

National Collegiate Dodgeball Association, Inc.  
806 Brownstone Way  
Bowling Green, KY 42104  
270-748-2150  
www.ncdadodgeball.com

---



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: The Office of The President

## **Member-Submitted Grievance for Organization-Sanctioned Event**

### **Pumpkinfest II - James Madison University - October 17, 2015**

The purpose of this report is to address the issues brought to the NCDA Executive Board's attention regarding the Event (Pumpkinfest II) at James Madison University on October 17, 2015. Per 9.10 of the NCDA Bylaws, an official grievance was submitted and is being addressed. The names of all Members have been redacted, unless they are on the NCDA Executive Board.

**Date of Event:** October 17, 2015

**Location of Event:** Harrisonburg, Virginia - James Madison University - UREC Gymnasium

**Name of Event:** Pumpkinfest II

#### **Attending Member Teams:**


- James Madison University (JMU)
- Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)
- University of Maryland (UMD)
- Towson University (Towson)
- Pennsylvania State University (PSU)
- Kent State University (Kent)

#### **Report Index:**


- Page 1 - Introduction/Cover Page
- Page 2 - Event Schedule
- Page 3 - Event Schedule and Reported Match Results
- Page 4-10 - Member Testimonials and Feedback
- Page 11-13 - NCDA President's Notes
- Page 14-15 - Addendum

# Event Schedule



Schedule as released by Derek Pierce (JMU) on October 15, 2015 at 7:58pm EST to the NCDA Captains Club Facebook Page.

 **Derek Pierce** uploaded a file.  
October 15 at 7:58pm




Sorry I did not post the schedule earlier as I have been making changes to it a lot. We will probably making changes to it again pending VCU bringing a B team or not.

 **SCHEDULE TOURNEY.xlsx**  
Spreadsheet

[Download](#) [Preview](#) [Upload Revision](#)

 Like  Comment

✓ Seen by 75

 Write a comment...  

Chrome File Edit View History Bookmarks People Window Help

My Drive - Google Drive x JMU - Pumpkinfest II - Oct x The NCDA Captains Club x SCHEDULE TOURNEY.xlsx x Fall 2015 Schedule | NCDA x

https://excel.office.live.com/x/ExcelView.aspx?FBsrc=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fattachments%2Ffile\_preview.php%3Fid%3D7439013590474...

Excel Online

Download Print Exit Find ...

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
4												
5												
6	October 17th	9am	10am	11am	Noon	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	
7												
8			MARYLAND	JMU	JMU	ALUMNI GAME	JMU	JMU				
9	Court 1 (main court)		TOWSON	MARYLAND	TOWSON		Kent	PSU				
10												
11												
12												
13			VCU	Kent	Kent		PSU	JMU B				
14	Court 2		JMU B	TOWSON	PSU		MARYLAND	TOWSON				
15		WARMUPS/Period if late										
16												
17						Lunch						
18												
19			VCU B	VCU	VCU		VCU	Kent				
20	Court 3		JMU B	PSU	MARYLAND		TOWSON	VCU				
21												

Sheet1

## Event Schedule and Reported Match Results

Text representation of schedule above with reported scores.

9:00am:

- Court 1, 2, & 3: Teams Arrive/Warm Up

10:00am:

- Court 1: UMD vs Towson: 2-3 (OT)
- Court 2: VCU vs JMU JV: 3-0
- Court 3: VCU JV vs JMU JV: 0-3

11:00am:

- Court 1: JMU vs UMD: 4-1
- Court 2: Kent vs Towson: 3-2 (OT)
- Court 3: VCU vs PSU: 0-5

12:00pm:

- Court 1: JMU vs Towson: 3-0
- Court 2: Kent vs PSU: 0-5
- Court 3: VCU vs UMD: 1-4

1:00pm

- Court 1: Alumni Game
- Court 2 & 3: Lunch

2:00pm

- Court 1: JMU vs Kent: Match did not occur
- Court 2: PSU vs UMD: Match did not occur
- Court 3: VCU vs Towson: Match did not occur

3:00pm

- Court 1: JMU vs PSU: 5-2
- Court 2: JMU JV vs Towson: Only half of the match was played. No score to report.
- Court 3: Kent vs VCU: 2-0

