

# Middle School Volleyball Handbook

Updated 3/3/23

## Philosophy

School District #11's Middle School Interscholastic Athletic Program strives to provide an opportunity for all interested students to discover and grow within the offered sports. Students will compete at a level that is developmentally appropriate for most and in an atmosphere that strives for an overall positive experience for the student.

## Participation

- Participation is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Students.
- All participants must turn in a valid Sports Physical and Emergency Contact form to the front office prior to the first practice.

## Team Division

- Teams will consist of one A-squad and one B-squad of 12 players each (teams cannot cut below 12 players, however, if fewer than 24 total try out, then a schools teams may have less than 12).
- A-squads can be made up of 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and exceptional 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Special circumstances that are approved through the District Athletic office may allow 8<sup>th</sup> graders on B-squad.
- Teams must be established by the first competition and no movement between squads is allowed after that.
- If a school cannot meet the minimum number of players to field two squads they may swing players between the two squads with approval from Athletic Office.

## Rules

- National Federation rules will be followed.

## Play Time

- All players on the team roster who are eligible and in attendance will receive playing time in either the first or second game of the match.

## Jewelry

- No jewelry can be worn during matches including items such as; ear or nose rings, wrist or ankle bands, hair devices of soft material larger than 3 inches or hard flat material larger than 2 inches, No hair beads.

## Match

- A match will consist of the best of a 3-game series using rally scoring (every serve scores a point.) Games one and two are played to 25 points with a team winning by two points. Game three will play to 15 points.

## Workers

- The scorekeeper, libero tracker and the two linespersons should be district employees. Where it is not possible, capable volunteers may be used.

- Libero tracker may be required if one of the teams has a libero, that job can be completed by the score book person or another paid worker.

### **Sportsmanlike Behavior**

- Coaches and players are expected to always exhibit sportsmanlike behavior.
- Refrain from disrespectfully addressing, attempting to influence a decision, or indicating objection to official's decision.
- Refrain from disrespectfully addressing a player, coach, or spectator in person or online.

### **Pre-Season Scrimmage**

- Teams should not be in school uniforms.
- Scrimmage games will be timed (25 minutes with 5 minutes between games) and not scored.
- Each school will get up to five games.
- Parents and spectators will not be invited to attend.

### **Pool Play**

- During regular season middle school site pool play games may be used.
- Seeding for pool play will be determined on the previous season results if scheduled early in the season.
- Seeding will be based on that seasons results thus far if scheduled at the end of the season.

#### Pool Play Round One

- With 9 teams the pools will consist of;
  - Pool One – Teams 1-3, Pool Two - Teams 4-6, Pool Three – Teams 7-9
  - Teams 1vs2, 2vs3, 3vs1; 4vs5, 5vs6, 6vs4 & 7vs8, 8vs9, 9vs7.
- With 10 teams the pools will consist of;
  - Pool One – Teams 1-3, Pool Two - Teams 4-7, Pool Three – Teams 8-10
  - Pool one and Three will play accordingly: Teams 1vs2, 2vs3, 3vs1 & 8vs9, 9vs10, 10vs8.
  - Pool Two games will play accordingly: Teams 4vs7 & 5vs6.
  - Then winners of teams 4vs7 and 5vs6 play and losers of teams 4vs7 and 5vs6 play.
- Top seeded team in each pool will host in the first round.
- Second and subsequent round(s) of pool play the top seed will host unless they hosted the previous week.
  - Host will then defer to the next seed.
  - Hosting will not change the seed order of play.

#### Action of Results

- Bottom teams in pool one and two will move down a pool.
- Top teams in pool two and three will move up one pool.

### **Pre-Game**

- National Federation of High School rules will be followed.

### **Switching sides**

- Teams will not switch sides unless there is a clear advantage to being on one side based on the configuration of the gym and obstructions (Mann, North & West are the only school sites that will switch)

### **Warm Up**

*The net divides the court once the opponents arrive for competition.*

- *Teams shall not be allowed to run onto the opposing team's half court.*
- Warm-up time will begin after the coin toss/captains' meeting/roster check.
- A maximum of 12 minutes will be allotted for warm-ups prior to the match
  - Each team gets 6 minutes on the court including serves. (Stretching should be completed prior to the designated warm-up period.)
- *During a team's warm-up time on the net, the opposing team may not ball handle off the court.*
- Prior to the second and third game the warm-up times will be 3 minutes total
  - Passing for 2 serving for 1.

### **Player line-up**

- The coach will turn in a line-up prior to each game and in accordance with the Federation rules.
- All players must receive adequate playing time during the match based on the flow of each game.

### **Tie Break Procedures**

- Regular Season
  - Head to head
  - Set percentage
  - Point Differential (Among the tied teams; difference between points scored and points allowed)
- Post Season
  - Head to Head
  - Set Percentage
  - Playoff game to 15 (use seeding for tournament to determine bottom two teams)

### **Post Season Seeding**

*All teams will be seeded for tournament play using the following criteria for placement:*

- *Record of head to head play*
- *Record of pool play seeded on current year if available*
- *Strength of schedule*

### **Classics**

- The District Classic will consist of A-squad teams only.
- Teams will be seeded based on regular season results.
- For the District Classic only, if a team does not have 12 players, they may move up players from the B-Squad to create opportunity for B-Squad players to participate.

**Post Season Brackets**

**9 team**

**Round 1**

<b>Court 1</b>	<b>Court 2</b>	<b>Court 3</b>
A1(#1) vs A2	B1(#2) vs B2	C1(#3) vs C2
A2(#6) vs A3	B2(#5) vs B3	C2(#4) vs C3
A3(#7) vs A1	B3(#8) vs B1	C3(#9) vs C1
Results from each court will determine Round 2 placement		

**Round 2**

<b>Court 1</b>	<b>Court 2</b>	<b>Court 3</b>
A1 vs C2	B1 vs A2	A3 vs B3
C2 vs B2	A2 vs C1	B3 vs C3
A1 vs B2	B1 vs C1	A3 vs C3
Court 1 & 2 move on to Final Round		Court 3 will be final

**Final Round**

<b>Court 1</b>	<b>Court 2</b>	<b>Court 3</b>
Champ Pool Semi Final	Champ Pool Semi Final	5 <sup>th</sup> Place Game
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Game		
1 <sup>st</sup> Place Game		

**10 team**

**Round 1**

<b>Court 1</b>	<b>Court 2</b>	<b>Court 3</b>
A1(#1) vs A2	B1(#2) vs B2	C1(#3) vs C2(#4)
A2(#6) vs A3	B2(#5) vs B3	C3(#9) vs C4(#10)
A3(#7) vs A1	B3(#8) vs B1	C3 vs C1
		C4 vs C2
		C1 vs C4
		C2 vs C3
Results from each court will determine Round 2 placement		

**Round 2**

<b>Court 1</b>	<b>Court 2</b>	<b>Court 3</b>
A1 vs C2	B1 vs A2	A3 vs C4
C2 vs B2	A2 vs C1	B3 vs C3
A1 vs B2	B1 vs C1	W's
		L's
Court 1 & 2 move on to Final Round		Court 3 will be final

**Final Round**

<b>Court 1</b>	<b>Court 2</b>	<b>Court 3</b>
Champ Pool Semi Final	Champ Pool Semi Final	5 <sup>th</sup> Place Game
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