

Checkers Tournament Rules

Troops nominate a champion (or two), who will participate in a double-elimination standard checkers tournament.

This competition will have an adult and youth bracket.

Object of the Game

The object of the game is to be the last player standing. A player wins the game when his opponent can no longer make a move. This happens when all his opponent's pieces have been captured or when all of his opponent's pieces are blocked in.

Setup

Each player begins with twelve pieces placed on the game board. The board consists of 64 squares, alternating between 32 black and 32 red squares. Position it so that each player has a red square on the closest right side corner.

How to Play

Black moves first. Players then alternate moves. Moves are allowed only on the black squares; pieces only move diagonally forward toward the opponent. However, Kings, as you'll see, can also move backwards. A piece may only move one square unless it is making a jump.

Jumping

A piece makes a jump by diagonally leaping over one of the opponent's pieces and landing on the empty space on the other side (there must be an empty space to land on). Multiple jumps are allowed on a single turn. When a piece is jumped ("captured"), it is removed from the board and is now out of play.

A player must make a jump if one presents itself. This is not an option. You must jump if you can and keep jumping if you have the opportunity. If you have more than one piece that can make a jump, you can decide which one to move on your turn.

Kings

When a piece reaches a space in the row on the opposite side of the board (the "King Me" row), its player picks up the piece and crowns it by twisting its base counter-clockwise, then sets it back on its space. It is now a King! Kings are more powerful than pieces because they can move diagonally forward and backwards. Kings may combine jumps in several directions – forward and backward – on the same turn.

Winning

A player wins the game when the opponent cannot make a move. Usually, this is because all of the opponent's pieces have been captured, but sometimes it is because the opponent has no space to move onto (he is "blocked" from moving).