Record of Teams from Event

- JMU 3-0 (1 game not played)
- VCU 0-3 (1 game not played)
- UMD 1-1-1 (1 game not played)
- Towson 1-1-1 (1 game not played)
- Kent 2-1 (1 game not played)
- PSU 2-1 (1 game not played)

## Member Testimonials and Feedback

**Testimonial #1:** A private Facebook message sent to Felix Perrone, Zigmus Maloni, and one other:

“Hey Zig and Felix, I had something I wanted to bring to your guys' attention. I've also included [Redacted redacted] in the message, as he was the only other authoritative figure to be present at JMU's tournament. I'm currently at work, so I might not be able to respond immediately, but I'm guessing you can assume my concern based off my previous comment regarding JMU's tournament. There were a number of things that happened that I found extremely irresponsible and disrespectful as a host team.

1) The schedule was changed that morning, with no notification to the teams it affected. As much as I want to plead my own case, the end result is the same. JMU changed the tournament schedule and it significantly impacted the entire day. Even worse, these changes occurred due to preference towards a specific team, resulting in a biased decision to alter the entire tournament schedule.

2) JMU hosted an alumni match mid tournament, which took as long as [Redacted]'s full length game against [Redacted]. They occupied the main court, and had us play on the back court.

3) We were playing with 8 balls in a league match while they were using balls to play an alumni game. That's ridiculous. When I asked the JMU players if they had any balls we could use, they said they didn't have extras and we're using them.

4) Our [Redacted] match against [Redacted] was cut short due to restrictions of availability at the UREC at JMU. Not only that, but before the match, all spectator seating was removed and the courts started to be broken down. That may not be considered "illegitimate" obviously, but it made a lot of my teammates feel like our game was unimportant.

I am not blaming them for being low on balls, I understand that may happen. I'm furious that because of their choice to host an alumni match mid tournament, not

## Member Testimonials and Feedback

### Testimonial #1: Continued...

only were we under-balled for our legitimate match (or not so legitimate) that was occurring at the same time, but this also delayed the other subsequent games, resulting in our last game being cancelled.

This is the more subjective part of the argument. We traveled a total of [redacted] hours and paid for 2 hotel rooms for 1 night, with [redacted] healthy players to compete in 4 scheduled league matches, but mainly due to JMU's decisions, we played 2.5 matches of dodgeball, with only 1 match being entirely legitimate. Our first match, [redacted] vs [redacted], was the only legitimate match we played. Our second against [redacted] was under-balled when it could have been otherwise. Our third was against [redacted] and was forced to end at halftime because JMU's gym reservation was up. I honestly don't know whether or not that is considerate legitimate based off the rule book, but we would've appreciated to play at least 3 full matches.

Not to seem insulting by any means, but to put that into a clear perspective, that's 125 minutes ([redacted]) of dodgeball for a [redacted] hour trip plus overnight stay. I'm not trying to be picky, or overturn the results with [redacted], or complain about the quality of play that happened. We honestly just felt disrespected by JMU, and for once, it wasn't because of their fans. I'm sending all this to you because our team was looking forward to a fun day filled with dodgeball, but was sadly disappointed by the time we left. Not with our results, but with how much time and money we spent in order to attend a tournament at which the host lacked consideration for the attending teams. It really bothered most of [redacted]'s team, and I know numerous other individuals on [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] shared similar thoughts on the matter. I'm not sure what can be done or what should be done, but I wanted you guys to understand the situation, to bring it to light and try and prevent situations like this in the future.”

---

## Member Testimonials and Feedback

**Testimonial #2:** Facebook Message with Felix Perrone, Zigmas Maloni, Kevin Bailey, and four others

10/17, 3:06pm

redacted

Maryland v. Penn State will not be happening

10/17, 3:41pm

**Felix Perrone**

Scheduling issue?

redacted

So Maryland left to get home in time to watch their basketball team play in their midnight madness **shh**. They took the majority of the balls (**Towson** all popped) so Towson v VCU will not be happening either because there are only enough balls left for JMU to play Penn State

10/17, 3:46pm

redacted

Thats **fxx**ing horse **xxx**, they should be penalized for that 100%

Thats called pulling a **redacted**

10/17, 3:46pm

redacted

Apparently there was mutual agreement among UMD and PSU not to play that game so I don't know what should happen

10/17, 3:47pm

redacted

Felix?

