



## Melon Toss Rules

1. Teams should pre-register at [www.howellmelonfestival.com](http://www.howellmelonfestival.com). The entry fee is \$10 (\$15 if not pre-registered) payable at the event.
2. Only Catapults of Mangonel or Trebuchet Design may be used. All Catapults must be carried or wheeled onto the throwing field (no vehicles allowed) by a maximum of 4 Persons on the Team.
3. All Catapults must be manually loaded or cocked by no more than 2 Members of the Team. Mechanical advantage devices (i.e. manual crank winches, levers, etc.) may be used to load and cock the Catapult. No electric or other powered devices are allowed. The Catapult must be fired by only one Team Member at a time. Catapults must be capable of being reloaded and fired again in less than 2 Minutes.
4. The catapult throwing arm may not exceed 8 feet long.
5. All teams must supply their own Melons to throw. Howell Melons are encouraged, but any type of Melon or Cantelope may be used. The Maximum Weight of the Melon may not exceed 4 Pounds. All Melons will be weighed before throwing.
6. The Throwing Field is approximately 135' Wide by 275' Long. Any throws that overthrow the field or errant throws that leave the throwing field will be disqualified. Any Team throwing in a erratic or dangerous manner will be disqualified from any further throwing.
7. There will be a target approximately 200 Feet down the field to throw at.
8. Teams will have approximately 1 Hour (1:00 to 2:00 PM) to practice. Unlimited Throws are allowed during this time. Water Balloons may be substituted for Melons for practice, but weight must not exceed 4 Pounds.
9. The Competition will commence at or after 2:00 PM. Each Team will have a Maximum of 5 Shots during the Competition phase of the event.
10. There will be Awards for the Longest Throw (without overthrowing the field) and Closest to the Target. The Longest Throw will be determined as the perpendicular distance from the Throwing Line at the South End of the Field to the spot on the Field where the Melon first lands. The Closet Throw will be measured from the center of the Target to where the Melon first lands.
11. All teams are responsible for operating their catapult and throwing in a safe manner. Teams are responsible for any damage caused by Melons landing outside the Throwing Field.
12. All decisions by the Judges are final.