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MY LITTLE PONY 6

"Buckball Season"

Episode 619

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TEASER

SC. 1 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - DAY

APPLEJACK stands beneath an apple tree staring at an apple basket in the distance. She glances up into the branches of the tree and spots a single apple. Looking out toward the basket again, she holds up a hoof to test the wind.

Satisfied, she gives the tree just enough of a buck to dislodge the apple. In SLO-MO the apple falls and Applejack winds up to kick it toward the basket when...

BACK TO NORMAL SPEED - RAINBOW DASH pops up next to her.

1 RAINBOW DASH
Hey, Applejack. Whatchya doin'?

Distracted by Dash's sudden appearance, Applejack misses the apple completely and kicks empty air, extending her back legs and landing onto the ground with a <THUD>.

2 APPLEJACK
WHAOOOO--OOOF!

The apple rolls past her head as Applejack tilts her hat up and stares at Dash.

3 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Well, I was practicin' my distance buckin'.

4 RAINBOW DASH
Distance bucking? What for.

Applejack gets up and dusts herself off.

5 APPLEJACK
Because Braeburn and the rest of the Appleoosa Apples seem to think that they can beat us at Buckball.

6 RAINBOW DASH
WHAT!?

7 APPLEJACK
Yep. My cousin got on the Appleoosa team and they've been able to recruit some of the best players in Equestria, so naturally all he can do is brag about beating Ponyville.

With that, Applejack bucks down another apple and with one swift kick, knocks it across the field and into the basket.

8 RAINBOW DASH
But that's ridiculous!

9 APPLEJACK
I know.

10 RAINBOW DASH
Nopony beats Ponyville! I mean, I
could beat the whole town of
Appleloosa at Buckball with one wing
tied behind my back.

Applejack bucks down another apple and kicks it high. Dash zooms skyward, flipping over the apple's trajectory and bats it back down to Applejack with her wing.

Applejack kicks the falling fruit midair and it ricochets into the basket. Dash lands back down beside her.

11 APPLEJACK
So can I count on you to join the
Ponyville Buckball team?

12 RAINBOW DASH
Oh, yeah! I am so there. I've just
got one question.

Dash looks from the tree to the basket, then back to Applejack.

13 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
What's Buckball?

Off Applejack's eye roll...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 2 - EXT. PONYVILLE - ROAD - DAY

Applejack, Dash, PINKIE PIE, and FLUTTERSHY head down the road toward Sweet Apple Acres.

14 FLUTTERSHY
I've actually never heard of
Buckball, Applejack.

15 PINKIE PIE
Yeah. I've never heard of it
either. But it sounds like there's
a ball and bucking involved, so I'm
betting it's super-duper fun.

Dash rolls her eyes.

16 RAINBOW DASH
Come on! How could you not know
about Buckball?
(Off AJ's look)
Heh-heh. Yeah. It was new to me
too.

17 APPLEJACK
Buckball is only the most exciting,
hoof pumping, new sport to ever hit
Equestria. And my cousin Braeburn
somehow lured a star Pegasus and
Unicorn all the way to Appleoosa to
play on their team.

18 RAINBOW DASH
And he thinks they'll just run
right over Ponyville's team, but
we're not gonna let that happen.
Right?

19 PINKIE PIE/FLUTTERSHY
Right!/Absolutely not!

20 APPLEJACK
Technically, Ponyville needs a team
before we can stop Appleoosa from
runnin' over it.

21 RAINBOW DASH
Minor detail.
(to Applejack)
And really we only need one player,
since you and I are obviously
already on the team.

22 PINKIE PIE
(over the top sing-song)
Obviously.

23 FLUTTERSHY
We're happy to help out, Applejack,
though I'm not exactly sure how.

24 APPLEJACK
It's simple. A Buckball team has
one position for each kind of pony.
And since Dash is a Pegasus and I'm
an Earth Pony, we're holding
tryouts to find ourselves a
Unicorn.

The four of them walk through a wooden gate toward one of the
empty fields near the farm.

25 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah. And you two can help us play
some practice games with the
prospects to see who's got the
stuff.

26 FLUTTERSHY
That doesn't sound too hard.

27 PINKIE PIE
Actually, it sounds like a lot of
fun.

28 APPLEJACK
You're darn tootin' it does.

As they crest a hill, they look down at a circular Buckball
field and the LONG LINE OF UNICORNS waiting to try out.

