

## GAGA BALL GAMES

### 1. Gaga Ball

Equipment Needed: Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up: **Must have a Gaga Ball pit.** Either outdoor pit or a portable/makeshift indoor one. Create your own Gaga Pit. Example, you can use gymnastics mats upright to make an enclosed shape. Create a rectangle, circle, or octagon shaped boundary with waist high walls. Ball must be able to bounce off the walls without the walls falling over or players falling out of the pit.

How to Play:

1. Players start inside the GaGa pit and touching a side wall. One player throws the gaga ball up in the air towards the middle of the pit. On each of the first two bounces, players yell "Ga" as the ball hits the ground, then it is in play for anyone to hit ("Ga-Ga-Go").
2. Players can hit the ball with one hand but cannot pick it up and throw it.
3. If the ball touches a player anywhere on or below the knee, that player is eliminated. This is regardless of who touched the ball last - sometimes a player gets themselves out by mistake!
4. A player cannot touch the ball two times in a row – the ball must first touch another player or the pit wall or it is called a "double touch" and that player is out. Note that players can "dribble" the ball off the wall as many times as they want to setup their next shot as long as it touches the wall each time.
5. Players may not kick the ball since this means touching the ball below the knee.
6. If the ball is hit out of the pit, then the last player to touch the ball is out.
7. Players who are out must leave the GaGa pit immediately.
8. The last player out is the winner and gets to start the next game. (If it seems to be taking too long for the last two players to end the game, the players waiting outside the pit can count down from 20 to end the game in a tie).
9. (Optional, just make sure to agree before starting the game!) Some places also play that catching the ball in the air eliminates the person who hit it.

Tips:

- Know your own strength when hitting balls.
- Keep your head and eyes up to avoid colliding with another person in the pit.
- Larger groups should be broken up into smaller groups, to avoid a crowded pit.
- Players must stand on the outside of gaga pit walls when they are out.

## **2. Domination Gaga Ball**

Equipment Needed: Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up: Same set up as Gaga Ball.

How to Play:

1. This variation is great for “leveling the playing field” among players of various ages and/or athletic ability. Gameplay is as above except that when a player gets “out”, any player who was previously gotten out by that player can re-enter the pit.

Tips:

- Know your own strength when hitting balls.
- Keep your head and eyes up to avoid colliding with another person in the pit.
- Larger groups should be broken up into smaller groups, to avoid a crowded pit.
- Players must stand on the outside of gaga pit walls when they are out.

## **3. Mayham Gaga Ball**

Equipment Needed: Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up: Same setup at Gaga Ball.

How to Play:

1. Gameplay is same as normal Gaga Ball.
2. Use up to 4 balls for this game (different colored balls work best to help keep track of “double touches”). Players may not see it coming!
3. A fun added variation is you can make different color balls have different meanings. Example, “Red ball” = out for whole game, “Green ball” = out for 2min, “Blue ball” = out until the player who got you out, gets out, etc.

Tips:

- Know your own strength when hitting balls.
- Keep your head and eyes up to avoid colliding with another person in the pit.
- Larger groups should be broken up into smaller groups, to avoid a crowded pit.
- Players must stand on the outside of gaga pit walls when they are out.

#### **4. Team Gaga Ball**

Equipment Needed: Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up: Same setup as Gaga Ball

How to Play:

1. Same gameplay rules as Gaga Ball.
2. Players stay on opposite sides of the pit and play until one team is totally eliminated.
3. Getting each opponent out allows a teammate to re-enter.

Tips:

- Know your own strength when hitting balls.
- Keep your head and eyes up to avoid colliding with another person in the pit.
- Larger groups should be broken up into smaller groups, to avoid a crowded pit.
- Players must stand on the outside of gaga pit walls when they are out.

#### **5. Defender Gaga Ball**

Equipment Needed: Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up: Same setup as Gaga Ball

How to Play:

1. Same gameplay as Gaga Ball
2. Each player picks a wall panel to defend from being hit by the others, like a goal keeper would. Keep score by number of hits and high score loses!

