

How to use the Spirit of the Game Scoring System

Objectives

The objectives of the Spirit of the Game (SOTG) Scoring System are to:

- 1) Educate players on what Spirit of the Game is
- 2) Help teams to improve specific parts of their Spirit
- 3) Celebrate SOTG by awarding a prize to the team that gets the highest score

Guidelines for Players

- Filling in the score sheets is a **team effort**. This helps in educating new players and reinforces the fundamentals of SOTG with the more experienced players.
- While filling in the form might take several minutes the first few times, it will take only a minute after you get used to it.
- The system was designed in accordance with the expectation that teams generally display normal, good spirit. Therefore the baseline in each category is “Good” which equals 2 Points. For each game, determine if the other team was *better than*, *worse than*, or *the same as* just a regular game and score accordingly ([scoring examples](#)).
- Focus on each question and answer that question only. **Do not** start with an overall score in mind and work backwards to get that score.
- There might be many times that nothing out of the ordinary occurred at a game. As such, each category should get 2 points. A final score of 10 points is considered normal, Good Spirit.
- **Give a *real* score that reflects the items detailed on the sheet.**
 - Do not give teams higher scores because they made a funny game in the circle
 - Do not give lower spirit scores out of retaliation or prejudice
- The [Spirit Captain](#) should bring back the sheet to the Tournament Director.
- [Self-scoring](#) is highly encouraged. Did everybody show good Spirit in your team?

Guidelines for Tournament/League Directors

- 1) Assign a [Spirit Director](#) who handles spirit scoring and related issues.
- 2) Spirit Directors can enter score into a [SOTG specific Excel spreadsheet](#),
- 3) Spirit Captains can [enter Spirit Scores via a Google Form](#) or by filling in [printed score sheets](#)
- 4) Make detailed Spirit scores public as soon as both teams have submitted their results. This opens conversation. Sharing is easy through sharing a Dropbox, or a Google Drive link.
- 5) Before the SOTG winner is announced, ensure that all the scores are counted and double checked.
- 6) When announcing the SOTG Award, try to avoid the phrase “Best Spirited team”. Instead, use something along the lines of "In celebration of Spirit of the Game, the Spirit Award goes to..."

If the SOTG scoring system is filled in by all teams using the guidelines above, it will consistently do well in praising teams that deserve it and help identify teams that need guidance. If you have any comments on the scoring sheet, please contact the WFDF SOTG Committee (sotg@wfdf.org).