

As you know, forfeits are bad for the league and create unfairness. I have introduced incentives (refundable \$160 entry fee and 3rd round “bonus” points) to discourage teams from forfeiting any individual matches at the Invitational. We have been fortunate thus far that it hasn’t been a problem. However, the day will probably come when a team forfeits many of their individual matches at a tourney. Let’s suppose the following...

A team pays their \$160 entry fee. The opening day of the tourney, something unexpected occurs and they can only field a lineup of 4 players on the opening night (Friday). They lose 1-4 Friday and have just lost their \$160 entry fee. Saturday morning, they shoot 5 players and again lose 1-4. They are now 2-8 with one round left. They have already forfeited their entry fee since they have forfeited a match. Even though they can earn \$20/point in the 3rd round, some of the players on the team decide it’s not worth missing Johnny’s annual twister tourney / all you can drink / pig roast down by the river. They end up forfeiting all 5 of their points in the final round. The team they were scheduled to play was 4-6 going into the final round. With the 5 forfeit wins, they are now 9-6 and looking pretty good to get into the tourney to the detriment of a team that was 8-7 and did not get any wins by forfeit. Obviously, teams that are fortunate enough to get wins by forfeit have a large advantage over other teams under the current existing format. And obviously teams that forfeit many matches at the tourney will not be viewed favorably by the league since they contributed to unfairness in the tourney.

At the end of all of the round robin matches, the top team from each board (based on match win percentage) will advance. Then the top 3 remaining teams based on match win percentage (regardless of which board) will also advance as “wildcards”. Therefore, 8 of the 20 teams (40%) will advance to the quarterfinals. The question is “how do we handle teams that are the beneficiary of forfeit wins?” I’d like to let the democratic process decide this one with each team participating in the Invitational being allowed 1 vote by the team captain.

The team that forfeits always gets credit for a loss for each time that they forfeit. These are the proposals for the ways that forfeit wins should be treated.

1. Count it as a “no play” for the team receiving the forfeit. (So if a team goes 7-6 in the round robin and doesn’t play the other 2 matches because the opponent forfeited, their win percentage would be $7/13 = .538$.) This would be my preference as I think it is the most fair to all teams.
2. The beneficiary of a forfeit win gets $\frac{1}{2}$ point. (So if a team goes 7-6 in the round robin and doesn’t play the other 2 matches because the opponent forfeited, their win percentage would be $8/15 = .533$.)
3. The beneficiary of a forfeit win gets .6 points for each forfeit win. (So if a team goes 7-6 in the round robin and doesn’t play the other 2 matches because the opponent forfeited, their win percentage would be $8.2/15 = .547$.)
4. The team that gets a forfeit win gets a full point for each forfeit win (So if a team goes 7-6 in the round robin and doesn’t play the other 2 matches because the opponent forfeited, their win percentage would be $9/15 = .600$.) This is a good option for teams that think we should decide the tournament winner by doing coin flips.

When you cast your vote, keep in mind that it might not be your team that is receiving forfeit wins. Arguments can be made for all of the above. Option 1 means that if you “take care of business” when your player is at the table, you will do well. Option 4 means that you are basically banking that your team is going to get more benefit wins than your opponents.

Captains, please give me your vote by next Wednesday 10/14/15. Thank you.