

## OFFICIAL RULES – FOWLING™ FOOTBALL BOWLING PIN GAME

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*The original football bowling pin game*

# THE RULES

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### Object

To knock down all ten of your opponents pins, before they knock down yours.



### Game Play

Flip a coin to start. Winners of the coin flip choose first or last throw, losers pick which end they want to defend.

Team A Player #1 throws first. Then, Team B Player #1 throws. Next, Team A Player #2, then Team B Player #2 and so on. Continue throwing back and forth until one team has knocked down all ten pins.

One football per lane/game.

### ***HOW YOU CAN WIN THE GAME IN ONE THROW:***

- BONK™** - If on any player's **FIRST** throw of the game (with all 10 pins still standing) the 5 pin (center pin) is hit completely OFF the board and all other pins remain standing, the game is WON immediately.
  - Go up to the front bar area and let the staff know someone has a BONK!
  - The Fair Ups rule still applies if the Bonk is made by the first throwing team. The team with Fair Ups must 1. Knock down all remaining pins to TIE. OR 2. Get a Bonk of their own to TIE. (See Overtime - Sudden Death to determine the winner of a TIE.)
- Strike** – If a player gets all 10 pins down with one throw, they win the game. This can happen on any throw of the game.

Fair Ups Rule: If Team A knocks down all 10 pins before Team B does, then Team B is allowed one final throw. If Team B successfully knocks down their remaining pins, the game is a TIE. (See Overtime - Sudden Death to determine the winner of a TIE.)

### Overtime: Sudden Death

*At the beginning of Overtime, each team places one pin on any dot they want for their opponents to throw at. A coin flip determines which team throws first. The team who threw last gets to call the toss. Overtime is Sudden Death. First pin down WINS. There is no last throw by the opposing team.*

## **Rules**

- \*The Field of Play is defined as the area between the far ends of the boards and extending indefinitely to the sides.
- \*Men throw from behind the board. (Men's Tees) / Women and children throw from behind the front line of the board (Ladies' Tees)
- \*A ball thrown from beyond the Tee (Foot Foul) results in the loss of a turn & any pin(s) downed must be returned to their original upright position.
- \*Any pins that are knocked down are to be cleared from the board after all ball/pin motion has stopped. Throw the pins behind you - get them out of your way.
- \*A pin down is a pin down during normal game play. \*Any non-malicious act that knocks a pin down, counts.  
*Examples: wind, accidental grazing of pins while clearing boards, dogs, earthquake, footballs from adjacent games, etc.*
- \*A maliciously knocked down pin is always returned to its upright position.

## **Defense**

- \*A team may NEVER defend their pins from a ball thrown fairly by their opponent.
- \*No player may touch or manipulate the ball or any pin(s) such that the action prevents a pin or pins from falling while the ball is within the Field of Play.
- \*Teams may defend their pins from any outside objects or actions. (see Examples above)
- \*Once the ball crosses the back of the board you are standing at, you may grab it /catch it. If it bounces behind the board, you miss it and it bounces back onto the board it is considered live and you can't touch it.

## **Penalty Shot**

Violation of any of the defense rules results in a penalty shot being awarded to the throwing team. Men may throw from the Ladies' Tees. Women may throw from 8 ft. in front of the Ladies' Tees. Any player on the penalty shooting team may throw regardless of throwing order. The team throwing the penalty shot also receives the ball back. The player whose throw was interfered with will then throw again. Any pins knocked over during the commission of the violation remain down.

## **Etiquette**

The philosophy behind the Fowling™ Football Bowling Pin game is sportsmanship. At the end of every game or match, it is customary to reset the pins on the lanes and meet the opposing players at mid-lane to exchange a friendly "Good Fowl." During multi-lane play, please be courteous of all other game play. When retrieving an errant ball, a polite player will walk around, not through, the other lanes.