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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 a **painted target** in the distance. She glances up into the branches of the tree and spots a single apple. Looking out toward the **target** 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 **Ponyville** at Buckball.

*

Applejack bucks down another apple and with one swift kick, knocks it across the field and **it smacks into the center of the target**.

*
*
*

6 RAINBOW DASH
 (taking great umbrage)
WHAT!? That's ridiculous! No pony beats Ponyville!
 (MORE)

*
*
*

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

I mean, I could beat the whole town
of Appleoosa 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 **again, hits the
target.** Dash lands back down beside her.

*
*

7 APPLEJACK

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

*

8 RAINBOW DASH

Oh, yeah! I am **so** there. I've just
got one question.

*

Dash looks from the tree to the **target**, then back to
Applejack.

*

9 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.

10 RAINBOW DASH

**Basically, it's the coolest game
ever.**

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*
*

She does a flip in the air.

*

11 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

**There's a position for each kind of
pony. A pegasus who flies around
and tries to block the ball from
going into the goal, an earth pony
who tries to buck the ball into the
goal, and a unicorn who levitates
the basket around and tries to
catch the ball to score a goal.**

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12 FLUTTERSHY
Wow, Rainbow Dash. You sure seem to know a lot about this game. I've never even heard of Buckball.

13 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah. I'm kind of an expert.

14 APPLEJACK
(scoffs)
An expert who hadn't heard of the game either until I told you.

15 RAINBOW DASH
Well, it's a new game. I probably know more than most ponies so that makes me an expert.

16 PINKIE PIE
I don't know anything about it at all. But it sounds like there's a ball and bucking, so I'm betting it's super-duper fun.

17 APPLEJACK
The point is my cousin Braeburn somehow convinced a pegasus and a unicorn to come play with him on the Appleoosa team and he can't stop bragging about how his team is gonna beat ours.

18 FLUTTERSHY
But we don't have a team.

19 RAINBOW DASH
Well, between Applejack and me we've got two thirds of a team. All we need is a unicorn. That's where you two come it.

Pinkie leans over to Fluttershy with a loud whisper.

20 PINKIE PIE
(loud aside)
They know we're not unicorns, right?

21 RAINBOW DASH
Obviously. Your gonna be on my team and Fluttershy is gonna be on Applejack's team.

22 APPLEJACK
We'll play against each other,
along with whatever unicorns wanna
try out until we find the best one.

23 PINKIE PIE/FLUTTERSHY
Oooohhhhhh.

24 PINKIE PIE
That's a relief because I left my
unicorn costume at home.

Applejack and Dash give Pinkie an odd look.

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

[PRODUCTION NOTE: The field is 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 a group of unicorns.

25 APPLEJACK
I know a lot of you are here
because I told you what an amazing
game Buckball is...

Applejack trots over to a cart full of RED BALLS. BIG MAC stands next to it in an equipment manager outfit. He gives her a ball.

26 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
...and even though it's an Apple
Family favorite, the sport's
probably new to most of you, so I
thought we'd give you a quick
demonstration.

Applejack leads Pinkie out onto the field where they meet GRANNY SMITH wearing a referee outfit. Applejack hands the ball to Granny then turns to the group.

27 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
The two earth ponies are on
offense. They meet in the middle of
the field for the buck off.

Granny blows a whistle and throws the ball down onto the ground. It bounces high in the air.

28 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

They both try to be the first one
to kick it.

Applejack rears back and give it a buck, sending the ball
toward a basket set on a stick at the edge of the field. Dash
swoops in and blocks the ball with her wing before it goes in
the basket.

29 RAINBOW DASH

And the pegasus is on defense. She
tries to keep the ball from going
in the goal and passes it back to
the earth pony on her team.

Dash bounces the ball wing to wing, then bats it over to
Pinkie.

30 PINKIE PIE

Oooh! I get it!

Pinkie winds up and kicks it - hard. The ball sails into
another make-shift goal on the other side of the field, past
Fluttershy who hovers nearby.

