDS 14 CHAMPIONS AND ASKS SOME QUESTIONS

**WHAT WAS IT LIKE THE MOMENT YOU WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP
MATCH? WHAT WAS GOING THROUGH YOUR MIND?**

Austin Cameron: When I won the championship I was feeling pumped up and proud of myself. The moment when I won I knew I was the best!

Don Bailey: When I won, I was ecstatic with a thousand thoughts running through my mind. The day before the championship I pitched against Junior in a blind draw tournament and he put a whoopin' on me! I was tickled I got by him to take the title. Prior to the event I asked the Lord for one thing. I asked Him please do not let me go out there and embarrass myself. Well, He went out there with me and was by my side the whole way and I could sense it, which allowed me to be calm. No nerves and I played great. I felt bad for Junior because he is a class act and I'd love to see him win one (after I retire lol).

Kaleb Hurt: It was exciting knowing I had just won a World Championship. In that moment, I realized that all of the time and effort put into it paid off.

Paula Stevens: "Holy crap, I did it and I can't believe it!" I was a little numb.

Tammy Williams: Words can't explain what I was feeling at that moment. I was so excited and emotional at the same time. I have to say that the best feeling of all was seeing my partner Kaleb Hurt's excitement and his family's faces, and seeing how proud they were for the both of us and how proud my Husband JR Williams was for us as well. That said it all! It was a very exciting time and moment for me for sure!

Tanner Halbert: The moment winning the championship match is a feeling I'll never forget. When I threw that last bag in, knowing I had won us the title, I jumped like 3 feet off the ground. I was like, "You did it, you finally won a World Championship!"

**HOW LONG DID IT TAKE BEFORE IT TRULY HIT YOU THAT YOU
HAD WON THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP AND YOU WERE NOW
CONSIDERED THE BEST IN THE WORLD?**

Austin Cameron: Not until I got home.

Don Bailey: I knew I did good when my ole buddy Eric Hinerman ran out on stage and gave me a big hug. The immediate response from the cornhole fraternity was overwhelming too; everyone was genuine when congratulating me. However, when I returned to Cincinnati and played in the weekly blind draw about a week or so later, I was greeted as the Champ. Everyone was calling me Champ and that made it real. Very humbling, I'm very grateful.

Kaleb Hurt: It didn't hit me until the next day that Tammy and I were the best Co-Ed team in the world.

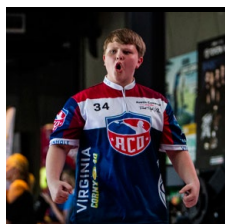
Paula Stevens: It took a few days for it to actually kick in. I was still like, "Did this really happen???" I have to give a lot of credit to my partner Kaleb for having as much confidence in me as I had in him. We worked so hard for it and now I can say that hard work and dedication does pay off.

Tammy Williams: It took a few days for it to actually kick in. I was still like, "Did this really happen???" I have to give a lot of credit to my partner Kaleb for having as much confidence in me as I had in him. We worked so hard for it and now I can say that hard work and dedication does pay off.

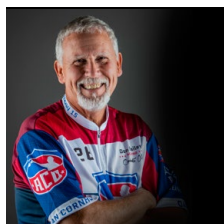
Tanner Halbert: I was laying in bed that night in my hotel after it was all over, and I was like, "Wow, I'm finally a World Champion", and to be considered to be one of the best in the world is a real honor to me. When I was coming up I put in so much work to be great, and it finally paid off.

**WAS THERE A MINDSET THAT YOU WENT INTO SEASON 14
WITH SUCH AS BEING FOCUSED ON WINNING THE WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP FROM THE START OR WAS IT SOMETHING THAT
EVOLVED AS THE SEASON WENT ON?**

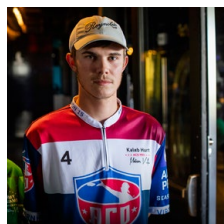
Don Bailey: Going into Season 14 I had no mindset. The Majors I had previously played in, I had played poorly. Everything changed when Jimmy Krauser asked me to be his partner. He had me playing in Majors more so than ever before. I noticed that my



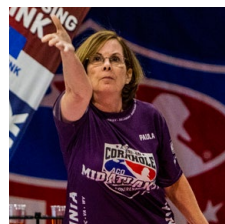
Austin Cameron
ACO Juniors
World Champion



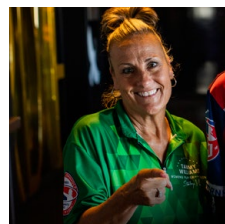
Don Bailey
ACO Seniors
World Champion



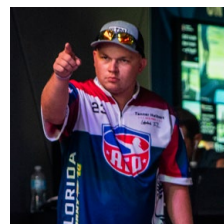
Kaleb Hurt
ACO Coed
World Champion



Paula Stevens
ACO Womens
World Champion



Tammy Williams
ACO Coed
World Champion



Tanner Halbert
ACO Doubles
World Champion

confidence began to improve as I gradually got used to playing in those big events. The first time I entertained thoughts of becoming the Senior World Champion was when I double-dipped Tom Bobo to win my first Senior's Major. If you have ever played Tom Bobo, you know how difficult it is to beat him.

Kaleb Hurt: It was always a thought in the back of my mind, but it became more of a realistic thought after we won our first Major.

Paula Stevens: After I won my first Major in Women's at Monroeville, PA, I thought maybe I can be Player of the Season in Womens. I just tried to stay focused. I never had Womens World Champion on my mind until Friday night at Worlds. I went undefeated in Women's. I didn't even really think about having to play on Saturday night for the World Championship. Probably a good thing. Lol

Tammy Williams: Everyone goes into the season wanting to do well and wanting to win the championships and be that person to watch out for. My mindset is to do the best I can, every time I step up to that board, and what's meant to be will be. I tell myself that if I throw well and still lose, then I'm okay with that. If I don't, then I just have to continue to work harder and harder to do better.

Tanner Halbert: I mean, winning a World Championship I feel like is a goal for everyone. You just have to perform well enough each and every day to put yourself in the position to win one.

WAS THERE PRESSURE AT THE START OF SEASON 15 KNOWING THAT YOU WERE NOW THE PLAYER TO BEAT? HAVE OTHER PLAYERS TREATED YOU DIFFERENTLY, BOTH AS A PERSON AND A PLAYER?

Austin Cameron: My game was just improving and improving and practice pays off, now people know who I am now that's about it.

Don Bailey: The pressure I felt coming into Season 15 was self-induced. Initially I must have thought if I showed up I would win. T-bone Dawson, Steve Heath, Jim Frantz, Allen Wingham and Steve Mullis were a few of the guys that let me know real quick that if I wanted to repeat, I'd have to bring it. I had lost confidence

in my throw and was revamping it which didn't help matters. The cornhole fraternity is great – all of them acknowledged the fact that I had won a championship, but really we're all buds and that title wasn't a big deal. We're all there to hang out, drink a beer and have a good time.

Kaleb Hurt: Yes, because everyone expects you to win. Since Season 15 has started, it feels like some people feel like they don't have a chance when they play us, knowing we are Co-Ed World Champions.

Paula Stevens: Absolutely, especially the women. They say things like, "I want to play like you do." Or, "I'm coming for you!" Never in my life did I think anyone would want to play like me.

Tammy Williams: No, not really any pressure. I just wanted to play up to my potential going into the season. No, I don't think I was treated any differently as a person or player. I would get a comment from time to time saying they were nervous playing against me 'cause I was a champion, but I would say, "No need to be nervous – I'm nervous too!"

Tanner Halbert: I didn't think there was any pressure on me as the "player to beat." I'm still gonna be me and put as many bags in as I can and hope I win.

HOW MUCH PRESSURE DO YOU PUT ON YOURSELF TO REPEAT?

Austin Cameron: It's gonna be hard to repeat because Erick Davis and Issac Hurt are real good competition

Don Bailey: It's funny, because half the time I'm thanking the Lord for my championship, and half the time I'm feeling greedy asking for another one. In the meantime, I've regained confidence in my throw and am anxious to get out there and win again! I'm guessing as World's nears, I'm gonna be getting after it.

Kaleb Hurt: It puts a lot of pressure on me after exceeding my goal last year and encouraging me to meet the same goal again. It would be nice to be two-time World Co-Ed Champions.



CHAMPIONS TALK CONTINUED

Paula Stevens: Definitely there is some pressure to do it again. I keep saying, "If I did it once, I can do it again." The competition is steep. All the women have stepped up their game.

Tammy Williams: Of course you put some pressure on yourself every time you step up to the boards. You always want to win and play the best that you can, and people expect that from you, especially when they see you as a World Champion. But that's not always the case though you win some and you will loss some. I always say if you lose and you still played a great game, then its okay to lose. If you don't play a good game, its always hard to swallow, 'cause you know you're a much better player than that.

Tanner Halbert: No matter what the situation is, I put pressure on myself to win because I don't like to lose.

HOW HAS BEING A WORLD CHAMPION IMPACTED YOUR LIFE?

Austin Cameron: Now people know who I am and know that I'm good. That's about it.