29 PINKIE PIE
Actually, actually, it looks like a
whole lot of a lot of fun!

30 RAINBOW DASH
Whoa!

31 FLUTTERSHY
I had no idea the game was so
popular.

32 APPLEJACK
 (confessing)
I might have gone around town and
talked it up a bit.

SC. 3 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - FIELD - DAY

[PRODUCTION NOTE: We imagine the field as three concentric
circles with a line dividing them in half. The smallest
circle is in the center, like center ice.]

The playing field takes up the majority of the rest of the area with the Keepers (goalies) confined to their half of a strip that rings the outside, like the warning track around a baseball field.]

Applejack stands in front of the crowd of unicorns.

33 APPLEJACK
Now I know a lot of you are here
because I told you how amazing the
game of Buckball is...

34 UNICORN 1
And we know you never lie,
Applejack...

The crowd MURMURS in agreement.

35 APPLEJACK
That's right. But even though
Buckball is the most fun a pony can
have on four hooves, we'll be
playing for more than just fun.

Dash walks past the first row of unicorns like a drill sergeant.

36 RAINBOW DASH
Apparently, Appleoosa thinks
beating Ponyville is gonna be easy,
but we're gonna show them just how
wrong they are!

37 APPLEJACK
Because Buckball isn't just a
sport, it's a tradition.

Applejack tosses up an apple and bucks it over to Dash who juggles it from wing to wing while AJ continues.

38 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
The sport's come a long way from
farmers bucking apples back and
forth in the fields to pass the
time.

Dash passes the apple back to AJ who trades it for a similarly-sized RED BALL. Dash takes the ball and sets it atop a TALL POLE in the center of the circular field.

39 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Maybe we don't buck apples out of
trees to play anymore, but that's
how the game started and if
Appleosa thinks they can best
Ponyville at something apple
related, they've got another thing
comin'!

The crowd of unicorns all CHEER. Applejack trots over to
center field. Pinkie follows.

40 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
 (calling to the prospects)
Now, we've only got one spot open
on Team Ponyville...

41 RAINBOW DASH
So, it's time to separate the
ponies from the foals and see which
one of you has what it takes.

Dash nudges two unicorns, DONUT JOE and LYRA toward opposite
edges of the field where two BUCK BASKETS sit (think: a cross
between a regular farm basket and a basketball hoop).

As Joe takes up his position on Applejack's and Fluttershy's
side of the field, Dash flies back to join Pinkie and Lyra on
theirs. Applejack has Pinkie stand on one side of the
BUCKPOLE as she explains...

42 APPLEJACK
The Earth Ponies, or Buckers, face
off at the Buckpole and give it a
good buck to start the game...

Applejack lines up on the opposite side of the pole as a
REFEREE PONY blows a WHISTLE.

Pinkie starts BOUNCING WITH EXCITEMENT as Applejack nods and
the two of them rear back and buck the pole at the same time.
The ball goes flying off the top of the pole as we...

CUT TO:

TRYOUT MONTAGE

ON FLUTTERSHY - who stares terrified as a ball comes speeding
toward her.

43 APPLEJACK (V.O.)

The Pegasi, or Sweepers, job is to
block the ball or pass it back to
the Bucker...

Fluttershy panics and shies away from the oncoming ball. But
as SHE SPINS AWAY, her tail flows around the ball, whipping
it back to Applejack.

44 RAINBOW DASH

Whoa! Nice spin move, Fluttershy!

Fluttershy blushes, pleased, as Applejack gallops toward her
perfectly placed pass and leaps into the air, bucking the
ball with both hooves.

ON THE BALL - flying through the air as Applejack continues
to explain in VO...

45 APPLEJACK (V.O.)

And, the Keeper, the position
you're all here for, levitates
their Buck Basket up to catch the
Bucker's shot and score a goal!

ON DONUT JOE - as his eyes go wide at the ball rocketing
toward him. His horn GLOWS as he tries to levitate the basket
into position to catch the speeding ball, but he completely
misses it and the ball goes sailing past.

He drops his head, dejected, as we CUT TO:

PINKIE AND AJ - lining up at the Buckpole again-- PINKIE NOW
BOUNCING BACK AND FORTH LIKE A POGO-STICK.

The WHISTLE blows and Applejack rears back, but to her
surprise, Pinkie's already bounced her hooves into the pole.

46 APPLEJACK

Wow. Great buck, Pinkie!

47 PINKIE PIE

Thanks!

