



## Secondary School League Match Rules

### Playing space:

- Games will be played on a full-size court (18m x 9m)
- Net height
  - Senior Boys 2.43m
  - Senior Girls 2.24m
  - Senior Mixed 2.36m
  - Junior Mixed 2.24m
  - Junior Boys 2.24m
  - Junior Girls 2.10m
- The Aerials on the net limit the width of the net - a ball touching the aerial or the net outside the aerial is out. A ball passing over top or outside the aerial is also out.

### Playing the ball:

#### Service:

- The Server must be behind the service line at point of contact.
- To serve: - the ball must be released into the air and hit with ONE hand.
- The ball is allowed to hit the net but must go over the net inside the aerials into the opponent's court without assistance from any outside objects (roof etc) or other players / spectators.
- A player will continue to serve after each winning rally

#### Players

- Teams must have six players on the court at all times. (3 front and 3 back).

- Teams are allowed to use a “rolling substitution” into the service position every time they sideout (win the service back from the opponent).
- Teams may alternatively sub players 1:1. In this case once a player has entered they cannot return to court in substitution for a different player.

#### Scoring:

- Games will be played compulsory 3 sets
- Time limit will apply – 45 minutes.
- A point will be scored for every rally played. The team who wins the rally wins a point and the next serve.
- First 2 Sets will be to 25. First team to reach 25 points with a winning margin of 2 points to win the set. If a Team reaches 25 but does not have a margin of 2 then the set continues until a winning margin of 2 points is reached OR a Team reach's 27 points.
- The third Set is to 15 ( Must win by 2 points, NO cap) The third set will only count if one team has reached 10 points before the buzzer, otherwise the game will be declared a draw. In the event one or both teams have reached 10 points in the 3rd set, the winner will be the team who is ahead when the Siren sounds.
- If both points are equal a final point may be played to determine the winner.

#### Handling of the Ball:

- A player may “play” the ball with any part of the body provided the ball is not caught and thrown or held in any way.
- Only three contacts per side are allowed.
- A block does not count as part of a team's three contacts.
- A spike must be a clean contact, without catching the ball and throwing it.
- Any shot played with two hands below the waist or over the head, must not be caught and thrown.
- A player may not play the ball in two consecutive touches. The exception is only after a block, a player then may have a second consecutive touch.
- It is a fault if any player touches the net while they are attempting to play the ball.
- It is also a fault if a player steps completely over the centre-line underneath the net. The centre-line is limited by the aerals on the net, i.e. outside the aerals the centre-line does not “exist”.
- Volleyball has a lot of “judgment calls” which are at the referees discretion. Please be mindful this is a youth sport and our referees are there to provide the best possible experience for your participants.

Outside court rules:

- **Sport shoes MUST BE WORN** at all times. NO school shoes, socks, barefeet or crocs are allowed to be worn on the court at any point. Warm up, playing or cooling down. This is an arena rule to protect the flooring and child safety.
- **NO** balls are to be played on the side of the court during game play.
- Schools **MUST BRING** their own balls for students to warm up with.

**Please be mindful this is a youth sport and our referees are there to provide the best possible experience for your participants**

**If you have questions, please seek clarity first with your referee.**

**If you need further assistance, please speak with Jessica Mitechell or Andy Curits or one of the Volleyball Manawatu or Palmerston North Volleyball League Staff at the desk.**