

IM VOLLEYBALL RULES

I. Eligibility

- Volleyball etiquette requires that a player call his or her own violation (i.e. touching the net, stepping over the center line, etc). There are no officials for IM volleyball.
- The net is eight feet high and the volleyball court is sixty feet by thirty feet.
- Serving order and position on the floor may be in any combination the team sees fit to its own makeup and personality.

II. Boundaries

- The ball is out of bounds when it touches any surface, object, or ground outside the court. **A BALL TOUCHING THE BOUNDARY LINE IS GOOD!**
- The ball must pass over or between the side boundary lines as it crosses the net.
- A player may run outside the court to play the ball, but cannot cross over an imaginary line extending from the center line.
- The centerline, under the net, may be stepped on and over, as long as some part of the player's foot is still touching the line.

III. The Service and Rotation

- The serve will be decided by the toss of a coin and the team that did not serve the first game will serve the second game.
- The team receiving the ball for service must immediately rotate one position clockwise.
- Both feet of the server must remain behind the end line of the court until after the ball is struck and the server must serve within the ten foot serving area behind the end line.
- If the served ball touches the net, a teammate, or an object before touching an opponent or the opponent's court OR if the ball passes under the net or beyond the boundaries, a side-out is called.
- If a player serves out of turn, side-out shall be called and any points made on his/her service before the error was corrected will not count. His/her team must regain its proper position before the opponent's serve.
- Teams shall change courts at the end of each game and at the start of the new games the players may be arranged in any positions desired.

IV. Hitting, Blocking, and Spiking the Ball

- The ball must be clearly batted or hit. **NO CARRYING, HOLDING, OR THROWING THE BALL IS ALLOWED.**
- A player may only use the parts of the body from the waist up to hit the ball.

- A ball, other than a serve, touching the net within the sideline markers and going over into the opponent's court is still in play.
- Each team may play the ball up to three times before it is returned over the net, BUT no player may hit the ball twice in succession, except when blocking at the net.
- Simultaneous contacts of teammates shall be considered as one play only and either player may hit the ball next. When two opposing players hit the ball simultaneously at the net, this shall not be considered as one of the three hits allowed to the team on whose side of the court the ball falls.
- Blockers may reach over the net, but must let the attacker hit the ball first. Blockers may not reach over the net to block sets.
- When more than one player participates in blocking the same opposing player, it will constitute a multiple block and a simultaneous contact. Either of the blockers can play the ball next, regardless of whether or not he/she touched the ball in the act of blocking.
- A man may not switch with a woman from backcourt to frontcourt for blocking purposes.
- Any front-line player may spike the ball at the net. Back-line players may spike the ball providing that they take off with both feet behind the ten foot line.
- Spikers can follow through over the net, but must first contact the ball on their side of the net.
- In receiving a spike, a defensive player can make multiple contacts even if they are not simultaneous, providing they constitute one continuous play.
- Back row players may soft-block, but they cannot attack-block. If a back row player blocks the ball, the ball must remain on the blocker's side of the court.

V. Net and Miscellaneous Violations

- A player may not contact any part of the net, cable or support, except when the ball is dead. When a ball is driven into the net so that it causes the net or its supports to contact an opposing player, there is no foul.
- A player is allowed to reach over the net without contacting it, as long as the ball is not contacted before the other team makes a play on it.
- A player may not reach under the net and touch the ball or a player on the opposing team when the ball is in play on that side, or interfere with the play of the opposing team by entering their court, or distracting an opponent.
- A ball, other than a serve, may be recovered from the net, providing the player avoids contact with the net and does not catch the ball.
- A foul such as touching the net, gives a point or side-out to the opponents if it occurs while the ball is still in play.

VI. Time Outs

- Requests for a time out can be made **ONLY TWICE** during a game without penalty. A team may be penalized a point or side-out for each additional time-out.

VII. Scoring

- A match consists of the best out of three games. Please remember when you play the third game unnecessarily you are preventing two other teams from getting their fair allotment of time.

VIII. Protests

- To protest a game, the referee or gym/field supervisor must be notified at the time of the problem. The team then has 24 hours to file a written complaint with the Intramural Office. Protests cannot be made on judgment calls.

IX. Rescheduling

- All rescheduling must be done at least 48 hours prior to the game. There is a \$10 charge for rescheduling.

X. Supplemental Rules

- A player may go completely under the net as long as there is no interference.
- Dinks are permitted but open-hand dinks are not. The player's fingers must be together for a legal dink. Closed-fist dinks are also permitted.
- For blocking, penetration of the plane extended from the net is permitted. Of course, blocking sets is not permitted. The block is not counted as a hit.
- The players may serve from anywhere behind the back line.
- Players may cross the plane of the net extended to keep the ball in play.
- Games will be two out of three to eleven points. You must win by two points.
- Regular volleyball rules apply as well as these additions.

ALL OTHER USVBA RULES APPLY UNLESS MODIFIED BY SPECIFIC INTRAMURAL RULES.