The ball goes sailing toward Rainbow Dash who bats it with
her wing back to Pinkie. But as PINKIE BOUNCES over to send
the ball to Lyra's waiting Basket, FLUTTERSHY SPINS IN, using
her same shying away technique to intercept the ball with her
tail and whip it to...

APPLEJACK - who runs backward and rears up to buck the ball,
but even as she does, PINKIE BOUNCES high into frame and AJ's
shot ricochets off of Pinkie's hooves and goes careening
toward...

LYRA - who tries to get her basket up, but flips it entirely over her head. The ball sails past as the basket goes flying. Lyra blushes.

Back on the field, Pinkie continues to bounce and Fluttershy spins around whipping her tail this way and that.

48 PINKIE PIE/FLUTTERSHY
WHEEEEEEE!/Oooohhhh!

Applejack and Dash share a look as they stare back at their friends in amazement as we CUT TO...

A QUICK SERIES OF SHOTS:

- Applejack bucks ball after ball toward a different Unicorn Keeper every time-- and every time, FLUTTERSHY SPINS in from a different side of the screen, whipping the ball away at the last moment while Applejack stares in shock.

- Dash blocks one ball, then another, then two come at once, then three, until finally a barrage of balls fly toward her, forcing her to duck and cover as we CUT TO the reverse and reveal-- PINKIE BOUNCING in the air, bucking balls machine gun-style (like how Maud breaks apart rocks).

- Dash and AJ stare in wonder at Pinkie and Fluttershy, who continue to SPIN and BOUNCE as a series of Unicorns struggle to get a single ball in their baskets. Off Dash and Applejack's consternation we...

END MONTAGE

SC. 4 - EXT. FIELD - LATER

Applejack and Rainbow Dash stand on the sidelines as Pinkie and Fluttershy continue to play in the background. They look over at all the Unicorns lying on the ground, exhausted.

49 APPLEJACK
This didn't go quite how I thought.

50 RAINBOW DASH
I know! We've gone through every unicorn in Ponyville and none of them are up to snuff.

51 APPLEJACK
We haven't gone through every unicorn...

Applejack nods to the other side of the field where SNAILS tries to move a basket with his hooves and ends up with it on his head.

52 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
But that's not really what I meant.

Applejack points to Pinkie and Fluttershy continuing to play tirelessly, having a grand old time.

53 RAINBOW DASH
Right. I guess it is kind of surprising that Pinkie and Fluttershy are so good.

54 APPLEJACK
Good? They're amazing!

ON FLUTTERSHY - who uses her tail to whip a ball around her body.

55 FLUTTERSHY
(to Pinkie)
This game is a lot more fun than I thought it would be.

Pinkie bounces on one hoof and uses her other three legs to juggle several balls in the air.

56 PINKIE PIE
It's exactly as much fun as I thought it would be-- A WHOLE BUNCH!

Pinkie glances over at Snails still struggling under his basket.

57 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(calling out)
Hey Snails, you should use your horn.

58 SNAILS
(echoing from under the basket)
What?

59 PINKIE PIE
Use your horn!

60 SNAILS
(still inside the basket)
Ooooh.

With a small burst of magic, Snails levitates the basket off of his head. He looks up at it.

61 SNAILS (CONT'D)
Yeah. That's much easier.

62 PINKIE PIE
Toldja!
(then)
INCOMING!!!

With that, Pinkie bounces all the balls she's juggling at Snails with another series of Maud-like bucks.

Barely looking up in time, Snails reflexively moves the basket around quickly, CATCHING EVERY ONE.

63 FLUTTERSHY
Wow. Nice work, Snails.

64 SNAILS
Huh?
(looking in his basket)
Oh. Yeah. You should be more careful with these. You could lose them.

ON APPLEJACK AND DASH - as they stare slack-jawed.

65 RAINBOW DASH
Did you see that!?

66 APPLEJACK
Yep. Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

Off Dash's nod...

SC. 5 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - FIELD - MOMENTS LATER

Dash and AJ stand in front of the group with Snails.

67 APPLEJACK
I know y'all tried real hard, but the Unicorn spot on Ponyville's Buckball team has got to go to the pony who showed the most promise.

68 RAINBOW DASH
And who'll give us the best chance to crush Appleoosa.

69 APPLEJACK
And that Unicorn is... Snails!

Fluttershy and Pinkie stand with the rest as they all CHEER.

70 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
And it turns out we've decided that
the other two positions on the team
should be filled the same way.

