

VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE RULES

1. **All West Fargo Park District volleyball leagues will follow the USAV rules. (Except where West Fargo Park District rules apply)**
2. Rosters must be turned in before your first match. Completed rosters must be turned into referee or Volleyball Coordinator prior to the start of your first match. **Players may be added to the roster through Wednesday, April 10.** Fee payments must be made at the West Fargo Park District Office. Players on completed roster are eligible to play in the end of the season tournament, provided they played in at least one regular season match. All players in our Adult Volleyball Leagues need to be at least 16 years of age or older. 16 and 17 year olds will need a parent or guardians signature on the roster.
3. The number of games (not matches) won/lost will determine league standings. Tournaments will be seeded according to league standings. In case of a tie the method of breaking the tie would first be head to head games, then head to head points, then overall points and if there is still a tie a coin flip.
4. **NO SMOKING OR ALCOHOL IS ALLOWED IN THE RUSTAD RECREATION CENTER.** Possession of alcohol in the Recreation Center is punishable by law. Pop should not be brought into the Rustad Recreation Center, if you spill it or don't clean up after yourself, you will be asked to clean it up.
5. A league play match will consist of three games up to 20 points each using the rally point scoring system. A two-point advantage must be held at the end of each game. **HOWEVER, A 22 POINT CAP PER GAME WILL BE ENFORCED.** A time limit of 45 minute per 3 game set will be enforced. The referee will announce the remaining time only at the beginning of the third game. If time expires during the second game, the teams will finish the second game and a 10 point third game will be played; that is the first team to score 10 points with a one-point advantage wins the game. If time expires during the third game, the referee will tell the teams that time has expired and the game will end when a two-point advantage has been reached with a minimum of 10 points scored by the winning team. Each of the games will be counted in the league standings. **Tournament rule:** Tournament play will consist of two out of three games. Scoring for the league tournament will be the first two games up to 20 with no cap, win by 2. If third game is needed, scoring will be up to 15 with no cap, win by 2. If there is a third game, a coin flip will determine serve/receive or side. No time limit will be used during tournament play.
6. Teams will have a 5-minute warm-up if the previous match was 45 minutes or longer and will have 1 minute between each game or as soon as both teams are ready. Time will only stop for an injury or an unusual occurrence. Any delay in a game purposely caused by team members will be called unsportsmanlike conduct and penalized with a side-out or point. There will be two 30 second timeouts per 3 game match, this includes tournament play also. Teams are asked to vacate the court as soon as the last game is finished.
7. **The first GAME of the MATCH will be forfeited if a team does not have enough players to start at the scheduled start time. The MATCH will be forfeited if a team does not show up after 5 minutes from the scheduled start time. Any team forfeiting two matches will be dropped from the league unless 24-hour notice is given.** One forfeit in tournament play will constitute a forfeit from the entire tournament unless 24-hour notice is given.
8. **No automatic forfeits.** A team can play with less than 6 players and more than one. There must be at least one male and one female on the court at all times in all coed matches. **A team can play with one more male than female on the court.** (Example: if you only have 2 females and 3 males, your team can play with those 5 but if you have 2 females and 4 males then your team can still only play with 5). There is not a five-minute grace period to begin a game; all games must start at their scheduled time provided both teams have the minimum number of players. If a team does not have the minimum number of players, the game will be handled as a forfeited game. If a team plays with less than 4 players, there must be a back row player.
9. Players can't play on two women's teams. **Coed players cannot play on more than 1 coed team per night.** However, the different leagues that the player chooses to play on cannot be more than one class higher or lower than each other (example: If a player plays on a Thursday Upper League, he or she cannot play on the Tuesday Lower League without the approval of the Recreation Specialist in charge of the leagues). Players on a coed and or women's team can only move one level up or down. (Upper/Middle/Lower) Unless approved by the Recreation Specialist or Volleyball Coordinator.
10. **Only the captain of the team will be allowed to question the rulings of a referee.** Only non-judgment calls can be discussed. No unsportsmanlike conduct including yelling at the opposite team, swearing, arguing, fighting and talking

back to the referee will not be allowed. The referee has the authority to eject a player from a 3 game match. Any additional unsportsmanlike conduct by a player may result in suspension from the league. Any act of aggression towards an official or opposing team will result in immediate suspension of player(s) from the league for a period of one year. If an expelled player or fan does not leave the playing area within two minutes, that game will be forfeited. Only the volleyball coordinator has the authority to eject a player for the rest of the season. This would include all leagues affiliated with the West Fargo Park District. When a player has been ejected for a season he/she will be allowed to come back during the next season, but any unsportsmanlike conduct during the season will result in immediate suspension from that season.

11. All ceilings will be in play. Faces of the track and railings are out of play.
12. **ANY JEWELRY THAT IS WORN MUST NOT INTERFERE WITH PLAY, IF JEWELRY INTERFERES WITH PLAY AT ANY TIME OFFICIALS HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK PARTICIPANT TO REMOVE JEWELRY.** NO HATS can be worn during play (can interfere with play or if falls off could cause injury). Captains please help us with this rule by informing your team before they show up for their first match.
13. A choice of Serve/Receive or Side will be determined by flip of a coin. For league play the team that wins the coin toss, has the choice for games one and three. The other team will serve or receive for game two. For tournament play a second coin toss will take place if a third game is necessary.
14. The server will have 8 seconds to serve the ball after the signal of the referee's whistle. When a player serves the ball before the referee's signal, the referee will issue one warning per team and the team will be able to re-serve. If the incident occurs again, it will be an illegal serve and penalized with a side-out.
15. If the ball is tossed during a serve and the server does not hit the ball, the ball must fall to the floor before being touched. If server fulfills all these requirements, then the referee shall issue a reserve. If the ball is caught before it hits the floor, then the referee will call a side out and return the ball to the opposite side. Only one reserve per service turn will be allowed. The server will have an additional 5 seconds to serve the ball.
16. **During the SERVE, the ball may touch the net while crossing it.** (Let Serve)
17. Multiple contacts on the first ball across the net will be allowed.
18. Pressing the block is allowed.
19. Any player on the court may attack the ball. The front row players may attack from anywhere and the back row players may not attack the ball above the height of the net in front of the 10-foot spiking line.
20. **Touching of the net is a violation and will be called no matter how or where the net is touched.**
21. **No player shall cross the center line under the net during play. We will be following the old USA Volleyball rule. (Your entire shoe has to cross the center line before it is a violation).**

SPECIAL RULES:

1. **Appropriate Footwear:** Each player must have the appropriate footwear on to play Volleyball. Sandals, flip-flops, boots, socks and bare feet are not appropriate footwear. The Athletic shoes that a player wears must also be a none marking shoe. The shoes that mark the floor are usually black. If the player wears a shoe and it is marking the floor that player will be asked to leave the court.
2. **If you have to bring your children, you are responsible for them. If they are running around the facility, you will be asked to quit playing and remove your children from the facility. This has to be enforced for the safety of the children and adults who are playing. NO CHILDREN ARE ALLOWED UNACCOMPANIED ON THE WALKING TRACK OR IN THE INDOOR PLAYGROUND.**
3. The **serve cannot** be blocked or attacked!
4. **Contact below the waist is legal under USAV Rules.**
5. **SUBSTITUTION:** Teams may choose from two forms of substitutions (one or the other, not both): Rotation of players (player must rotate out after serving) **OR** substitute player for player- no limit. When substituting, players must sub male for male and female for female.
6. **Adjacent Courts:** All adjacent courts are out of play before, during and after the play. (Sidelines extended)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please be ready to play 15 minutes prior to scheduled game time. Matches will begin early if courts are available.