# STATE AND DISTRICT OFFICIAL SHUFFLEBOARD RULES & REGULATIONS

## FLORIDA SHUFFLEBOARD ASSOCIATION, INC.

*CHANGES (shown in bold print*) EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026*

The Florida Shuffleboard Association Inc. (F.S.A.) was organized December 12, 1928, at the Mirror Lake Shuffleboard Club, St. Petersburg, for the express purpose of standardization of size of courts, equipment, and rules. The rules were written in 1928 and are basically the same as herein, although they have been added to and parts have been deleted throughout the years. The State and District Official Shuffleboard Rules & Regulations, hereinafter listed, have been approved by the entire Board of the Shuffleboard Association, Inc., effective October 1, 1994, and it is the intention of the governing body of the F.S.A. that all rules be adhered to in their entirety whenever shuffleboard is played, with or without a Referee being present on the court where play is in progress.

### A - GAME

1. The game of shuffleboard is played by either two (2) persons, called Singles, or by four (4) persons, called Doubles.
2. The object of the game is to propel discs by means of a cue onto a scoring diagram at the opposite end of the court; to score, to prevent the opponent from scoring, or both.

### B - EQUIPMENT

1. The discs shall be made of a composition not less than 9/16" and not more than 1" in thickness, 6" in diameter, and not less than 11-1/2 ounces in weight. New discs shall weigh 15 ounces. Four (4) discs shall be colored yellow, four (4) colored black. These eight (8) discs comprise a set. Other colored combinations may be used, such as white, red, blue, etc., as long as there are two (2) contrasting colors. Care should be taken that all discs in a set shall be uniform in weight and thickness.
2. The cue shall not have an overall length of more than six feet, three inches (6'3"). No metal parts on the cue shall touch the playing surface of the court.
3. The players shall not be required to play with discs, new or old, that are not in satisfactory condition. Defective discs will be replaced by good discs, if available. Any change of discs must be made before the first game begins. New discs are not to be used in tournament play, unless they are thoroughly broken in.

### C - PLAYING RULES
### COLOR ROTATION FOR MAIN EVENT AND CONSOLATION FINAL MATCHES

1. The player or team with the lowest line number will play the first game with yellow discs, change color, and play the second game with black discs. If a third game is necessary, the players will shoot for color choice as described in 2c. Color choice must be made upon returning to the court. (March 2009)

   a. When beginning a match before the practice round begins for the first game, each player may shoot two (2) discs only to check the speed of the court. These two (2) speed shots must be taken before any court may be swept and/or beaded. After the first game of a match, if all competitors on a court agree, the court may be swept and/or beaded before the optional speed shots are taken for the second game. There shall be no setups of any kind when taking speed shots.

   b. Two (2) full rounds of practice on your assigned color are allowed before the first and second games, and no practice is allowed before the third game.

   c. (Eliminated March 2016)

   d. In Doubles, the players may change ends once immediately at the conclusion of the practice rounds before the first game begins. The team assigned to the yellow discs must decide first whether to change ends or not, and the decision stands for the match, after which the team assigned to the black discs must decide whether to change ends or not, and the decision stands for the match.

   e. Once a tournament starts, there will be no substitutes allowed in any tournament played in the State of Florida. The tournament starts when the draw is completed.

2. Consolation matches will be the best two-out-of-three 75-point games in Open Centerfold tournaments. In District Sponsored Tournaments, Consolation games may be played to 100 points. (October 2019) (The rest of this rule is deleted)

   a. Before the practice rounds begins, each player may shoot two (2) discs only to check the speed of the court. There shall be no setups of any kind.

   b. In 100-point games, two (2) full rounds of practice with each color are allowed for each player or team before shooting for color choice.

c. In shooting for color choice, the players must shoot from the head of the court. In Non-Walking Singles, the match at the foot of the court will shoot for color choice from the foot of the court. To determine the color choice, any two (2) opposing players (one (1) from each side) each shoot four (4) discs to the far deadline. The players shoot alternately: first yellow (or alternate color), then black, then yellow, etc. The first three (3) discs of each player are for practice and are removed progressively; the last disc of each player is left on the court. As between these last two (2) discs, the disc nearest the line determines who shall have color choice. The measurement is from the center of the disc to the center of the line. If the disc is not touching the line, it shall be measured from the edge of the disc closest to the line to the edge of the line closest to the disc. If the last black disc shot touches or moves the last yellow disc, the color choice goes to the player of yellow. The last disc of each color shot shall be left in place until inspected by at least one (1) member of each team and the winner agreed upon. If moved, whichever team moved the disc concedes the lag.

3. To start a game, the yellow disc is shot first. Play alternates, yellow then black, until all discs are shot. Yellow shall always be played from the right side of the head of the court and the left side of the foot of the court.

   a. An error in color lead or wrong color played shall be corrected if discovered before the half-round is completed and the half-round shall be played over. If the half-round is completed, the scoring shall be credited to the players making the score, regardless of the color shot, and play continues in the correct order. The half-round is completed when the eighth disc is shot, and all discs come to a stop.

   b. If a player shoots the opponent's disc and a live disc is not touched, PENALTY: 10-Off. The opponent's disc shall be returned to the starting position and play continued as before the infraction. If a live disc is touched, PENALTY: 10-Off plus any 10-Offs the offender had on the court. The good disc of the offender does not count. The opponent's good disc shall be credited to the opponent's score, except any 10-Offs, and the half-round shall be played over. The penalties will be annotated on the scoreboard; however, the half-round is not complete until the 8th disc has been shot by the correct player.

   If the player shoots his/her disc from the opponent's respective half, and a live disc is not touched: PENALTY 10-Off. That disc is removed from the court and play continues. If a live disc is touched, PENALTY 10-Off, plus any 10-Offs the offender had on the court. Other good discs of the offender shall not count. The opponent's good disc on the court shall be credited to the opponent's score except any 10-Offs and the frame shall be played over, unless the game point has been reached by the offender's opponent.

   c. In Walking Singles, after all the discs are played completing a half-round, the players walk to the other end of court or foot of the court and start play with the color lead changed to black.
   (Last sentence eliminated March 2016)

   d. In Doubles, after all the discs are played at the head of the court, play starts at the foot or opposite end with yellow leading, black following. The color lead does not change until both ends have been played, called a Round.

   e. All State Sponsored or Statewide Open Doubles and Walking Singles tournaments shall be 75 points, best two-out-of-three games, Main and Consolation event divisions. **In Statewide Open doubles tournaments, the third game may, at the host club's discretion, be scheduled as 16 frames, eight frames on each color, with Yellow beginning the first frame and Black beginning the ninth frame. If this format is selected, players will not lag for color but return to the color on which they played the first game of the match. (October `8, 2025, effective immediately) All Open State Sponsored or Open Statewide Non-Walking Singles shall be best two-out-of-three games of 12 frames or 75 points, whichever comes first, Main and Consolation event divisions. (October 2025)** All Amateur State Sponsored or Amateur Statewide Non-Walking Singles shall be the best two-out-of-three games of **12** frames or 75 points, whichever comes first, Main and Consolation event divisions. **(October 2025)** In tournaments other than the Open State Sponsored or Statewide events, play may be limited to a specific number of frames, such as 8-12-16 or 20. A frame shall be defined to be equal to a half-round. Every time a score is posted to the scoreboard constitutes a frame. In tournaments other than Open State Sponsored or Open Statewide events, the third game, if needed, may be eight (8) or some other even number frames on each color, regardless of the score. In tournaments other than Open State Sponsored or Open Statewide, the format of limited frames, such as 16 frames or 75 points, whichever occurs first, is not a violation of the frame limits above and is permitted in districts which may wish to try the format. (October 2019)
   f. Districts may develop written rules to hold a Mingles (doubles) or Mingles/Singles (individual players draw a partner for each match). The maximum number of games any individual may play in one day shall be limited to 12 8-frame games, 8 12-frame games, or 6 16-frame games. All other playing rules shall be observed. The awarding of Article 9 points shall be at the discretion of the District. (October 2024)
   g. Beginning October 1, 2025, and continuing for a two-year trial period ending April 1, 2027, the "any doubles" format may be used in statewide tournaments.

4. Players shall place their four (4) discs within their respective half of the 10-Off area. PENALTY: 5-Off. The penalty is not applied to a player until he/she has played a shot. (March 2024)

   a. Discs must be played from the clear from within the respective half of 10- Off area. If the disc played touches the front or back lines, PENALTY: 5-Off.

   b. If the disc played touches the sideline, or triangle, PENALTY: 10-Off. The offender's disc is removed, and the opponent is credited with any of his/her discs displaced. All displaced discs shall be removed from the court immediately after the scoring of the opponent's displaced discs. Any 10-Offs the offender had on the court that was displaced will be removed before further play and also be deducted from the offender's score.