Don Bailey: Enduring what it takes to become a Champion instilled in me a sense of calm and an overwhelming feeling that if I keep throwing my best stuff at 'em I will endure. It's that ability to stay calm in a storm. It's changed my outlook considerably. It changes your thinking from, "I think I can" to, "I know I can if I give it my best".

Kaleb Hurt: It's pretty cool being from a small town. It was a big deal.

Paula Stevens: Well, I definitely had more friend requests in facebook! Lol. Players take me seriously now. The guys respect my game now.

Tammy Williams: This game we all love is not measured in the amount of dollars you make, but in the amount of lives you impact. Never underestimate the valuable and important difference you can make in every life that you touch. So for me, World Champion is just a word – what's behind that word is the people you meet along the way and the memories you made.

Tanner Halbert: It really hasn't impacted my life that much. Every once in a while I get someone that wants to take pictures or get an autograph, but that's about it.

WHO WOULD BE YOUR ULTIMATE SPONSOR OR SPONSORS?

Austin Cameron: My ultimate sponsor would be Nike.

Don Bailey: I'm all about the American Cornhole Organization – love the ACO. Very proud of the work Frank Geers, Katherine

Kennedy, Brian Jones (his daddy too), Ryan LaBelle and especially Eric Hinerman have done. Who doesn't love William Joseph Howell and his "BOOOOMMM!" They took a backyard game and turned it into something very special. Problem is, there are a lot of players better than me to represent the ACO.

Kaleb Hurt: I don't have any sponsors, but maybe in the future that will change.

Paula Stevens: Not sure, I keep thinking why anyone would want to sponsor an old lady... Maybe Geritol??? Just kidding. I do have a sponsor for Season 15: Loco Canopies. I'm looking for a sponsor for Season 16 to cover all my travel expenses though. Anyone?

Tammy Williams: I would be humbled and honored to have any sponsor – no specific one. If you get that chance to get any sponsor, it's a good fgeeling, because you know that this business has the confidence in you as a person and as a player.

Tanner Halbert: I think for me a cool sponsor to have would be Crocs. I've been wearing them for probably close to 10 years. If I'm playing cornhole you can guarantee I got my camo Crocs on.

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE PLAYER TO WATCH AND WHY?

Austin Cameron: Erick Davis is my favorite player to watch he knows how to beat the best of the best and it's fun to watch.

Don Bailey: I loved to watch my son Michael play. Probably the best sporting event I ever witnessed was when he beat Matt Guy then Randy Atha on the King of Cornhole TV show. He's too busy with work, so now I pretty much keep an eye on The Champ, Matt Guy. Year after year, these players come out that are seemingly unstoppable, yet Matt continues to find a way to get the job done. On another note, watching Eric Hinerman trash talk his opponents into submission is pretty much fun too!

Kaleb Hurt: Eric Zocklein, because he's so much fun to watch.

Paula Stevens: Matt Guy. He's always on his game no matter what. He is the King you know.

Tammy Williams: This is a tuff one... there's several, so I'll just mention a few. I would say Kaleb Hurt. He's just a genuine player all around, his airmails are awesome, and he is so consistent. Austin Cameron – I've had the honor to watch him grow into the player he has become. It just amazes me to see how awesome – he has become "effortless". Erick Davis – that roll over shot is amazing to watch how he can do it over and over...

Tanner Halbert: Oh, Eric "EZ" Zocklein, because the amount of energy he plays with. It's fun to watch the laser focus in his eyes and he's not afraid to go for the big make or break shot!

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CHAMPIONS TALK CONTINUED

WHEN YOU ADVANCE INTO A TOURNAMENT, SUCH AS THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, GIVE US A COUPLE/FEW NAMES THAT GET YOU PUMPED UP WHEN YOU SEE YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE TO FACE THEM?

Austin Cameron: *If I were to play in another Championship, Erick Davis would get me pumped up, just knowing he's one of the best.*

Don Bailey: *Playing in our Regionals (and Worlds), I get pumped up when playing against Mike Schaffer and Gary Wenzel. These guys are always tough to beat and I know if I don't bring it I'll get beat handily. I especially like the challenge of throwing against Tom Bobo. I've seen him when his game is off, but it never seems to be when he's against me. Tom is about as good as they come!*

Kaleb Hurt: *I always like playing the toughest opponent first.*

Paula Stevens: *Really no one. I just try to do the best I can and play my game the same way every time.*

Tammy Williams: *You better get pumped up with any player these days – there's so much talent out there, and so many new players coming to the game that you don't even know. I try to stay pumped up, no matter who I play.*

Tanner Halbert: *Matt Guy, Bret Guy, EZ, Erick Davis, and Kaleb Hurt*

HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH FEAR?

Austin Cameron: *I don't know what fear is.*

Don Bailey: *Fear can be crippling. It's crippled me many times in the past. In cornhole, I do exactly as Matt Guy suggests. Every time I practice, every time I compete, I focus only on what it takes to get that bag in my hand into the hole on the opposite board. Pay no attention to your surroundings or your opponent. My son Michael once told me that if the building were burning down around me, I wouldn't notice. Focus only on getting that bag in the hole, nothing else. It gets easier with hours and hours of practice! But remember, you're human, so it isn't always going to happen.*

Kaleb Hurt: *I never really have any fear or get nervous before games.*

Paula Stevens: *Believe it or not, I don't have any fear when playing cornhole. Now public speaking? NO WAY!!*

Tammy Williams: *I tell myself, "I can do this!"*

Tanner Halbert: *Fear? What fear? I have no fear when I am on the boards.*

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BEING HELD IN SOUTH CAROLINA? AND WHERE IS YOUR ULTIMATE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP DESTINATION?

Austin Cameron: *I can't wait for it to be in SC but where I would most want it to be would be Florida.*

Don Bailey: *I love South Carolina. There are a couple of lakes referred to as Sante Copper which are known for their bass fishing. I'm entertaining thoughts of dragging my bass boat along and spending a few days fishing as well. My ultimate destination would be a World Championship in my hometown of Cincinnati.*

Kaleb Hurt: *I think it's great being back on the East Coast, and I would love to maybe see it in Virginia one day.*

Paula Stevens: *I like that Worlds will be on the East Coast. It was really expensive in Vegas last season. My ultimate destination would be in Roanoke, VA of course.*

Tammy Williams: *I think it's awesome. Looking forward to SC. I love seeing it at different locations and especially places for the whole family. I would love to see it come to Orlando, Florida.*

Tanner Halbert: *I love the idea of it being on the East Coast. Las Vegas is probably one of the best places to have a World Championship but being that I'm a family man, Vegas is very hard to take your whole family. I would love to see it in the future in places like Myrtle Beach, Nashville, Panama City Beach, Orlando.*

IS THERE ANY WORDS OF ADVICE OR TRASH TALK TO ANYONE WHO HAS TO SQUARE OFF AGAINST YOU IN THIS YEAR'S WORLDS?

Austin Cameron: *I'm gonna try to win it again not only in jrs but in singles as well!*

Don Bailey: *I haven't showed you boys anything this Season but that doesn't mean you should let your guard down. I'm coming for ya! I plan on taking the Senior's Major in Cincinnati. Come to town and try to stop me unless (as Jay Dotson would say), "UNLESS YOU'RE TOO SCARED!" If need be, I'll have Coach Darrell Haag brought into town for a few encouraging words!*

Kaleb Hurt: *All I can say is, we plan on making it a repeat!!*

Paula Stevens: *I never give up, even when I'm way down in the score. Also, I don't talk when I'm playing, so don't even try to intimidate me with all that talking.*

Tammy Williams: *Bring it! I'll be working harder than ever, and be more ready than last year, and even more determined to be the World Champion again.*

Tanner Halbert: *All I can say is that I'm feeling like this year is my year and I'm gonna be ready to play cornhole and whoop ass.*



ACO WORLDS DEFENDING CHAMPS

WORLDS 14, JULY 2019 // LAS VEGAS, NV

ACO WORLD SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Top four (4) players in World Singles:

Matt Guy – KY
Matt Stout – VA
Ryan Windsor – IL
Jeff Link – NV

Top four (4) players in Tier 2 World Singles:

Matt Guy
Jeff Link
Kaleb Hurt
Erick Davis

Top four (4) players in Tier 3 World Singles:

Tyler Parent
Matt Stout
Maggie Geiger
Wayne Rau

ACO WORLD DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Top four (4) teams:

Halbert (FL) / Windsor (IL)
Guy (KY) / Guy (KY)
Barnett / Glover
Blair / Zocklein

Top four (4) teams in Tier 2 World Doubles:

Chesnut / Wolters
Clark / Tanner
Pryor / Parent
Box / Cordell

SLYDER CUP – WORLD DRAFT

Top four (4) teams

Halbert / Kase / Clemmer /
Tidwell / Burns
Davis / Glover / Arrington /
Cordell / Hammett
Mullis / Hurt / Easley / Stevens
/ KnoxSnellings / Johnson
/ Wolters / Armstrong /
Schumacher

SLYDER CUP – CONFERENCE

Top four (4) teams

Kentuckiana: Blair / Zocklein /
Guy / Guy / Mathis
SVC: Williams / Hurt / Hurt /
Cameron / Cameron
Davis Nation: Halbert / West /
Davis / Davis / Davis

CREW CUP CHALLENGE

Top four (4) teams

Reynolds
Nine Inch Males
Silent and Deadly
Courtesy Flush

ACO WORLD JUNIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

Top two (2) players

Austin Cameron
Erick Davis

ACO WORLD WOMENS CHAMPIONSHIP

Top four (4) players

Paula Stevens
Karen English
Alexis Hammett
Tammy Williams

ACO WORLD SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

Top four (4) players

Don Bailey
Jr Williams
Allen Wingham
Mike Arrington, Sr

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HOW REALITY STAR RICH PYLE

FOUND HIS NEXT PROJECT IN CORNHOLE

RICH PYLE HOW I BECAME A CORNSTAR

It was then that I understood what Frank had meant by 'experience'... and I realized that I wanted to be part of the ACO Family.