71 RAINBOW DASH
Which is why Applejack and I are
giving up our spots.

The crowd of ponies all GASP. Fluttershy and Pinkie panic.

72 FLUTTERSHY
But who's going to play on the
team?

73 PINKIE PIE
Who's going to crush Appleosa!?

Applejack and Dash look at them and smile.

74 APPLEJACK
You are.

Off Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy's shock we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 6 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - FIELD - RESUME

Fluttershy and Pinkie Pie stare at AJ and Dash in shock--
along with everypony else.

75 FLUTTERSHY
You want us to play Buckball
against Appleosa instead of you?

Applejack and Dash nod.

76 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
That's unexpected.

77 PINKIE PIE
Aaand un-credible.
 (indignant off everypony's
 confused looks)
Unbelievable and incredible?

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78      APPLEJACK      *
Not really.          *
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79      RAINBOW DASH
      (nods)
You two are the best players we've
got. And trust me, I wouldn't be
saying it if it weren't true.

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80      APPLEJACK                                *
Me neither.                                    *
```

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81      PINKIE PIE                                     *
Obviously. But we weren't trying to                   *
get on the team. We were just                         *
having fun.                                           *
```

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82      APPLEJACK                                     *
Whatever you were doing, it seemed                 *
to work out pretty well.                           *
```

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83      RAINBOW DASH                                     *
So are you gonna play for Team                         *
Ponyville or what?                                    *

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Fluttershy and Pinkie look at each other. *

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84          FLUTTERSHY                                     *
It was a little scary at first, but                       *
once I got the hang of it I had a                         *
pretty good time.                                         *
```

85 PINKIE PIE *

I especially liked the part where I *

pelted Rainbow Dash with a barrage *

of Buckballs. *

```

86      RAINBOW DASH                                     *
      (flat)                                           *
Yeah. That was great.                                *
```

Pinkie and Fluttershy share a quick nod. *

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87      PINKIE PIE                                *
      (calling OS)                                *
Whatdya say, Snails?                             *

```

WHIP PAN to Snails who has the basket on his head again. *

