

OYAA Volleyball 4th and 5th Grade Rec League Rules

Mission: For 4th & 5th graders our goal is to create an environment in which the kids are excited about the sport of volleyball and are having fun. This means learning to serve the ball and successfully generating volleys. The focus will be on teaching fundamentals and ball control.

Net Height: 7 feet

A team must win 2 out of 3 game sets to win a match. Game sets are played by RALLY SCORE to 25 points with the third game set played to 15 points if necessary. A team must have at least a 2-point advantage to win a set.

The ball may be played off the ceiling if it stays on the offensive side of the court, but not off the wall or backboard. If the ball goes over the net after contacting the ceiling, it becomes a dead ball and the defensive team is awarded a point.

One 30 second timeout will be allowed to each team.

Pregame: Teams will warm up cooperatively for 10 minutes prior to the start of their game. Coin toss or rock/paper/scissors to determine first serve. Teams swap sides/serve for the second set.

Positions: 3 players will play in the front row and 3 players will play in the back row. 6 players on the court at all times. The first contact is to be a pass to the setter (player in right front position) and a hitter (from left front or middle front) sends the ball over the net.

No front-line player can attack the serve. Back line players may attack the ball only if they are behind the 10- foot line.

Three contacts before the ball is sent over the net is the teaching goal, hopefully to be achieved by the end of the season with the emphasis on control.

Substitutions: Every point earned by the receiving (non-serving) team results in a side-out (serve goes to the other team). Players rotate clockwise after a side-out. The new player enters the game in the back row, right position (service position) and the player who just finished playing the right, front position will sub out. No other substitutions are allowed other than for injury or illness. **Equal playing time is mandated.**

Service Line: The service line will be 20 feet from the net, however players who are able to serve from the end line (30 feet) are encouraged to do so and players who are unable to serve from 20 feet are permitted to serve from a position where they can get the ball over the net. As players' skills improve, they should continually move back. The end goal is for all kids to serve over hand by the end of the season, preferably from the serving line. Foot fault violations will not be called.

Serving: Every server gets 2 attempts to serve successfully on each service attempt. There is no limit to the number of tosses a server can attempt. Underhand serves and foot fault violations will not be called.

For our purposes, a successful serve is defined as the ball going over the net *between the pins (or hitting the pin)*, even if it ultimately goes out of bounds.

- A serve that hits the net but still makes it over is a legal serve and should be played out.
- If the ball is served into the net or outside the pins when crossing the net, the server gets their second try (treat as replay with no point awarded)
- If the ball hits the pin, this is considered a successful service attempt, but a side out and point for the other team.

Note: if the server's first attempt is successful and her team wins the rally, the server still gets two attempts on her next serve.

Two unsuccessful attempts = a bad serve, side-out (opponent gets the next serve) and point for the other team.

Any one server cannot serve more than 3 consecutive points. After 3 consecutive points, players on the serving team will rotate. The new server on the same team will serve again. This is done to get more touches for more players, serving and receiving, while learning the game.

Violations: Carries, double hits, etc. will be called loosely by the coaches. It is still important for players to know what the violations are and to try to correct their technique. If a ball hits the antennae at any point, it is considered out. If a ball hits the floor and contacts any part of the line it is in.

Refs: OYAA will attempt to schedule refs for every game; however, there will be times a ref is not present. Please make the best of the situation and coaches will make the calls. If there are disagreements, please agree to replay the point.

Line Judges: Each team will be responsible to provide one parent volunteer to line judge.

Score Keeper: Parent volunteers will be required to keep score. One parent from either team must volunteer.

General: Coaches are encouraged to be active near or on the floor between points but not during play. For each rotation, it is anticipated that the coach may be needed on the court to position each child to his/her new position. The Ohio High School Volleyball rules will apply except where otherwise noted.

End of Game: When the game is over, players must line up on each side of the net, reach under the net and shake hands with the other team.