

# **YOUTH VOLLEYBALL ---GUIDELINES/ PLAYING RULES/GAME INFORMATION**

**Updated 2/11/2020**

The youth volleyball league will be governed by Rockwall Indoor Sports Expo (RISE). Rule modifications will only be made before the beginning of the session. However, RISE reserves the right to change or modify any rule that is deemed nonapplicable or does not benefit the league and its players.

## **Spectator/Parent Code of Conduct**

### **I WILL:**

1. I WILL abide by the official rules of RISE volleyball.
2. I WILL display good sportsmanship at all times.
3. I WILL educate myself on the unique rules of this facility and abide by them.
4. I WILL generate goodwill by being polite and respectful to those around me at games and practices.
5. I WILL immediately notify the Volleyball Director and/or Program Administrator in the event that I witness any illegal activity.
6. I WILL acknowledge that the spectator seating around the courts is for the primary use of those watching the match in progress.

### **I WILL NOT:**

1. I WILL NOT harass or intimidate the officials, including line judges and scorers.
2. I WILL NOT participate in any game or game-like activities unless I have a current player's card with The RISE.
3. I WILL NOT bring and/or carry any firearms at any RISE volleyball event.
4. I WILL NOT bring or consume alcohol at any RISE youth volleyball event.

## **General Rules**

- Game times are always at the discretion of the RISE.
- Divisions will be made up of players of the same age bracket. Cut off age is based on the age of the child on September 1 of current year.
- If there are not more than four teams in any division, we reserve the right to have teams play crossover games out of their division. We will limit teams to having one crossover game per team, per season and crossover games will not affect the teams' divisional standings.
- Volleyball officials will be used to start the game. Winner of a coin flip will have their choice of serving first or side of the court.
- Each team will have an unlimited number of substitutions per game. The server cannot be substituted at any time. Each child needs the opportunity to serve.
- Substitutions will take place by the coach signaling/announcing to the referee, a substitution is required. At that point the player will approach inside the 10 foot line and call the player they are substituting for. The court player will meet their teammate face to face (inside the 10' ft. line), raise right hands, and exchange places when

the Ref indicates or the score keeper releases the players. Only the players substituting for each other may substitute back into the rotation. i.e. #4 is substituted for #6. When # 6 is ready to return to play, she must be substituted for #4.

- FOR TEAMS WITH 9 OR MORE PLAYERS – If the coach wants to run a rotation to allow all team members the opportunity to play, the coach may substitute players by calling for substitution to the official. A line up must be turned in to the score keeper and proper substitution rules will apply to the team. If the coach does not follow substitution rules accordingly to USAV ruling, illegal substitution could be called upon the team, and result in a loss of rally and serve.
- In the event of missing players, teams may begin the game with a minimum of four (4) properly uniformed players.
- To enter a late arriving player may not enter a game until the start of the next set, unless the team has less than 6 players on the court. The late arriving player must check in with the scorekeeper. Play will resume from the same serving order. If the coach chooses to start the player at the beginning of a new match, no charges are placed.
- Rally scoring will be used (point after every side out).
- Each match will consist of best two out of three games; first two games will be played to 25 points, must win by 2 with a cap at 30. If a third game is required, it is to 15 points, must win by 2. If a third game is required, a coin flip will decide to serve and receive. If the game is on a time restraint, 15 minutes or less within the hour, the third game will be determined by first team to 15. Scorekeeper will determine before coin toss.
- Two-time outs per game; this includes 3rd game.

## **Game Information for 9U**

- Net height will be 7' feet.
- 9U players may serve at or behind the 23-foot service line. Once the 9U player consistently serves the ball over the net from the 23-foot line, that player must then take a step back from the previous serving position and continue taking steps back until they are serving from the back-service line. The back-service line is 29 feet 6 inches from the net.
- Players that serve overhand must start at or behind the service line; they may NOT serve overhand at the 23-foot service line.
- Overhand servers must start at the back-service line and can step into the court.
- Server will be allowed 2 attempts to serve the ball over the net. If the ball goes over the center aspects of the net but is out of play, the player does not receive a second serve.
- Second serve is only awarded to the serving player whose first attempt does not go over the net or hits short into the net.
- If the ball is served, goes over, but it is outside the boundaries of the antennae, this does not indicate a second serve. It is classified as a service error, and the point will be awarded to the opposing team.
- Each server will have a maximum of 5 serves. After 5, the serve will become the opposing teams.

## **Game Information for 11U**

- Net height will be 7' feet.
- 11U players may serve from the 23-foot service line if serving underhand.
- Server may NOT step over the 23-foot service line.

- Once the 11U player consistently serves the ball over the net from the 23-foot line, that player must then take a step back from the previous serving position and continue until they are serving from the back-service line. The back-service line is 29 feet 6 inches from the net.
- Players that serve overhand must start at or behind the service line; they may NOT serve overhand at the 23-foot service line.
- Overhand servers must start at the back-service line and can step into the court.
- Server will be allowed 2 attempts to serve the ball over the net. If the ball goes over the center aspects of the net but is out of play, the player does not receive a second serve.
- Second serve is only awarded to the serving player whose first attempt does not go over the net or hits short into the net.
- If the ball is served, goes over, but it is outside the boundaries of the antennae, this does not indicate a second serve. It is classified as a service error, and the point will be awarded to the opposing team.
- Each server will have a maximum of 5 serves. After 5, the serve will become the opposing teams.