Tips:

- Know your own strength when hitting balls.
- Keep your head and eyes up to avoid colliding with another person in the pit.
- Larger groups should be broken up into smaller groups, to avoid a crowded pit.
- Players must stand on the outside of gaga pit walls when they are out.

## 6. Numbers Game

Equipment Needed: Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up: Same setup as Gaga Ball

### How to Play:

1. Divide the class into 2 teams and give each team its own set of number's; i.e. – 1,2,3, etc.  
Assign names to each team – ALWAYS ASSIGN NAMES!! i.e. - the Dragons vs. the Tigers.
2. Each player will have a same number as 1 other player on the other team.
3. Call a number and throw out the Gaga ball.
4. The players from the different teams with the same number must jump into the pit and play against each other.
5. They then try to hit the other player with the ball.

### Tips:

- Know your own strength when hitting balls.
- Keep your head and eyes up to avoid colliding with another person in the pit.
- Larger groups should be broken up into smaller groups, to avoid a crowded pit.
- Players must stand on the outside of gaga pit walls when they are out.

## 7. Dynasty Gaga Ball

Equipment Needed: Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up: Same setup as Gaga Ball

### How to Play:

1. Divide the class into 2 teams.
2. When the player gets “out” they do not leave the game.
3. Instead the player joins the other team.
4. This continues until all the players are on same team.

### Tips:

- Know your own strength when hitting balls.
- Keep your head and eyes up to avoid colliding with another person in the pit.
- Larger groups should be broken up into smaller groups, to avoid a crowded pit.
- Players must stand on the outside of gaga pit walls when they are out.

## **8. Traitor Gaga Ball**

Equipment Needed: Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up: Same setup as Gaga Ball

### How to Play:

1. Divide the class into 2 teams.
2. Before the game begins, the Instructor has both teams line up with their eyes closed and selects 1 player from each team to be a traitor.
3. The traitor is secretly a member of the other team.
4. Teammates may attack each other if they suspect that the other is a traitor.
5. If teammate targets traitor, but is wrong about whom the traitor is, they are out.
6. The traitor is forced to decide the optimal time to turn against the team on his side but must do so before there are only two players left.

### Tips:

- Know your own strength when hitting balls.
- Keep your head and eyes up to avoid colliding with another person in the pit.
- Larger groups should be broken up into smaller groups, to avoid a crowded pit.
- Players must stand on the outside of gaga pit walls when they are out.

## **9. World Cup Gaga Ball**

Equipment Needed Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up Same setup as Gaga Ball

### How to Play

1. Divide players into groups of 3 (each team should pick a country as their team name).
2. There is 1 fewer ball than teams placed in an area.
3. If a team scores they sit down.
4. Repeat until only 1 team is left.
5. Players are working on both offense and defense.

## 10. Four Square Gaga Ball

Equipment Needed      Playground Ball, Kickball, Dodgeballs or Any Bouncy Air-Filled Ball

Set Up                  Same setup as Gaga Ball. Divide gaga pit into 4 squares

### How to Play

- Instructor should make a four square court on the ground with tape (or use existing court)
- The game court shall consist of a large square subdivided into four squares of equal size
- Each square shall be numbered starting at one and going to four in a counterclockwise fashion
- The "one" square is called the entrance square; it is where a new player enters the game
- The player in the "four" square is called the king/queen; a smaller square shall be placed in the far corner from the center which is called the serving square
- The king/queen starts play with a serve and is allowed to modify the game rules (within acceptable reason) before each serve
- The serve is performed from the serving square; a serve consists of an underhanded strike and a bounce on the ground in the "four" square to any of the other three squares (like ping pong)
- The ball then is played so that the ball strikes a player's square but once and then struck so that it goes into another square
- A player is out when:
  - The ball is in a player's square and is unable to strike it into another player's square
  - The ball is in a player's square and the player's return lands on a line
  - The ball is in a player's square and the player's return hits another player's foot who doesn't intentionally move it into the path of the ball
  - Various rules are implemented to change this condition (i.e. a player is out when another player catches their strike)
  - When a player is out that player leaves the court, players rotate clockwise if their is an empty space, a new player enters in the "one" square