Applejack and Dash exchange a quick look, impressed by
Pinkie's kick. Applejack turns to the unicorns.

31 APPLEJACK

And that's pretty much it. Except
y'all will be moving the goals
around to get the balls.

Applejack turns to Pinkie and Fluttershy.

32 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

You two get the idea?

33 PINKIE PIE

Absolutely!

34 FLUTTERSHY

I don't know. That ball moves
pretty fast.

Dash zips over to the group of unicorns

35 RAINBOW DASH

All right. Let's see which of you
has what it takes.

Dash nudges two unicorns, MINUETTE and LYRA, toward opposite edges of the field where Granny and Big Mac take down the make shift goals and pull out official BUCK BASKETS (think: a cross between a regular apple basket and a basketball hoop).

Lyra levitates her basket up, then looks to Dash.

36 LYRA
Um... What do I do?

37 RAINBOW DASH
When the ball comes toward you...
catch it.

Lyra takes up her position on Applejack's and Fluttershy's side of the field, while Dash flies back to join Pinkie and Minutette on theirs.

Pinkie lines up opposite Applejack while, Fluttershy tentatively flies up across from Rainbow Dash.

Granny holds up another ball, blows her whistle, and bounces the ball on the ground.

Applejack winds up, but Pinkie's doesn't even wait for the ball to fly up. Kicking it off the bounce, Pinkie sends the ball flying.

Surprised, Applejack stares as the ball rockets upwards towards...

FLUTTERSHY - who looks wide-eyed at the oncoming ball. Terrified, she shies away, but as SHE SPINS, her tail flows around the ball, whipping it to...

APPLEJACK - who takes the perfect pass and bucks the ball straight toward...

MINUETTE - who shakily levitates her basket up, but freaks out at the speed of the oncoming ball. She ducks and covers, dropping her basket to the ground just as...

DASH - zooms in, just in time to block Applejack's shot. Dash manages to pass the ball over to...

PINKIE - who bounces toward it and flips over, hitting the ball with all four hooves, and sending it rocketing 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, excitedly. Fluttershy spins nearby whipping her tail around.

38 PINKIE PIE
Hey, this game is easy!

*
*

39 FLUTTERSHY
(brightly)
It actually is kind of fun.

*
*
*

Applejack and Dash stare at their friends, surprised.
Applejack turns back to the group of unicorns.

*
*

40 APPLEJACK
Um... Okay, let's see what the rest
of you can do.

*
*
*

Two more unicorns switch out as we...

*

START MONTAGE

*

PINKIE AND AJ - line up on either side of Granny again--
PINKIE NOW BOUNCING BACK AND FORTH LIKE A POGO-STICK.

*
*

The WHISTLE blows and Applejack rears back, but again, Pinkie
easily bucks the ball first. Applejack grits her teeth in
frustration.

*
*
*

ON THE BALL - sailing toward Rainbow Dash who bats it with
her wing back to Pinkie. But as PINKIE BOUNCES over,
FLUTTERSHY SPINS IN, using her same shying away technique to
intercept the ball.

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*

Dash stares with growing frustration as Fluttershy uses her
tail to whip the ball back 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...

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UNICORN 1 - who's 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, while...

*
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*

DASH & APPLEJACK - share a look of mutual frustration 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 ball after ball, each coming faster than the next, her frustration and effort mounting, sweat pouring off her brow as we CUT TO the reverse to reveal-- PINKIE BOUNCING in the air, effortlessly bucking ball after ball and having a grand old time.

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- 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.

41 PINKIE PIE/FLUTTERSHY
WHEEEEEEE!/Oooohhhh!

*
*

AJ and Dash look over at all the Unicorns lying on the ground, exhausted.

*

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

43 RAINBOW DASH
I don't get it. How in Equestria are those two so good?!

*
*

44 APPLEJACK
I don't know. But if we don't find a unicorn who can play, it won't matter how good any of us are.

*
*
*
*

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

45 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.

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

Pinkie gets so excited she bucks all three balls at where a goal would be, but there's no unicorn there.