I was introduced to cornhole the same way majority players do – during camping, backyard parties and tailgating. Just when I thought I was good, a couple of my good buddies Eric Kerr and Joe Damron invited me to the local cornhole league. At that moment is when my life as a “backyard player” drastically changed. I am sure most of you understand what I mean.

The first day going to the league is when I was adopted into the “Cornhole Family” and when my cornhole addiction started. Every day after, I went to anything that involved throwing bags. I couldn’t walk past it without picking up a bag and practicing my pitching technique. Even today I still can’t stop.

One day at our league, I was sharing some ideas about cornhole promotions, shows, etc. with friends of mine, Steven Ochoa and Jessica Dover, and they told me that I should speak with the owner of the American Cornhole Organization, Frank Geers. They had reached out to Frank and given him my contact information.



The next day, Frank contacted me and invited me to come out to the ACO World Championship 14 in Las Vegas and told me I need to “experience the ACO”. At that moment, I wasn’t sure what he meant by “experience.”

When I arrived at Worlds, I was instantly welcomed by everyone into the ACO Family, and it was like I was meeting up with old friends that I had known for a long time. I then understood what Frank meant by “experience” and I realized that I wanted to be part of the ACO Family, even if it was not on a professional or career level. It just felt good, felt right!!

During and after Worlds 14, Frank and I started talking on a regular basis about different aspects of cornhole and the ACO itself. Frank had shared with me a past project – Hole Nation that he would like to reopen and start producing again. He then offered me the opportunity to be the host and director of the show.

Like anything, after we had gone through some trial and errors with the older format on a couple of episodes, I realized like Frank, that Hole Nation is something that could be successful. With my work experience, I felt I could help ACO take Hole Nation to the place it could be, and I decided to put all my



THE HOLE NATION TEAM:

Tina Kandler, Luke Church, CS Alexander, Tracey Pyle, William Howell, Eric Hinerman, Eric Hubbard, Tom Latham, Fin, Eric Kerr, Loco Canopies and The Cornhole Dude



energy into it.

Since then, I have put a team together with key people from around the country to make my vision a reality. We’re enthusiastic about reformatting and relaunching the new Hole Nation into an informative and entertaining cornhole news show.

Hole Nation is the very first show of its kind in the sport of cornhole and cornhole news from around the world.

The team and I can’t wait to share it with the ACO Family, share it with the world and see where it takes us.

I want to say “Thank You” to the entire Hole Nation team for their constant hard work, their dedication, and their help to put this all together.

It’s my honor to be part of a team with you all and be part of the ACO Family! – **Rich Pyle**



WHO’S RICH PYLE?

Rich Pyle is a Detroit native and reality star fan favorite.

For seven seasons, Rich starred as himself on the truTV reality show “Hardcore Pawn” (2009). Rich became a leading character, gaining notoriety for his quick wit, spiked hair and long goatee. Rich starred in 91 episodes and was voted one of the Top 10 Sexiest Men on TruTV.

Upon wrap of Hardcore Pawn (2009), Rich traveled the Northwest United States on the hugely successful tour, “For the Hock of It.”

The National Geographic Channel was quick to cast Rich to star as an Urban Prospector in its new show, “Meltdown on the Ice Planet (2013).”

Music is a passion for Rich. He plays drums in two bands, Daniel Harrison and The \$2 Highway.

Rich has been a guest on every major television news media outlet, including ABC, NBC, CBS, Fox News and radio shows all over the world. He recently filmed a TV series, “Chicago Pilot with the Cohen Brothers of Hard Core Pawn” which is still in development.



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FORCE OF NATURE

WORLD RECORD HOLDER RON SARCHIAN

by Skip Nevell and Ron Sarchian

*He is Newton's
third law of
motion in the
flesh.*

His name is Ron Sarchian and his life begs belief. Consider: football player; high school, college and semi-pro, skydiver; upwards of 400 solo jumps, amateur, heavyweight champion, full-contact karate fighter, professional actor and stuntman and stunt coordinator, rodeo clown or bull fighter, USA World Champion indoor rowing team member, certified personal trainer, boxing and kickboxing instructor, group fitness instructor, spinning instructor, endurance road cyclist, avid mountain biker, 17 time Guinness world record holder and experienced home craft beer brewer. He is Newton's third law of motion in the flesh. For his next act he will set himself on fire... oops. He's already done that in several feature films and tv shows.

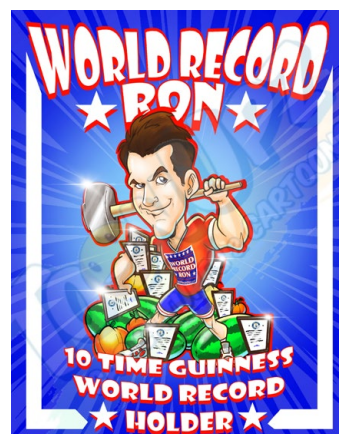
He is currently preparing for a 15th assault on the Guinness Book of World Records, a projected 26 to 30 hour marathon, punching and kicking a heavybag in his hometown of Detroit, MI. That's 30 hours of non-stop punching and kicking, throwing a punch or a kick at a minimum of



grade school, graduated from Madison Heights Bishop Foley High School in 1982 where he played baseball and football and later in 1987 graduated from Northern Michigan University with a BS in Industrial Technology and also played football for the NMU Wildcats. After getting married and moving to Seattle in 1989 Sarchian went to work for Boeing Commercial Airplane Company. Chance encounters led to forays in skydiving, acting, stunt work, stand-up comedy, radio hosting, kickboxing and (bullfighting) rodeo clowning. Following a divorce, Sarchian relocated to Southern California where he continued to pursue his acting and stunt careers and eventually became a fitness professional, as well.

Ron's work, on behalf of worthy causes, sets him apart from the mere adventurer. He seeks challenges as others seek leisure time. His ventures promise excitement and self awareness. Should you choose to follow him, prepare to confront yourself from within.

Instagram: WorldRecordRon
WorldRecordRon.com



RON'S 30-HOUR LONG UPCOMING WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT INVOLVES REACHING A STATE OF TOTAL PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION. HE EMBRACES IT.

every two seconds. Depending on his pace, during this attempt, he will throw between 80,000 and 100,000 punches and kicks combined.

Yet, in the midst of all the action and chaos there is a higher purpose. Ron's father, Arthur "Archie" Sarchian, died at age 33 from testicular cancer. Ron has not forgotten this and most of his previous record attempts have been coupled with fundraisers for numerous deserving charities including Lance Armstrong Foundation, Mike Utley Foundation and the Los Angeles Chapter of Make A Wish Foundation, just to name a few.

Ron's upcoming World Record attempt in Detroit, MI on 6/19 & 6/20/20 will be raising money for FLAG (Front Line Appreciation Group) of Metro Detroit. This organization buys meals from local restaurants and delivers these meals to Front Line Health

Care Workers at numerous Detroit area hospitals.

Ron's pending world record attempt involves reaching a state of total physical exhaustion. Most people do not see such a state as desirable and go to great lengths to avoid it. Ron Sarchian embraces such effort. As a personal trainer, his goal is just not to build fitness and strength but to inspire his clients and demonstrate to a younger generation that hard work and physical effort can help provide insight and persistence which is necessary for career success and life success. "You learn to ignore distractions like the coronavirus and rioting in the streets. Your world becomes clean, simple and easily defined. I create a place for myself where, at least for a few hours, focus is all that matters and it's very peaceful."

