

17. VOLLEYBALL — GIRLS

A. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1) Interscholastic Participation

Grades 9-12

1. All high school matches shall be played utilizing NFHS Volleyball rules. The libero rule shall be used for high school volleyball only.
2. All varsity dual matches shall be played in a best three of five format. Each set shall go to 25 points with no cap (must win by two points), and the deciding set shall go to 15 points with no cap.
3. Varsity regular season matches contested in any format other than a dual, head to head format, i.e., tri-matches, quadrangular matches or other multi-match tournaments, may be played in a best three of five format if agreed upon in advance of the competition in the game contract(s). If there has been no advance contracting to play these matches in a best three of five format, then the matches shall be played in a best two of three format.
4. All non-varsity matches, including junior varsity, reserve, freshmen, etc., shall be played in a best two of three format. Each set shall go to 25 points with no cap (must win by two points), and the deciding set shall go to 25 points with no cap.
5. Match limitations for each high school team and individual player are 22 matches on no more than 22 playing dates.
6. Individual limitations for players who play in any non-varsity competition on the same day and against the same opponent consist of a maximum of five (5) sets per day per common opponent.
7. Any part of a set is considered a full set.
8. In any tournament or regular season competition, teams and/or individuals shall be permitted to play a maximum of three matches per day.
9. All regular season matches count in the 22 match limitations including non-varsity tournaments.
10. The penalty for exceeding the participation limitation during a match is forfeiture of that set the match in which the ineligible player is participating. When discovered, the ineligible player is removed from the set, and the match may continue to completion; however, the result of the contest shall be a forfeiture by the offending team.
11. A team/individual that exceeds the regular season participation limitation (maximum number of contests permitted) or participates in regular season contest(s) prior to the designated start date for contests shall be removed from the OHSAA tournament.

Grades 7 & 8

1. All 7 & 8th grade matches shall be played in a best two of three format. Each set shall go to 25 points with no cap (must win by two points), and the deciding set shall go to 25 points with no cap.
 2. 7 & 8th grade volleyball matches shall not use the libero rule.
 3. A student may participate in no more than three sets per opponent. Any part of a set is considered a full set. When playing more than one opponent, this rule applies for each opponent.
 4. In any tournament or regular season competition, teams and/or individuals shall be permitted to play a maximum of three matches per day.
 5. The penalty for exceeding the participation limitation during a match is forfeiture of that set the match in which the ineligible player is participating. When discovered, the ineligible player is removed from the set, and the match may continue to completion; however, the result of the contest shall be a forfeiture by the offending team.
 6. The net height for grades 7 & 8 shall be the same as the net height for grades 9-12 at 7'4 1/8", per NFHS Rule.
 7. Match limitations for each 7 & 8 grade team and player are 20 matches on no more than 20 playing dates.
 8. Postseason Tournament—These regulations permit one postseason tournament not to exceed four matches. Postseason means after the 20 regular season matches have concluded. A player may play in just one postseason tournament. For example, if a student plays in the 7th grade postseason tournament, she is ineligible to play in the 8th grade postseason tournament.
- 1.2) All matches played shall be counted except a match played against the school's faculty and OHSAA tournament matches. The faculty match must be played between August 20, 2021, and November 13, 2021.

- 1.3) When a volleyball match is interrupted for any reason, the match shall be resumed from the point of interruption.
- 1.4) Any scheduled regular season volleyball set or match which is not started due to unforeseen circumstances such as failure of team to arrive, strikes, school closings, is considered a “No Contest.” Sets or matches not played are not included in won-lost statistics.
- 1.5) **PREVIEW** — A preview may be scheduled and played only during the period of time beginning August 2 and ending with the date of the first regular season match of the teams involved. A Preview must conform to all requirements defined in General Sports Regulation 23 - Preview. All NFHS Volleyball Rules must be followed and a school team or player may participate in only one preview per season.
Previews are limited in length to two sets of 21 points each, played according to National Federation Volleyball Rules.

