

THIS WEEK IN VOLLEYBALL

FEBRUARY ISSUE | FEBRUARY 24, 2023



While I realize it is a bit lengthy, please review the February Issue of *This Week in Volleyball* for some changes that were approved by the Board of Directors that affect the sport of volleyball. Please reach out to me, Emily Mason, with any questions!

2023 FALL SPORT SEASON START DATE – JULY 31

On February 16, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to allow all fall sports to have coaching, tryouts and instruction begin on **July 31** instead of August 1 in 2023. Coaches may begin providing coaching and instruction, as well as hold tryouts, on that Monday (July 31) instead of having to wait until Tuesday of that week. For now, this change will only apply to the 2023 fall sport season.

NOTE: This does not mean that the date of the first match will change. The first match will remain the same and may not take place until Friday, August 18.

Tryouts for the school volleyball team may not take place until July 31, 2023 or after!

CHANGES TO GENERAL SPORT REGULATION 7.5 | *SUMMER COACHING DAYS*

The following change to *General Sport Regulation 7.5* goes into effect immediately, as approved by the Board of Directors on February 16, 2023.

The Board of Directors voted to approve a change to *General Sport Regulation 7.5.1 – Team Sports (10-Day Rule)*, to go into effect immediately. Previously, *GSR 7.5.1* stated members of a school team's coaching staff in team sports may coach any number of students from their teams in excess of the team limit set forth in *GSR 7.3* (3 for the sport of volleyball) outside of the school season, for a maximum of 10 days from June 1 through July 31 and participation may not be mandatory. The Board of Directors approved to change this to **a maximum of 13 days from May 15 through July 31**. There was increase to the number of days (from 10 coaching days to **13** coaching days) a coaching staff may work more than 3 athletes at one time and also an extension of the time period at the beginning (from June 1 to **May 15** through July 31). Previous stipulations within the Regulation will not change.

The language of *General Sport Regulation 7.5.1* would now read:

Members of a school team's coaching staff in the team sports of volleyball (etc.) may coach any number of students from their teams in excess of the team limit set forth in *General Sport Regulation 7.3* (3 for the sport of volleyball), for a maximum of **13** days from **May 15** through July 31, and participation cannot be mandatory.

A few reminders of *General Sport Regulation 7.5*:

- The 13-day maximum applies to the entire coaching staff and not towards each individual coach (for example, each coach of a team is not entitled to 13 different days of coaching).
- The 13-day maximum does not translate to hours—for example, 13 coaching days does not mean you have 312 total hours of coaching.
- *General Sport Regulation 7.5* is different than a school coaching providing individual skill instruction, which is outlined in *General Sport Regulation 7.8*. Again, *GSR 7.5* would address providing team instruction and not individual skill instruction.
- Student athlete participation shall not be mandatory when coaching outside of the school season and from May 15 – July 30.

Q & A'S:

Q: What if I want to hold tryouts for my school volleyball team on July 28?

A: This would not be permitted, as tryouts for the school team may not take place until July 31, 2023, when coaching and instruction may begin.

Q: What if I am only working with 2 of my athletes—do I need to count that as one of my 13 days?

A: No. You only need to count working with your athletes as 1 of your 13 days if you are working with 4 or more of your athletes at one time during this time frame.

Q: What if I want to schedule our head volleyball coach to work with 6 volleyball players for 13 days and schedule our assistant volleyball coach to work with 6 players for an additional 13 days (for a total of 26 days)?

A: This would not be permitted, as the 13-day maximum applies to the entire coaching staff and not the coach individually.

INDIVIDUAL SET LIMITATION INCREASE PROPOSAL APPROVED

The proposal submitted on behalf of the Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association to increase the number of sets permitted for each individual to participate in per day against a common opponent, from five (5) sets to **six (6) sets**, was approved by the Board of Directors. This change will be reflected in the 2023-24 OHSAA Handbook, but **Volleyball Regulation 1.6** will now read:

Individual limitations for volleyball players who play in any non-varsity competition on the same day and against the same opponent consist of a maximum of six (6) sets per day per common opponent.

The intent of this increase will allow schools to (hopefully!) field more teams at sub-varsity and varsity levels and allow more opportunities for volleyball athletes to play. Please thank your OHSVCA representatives for working with our office to submit this proposal!

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