



2019-2020

Boys Volleyball Rules

Revised July 2019, v3

General

1. **Team Formation:** Teams are formed by a draft; participation is encouraged for all head coaches. Teams should have between 7 and 10 players.
2. **Uniforms:** All players and coaches will receive a t-shirt at the start of the season.
3. **Team Equipment:** Coaches are responsible for their assigned equipment (game balls, bags, scorebooks). Equipment must be returned to the OYA at the end of the season.

Coach Expectations

1. **Role:** An OYA Coach acts as an official representative of OYA who is required and trusted to work within the rules established by the OYA Board of Directors. The basic duties of a coach include:
 - providing positive instruction and guidance for the youth
 - maintaining a positive team attitude & team concept throughout season
 - ensuring the enjoyment of all participants including opposing coaches and players
2. **Assistant Coaches:** Coaches should work with parents to identify an assistant to assist with practices and games, and to provide coverage for events they cannot attend.
3. **Communications:** Coaches are encouraged to hold a brief meeting at the start of the season to introduce themselves and to discuss the format of the season. Coaches are also encouraged to send team emails as needed throughout the season via the OYA website.
4. **Behavior:** The coach is responsible for their team's behavior and the parents' behavior of their respective team.

Playing Rules

1. **Match:** All teams will play 3 games per one-hour time slot. All games will start promptly.
 - a. All three games will be rally scoring to 25 points or 14 minutes per game, whichever comes first.
 - b. In any game, if time runs out, the team with the most points wins that game. If the score is tied, next point wins.
 - c. If there are 10 seconds or less left in a game, and there is one-point difference in score (e.g., 23-22), the team with possession of the must serve.
 - d. In the rare instance where the 3rd game starts after 45 minutes, then the time of the 3rd game is determined by how many minutes are left in the hour.
 - e. Games must start and end on time. A 7:00 game must end at 8:00 so the next game can begin on time.
 - f. All three games count towards standings
2. **Substitutions:** There are no substitutions except in the case of injury. Players all rotate in and get equal playing time.
 - a. After a side-out, the last server will rotate out and the next player in will go to the center back position.
 - b. The order of rotation must stay the same during the game.
 - c. Every time your team receives a side-out, they must rotate, even on the first serve.
3. **Number of players:** A game may be started with a minimum of 4 players.
 - a. When other players show up, they will be inserted in the number 5th, and 6th spot respectively.
4. **Forfeits:** Game time is forfeit for the first game. If a team gets there by 15 minutes after starting time they may play the 2nd and 3rd games; otherwise, all three games are forfeited.
 - a. In the event that 4 players cannot be fielded to play a game, one team can ask to borrow other league players from the stands and/or the other team, with consent from the opposing team's coach.
 - b. If players are borrowed to fill a team, the three games will not count towards standing.
5. **Coin flips:** Prior to the start of the 1st and 3rd game, the referee will call both coaches and captains together. The referee will flip a coin to determine who will take the serve. If you take the serve, that means that your team serves first and the other team gets to choose what side they want. If you have any questions about the rules, this is the time to ask the referee.

6. **Jewelry:** No Jewelry is to be worn at any time.
7. **Warm ups:** Warm-up time will vary and will depend on the end time of the previous game. At a minimum, all teams will be allowed to serve for two minutes prior to the start of the game.
8. **Court protocol:** At the start of each match, all players on each team must lineup on their respective end lines and wait for the official to blow the whistle. At that time all players are to march along the sideline toward the net and wish "Good Luck" to the opposing players before taking their positions on the court.
9. **Serving:** The serving area is anywhere behind the end line from sideline to sideline. The service line is moved in 3 feet for 6th grade only, at the referee's discretion. (Normally this occurs for the first 4-5 games of the season).
10. **Lets:** A serve is good if it hits the net as long as it goes over the net and stays inbound on the opposing side. Blocking and attacking the service is not allowed.
11. **Time outs:** Each team will have two 30-second time outs per game.
12. **Score Reporting**
 - a. Appoint a parent as scorekeeper and timekeeper for each game.
 - a. The winning coach must report scores to the commissioner within 24 hours via email.
13. **Playoffs:** All teams make the playoffs. Playoff format is single elimination matches, with seeding based on regular season standings. A final championship game will determine 1st and 2nd place, and medals will be awarded to the winners.
14. **Playoff Seeding:** Seeding is determined by percentage of games won (based on 3 games per match). Ties are broken by considering games won head to head, and matches won head to head.

Other

1. **Sportsmanship:** All players, coaches, and fans will be respectful to each other and officials. All Officials are empowered to forfeit any team's match for improper behavior and ejection of players for foul language and unsportsmanlike behavior.
2. **Medical release:** If a player gets injured during a game and a concussion is suspected, the family must provide a doctor's medical release to the commissioner before returning to any practice or game.

These rules are to make the league fair and fun for all involved. This is a recreational and instructional league. Coaches should remind players that we are here to learn, and mistakes are ok.

Coaches should make every effort to go beyond these minimum rules and to encourage sportsmanship and team play.