

City of Benicia  
Parks and Community Services Department

**COED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

A. LEAGUE DIRECTION

1. The City will provide a gym attendant who will open the gym, set up the courts and supervise the matches. An official game ball will be provided for all league matches. All problems and concerns should be brought to the attention of the gym attendant.
2. One official under contract with the City of Benicia will officiate all league matches.
3. All league decisions made by the League Director will be final. The League Director has the right to change, delete or add any rules deemed necessary.

B. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. All players must be 18 years of age and out of high school.
2. No player may play on a team unless his/her name has been officially listed on that team's roster and has signed the team's liability form.
3. A player found to be ineligible or playing under an assumed name will be suspended from the league and all games in which he/she played may be declared forfeits.
4. A team manager who uses illegal players may be subject to the same penalties as the illegal player.
5. Players may be asked to show valid identification and/or proof of residency or employment at any time throughout the league. This proof must be provided upon demand by the League Director or designated league official.
6. A player is eligible to play on only one (1) coed team in the Benicia league on the same night.
7. A player found to be playing on more than one team in the same night will be considered ineligible and suspended for the season and all games in which he/she played may be declared forfeits.
8. **In order to be eligible for playoffs a player must have played in 2 matches.**

C. TEAM ROSTERS

1. Team rosters/waivers are due the first night of play, or before. Players may not step on the court until they are officially added to the roster and have signed the waiver.
2. Team rosters may not exceed a maximum of 12 players.
3. All changes and additions to the rosters must be made by the team's third league match. There is no "add fee", however, **non-resident players will be subject to a \$15 non-resident fee (not to exceed the \$90 maximum).**

4. Team rosters will be audited for non-resident players after the rosters are closed. Any unpaid non-resident players will be charged the \$15/player fee, which will be posted to the manager's account and must be paid before the next league.
5. Changes made to the team roster must be done in writing on an "add/drop" form. These forms are available in the Parks and Community Services Department office or on site at the gym. They can also be downloaded off the website.
6. After the third match, rosters are closed. However, to avoid forfeits, one-time subs will be permitted. This player must fill out a one-time sub form and is only permitted to play on the teams once. This player is not eligible for playoffs.

#### D. LEAGUE RULES

1. Teams will play a minimum of six matches per season, with each pool play match consisting of three games.
2. The first two games will be played to 25 points, the third game will be played to 15 points. The time limit for the total match is 55 minutes. In the event that time has expired, the team leading will be declared the winner of that game. (Exception: Championship match of division play-offs where there will be not a time limit to the games/match). If the game score is tied at the end of the 55 minutes, play will continue with the team scoring the first point declared winner of that game. If only two games are played during the 55 minute time limit, the third game will be played to 7 points. All games will be scored by "rally" point scoring (A point shall be scored by the opponent each time a team commits a fault).
3. Games will be won by only a one point difference during pool play. Each individual game is counted as a win or loss. Championship games must be won by two points and are best 2 out of 3 games per match.
4. When a match has been completed, teams must leave the court. The teams scheduled for the next match may take the court and use the time prior their match for warm-up. No warming up is permitted in the lobby area or against a window.
5. Six players will constitute a team, but a team may play with as few as four players. **At no time will a team be allowed to play with more than 3 male players, less than 2 female players, or without at least one male player.** Teams must alternate male and female players. There cannot be two consecutive male players in the rotation. *[For Coed 4s there must be no more than 2 men on the court and no less than 2 females. Teams may play with 3 players, but one player must be male.]* Reverse coed: see separate rules.
6. Matches are scheduled every 60 minutes, with the first match starting at 6:45pm (6:45pm, 7:45pm & 8:45pm); adjustments to start time may be made to accommodate other City programs. The first game of each match will receive a five (5) grace period. At that time the game clock will start. After 3 minutes of running time, the game will be forfeited. After a one-minute break, the game clock for game 2 will start. After 3 minutes, that game will be forfeited. Finally, after a one-minute break, and 3 minutes game time, the 3<sup>rd</sup> game will be forfeited. Essentially, once the grace period ends, the total match will be considered forfeited after 11 minutes. The official will be the official time keeper.