It is common practice with players to jockey or slide the playing disc backward and forward to see if there is sand which might interfere with the disc sliding evenly. No penalty is to be called on this practice if the lines are touched or crossed while jockeying. The disc in motion may cross the outside diagonal line.

A disc is played, in the act of shooting, when it is completely in the seven (7) area. If a disc is touching the farthest deadline, it is in play. If the disc does not reach the lag line and is not called dead and is not removed, play should continue, and the disc shall be treated as a live disc for that half-round.

5. Players must not touch a foot, hand, knee, or any other part of their body to the court on or over the baseline or extension of the baseline at any time while executing a shot. PENALTY: 10-Off.

   a. (Eliminated March 2016)

6. Players may stand behind the baseline extension in the alley between the courts before or while shooting, but not on the adjoining court. PENALTY: 5-Off.

   a. The area between the baseline of the court and on the imaginary line, even with the back of the bench, and bounded on the sides by the farthest line of each adjoining alley, should be considered part of the court.

7. In Doubles and Non-Walking Singles, the players must remain seated when the play is to their end of the court until the last disc has been shot and comes to rest. PENALTY: 5-Off. The players can remove dead disks within eight (8) inches of the baseline, judge disks and retrieve dead disks that have gone onto other courts or may remove dead disks from the gutters. In Walking Singles, a player must not cross the baseline to proceed to the other end of the court until all discs are shot and stopped. PENALTY: 5-Off.

8. Players must not leave the court during a game without permission, except to gather discs at the end of the half-round. PENALTY: 10-Off.

   a. No penalty if the player leaves the court between games. The player may not be gone more than ten (10) minutes. PENALTY: 10-Off. A game is concluded when the Referee announces the score, the score is recorded on the scoreboard, and the scores are recorded on the player's card. The Referee on the court shall start the time when the game is concluded. Additional penalties may be awarded for further infractions. See Rule C19.

9. Players shall not stand in the way of, or have a cue in the way of, or interfere with any other players at any time. PENALTY: 5-Off.

   a. The player, after shooting a disc, shall step to the rear of his/her portion of the shooting area with their cue in a vertical position in order not to disturb the opponent's play. PENALTY: 5-Off.

10. Players shall not touch live discs at any time. PENALTY: 10-Off, plus any 10-Offs the offender has on the board. Other good discs of the offender shall not count. The opponent's good discs on the court shall be credited to the opponent's score, except any 10-Offs, and the half-round shall be played over, unless the game point has been reached by the offender's opponent. In Non-Walking Singles, if a live disc is touched, the end shall be played over with no penalty assessed and no score allowed, unless the disc is touched by the shooter or his/her opponent.

11. Players must not talk or make remarks to disconcert the opponent's play. PENALTY: 10-Off.

12. Any remark or motion to their partner which indicates coaching their play is prohibited. PENALTY: 10-Off.

13. The player shooting before the opponent's disc comes to rest, PENALTY: 10-Off plus any 10-Offs the offender has on the board. The other good discs of the offender shall not count. The opponent's good discs on the court, prior to the offense, shall be credited to the opponent's score, except any 10-Offs. The half-round shall be played over unless the game point has been reached by the opponent.

14. For intentional delay or stalling, PENALTY: 5-Off.

15. A cue slipping from a player's hand which touches any live disc, PENALTY: 10-Off plus any 10-Offs the offender has on the board. The other good discs of the offender shall not count. The opponent's good discs on the court, prior to the offense, shall be credited to the opponent's score, except any 10-Offs. The half-round shall be played over unless the game point has been reached by the opponent.

    a. A cue which slips from a player's hand, and which ends up on another court, interfering with a player shooting a disc on that court, or which moves or touches a live disc on a court other than the offender's court, PENALTY: 10-Off to the offender losing control of their cue. The round shall be played over on the court where the offense took place with no score being credited to any player. If no live discs have been disturbed, the player interfered with may take his/her shot over. (March 2004, reworded for clarity 2007)

    b. A dead disc coming from another court that interferes with a disc being shot from a court other than the offender's court: PENALTY: 10-OFF to the offender. If the errant disc touches a live disc, other than the disc shot, the half-round on the court where the disc was touched shall be played over with no score being credited to any player. If the only disc touched by the errant disc is the one being shot by the player on the other court, the player shooting may take his/her shot over and the half-round shall not be played over.

16. No hesitation shot allowed. PENALTY: 10-Off. Any 10-Offs the offender had on the court that was displaced will be removed before further play and also be deducted from the offender's score.

17. No hook shot allowed. The shot must be delivered in a straight line with a continuous forward motion of the cue and disc. PENALTY: 10-Off. The offender's disc is removed, and the opponent credited with the score of any of his/her discs displaced. All displaced discs shall be removed

from the court immediately after scoring of the opponent's displaced discs. Any 10-Off the offender had on the court that was displaced will be removed before further play and also be deducted from the offender's score.

a. Regarding a hook shot, hesitation shot, or shooting off from the line, there will be no appeal, as there is only one person who can tell if you have shot off the line or made a hook or hesitation shot, and that is the Referee. That is strictly a judgment call by the Referee and once he/she has made that call, it will stand. The only time a Divisional Referee should be called is if the Referee is not sure of the penalty or gives the wrong penalty, then the player may make an appeal.

18. Any player shooting two (2) consecutive discs, PENALTY: 10-Off, plus any 10-Offs the offender may have on the court. The other good discs of the offender will not count. The opponent is credited with all good discs on the court before the second disc was played, except the 10-Off. The half-round is played over unless the game point has been reached by the offender's opponent.

19. In case of an improper action of a player not specifically covered by the rules, or in a match to which a Court Referee has not been assigned, the Tournament Director will ascertain the facts and may assess a penalty. He/she will also ensure that the offender gains no advantage from their improper action and, in addition, impose a 10-Off Penalty.

20. A disc or discs returning or remaining on the playing area of the court, after having struck any object outside the playing area, shall be removed before further play; it is called a dead disc.

    a. If a dead disc rebounds or ricochets and touches a live disc or causes another dead disc to touch a live disc, the half-round shall be played over and a 10-Off PENALTY to the player shooting the offending disc causing the replay. Any 10 offs the offender had before the shot shall be deducted from his/her score and all good discs the non-offender had shall be counted before the end is replayed. (March 2022)

    b. If a dead disc coming from another court moves or displaces a live disc, that half-round shall be played over, with no score credited to any player. A 10-Off PENALTY to the player on another court shooting the offending disc causing the half-round to be played over.

    c. No player shall shoot a disc which in the judgment of the assigned Tournament Director, Assistant Tournament Director or Referee is sufficiently hard as to pose a danger to the wellbeing of spectators or other players. Penalty: 10-Off. Since this is a judgment call, there can be no appeal. (March 2016)

21. Any disc that clearly leaves the court beyond the farthest baseline or goes off the sides of the court is a dead disc.

22. A disc which stops less than eight (8) inches beyond the farthest baseline shall be removed.

23. A disc that is leaning over the edge of the court and touches the alley shall be immediately removed.

24. A match will be forfeited after the third call of five (5) minute intervals, total 15 minutes, starting from the time that a playable court is available.

25. Any team or individual that forfeits or is forfeited in a game or match, up to and including the quarterfinals, is disqualified from the tournament.

26. The unauthorized use of cell phones is prohibited on the courts. PENALTY: 5-Off (October 2010)

27. Open-toed shoes are not allowed unless a doctor's release is presented. (March 2009)

## D - SCORING

1. The Scoring Diagram consists of one 10-point area, two 8-point areas, two 7-point areas and one 10-Off area.

2. After both players have shot their four (4) discs, score all the discs on the diagram within and not touching the lines. The separation triangle in the 10-Off area is not considered.
   (a) When judging a disc in relation to lines, the official shall position himself/herself with the disc between him/her and the line and sight straight down.
   (b) A mounted disc or a disc resting on top of a disc happens sometimes when players use excessive force in shooting. Each disc shall be judged separately according to the scoring rules.
   (c) No artificial aid or cue shall be used in judging discs. Use eyesight only except in judging lagging discs. PENALTY: 5-Off**.** Where the edge of a court line is in question, the tournament director or their designee may use a straight edge or other similar device to determine the intended line, (March 2025)

3. Play continues until all discs have been shot in that half-round, even if the game has been reached.

4. If a tie game results at the game point or over, play is continued in regular rotation of play, until two full rounds in Doubles or one full round in Singles is completed. At that time, the side with the higher score wins, even if it has less than 75 points or the number of points specified as game points. If the score is tied again, play continues again as above outlined.