The balls go rocketing toward the road where...

SNAILS trudges along carrying two water buckets from a shoulder pole.

47 SNAILS
 (singing to himself)
 Carrying my water, my water, my
 water. Carrying my water on my
 shoulder pole...

ON PINKIE AND FLUTTERSHY - who watch as the balls careen toward the unsuspecting Snails.

48 PINKIE PIE
 (yelling)
 SNAILS LOOK OUT!!!

AJ AND DASH - look up at Pinkie's shout to see...

SNAILS - who turns to see the balls speeding toward him. By reflex, his horn glows and both buckets spin up, levitating around the pole, like a pinwheel, catching all three balls.

Snails sets the pole back on his shoulders and ambles over to Pinkie and Fluttershy as Dash and Applejack run up.

Snails sets the buckets down and floats the balls out of them and over to Pinkie.

49 SNAILS
 You should be more careful with
 these. You could lose them.

AJ and Dash share a look.

50 RAINBOW DASH
 Hey, Snails can you float one of
 those baskets over here?

Applejack points to one of the Buck Baskets on the side of the field.

51 SNAILS
 Sure.

Snail's horn glows and he levitates a basket over.

52 SNAILS (CONT'D)
 What do you want me to do with it?

Applejack walks over to the cart of balls.

*

53 APPLEJACK
CATCH!

*

*

With that, Applejack bucks several balls right at Snails.

*

Without much effort, Snails whips the Buck Basket around, catching every one. He looks to Dash.

*

*

54 SNAILS
Anything else?

*

*

Dash and Applejack share a smile.

*

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

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

*

55 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 shows the most promise.

*

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

57 APPLEJACK
And that Unicorn is... Snails!

58 SNAILS
Gee, thanks. I always wanted to be on a sports team.

*

*

*

Fluttershy and Pinkie join the rest as they gather to congratulate Snails.

*

*

59 APPLEJACK
And it turns out we've decided that the other two positions on the team should be filled the same way.

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

The crowd of ponies all turn, shocked.

*

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

62 PINKIE PIE
Who's going to crush Appleoosa!?

Applejack and Dash look at them and smile.

63 APPLEJACK
You are, of course.

*

Off Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy's surprise 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.

64 FLUTTERSHY
You want us to play Buckball
against Appleoosa instead of you?

Applejack and Dash nod.

*

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

*

66 APPLEJACK
Not really. I can't explain it, but
you two are really good at this
game.

*

*

*

67 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah, it doesn't make any sense,
but you're actually better than us.

*

*

*

68 FLUTTERSHY
Oh, I'm sorry. We were just having
fun.

*

*

*

69 RAINBOW DASH
Don't be sorry. Just beat
Appleoosa.

*

*

*

70 APPLEJACK
Yeah. You're the best players in
Ponyville and that's all there is
to it. I wouldn't give up my spot
on the team if I didn't think we'd
have a better chance with you.

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71      RAINBOW DASH
Me neither!
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72 PINKIE PIE
You really think Fluttershy and I
can win?

73 APPLEJACK
The two of you and Snails seem like
a pretty unstoppable team to me.

74 SNAILS
It sounds like fun.

75 PINKIE PIE
I do like fun...

76 FLUTTERSHY
Honestly, the game was a little
scary at first, but once I got the
hang of it I had a pretty good
time.

Pinkie and Fluttershy share a quick nod. Pinkie turns back to Applejack and Dash.

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77      PINKIE PIE
Let's get this party started!
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78      APPLEJACK
All right, but if we really wanna
beat Appleoosa, we're gonna have to
get serious.

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79 FLUTTERSHY
Serious?

Pinkie's eyes narrow.

80 PINKIE PIE
Serious how?

CUT TO:

SC. 7 - EXT. FIELD - DAY

Applejack and Dash stand in front of a series of drill stations: painted lines extending across the field, like racing lanes; a slalom course of cones; and a series of Buck Baskets lined up on sticks, one after the other.

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*

81 RAINBOW DASH
With serious practice!

Pinkie and Fluttershy look out at everything warily.

