

Omaha Sports Club

Volleyball Rules

Revised April 2008

OSC Volleyball strives to create a FUN atmosphere where one can make new friends, enjoy old friends, and have a great time playing volleyball.

I. Membership

- A. Players must have paid their yearly OSC dues (currently \$30 for hard copy and \$25 for the on-line version) by the second week of the current session. Players that who are not members by that time will not be allowed to play until dues are paid.
- B. Members who submit applications postmarked between March 25 and July 31 pay \$15.00 in dues.

II. League Players

- A. Participants may try out for any OSC league, but you are encouraged only to try moving up one league at a time.
- B. Any player who misses two nights during the season and does not notify his/her captain may be removed from the team following approval of the league manager. In this case, the volleyball league fee will not be refunded.
- C. Prior to the beginning of the season each league will determine its substitution rules. Captains must follow those rules when recruiting subs for missing players.
- D. Players may substitute (sub) for a league higher than they were recruited for, but may not substitute 'down' a league.
- E. Captains should make every attempt to find subs from within their own league. If a sub from another league or not on the current league roster, captains should get the approval of the league manager and/or opposing captains prior to that night's games and prior to arrival at the gym.

III. Match Play

- A. OSC's volleyball rules will adhere to the latest published USA Volleyball (<http://www.usavolleyball.org/>), except as noted herein.
- B. Teams must win by at least two points. If time expires and the score is tied or a team leads by one point, referees will establish a two point cap; the cap will be two points greater than the highest score. Play will continue until one team reaches the cap or is ahead by two points.
- C. Referees will announce when five minutes remain in a game. Referees will announce when two minutes remain in a game.
- D. Each team is allowed one 30-second timeout per game. Timeouts cannot be called when less than five minutes remains in a game. The game clock is NOT stopped during time outs.
- E. If a game finishes ahead of schedule, any subsequent remaining game(s) of the same match may begin sooner than their regularly scheduled start time to provide teams with more playing time. Regularly scheduled end times will still be adhered to.
- F. When competition is scheduled or are occurring on adjacent court(s), it is a fault to enter the adjacent court(s) to play a ball or after playing a ball. The free zone, including the service zone on an adjacent court is a playable area.

- G. If the ball from an adjoining court enters the area of play, play continues until the referee stops play by blowing a whistle.
- H. Only team captains may ask officials for clarification on their calls. Other players may ask for clarification permitted by the referee and if it is done in a very respectful manner. Referees may accept a player's assistance when making line calls; however, the final decision is up to the referee. A referee may call for a replay at his/her discretion.

IV. Forfeit Guidelines

- A. Having fewer than five players on a team at game time will constitute a forfeit at each of these times. During the first game: five 5 minutes after the game was scheduled to start; for example, forfeit occurs at 6:35 for games scheduled to start at 6:30. Forfeits for subsequent games take affect at the time the subsequent game is scheduled to begin. Upon a forfeit, the remaining players may scrimmage on the court during the allotted match time in any arrangement agreed upon between the captains. Referees are not required to officiate for scrimmage.
- B. (Co-Ed) When teams play with five players, it is permissible to have any of the following combinations: 3 males/2 females, 3 females /2 males, or 4 females /1 male. Four males are not permitted to play on the court for the same team at any time during regularly scheduled league games.

V. Gym Care

- A. No glass containers are allowed in any gym, rented by OSC.
- B. No hard-soled shoes are allowed on the courts.
- C. The team in charge of the equipment on any given night is expected to clean up trash and other items (*e.g., balls, equipment, clothes, and shoes*) even if they are not OSC property.

VI. Smoking and Alcoholic Beverages

- A. Absolutely no alcohol consumption is permitted on or in OSC-leased premises or facilities. This includes parking areas. All schools are drug-free zones and drug use, including alcohol is punishable by law. OSC is not responsible for any penalties or fines received by managers, captains, or players.

VII. Inclement Weather

- A. In the event of inclement weather, contact your team captain (or another team captain within your league) to find out if volleyball will be played.
- B. In the case of inclement weather, the volleyball committee member responsible for gyms (currently Chris Shank) will contact each gym to determine if it will be open or not. Based on gym availability, some leagues may still play while others may not be able to play. It will be put on the web site as soon as possible.
- C. The committee will contact each league managers who in turn will contact each league captains. League captains will contact their team players.