5. In tournament play, the winner of a match must sign the score card, thus approving the record entered thereon.

6. If an error occurs in the scoring of a score on the scoreboard at the end of a half-round and it is discovered before the next half-round is completed, the error must be corrected. Otherwise, the score as scored on the scoreboard must stand, unless both sides agree on the correction.

## E - OFFICIALS

1. Officials in Tournament Play shall be Tournament Director, Assistant to the Tournament Director, Divisional Referees, Court Referees, and Court Scorers.

   a. A Court Referee shall be assigned to a match upon the request of any player in that match.

2. The Tournament Director shall have complete charge of arrangements of the tournament - namely, conduct the drawings, pairings, assign the courts, officials, set time for starting games and matches; inspect all courts and equipment, etc., and all other details which enter into tournament play. The Tournament Director may also cancel, suspend, or otherwise rearrange court calls and tournament play in such instances where extreme weather conditions prevail.

3. An Assistant to the Tournament Director may be appointed as desired by the Tournament Director. He/she shall render the final call on close discs (third call), shall render the decision on question of fact, but final appeal from players will be made by the Tournament Director.

4. The Divisional Referee, one or more shall be appointed, the number dependent on how many courts are in play. The Divisional Referees are the aides of the Tournament Director and shall carry out his/her orders regarding assigning officials and players to the courts. He/she shall see that discs, indicators, pointers, chalk, score cards, and other necessary equipment are at each court. He/she shall inform the officials of any special rules and regulations which have been made for the conducting of the tournament. He/she shall collect all the score cards at the finish of the matches and shall return them to the Tournament Director. He/she shall have jurisdiction only on the action of the court assigned to him/her. Divisional Referees shall be informed by Court Referees of all player appeals and, if the decision made by the Court Referee is not justified or not according to the rules, may overrule him/her.

   If a Divisional Referee observes a violation of a rule by a player in his/her assigned section in a match on a court without an assigned Referee, the Divisional Referee will notify the Tournament Director of the violation. With the Tournament Director's approval, the Divisional Referee will assign a Referee to that court for the remainder of the match.

5. The Court Referee shall have complete charge of play on the court assigned to him/her. He/she shall consult his/her Divisional Referee on appeals from players. He/she shall be the sole authority on decisions and scores, except as above noted. He/she shall inform players of any rules and regulations made for the tournament. He/she shall give the signal for the start of play, shall call a disc good or no good, shall remove dead discs from play, shall announce the score at the end of each play, shall have charge of color indicator, and announce the color lead.

   He/she shall announce any violation of rules to the players and instruct the scorer as to the penalty of same. He/she shall supervise the scoring and assure himself/herself that it is done correctly. He/she shall not touch live discs in determining whether they are good or no good. If he/she should disturb live discs, the half-round will be played over. He/she shall not gather the discs for the players. He/she shall sign the score card at the end of the match and verify that the scores are correct.

   For any rule violation seen by the Referee, a fine must be mandatory, with the Referee giving no warning at any time in all tournaments.

6. The Court Scorer shall clearly tally the score of the game on the scoreboard at the end of the court, tallying only the score called by the Court Referee after each half-round.

**F - APPEALS**

1. Either player in Singles and either player in Doubles at the end of the court to which the discs are played, may: request permission from the Referee to examine any close disc as to good or not good, or; ask the Referee if a disc is close and the Referee responds "Yes"; this is automatic approval for the player to examine it without additional approval. In Singles, when there is no referee on the court, a player may go and examine the disc as to good or not good, and to gain information concerning the location of the discs.

   a. If a player wishes to make an appeal on any close disc, as to whether it is good or no good, it must be made before another disc is shot by either player, and the decision made shall be final and cannot be again appealed at the end of the half-round, unless such disc or discs have been touched or moved by another disc after the decision was made. Anyone from the shooting end of the court in Doubles asking for either First or Second Call shall be construed as coaching. PENALTY: 10-Off.

   b. If the Referee and Divisional Referee agree, there will be no third call. If they disagree, there must be a third call by the Tournament Director or his/her representative.

   c. If there has been no request by either party to examine a close disc until after the half-round is completed, then the half-round is played over if either player protests the Referee's call, and the protest is sustained by the Tournament Director, unless such disc or discs protested is/are the result of the last disc played.

   No live disc will be moved after a disc has been protested after the half-round is completed, until the protested disc has been finalized. PENALTY: 10-Off.

   d. The shooter may ask the Referee to have their partner check a close disc. If there is no Referee, the shooter may ask the partner to check the close disc.

2. The player or players making an appeal without sufficient reason shall be penalized. PENALTY: 10-Off.

3. The players may request the officials to give them information concerning the location of the discs. The players shall not be permitted to examine these discs.

4. A player or team may protest any one (1) or more officials assigned to their court, provided such protest is placed before the Divisional Referee or Tournament Director starts the first game.
5. To refuse the assignment of a Referee, a player or team must have a valid reason.

NOTE: The Tournament Director or Divisional Referee must appoint other officials to serve in place of those protested, which appointment must stand.

## G - SUBSTITUTES
**(Moved to Playing Rule 1e)**

## H - WET COURTS

1. If it starts to rain during any unfinished half-round of play, the players will not be required to complete the half-round. All discs will be removed from the court to a dry place. In the case of rain, the Scorekeeper will write on the back of the scorecard the scores, color lead and at which end of the court play will resume. If the Tournament Director decides that the game is to continue after the rain ceases, the play will then be resumed at the score and color lead where the play ceased. If the half-round was not completed, then the half- round will be played over.
2. If the Tournament Director shall deem it necessary to discontinue the play on account of weather conditions, any unfinished game or match shall be resumed later, at the score and color lead where the play ceased.
3. Practice after a rain delay is to be as follows: If play can restart on the same day, there will be two (2) speed shots and four (4) practice discs. If play restarts the following day, there will be full practice, including two (2) speed shots.
4. (H4 deleted in its entirety - see C1 – October 2006)

## I - VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| C3b | Shooting opponent's disc or from opponent half. | 10-OFF |
| C-4a | Discs not in starting area. | 5-OFF |
| C-4b | Played disc touching front or back line. | 5-OFF |
| C-4c | Played disc touching sides or triangle. (See Rule 4c) | 10-OFF |
| C-5 | Player stepping on or over baseline or extension of baseline while in the act of shooting. | 10-OFF |
| C-5a | Player touching any part of body on or over the baseline at any time while executing a shot. | 10-OFF |
| C-6 | Player standing or stepping on adjoining court. | 5-OFF |
| C-7 | Player not remaining seated. | 5-OFF |
| C-8 | Player leaving court during the game without permission, except to gather discs. | 10-OFF |
| C-9 | Standing in way or equipment in way of opponent. | 5-OFF |
| C-9a | Failure to step to the rear with cue in vertical position. | 5-OFF |
| C-10 | Touching live disc. (See Rule 10 for total penalty) | 10-OFF |
| C-11 | Remarks disconcerting opponent. | 10-OFF |
| C-12 | Any remark or motion to partner. (Coaching) | 10-OFF |
| C-13 | Shooting disc while opponent's disc in motion. (See Rule 13) | 10-OFF |
| C-14 | Intentional stalling. | 5-OFF |
| C-15 | Cue slipping from player's hand. (See Rule 15, 15a) | 10-OFF |
| C-16 | No hesitation shot allowed. (See Rules 16 & 17a) | 10-OFF |
| C-17 | No hook shot allowed. (See Rules 17 & 17a) | 10-OFF |
| C-18 | Player shooting two consecutive discs. (See Rule 18) | 10-OFF |
| C-19 | For improper action, not otherwise covered, Tournament Director may impose Penalty which prevents any advantage to violator, plus Penalty. | 10-OFF |
| C-20a | Player shooting disc rebounds causing replay of half-round. (See Rule 20a for full details) | 10-OFF |
| C-20b | Player shooting disc from another court causing replay of half-round. | 10-OFF |
| C-20c | Hard shooting. | 10-OFF |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| C-25 | Forfeit before semifinal. | Disqualified |
| C-26 | Unauthorized use of cell phone. | 5-OFF |
| D-2 | No artificial aid/cue when judging disk. | 5-OFF |
| F-1a | Shooting end in doubles asking for a call. Considered coaching. | 10-OFF |
| F-1c | Moving disputed disc before inspection. | 10-OFF |
| F-2 | Appealing without reason. | 10-OFF |

# STATE AND DISTRICT TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

**ART. 1 - STATE TOURNAMENTS**

(a) The following Official State Tournaments are conducted annually by the Florida Shuffleboard Association (F.S.A.).
1. Florida Singles Championship Tournament (Men's & Ladies').
2. Florida Doubles Championship Tournament (Men's & Ladies').
3. Florida Amateur Singles Championship Tournament (Men's & Ladies').
4. Florida Amateur Doubles Championship Tournament (Any Doubles).
5. Florida Masters Tournament (Men's & Ladies').
6. Tournament of Champions (Men's and Ladies). (March 2022)

(b) The five (5) annual tournaments as listed above shall be rotated among the seven (7) districts as indicated in the following tabulation and the rotation shall continue similarly thereafter.

**SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL TOURNAMENTS CHART**

| | OPEN DIVISION | | | | AMATEUR DIVISION | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Singles** | **Doubles** | **Masters** | **TOC** | **Singles** | **Doubles** |
| WEST COAST | 2026-27 | 2024-25 | 2030-31 | **2027-28** | 2027-28 | 2025-26 |
| SOUTHWEST COAST | 2028-29 | 2025-26 | 2029-30 | 2028-29 | 2028-29 | 2026-27 |
| SOUTHERN | 2027-28 | 2026-27 | 2028-29 | 2029-30 | 2029-30 | 2027-28 |
| SOUTHEAST COAST | 2029-30 | 2027-28 | 2025-26 | 2030-31 | N/A | N/A |
| CENTRAL EAST COAST | 2030-31 | 2028-29 | 2026-27 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2028-29 |
| NORTHERN | 2024-25 | 2029-30 | 2027-28 | 2025-26 | 2024-25 | 2029-30 |
| CENTRAL | 2025-26 | 2030-31 | 2024-25 | 2026-27 | 2026-27 | 2024-25 |

(**March 2026**)

The State Tournament Director is to be paid $100.00 (plus $0.50 per player from registration fees) for each State Sponsored Tournament. For Statewide Tournaments, Directors are to be paid $75.00 plus $0.50 per registered player out of the registration fees plus an additional $25.00 to be paid by the F.S.A. (March 2022)

Any Tournament Director authorized by the F.S.A. President or the State Tournament Director to direct a Statewide tournament outside of their home District shall be paid for their travel expenses by the host District, calculated at the current IRS standard mileage rate for automobiles. Such compensation shall not apply to the State Tournament Director directing a State Sponsored Tournament. (October 2019)

The F.S.A. will provide $**800** to each of the two (2) clubs hosting the State Sponsored Open Tournaments to be **prorated between divisions** and $100.00 will go toward club expenses**. (March 2026)** If there are less than 16 players in a State Singles division, the $200.00 prize money will be prorated as follows: $12.50 times the actual number of players in the division. The remaining portion of the $200.00 will be returned to the F.S.A. (March 2021)

The F.S.A. will provide $400 to the host club of the State Sponsored Amateur Singles Tournament with $300 to be equally divided between the Men's and Ladies' Divisions and $100 will go to the host club.

The F.S.A. will provide $400 to the Host Club of the State Sponsored Amateur Any Doubles Tournament with $300 going into the prize money and $100 to the host club. (This will be retroactive to the 2005-2006 season) Attachment 1 (Players Prize Money Calculation) shall be used the same as any other tournament, except for placing a zero on the Tournament Director line.

The F.S.A. will provide $200 to the host club of the State Sponsored Tournament of Champions to be equally divided between the Men's and Ladies' Divisions. ***October 2025***

(c) The F.S.A. will provide $2200.00 to the host club of the State Sponsored Masters Tournament with $300.00 to the Tournament Director, $100.00 to the club, and $700.00 for each M/L division and $400.00 for Player/Director final day banquet lunches. (March 2024) In addition, up to $500.00 will be given to the host club upon submission of receipts for other incurred expenses. (March 2022)

**ART. 2 - ARRANGEMENTS FOR STATE TOURNAMENTS**

(a) The Florida Singles Championship shall be held at the same time and place as the Annual Winter Meeting of the Association. The Host Club sponsoring the State Singles Tournament, Open Division, shall receive gratis a page in the Preview to advertise the event. The Host Club shall arrange a Banquet on the first night, starting at 6:30 P.M. for the incoming members of the State Hall of Fame. The F.S.A. will furnish banquet tickets for the incoming members of the F.S.A. Hall of Fame, Executive Board, Treasurer, Secretary, Keeper of Records, immediate Past President, and their spouses. The Host Club will provide a place for the Business Meeting following the banquet. The Host Club shall arrange for one (1) night's overnight accommodations for the President, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Vice Presidents, Keeper of Records, assigned State Tournament Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and their spouses, for the State Open Singles Tournament. The Host Club shall provide the F.S.A. a bill for these overnight accommodations. The Business Meeting agenda will be limited to the election of officers, adoption of the schedule for the next season and any other item of an urgent nature. (October 2019)

(b) The F.S.A. shall provide a nightly stipend of $25.00 per night to the State President and assigned State Tournament Director (if he/she does not use the overnight accommodations listed above) for the actual nights they are at the tournament and remained overnight.

(c) The other official State Tournaments shall be conducted at a time and place approved at a meeting of the F.S.A.

(d) The State Tournaments are arranged, supervised, and conducted by the State Tournament Director, aided by one or more Assistant State Tournament Directors (usually from the district where the tournament is being held).

(e) The Host Club shall make detailed arrangements, in consultation and agreement with the State Tournament Director.

(f) 1. A District Organization in whose district a State Tournament is to be held is to take notice of the rotation shown in the preceding tabulation and is to begin early planning as outlined below.
2. (Paragraph requiring twenty-four courts deleted)
3. In or prior to January, about a year before the time of the tournaments, the District Presidents will call for invitations from the clubs so equipped and desiring to act as host for the following year's designated tournaments.
4. The choice of the Host Club is to be determined by a majority vote of the District Executive Board.
5. The selection of the Host Club for each State Tournament, with the location, is to be submitted for approval at the annual F.S.A. Winter Meeting.
6. Draw Tournaments are permissible.

**ART. 3 - AUTHORIZATION FOR TOURNAMENTS**

(a) Any club awarded the President's Trophy Tournament will not have to give up another tournament to get it.

(b) [Old (b) deleted in its entirety - Old (c) renumbered to (b)] A club hosting a Centerfold Tournament must have discs or disc holders numbered, and these discs will be placed on corresponding courts for every match. This does not preclude the Tournament Director from assigning an alternative set of discs if the first set becomes unsatisfactory.

**ART. 4 - SCHEDULING OF TOURNAMENTS**

(a) Each club having district approval proposing to conduct any Statewide Tournament for the next active season, shall submit to the Chairperson of the Tournament Assignment Committee, not later than January 1st, a statement showing the tournament's title, proposed dates (with alternate acceptable dates), type of tournament: Pros, Amateurs, Doubles or Singles, and any other information needed for approval or publication.

The tournaments listed in the Centerfold of the Preview shall **normally** be played on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. However, if a fourth day is needed to complete any tournament, then the following day is authorized. The Tournament Assignment Committee may, at their discretion, schedule tournaments for which there are no dates on **any other day. (October 2025)** The Tournament Assignment Committee shall adjust and coordinate the dates and other data and prepare a complete coordinated list of all tournaments. There can be only one mixed tournament when there is a split tournament. (November 2020)

(b) The Tournament Assignment Committee will submit a list to all F.S.A. Board members at least ten (10) days prior to the F.S.A. Winter Meeting.

(c) The Tournament Schedule for the next active season will be voted on for approval by the full F.S.A. Board at their Winter Meeting.

(d) An approved schedule will be available on the F.S.A. website as soon as possible after the approval.

(e) The schedule of tournaments shall be printed in the annual Preview as follows: The State Sponsored Tournaments are to be shown in red so they readily stand out; all tournaments are to be listed in chronological order of the dates to be played.

(f) An Inter-District, Intra-District or District Tournament may be held on the dates scheduled for a Statewide Tournament, if the distance of travel is greater than seventy-five (75) miles. No scheduled Inter-District, Intra-District or District Tournament may be held on the dates set for the State-sponsored Singles and Doubles events. Any question of conflict below the level of District Tournaments shall be decided by the District Executive Board.