82 PINKIE PIE
Whoa. This looks intense.

83 APPLEJACK
You two have a whole bunch of natural talent, but there's no amount of skill that can't get better with a little practice.

*
*
*

84 FLUTTERSHY
This seems like more than a little.

*

85 RAINBOW DASH
Well, yeah. You two are gonna be representing all of Ponyville, and more importantly...
(indicating herself and AJ)
Us!

*
*
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*
*
*

86 APPLEJACK
So before we leave for Appleoosa tomorrow, we're gonna practice, practice, practice.

*
*
*
*

87 PINKIE PIE
But, we can still have fun, right?

*
*

88 APPLEJACK
Of course! Just look at Snails.

*
*

AJ 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 with military precision.

*
*
*

89 SNIPS
One, two, three. One, two, three....

WHIP PAN back to Fluttershy and Pinkie.

*

90 FLUTTERSHY *
(unconvinced) *
I guess that looks kinda fun. *

91 APPLEJACK *
You bet it does. There's nothing *
more fun than working hard because *
ponies are counting on you. *

Off Pinkie and Fluttershy sharing an uncertain look CUT TO: *

DASH WITH FLUTTERSHY *

Dash and Fluttershy hover at the start of the slalom course *
of cones. Dash juggles the ball between her wings. *

92 RAINBOW DASH *
This is the kind of drill I would *
do over and over if I were on the *
team. *

93 FLUTTERSHY *
Really? *

94 RAINBOW DASH *
Yep. It's all about ball control. *

With that, Dash takes off through the course. She zips around *
the cones, "dribbling" the ball (passing the ball from wing *
to wing) the whole time. *

At the far end of the course, Dash misses the ball once and *
has to dive to retrieve it, then turns and makes her way back *
through the course to Fluttershy. *

95 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) *
I kinda need to work on my left *
side, but you're way better than *
me, so you won't have any problems. *

Dash tosses the ball to Fluttershy, who isn't ready and *
bobbles it. Dash looks on as Fluttershy regains control, then *
meekly hovers over to the start of the course. *

96 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) *
Ready? *
(off FS's nod) *
GO! *

Startled at Dash's shout, Fluttershy gets off to a jerky *
start, but quickly recovers, spinning around the cones as she *
whips the ball with her tail. *

Dash looks on, pleased as Fluttershy maneuvers through the course. As she nears the end Dash shouts to her.

97 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Remember, be better than me!

Startled again at Dash's yell, worry washes over Fluttershy's face and she accidentally whips the ball way off course.

The ball sails over to Snails, who's now juggling his baskets. He sees the oncoming ball and tosses one of his baskets high to catch it.

Back at the slalom, Fluttershy casts a nervous glance at Dash who looks at her, puzzled.

CUT TO:

APPLEJACK AND PINKIE

Applejack wheels a cart of balls in front of Pinkie as the two of them face the row of baskets on sticks.

98 APPLEJACK
Bucking into a goal from any direction is probably the hardest thing in the game.

AJ tosses a ball behind her and bucks it at an odd angle into one of the baskets.

99 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
But with your bouncing buck it shouldn't be a problem.

100 PINKIE PIE
If you say so.

Pinkie starts bouncing as Applejack tosses her a ball and she bucks it in. AJ nods, satisfied.

As the two of them move down the line, Pinkie spins and flips around as Applejack tosses more balls which Pinkie continues to send into the goals.

101 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
WHEEE! WOOO!

102 APPLEJACK
As long as you keep playing like this I'm not worried about the Apple Family Buckball reputation at all.

103 PINKIE PIE
WHOA--Wha?

Pinkie's expression drops as she only gets one hoof on the next ball, sending it ricocheting off of AJ's head.

The ball flies through the air toward Snails, who's now levitating his basket in a circle around himself, first over his head, then hopping over it like a jump rope. He spots the wayward ball and jump rope hops over to catch it.

Back with Pinkie as she shoots AJ and embarrassed look.