```

88      SNAILS                                     *
      (with basket echo)                         *
About what?                                     *
```

Pinkie turns back to Applejack and Dash. *

89 PINKIE PIE *
You heard him. We'll do it! *

Applejack, Rainbow Dash and the rest of the unicorns <CHEER>. *

90 RAINBOW DASH *
This is gonna be so great! *

91 PINKIE PIE *
And super fun! *

92 FLUTTERSHY *
Yeah. *

As the unicorns all congratulate Snails, Pinkie and
Fluttershy, Applejack steps forward. *

93 APPLEJACK *
All right. I know it's been all fun *
and games so far, but if we really *
wanna beat Appleoosa, we're gonna *
have to get serious. *

94 FLUTTERSHY *
Serious? *

Pinkie's eyes narrow. *

95 PINKIE PIE *
Serious how? *

CUT TO: *

SC. 7 - EXT. FIELD - DAY *

Applejack and Dash stand in front of a series of drill *
stations. There's painted lines extending across the field, *
like racing lanes; cones set up in a slalom formation; and a *
series of Buckpoles lined up, one after the other. *

96 RAINBOW DASH *
With serious practice! *

Pinkie and Fluttershy look out at everything warily. *

97 PINKIE PIE *
Whoa. This looks intense. *

98 APPLEJACK

There's no question that you two
have a lot of natural talent, but
there's no amount of skill that
can't be improved by a little
practice.

99 FLUTTERSHY

It seems like we'll be doing more
than a little.

100 RAINBOW DASH

You wanna beat Appleoosa, don't
you?

(off Pinkie's and
Fluttershy's nod)

Then this is the way to do it. Look
at Snails.

Dash points off screen as we WHIP PAN to Snails standing in
front of three Buck Baskets. His horn GLOWS as he lifts them
one at a time, moving a Buckball between them like he's
playing a large shell game.

101 SNIPS

One, two, three. One, two,
three....

Back on Fluttershy and Pinkie who look toward Applejack and
Dash, uncertain.

102 FLUTTERSHY

What do we have to do?

103 APPLEJACK

It's simple.

104 RAINBOW DASH

Just do it exactly like us.

With that, Dash and Applejack take off through the practice
course.

Dash zooms along one of the lanes while Applejack gallops
down the other - passing a buckball back and forth as they
go, then...

DASH - juggles the ball from wing to wing as she weaves in
and out of the cone slalom course, finally placing it onto
the first buckpole in the next course as...

APPLEJACK - bucks the pole, knocking the ball off, then bucks it onto the next pole, then does the same with the next pole, and the next until she passes the last ball to Dash who passes it back to Applejack for a running shot.

Pinkie and Fluttershy watch, as the ball zips toward Snails, still practicing his shell game, oblivious.

105 PINKIE PIE/FLUTTERSHY
Snails!

Without even looking up, Snails raises one of the baskets he's working with and Applejack's zooming shot goes right in. Finally, he looks up.

106 SNAILS
What?

Fluttershy turns to Applejack.

107 FLUTTERSHY
That doesn't look simple.

108 RAINBOW DASH
It's easy. You'll see.

Pinkie and Fluttershy walk up to the start of the course. Fluttershy gives a few practice "shying away" SPINS. Pinkie does one or two BOUNCES.

109 APPLEJACK
Just do it exactly they way we did.

Pinkie and Fluttershy share a look, then-- FLUTTERSHY STOPS SPINNING AND PINKIE STOPS BOUNCING.

Dash tosses them a ball and they start down the track as--

FLUTTERSHY - awkwardly flies up and bats the ball with her wing at...

PINKIE - who bucks at the falling ball and misses terribly.

The ball bounces off the ground and hits Pinkie's flank, ricocheting back toward Fluttershy who panics and ducks.

Unfortunately she doesn't duck fast enough as the ball bounces off of her muzzle, pushing her back into the slalom course as she bobbles it, knocking down cone after cone until finally she bats it back at...

PINKIE - who staggers backwards trying to catch it, but trips and knocks down all three buckpoles, stumbling over them like a logroll until they finally slip out from under her and she collapses to the ground, watching as the ball goes rolling past her and over to...

SNAILS - who again, doesn't even look up from his practice as he raises one of his baskets and scoops up the wayward ball.

Dash and Applejack look out at the ruined practice course.

110 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Y'all might need more practice than
I thought.

SC. 8 - EXT. FIELD - NEXT DAY

Dash and Applejack stand with a visibly shaken Pinkie and Fluttershy looking out at a reconfigured practice course.

111 APPLEJACK
I'm positive you two are the best
Buckball players we've got, but I
think you need to get used to
playing together.

112 RAINBOW DASH
(nods)
Yep. At the tryouts you totally had
Applejack and me to lean on. Now
you just need to practice more as a