10/17, 3:47pm

**Felix Perrone**

I'm looking at the Bylaws to confirm my statement

## Member Testimonials and Feedback

### Testimonial #2: Continued...

10/17, 3:48pm

[redacted]

Ok bud, this kind of s [redacted] drives me insane

10/17, 3:49pm

[redacted]

I'll put this out there for consideration: JMU has no fault in this. They've done everything straight up

10/17, 4:03pm

**Felix Perrone**

Okay, so according to the Bylaws 7.4.1.1 you have to give at least 10 days notice for canceling a match.

If it is less than 10 days then according to "7.4.1.3.1 Determination of Forfeits – A participating Member Team [at the Event] may propose a forfeit be applied to the canceling Member Team's Matches by submitting a written request to the League. A Board vote will determine the application of forfeits."

Since PSU and UMD both agreed to cancel the game, I don't think that should be grounds for a forfeit loss to be added to UMD, nor would it justify a forfeit win be applied to PSU. Here's where it gets tricky. According to the Rulebook, "2.2.1.3 Ball Source - Each team is entitled to contribute half the number of dodgeballs used in play. If one team cannot supply their entitled share, the Host will be responsible for supplying the necessary amount for play."

The fault should technically lie with JMU for not having enough balls on hand to host a proper tournament. JMU also should have done a better job at scheduling the games. An hour between start times is not realistic at all (if that's how they kept the schedule, I saw an early version of it).

That being said, I don't like that Maryland left. If you commit to a tournament, you should stay for the entirety, unless there are legitimate reasons to leave early (inclement weather, death/injury of player, university driving mandates, etc).

[redacted] if you wish to apply some sort of penalty to UMD, send an email to the NCDA with a brief account of what happened. We will discuss and vote on it.

I'm sorry this happened

## Member Testimonials and Feedback

**Testimonial #2:** Continued...

10/17, 4:05pm

redacted

I'll talk to JMU about it since they're hosting. It does nothing for me unless somehow

redacted and redacted could get points for something out of our hands

I think JMU knew that UMD would possibly leave early, but nothing had been set in stone

10/17, 4:15pm

redacted

Change that: UMD did not have mutual agreement. They just bounced

10/17, 4:16pm

**Felix Perrone**

Okay, then PSU can definitely request a forfeit for the match

I just need some sort of text based request from them

10/17, 4:17pm

redacted

I'll let redacted know



## Member Testimonials and Feedback

### Testimonial #3: Facebook Post

redacted

10/18 at 3:48pm

Things are not going very smoothly here at JMU, an early exit by UMD to watch there basketball team has resulted in a shortage of balls at this tourny, forcing Matches to be canceled. Most teams will only be getting 3 matches in at JMU instead of the guaranteed 4

Like Comment

Seen by 77

redacted and redacted like this.

#### Comments

redacted Classic

Like · Reply · 10/18 at 3:49pm

redacted Maryland will thus lose much respect from the rest of the league for many years don't you worry redacted.

Like · Reply · 4 · 10/18 at 3:50pm

redacted I don't understand how a team commits to a tournament then decides to just leave early and screws over all the other teams attending.. Blows my mind.

Like · Reply · 2 · 10/18 at 4:05pm

**Dylan Fettig** Got to bring your own balls, not their fault

Like · Reply · 4 · 10/18 at 4:28pm

redacted redacted we had mentioned we were going to leave at 3 PM weeks before we even had the tournament. Know your facts before you go and make a comment like that.

Like · Reply · 3 · 10/18 at 5:25pm

redacted Really disappointing to hear that people are blaming us for this. We notified JMU weeks ahead. Other teams can bring balls too so its not fair that we're held responsible.