(g) The number of places in all State Sponsored and Statewide Tournaments will be determined by the size of the field in each division. If there are less than 12 players in the walking division at the Tournament of Champions and State and National Singles that begin on Monday, the divisions will be non-walking. (March 2024)

**ART. 5 - INFORMATION ABOUT TOURNAMENTS**

(a) The printed schedules in the Preview will contain, as far as is practicable, information included by each Host District with its request for a tournament [Art. 4(a)]. All tournaments played in the State of Florida must be played by the Florida State Rules and Regulations.

(b) At no time during a tournament shall a player (Amateur or Pro) be required to play on courts other than those at the club where they registered, except by special exemption of the Tournament Director in consultation with all board members present at the tournament. (March 1999 - this paragraph moved here from SR12)

(c) If there are less than a total of 20 players in both divisions of an amateur non-walking singles tournament, and there are at least 12 players total, the divisions shall be combined. The Florida Shuffleboard Association shall be responsible for covering the Director's fee should there be a shortfall as a result of the number of players in attendance. (January, March 2024)

**ART. 6 - ENTRY FEE**

Effective October 31, 2022, up to $10.00 (ten dollars) may be charged for each player for all State Sponsored and Statewide Tournaments, providing that $4.00 per player goes to the F.S.A. and $2.00 per player goes to the Host Club. All divisions must be charged the same fee. Districts are authorized to do the same up to $10.00 (ten dollars) in District Tournaments. The National Association is authorized to charge $10.00 (ten dollars) entry fee for their Centerfold Tournaments. All sponsor monies shall go only to the player's prizes. (October 2022) These changes are reflected on the amended Prize Money Calculation Form, which is to be used at all tournaments. (March 2021)

(b) The Host Club will send cards or notification on any cancelled District, State or Statewide Tournament; the Club President to confirm. (March 2003)

**ART. 7 - SEEDING AND CHART CONTROL (other than Masters)**

(a) All State and District Tournaments placed on the chart shall be player drawn with no seeding of players. In all State Pro Tournaments, the draw shall determine the sequence of play in both the Main Event and Consolation. Players will register on the first scheduled day of the tournament before 9:00 A.M., at which time registration will stop and the chart made up. The district may close registration as early as 8:30 A.M. at a District Sponsored Tournament. This change must be fully advertised, either in the Preview Schedule or otherwise. To qualify for a place on the chart, all players must have signed the Release Form and be present at the time of the draw. However, those who did not register may apply to the Tournament Director and, at his/her discretion, will be placed on the chart without the benefit of the draw. The Tournament Director, when making up the charts, may place all byes and sub-bracket players evenly throughout the chart, or may group all byes or sub-bracket players together, consistent with the pairing of such players. (March 2018)

(b) The following restrictions will apply concerning the TournamentDirector making court assignments:

1. No match is to be called before 9:00 A.M. or after 4:00 P.M., except 100-point Consolation matches may be called until 4:30 P.M. Eligible matches must be called until 4:00 P.M., except for teams or players that have advanced into the semi-final or final rounds on the first day of tournament play. (October 2023)

2. A player will not be required to play more than:
(a) three (3) two-out-of-three 75-Point matches,
(b) one (1) two-out-of-three 75-Point matches, and three (3) 100-Point matches,
(c) two (2) two-out-of-three 75-Point matches, and two (2) 100-Point matches,
(d) four (4) 100-Point matches or
(e) three (3) two-out-of-three 12 frame matches in the same day.

A match to be completed from a previous day does not count in the tabulation of matches to be played in a day.

3. The only way a match can be played beyond these limits is if all players agree to play.

**ART. 8 - PLAYER ELIGIBILITY, GENERAL**

(a) In a Statewide Tournament, it is the privilege of the Host Club to specify the type of tournament, such as Open or Amateur, Singles, Doubles or Mixed Doubles or a combination, whichever the Host Club feels they can handle and furnish prizes.

(b) In an Open Tournament, there must be a Men's and Ladies' or a Mixed Division. In an Open tournament, other than a State Sponsored or Statewide event, there may be any combination of players in a Doubles competition.

(c) Each player is responsible for entering all tournaments for which he/she is eligible. If he/she enters a tournament for which he/she is ineligible, he/she shall be removed from it as soon as the error is discovered. If that is after the tournament is completed, he/she shall forfeit any prizes won and, in either case, be subject to suspension from the tournament play for such time as the F.S.A. Board shall determine.

(d) Each district shall evaluate their players and the conduct of their players in District Tournaments in accordance with the wishes of the District Executive Board. Each player must be a member in good standing in the club which he/she proposed to represent in tournament play. (March 2025)

(e) In District Doubles, a player must choose as a partner a player from any club in his/her district. A player may only play a District Tournament in the district where the club he/she represents in tournament play is located. In State or Statewide Doubles, a player may choose as a partner a member of any club in the state. Where the members of a winning team represent different clubs, each club shall be listed in any published list of winners.

(f) (Removed seasonal choice) Any player who, during a current season of October 1 through September 30, has represented a club in a tournament at or above the district level, may thereafter change his/her representation of affiliation to another club upon filing a notice in writing to that effect with the said club and with the KOR of the F.S.A. His/her play in such tournaments shall cease for the first club on the date of filing and may commence with the second club immediately.

(g) All member clubs within the area covered by every tournament at or above the district level are hereby invited and authorized to enter players in such tournaments, except tournaments for which the eligibility of entries is to be restricted (such as the Tournament of Champions, Masters, etc.

(h) Players must be at least 18 years of age to enter designated tournaments.

(i) The word "Open" in connection with a tournament means that there is no restriction to a player's age or skill of the entries other than the 18 years of age limit stated above.

(j) Consolation: Players losing their first match in tournaments may enter Consolation providing they do not progress beyond the second round. A forfeit is a win for the opposing team. No player may enter Consolation whose name has not been entered on the chart in the Main Event. (March 2009)

(k) Tournament of Champions Qualifications (For Pros Only): First place winners in the Main Event of Pro tournaments listed in the Centerfold are eligible to play in this tournament for life. Second, third, and fourth place winners in the Main Event are eligible to play in this event for two (2) consecutive years. Consolation first, second, third and fourth place are eligible for one year.

(l) The Tournament of Champions shall consist of both Walking and Non-Walking Divisions. [Remainder of (l) and (m) deleted]

**ART. 9 - DISTRICT AMATEURS, STATE AMATEURS, & PROS**

Players shall be divided into three (3) divisions: District Amateurs, State Amateurs, and Pros.

(a) DISTRICT AMATEURS

1. A District Amateur is a player other than a State Amateur or Pro.

2. A District Amateur shall be advanced to State Amateur, effective the following October 1st, when he/she accumulates a total of five (5) points in three (3) consecutive years or less (October 1 through September 30). Counting shall be as follows: a first, second, third or fourth place win in the Main Event in a District Tournament (including a No Two Pros Tournament) or a State Amateur Centerfold Tournament shall count as one (1) point. A first, second or third place win in Consolation of a District Tournament, a State Amateur or Open Centerfold Tournament, shall count as one-half (1/2) point. Also refer to paragraph (e) for exception. Regardless of the foregoing provisions, no points or fraction thereof shall be awarded to any player who fails to win at least one match during the tournament. (March 2016)

3. (Rescinded Oct. 2017)

(b) STATE AMATEURS

1. A State Amateur player is a player who has advanced from District Amateur. Any individual who is classified as an Expert, Master or Pro shuffler in a State or Country other than Florida and who is not otherwise classified as a Pro shuffler in Florida, shall be classified as a State Amateur within Florida.

2. A State Amateur shall be advanced to Pro effective the following October 1, when he/she accumulates a total of five (5) points in three (3) consecutive years or less. Counting shall be as follows: A first, second, third or fourth place in the Main Event of a State Amateur **or Open** Centerfold Tournament or a District Tournament where State Amateurs are eligible to play (including a No Two Pros Tournament), shall count as one (1) point. A first, second or third place win in Consolation (of these same tournaments or a Pro Centerfold Tournament) shall count as one-half (1/2) point. (March 2024) Also refer to paragraph (e) for exception**.** Anyone coming to Florida from another State or Country where they are designated as an Expert, Master or Pro shuffleboard player will be ranked as a State Amateur in Florida. Regardless of the foregoing provisions, no points or fraction thereof shall be awarded to any player who fails to win at least one match during the tournament. (March 2016)

3. (Rescinded Oct. 2017)

4. A State Amateur who has played in at least two (2) Preview Centerfold Amateur Tournaments and has not won first, second, third or fourth place in the Main Event for one (1) year, may return to the District Amateur level the following October 1 with the approval of the District Executive Board.