team.

113 PINKIE PIE
How much more?

114 RAINBOW DASH
<PFFT> You have days before we're
supposed to play Appleoosa.

115 PINKIE PIE/FLUTTERSHY
DAYS!?

116 APPLEJACK
Yep. But you two are so good that
should be plenty of time. Dash and
I have to get everything ready for
the trip, but as long as you two
keep at it, everything'll be fine.

With that, AJ and Dash head off. Fluttershy and Pinkie exchange a worried look as we start a...

PRACTICE MONTAGE

Pinkie and Fluttershy stand at the beginning of the passing lanes again. They head down the tracks as...

PINKIE - runs as she bucks a ball toward Fluttershy who immediately ducks and sticks out a wing, but the ball goes sailing past. She looks to Pinkie and shrugs as they...

Start again - again moving down the lanes as...

FLUTTERSHY - now with the ball, bats it with her wing toward Pinkie who gallops as she bucks at it over and over, missing every time.

As Pinkie spins out in the dirt, Fluttershy lands beside her and they both glance OS where...

SNIPS - sleeps, snoring amidst his baskets-- one over his head. Pinkie and Fluttershy <SIGH> as we CUT TO:

THE CONE SLALOM - Fluttershy tries to weave around them, but only succeeds in knocking down every cone with her wings as she tries to juggle the ball while at the...

BUCK POLES - Pinkie kicks one, but misses the ball as it falls off the top. Fluttershy retrieves it and sets on the second pole as Pinkie tries again-- and misses again.

Frustrated, Pinkie bucks at the ball as Fluttershy tries to retrieve it and accidentally bucks Fluttershy instead.

117 FLUTTERSHY
WHAAAAA!

Fluttershy tumbles through the air, hooves over tail, toward the sleeping Snails as Pinkie shouts.

118 PINKIE PIE
INCOMING!

Mid-snore, Snails' horn glows as he magics the basket up in his sleep to catch Fluttershy, who lands in the basket with a <THUNK>.

Fluttershy looks over at Pinkie with a frown.

119 FLUTTERSHY
At least one member of our team
hasn't gotten worse.

Snails opens one of his eyes and looks up, surprised to see Fluttershy looking down at him from the basket.

END MONTAGE

*

SC. 9 - EXT. ROAD - DAY

*

Fluttershy and Pinkie walk along exhausted and dejected.

*

120 FLUTTERSHY
Applejack and Rainbow Dash have so
much faith in us. I really don't
want to let them down.

*

*

*

121 PINKIE PIE
(brightly)
Come on, we're not that bad.

*

*

*

Fluttershy shoots Pinkie a look. Pinkie drops her head.

*

122 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I guess I was hoping you saw
something I didn't.

*

*

*

123 FLUTTERSHY
Maybe our friends will be happy
just knowing we're doing our best?

*

*

*

124 PINKIE PIE
Sure. That's what's important.
Besides, the game is so new, I'll
bet not many ponies even know about
it.

*

*

*

*

*

125 FLUTTERSHY
(hopefully)
Or that we're going to play
Appleosa.

*

*

*

*

126 PINKIE PIE
Yep! I'd be surprised if anypony
even cares if we win.

*

*

*

Fluttershy looks to Pinkie, hopeful.

SC. 10 - EXT. PONYVILLE - TRAIN PLATFORM - THE NEXT MORNING

*

Fluttershy and Pinkie Pie stand on the train platform,
staring out like ponies caught in the headlights. PULL WIDE
to reveal they are surrounded by CHEERING Ponvillians.

Snails walks up with his buck basket, excited (and confused)
at all the attention.

*

*

A couple of ponies unfurl a yellow BANNER across the train with Pinkie, Fluttershy, and Snail's faces on it. A spontaneous chant starts up.

127 TOWNSFOLK
Go Ponyville! Go Ponyville! WIN!
WIN! WIN!

Fluttershy stares at the crowd, eyes wide. Pinkie leans in.

128 PINKIE PIE
(loud whisper)
Okay. I'm surprised.

*
*

Off their very worried faces...

END ACT TWO

*

ACT THREE

SC. 11 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - DAY

*

Pinkie and Fluttershy look out the window as the train pulls away from the station. Back on the platform, rabid fans wave banners and cheer them on.

Applejack leans down, looking past them and out the window.

*

129 APPLEJACK
Pretty impressive how the game has
caught on, huh?

*
*

Dash appears on their other side looking out as well.

*

130 RAINBOW DASH
That's nothing. Just wait until we
destroy Appleoosa's team. Buckball
fever will sweep all of Equestria.

*
*
*
*

Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy share a nervous look, but before they can say anything, Snails walks into the car, levitating his buck basket in front of him. Dash looks over.

*
*
*

131 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Wow, Snails. You are really
committed to your position.

*
*
*

132 SNAILS
Huh?

*
*

133 APPLEJACK
Yeah. You've been carrying that
buck basket with you everywhere.

*
*
*

Snails looks up at his basket.

134 SNAILS
Oh. Yeah. I thought it'd make it
easier to sleep on the train.

