

**Coaches: Please go over these rules with your team members.**

**Refunds: No refunds will be granted once registration has ended.**

All league games will be played in accordance with the current National Federation of High School (NFHS) Official guide, & the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (TAAF) rules, with the following modifications. The City of Denton Parks & Recreation department reserves the right to add, delete, or amend the rules and regulations or policies for the betterment of the program.

**I. Roster**

- a. A maximum of 12 players may be carried on a roster. **Rosters must be turned in to the Athletics Office two weeks prior to the advertised season practice start date.**
- b. No player may play on more than (1) team per season. A player may choose to play up one age division, but she cannot play down an age division.
- c. **In order to participate in the league, players must either be registered as an individual or be on a team roster. The roster can be updated until, the Friday before the last regular season game (Before playoffs). All additions must go directly to the Athletic Office, along with signature on roster and birth certificate. Players cannot be added on roster at the games.**
- d. **If a team is caught with an illegal player by a protest. It will be an automatic forfeit and no make-up game for that team.**

**II. Eligibility**

- a. All players must be in the appropriate age division as defined by TAAF Rules. Age is determined by the participant's age as of September 1 of the current school year.
- b. **Birth Certificates:** All players must present a copy of their birth certificate for age verification prior to the season starting. If a player has played volleyball with Denton Parks and Recreation before, their birth certificate may already be verified. If you are unsure, please check with the Athletics Office **prior** to the paperwork deadline. **Birth Certificate copies must be turned in to the Athletics Office two weeks prior to the advertised season practice start date.**
- c. **Waivers:** Every player participating in the league must have a liability waiver on file with the City of Denton. Waivers are valid one year from the date they are signed. **Waivers must be turned in to the Athletics Office two weeks prior to the advertised season practice start date. However, if you registered as a team, parents can sign the waiver on the Roster. All information must be filled out. (Players name, address, parent DL#, and parent signature.**
- d. **Coaches:** All coaches, including assistant coaches, must complete a background check with the City of Denton. **Coaches Verification packets must be turned in to the Athletics Office two weeks prior to the advertised season practice start date.**

**III. Equipment**

- a. All players shall have a 4" number on the front AND a 6" number on the back of their uniforms. All teams must be in similar color shirts. Legal numbers are 0-99
- b. Shoes must be athletic style designed for use on indoor wood floors. No black soles or "turf shoes" may be worn at any time.
- c. **No jewelry may be worn at any time during the game, including hard headbands.** Officials may ban any equipment that they deem as unsafe or illegal.
- d. **Kneepads are recommended, but are not required for play.**

**IV. Court Regulations**

- a. **The net shall be 6'1" for 8U Division. The net shall be 7'0" for 10U Division. The net shall be 7'4" for 12U & 14U Divisions.**
- b. The ball may be served from anywhere behind the 10' line (8U), the 23' line (10U), and the back court line for 12U & 14U. However, players that are able to get the ball over the net without stepping in are encouraged to serve behind the back serving line.
- c. 8U, 10U will use the Volley Lite ball.
- d. 12U & 14U divisions will use an official size ball.

**V. Regular Season Matches**

- a. Each match will consist of 3 games, rally scoring. **Games 1 and 2 will be played to 25 points/capped at 30 points.** Game 3 will be played to 15 points/capped at 20 points. You must win by 2 points, unless the cap is reached.
- b. All 3 games, (not the best 2 out of 3), will be played during the regular season.
- c. Each regular season match will be allotted at 55 minutes.
- d. **A coin toss will be conducted between a representative from each team and the official to determine serve/receive for the first game.** Winner of the coin toss will serve. Loser of the coin toss will receive and have choice of court side. The second game is the opposite of the first. For the third game another coin toss will be held.