(c) PROS:

1. Rescinded October 2019

2. A Pro is ineligible to play in any Amateur Tournament.

3. A Pro who has played in at least two (2) Preview Centerspread scheduled tournaments and who has not won in the first four (4) places for one (1) year (October 1 through September 30), may return to the next lower level the following October 1 with the approval of the District Executive Board.

(d) When the word "year" occurs in this Art. 9, it means from October 1st to the following September 30th.

(e) No tournament, except those played in the State of Florida, shall be considered in the counting. Each district has the option in a District Tournament of awarding points or not, depending on the size of the tournament field.

(f) Amateurs who lost on the first day of a State-wide tournament are permitted to play in a tournament starting the second day.

(g) Notwithstanding the aforementioned requirements, Districts may regulate the move up points issued as a result of Amateur State Tournaments and/or their District. (Effective October 2017)

**ART. 10 - TROPHIES AND PRIZES**

(a) Trophies and prizes for the State Sponsored Tournament are fixed at a meeting of the F.S.A.

(b) Additional prizes for State Tournaments shall be discretionary with the Host Club, after consultation with the State President.

(c) In all State Sponsored Singles and Doubles Tournaments, plaques shall be given, and when the name plates are filled, plaques will be retired to the State Hall of Fame.

(d) Prizes in the State Sponsored Singles Tournament shall be the same for the Walking and Non-Walking M/L Divisions.

(e) Points to be given in Open Tournaments listed in the Centerfold of the Preview, in accordance with the F.S.A. Roll of Champions Point System are as follows:
Statewide Singles 5-4-3-2 Main; and 2-1-1-0 Consolation (2-1-1-0.5 if there are 16 or more players in the division). (March 2024)
Statewide Doubles 5-4-3-2 Main; and 2-1-1-0 Consolation (2-1-1-0.5 if there are 16 or more teams in the division). (March 2024)
*Red Line State Singles 8-6-5-3 Main; and **3**-1-1-0.5 Consolation.*
*(1) If there are less than 16 players, points will be 5-4-3-2 Main and 2-1-1-0 Consolation. Red Line State Doubles 8-6-5-3 Main; and **3**-1-1-**0.5** Consolation (2-1-1-**0** if there are **less than** 16 teams in the division). (**March 2026)***

Regardless of the foregoing provisions, no points shall be awarded to any player who fails to win at least one match during the tournament. (March 2018)

(f) Prize money in an Open Tournament (other than the Masters) will be determined by using the Financial Report Worksheet provided by the Florida Shuffleboard Rules in the Preview. Players who abandon a tournament, without notifying the tournament director, will receive no prize money or points. Prize money will go back to the host club. Additionally, the standings report will list no names for the position involved, stating only "did not finish." Definition of "abandon": for a team to leave a tournament when eligible to play on, and the opposition team is present to play. (January 2021)

(g) A copy of the Financial Report (Prize Money) will be posted by 12:00 Noon of the first day of the tournament.

(h) Host Clubs may give Amateur winners money along with, or instead of, trophies if they so desire.

**ART. 11 - PERMISSION NEEDED FROM TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR TO ALTER COURT**

(a) Any changes made to the condition of the court, such as sweeping, the use of glass beads, etc., shall be determined by the Tournament Director or his/her assistant, unless all players involved agree. The Host Club officials will sweep and/or bead the court as directed. Any changes of court will also be determined by the Tournament Director or his/her assistant. Once a match begins, no changes in the court shall be made except as authorized by the Tournament Director in the event of extremely unusual circumstances which may have rendered the court unplayable; such decision to be made only by the Tournament Director.

(b) A club that usually applies wax to discs for club play and district play may do so when hosting a Centerfold tournament.

1. Discs must be waxed before each match.

2a. Before the second game, either team or player may elect to have their/his/her discs rewaxed for the second game. Practice is limited to a total of eight (8) discs; there will be no additional practice allowed because of discs being waxed. Immediately after the color choice following the second game, either team or player may elect to have their/his/her blocks rewaxed for the third game.

2b. Following the first or second game, before the start of practice for the second game or immediately after the lag for color choice for the third game, the courts may be beaded, if all players agree. If all players do not agree, the Tournament Director may be requested to shoot a disc of each color from both ends of the court to determine whether the court is playable "as is" or requires beading.

3. Discs are to be waxed by assigned personnel only.

(c) The player or players waxing discs at any time of the tournament, unless assigned to do so, will be disqualified from the tournament immediately.

**ART. 12 - DECORUM**

(a) The game of shuffleboard is being participated in by ever increasing numbers. It is imperative that the carefully compiled rules and regulations for the game be fully understood and carried out.

Any indifference or conduct during tournament play regarded by tournament directing officials to be unbecoming to the sportsmanship must be reported to the F.S.A. President for immediate consideration and/or action.

[Paragraph eliminated - see Rule C-20(c) - March 2016]

There is to be no smoking on or near the courts at any time.

**ART. 13 - AMENDMENTS**

(a) Any person who submits proposed rules, changes or amendments shall notify in writing to all members of the Executive Committee, including the President, at least ten (10) days prior to the Annual Winter Meeting (Winter Meeting). Discussion of these changes shall not be held at this meeting. Discussion and vote will be held at the Spring Meeting.

(b) At the Annual Meeting, any proposed playing rule amendment, regulation, or standing rule change shall be provided to each District President and Board Member. District Presidents shall widely disseminate these proposed changes within their respective districts and solicit comments concerning the proposed changes prior to the Spring Meeting. Board Members shall also solicit comments concerning the proposed changes. The F.S.A. Board shall act on these proposed changes at the Spring Meeting on even numbered years. This rule may be temporarily suspended at any Board Meeting only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those members present and voting. All changes that are made shall become effective October 1 of each year.

**ART. 14 - AUTHORIZATION TO ACT AS A TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR**

(a) The F.S.A. President will nominate a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of five (5) individuals for Tournament Director. These nominations will be submitted to the F.S.A. Board at the Spring Meeting. Only those individuals certified by the F.S.A. Board will be authorized to act as Tournament Director of a Florida Shuffleboard Association district Tournament. District Presidents will select Tournament Directors for District Tournaments.

**ART. 15 - STATE PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL**

District Tournament Directors must meet with the approval of the State President.

COURT:

(a) The court shall measure fifty-two feet (52') in length and six feet (6') in width. The playing surface shall be concrete. The playing area shall be thirty-nine feet (39') in length or that area of the court from the baseline to baseline.

(b) The court shall be marked according to the official diagram. Maximum width of lines, one inch (1"); minimum width, three-quarter inch (3/4"). The separation triangle in the 10-Off area is three inches (3") at the base, running to a point in the direction of the scoring area. The outline of the legs of this triangle shall be a quarter inch (1/4") in width with a clearance of a half inch (1/2") at the point and base of the triangle from the 10-Off area lines. The base of the triangle is not marked. The inside edges of lines shall be sharp and distinct. The baseline shall be extended to adjoining courts, or to about twenty-four inches (24") beyond the sides of the court. Lines shall be painted with white paint, or acrylic stain may be used. A depressed gutter shall be at least twenty-four inches (24") wide and not less than four inches (4") deep at mid-court, where a suitable water drain should be installed. The gutter should slope one inch (1") in the first six inches (6") of the length of the alley from each baseline, then slope to a minimum of four inches (4") at mid-court.

(c) One end of the court shall be designated as the Head of the Court, the opposite end as the Foot of the Court. All games shall start at the Head of the Court.
NOTE: Clubs are urged to use as backstops something that will absorb the shock of the disc to stop hard rebounds in order to eliminate the half-round being played over.

**ART. 16– DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

(a) Conduct **and Jurisdiction:** 1**.** Any conduct before, during, or after a tournament which a directing official, board member, or officer considers to be (1) unsportsmanlike, illegal, or (2) contrary to the F.S.A.'s mission, or written or verbal communication within a public forum, including online, which accuses the F.S.A. or its members of biased or improper conduct must be reported to the F.S.A. President

for immediate consideration and/or action as explained below.

