**VOLLEYBALL BEACH**

**INFORMATION AND RULES**

Thank you for playing at Volleyball Beach! We hope you enjoy many hours of fun, exercise, entertainment and competition. The following rules apply to your play at Volleyball Beach.

***Fun/Age***

1. Our number one focus is to provide a fun and relaxed environment within the context of sport competition. If you are detracting from that in any way or violating any of our rules, we reserve the right to temporarily or permanently evict you.
2. All players and guests at Volleyball Beach enter our complex at their own risk. Adults are 100% responsible for minors and guests they bring to our facility.
3. You must be 18 to play in our Volleyball leagues. You must be 16 or older to be here after 10:30 p.m.
4. You must be 21 to drink alcohol at Volleyball Beach, and be able to provide ID showing that you are 21. We reserve the right to withhold alcohol from any patron in our sole discretion. You are not allowed to enter or leave our premises intoxicated or to bring in outside liquor or food. We reserve the right to impose a $100 charge if any clean-up is necessary as a result of your intoxicated condition.

***Leagues***

1. Our leagues generally have 3 levels: A (power), B (competitive or intermediate), and C (recreational). We distinguish among them as follows, generally. C league should consist of teams who do not regularly hit the ball 3 times before sending it over the net and teams that never spike the ball with downward authority. B league teams routinely hit the ball three times before sending it over the net but do not have more than one player who can spike with downward authority. A league teams generally have more than one person who can hit with downward authority. No player who spikes with downward authority should play in C league, and no elite power hitters (you know who you are!) should play in either B or C leagues.
2. Contrary to prior sessions, the first night of league play will count in the standings even if you end up playing a team that should be at a different skill level. We reserve the right to move your team to the level we deem the most compatible regardless of the league you registered for. If you believe your team has registered for or been slotted in the wrong division, please let us know as soon as possible so we can review the situation and if appropriate adjust the schedule for the rest of the session.
3. Our leagues are subject to weather and holidays. We reserve the right to cancel, suspend, or delay the start of matches in the event of inclement weather. We will try to keep the website (first) and voicemail greeting (second) current with weather updates. If we determine that leagues are playable, you are welcome not to play if you are not comfortable with the conditions. If we have to cancel league play as a result of weather, we will endeavor to reschedule the matches but it is not always possible.
4. All teams should arrive prior to league time and check in at the volleyball desk. We attempt to cover absent teams promptly. Any team arriving after the start of play risks forfeiting one or more games.
5. Games are self-refereed. All teams should call their own violations. Any dispute should result in the point being replayed. If disputes persist, please notify the volleyball coordinators and we will monitor the matches. This is rare. If we become aware of physical or verbal abuse, intimidation, or audible cursing, of any kind, refer to Rule No. 1.
6. Each match consists of 3 games to 21, rally scoring. If you lose the first 2 games, you still play the 3rd game.

***Game Rules – Coed 6’s***

1. Teams may have as many people on the roster as they desire, but only six are allowed on the court at one time and each team must have at least as many females as males on the court at all times. If a team reports to the volleyball desk scorekeepers that its opponent did not have enough females, we treat those games as a forfeit (even if the reporting team told the opponent it was okay that they did not have enough females). Often the volleyball desk workers can find additional fill-in players if someone on your team is missing.
2. All players must be in service order on the court when the ball is served. After the serve, players may move to any position, subject to Rule 17. Service order need not be alternating men and women though that is by far the most common.
3. Any serve that touches the net and goes over is playable unless it lands out of bounds.
4. The server must serve one underhanded serve after each series of 3 consecutive overhand serves.
5. Each team can hit the ball a maximum of 3 times before sending the ball over the net. A block at the net does not count as a hit.
6. A female must hit the ball before it goes over the net, except on serves and except a male can return a ball if no other player on a team hits it (note that a block does not count as a hit).
7. Any player who is in the back row when the ball is served cannot block at the net or spike the ball unless they are at least 10 feet from the net.
8. No throws, catches, lifts or carries are allowed, except slight lifts or carries are allowed in B and C leagues. A slight double hit by hands or fingers is allowed when defending a hardhit ball and counts as only one hit.
9. Any part of the body may contact the ball except no intentional kicking is allowed. Unintentional contact by any part of the body (including legs or feet) is acceptable but constitutes a hit.
10. Any touching of the net is a violation with one exception: if the force of the ball into the net pushes the net into a blocker with established arm position, the net touching is not a violation. There are no other exceptions, even when the touching does not affect the play.
11. Unintentional contact under the net is acceptable so long as there is no interference with the other team’s play.
12. Blocks of serves are prohibited, and no person in the front row can receive and return a serve with a hit above the shoulders unless the ball is completely below the top of the net when it is hit.
13. No player may reach over the net except with a full or partial block of a spike or except with a follow-through of a swing if the ball is on the player’s side or above the net when struck. Any ball above the net is fair game for both teams, even if most of the ball is on one side or the other. Reaching over the net to block a bump or a set is prohibited.
14. For leagues in the airdome, any ball that hits the lights or fabric continues to be playable as long as the ball is on your team’s side of the net. If not, it is the other team’s point.

***Game Rules – 4’s Leagues***

1. Our 4’s leagues consist of any combination men and women. Rules 11, 12, 14, 16, and 17 above do not apply.
2. 4’s teams must rotate the serve but otherwise may play in any position when the ball is served.
3. Any attack hit with the fingers using an open-handed tip or “dink” is prohibited
4. Any overhand pass, push or set over the net is prohibited in the 4’s leagues unless the player’s shoulders are parallel to the net and the ball travels perpendicular to the net.
5. We do not allow open hand receipt of serves in the A level of our 4’s leagues. It is acceptable in the B and C leagues so long as there is not an obvious double-hit or carry upon receipt of the serve.