**VI. Playoff Season Matches**

- a. Playoff matches will be the best 2 out of 3. Playoff matches will be scheduled to start every 45 minutes as a guide for the schedule; however there is **no time limit** for playoff matches.
- b. Each match will consist of rally scoring. Games 1 and 2 will be played to 25 points/capped at 30 points, if a game 3 is necessary, it will play to 15 points/capped at 20 points, rally scoring, regardless of time. You must win by 2 points, unless the cap is reached.
- c. **A coin toss will be conducted between a representative from each team and the official to determine serve/receive for the first game.** Winner of the coin toss will serve. Loser of the coin toss will receive and have choice of court side. The second game is the opposite of the first. For the third game (if needed) another coin toss will be held.

## VII. Game Rules

- a. Teams must be present at least 15 minutes prior to match time. No grace period will be allowed. Game time is forfeit time. However, teams may choose to use their 1<sup>st</sup> game time-out (1 minute). Once time-out has expired, then the game will be deemed a forfeit.
- b. Each team must have at least 4 players on the court in order to play, maximum of 6 players. The position of the players in order of the serve shall be Right Back, Right Front, Middle Front, Left Front, Left Back, and Middle Back
- c. **If you are playing with less than 6 players, a ghost player will be used for each player not present. The ghost player will carry a side-out and point awarded to opposite team.**
- d. Each team may have one (1) minute time out during the first and second game. Each may have one-30second timeout during the third game.
- e. Once the whistle has been blown for service, the player has 10 seconds to serve the ball.
- f. In all divisions, after 5 consecutive points scored by the offensive team (team serving), the referee will whistle for an automatic side out and the opposing team will be awarded the serve.
- g. Serves may be underhand or overhand. If the server does a bad toss, the ball must be caught or let it drop to the floor. The server may only let the ball drop once during her time of service. Time of service begins when the player assumes the right back position as the server and ends with their team's loss of the serve, or upon reaching the 5 serve limit.
- h. There will be no use of a libero.
- i. **Substitutions:** Substitutions may only be made when the team subbing is rotating. **All divisions have the option of subbing out of the middle back position when they receive a side out or following the one-to-one substitution rules as specified by NFHS. Once a team chooses a specific substitution method (either middle back or one-to-one) they must stay with that method for the duration of the game.** In one-to-one substitution, teams will have unlimited substitutions, but once a player is substituted in for another player, they are tied to each other for the remainder of that game. For example: If #8 subs in for #12, #12 must go back in to the position that #8 took until that game is finished. No player shall serve twice until a full rotation has occurred (i.e. A team must go through six (6) side outs before a girl may serve again.)
- j. **Line Judges:** Each team will be allowed to have one (1) volunteer on the court to call lines. This is not mandatory, but will be recommended to help the official accurately call lines. This volunteer shall be fair for both teams and shall only call balls that are in or out. No volunteer should argue any other call/issue with the official, scorekeeper, or coach while the game is occurring. If the official has a better view/angle of the ball on where it landed and the volunteer has a different call, the official will have final say and can meet with line judge in order to properly make call.
- k. Please note that per the NFHS Volleyball Rules, Delay of Game will be enforced: "Delay of Game: When a team takes too long to substitute a player or delays play for other reasons. The penalty for a first delay is a warning by the referee, and the penalty for a second delay is the loss of the rally."
- l. **Intermissions:** The time period between the match will not exceed 2 minutes, and play will begin when the official signals.
- m. In order to promote learning of the game, coaches may stop the game during a dead ball to provide feedback in the 8U and 10U divisions only.
- n. **Coaches are only allowed to be on the player's bench sideline. They are not allowed to be on the opposite side of the court.**
- o. The following applies when there are multiple games in progress in the same gym: If a ball enters the court of another game it will be at the referee's discretion to stop that game if the ball causes interference of play or poses a safety threat to a player. If the game is stopped, it will be a dead ball and the point will be replayed.
- p. It's recommended to have a volunteer from each team call lines during game play for accurate calls.
- q. **Each Team Manager should initial the Scorekeeper's Score-Sheet after each match.** This will ensure that all records are correct and have been accepted by both team managers. Failure to initial the game report will be an indication that the manager has accepted the game report and has forfeited his/her right to review. League standings will be based upon these reports and posted on the website: [www.quickscores.com/denton](http://www.quickscores.com/denton)

**Player Participation Rule:** All players will play at least half of each game. It is the coach's responsibility to rotate players into the game to meet the player participation rule. This rule is also applicable in playoffs. There is no penalty for missing practices.