104 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Whoops.

AJ looks at her, confused.

ON DASH AND FLUTTERSHY

Dash flies alongside Fluttershy as she continues to work the slalom course, heading toward the end.

105 RAINBOW DASH
Come on! You got this!

As Fluttershy casts a worried glance at the end of the course, she trips over a cone and tumbles forward, sending the ball flying once more. Dash looks on with a frown.

ON APPLEJACK AND PINKIE

Pinkie moves along the line of baskets, barely bouncing as she listens to AJ talk while tossing balls at her.

106 APPLEJACK
Of course you're playing for Sweet Apple Acres... and me and Dash and all of Ponyville...

Pinkie's expression drops as she takes her eyes off the next ball and lands on it, rolling off and landing on her back with a THUD.

107 PINKIE PIE
Ow.

Applejack frowns as we...

CUT TO:

APPLEJACK AND DASH

Watching as Pinkie and Fluttershy gallop down the painted lines passing the ball back and forth between them-- missing each other every time.

108 APPLEJACK
What happened to those two?

109 RAINBOW DASH
I don't know! They wiped the field with us before.

They look on as Fluttershy tries her spin move but just gets hit in the head with an errant buck from Pinkie.

110 APPLEJACK
Maybe they need some inspiration.

111 RAINBOW DASH
Like seeing how much everypony believes in them?

112 APPLEJACK
That's a great idea!

Applejack looks to the field and calls out to Pinkie and FS.

113 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
All right! That's it for today!

Fluttershy and Pinkie slump with relief as they head over to the side of the field. Snails looks up from working with his baskets and ambles over.

114 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Great practice, y'all.

115 PINKIE PIE
It didn't feel great.

116 FLUTTERSHY
Yeah. The only thing spinning on me is my head.

117 RAINBOW DASH
Don't worry about it. You'll be fine.

118 APPLEJACK
Yep. We believe in you one hundred percent. Just get some rest and we'll see you at the train station.

With that, Dash and Applejack turn and head off. Snails follows. Fluttershy and Pinkie share a worried look.

*
*

SC. 9 - EXT. ROAD - DAY

Fluttershy and Pinkie walk along exhausted and dejected.

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

*
*

120 PINKIE PIE
(brightly)
Maybe, we're not that bad.

*

Fluttershy shoots Pinkie a look. Pinkie drops her head.

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

122 FLUTTERSHY
I know our friends want us to win, but they'll be happy if we just do our best, won't they?

*
*
*

123 PINKIE PIE
Sure. That's what's important. And even though we're "playing for Ponyville," I bet most ponies don't even know about the team.

*
*
*
*

124 FLUTTERSHY
(hopefully)
Or that we're going to play Appleoosa.

*

125 PINKIE PIE
Yep. I'd be surprised if anypony in town even cares about this game at all.

*
*
*

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.

*

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.

126 TOWNSFOLK
Go Ponyville! Go Ponyville! WIN!
WIN! WIN!

Snails walks up twirling a buck basket, surprised at all the attention.

127 SNAILS
Wow. The whole town really seems to
care about this game a lot.

Applejack and Dash walk up.

128 RAINBOW DASH
We kinda went around and talked it
up a little.

129 APPLEJACK
Yep. We wanted to make sure you two
knew that all of Ponyville was
behind you.

Both Fluttershy and Pinkie stare at the crowd, eyes wide.

130 PINKIE PIE
Greaaaaat...

Off their worried faces we...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 11 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - DAY

As the train pulls away from the station, Pinkie and Fluttershy look out the window shell-shocked at the rabid fans still cheering and waving banners back on the platform.

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

131 APPLEJACK
Pretty impressive, huh?

Pinkie looks out, distraught.

132 PINKIE PIE
(quiet)
Uh-huh.

Dash appears on their other side looking out as well.

133 RAINBOW DASH
The whole town can't wait to hear
about how you destroyed Appleoosa.
That should feel pretty good.

*
*
*

Fluttershy looks down, trying to contain her nerves.

