



Rules & Schedule

MUD VOLLEYBALL RULES OF PLAY!

OVERALL: Play will follow USAV guidelines with special modifications for the mud. Teams will be announced as team number and letter designator.

GAMES

1. **Team Composition:** A team consists of a maximum of eight players and a minimum of six players. A minimum of two female players must be on the court at all times during the match. A team may play with as many as 7 females on the court at once.
2. **Forfeits:** Teams that are more than five minutes late for the start of the match will forfeit. Prior to the five minute forfeit time; the opposing team will be awarded one point per 30 seconds the team is late. Forfeits count as a victory for the team that was present and a loss for the team that failed to show.
3. **First Service:** The referee will determine who shall serve first.
4. **Team Sides:** The team listed on the left side of the score sheet will play on the left court. Teams do not switch sides.
5. **Scoring:** RALLY SCORING! The first team to score 21 points or more with a 2-point advantage is the winner of the game. If the games go beyond 21 points, the team first scoring 23 points wins.
During the Tournament Play, the first team to score 21 points with a 2-point advantage is the winner of the game, there will be no "cap."
6. **Round Robin Play Time Limit:** There is no time limit although games are estimated to last approximately 15 minutes. Morning Round Robin Play must be completed by either 2:15 or 3:00 PM. Teams and referees must keep the games on their courts moving quickly in order to complete morning play.
7. **Tournament Play Time Limit:** There is no time limit. All games are played to their conclusion.
8. **Rotation:** The rotation must be in a clockwise direction. All rotations must eventually bring each player to the front and back rows in a predictable fashion.
9. **Front Row:** A limit of three designated front row players is in effect at all times.
10. **Time Outs:** There are NO timeouts permitted, except for injury.
11. **Injury Time-Outs:** If play is temporarily suspended due to an injury, the injured player must leave the court for at least one serve. A team may drop below the minimum player requirements for the current game in case of an injury.
12. **Serving:** Teams rotate when receiving the serve.



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Team Play

1. **Serves:** The server is the back right player. The server must be positioned within 3' of the back line (either in front or behind). This means the server may be on the court. Loading the ball with mud is not permitted. If a served ball hits the net and goes over, it is a legal serve.
2. **Serve Reception:** All serves must be taken with a legal hit. A serve may not be spiked or blocked by the opposing team.
3. **Body Hits:** A ball may be played by any part of the body.
4. **Number of Hits:** Each team may touch the ball up to three (3) times while the ball is on their side of the net. Blocks do not count as hits. The ball may be hit by any combination of men and/or women. Unlike standards of co-rec, it does not have to be touched by a woman.
5. **Spikes:** Spiking is performed with one hand. Two handed "spikes" are a violation. Only front row players may spike in front of the 10' line. Again, men or women may spike.
6. **Blocks:** Blocking is normally performed with two hands. Blockers may penetrate the plane of the net and may execute a "power" block. However, directed blocks are not permitted (catch and throw the ball down). Only the three front row players may block.
7. **Net Violations:** It is a violation to be in the net while actively playing the ball. Incidental touches that do not affect the play may be overlooked. **Simply touching the net IS NOT a violation.**
8. **Ball Handling:** It is a violation to catch, lift, hold or throw the volleyball.
9. **Substitutions:** Substitutions can be made at any time, but not to the point that they slow down the game. The minimum female requirement must be kept at all times. Each team may select one of the following substitution patterns for each game:
 - **Standard Volleyball:** Same players can replace one another but cannot also replace other players.
 - **Mud Variation:** Players can sub in a predictable position, usually either the serving position or at the front left position or both. Players may only enter when their team receives the ball to serve.



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Equipment

1. **Court Dimensions:** The court is 30'x60' (official volleyball size) and consists of genuine Dayton, Ohio MUD! Only a general midline is in effect. For safety sake, players should not invade adjacent or opposing courts. The referees will estimate the 10' line.
2. **Shoes:** All participants must wear shoes at all times. It is advisable to use duct tape to secure your shoes.
3. **Nets:** Nets are installed per regulation guidelines. Due to the MUD surfaces, expect some net sag. Referees may request that the nets be tightened. The nets will be as close to co-rec height (7' 4 1/4") as resources allow.

REFEREES

1. **Round Robin Play Referees:** Subject to referee availability, games will have referees assigned to them. Nets without assigned referees may be self-refereed.
2. **Tournament Play Referees:** All games will have at least one experienced referee assigned to them.
3. **Refereeing:** The rules are subject to the referee's interpretation. All referee decisions are final. Protests may be directed to the Head Referee and his committee.
4. **Referee Abuse:** Any player or fan abusing or arguing with a referee will be asked to leave the immediate area. Failure to leave the area will cause his/her team to forfeit that game. A player ejected from a game will not be permitted to participate in any future games during the Tournament.

SPORTSMANSHIP

1. Honor and fair play are the guidelines for the day.
2. Referees may award a side-out or penalty points for poor sportsmanship at his/her discretion.
3. Intentionally splashing or throwing mud or water is not permitted and can result in penalty points, forfeits or dismissal.