**2. In the event of an incident report being generated, the incident's disciplinary action shall be handled by the organization sanctioning the event. The district board would apply 'disciplinary procedures' for district events and the F.S.A. for state events.**
**3. The definition of egregious behavior as written in the legal dictionary is as follows: a. Extraordinary in a bad or negative way, very noticeably bad. b. conspicuously bad; glaring or flagrant.**
**(March 2026)**

(b) Upon Report of Misconduct. The F.S.A. President will first decide whether the action constitutes gross misconduct. If the misconduct is not of a gross nature and the member has not been reprimanded for misconduct during the previous year, then the F.S.A. President must contact the F.S.A. member who may have engaged in misconduct (the "Violating Member") and have an informal discussion regarding the complained of misconduct and remind the Violating Member of the F.S.A.'s rules related to sportsmanship and the F.S.A's purpose. If the Violating Member refuses to accept the previously mentioned informal discussion or has been reprimanded for misconduct during the previous calendar year, then the Violating Member's misconduct will be treated as gross misconduct. If the misconduct is considered gross, then the F.S.A. President must initiate an investigation into the alleged incident giving rise to the complaint.

(c) Investigation. The F.S.A. shall convene the Executive Board who will interview the known witnesses of the alleged misconduct. If the majority of the Executive Board determines that the complaint has merit, then the Executive Board must give written notice to the Violating Member within sixty (60) days of the determination and proceed with the F.S.A.'s disciplinary procedure as follows below.

(d) Disciplinary Procedure: Notice. Notice that there has been a complaint regarding the Violating Member's conduct must be given to the Violating Member via U.S. Mail and Certified Mail. Within this notice, the Violating Member must be given (1) notice that the Violating Member has been reported for alleged misconduct, (2) the date on which the alleged misconduct occurred, and (3) be invited to present a written response and present evidence at a disciplinary hearing as outlined in section (e) below.

(e) Disciplinary Procedure: Hearing. A disciplinary hearing will be held on a date and location as decided by the F.S.A. President. At this hearing, witnesses of the Event, written statements, testimony of the Violating Member, and other evidence may be presented to the Executive Board for consideration. Such hearing shall be at least thirty (30) days after written notice of the hearing. This is to give the Violating Member sufficient time to prepare a defense.

(f) Disciplinary Procedure: Determination. Upon the conclusion of the hearing referenced in section (e) above, the Executive Board will hold a vote to determine whether the preponderance of the evidence indicates that the Violating Member engaged in the reported misconduct. If the Executive Board determines that the Violating Member engaged in the reported misconduct, then it will vote, by a simple majority, whether to: (1) issue a written warning; (2) place the Violating Member on probation for a period not to exceed two years; (3) suspend the member for a period not to exceed six months of the F.S.A. playing season(s); (4) recommend to the F.S.A. Board that the Violating Member be suspended for a period for a period to exceed six months of the F.S.A. playing season(s), or; (5) recommend to the F.S.A. Board the Violating Member be expelled permanently from the F.S.A. If the Executive Board votes to recommend (4) or (5), then a corresponding item will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the F.S.A. Board.

(g) Appeal. A Violating Member who has been the subject of discipline may make written appeal to the F.S.A. Board stating the reason for the appeal and the requested relief sought. This written appeal shall be placed on the agenda as an item for the next meeting of the F.S.A. The penalty under appeal shall be held in abeyance pending the result of the appeal process. The written appeal will be read aloud by a board member of the Violating Member's choosing or, absent a board member willing to read the statement, by the F.S.A. President. Following this reading, a member of the Executive Board will make oral statements regarding the Violating Member's misconduct, the investigation, the hearing, and the determination. Immediately upon the conclusion of these statements, the F.S.A. Board will vote on whether to accept the Violating Member's appeal. No further consideration of the Violating Member's appeal will be brought before the F.S.A.'s Board by motion or other means.

(h) Recusal. Any member involved, either directly or indirectly, as a complainant, witness, or other interested party in a complaint of misconduct shall be excused from participation in these disciplinary procedures. The F.S.A. President shall name a temporary replacement for himself/herself and/or any member of the Executive Board so involved.

(March 2019)

*For information on backstops, contact:*

**STATE PRESIDENT**
**FLORIDA SHUFFLEBOARD ASSOCIATION, INC.**

# FLORIDA SHUFFLEBOARD ASSOCIATION, INC

# STANDING RULES

1. The Board Members may send to the State President anything pertaining to changing rules, regulations, or Constitution and By-Laws. The President will then make copies and send to all concerned. (October 1979)
2. The Preview ads will be one quarter, one half, or full page only. (October 1979)
3. The State voted 100% to keep its own Point System. (October 1979)
4. All State Minutes will be made available to Alternate Delegates, First Vice Presidents of each district and to State Tournament Directors. (October 1979)
5. (Deleted - duplicated in Playing Rule D2).
6. The F.S.A. President may invite guests for the Winter Meeting and Banquet as he/she feels is necessary. (February 1983)
7. The use of red ink in Centerfold Tournaments is reserved to designate State Sponsored Tournaments only. (February 1983)
8. The F.S.A. will subsidize Board Members who drive to F.S.A. Meetings the sum of forty dollars ($40.00). (March 2016)
   (a) State Tournament Director's expenses (annual) shall be $300. (March 2016)
   (b) President's operating expenses (annual) shall be $500.00. (January 2016)
   (c) Keeper of Records' operating expenses (annual) shall be $400.00. (October 2009)
   (d) Secretary's operating expenses (annual) shall be $300.00. (January 2016)
   (e) Treasurer's operating expenses (annual) shall be $500.00. (January 2016)
   (f) Preview Editor/Lithographer's operating expenses (annual) shall be $1200.00. (March 2023)
9. The Keeper of Records is to make available the results of the Centerfold Tournaments to all District Record Keepers. (October 1991)
10. The District Preview ads and information must be sent to the State President no later than May 15 and Out-of-State ads no later than August 1. (October 1985)
11. The requirements for consideration and induction into the Florida Shuffleboard Association Hall of Fame. (Moved from the front section - October 2012)

    All players shall have the right to know the Hall of Fame procedures and conditions and have easy access to them. The Florida Shuffleboard Association Hall of Fame consists of three (3) categories: (A) Players; (B) Presidents; and (C) Special Award.

    (A) Hall of Fame Players

    1. The requirement for induction as a player is as follows; having amassed a total of at least two hundred (200) points. (March 2003)

    2. The name of such qualifying players shall be submitted to the Hall of Fame Committee by the Keeper of Records upon the conclusion of each of the playing seasons which is the period from October 1 to September 30 of the following year, or to allow eligible players making points between October 1 to January 1 to be inducted into the Hall of Fame that season, with the player having the right to postpone their induction until the following January. (March 2016)

    (B) Hall of Fame Presidents

    1. Each F.S.A. President, after having served three (3) years, earns this high honor, having given outstanding leadership and devotion to his/her many obligations. The President will receive this honor on his/her last year in office at the Winter Banquet and/or Meeting.

    2. The F.S.A. may recommend a President be placed in the Hall of Fame with less than three (3) years as State President of the Association by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full Board. The President will then enter the Hall of Fame at the Winter Meeting of his/her last year in office.

    (C) Hall of Fame Special Award

    1. The Special Award is for those persons who have achieved outstanding records in shuffleboard in the Administrative or Promotional fields, and who have contributed significantly to the welfare and advancement of the F.S.A.

    2. Each Executive Board Member and each District President may make one (1) proposal per year for the Special Award. Said proposal may involve more than one (1) person, provided those persons are closely associated in their accomplishments. Each proposal shall be accompanied by a record of the nominees' accomplishments and forwarded to the Hall of Fame Chairman prior to September 1 each calendar year. (October 2012)

3. If there are two (2) or more proposed candidates for Special Award honors, each voting member may vote for up to two (2) of the nominees or none at all. A majority of board members present must list the names on their ballot for the election. (March 2018)

4. Discussion of any candidate and voting shall be in closed session with only Board Members present. If any member of the Board is a candidate, that person shall be excluded from the session during the discussion but will return for the voting process. (Per Standing Rule No. 11)

5. The results of the secret ballot shall not be numerically announced. The Committee Chairman shall merely announce the names of those candidates who have been elected. (Per Standing Rule No. 11)

6. Those candidates not receiving the necessary votes to be elected shall remain on the eligible list for a maximum of three (3) years. If not elected in that three (3) year period, said person's name shall be withdrawn and may be reinstated only upon the request of a District President.

7. In the event of the absence of one (1) or more of the Board Members in voting for a Special Award, a majority of the votes cast will be required to elect.

8. Hall of Fame candidates (whether a Board Member or a guest) present shall be excused from the meeting during the discussion procedure. Board Members shall return to the meeting for the voting procedure. Results of the secret ballots shall not be numerically announced, only whether a candidate was or was not elected. (March 2003)

12. (Moved to ART. 5)

13. Each District is to have one (1) Preview page for Officers and future tournaments, and three (3) pages for Tournament Results.