*

134 FLUTTERSHY
Should it?

*
*

135 APPLEJACK
Yep. Why, every pony will be
thinking about the two of you for
quite awhile.

*
*
*
*

Pinkie Pie and Fluttershy look at each other, troubled.

*

136 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah! You should spend the whole
ride to Appleoosa thinking about
all those ponies back home rooting
for you. If that doesn't get you in
the zone, nothing will.

*
*
*
*

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

Fluttershy looks to Pinkie.

137 FLUTTERSHY
I don't know what zone Rainbow Dash
is talking about, but I'm pretty
sure I don't want to be in it. Do
you?

*
*
*

Unable to speak, Pinkie just gives Fluttershy a look, her
lips quivering as she shakes her head.

*
*

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

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

*

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

*

Pinkie is so beside herself she can only manage the smallest
whisper.

*
*

139 PINKIE PIE
You see... The thing is... Thinking
about everpony... thinking about
us... there's just no way...

Finally, Fluttershy snaps, shouting at the top of her lungs.

140 FLUTTERSHY
THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN GET IN THE
ZONE BECAUSE THE ZONE SOUNDS LIKE A
HORRIBLE PLACE SINCE WE ARE
TERRIBLE AT BUCKBALL AND ARE GOING
TO LOSE AND LET EVERYPONY DOWN AND
WE DON'T WANT TO PLAY ANYMORE!!!

With that Pinkie breaks out in tears and runs off. Fluttershy runs after her as Applejack and Dash stare in shock.

Suddenly, Snails sticks his head through the middle of their seats.

141 SNAILS
I'm still okay with playing, in
case you were worried.

SC. 13 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - DAY

Applejack and Dash wander through the train looking for Pinkie and Fluttershy.

142 RAINBOW DASH
I don't get it. They were both so
upset, but they're naturals. Why
wouldn't they want to play anymore?

143 APPLEJACK
The did have a pretty bad practice,
but I thought we gave them just the
right motivation.

144 RAINBOW DASH
Exactly. With all of Ponyville
cheering you on, who wouldn't wanna
play their best?

They move out of one car and into the next.

145 APPLEJACK
Fluttershy and Pinkie, apparently.
Maybe us telling them how much we
and everypony was counting on them
messed them up somehow.

146 RAINBOW DASH
What? That's crazy talk. Having
ponies depend on you is exactly
what you need to focus and...

```
147      APPLEJACK
Get serious and play hard and...
```

148 RAINBOW DASH
Get ready to totally smash the
competition and...

Dash and Applejack look at each other, realizing.

149 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
And none of that sounds like Pinkie
or Fluttershy, does it?

150 APPLEJACK
I guess not. We got so wrapped up
in what's important to us, we went
and ruined what was fun about the
game for them.

151 RAINBOW DASH
What do we do now?

Off Applejack and Dash considering...

SC. 14 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - BAGGAGE CAR - DAY

Applejack and Dash enter.

152 RAINBOW DASH
Pinkie? Fluttershy?

153 APPLEJACK
We know you're in here. We've
looked in every other car on the
train.

Fluttershy's and Pinkie's voices come from behind a stack of luggage.

154 FLUTTERSHY (O.S.)
Maybe you need to look again.

```

155      PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
Yeah. Because we are totally not in
here.

```

156 FLUTTERSHY (O.S.)
And we are definitely not in here
if you're going to try to make us
play against Appleosa.

157 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
Or anypony else!

Dash and Applejack share a look, then peer around the stack
of suitcases. Pinkie and Fluttershy sit huddled on the floor.

158 APPLEJACK
Well, the thing is we are going to
need you to play just one more
time.

159 PINKIE PIE
Ooooh no! Forget it! Nuh-uh!

160 FLUTTERSHY
We're sorry to let you down, but
it's better to do it now than
during the game against Appleosa.

161 RAINBOW DASH
Oh, you don't have to play against
Appleosa.

162 FLUTTERSHY
We don't?

163 APPLEJACK
Nope. We're gonna take your place,
so you don't have to worry about
that at all.

Pinkie and Fluttershy immediately pop up, the worry and
stress flowing off of them instantaneously.

