

THIS WEEK IN VOLLEYBALL

Pre-Season Issue | July 24, 2020



RULE MODIFICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS & COVID-19

As indicated in recent communication from our Executive Director, the OHSAA plans to move forward with the fall sport seasons to begin on August 1. At this time, the hope is that the volleyball season will be able to begin on the set date of August 21. Our office will remain in communication with schools should there be any changes.

With the support and assistance from the NFHS and the OHSVCA, OHSAA implemented rule modifications and recommendations in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and returning to play this fall. Before reviewing the modifications and recommendations, please note that a **rule modification** is a modification to a NFHS playing rule and is a requirement to adhere to and follow. A **recommendation** is a consideration to the sport and allows for optional guidelines. Recommendations are not required but are permitted. Here is the link for the Volleyball Modifications and Recommendations for the 2020 season: <https://bit.ly/CovidVBRecs>

There are many hypothetical scenarios and we understand you may have several “what if” questions. This pandemic is ever-changing and so may be our guidance. Please know our office is constantly thinking of every possibility and scenario that may come. We appreciate your patience during this time and there will be more to come as things change. If you have suggestions beyond what is provided at the link above and that you feel strongly about, please share those with your OHSVCA District Representative or an OHSVCA Board Member. You may find your District rep [here](#).

[Click here](#) to visit the *OHSAA Covid-19 Correspondence* webpage for an archive of all past communications and the return to play specifications. We have also posted the Wilson ball cleaning recommendations on the Volleyball webpage or by clicking [here](#).

FAQS:

Q: Do I have to enforce the recommendations from the Volleyball Modification and Recommendation document at my school?

A: *Only the rule modifications are required to be enforced. Recommendations are merely recommendations.*

Q: What if I have a suggestion to a rule modification that is not listed?

A: *The listed rule modifications were provided by the NFHS and discussed at length by the NFHS Volleyball Rules Committee. Ohio will be following the rule modifications provided by the governing body of the sport regarding the playing rules. If you feel strongly about a rule modification suggestion, please share that with the OHSVCA and they will communicate with our office.*

Q: What are the guidelines for volleyball practice at my school?

A: *These guidelines will need to be established and communicated by your school administrators and local health department. At the minimum, schools must be following the Responsible RestartOhio guidelines (found [here](#)), but are able to enforce stricter policies at your school.*

Q: Our school has established a stricter policy (example: players must wear masks at all times) than what the Governor and/or OHSAA have required. Do we need to follow it?

A: *Yes, if your school and/or local health department has established a stricter policy, you shall follow those guidelines.*

TRYOUTS

I have received a few questions about if tryouts are able to occur prior to August 1. The quick answer is NO! **Tryouts may not begin prior to August 1, as in years past.** We understand schools may be practicing at this time, but tryouts are not able to occur until August 1. If you have your tryouts scheduled prior to August 1, you must re-schedule them immediately. Conducting tryouts prior to August 1 would be in violation of General Sport Regulation 7.

2020 VOLLEYBALL STATE RULES MEETING (ONLINE)

Per General Sport Regulation 2, all head volleyball coaches are required to complete the State Rules Meeting. The Volleyball Online Rules Meeting will go live on **Wednesday, July 29 at 9:00am**—please see the Rules Meeting deadlines below. You MUST have a myOHSAA profile to view the Rules Meeting. Please check with your Athletic Director that your myOHSAA email address matches the email address they have listed in your school’s Staff Management page on myOHSAA. You must be listed as the volleyball coach with the correct email address to receive credit. Once the Rules Meeting is live on July 29 at 9:00am, you may follow these steps:

1. Login to your myOHSAA account (<http://officials.myohsaa.org/Logon>)
2. Click on the “Rules Meetings” icon
3. Click on “Find a State Rules Meeting”
4. Search for your sport specific State Rules Meeting using the ‘Sports’ and ‘Meeting Type’ drop-down menus
5. Click on ‘View Meeting’ once the State Rules Meeting has gone live

The Volleyball Rules Meeting will be available from July 29 to **August 20 at 11:59pm without penalty**. Beginning on August 21, there will be a \$50 late fee to view the Rules Meeting. **The final deadline of the Volleyball Rules Meeting is October 5 at 11:59pm.** Beginning at 12:00am on October 6, the Volleyball Rules Meeting is no longer available and the penalty shall apply. Since the Volleyball Rules Meeting is online, the meeting is available for viewing 24/7 from July 29 at 9:00am until October 5 at 11:59pm. *We encourage you to complete the meeting prior to August 20 to avoid paying the \$50 late fee.*

The penalty for not viewing the Volleyball Rules Meeting by October 5 at 11:59pm is **REMOVAL FROM THE POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT.**

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