



# 2024 Official Rules

## How to Ref a Volleyball Game:

### 1. Pre-Game

Call teams to the middle of the court and explain the rules below quickly and clearly. Then pray before the game starts. Be sure to have a stopwatch and monitor the scorecard as play begins.

### 2. The Volley

To start the game, “volley” for serve. Throw the ball up to either side of the court and let the teams play. Whoever wins that volley gets to serve first; **no point** is awarded for winning the first volley, it just determines who will serve first officially. Begin the game.

### 3. The Match

#### • Set-Up:

- The Match is Best 2 of 3.
- The first two games are played “Side-Out,” meaning a point is only awarded if the team serving has won the point. If the match is not won within two games and requires a third game, the play will switch to “Rally,” meaning all serves will receive a point no matter who serves.
  - A Match will commence for 40 minutes as stated. (**Set a stopwatch for 40 minutes.**)
  - Once a match reaches 40 minutes, all play will switch to Rally.
    - If in Game 2: complete the 15 points in Rally play.

- If Game 2 creates a 1-1 Match, then teams play Game 3 to 7 in Rally play
  - If in Game 3: after time has been reached, continue playing until the leading team scores 11 or 21. Whichever the leading team is nearest to.
  - Game point is only won on your serve, no matter the play. (**You cannot lose on a serve** unless the Match has reached the time limit.)
  - The game is won by a two-point difference.
- Other Basics Rules:
  - No more than **3 hits** to return the ball.
  - A ball is considered in-bounds if it hits inside of the lines or if it touches the line.
  - No touching the net.
    - If someone runs into the net trying to play the ball or hits the net while trying to spike, give each team one warning and, on a team's second offense, award the ball and/or point to the other team. (Give grace to C players.)
  - No lifting.
    - A lift is hitting the ball with your palms facing up as if you were lifting a box. Correct them by telling them to keep their fists closed.
    - Give each team one warning, and on a team's second offense, award the ball and/or point to the other team. (Give grace to C players.)
  - Serve from the line.
    - If players move past the line while serving, give each team one warning, and on a team's second offense, award the ball and/or point to the other team.
  - Serving must rotate.
    - All players on every team must rotate serving. They don't have to rotate positions on the court, but no player is allowed to serve more than another.

#### 4. The Referee

- The Referee's call stands
- If there is a problem with the crowd, please consult the student staff.

## 5. 40 Minute Time Limit

- Due to the large number of teams that are playing this year, we are implementing a 40-minute time limit for all games.
  - The time limit begins at the first serve.
  - Once a match reaches 40 minutes, all play will switch to Rally.
    - If in Game 2: complete the 15 points in Rally play.
      - If Game 2 creates a tie Match (1-1), then teams play Game 3 to 7 in Rally play.
    - If in Game 3: after time has been reached, continue playing until the leading team scores 11 or 21. Whichever the leading team is nearest to.
  - You **do not** have to win by 2 once the time limit is up.
- If the time limit is not up, normal scoring rules apply.

## 6. Starting Early

If Matches end ahead of schedule the next teams can begin play at the A player's agreement. Both full teams should be on the court and ready to play, no subs to begin the game while a team member is on their way. Once both teams approve an early gameplay, begin.

Side note: Only Brent, Carly, or Branden can approve subs. An approved player must be playing at all times.

## 7. Wednesday Scoring

- The Match is Best 2 of 3.
- Undefeated teams will need two Match losses to be eliminated.
- The first two games are Side-Out, playing to 15 points, and the last game is Rally, playing to 21 points.
- No time limit on semifinal or final Matches.

**\*\*Remember: This is a tournament for FUN. So keep a positive attitude and help create an enjoyable environment!\*\***