**Practice Time:** Practice times will be 1 hour. Teams may need to share a net during practice. Coaches – please make sure the bleachers and gyms are clear of trash when your group leaves! We need to make every effort to help keep the gyms clean.

**Protests:** Protest will consist of a possible illegal player. All protests must be done before the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> game. In order to protest you must ask the scorekeeper/official that you want to stop the game and protest the player. The roster will then be verified for that team. If a team is caught violating a rule, they will receive an automatic forfeit for that game.

Visit the league website for game results, standings, registration information, and schedules. [www.quickscores.com/denton](http://www.quickscores.com/denton)

**Questions? Call the Athletics office at (940) 349-8523**

## PARENT/SPECTATOR, COACH and PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

### Youth Volleyball

#### It's simple: BE A GOOD SPORT!

Children's sports are supposed to be fun and **for the children**. Unfortunately, many parents, fans and coaches don't realize that their actions, whether verbal or nonverbal, can have a lasting emotional effect on children. Too many children are leaving sports activities because the fun is unfairly taken away by adults. The code of conduct for this league has been developed by National Youth Sports Safety Foundation (NYSSF) and Denton Parks and Recreation Department (DPARD).

Parents, fans and coaches who follow this simple code can help reinforce what sports are all about... BEING FUN FOR EVERYONE!

**\*Spectators are required to be on the opposite side from the players and coaches.\***

1. Teams and spectators should demonstrate good sportsmanship! Team chants/cheers and spectator and coaches comments should not be derogatory or demeaning towards opposing teams/players/coaches.
2. Players, spectators and coaches are encouraged to remain quiet while players are serving as a display of good sportsmanship.
3. Spectators or players are not permitted to approach the score table or referee at any time. Only the head or assistant coach has authority to speak with the score table or referee if there is a question regarding the awarding of a point.
4. Spectators and coaches will be a positive role model for children and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, spectators, officials, and staff at every game, practice or league event.
5. Spectator s, coaches and players will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or spectator such as booing, taunting, and refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
6. Spectators, coaches and players will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
7. Spectators and coaches should praise their team members for competing fairly, trying hard, and make the children feel like a winner every time, regardless of the score!
8. The use of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol during youth sports is prohibited by City ordinance. Spectators, coaches and players will refrain from their use during all league activities.
9. Parents, remember that all coaches are volunteers! Respect the fact that they are willing to give so much of their time to your child.
10. Each team's coach is held responsible for the conduct of their fans/spectators/team participants.
11. If spectators, players, and/or coaches fail to abide by the code of conduct, they will be subject to disciplinary action as decided by the Denton Parks and Recreation Department. Disciplinary action could include, but is not limited to: verbal warnings, written warnings, ejections, and suspensions for various lengths.
12. Officials, score keepers, and DPARD staff have the authority to remove a player, coach, or spectator from a game and can declare the game a forfeit due to unsportsmanlike conduct.
13. Any player, coach, or spectator ejected from any league activity is suspended for a minimum of one (1) week from all DPARD league activities. The suspension could be longer depending on the severity of the infraction. Suspensions are not eligible for appeal.
14. Players, coaches, and spectators who have been ejected must leave the complex and may not return until the completion of their suspension.
15. No fighting is allowed. First offense is a suspension for the rest of the season, second offense results in one year loss of eligibility in all league play or indefinite suspension if deemed severe.
16. Suspensions carry over from season to season, and are enforced for all DPARD leagues.