

IM Volleyball Rules

Players and Substitutes:

1. Each team will consist of a maximum of 6 players on the court. The minimum number of players to play in a match is 4. Up to 10 players can be on a roster for each match.
2. In the Coed league only, males (if playing) must be adjacent to 2 females in the rotation. And there cannot be more male players than female players on the court at any time.
3. When the ball is served, players must remain in their rotational order. Side-to-side and front-to-back relationships of players must be maintained until the serve is contacted. For example, the left back position must stay left of the center-back and behind the left-front player until the serve is contacted. Once the serve is contacted, players may move anywhere on their side of the court.
4. A substitute may enter when the ball is dead, and there has to be some system in place for each team to prevent substitutions from providing a clear advantage. For example, a substitute may enter for one player each time they get to the front row but can then only enter for that same person. The substitute cannot continuously play front row and keep subbing for different people. Or, substitutes may be set to enter into a set position each rotation then play around until they get back to that position and are replaced.

Service and Rotation of Positions:

1. Choice of playing area or service at the start of a match is determined by rock, paper, scissors. At the end of each game, the team's alternate who serves first. When teams are tied in the number of games won, the first serve in the deciding game is determined by rock, paper, scissors.
2. Each member of a team, on receiving the ball for service, rotate clockwise one position and remains in the new position until side-out has been called on an opponent's serve.
3. When a game is completed, teams change courts and alterations in the rotation of players can be made. During the deciding game of a match, the teams change courts once one team reaches 8 points.
4. The server must stand entirely out of the court in the service area until the ball is struck. A serve is in play once it crosses the net. If the ball hits the net and goes over to the opponent's side, the ball is in play.

Returning the Ball:

1. A return may be hit in any direction.
2. A player may use any part of the body to hit the ball. The ball may not be held, carried, or hit with an open palm in an underhand manner.
3. A return that passes over the part of the net posts and between the antennas is in play regardless of whether it touches the top part of the net or not. The ball cannot touch the antennas.

4. A return may be recovered from the net, provided the player avoids contact with the net and does not hit the ball twice in a row.

5. After once contacting the ball, a player may not touch it again until it has been touched by some other player (Note: After the ball has been blocked at the net, any of the blockers may make the next contact).

Back-Row Play:

1. Backline players may not participate in the act of blocking.

2. Backline players may not spike from the attack area, but may behind the attack line (10 foot line).

3. A backline player may not hit a ball into the opponent's court from above the height of the net while outside the court and within the limits of the attack area.

Infractions:

If any player commits any of the infractions listed, 1 point and service is awarded to the opposing side:

1. Serving the ball illegally or serving out of turn.

2. Failing to make a legal return of the ball.

3. Touching the ball twice in succession, unless following a block or a ricochet off of an opponent's hit.

4. Contacting the net (This is negated if two players from opposite teams contact the net at the same time).

5. Touching the ball when it has already been played three times without passing over the net.

6. A player's foot completely touching the floor of the opposite side of the center line.

7. Reaching under the net and intentionally or unintentionally interfering with the opponents' play of the ball.

8. Changing player positions before the serve has been made. Until the serve is made, players on each team must be in their relative court positions.

9. Violating substitutions or time-out regulations.

10. Unnecessarily delaying the game.

Time-outs:

1. Time-outs are limited to twice per game for each team. Play must be resumed in 45 seconds.

2. The time between court changes is 2 minutes with the exception of the deciding set.

Scoring:

1. Failure of the receiving team to return the ball legally over the net into the opponent's court will score 1 point for the team serving.
2. A game is won when any team acquires a 2-point lead with 25 or more points.
3. The match is won by the team that wins 2 games first.
4. The deciding game, game 3, will be played to 15 win-by-two.

Player Eligibility:

1. A player must be on the team's roster prior to participation in any match.
2. Players who have earned a letter for Varsity Volleyball will be permitted to play in IM Volleyball if not in season but there is a limit of one varsity player per IM Roster.
3. A player may not play for more than one team in any league.
4. In order to be eligible for the playoffs a player must have: a. been on the roster during the regular season. b. Played in at least one match for the team. c. Not been ejected from more than one match.
5. If a player is ejected from a match, they may be suspended from the next match or suspended from the league. This will be determined by the League Commissioner and based on the individual's actions.

Policies & Procedures

1. All participants and spectators are governed by the Cornell Policies & Procedures.
2. Teams are responsible for their sidelines and spectators.
3. Negative consequences for the team may result as a direct reaction to spectators' behaviors or actions.
4. Only captains may address the official.
5. Personal Conduct Penalties will be enforced for any unruly players. One warning per team then unruly players will be removed from the competition.
6. NO alcoholic beverages permitted.
7. Protests based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an official will not be considered. Protests involving player eligibility will be considered.