164 PINKIE PIE
Why didn't you say so?

165 FLUTTERSHY
But what's this game you want us to
play?

166 RAINBOW DASH
We can't take on Braeburn and his
team without any practice so...

167 APPLEJACK
We need you to play against us.

Off Pinkie and Fluttershy considering...

SC. 15 - EXT. APPLEOOSA - PRACTICE FIELD - DAY

Applejack and Dash warm up on a much dustier version of a Buckball field on the outskirts of Appleoosa. Pinkie and Fluttershy bounce and spin nearby, visibly relieved now that the pressure is off.

168 APPLEJACK

Now I know we mixed up the teams, before, but since Dash and I really need the practice, we should be on one team and you two can be on the other.

Dash sets up a Buck Basket on a stick on one end of the field while Snails twirls his basket on the other.

169 RAINBOW DASH

And we should probably shoot for Snails' basket.

170 PINKIE PIE

Whatever you want as long as we don't have stink up the field against Appleoosa.

171 FLUTTERSHY

Yeah. I don't know how much practice you'll get against us, we've been playing just awful.

Dash zooms up next to her, bouncing a ball from wing to wing.

172 RAINBOW DASH

Don't worry about it. Applejack and I just need a little work out.

173 APPLEJACK

Yep. You two just have fun.

Pinkie bounces up across from Applejack at center field.

174 PINKIE PIE

I can do that.

Applejack looks up at Dash and nods. Dash takes up her position on the field across from Fluttershy and tosses the ball down toward center field for the buck off as we...

START MONTAGE

Pinkie bounces tentatively as the ball lands and Applejack beats her to the kick, passing to...

DASH - who juggles the ball as she whips around Fluttershy, who spins with a smile as Dash passes the ball back to...

*
*

APPLEJACK - who gallops toward the falling ball, and rears back to give it a buck but...

*
*

FLUTTERSHY - spins into frame, smiling as she intercepts the pass and whips the ball with her tail, flipping it to...

*
*

PINKIE - who bounces over to the perfect pass and gives a kick, sending the ball careening into the basket on the stick for a goal.

*
*
*

Dash and Applejack share a smile as Fluttershy retrieves the ball and flies back.

*
*

175 FLUTTERSHY
Looks like you two really do need
practice.

*
*
*

With that, she tosses the ball toward center field as we CUT TO A SERIES OF SHOTS...

*
*

- Applejack bucks ball after ball toward Snails, but each time Fluttershy spins into frame from a different direction, blocking every shot.

*
*
*

176 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Heee-heee!

*
*

Applejack smiles, impressed.

*

- Pinkie bounces randomly around the field, on two hooves, on one hoof, on her head, on her side, etc., bucking a ball with every bounce while...

*
*
*

- Dash zips around trying to block them, but it's so exhausting she finally gives up and the balls go flying past.

*
*

- Applejack and Dash watch, amused, as Pinkie and Fluttershy bounce and spin around the field, passing and bucking as...

*
*

- Ball after ball sails into the fixed basket, while across the field, Snails just sits on his basket watching the display as we...

*
*
*

END MONTAGE

SC. 16 - EXT. APPLEOOSA - PRACTICE FIELD - MOMENTS LATER

*

Applejack and Dash walk up as Fluttershy and Pinkie pass the ball back and forth, giggling.