Ron was born at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, MI and attended St. Mary's of Royal Oak



CORNY 40

RANK	PLAYER	STATE	REGIONALS POINTS	MAJORS POINTS	TOTAL SCORE
1	Matt Guy	KY	150	150	300
2	Erick Davis	NC	149	150	299
3	Tanner Halbert	FL	148	150	298
4	Kaleb Hurt	VA	150	148	298
5	Eric Zocklein	KY	150	146	296
6	Barry Hempy	OH	150	146	296
7	Austin Cameron	VA	149	146	295
8	Randall Garrison	AL	150	145	295
9	Jeremiah Ellis	OH	149	145	294
10	Jeff Link	NV	146	146	292
11	Kyle Anderson	IL	150	142	292
12	Josh Glover	MS	148	141	289
13	Steve Smith	IN	150	139	289
14	Bret Guy	KY	145	143	288
15	TJ Miller	IN	150	135	285
16	Bobby Mumper	GA	150	135	285
17	Jerry Armstrong	TN	150	133	283
18	Mark Smothers	KY	147	135	282
19	Jeff Reynolds	OH	149	133	282
20	Chad Chesnut	VA	150	132	282
21	Jaxson Garrison	AL	147	133	280
22	Carl Austin Jr	VA	149	131	280
23	Branden Davis	NC	140	137	277
24	Douglas Parker	MS	144	133	277
25	Terry Dawson	IN	148	129	277
26	Erik Hubbard	NV	137	138	275
27	Tim Burnett	CA	150	125	275
28	Jim Frantz	OH	142	132	274
29	Tom Bobo	OH	144	127	271
30	Mickey Pope	NC	136	134	270
31	Robbie Davis	NC	141	129	270
32	Charlie Kase	KY	143	127	270
33	Paula Stevens	VA	147	123	270
34	Wayne Rau	WI	149	121	270
35	Mike Arrington Sr	NC	149	121	270
36	Mike Schaffer Sr	OH	140	129	269
37	Danny Deisher	IL	142	127	269
38	Brian Lynn	NC	144	125	269
39	Patrick Sandridge	NV	127	141	268
40	Terry Mathis	IN	142	126	268



TOP GUN 20



RANK TEAM

		STATE	REGIONALS POINTS	MAJORS POINTS	TOTAL SCORE
1	Bret Guy & Matt Guy	KY	150	150	300
2	Austin Cameron & Roger Cameron	VA	150	149	299
3	Jaxson Garrison & Randall Garrison	AL	150	148	298
4	Erick Davis & Robbie Davis	NC	150	148	298
5	Erik Hubbard & Jeff Link	NV	148	149	297
6	Kyle Anderson & Mark Smothers	IL & KY	149	147	296
7	Carl Austin, Jr & Paula Stevens	VA	150	146	296
8	Kaleb Hurt & Rex Hurt	VA	147	148	295
9	Jim Frantz & Barry Hempy	OH	150	142	292
10	Jeff Reynolds & Mike Schaffer, Sr	OH	150	138	288
11	Mike Arrington, Sr & Steve Mullis	NC	150	137	287
12	James Cumberland, Jr & Henry Thacker, Jr	OH & KY	148	138	286
13	Michael Harrison & TJ Miller	IN	149	136	285
14	Teanitia Lashley & Terry Mathis	KY & IN	143	141	284
15	Terry Dawson & Richard Majors	IN	143	140	283
16	Maggie Geiger & Wayne Rau	WI	147	136	283
17	Justin Cruse & Jeremiah Ellis	OH	144	138	282
18	Phillip Barnett & Josh Glover	MS	150	131	281
19	Branden Davis & Mickey Pope	NC	137	142	279
20	Jackson Gore & Jakob Gore	NC	138	141	279



THE TOP GUN 20 The top 20 players in ACO World Doubles Rankings. Teams earning a position in the Top Gun 20 at the conclusion of the ACO Cornhole De Mayo (May Regional) win a free Golden Ticket to the ACO World Championships and direct entry into the World Doubles bracket, bypassing the RPI tournament. The Top Gun 20 will be seeded 1-20 in the World Doubles Bracket.

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



THE CORNY 40 The top 40 players in ACO World Singles Rankings. Players earning a position in the Corny 40 at the conclusion of the ACO Cornhole De Mayo (May Regional) 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 Rankings will be named "ACO Player of the Season".



LISTED BY WORLD RANKING

TOP 40 WOMENS

1	Maggie Geiger	WI	11	Katherine Kennedy	VA	21	Christy Hill	MS	31	Katie Broughman	VA
1	Paula Stevens	VA	12	Tracy McMichen	KY	22	Melinda Burnett	IL	32	Karen English	KY
1	Tammy Williams	VA	13	Tina Armstrong	TN	23	Leslie Hansen	OH	33	Gracie Hurt	VA
4	Megan Maupin	TN	14	Jody Key	NC	24	Amy Gore	NC	34	Kelsey Morris	KY
5	Lynda Oglesby	TN	15	Jennifer Frease	TN	25	Sierra Wright	VA	35	Jessie Dodson	OH
6	Margaret Barrett	NV	16	Addie Renegar	NC	26	Rachel Webb	MO	36	Stephanie Boothe	WV
7	Lisa Gannon	TN	17	Cuc Majors	IN	27	Tina Kandler	MI	37	Stephanie Provost	NV
8	Beverly Dodson	MO	18	Jennifer Caldwell	IL	28	Jaana Hollis	MS	38	Summer Brewster	NC
9	Teanitia Lashley	KY	19	Kathy Harrison	IN	29	Megan Tyler	IL	39	Jennifer Lewis	MO
10	April Clemons	NC	20	Sara Davis	VA	30	Sheri Eggleton	IN	40	Christine Pearl	NV

LISTED BY WORLD RANKING

TOP 40 SENIORS

1	Mike Arrington Sr.	NC	11	Phillip Barnett	MS	21	Jim Frantz	OH	31	Michael Bryant	NC
1	Bobby Mumper	GA	12	Gary Wenzel	OH	22	Randy Johnson	IN	32	Carl Stenger	MO
3	Wayne Rau	WI	13	Keith Blair	KY	23	Jack Hartzell	PA	33	Gene Quilter	IN
4	Michael Schaffer	OH	14	Michael Harris	IN	24	Don Bailey	OH	34	John Cahill	NV
5	Tim Burnett	CA	15	Steve Mullis	NC	25	Wesley Dodson	MO	35	Ralph McPeak	WV
6	Tom Bobo	OH	16	Delvan Worley	CO	26	Terry Dawson	IN	36	Scott Mitchell	AR
7	Mark Smothers	KY	17	Jr Williams	VA	27	Gary Choban	PA	37	Frank Huser	WI
8	Robby Hunsucker	NC	18	Jink Brown	WV	28	Tony Shifflett	VA	38	Bruce Forsee Sr	OH
9	Allen Wingham	IN	19	Rex Uhrig	OH	29	David Vaughan	MS	39	Bobby Cross	IN
10	Danny Deisher	IL	20	Steve Heath	MI	30	Daniel Mead	MI	40	Tap Powell	NC

LISTED BY WORLD RANKING

TOP 40 JUNIORS PLAYERS

1	Austin Cameron	VA	11	Jeremy Jenkins	VA	21	Dalton Owens	TN	31	Justin Stansbury	NC
2	Spencer Garner	AR	12	Shae Oestreich	NV	22	Eli Porter	VA	32	Riley McNeely	CO
3	Jakob Gore	NC	13	Katlyn Hamm	TN	23	John Worrell	OH	33	Blake Tomlin	VA
4	Isaac Hurt	VA	14	Maddie McBride	TN	24	Elijah Whitehead	NC	34	Lucas Seeley	CO
5	Jackson Gore	NC	15	J. T. Shouse	TN	25	Trent Miller	VA	35	Hunter Elliott	MS
6	Tucker Helms	NC	16	Michael Spraker	MI	26	Narciso Garza	MI	36	Sebastian Barger	AR
7	Dylan Aufdenberg	MO	17	Erick Davis	NC	27	Austin Swann	GA	37	Charles Rhodes III	VA
8	Zoe Jolley	SC	18	Seth Hancock	KY	28	Hayden Wims	MS	38	Kylie Gore	NC
9	Tanner Lunsford	NC	19	Addie Renegar	NC	29	Jordan Mitchell	AR	39	Blake Karnick	WI
10	Wesley Pare	NV	20	Ace Rogers	MS	30	William Garza	MI	40	Owen Gunn	MS

LISTED BY WORLD RANKING

TOP 40 COED TEAMS

1	Kaleb Hurt & Tammy Williams	11	Jerry & Tina Armstrong	21	Jennifer & Michael Harrison	31	Jackie & Terry Amos
2	Teanitia Lashley & Terry Mathis	12	Maggie Geiger & Wayne Rau	22	Aaron & Tina Kandler	32	Michael Mann & Christine Pearl
3	Beverly & Wesley Dodson	13	Christy & Tim Hill	23	Katie Broughman & D. Helmintoller	33	Sara Davis & Michael Webster
4	Kyle Anderson & Lynda Oglesby	14	Phillip Barnett & Jaana Hollis	24	Andrea Wilcher & Eric Zocklein	34	Jennifer & Lester Lewis
5	Margaret Barrett & Erik Hubbard	15	Delvan & Roslynn Worley	25	Gracie & Rex Hurt	35	Sheri Eggleton & Gene Quilter
6	Dan Newcomb & Rachel Webb	16	Bradley Paxton & Sierra Wright	26	Randy & Robin Smith	36	Dave & Stephanie Provost
7	Kathy Harrison & Steve Smith	17	Kelsey Morris & Scott Shelley	27	Dalton Hardy & Dawn Kennedy	37	David & Rebecca Rider
8	Tori Smith & Russell Tabers	18	Brian Jones & Megan Tyler	28	Clinton Lucas & Megan Tindall	38	Stanley & Tracey Hale
9	Carl Austin Jr. & Paula Stevens	19	Keith Blair & Tracy McMichen	29	Brandon & Mandi Rummler	39	Terry Dawson & Cuc Majors
10	Matt & Melinda Burnett	20	Tanner Halbert & Kat Kennedy	30	Tony Gallahan & Melissa Loftin	40	Greg & Karen English

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A RECAP...