Like · Reply · 2 · 10/18 at 6:46pm

## Member Testimonials and Feedback

### Testimonial #3: Continued...

**[redacted]** Maryland had informed me of it with time to alter the schedule, Its not their fault. We had planned on getting their portion of the tournament done by 3pm per their request. We had bought balls for the tournament and had requested that teams bring balls as well. As anyone at the tournament today can attest, our UREC gym became a dodgeball graveyard as we lost well over 15 balls today alone. I think I can say that no one would ever estimate that 15 balls would be popped today. This caused us to have a slight setback with the timing of games and caused a delay everytime we had to find a ball to replace the popped one.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 10/18 at 10:45pm

**[redacted]** There was one point in the JMU vs Maryland game I saw three balls pop in less than three minutes time. There should be a collective effort for all teams to bring a rack of balls to a tournament whether you are playing host or visitor. And hosts need to have spare in case of a special instance like this one.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 10/18 at 10:50pm

**Felix Perrone** I'm not taking sides or placing blame, I'm just using this as an opportunity to cite a section of the Rulebook.

"2.2.1.3 Ball Source - Each team is entitled to contribute half the number of dodgeballs used in play. If one team cannot supply their entitled share, the Host will be responsible for supplying the necessary amount for play."

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · 10/18 at 11:00pm

**[redacted]** Aside from balls, I find it ridiculous that a schedule change was made and not posted giving preference to a team that lives 2.5 hours away when we had a **[redacted]** hour drive ahead of us. If that has to happen, fine, but at least let every other team be aware of the tentative schedule changes. Also, idk whether it was because of Maryland leaving or JMU hosting an alumni match mid tournament, but our last games were cancelled due to time shortage. Also, during this alumni match, our game against **[redacted]** was currently happening, and we were only able to play with 8 balls.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 10/19 at 9:04am · Edited

## NCEA President's Notes

Having participated both as a player and administrator of this Organization for eight seasons, combined with the standards set by the Rulebook and Bylaws/Policies, the following is my ruling for this Event.

The lack of organization and scheduling of this Event is what ultimately caused the issues. JMU could have done a few things differently to prevent this from happening:

- Allotting proper start times for Matches.
  - Matches will last anywhere from 60-80 minutes depending on the number of points scored, time outs called, shot clock violations occurring, whether or not Overtime is played, and other various factors. One hour in between start times is highly unrealistic, thus giving teams a false sense of confidence that four Matches will be played.
- Putting priority on the Varsity Matches rather than the Special Matches.
  - I'm all for JV teams having the opportunity to play, but not at the expense of forgoing traveling teams previously guaranteed Matches. I'm happy JMU and VCU's JV teams got to play one another, but this should have been scheduled during a different time, especially since the two universities are less than two hours away from each other.
  - Same thing with the Alumni Match. That should not occur during an NCEA Event, especially when there is a strict limit on court reservation times. The Alumni Match should have been played before, after, or on a different day of the Event.
- Communicating gym reservation restrictions.
  - This should have been communicated with the teams prior to the Event, that way they have a realistic expectation of the number of Matches they would be playing.

The other teams in attendance should have also brought their fair share of balls as well.

According to the rulebook:

"2.2.1.3 Ball Source - Each team is entitled to contribute half the number of dodgeballs used in play. If one team cannot supply their entitled share, the Host will be responsible for supplying the necessary amount for play."

It is each team's right to contribute five balls per Match. This is not a requirement, but if a team likes the way their dodgeballs feel, they have the option to contribute five balls to the Match.

It is also the responsibility of the host to provide enough dodgeballs to host a proper Event. If a team is hosting a one day Event, you should have at least fifteen balls per court, not including the balls the teams will bring themselves. A representative from JMU stated they asked each team to bring their own balls and had purchased balls for the Event.

## **NCDCA President's Notes**

**Continued...**

According to the Bylaws:

7.4.1.3.2.2 If five (5) or more Member Teams (including any combination of Upcoming Member Teams) have committed to attending an Event, but one of those Member Teams cancels without being replaced by another Member Team less than (10) days prior to the Event (Article 7.4.1.3), the other Member Teams attending this Event will not receive a Forfeit Win to their record over the canceling Member Team as long as they play at least three (3) Matches at this Event against three (3) unique Member Teams. Any attending Member Team who does not play at least three (3) Matches at the Event against three (3) unique Member Teams will receive one (1) Forfeit Win over the canceling Member Team. The canceling Member Team will receive a total of three (3) Forfeit Losses to their record against any attending Member Team who did not play at least three (3) Matches against at least three (3) unique Member Teams. If the total number of attending Member Teams who did not play at least three (3) Matches against at least three (3) unique Member Teams is less than three (3), then the canceling Member Team's remaining Forfeit Losses shall be imposed against a Ghost Team.