2) Non-Interscholastic Participation

- 2.1) A member of an interscholastic volleyball squad (any student who has played in a scrimmage, preview or regular season/tournament game as a substitute or starter) sponsored by the Board of Education shall not participate in a non-interscholastic program (tryouts, practice or contest) as an individual or a member of a team in the sport of volleyball during the school’s season (Sports Regulation 7.2).
- 2.2) A member of an interscholastic volleyball squad (any student who has played in a scrimmage, preview or regular season/tournament game as a substitute or starter) sponsored by the Board of Education may participate in non-interscholastic volleyball prior to and after the school season under the following conditions:
 - 2.21) The number of interscholastic volleyball players from the same school on a non-interscholastic squad is limited to three on the roster of that non-interscholastic squad. A roster is defined as all the members of the entire squad on that non-interscholastic squad.
Note: Graduating seniors who are participating on a non-interscholastic volleyball squad after their final interscholastic contest of the season in the sport of volleyball are exempt from this limitation.
 - 2.22) There is no limit on the number of volleyball squad members from the same school participating on the same squad during the period June 1-July 31.
 - 2.23) A player may continue to play with a non-interscholastic squad in a national qualifying tournament in excess of the three-player limitation after July 31 until the squad is eliminated but no later than Labor Day.
 - 2.24) Non-interscholastic participation includes tryouts, training, practice and competition.
- 2.3) An intramural team is a non-interscholastic team, and all rules for non-interscholastic teams apply.
- 2.4) **All-Star Contests** — Interscholastic volleyball coaches may coach players from his or her school in special “All-Star” contests. Coaches are permitted to coach in “All-Star” contests during the No Contact Period if they meet all the following provisions:
 - a.) All participants shall be graduating seniors or students completing their athletic eligibility at the end of the semester.
 - b.) Participants shall not participate until after they have participated in their final contest for their school.
Note on “All-Star” Games: “All-Star” games are non-interscholastic events by rule. Student-athletes in team sports who wish to participate in one of these “all-star” competitions outside the school season may do so without jeopardy to eligibility provided the students maintain compliance with General Sports Regulation 7.3.
Penalty: For a senior, violation of this regulation may result in the loss of athletic eligibility for the balance of the school year. For all other students, the penalty may result in loss of eligibility for the ensuing season in the sport in which the student participated in the All-Star contest.
- 2.5) **Individual Non-Interscholastic Competition Dates:**
A volleyball athlete who has not participated for a school team in volleyball that season must cease non-interscholastic volleyball competition by September 6, 2021 in volleyball in order to be eligible for OHSAA Tournament competition provided applicable Bylaws and Regulations have been followed.
Date: September 6, 2021.

3) Instructional Programs

See *Regulations for Instructional Programs* under Section 8 of the General Sports Regulations at OHSAA.org.

4) No Contact Period — Coaches

See *Regulations for No Contact Period — Coaches* under Section 11 of the General Sports Regulations which are posted on the volleyball page at OHSAA.org.

Penalties —

- 4.1) The maximum penalty for violation of Sports Regulation 7.2 (participation with a non-interscholastic volleyball squad while a member of the school's interscholastic volleyball squad) or any OHSAA regulations for any member of the school squad, EXCEPT a senior, is ineligibility for the remainder of the interscholastic volleyball season or the ensuing volleyball season. For a senior, the maximum penalty shall be ineligibility for the remainder of the school year.
- 4.2) The penalty for a coach for violation of Sports Regulation 7.5 (Coaching Staff-Team Sports) may include suspension, probation, public censure, fine not to exceed \$1,000 per occurrence or such penalty as the Executive Director may deem appropriate.

5) Transfer Bylaw

While all questions regarding the transfer bylaw should be addressed to the appropriate school administrator, information regarding the transfer bylaw can be found on the OHSAA website at this link, <http://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/Transfer>. Note that students who transfer and do not meet an exception to the transfer bylaw, and who participated in high school volleyball within 12 months of the transfer date, are ineligible for all regular season contests, scrimmages, and the OHSAA postseason tournament beginning with varsity regular season contest #12.