SEASON 15 CHAMPIONS

ACO MAJORS

MAJOR	DATE	SINGLES	DOUBLES	WOMENS	SENIORS	JUNIORS	COED
HINCKLEY	Sept 2019	Matt Guy, KY	Erik Hubbard, NV Jeff Link, NV	Maggie Geiger, WI	Wayne Rau, WI	n/a	Jason Dezeeuw, SD Jenna Dezeeuw, SD
INDIANAPOLIS	Sept 2019	Matt Guy, KY	Matt Guy, KY Bret Guy, KY	Jenn Vanderver, OH	Allen Wingham, IN	John Worrell	Jerry Armstrong, TN Tina Armstrong, TN
CHARLESTON	Sept 2019	Tanner Halbert, FL	Matt Guy, KY Bret Guy, KY	Megan Maupin, TN	Mike Arrington Sr, NC	Austin Cameron, VA	Kaleb Hurt, VA Tammy Williams, VA
CONCORD	Sept 2019	Mickey Pope, NC	Kaleb Hurt, VA Rex Hurt, VA	Megan Maupin, TN	Brian Lynn, NC	Isaac Hurt, VA	Kaleb Hurt, VA ammy Williams, VA
GREENVILLE	Oct 2019	Matt Guy, KY	Robbie Davis, NC Erick Davis, NC	Megan Maupin, TN	Robby Hunsucker, NC	Jakob Gore, NC	Matthew Baird, TN Megan Maupin, TN
MONROEVILLE	Nov 2019	Matt Guy, KY	Matt Guy, KY Bret Guy, KY	Paula Stevens, VA	Tom Bobo, OH	Austin Cameron, VA	Kaleb Hurt, VA Tammy Williams, VA
PANAMA CITY	Nov 2019	Tanner Halbert, FL	Jaxson Garrison, AL Randall Garrison, AL	Sheri Eggleton, IN	Bobby Mumper, OH	n/a	Tanner Halbert, FL Kat Kenndey, FL
LAS VEGAS	Nov 2019	Jeff Link, NV	Erik Hubbard, NV Jeff Link, NV	Margaret Barrett, NV	Tim Burnett, CA	Wesley Pare, NV	Margaret Barrett, NV Erik Hubbard, NV
SOUTH BEND	Nov 2019	Steven Ochoa, MI	Allen Wingham, IN Steven Bernacet, IL	Tammy Williams, VA	Tom Bobo, OH	n/a	Tammy Williams, VA Jeff Reynolds, OH
ROCK HILL	Dec 2019	Erick Davis, NC	Carl Austin, VA Paula Stevens, VA	Tammy Williams, VA	Bobby Mumper, OH	Austin Swann, GA	Carl Austin, VA Paula Stevens, VA
DODGE CITY	Dec 2019	Tyler Empey, CO	Kyle Anderson, IL Mark Smothers, KY	Lynda Ogelsby, TN	Mike Schaffer, OH	n/a	Kyle Anderson, IL Lynda Ogelsby, TN
OWENSBORO	Jan 2020	Eric Zocklein, KY	James Cumberland, OH Henry Thacker, KY	Paula Stevens, VA	Bobby Mumper, OH	Dylan Aufendberg, MO	Carl Austin, VA Paula Stevens, VA
NORTH PLATTE	Jan 2020	Zane Wilson, UT	Maggie Geiger, WI Wayne Rau, WI	Maggie Geiger, WI	Wayne Rau, WI	Keegan Prior, WY	Maggie Geiger, WI Wayne Rau, WI
KNOXVILLE	Jan 2020	Erick Davis, NC	Austin Cameron, VA Roger Cameron III, VA	Paula Stevens, VA	Gary Wenzel, OH	Erick Davis, NC	Teanitia Lashley, KY Terry Mathis, IN
HAINES CITY	Jan 2020	Tanner Halbert, FL	Chad Marrero, FL John Hunn, FL	Kat Kennedy, FL	Haseeb Habiban, FL	n/a	Tanner Halbert, FL Kat Kenndey, FL
GREENBRIER	Jan 2020	Erick Davis, NC	Austin Cameron, VA Roger Cameron III, VA	Paula Stevens, VA	Mike Arrington Sr, NC	Austin Cameron, VA	Tanner Halbert, FL Kat Kenndey, FL
EVERETT	Feb 2020	Greg Cather, WA	Jeremiah Ellis, OH Justin Cruse, OH	Kristen Upton, WA	Mike Arrington Sr, NC	n/a	Kristen Upton, WA Brent Furby, OR
ROANOKE	Feb 2020	Erick Davis, NC	Caleb Avery, VA Michael Avery, NC	Megan Maupin, TN	Russell "Hank" Hill, VA	Erick Davis, NC	Russell "Hank" Hill, VA Kamryn Belvin, VA
AUGUSTA	Feb 2020	Erick Davis, NC	Jaxson Garrison, AL Randall Garrison, AL	Lisa Gannon, TN	Mike Schaffer, OH	Erick Davis, NC	Erick Davis, NC Addison Renegar, NC
BENTONVILLE	Mar 2020	Dylan Aufendberg, MO	Michael Harrison, IN TJ Miller, IN	Beverly Dodson, MO	Mark Smothers, KY	Spencer Garner, AR	Beverly Dodson, MO Wesley Dodson, MO
BRANSON	May 2020	Ethan Morgan, IL	Ethan Morgan, IL Kyle Hutley, KS	Maggie Geiger, WI	Wayne Rau, WI	Dylan Aufendberg, MO	Tracy McMichen, KY Josh Glover, MS
CINCINNATI	June 2020	Kaleb Hurt, VA	Matt Guy, KY Bret Guy, KY	Tammy Williams, VA	Terry Dawson, IN	Dylan Aufendberg, MO	Kaleb Hurt, VA Tammy Williams, VA
LAS VEGAS	June 2020	Wesley Pare, NV	Dave McDade, NV Patrick Sandridge, NV	Margaret Barrett, NV	Tim Burnett, CA	N/A	Dave McDade, NV Kelly Lyle, CA
TUPELO	June 2020	Randall Garrison, AL	Shawn Anderson, MS Kyle Anderson, IL	Jackie Amos, MS	Phillip Barnett, MS	Spencer Garner, AR	Tori Smith, KY Russell Tabers, KY
COLUMBIA	June 2020	Erick Davis, NC	Austin Cameron, VA Austin Schlobohm, VA	Paula Stevens, VA	Brian Lynn, NC	Isaac Hurt, VA	Tanner Halbert, FL Kat Kenndey, FL



A LOOK AHEAD...

MAJORS TOUR

★ ★ ★ ACO SEASON 16 // 2020-2021 ★ ★ ★

SEPTEMBER 4 & 5

ACO KICKOFF BASH MAJOR

HINCKLEY, MN

guaranteed 22,000 Purse

SEPTEMBER 10 & 11

ACO CHARLESTON MAJOR

CHARLESTON, WV

up to \$4,000 Purse

SEPTEMBER 18 & 19

ACO INDIANAPOLIS

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

up to \$2,500 Purse

OCTOBER 8 & 9

ACO PANAMA CITY BEACH MAJOR

PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL

up to \$3,000 Purse

OCTOBER 16 & 17

ACO PRINCE WILLIAM MAJOR

PRINCE WILLIAM, VA

up to \$4,000 Purse

OCTOBER 22, 23 & 24

ACO LEBANON MAJOR

LEBANON, TN

up to \$5,000 Purse

NOVEMBER 7 & 8

ACO CONCORD MAJOR

CONCORD, NC

up to \$3,000 Purse

NOVEMBER 7 & 8

ACO NORTH PLATTE MAJOR

NORTH PLATTE, NE

up to \$2,500 Purse

NOVEMBER 20 & 21

ACO TUPELO MAJOR

TUPELO, MS

up to \$4,000 Purse

NOVEMBER 27 & 28

ACO SOUTH BEND MAJOR

SOUTH BEND, IN

up to \$3,000 Purse

DECEMBER 4 & 5

ACO CHRISTMAS CLASSIC MAJOR

DODGE CITY, KS

up to \$3,500 Purse

DECEMBER 18 & 19

ACO ROANOKE MAJOR

ROANOKE, VA

up to \$4,000 Purse

JANUARY 8 & 9

ACO OWENSBORO MAJOR

OWENSBORO, KY

up to \$4,000 Purse

JANUARY 22 & 23

ACO KNOXVILLE MAJOR

KNOXVILLE, TN

up to \$4,000 Purse

FEBRUARY 5, 6 & 7

ACO GREENBRIER MAJOR

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, WV

up to \$5,000 Purse

FEBRUARY 19 & 20

ACO AUGUSTA MAJOR

AUGUSTA, GA

up to \$3,000 Purse

MARCH 5, 6 & 7

ACO YORK MAJOR

YORK, PA

up to \$4,000 Purse

MARCH 12 & 13

ACO BENTONVILLE MAJOR

BENTONVILLE, AR

up to \$2,500 Purse

MARCH 19 & 20

ACO GRAND CASINO MAJOR

HINCKLEY, MN

guaranteed \$10,000 Purse

MARCH 26 & 27

ACO LAS VEGAS MAJOR

LAS VEGAS, NV

guaranteed \$5,000 Purse

APRIL 16 & 17

ACO COWBOY CLASSIC MAJOR

DODGE CITY, KS

up to \$3,500 Purse

APRIL 30 & MAY 1

ACO CINCINNATI MAJOR

CINCINNATI, OH

up to \$3,000 Purse

MAY 7 & 8

ACO RISING STAR MAJOR

MESQUITE, NV

up to \$5,000 Purse

MAY 14 & 15

ACO CORN PALACE MAJOR

MITCHELL, SD

guaranteed \$3,000 Purse

MAY 28 & 29

ACO FLORIDA MAJOR

LAKE COUNTY, FL

up to \$4,000 Purse

MAY 28 & 29

ACO BRANSON MAJOR

BRANSON, MO

up to \$5,000 Purse

WANNA PLAY?

americancornhole.com: Click the "Tournaments" tab

ACO Facebook page: Click "Events"



MEET THE

ACO LIFETIME MEMBERS

ACO INK'D

LIFETIME MEMBERS

"Why not represent the best times of my life with the best people with a tattoo?"

