

Official Rules 2012

## **THE GIN RUMMY ASSOCIATION**

HOME OF HAINLINE'S

WORLD SERIES OF GIN RUMMY™

### **GIN RUMMY RULES FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY**

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**This Players guide has been prepared to help answer questions you may have about the Tournament rules and regulations. The ultimate penalty is disqualification by the Tournament Director. This penalty may be applied in cases of unreasonable delays, carelessness with a deck of cards, or a major breach of decorum. All entrants are subject to approval by the Director, Coordinator, and the Hotel that is hosting the event. The decisions of the Tournament Director shall be final and binding. If you have any questions regarding the rules of the game, do not hesitate to ask the Tournament Director.**

## RULES FOR SINGLES TOURNAMENT

1. Players shall be paired for the first match by a blind draw.
2. CUT FOR DEAL each new game. LOW card starts first deal and keeps score. Ace is low. Before starting play, be sure to count your cards.
3. DEALER SHUFFLES: Non-dealer may make additional shuffles and then cuts. Dealer may reshuffle and non-dealer may square cut only. That is the end of the action.
4. Each player is dealt alternately, 10 cards. The 21st card is turned face up in one slot of the gin rummy tray. The remainder of the deck is placed face down in the other slot. The UP CARD is the knock card and its numerical value determines the number of points with which a hand can be knocked. If the up card is an ACE, the game must be played for gin. Scorer records the up card immediately to avoid later arguments. It is the responsibility of both players to see that the proper up card is recorded. If players disagree as to the up card of the hand in progress, the Tournament Director will tend to ACCEPT the up card as the one RECORDED ON THE SHEET.
5. If a player TOUCHES THE TOP OF EITHER PILE by mistake, he is not forced to take that card.
6. PLAY CONTINUES UNTIL: A player KNOCKS, A player GINS, or Neither player knocks or gins and the FIFTIETH card is drawn from the deck, leaving two cards in the stack. Both players may have action on the 50th card. Use it in your hand or turn it over on the discard pile and knock. If the player who knocks has a point count equal to or higher than his opponent, the opponent wins the hand and receives the difference (if any) in the points, plus a BONUS OF 25 POINTS FOR THE UNDERCUT. The player who gins (lays down his hand with all 10 cards matched) receives an amount equal to his opponent's unmatched point count plus a bonus of 25 points.
7. SCORE CARDS MUST BE SIGNED by the two players in the correct places at the conclusion of each game. Final scores must be shown in the proper column. Game number must be shown also.
8. WRONG NUMBER OF CARDS: If a player has more or less than ten cards:  
IF DISCOVERED BEFORE ONE PLAY-NEW DEAL.  
IF BOTH PLAYERS HAVE WRONG NUMBER OF CARDS-NEW DEAL  
IF ONE PLAYER HAS WRONG NUMBER OF CARDS, AFTER PLAY HAS BEGUN,  
THE PLAYER WITH THE CORRECT AMOUNT HAS THE OPTION TO LET THE  
PLAYER CORRECT HIS HAND OR BOTH PLAYERS GETTING A NEW HAND.  
IF A PLAYER GINS OR KNOCKS AND THE OTHER PLAYER HAS LESS THAN 10  
CARDS THE PERSON WHO GINS GETS THE UNMATCHED POINT COUNT PLUS 10  
POINTS FOR EACH MISSING CARD. IF A PLAYER HAS MORE THAN 10 CARDS,  
THE ADDITIONAL CARDS ARE COUNTED BY THEIR NUMERIC VALUE.
9. IMPROPER KNOCK: If a player makes an IMPROPER KNOCK, with his count being higher than the knock card, the hand must then be PLAYED OPEN, ALL TEN CARDS FACE UP. He MUST KNOCK when his point count is at the value of the knock or below. HE CANNOT BE FORCED TO KNOCK BY HIS OPPONENT. When a player makes an illegal knock with more than the knock card count, the opponent may accept the knock as proper, provided his point count is the same as the knock card or lower.(example; the knocking point is 8 and a player knocks with 10 points, the opponent with 8 points or less may accept the knock and get credit for the undercut). The opponent may also lay off points to get under the knock. When a player announces he is ginning or knocking, or calls a number and starts to lay his meld down, he must continue to do so. If his hand is not a gin or his knock is not legal he must play an open hand. The opponent may ask that the cards be spread for proper viewing, but may not touch the cards himself.