With that, Snails plops into a seat, lets the basket fall onto his head and starts snoring.

Dash rolls her eyes, then notices Fluttershy and Pinkie Pie's worried looks.

135 RAINBOW DASH
You two okay?

136 FLUTTERSHY
Um... I guess.

137 APPLEJACK
Looks to me like you've got a case
of the pre-game jitters.

138 RAINBOW DASH
<PFFT>! You two have been
practicing so much, there's no way
you won't win.

139 APPLEJACK
 Yep and you've got the whole town
 of Ponyville behind you.

140 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah! **Just** spend the ride to
Appleloosa thinking about all the
ponies back home rooting for you.
That'll help keep you in the zone.

With that, she gives them both a heartening pat, then heads to the back of the car with Applejack.

Fluttershy looks to Pinkie.

141 FLUTTERSHY
I'm not sure what zone Rainbow Dash
is talking about, but I'm pretty
sure I'm not in it.

142 PINKIE PIE
Me neither. All I can think about
is how horribly we've been playing.

143 FLUTTERSHY
And how we're going to loose and
disappoint everypony.

Pinkie takes a deep breath.

144 PINKIE PIE
Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

*

Off Fluttershy's nod...

*

**SC. 12 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - BACK OF THE CAR - MOMENTS
LATER**

*

Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy walk up to Rainbow Dash and Applejack, determined. Rainbow Dash looks them up and down.

145 RAINBOW DASH
Hey, you two are supposed to be
getting in the zone.

146 FLUTTERSHY
I don't think that's possible.

*

*

147 PINKIE PIE
Even if we knew where the zone was,
I don't think either of us would be
able to figure out how to get
inside it.

*

*

*

*

148 APPLEJACK
What are you trying to say?

*

Pinkie and Fluttershy share a look.

149 FLUTTERSHY
We think you should take our places
on the Buckball team.

*

*

150 APPLEJACK/DASH
WHAT?!

*

*

151 FLUTTERSHY
I know you think we're good, but...

*

*

152 PINKIE PIE
(bursting)
We're TERRIBLE!

153 RAINBOW DASH
But you were total naturals at
tryouts.

*

*

*

154 APPLEJACK
And you've been practicin' all
week.

*

*

*

155 FLUTTERSHY
And we've only gotten worse. I'm
not so sure I even like Buckball
anymore.

*
*
*
*

156 APPLEJACK
But you said it was so much fun.

*
*

157 PINKIE PIE
THERE'S NOTHING FUN ABOUT
BUCKBALL!!!

158 FLUTTERSHY
There's no way we'll beat Appleoosa
and there's nothing fun about
letting all of Ponyville down.

*
*
*

Applejack and Dash stare at their friends in shock. They
share a look.

159 APPLEJACK
Well, all right. If you're sure.

*
*

160 PINKIE PIE
Oh, we're sure.

*
*

Fluttershy nods. Dash looks to Applejack.

*

161 RAINBOW DASH
But we haven't had any practice.

*
*

162 APPLEJACK
(to Pinkie and Fluttershy)
Yeah. If we're gonna be ready to
play, we'll need your help.

*
*
*
*

Fluttershy and Pinkie Pie look relieved.

163 PINKIE PIE
As long as we don't have to play,
we'll do anything you want.

*
*
*

Off Dash and Applejack, resigned...

*

SC. 13 - EXT. APPLEOOSA - PRACTICE FIELD - DAY

*

Applejack and Dash stretch on a much dustier version of a
Buckball field on the outskirts of Appleoosa.

*
*

164 APPLEJACK
I guess the best thing to do is
have you two play against us.

*
*
*

165 FLUTTERSHY *
All right, but I don't know how *
much of a challenge that will be. *

166 RAINBOW DASH *
That's fine. We really just need to *
warm up and work out a few plays. *

167 PINKIE PIE *
But we've only got one Keeper. *

Pinkie points OS and we WHIP PAN to Snails, working his *
basket like a street sign flipper. *

BACK ON - Pinkie as she kicks up a couple of balls. *

168 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D) *
If we going to play against each *
other we'll need another one. *

By way of demonstration, Pinkie bucks the balls in opposite *
directions, but, amazingly, Snips whips his basket around the *
field with laser precision and catches them both! *

169 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D) *
Or not. *

CUT TO: *

SCRIMMAGE MONTAGE *

Applejack and Pinkie line up on opposite sides of the *
practice field's buckpole. *

170 APPLEJACK *
Ready? *

Pinkie gives a tentative nod. *

171 APPLEJACK (CONT'D) *
One... Two... Three! *

Applejack and Pinkie both wind up and kick, though Pinkie *
misses the pole entirely. Applejack stares at her, perplexed *
as... *

The ball goes flying off the top of the pole toward *
Fluttershy who closes her eyes and sticks out a wing. Dash *
looks at her, confused, as the ball goes sailing by and... *

PINKIE - gallops toward the falling ball and bucks at it in *
the air, but misses. As it bounces off the ground, she bucks *
at it again and again-- missing every time. *