LIFETIME MEMBERS ARE ACO PLAYERS WHO LIVE AND BREATHE CORNHOLE. BUT MORE THAN THAT, THEY'RE FANATICS THAT ARE SO AMPED ABOUT THE ACO THEY INK IT RIGHT ON THEIR BODY.

MEMBER #001



TERESA GREGORY

Cornhole Player since: 2012

ACO Member since: 2012

Highest Ranking: 3rd in Women's, 2017

Hometown: Franklin, KY

About me: I'm a very sensitive person and wear my heart on my sleeve, even though I come off as a total bitch.

MEMBER #002**WILLIAM HOWELL**

Cornhole Player since: 2011

ACO Member since: 2011

ACO Commissioner

Highest Player Ranking: #37

Hometown: Hemet, CA

One thing you never knew about me:
I have a superhuman sense of smell!

MEMBER #003**MAX GEERS**

Cornhole Player since: 2005

ACO Member since: 2005

Highest Player Ranking: Unrankable

Hometown: Terrace Park, OH

One thing you never knew about me:
I'm a country music singer. You can
check my music out at maxgeers.com

MEMBER #004**AARON KANDLER**

Cornhole Player since: 2018

ACO Member since: 2018

Highest Player Ranking: #4

Hometown: Paw Paw, MI

One thing you never knew about me:
I was a professional bull rider.

MEMBER #005**JEFF BALSTAD**

Cornhole Player since: 2019

ACO Member since: 2019

Hometown: Gillette, WY

Occupation: I work in the oilfield industry
as a lease operator.

One thing you never knew about me:
I'm an avid gardener. I also enjoy
canning my own vegetables.

MEMBER #006



SCOTT KIRKSEY

Cornhole Player since: 2018

ACO Member since: 2019

Hometown: Coahoma, Mississippi

Occupation: Carpenter at Taylor Made

One thing you never knew about me:
I served just less than 11 years active duty in the U.S. Army. I was a diesel mechanic at Fort Hood, TX. I deployed 3 times to Iraq.

MEMBER #007



DAVID VAUGHAN

Nickname: "Diesel Dave")

Cornhole Player since: 2018

ACO Member since: 2018

ACO Certified Official

Hometown: Alligator, Mississippi

One thing you never knew about me:
Served 9½ years in the U.S. Navy as a Diesel Technician

MEMBER #008



MARGARET BARRETT

Nickname: #cornholepusher

Cornhole player since: 2017

ACO Member since: 2018

Hometown: Las Vegas, NV

Occupation: Registered Nurse

One thing you never knew about me:
I'm an avid snowboarder even though I live in the desert

MEMBER #009



STEPHANIE PROVOST

Cornhole player since: 2014ish

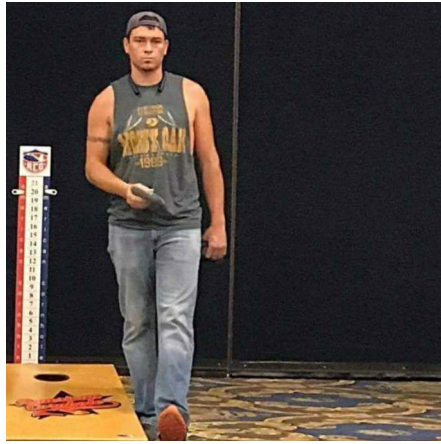
ACO Member: 2015

Hometown: Vegas Baby!

Occupation: Mom/Wife

One thing you never knew about me:
I am a huge New Kids on the Block fan and see them everytime they come in concert (don't judge me LOL)

MEMBER #010



CODY RODGERS, SR

Nickname: Codis

Cornhole player since: 2016

ACO Member since: 2018

Hometown: Mayfield, KY

Occupation: Owner, RNSBOARDS

One thing you never knew about me:
I Like Turtles

MEMBER #012



JOHNNY BOX

Nickname: Box

Cornhole Player since: 2018

ACO Member since: September 2018

Hometown: Amory, MS

Occupation: Maintenance

One thing you never knew about me:
I used to travel all over country playing in
pro billiard tournaments.



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THE COCHRAN IMPACT AWARD

The time has come to honor a man we all loved:

DAMON COCHRAN

- A man whose booming laughter filled every room he entered.
- A man who was full of passion for his family, his friends and players, his community, and for the ACO...
- And in the game, a man who valued camaraderie and fellowship above all.

The Cochran Impact award will annually recognize extraordinary members of the Cornhole community who exhibit these qualities. Thank you, Damon. We love and miss you.

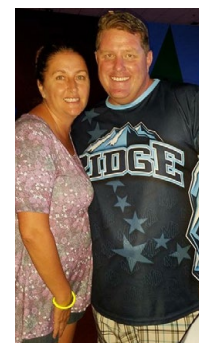
Congratulations to the first Cochran Impact Awardees for their dedication to furthering the game through friendship and family, by impacting their communities, and by their passion to carry those values forward.



Damon Cochran passed away on June 12, 2018. It's sad to think that none of us will be able to create any new memories with Damon, but the memories that we all have with the "Big Guy" will live on forever.



When Damon walked into the room, those in his company felt a special energy and vibe.



#BE LIKE DAMON



THE ACO WOODY AWARD

This year we had a little help. Mike Wolters submitted a recommendation to the ACO a few weeks ago and we took it to heart. It helped us make our final decision for Season 15 on naming our ACO Woody recipient.

FROM THE PEN OF MIKE WOLTERS:

"I would like to nominate **Chad Chesnut** for the award. He took a small group of about 8 or 10 people that used to get together and throw casually, to an organized group averaging around 25 to 35 players every Sunday, creating the "Allegheny Mountain Baggers". He has been averaging over 40 players per regional in Season 15.

Chad is a person who truly cares about the people and the sport of cornhole. He goes out of his way to help others learn to throw. He gives his time and the use of his equipment to support different fundraisers throughout the year. He goes to the city council meetings to fight for the use of the local Armory for the group.

I know of several people from outside the area who call him for advice and to learn how to run their own tournaments, and how to get their groups to grow like his.

Chad Chestnut is a true gentleman in every sense, while at the same time is a fierce competitor on the cornhole court. I along with everyone in the sport have nothing but respect for Chad. He is not about the money or recognition; he is truly about the people and the sport of cornhole.

You could not ask for a better CO in the ACO!"

Chad Chesnut you are the ACO Woody recipient for Season 15. Well done and well deserved.



This award is annually granted to the most outstanding Certified Official group of the season.

It's always difficult for us to make a final decision on who should win the Woody Award for best CO group or person each season, as there are many solid candidates in the ACO Family deserving of such an award. However, we put it upon ourselves to look through all these candidates and select one to be awarded this honor.

“Chad Chestnut is a true gentleman in every sense, while at the same time is a fierce competitor on the cornhole court.”



ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIALS & GROUPS

Alabama

ACO Alabama	Baileyton, AL	Randall Garrison
North Alabama Cornhole	Cullman, AL	Greg Strong

Alaska

Far North Cornhole	Wasilla, AK	Chandler Jones
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Arizona

AzBagz ACO	Peoria, AZ	Andrew Flanagan
We Swing Both Maize	Lake Havasu, AZ	Jason Shaffer
Bags and Brews LHC	Lake Havasu, AZ	Devon Garrett

Arkansas

870 Cornhole Nation	Paragould, AR	Whitney Garner
501 Cornhole	Lonoke, AR	Gary Farren / Phil Wynne

California

ACO Hemet CA	Hemet, CA	Jesus Vivanco
ACO Central CA Cornhole	Fresno, CA	Tim Burnett
San Diego ACO	Hemet, CA	William Howell
ACO NorCal	Sacramento, CA	Kody Layton
T&T Event Promotions	San Diego, CA	Evan Taylor
Coachella Valley ACO	Indio, CA	David Conover
CenCal Baggers	Visalia, CA	Jack Daloian
Berdoo Baggers	Grand Terrace, CA	Richie Gomes

Colorado

Grand Valley Cornhole	Clifton, CO	Lisa Seeley
Durango Cornhole	Durango, CO	William Kline
ACO Colorado	Co. Springs, CO	William Goatley
Denver Cornhole Games	Denver, CO	Jon Dean

Florida

Central Florida Cornhole	Orlando, FL	Orlando Roman
Lakeland Cornhole	Lakeland, FL	Tanner Halbert
Forgotten Coast Cornhole	Panama City, FL	Edward Runion

Georgia

Southeast Georgia Cornhole	Patterson, GA	David Dixon
Showtime Cornhole	Grovetown, GA	Dustin Parker / Randy Spoon
ACO of North Georgia	Jasper, GA	Kevin Odea
Yadda-Yadda	Norcross, GA	Garrith Hayden
Roman Cornhole	Rome, GA	Chris Evans / Ricky Freeman
Roy Snyder	Buford, GA	Roy Snyder

Hawaii

DPL Hawaii Cornhole	Ewa Beach, HI	Lewis Boucher
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Illinois

ACO St. Louis	Brighton, IL	Brian Jones
SI Howlers	Omaha, IL	Kyle Sauls
Heart of Lincoln Cornhole	Saint Joseph, IL	Kenneth Midkiff

Indiana

NWI Cornhole	Lowell, IN	Paul McKamey
IKI Tri-State Cornhole	Evansville, IN	Troy Catlin / Mary Catlin
Indy Custom Cornhole	Indianapolis, IN	Scott Melby / Tim Schultz
Tri State Cornhole	Evansville, IN	Karen English
Fighting Irish Cornhole	Notre Dame, IN	Corey McCarthy
ACO Martinsville	Martinsville, IN	Donald Hitchcock

Iowa

Central Iowa Cornhole	Ames, IA	James Beem
Quad City Cornhole	Long Grove, IA	Jason Padavich

Kansas

Air Capital Cornhole	Wichita, KS	Eric Rico
Boot Hill Baggers	Dodge City, KS	T Henry / J Phillips / K Tabor
Mac Baggers	Mcpherson, KS	Taylor Krier / Dylan Thiessen
Santa Fe Trail Baggers	Burlingame, KS	Jerry Hill

Kentucky

West Kentucky Cornhole	Kirksey, KY	Russell Tabers / Stanley Hale
ACO Louisville	Louisville, KY	Keith Blair / Andrea Wilcher

Louisiana

Louisiana Cornhole	Lafayette, LA	Brett Benoit
Louisiana Cornhole	Carencro, LA	Ryan Hargrave

Maryland

APG Cornhole	Aberdeen, MD	Luis Salazar
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Massachusetts

Northshore ACO	Saugus, MA	Chantha Luk
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Michigan

Rhino Cornhole of W Michigan	Kalamazoo, MI	Ryan DeYoung
Michigan Cornhole	Royal Oak, MI	Joe Clair
MotorCity Cornhole	Roseville, MI	Louis Dugas
Mid-Mitten Cornhole - ACO	Lansing, MI	T Kandler / A Kandler / C Garza
Downriver ACO	Woodhaven, MI	Rich Pyle
Midmichiganbaggers	Flint, MI	Shaun Woods

Minnesota

Lake Of The Woods Cornhole	Baudette, MN	Daniel Patterson
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Mississippi

Pro South Cornhole	Tupelo, MS	J Box / M Box / D Parker / H Page
South Mississippi Cornhole	Bay St. Louis, MS	Shawn Anderson
Delta Cornhole	Clarksdale, MS	David Vaughan
ACO MS Cornhole - Central	Brandon, MS	Cody Armstrong



ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIALS & GROUPS

Missouri

Dardenne Prairie MO Cornhole	O'Fallon, MO	Jennifer Jones
Mid MO Cornhole	Richland, MO	B Dodson / B Kimrey / W Dodson
Hibbys Sports Grille	West Plains, MO	Michael Hibler
Southeast Missouri Cornhole	Cape Girardeau, MO	Terry Schnurbusch
Short Slide Cornhole	Farmington, MO	James Graham

Nebraska

North Platte/Lincoln Co Visitors	North Platte, NE	Samantha Geisler
SW NE Cornholers	McCook, NE	Terry Sides
Big O Cornhole	Omaha, NE	Craig Hunt

Nevada

Las Vegas Cornhole	Las Vegas, NV	Erik Hubbard
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New Jersey

PlayMore	Cherry Hill, NJ	Mike McGough
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New Mexico

505 AirMail	Rio Rancho, NM	Jared Hendrex
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New York

ACO Finger Lakes	Burdett, NY	Christopher Ripley
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North Carolina

Chair City Cornhole	Thomasville, NC	Robbie Davis / Branden Davis
Bull City Cornhole	Bahama, NC	C Clark / A Clemons / D Tanner
Roanoke Valley Cornhole	Roanoke Rapids	Ricky Dorer / Steve Mullis

North Dakota

Game Day Games Minot	Minot, ND	Evin Brauneller
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Ohio

Corporate ACO	Cincinnati, OH	Frank Geers
Corporate ACO	Cincinnati, OH	Eric Hinerman
ACO Columbus	Columbus, OH	Jeremiah Ellis
Midwest Ohio Cornhole	Rushsylvania	Jessie Hempy
740 Cornhole	Newark, OH	Ted Wiley
ACO Columbus	Columbus, OH	Russ Funk
Cincinnati Westside	Cincinnati, OH	Jimmy Krauser / Don Bailey
Western Ohio Cornhole	Lima, OH	Brent Ridenour
Ohio River Cornhole	Lucasville, OH	Rob Zukoski

Oklahoma

Se Okla Baggers	Hugo, OK	Cody Rodenberger
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Pennsylvania

Central PA CornHole	Clearfield, PA	Kevin Clark
Tourist Inn	Dover, PA	Brandon Hedrick

South Carolina

Labelle Cornhole	Inman, SC	Ryan Labelle
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South Dakota

Black Hills Cornhole	Spearfish, SD	Brandon Earl
Cornhole by AJ	Belle Fourche, SD	AJ Johnson

Tennessee

Nooga Cornhole	Soddy Daisy, TN	Nathan Stokes
Smyrna ACO	Shelbyville, TN	Jerry Armstrong / Tina Armstrong
ACO Tipton County	Burlison, TN	Lynda Oglesby
BlackJack Cornhole	Blountville, TN	Troy Houser
Down and Back Cornhole	Arlington, TN	Michael Catlin
Smyrna ACO	Shelbyville, TN	Tina Armstrong / Jerry Armstrong
Nashville Cornhole	Nashville, TN	Jason Wyckoff
Music City ACO	Lebanon, TN	Chad Waters
West Tennessee ACO	Lexington, TN	Danny Rich

Texas

ACO Central Texas	Abilene, TX	Jeff Vaughn
North Texas Cornhole Assoc.	Frisco, TX	Blake Cline
El Paso CornBaggers	El Paso, TX	Craig Lyles
Hometown Throw-Down	Gladewater, TX	Lola May
ACO Thousand Trails Lake Conroe Willis, TX		Mike Edinburg
Northeast Texas Cornhole League	Paris, TX	Ryan Shugart / Steven Helm
Randall County ACO	Amarillo, TX	Christopher Forbis

Utah

Visit Dinosaurland	Vernal, UT	Bridget Lake
Wasatch Back Cornhole	Heber City, UT	Colby Livingston
ACO Saint George	Saint George, UT	Zane Wilson

Virginia

Central VA Cornhole	Richmond, VA	Katherine Kennedy
Crooked Cornhole	Virginia Beach, VA	Randy Crook / Kelly Crook
Shenandoah Valley Cornhole	Stanley, VA	Junior Williams / Tammy Williams
Lakeside Baggers	Roanoke, VA	Paula Stevens / Jack Stevens
Alleghany Mountain Baggers	Clifton Forge, VA	Chad Chesnut
DM Designs	Franklin, VA	Denny Mallon

Washington

Inland Northwest Cornhole	Spokane, WA	Bryce Brewer
West Sound Corn Hole	Bremerton, WA	James Kershaw

West Virginia

Ohio Valley Cornhole	Glen Dale, WV	Ryne Foster / Joesph Davis
Outlaw Cornhole	Princeton, WV	Kevin Thomason
304 Cornholers	Norton, WV	Kevin Carr / Charles Wilson

Wisconsin

Central Wis Cornhole	Arpin, WI	Frank Huser
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Wyoming

ACO Park County	Powell, WY	Michael Garza
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ACO CERTIFIED OFFICIALS

ACO Cornhole Certified Officials are avid cornhole players and enthusiasts sharing the passion for cornhole everywhere. Their hard work and positive attitude helps grow the sport we love so dearly. Just a short time ago the sound of bag meeting board was barely heard, now it is a drum beat across the nation.



WANT TO BE AN ACO CO?