### **Game Information for 13U**

- Net height will be 7 feet 4 inches.
- The service line will be the actual service line, 29 feet 6 inches from the net. If a player steps on or completely crosses over this line, the referee has the right to call a foot fault.
- The server will be allowed 1 attempt to serve the ball over the net. If the server tosses the ball, the server must allow ball to drop to floor without contact to receive a re-serve.
- The server is allowed only 1 opportunity to re-serve during their time of serves. In other words, only one dropped serve is allowed.
- Each server will have a maximum of 5 serves. After 5, the serve will become the opposing teams.

### **Game Information for 15U and Up**

- Net height will be 7 feet 4 inches.
- The service line will be the actual service line, 29 feet 6 inches from the net. If a player steps on or completely crosses over this line, the referee has the right to call a foot fault.
- The server will be allowed 1 attempt to serve the ball over the net. Server WILL NOT receive a re-serve in an attempt to serve the ball and the ball is dropped without contact.
- Server has unlimited serves.

### **Game Information for ALL AGE GROUPS**

- From the moment the referee blows their whistle for the player to serve and server will have a maximum of ten seconds to serve. The first offense will be a warning and then the next offense will result in a loss of serve.
- A team beginning a match with a valid number of players, but through injury loses one or more players and does not have a substitute player, they may continue playing the match with all remaining players.
- Only coaches and assistant coaches are allowed on the bench with players. NO parents, children or players

from other teams are allowed to sit with the team.

- Players need to stay seated on the bench during game time. If standing, they must be at the end of the court area, but not behind the playing field.
- Coaches may NOT stand inside the 10 ft. area to coach. They must stay in the back part of the court.
- NO food is allowed on the court by the benches. Only water or sports drinks with non-spill sport tops are allowed. Please help protect the floors.
- All coaches and players must show their player ID cards prior to the start of the game. If a player and or coach show up without proper ID card, a secondary ID card must be purchased and shown to play. All reprints of player ID cards are \$5.00.
- All coaches and assistant coaches must purchase a coach's card which includes a background check.

## **Rosters**

- Team roster is a minimum of 6 players with a maximum of 12.
- All rosters are frozen after the third played game of the season. No roster additions are allowed after this time.
- A player may request to move from one team to another prior to the second game if the coach, parent and player agrees to the move.
- There will be no player movement after the third game. The player will have to wait until the next season.
- Any roster changes must be made by contacting the Volleyball Director.
- There cannot be the same player listed on 2 rosters within the same age level division.
- All players and coaches are required to check in with the scorekeeper upon arriving at the game.

## **Uniforms**

- All player's uniforms must be of the same color.
- All shirts in all age brackets MUST have a number on the back.
- NO JEWELRY. Small stud earrings are acceptable, but no dangles, no necklaces, no watches, no bracelets, no rings, etc. Nothing on the wrists – even elastic hair ties

## **Officiating**

- RISE will supply one referee for each match.
- USAV rules will primarily apply with the exception of net violations. UIL/Federation rules apply.
- Line judges will be used by volunteer parents from each team playing. They will hear instructions from the official prior to the match and follow accordingly. No line judge can be a child under the age of 15.
- All calls and rulings made by the Referee are FINAL. NO protests allowed.
- The team captain, coach, or designated floor captain may be the only one to converse with the Referee.
- Parents of players are not allowed on the court during game times, unless as a line judge.
- Parents are not to converse with parents officiating as a line judge during game time.
- Parents are NOT ALLOWED to approach and discuss a ruling by a parental line judge or referees at any time. If

- a question or concern arises, the Volleyball Director is the only one a parent is to approach.

## **Forfeit/Discipline**

- The following rules can cause a team to forfeit a game:
- Any player or team that has not paid the required fees by the second game of the season must forfeit each game until all fees are paid.
- A non-registered/ineligible player participates in a game.
- Two unsportsmanlike conducts are assessed to your team in a single match.
- If a player receives a yellow card, player will be suspended from current game and the next scheduled game.
- Coach/bench fouls – any combination of two (2) yellows and or one (1) red card assessed during the season, coach will be removed from the league.
- Two (2) yellow cards – Forfeiture of the game
- Illegal player (non-registered) – Forfeiture of all games that player participated in.
- Fighting – Individual will be dismissed from the league for the remainder of season.
- Disparaging remarks or taunting made on the court by a player(s), coach or parent, will result in first offense – a warning; second offense – removal from the game; third offense – removed from the league.

## **Playoffs**

- Any rostered player who plays one (1) or more regular season games are eligible for the playoffs.
- All games in the playoffs will follow the same rules and regulations as in the regular season.
- Playoffs are to be determined by the final league standing.
- All teams will be seeded according to their regular season record:  
First place team - #1 seed  
Second place - # 2 seed

Tiebreakers:

- Head to head – winner will get better seed
- Point differential in head to head games
- Coin flip

The top 4 seeded teams will play in the playoffs. The playoff winner will be considered champions of the league for that playing season. First place champions will receive either T-shirts, medals or trophies. This will be decided by the Volleyball Director for each season.

In the event there are more than 10 teams in the bracket, the bracket will be broken into 2 additional brackets. i.e. 9u Silver; 9u Black.