This means that no further forfeits losses or forfeit wins will be applied to any team's records since each team played at least three NCDCA Matches against three unique opponents.

Ultimately, it was the scheduling of Matches for the Event that resulted in the issues. There is no type of penalty that will be imposed on any Team for this Event. This should be used as a learning experience though.

Below is a post I made to the NCDCA Captains Club Facebook Group following this Event at 12:08pm on October 18th, 2015.

I would like to suggest an unofficial standard for scheduling games at tournaments.

If there are no timeouts, shot clock violations, or points scored, a game will last a minimum of 55 minutes. Two 25 minute halves [Rulebook 3.1.2] and a five minute halftime [Rulebook 3.1.2.1]. Every time a point is scored, a timeout is called, or there is a shot clock violation the game time is stopped. This means a game will realistically take anywhere from 60-70 minutes to complete. The potential for overtime increases this to 65-80 minutes of total time to complete a 50 minute game. Plus, dodgeball people are always late and love to take their sweet time.

## **NCCA President's Notes**

### **Continued...**

The general standard I use when scheduling Events is:

Round 1: 10:00am

Round 2: 11:15am

Round 3: 1:00pm

Round 4: 2:15pm

Round 5: 4:00pm

I alternate start times between games between an hour and fifteen minutes, and an hour and forty-five minutes. This way the first two rounds have enough leeway to run longer or go into OT, without effecting the third round of games. Even if the second round starts a little late because of the first round, round three should still start on time.

We used this format at the 2011 and 2015 NCCA Nationals (both hosted by WKU), and they worked. Games started and ended on time in a realistic fashion. Though on paper it looks like a longer day, it will at least give the teams an accurate representation of how the day will go so they can properly plan their travels.

## Addendum, 2015-10-28

### **Notes from JMU posted by Derek Pierce to the NCDA Captains Club Facebook Group:**

It has come to my attention about the formal complaint about the pumpkin fest II... I would like to say sorry for everything that occurred, but yes Maryland did tell me after I made the initial first schedule that they need to leave by 330-4. I did my best to accommodate to these needs. As far as the games not being able to be finished, it was not because we didn't have time to finish all the games, we had enough time to finish all the games but the amount of balls we had after they all popped allowed us to only have 1 game going at once... As far as the alumni game goes, that was in the schedule from the very beginning and encouraged all teams to bring their alumni... It did not come to my attention that the other game had only 8 balls as the alumni had 8 as well because I was picking up the pizza so I will take blame for that one, that's my bad and would definitely preference a real game over the alumni game... That being said I bought 24 balls for the tournament and after dividing the balls equally between the last 3 teams there, we were only left with 3 balls left meaning that 21 Jmu balls alone were popped. I never thought this would happen so I'm sorry that this disaster led to teams feeling unsatisfied with the outcome of the tournament and will be buying 30-40 balls for beast

## Addendum, 2015-10-28

### **Follow up by Felix Perrone posted to the NCDA Captains Club Facebook Group and the NCDA Website:**

Regarding the recently filed grievance report:

It has been brought to my attention that there has been some oversight. This is my formal and public apology to Derek Pierce and the JMU Dodgeball Club for not reaching out to them prior to publication to get a formal statement about the Event in question.

According to the new Bylaws [Section 9] any time a formal complaint is filed by a Member regarding administration, policy, or an Event, some sort of ruling/publication needs to be made.

This was the first one we've done, since the bylaws were put into effect September 1. It was definitely a learning experience for me, and changes will be made for future reports/rulings.

For one, I should have reached out to Derek and JMU prior to publishing my report. It was a huge oversight on my part and I take full responsibility.

In short, the purpose of posting these reports is so other teams can learn from them so we can avoid/address issues as an organization to help our growth.

Felix Perrone  
League President