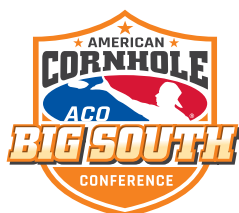
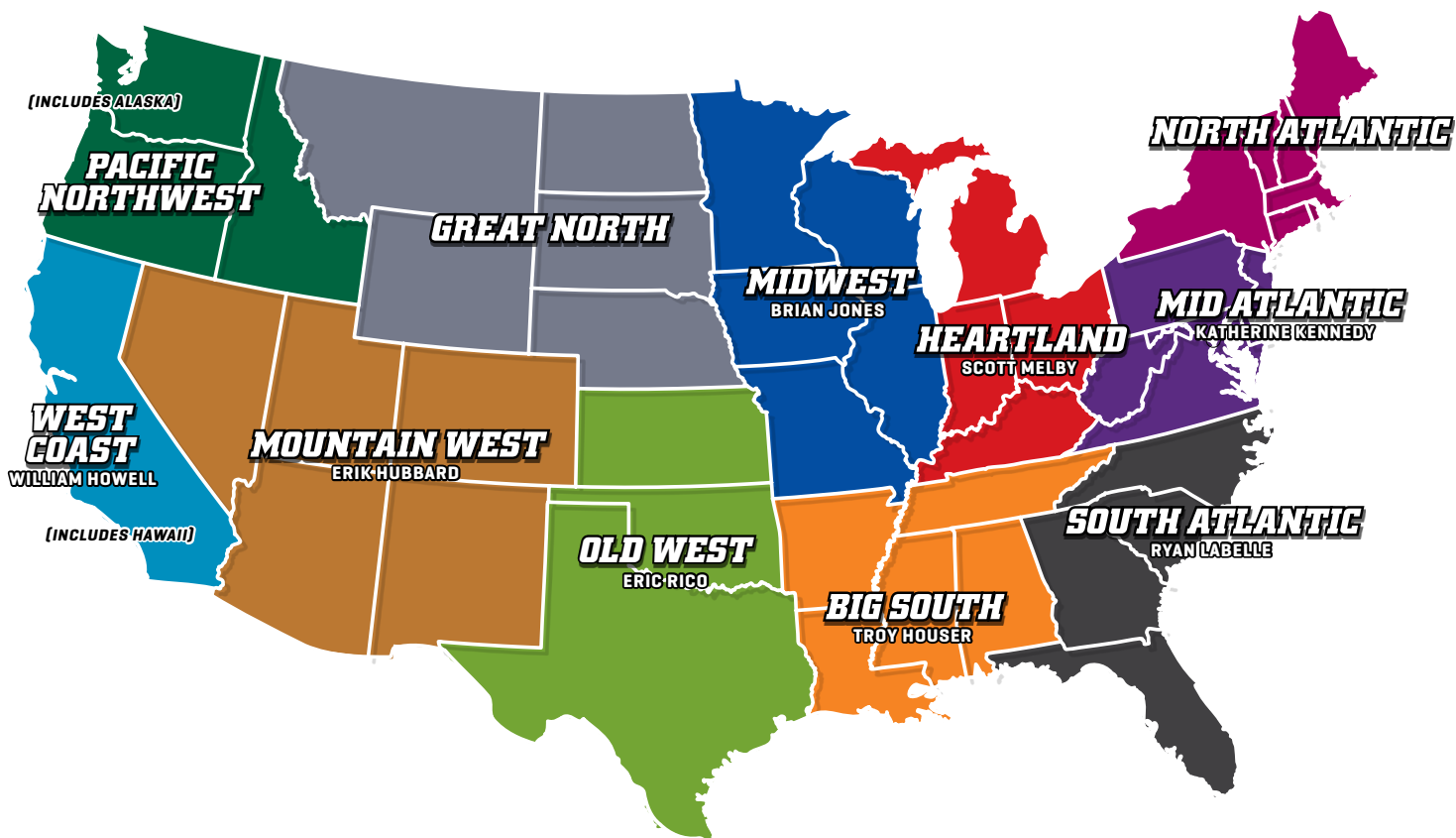
If your heart is in the game, and you want to make some extra income, join the ACO family as a Certified Official in your area. Your efforts will make a difference to spread the sport of cornhole.

Does this sound like you? If so, visit AmericanCornhole.com and click the 'Officials' tab, or contact Eric Hinerman by email at ehinerman@AmericanCornhole.com or by phone at (888)-563-2002. Game On!





ACO CONFERENCES





PAULA STEVENS

ACO WOMENS

WORLD CHAMPION

PAULA STEVENS

HOW IT ALL STARTED

By Paula Stevens

MY JOURNEY FROM CORNHOLE SUPPORT SPOUSE TO WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPION

On a chilly winter evening Friday, I thought it might be fun to go watch my husband, Jack, play in a blind draw cornhole tournament. Since the tournament was open, he told me I should play. I have to say, I was a little scared! I had only played in the backyard and normally I was lucky if I could get all 4 bags on the

board.

So I did it. Why not. But of course... It was just my luck to get paired up with the owner of the place, who had been playing for years, and I really didn't want to let him down. He carried me, and if I remember, we came in 3rd place. Yeah, I was feeling pretty good about that.

They played at this place

twice a week, so I started playing more and more, especially as the weather warmed and the boards moved outside. What a great way to spend an evening!

Now, there was another Friday night turning point for me. Jack and his ACO partner at the time went to a Major in Virginia Beach. A friend convinced me to enter the



Major too and try it out. I didn't want to go because I knew the boards would now be regulation distance apart, where at the indoor place where we had been playing the boards were set a little closer together.

Again: Why not?

“ I'll never forget that Major, and I tell you this because I learned some valuable lessons. ”

I'll never forget that Major, and I tell you this because I learned some valuable lessons. Friday night Women's tournament. I played against another lady who was playing her first major too. I played awful. I couldn't get the

bag on the board! Short throw. Ugh, that darn short distance court was coming back to haunt me! I was so embarrassed.

Needless to say I was 2 and out. Yep, you got it, I finished dead last in womens. I wanted to cry. Saturday morning singles. My first game was against pro player Russ Funk. My knees were shaking. I played better than I did on Friday night but still not great. He was so gracious. After the game he told me if I could learn to throw slick side of the bag I would be unstoppable. He gave me additional words of wisdom which I carry with me to this day and tell other women who are just starting out on their cornhole journey. Russ and I have become lifelong friends. I sincerely appreciated him taking the time to talk with me.

That weekend, I did a lot of serious watching, especially the women, because I wanted to see their techniques and figure out how to become as good as they were.

I made a promise to myself that I would practice. My goal from that point on was to get at least get 4 bags on the board. Success! I reached that goal. Ha ha, now I wouldn't be so embarrassed. With that accomplished, I told

myself the next goal was to just get 1 bag in the hole and 3 on the board. Jack and I played in the backyard every chance we got. He beat me every game. One night I looked at him and said, "That's it, you aren't going to beat me anymore".

MY FIRST WORLDS

I went to my first Worlds that season. It was there that I finally realized I was passionate about the game and I could compete. I threw my first airmail in a singles match.

Season 12 was monumental because I made Pro in Women's.

Season 14 was a pivotal year for me. I won my first ever women's match in Monroeville, PA. It was then that I knew I could do this. All season, I battled Karen English for 1st place in Women's. We were neck and neck for most of the season, but in the end we tied for Player of the Season.

IT HAPPENED IN VEGAS

Now on to Worlds 14 in Vegas. I practiced and practiced before Worlds. Karen and I had to battle it out for that 1st place title. On Friday night we played Women's. I was pretty relaxed and just threw my bag. I went undefeated that night and forgot I still had one more match on Saturday night at Top Golf for the World Champion in Women's. Karen English lost one



of her games but came out of the loser's bracket to come back and battle it out the Championship Game.

It was only fitting that it was us battling in 105 degree temperature on Saturday night. Karen is a fierce competitor and a dear friend.

This Season, I was both Player of the Season and World Champion in Womens, I made Pro, and was the only woman in the Corny 40 (top 40). How could I ever top this?

Now here we are in Season 15. Jack had back problems which required surgery. We knew he wouldn't be able to play all season, so I asked Carl Austin to be my partner. I've known Carl ever since I started playing cornhole. Carl played for ACO back in Season 11 but had stopped to pursue other interests. He had been playing in blind draws around town and had honed his craft once again. We started out the season winning Doubles at our Regional, then went to our first Major together in Charleston, WV. It was then I knew we had formed a good partnership.

As a team, when one is down, the other one picks up the slack

in all Doubles games. We were a team.

At the Rock Hill, SC Major we won Doubles and Coed, and as Jack will tell you, we couldn't stop talking about our win for the 3 ½ hour ride home.

As I write this we are in the midst of the coronavirus so no Regionals or Majors are happening at this time, but we are on track for those coveted Top Gun 20 and Corny 40 jerseys and both of us making Pro.

And I'm currently in 1st place in Womens. I don't know what the rest of the season holds for my partner and I, but you can bet we will be playing our hardest at Worlds in Columbia to continue what we started.

MY ACO LIFE

I love the "family" atmosphere at ACO. People are so happy to see friends that they haven't seen for months whether they're players or not.

What I realized at my first Major is that the players were straight-faced strangers to each other on the boards, but after a match they were back to talking to each other and being family again (in most cases, LOL).

THE FUTURE

So tying it back to the start, I love the game. I still have far to go and it is worth trying. I can do it. Will players want to be my partner in a blind draw? Absolutely. Will I let my partner down? Not if I can help it.

I'm 66 years old, so I don't know how much longer I'll be playing cornhole, but I hope to wear that "Queen of Cornhole" robe someday. You never know!!





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