14. The Keeper of Records' duties are:

(a) Prepare and send an adequate number of Tournament Director Report Forms for each district for the new season; based upon the number and kind of State Centerfold Tournaments held in that district.

(b) Record the weekly results of the State Centerfold Tournaments (both Amateur and Pro).

(c) Compile records of accumulated Seasonal Pro Points earned in State Centerfold Tournaments for both the Pro Ladies and Pro Men.

(d) Make available to each District Keeper of Records the weekly results of the State Centerspread Tournaments, both Amateur and Pro, and the current record of Seasonal Points.

(e) Maintain a list of the All-Time Points for all players of All Time.

(f) Prepare a list of Men and a list of Ladies who are eligible to play in the Tournament of Champions (include those who qualified in the last tournament before the Tournament of Champions). Send these lists to the Tournament Director of the Tournament of Champions before the start of registration for that tournament.

(g) Send a current copy of the Pro Point List (both Men's and Ladies') to the Director of the Tournament of Champions ("current" meaning the Point List that includes the points awarded for the tournament immediately preceding the Tournament of Champions).

(h) At the end of the season:

1) Compile records of the Tournament Results for the season (both Amateur and Pro), and send it to the State President, or his/her designated representative, for publication in the Preview.

2) Compile a list of Current Points for the season, including the All-Time Points for point winners in the current season, and send it to the State President, or his/her designated representative, for publication in the Preview.

3) (Deleted October 2016)

4) Compile a list of the Winners of State-sponsored Tournaments, both Amateur and Pro. Send this list to the State President, or his/her designated representative, for publication in the Preview.

5) Prepare the Roll of Champions List (top 24 ladies and top 24 men) and send it to the Chairman of the Trophy Committee. Pins are to be awarded to the top 24 places, plus ties for 24th, to be distributed: Gold - the top 8 plus ties for 8th; Silver - the remainder of the top 16 plus ties for 16th; Bronze - the remainder of the top 24 plus ties for 24th.

6) Submit the name (or names) of players who have met the eligibility requirements for candidacy for election to the Hall of Fame to the Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee. (October 1993)

15. Following the March Meeting, the Secretary shall compile a list of approved motions as recorded in the minutes that might need to be included in the forthcoming Preview publication. Forward this list to the President for approval. The President may contact Board Members for any clarifications necessary, then forward those approved by the end of June to the Preview Editor for publication.

16. The Standing Rules are to be published annually. They are to be updated annually after the March Meeting and given to the State President, or his/her representative, for publication in the Preview. (October 1993)

17. The Standing Rules are to include the "Florida Shuffleboard Association Oath of Office. "The Oath is:

"I, <state your name> do hereby pledge to uphold the Constitution and By-Laws of the Florida Shuffleboard Association, and at all times to conduct myself in a manner above reproach, so help me God." (October 1993)

18. The rules governing the Masters Tournament (March 1991) are hereafter included in the F.S.A. Standing Rules. (October 1993)

(a) The Masters Tournament is an official sanctioned event of the Florida Shuffleboard Association, with both Ladies' and Men's Divisions.

The format for the Florida Masters Tournament shall be the players choice of either Walking Singles or Non-Walking Singles. If either player in a given match chooses to play Non-Walking Singles, both players in that match must play Non-Walking Singles. If the match is non-walking, the assigned Court Referee, or other volunteer, shall be responsible for pushing the played discs back to the shooting end of the court at the conclusion of each frame. (March 12, 2022, with immediate effect.)

(b) The eight (8) men and eight (8) ladies who earn the most points, as shown on the seasonal Roll of Champions, during the regular F.S.A. season, shall be invited to participate in the Masters Tournament. **Players invited to the Masters Tournament must commit to play within 24 hours of the completion of the Tournament of Champions. (March 2026)**

(c) Points for the Roll of Champions are earned in all tournaments listed in the Preview Centerfold Open Schedule.

(d) Each player will play each other player in his/her division three (3) 75-point games, a total of twenty-one (21) games. The order of finish in each division is determined by the number of games won by each player.

(e) Players must observe all published F.S.A. Rules and Regulations for tournament play, including Playing Rules, Decorum, and all Standards for Sportsmanship. (The 4:00 p.m. restriction on court assignment shall be waived, if necessary.)

(f) Players will be scheduled for the Masters Tournament by their seeding from the Masters Points earned during the season. In case of ties, the player reaching point total first will be given the higher seed.

Seed Number Playoff Schedule:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Day 1 | a.m. | 1 v 8 | 2 v 7 | 3 v 6 | 4 v 5 |
| | p.m. | 1 v 7 | 2 v 8 | 3 v 5 | 4 v 6 |
| Day 2 | a.m. | 1 v 6 | 2 v 5 | 3 v 7 | 4 v 8 |
| | p.m. | 1 v 5 | 2 v 6 | 3 v 8 | 4 v 7 |
| Day 3 | a.m. | 1 v 4 | 2 v 3 | 5 v 8 | 6 v 7 |
| | p.m. | 1 v 3 | 2 v 4 | 5 v 7 | 6 v 8 |
| Day 4 | a.m. | 1 v 2 | 3 v 4 | 5 v 6 | 7 v 8 |

(March 2011)

(g) If possible, the State Tournament Director will direct this tournament and is authorized to appoint as many assistants as he/she deems necessary. In addition, up to $500.00 will be provided to the masters tournament director should overnight accommodation be needed while directing this tournament, if travel is more than fifty (50) miles from his/her home. (October 2023)

(h) If two (2) or more players tie for eighth (8th) place on the Roll of Champions at the end of the regular season play, this tie (or ties) must be played off to assure that only eight (8) players in each division are qualified to play. All playoff matches will consist of "best two out of three, 75-point games ".

1) Two (2) players tied: Play one match. The winner qualifies for play in the Masters Tournament.

2) Three (3) players tied: Tied players will draw. The players having numbers 2 and 3 will play a match. The winner will then play a match with the player having number 1. The winner qualifies for play in the Masters Tournament.

3) Four (4) players tied: Tied players will draw. The players drawing numbers 1 and 2 will play a match. The players drawing numbers 3 and 4 will play a match. The winners of these matches will then play each other. The winner of this final Match qualifies for play in the Masters Tournament.

4) Three (3) players tied for 7th and 8th places: Tied players will draw. The players drawing numbers 2 and 3 will play a match. The winner becomes 7th on the Masters List. The loser will play a match with the player who drew number 1. The winner of this match becomes 8th on the Masters List (playoff of ties beyond those listed will be similar).

(i) The playoff of these ties shall be on neutral courts convenient for the players involved. Unless, if time permits, these matches can be played during, or after, the Tournament of Champions, at the location of the Tournament of Champions. Otherwise, the State President, or his/her designated representative, will determine the location and time of said playoff.

(j) In the Masters Tournament, all ties will be broken by head-to-head results or remain ties if this does not break the tie. (March 2011)

(k) The next eligible player on the Roll of Champions shall be given the option of being the alternate in the Masters. No player shall pass on his/her selection as a Masters player in order to be an alternate. If a player forfeits during a game, said game is a loss and the alternate assumes his/her position for the remainder of the Masters Tournament.

Alternate and player shall share wins, losses, and position in the Masters. Prize money to be shared on a pro-rated basis, to be determined by the President. Any player forfeiting before completion of six (6) games shall forfeit all prize monies to the alternate. Alternates shall consist of one lady and one man.

(l) Prize Monies for the Masters Tournament shall be: 1st Place: $120.00; 2nd Place: $105.00; 3rd Place: $90.00; 4th Place: $85.00; 5th Place: $75.00; 6th Place: $70.00; 7th Place: $65.00; 8th Place: $55.00; Alternate $35.00. (March 2024)

Payoffs shall be the same in both Ladies' and Men's Divisions. If the alternate is called upon to play, the President will determine how the prize money will be distributed among the division. (January 2004)

19. To standardize the placement of specific sections in the Preview, the following sections will be placed in the following sequence:

(a) The "Affiliated Clubs" Section:

1) The West Coast District; 2) The Southwest Coast District; 3) The Southern District; 4) The Southeast Coast District; 5) The Central East Coast District; 6) The Northern District; 7) The Central District.

(b) The "Player Status" Section:
1) The West Coast District; 2) The Southwest Coast District; 3) The Southern District; 4) The Southeast Coast District; 5) The Central East Coast District; 6) The Northern District; 7) The Central District.

(c) "Winners of State Tournaments" Section.

(d) The Seasonal "Roll of Champions" Section.

(e) The "Official Rules" Section.

(f) The "Standing Rules" Section.

(g) The "By-Laws" Section.