VIII. Non-Drafted Leagues (Coed, Women's, Men's)

- A. The VB chairman oversees the summer non-drafted leagues. Men's & Women's leagues are ran by individual managers with oversight provided by the VB chairperson/committee on an as-needed basis.
- B. Women's, Men's, and all summer co-ed leagues are considered to be non-drafted leagues. In these leagues, captains submit an application for a full team, along with payment in advance.
- C. Individuals may substitute 'up' a league but must be current OSC members.
- D. The Volleyball chairman/committee retains the right to place a team in a higher league or lower league based on the needs of the league with respect to competitive balance and league size and based on a team's previous performance. Skill levels may be divided into 2 or 3 separate leagues based upon size of level and gym availability.
- E. For summer co-ed leagues, priority will be given as follows:
 - 1. Teams will be weighted according to the most recent OSC Fall/Spring league each team member participated in, with the team receiving an overall team score.
 - 2. Applications from teams that don't play OSC Fall/Spring leagues will be handled based on previous summer performance when relevant.
- F. For the Women's A and Women's BB priority will be given as follows:
 - 1. Skill levels may be divided into 2 or 3 separate leagues based upon size of level and gym availability.
 - 2. Returning teams receive a one-week window to submit their applications before applications by new teams will be considered. After that week, all applications will be considered on a first-come, first-serve basis only.
 - 3. Returning teams in A that finished in the upper half of the standings are guaranteed a spot in A.
 - 4. Returning teams in BB that finished in the lower half of the standings are obligated to play BB.
 - 5. When submitting their applications, teams must be sure to indicate their first choice and second league choice. If a team only indicates 1 choice and it is not met, they will receive a refund. This will have to be decided before the schedule is finished.
 - a. Teams may need to move up a league if they finish in the upper half of their current league. Top ranked BB team will move to A.
 - b. Teams may move to A if they won 75% or more of their games the previous session AND at least one A team lost at least 75% of its games the previous session.
 - 6. The goal of the Omaha Sports Club is to fill all leagues. Some teams may be moved to obtain maximize participation in the league. The OSC goal is 20 teams (or maximum number the leagues allow). The OSC Chairperson/committee has right to reclassify teams if needed.

IX. League Managers/Captains

- A. (For Drafted Leagues) An individual must have been drafted in a league for the two preceding sessions to qualify as a captain or league manager. (This applies to the Fall and Spring co-ed leagues only; the Summer league does not count).
- B. Players who have been drafted into a lower league must again play two sessions in the higher league to qualify to be a captain or league manager in that league. Players who have been drafted to a higher league then return to the lower league may be a captain in the lower league without playing two consecutive sessions if the OSC volleyball chairperson and league manager feel they are qualified.

- C. The league manager may also serve as a team captain.
- D. Individuals interested in being a captain in a drafted league can indicate their interest on the player application form at the time the form is submitted. If there are more eligible individuals interested than captains needed, the league manager and volleyball chairperson/committee will select the captains.
- E. If there is fewer than the required number of individuals needed to serve as captains for a drafted league, the league manager will attempt to fill the remaining positions by contacting other league players who meet the qualifications as stated in sub-section A, B and C above. In the event too few qualified players agree to serve as captains, the league manager will select captains.
- F. (Drafted leagues only) There is no limitation to the number of times in total that an individual can be a league manager and/or captain for a drafted league; however he/she may not do so more than four time consecutively.
Note: The eligibility rules above are designed to ensure that all OSC volleyball players must try out at the draft at least every fifth drafted session. Exceptions may be made for obvious situations with the consent from the Volleyball Chairperson/Committee.

X. League Standings

- A. Each team will be ranked by cumulative win/loss percentage for the session. In the event of a tie between two or more teams, the tiebreaker will be determined by the teams' head-to-head competition. If there is still a tie, the team with the most total points scored for the session will be ranked higher.

XI. General rules revisions

- A. These rules are reviewable and up for discussion, however any rule changes may only be made between sessions and never during a session.

XII League-Specific Revisions

- A. Specific leagues may make revisions to this document to accommodate their specific needs.
 - 1. Any changes to these Volleyball Rules must be agreed to by all league captains and managers at the time of the draft.

NOTE: Any issues regarding the interpretation of the specific guidelines within this document will be determined by the volleyball chairperson/committee.