

SSC Official Indoor Court Volleyball Rules– Coed 4's

OBJECTIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volleyball is a team sport played by two teams on a playing court divided by a net. The objective is for each team to send the ball over the net attempting to ground it on the opponent's court, and to prevent the ball from being grounded on its own court.
GAME LENGTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Games are 55 minutes in length with a 5 minute stop for halftime. Games start and end according to your online SSC schedule. If games start late, games must finish at the scheduled time (e.g. 6:15pm-6:55pm).
EQUIPMENT RENTAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams are required to bring 1 volleyball to every game. Volleyballs are available to rent through SSC. A \$75 refundable deposit is required, payable through online registration.
PLAYERS ON COURT, GENDER RATIO AND DEFAULTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams are comprised of 4 players on the court. Teams must play with a minimum of 1 male and 1 female on the court at all times. A team can play with a minimum of 3 players, as long as 1 of the players is male and 1 is female. Captains may agree to waive the rules regarding minimum players and gender ratio before the game starts. Teams that do not meet the minimum gender requirement may play with the 'Ghost Rule'. This rule must be agreed upon by both teams before the start of the game. See rule description below. A default for the match (all three sets) will occur if any team cannot field a squad 15 minutes after the official start time (unless otherwise agreed by both captains).
GAME SET-UP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volleyball nets will be set up by the SSC Game Coordinator or facility staff upon arrival to your game. To determine who serves first, teams can either choose to play a rally game (minimum 3 crosses over the net), coin toss or rock-paper-scissors. Teams are responsible for keeping score and time. When an SSC Game Coordinator is on-site and will offer to keep score for the game. If time runs out in the middle of a set, whichever team is winning at that moment is considered the winner. However, a team must win at least 5 points in a set in order for it to count as a win/loss. If neither teams gets at least 5 points, the set is deemed a tie.
GENERAL GAME RULES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matches are comprised of three sets which equals one match. A player may play the ball off any part of his/her body, including feet. A player may not make two consecutive hits of the ball, except where the player has contacted the ball on a block, then the player may hit the ball a second time. Players are to call balls 'in' or 'out' of bounds. If the ball touches any part of a court line, it is 'in'. The ball must completely pass the line to be 'out'. If there is a dispute, resume play by re-serving the ball with no point awarded. If a disagreement escalates, any disputes should be discussed amongst the two team captains only. A ball that hits the wall or ceiling is out of bounds. Teams may call a 1 minute time-out per match if needed, except during the final 10 minutes of play. If a match concludes early, the teams can continue to play, but the score of the fourth game will not be recorded.
SCORING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first team to score 25 points by a two-point margin (with a hard cap of 27 points) is awarded the set. All three sets count towards each teams' overall standings (e.g. – if a team wins the first two sets, the 3rd set still counts as it is not best out of three).
PLAYER ROTATION AND POSITIONING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players are free to position themselves anywhere within their court. There are no positional faults. No restrictions exist as to which players may participate in a block or spike.
VIOLATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players are to call their own fouls and violations. If an obvious foul is missed, a player on the opposing team may politely point this out, assuming their opponent either does not know the rule or missed their own foul. Generally, teams should not call fouls against their opponents. Obvious fouls include - carries, double hits (allowed on serves), touching the net, going under the net and contacting another player.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A player is allowed to touch the net as long as it does not interfere with the play. Examples to clarify net rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Legal (provided it does not interfere with the play): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In the act of playing the ball (hitting, blocking, bumping, setting, etc.), players may make contact with the mesh or bottom band. ▪ An offensive player that fakes a hit/spike may contact the top band. ▪ Players are allowed to touch the posts, ropes or any other object outside the antennae or court lines. ▪ If the ball is driven into the net causing the net to touch an opponent, no fault is committed. ○ Illegal (always results in interference with the play): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Touching the top band of the net in the act of playing the ball (hitting, blocking, setting, etc.). ▪ Pulling the net down to lower it for a teammate or themselves. ▪ Taking support from the net simultaneously while playing the ball. ▪ Purposely touching the net to change the direction of a ball. ▪ Creating an advantage over the opponent or making actions which hinder an opponent's legitimate attempt to play the ball. • A player is permitted to pass his/her hand above the plane of the net in the following scenarios: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ While blocking an attack. ○ If a player is spiking the ball, their hand can cross the net as long as contact is initiated on their own side. ○ An infraction has occurred if a player interferes with their opponents attack (e.g. if a setter is trying to set their player, the opponent can't reach over the net and block that set). • Players are not permitted to penetrate fully into the opponent's space under the net. Player's feet must remain in contact with the centre line and any part of the body above the feet. Players need to be as cautious as possible when crossing under the plane of the net, so as to avoid injury to themselves or their opponents.
SERVING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A server may serve the ball from anywhere behind the baseline. • Only one toss or release of the ball is allowed per serve. • Players can open-hand volley a serve. • A player may NOT block or spike a serve. • Net serves are allowed. Meaning, if a serve hits the net but the motion of the ball carries it over, it is a live ball. • A double hit off of the serve is allowed (e.g. the serve hits the defender's arms and then chest). • Servers must rotate after five consecutive points. The same team continues to serve as long as his/her team successfully wins the point. • Recreational skill division – jump serves are not allowed (jump serves are allowed in intermediate, advanced and competitive leagues).
PLAYOFFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During playoffs the first team to score 25 points by a two-point margin wins (with a hard cap of 27 points). • Team playoff position: Ties in the standings will be broken first by head-to-head play. If there are more than 2 teams that are tied, all the teams must have played each other in order for the results to go to head-to-head. Otherwise, least points against, then +/-, then most points for will determine the placement in that order. • The SSC office will update the playoff schedule once all scores have been submitted and after the last regular season game. Please do not assume the time/location of your playoff game until team names have been posted into the schedule.
GHOST RULE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a team does not meet the minimum gender requirements on the court, teams can decide to play with a 'ghost' in replacement of the missing player. As a penalty, the opposing team receives a 5 point advantage at the start of each set. The team which uses the ghost rule can have a maximum of 3 players on the court. Example – If a team has 3 males and 0 females the ghost player is the female player, therefore the team may only have 3 males on the court (the 4th male would substitute into play). • The ghost rule encourages game play, fairness and discourages default situations. It is also designed to be used if a player is unable to continue play due to injury during a game. This allows the game to continue without a default as a result of an injury.

Remember... Always have fun!