7. Teams with less than four (4) rostered players of the "correct sex" will result in a forfeited match. **TEAMS WHO FORFEIT A GAME ARE SUBJECT TO A \$35 FORFEIT FEE. If notice is received a minimum of 36 hours in advance of a declared forfeit, thus providing ample time to notify the opposing team, and alter the schedule of the officials and staff, no forfeit fee will be assessed. All fees, when assessed are posted to the manager's account and must be paid prior to the start of the next season.**
8. The serve for the first game will be determined by a coin flip. The losing team will serve in subsequent games.
9. Front row players are not allowed to block or spike on a serve.
10. All players attending the **match** must play. Players cannot rotate in or out at any time, but must rotate into and out of the game in an established sequence. **Once a rotation sequence for a game is established, it cannot be changed. Men must rotate in for men and women for women. Players must rotate/sub in at the left front position.**
11. Only players in attendance may be listed on the line up card. Players must play in the full 3 games of the match to have met the qualification of having played in a full match. *Players found to be listed on the line up card, but not in attendance will result in the game being declared a forfeit by the team that had an absent player listed.*
12. After the serve, front row players may change positions. Back row players may change positions and can come to the front to set. Back row players may not play offense (i.e. spike or dink) in front of the 10 ft line.
13. Each team should provide a player to assist the referee in calling the lines. This is extremely important when both courts are being used for games at the same time. Any additional players, that are not on the court during play, will be line judges. Another option is to appoint spectators to act as line judges. This is for the benefit of each team and for more accurate officiating.

E. SPECIFIC GAME RULES

1. Maximum number of hits per side is three. When the ball is touched by more than one player on a team, at least one of the hits must be by a female player. Contact during a block or a joust by a male player will not be considered as a touch if the next contact is by a male player that successfully returns the ball over the net to the opponent's side.
2. Teams will receive 1, one-minute time out for each game. Time outs are not permitted during the final five minutes of the third game.
3. Players must rotate clockwise after each serve. The receiving team will rotate at the start of the game, with the right front becoming the first server for that team.
4. The referee must blow his whistle before a serve. Player has 8 seconds in which to complete the serve.
5. An extra serve will not be awarded if the first serve is not playable.
6. There will be no lifting or throwing the ball.
7. On a serve, if the ball hits the top of the net and goes over, it will be considered fair play.

8. Touching the net will constitute a foul.
9. A ball hitting any part of the boundary line will be considered "in".
10. An obvious stall shall be a foul, with opposing team receiving a point.
11. A display of unsportsmanlike conduct toward opposing team or official may result in loss of service and point awarded to opposing team.
12. All players must follow posted Gym Rules.

#### F. DIVISION PLAY-OFFS

1. The top teams in each division (as determined by overall league standings) will play in a single elimination play-off series to determine the Division Championship team. (this rule is subject to change based on number of teams registered and structure of schedule).
2. **SPECIAL NOTE:** In the event of a two-way tie in team standings, the team that defeated the other during league play will be determined the winner. In the event of a three-way tie where each team beat the other, the winning team will be determined by how they did in comparison to the other teams in the three-way tie. In no case will there be play-off games to determine who gets into the play-offs!
3. The championship match of the division play-offs will be the best two out of three games. (Once a team wins two games the match is over.) Games will be played to 25 points without a time limit and will be won by a two-point difference. If the match goes to a third game, that game will be played to 15 points without a time limit and will be won by only a two-point difference.

#### G. AWARDS

1. Ten t-shirts will be given to the winning team of each division.

#### **SPECIAL NOTE:**

**\*\* No food or beverages are allowed in the gym** by players, coaches or spectators! The gym attendant will ask anyone with these items to remove them from the gym.

**\*\* All spectators must sit on the stage area** to avoid collisions with players. Children will not be allowed in the gym unless an adult who is a non-player is present to offer constant supervision. This is for the safety and protection of the children, spectators and players.

**\*\* Any player or spectator who may appear to be intoxicated or found to have the odor of alcohol may be asked to leave** the gym by either the gym attendant or game official. In addition, the team will be reprimanded and could be suspended from further participation in the league without receiving a refund.

**THANKS for your cooperation and HAVE FUN**