

WBAL ATHLETIC LEAGUE VOLLEYBALL RULES

WBAL league, tournament and playoff games follow the same official high school rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations with the exceptions noted below...

PLAYING AREA AND EQUIPMENT

A. Structural Interference

- a. At all schools the basketball standards are a replay.*
- b. Balls that strike the ceiling above a playable area remain in play as long as the ball stays on the side of the court where it struck the ceiling*
- c. Balls that strike the ceiling and go over the net to the opposing team are considered "out".*
- d. Balls that hit the wall are "out".*

B. Boundary Lines

- a. The boundary lines of the court should be 2 inches in width*
- b. Lines should be at least six feet from walls or any obstruction. If not possible then safe ground rules must be established.*

C. Serving Areas

- a. The Varsity A and B serving area shall be the full length of the end line.*
- b. The Junior Varsity A and B teams shall have a service line 5 feet inside the existing end line.*

D. The Net

- a. The net shall be set at women's height (7 feet 4 1/8 inches) for all levels.*

E. The Ball

- a. The ball shall be an official size volleyball (9-10 ounces, NFHS) for all levels.*

F. The Game

- a. Best out of 3 rally scoring to 25 in games one and two, win by two with no cap. Game 3 to 15 points rally scoring, win by two with no cap. **NO SWITCH AT 8 POINTS.!!!***

G. Timeouts

- b. 2 timeouts per game, timeouts do not have to be used*

H. Warm up time (in the interest of time, after the first match, such as a 5pm match after a 4pm, the 10 min of shared warm up time should be done outside or in a separate area)

- a. 10 min of shared stretching and ball handling time
- b. 5 min per team to hit
- c. 2 min shared serving

UNIFORMS

a. At all levels an effort should be made to see that all players are in matching team uniforms, however no penalty shall be assessed if that is not the case.

SUBSTITUTIONS

A. At all levels teams may choose to use the rotational system of play. This means that all players on the team are rotated into the game, usually into the left front position, but no closer to the serving position than middle front.

B. At all levels teams may choose to use official high school substitution rules published by the NFSHS. If so, the following substitution rules will apply.

1. Each player is allowed unlimited entries within the team limit (18). The re-entering player shall assume the original position in the serving order in relation to other teammates.
2. Players **MAY** substitute in for the server when using the HS substitution rules.

Illegal Substitution

1. In the case of an illegal substitution or rotation, the offending player must be removed as soon as the error is discovered.
2. If the team in error is serving when the error is discovered, all points scored by the team in error must be cancelled and service and a side out point shall be awarded the non-offending team.
3. If the ball has alternated to the opposing team and they have already served before the error is discovered there shall be no cancellation of points, but a point is awarded the non-offending team.

ADDITIONAL LEAGUE RULES

A. Serving

- a. *At every level the server is only allowed a maximum of six (6) service points during one term of service. After 6 service points by one server, the team retains the ball but rotates to the next server.*

B. Simultaneous Contact

- a. *If two or more players contact the ball simultaneously, it is considered one play and the players involved may participate in the next play. This is counted as an additional contact.*

C. Libero

- a. *The WBAL will only be using the libero player **at the VA level**. There will be no libero tracker, therefore, the coaches will have to be honest and knowledgeable about the use of the libero player.*
- b. ***The libero needs to wear a different color uniform top than the rest of the team, the libero can only play back row, the libero may not set a ball to an attacker while in front of the 10' line and may not attack the ball from the back row above the level of the net. The libero can serve but only from one spot in the rotation.***

D. Net Play

- a. *A player shall not contact a ball which is completely on the opponent's side of the net unless the contact is a legal block.*
- b. *Blocking a ball which is entirely on the opponent's side of the net is permitted when the opposing team has had an opportunity to complete its attack. The attack is considered complete when a) the attacking team has completed its three allowable hits, b) the attacking team has had the opportunity to complete the attack or, in the referee's judgment, directs the ball toward the opponent's court or c) the ball is falling near the net and, in the referee's judgment, no legal member of the attacking team could make a play on the ball. **You cannot block a serve!***
- c. *If, during a spiked ball, the ball strikes the net forcing it into the opposing players hands (body), no violation shall be called. Any contact with the net caused by a swinging ponytail or bloused jersey shall not be a violation.*

SCOREKEEPERS AND LINES JUDGES

- a. If a team chooses to use high school substitution rules then the head official must keep track of substitutions.*
- b. Home teams must provide a scorekeeper/timer..*
- c. Lines judges will be used for all Varsity A matches and are encouraged at all levels. One player from each team should lines judge on the opposing teams side.*

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