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MY LITTLE PONY 6

Buckball Season (A.K.A. What Bronies Will Play at Cons)

61#

Premise by: Jennifer Skelly

Premise: March 20, 2015

BUCKBALL SEASON

Premise by Jennifer Skelly

Applejack can't wait to teach Rainbow Dash a new sport called Buckball. The game is sweeping Equestria, and they're holding the very first tournament in Appleoosa, where the game was invented. The Appleloosians are feeling pretty proud of themselves, and they challenge Ponyville to compete.

Each team has three players: an Earth Pony, a Pegasus, and a Unicorn. Obviously, AJ and Rainbow Dash will represent for Ponyville, and they set up a scrimmage for unicorn tryouts. But at the scrimmage Applejack and Rainbow Dash get their tails waxed by Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy, who are uncanny naturals at the sport, playing with mutant-like abilities, even though they're just goofing around and having fun.

After tryouts, Ponyville's official team is announced, and to everypony's surprise, it's Pinkie Pie, Fluttershy, and DJ PON-3. Another surprise? Applejack and Rainbow Dash are okay with it! This isn't about personal glory, they just want Ponyville to win it all! (And stick it to those smug Appleloosians.) Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy are clearly the strongest players and Ponyville's best hope. The townsfolk give the newly-minted team a rousing cheer as they demonstrate their skills.

Pinkie Pie shows off for the fans but goofs a play, causing Fluttershy to fumble the ball. Applejack laughs it off and says they just need to practice, but she and Rainbow Dash share a look. Uh-oh... Sure enough, under pressure of doing their hometown proud, Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy stop playing for fun and start trying to play well. Unfortunately, they get worse and worse with every practice session. Unwilling to disappoint their friends, they keep their dilemma to themselves (although DJ PON-3 spins a doleful tune). Finally, it's time to head to Appleoosa where the stadium is much more official than the homemade court in Ponyville. Fluttershy and Pinkie Pie worry about playing in front of not only their Ponyville supporters, but now the Appleossian fans as well.

The game starts, and Ponyville is outplayed at every turn. By halftime, they're down by so many points the game seems lost. Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy beg Applejack and Rainbow Dash to take over, at least then Ponyville will have a chance. AJ and Dash share a look and agree to do it. Of course, they'll need a quick scrimmage against Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy, just for fun, so they can warm up. With the pressure off, Pinkie and Fluttershy's magic returns and they are better than ever! (all that practice actually did help.) Dash and AJ reveal they had a feeling this might happen and remind their friends to keep playing for fun. Don't worry about the outcome. They'll do Ponyville proud no matter what happens, as long as they have a good time. And that leads to the biggest and best comeback in Buckball history! (Granted, that's a very short history...)