Finally, exhausted, she drops to the ground as the ball rolls to a stop in front of Snails, not even making it to his basket. *

Dash and Applejack share a look as we CUT TO: *

THE BUCK POLE - Applejack and Pinkie line up again. Pinkie <SIGHS> as she stands ready. *

172 APPLEJACK (CONT'D) *
Pinkie, didn't you used to have a *
bit more bounce in your buck? *

Pinkie brightens and pogos up and down a bit. *

173 PINKIE PIE *
You mean, like this? *

174 APPLEJACK *
That's more like it. One... Two... *
Three! *

Applejack starts to wind up, but Pinkie's already ping-ponging into the pole which sends the ball flying toward... *

FLUTTERSHY - who assumes her shut-eye, wing out pose. Dash calls over to her. *

175 RAINBOW DASH *
Fluttershy! Use your tail! *

Fluttershy peaks open one eye at Dash who spins and whips her tail around by way of example. Fluttershy smiles and does likewise, whipping the ball with her tail just as it arrives. *

176 FLUTTERSHY *
Tee-hee. *

With a flip she passes the ball to Pinkie who bounces toward it like a rubber ball. *

177 PINKIE PIE *
WHEEEEEEEE! *

Applejack watches as Pinkie flips, bouncing the ball off of her hooves and sending it rocketing across the field--straight into Snail's basket. *

Everypony stares, amazed as we... *

END MONTAGE *

SC. 14 - EXT. APPLEOOSA - PRACTICE FIELD - MOMENTS LATER

Applejack, Dash, Fluttershy and Pinkie gather around the buck pole at center field.

178 FLUTTERSHY
I don't understand. We were so terrible.

179 PINKIE PIE
Really, really, terrible!

180 FLUTTERSHY
What happened?

181 APPLEJACK
You stopped playing the way you used to. Pinkie, that bounce buck is amazing.

182 RAINBOW DASH
And, Fluttershy, that spin move with your tail is totally awesome!

Fluttershy and Pink share a confused look.

183 FLUTTERSHY
But you told us to practice the way you two play... Which honestly isn't very fun.

184 PINKIE PIE
Yeah. I had to completely unbounce my bounce.

185 APPLEJACK/DASH
OHHHHHHH!

186 RAINBOW DASH
We were just showing you how to go through the drills. You can use whatever technique you want.

187 PINKIE PIE/FLUTTERSHY
Ohhhhhh!

188 APPLEJACK
We never wanted you to change how you play. That's what makes you you.

189 RAINBOW DASH
And who you are is pretty awesome.

Applejack kicks up a ball.

190 APPLEJACK
But we better get back to
practicing if you still want us to
take your place on the team.

Pinkie and Fluttershy share a look.

191 FLUTTERSHY
There's really only one way to
decide who should be on the team.

192 PINKIE PIE
We'll play you for it!

CUT TO:

A QUICK SERIES OF SHOTS:

APPLEJACK - bucks a ball hard toward Snails, who magics his
basket up to receive the goal, but...

FLUTTERSHY - spins in at the last second, whipping the ball
with her tail around her body as she twirls, sending the ball
back into play where...

PINKIE - bounces around the field like the ball in a pinball
machine, letting the ball ricochet off of her hooves into the
air where...

DASH - bats in down with her wing toward...

APPLEJACK - who rears back to kick, but...

FLUTTERSHY - appears out of nowhere and whips the ball back
to...

PINKIE - who flips over, bouncing off of her hair, and into
the air as she kicks the ball.

EXTREME CU on the ball soaring in SUPPER SLO-MO as we...

MATCH CUT TO:

SC. 15 - EXT. APPLEOOSA - RODEO STADIUM - DAY

A ball soaring in REAL TIME through the air off Pinkie Pie's
hooves and blasting into Snails's basket.

A <CHEER> goes up as we PULL WIDE to see the crowd gathered around the fences. The voice of an ANNOUNCER comes over a speaker hung from a post.

193 ANNOUNCER
And with another bouncing goal from
Pinkie Pie time has expired!
Ponyville wins! Final score 13 to
7.

Another <CHEER> erupts from the crowd as Fluttershy and Pinkie rush toward each other for a high-hoof.

Just as their outstretched hooves come together, a buck basket flies in and knocks them over as we WHIP PAN to Snails, embarrassed.

194 SNAILS
Sorry.

Applejack and Dash walk up. Applejack points toward the fence where a group of Appleloosan FOALS bounce around like Pinkie.

195 FOALS
(chanting)
PINK-IE! PINK-IE! PINK-IE!

196 APPLEJACK
Looks like somepony has a few fans.

Braeburn strides up with an intimidating UNICORN and PEGASUS in tow. He looks to Applejack.

197 BRAEBURN
Well, cousin, I have to admit, your
team from Ponyville played a pretty
good game.

198 RAINBOW DASH
Good game!? We bucked the hooves
right off you.

199 BRAEBURN
Yep. You sure as shootin' did. I
might just have to take a few
pointers from your players.

200 FLUTTERSHY
Oh, I wouldn't do that.

201 PINKIE PIE
Yep. The secret to good Buckball is
to play exactly like yourself!

Applejack, Dash, Pinkie, and Fluttershy all laugh as Braeburn
looks around confused and we... *

IRIS OUT

END