10. If a player gins or knocks and TURNS THE WRONG CARD FACE DOWN on the discard pile, he can retrieve the card and rearrange his hand.
11. In DRAWING FROM THE DECK, if a player draws 2 cards he will lose the use of the extra card he has seen. The player cannot knock or gin. The director will inform the opponent if the player has 9 spread or on gin. The opponent can then ask to throw the hands in or continue play. If play continues, the exposed card is put on the side until a discard is completed by the player. The opponent can take the discard or draw. When the opponent discards, the player can not pick up the discard. The player must put the exposed card on the discard pile. Play then resumes.
12. If a dealer takes the knock card out of turn, his opponent has the option to take the knock card or not, however, THE KNOCK CARD IS OUT OF PLAY FOR THE DEALER. If the opponent takes the knock card then play resumes. If the knock card is not taken, the opponent draws and discards and play resumes.
13. The fact that a penalty may or may not be provided for an irregularity does not justify committing one deliberately. The cards should be thoroughly shuffled and no effort should be made to remember the order from previous deals. Do not start to draw before your opponent has discarded. If you have no intention of taking your opponent's discard, do not pretend that you are interested in it. If a player informs the Supervisor that he has played a specific player and in fact HE HAS NOT, he can be CREDITED WITH THE LOSS OF ONE GAME, although the other player is not credited with a win.
14. If a card is taken from the discard pile, the card can be discarded back into the tray, however, this constitutes a play. Your opponent cannot retake the card unless he uses it to knock.
15. Players can ask for a new deck of cards one time each. The changed deck cannot come back into play.
16. Once a count has been AGREED TO BY THE PLAYERS AND RECORDED BY THE SCORE KEEPER, the hand stands. CARDS SHOULD REMAIN UNSHUFFLED UNTIL THE CORRECT SCORE IS RECORDED.
17. Any 2 players who were not matched by the staff, can both be penalized with a loss of 1 game or eliminated from the contest. If a player gives a game away, both parties are subject to be eliminated from the contest.

**NOTE: 82 PER CENT OF THE ENTRY FEE GOES BACK INTO THE PRIZE POOL. 18 PER CENT COVERS ADVERTISING, BROCHURES, POSTAGE, STATIONARY, OFFICE SUPPLIES, PHONE CALLS, CHARTS, TRAYS, STAFF, COMPUTER, INTERNET, WEB SITE, TRAVEL, AWARDS, AND DISCOUNTS.**

## **RULES FOR PARTNERSHIP TOURNAMENT**

1. Five (5) 250 point games. Must stop if you lose 2 games.
2. ( 4 ) and ( 5 ) game winners are in the finals.
3. If a team has 4 wins and no losses, they must play the 5<sup>th</sup> game.  
In case of a play-off, the 5 game winners receive a bye.
4. To begin play, cut for deal each new game. Low card team deals and keeps score.
5. Score cards must be signed by one of the team members.
6. Teams sit side by side.
7. Dealer Deals opponent eleven cards. A center deck is used to determine the knock card.
8. The team that lost the points deals the next hand.
9. No bonus for boxes, blitzes, or spades.
10. Each team should try to play in unison. If you see you are going to have a problem discarding, please say "Hold it, it's my play". If you don't, your opponent may tell his partner to wait until you discard.
11. If you lose your hand, you do not have to give a count until the player on the other team has 10 cards.
12. When one of the partners hand is complete, the person who won the hand, or the player who lost the hand can give a count of both teams score only at that time. However, a person playing a hand can ask the score or count at any time.
13. Players cannot consult during the play of a hand. No help can be given to rearrange hand, however, a partner can help with layoffs. The partner can also say if his partner has the wrong number of cards.
14. If a team loses a hand, they can change seats.

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