*
*

177 FLUTTERSHY *
If you need more practice we can *
keep going. *

178 PINKIE PIE *
Yeah. I could do this aaaalllll day. *

179 RAINBOW DASH *
No thanks. Playing against you two *
now is just as humiliating as when *
we weren't trying to show you how *
awesome you are. *

Pinkie and Fluttershy stop suddenly, letting the ball drop. *
It rolls over toward Snails who immediately whips his basket *
over and scoops it up. *

180 SNAILS *
Finally! *

Pinkie and Fluttershy turn to Applejack and Dash. *

181 PINKIE PIE *
Wait. What? *

182 APPLEJACK *
You must have noticed how you *
aren't bad anymore. *

183 PINKIE PIE *
Oooh yeah. Weird. *

184 FLUTTERSHY *
But, why were we so terrible *
before? *

185 RAINBOW DASH *
I guess some ponies thrive on *
pressure and some ponies don't. And *
even though we weren't playing, we *
were treating you like us which *
totally stressed you out. *

186 APPLEJACK *
And that just sucked the fun right *
out of the game for you. *

187 RAINBOW DASH *
And having fun is what makes you *
really, really, really good. *

188 FLUTTERSHY
But being good doesn't matter if
we're too afraid of letting ponies
down to play.

*
*
*
*

189 PINKIE PIE
Yeah. What about all those ponies
back in Ponyville counting on us to
win.

*
*
*
*

190 APPLEJACK
I'm sure folks want you to win, but
not if worrying about it makes you
miserable. Winning's never worth
that.

*
*
*
*
*

191 FLUTTERSHY
But how do we keep from worrying
about it?

*
*
*

192 SNAILS
You could do what I do and not
think about it. Seriously, I don't
think about anything. Ever.

*
*
*
*

Pinkie and Fluttershy share a look.

*

193 PINKIE PIE
Works for me!

*
*

With that, Pinkie kicks up a ball from the ground and bucks
it. Follow the ball soaring in SUPPER SLO-MO as we...

*
*

MATCH CUT TO:

SC. 17 - 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.

194 ANNOUNCER
And with another bouncing goal from
Pinkie Pie the score is tied! Four
to four with twenty seconds left on
the clock.

*
*
*

Pinkie and Fluttershy gather with Snails at the sidelines.
Dash and Applejack rush up.

*
*

195 RAINBOW DASH
You guys are amazing!

*
*

196 PINKIE PIE
Braeburn is really good!

*
*

Fluttershy looks over at the Appleoosa Team's MUSCLE BOUND PEGASUS.

*
*

197 FLUTTERSHY
So is that pegasus. I don't know if
we can win.

*
*
*

198 SNAILS
You know what I would do...

*
*

199 THE OTHERS
Not think about it!

*
*

200 SNAILS
...not think-- Oh. Yeah. That.

*
*

Smiling, Pinkie and Fluttershy take their positions the field.

*
*

A REFEREE PONY walks up with the ball. He blows his whistle, but just before he drops the ball, Pinkie flips over onto her head. Braeburn looks down at her confused.

*
*
*

201 PINKIE PIE
It's easier for me not to think
about things this way.

*
*
*

With that, the Ref drops the ball and Pinkie bucks it before it even hits the ground. Braeburn stares aghast as the ball goes soaring toward...

*
*
*

Fluttershy - though the Muscle Bound Pegasus zooms in front of her to intercept it. Fluttershy spins around him.

*
*

202 FLUTTERSHY
You are definitely thinking way too
much.

*
*
*

With that, she whips the ball with her tail and flicks it to Pinkie who flips and bounces toward it, bucking it in a high arc to Snails who sends his basket straight up to catch it.

*
*
*

Another <CHEER> erupts from the crowd as the Announcer comes over the speaker again.

*
*

203 ANNOUNCER
And that's game! Ponyville wins!

*
*

Fluttershy and Pinkie rush toward each other as Snails, *
Applejack and Dash run toward them and they all high-hoof. *

Applejack points toward the fence where a group of Appleoosan *
FOALS bounce around like Pinkie.

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

205 APPLEJACK
Looks like somepony has a few fans.

Braeburn strides up with an intimidating UNICORN and the *
Muscle Bound Pegasus in tow. He looks to Applejack. *

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

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

208 BRAEBURN
Yep. You sure as shootin' did. I'm *
gonna have to really think up a *
strategy for our rematch. *

209 FLUTTERSHY
Oh, you shouldn't do that. *

210 PINKIE PIE
Yeah. The secret to good Buckball *
is not thinking at all! *

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

IRIS OUT

END