6) Other Bylaws and Regulations

For information on Ejection for Unsporting Conduct See *Ejection Policies for Coaches and Players* under Section 13 and 14 of the General Sports Regulations at [OHSAA.org](http://www.ohsaa.org). For information on Out of State Travel regulations see Bylaw 9-2 at [OHSAA.org](http://www.ohsaa.org).

B. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — GRADES 9-12

- 1) **Coaching, tryouts and instruction may begin — August 1, 2021.**
- 2) **First match — August 20, 2021.**
- 3) **Deadline date for OHSAA Tournaments — October 4, 2021.**
- 4) **Tournament draw/seeding date — October 10, 2021, 2:00 p.m.**
- 5) **Coaching and Season end — November 13, 2021.**
- 6) **Scrimmages or Previews — Maximum of five scrimmages plus one preview.**
- 7) **Regular season matches — Maximum of 22 matches on no more than 22 playing dates. Each match played opposing another school shall be counted as one match in the 22 permitted, whether played in triangular, quadrangular or invitational tournament.**
- 8) **Rules — National Federation Volleyball.**
- 9) **Uniform Rules — National Federation Volleyball.**
- 10) **Officials:**
 - 10.1) Varsity — One Class 1 official who shall be the First Referee is required. The Second Referee shall be either Class 1 or Class 2 volleyball official.
EXCEPTION: If an emergency arises which prevents the contracted Class 1 official from being present, a Class 2 official may be used as the First Referee provided the schools mutually agree. In the event that only one OHSAA registered official arrives to officiate the match, the match may be played provided the participating coaches agree.
 - 10.2) Reserve/Junior Varsity — Two OHSAA Class 1 or 2 volleyball officials required.
 - 10.3) Freshmen — A minimum of one OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 volleyball official required. Regardless of the number, all officials shall be OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 or officials in training.
 - 10.4) Line Judges — For varsity and reserve/junior varsity volleyball competition, all line judges shall be either well-trained adults or students not listed on the volleyball roster for the high school.

C. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — GRADES 7 & 8

- 1) **Coaching, tryouts and instruction may begin — August 1, 2021.**
- 2) **First match — August 20, 2021.**
- 3) **Coaching and Season end — November 13, 2021.**
- 4) **Scrimmages or Previews — Maximum of two scrimmages or one scrimmage and one preview.**

- 5) **Regular season matches — Maximum 20 matches on 20 playing dates plus one postseason tournament not to exceed four matches. The 7th grade tournament is considered one tournament as is the 8th grade tournament. See 1.1 #7 for more information.**
- 6) **Rules — National Federation Volleyball.**
- 7) **Uniform Rules — National Federation Volleyball.**
- 8) **Officials — A minimum of one OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 volleyball official required. Regardless of the number, all officials shall be OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 or officials in training.**

Volleyball	2021	2022	2023
Coaching and Tryouts Begin	8/1	8/1	8/1
Earliest Preview Date	8/3	8/2	8/2
Regular Season Contests Begin	8/20	8/19	8/18
Sectional	10/18-10/23#	10/17-10/22#	10/16-10/21#
District	10/25-10/30	10/24-10/29	10/23-10/28
Regional	11/1-11/6	10/31-11/5	10/30-11/4
State	11/11-11/13	11/10-11/12	11/9-11/11
Season Ends	11/13	11/12	11/11
Thanksgiving	11/25	11/24	11/23
Coach — No Contact Period	Starts with the first day after the last interscholastic contest and ends 28 days later.		

#Unless an earlier date is established by a District Athletic Board (no earlier than two days prior to the established date).

VOLLEYBALL — GIRLS STATE TOURNAMENT ROTATION			
2021-2025-2029	2022-2026-2030	2023-2027-2031	2024-2028-2032
I	IV	III	II
IV	III	II	I
III	II	I	IV
II	I	IV	III