



**YOUTH VOLLEYBALL RULES & REGULATIONS**  
**ALL DIVISIONS**  
**UPDATED October 2021**

**Purpose of KCE Youth Sports**

The purpose of KCE Youth Sports is to provide training in sports in an atmosphere of good sportsmanship and fair play with an equal opportunity for growth of individual skills, team play and the true enjoyment of playing sports.

**Registration**

All participants must be officially registered through Kenston Community Education. Any players not officially registered are barred from participating. Any coach knowingly allowing unregistered players to participate will lose their right to coach and games will be forfeited.

**KCE Coaches**

- Coaches are required to officially register online for each specific sport they are coaching.
- Coaches are required to complete/submit a background check every three years.
- Coaches are required to complete concussion training every three years.
- Coaches are required to view the Lindsay's Law video every three years.
- These requirements are for all officially registered head and assistant coaches.
- All required links are available on the KCE website under the Coaches Corner.

**Rosters**

- Team rosters will be determined by league officials using a player skills evaluation after all-league skill sessions are held.
- League officials will attempt to create balanced teams based on age, height, grade and skill.
- The goal is to have evenly balanced teams, not 'A' and 'B' teams.
- Divisions are subject to registration deadlines.

**Outside Community Team Rosters**

- Any non-Kenston communities entering teams in the league must bring balanced teams.
- All players must reside in the same community. No AAU or all-star type teams permitted.
- A minimum of 30% of the players must be in the lowest grade of the division.
- If bringing two teams, the teams must be divided equally by grade. No 'A' and 'B' teams are permitted.
- Violation of these rules will result in forfeit of the end-of-season tourney and possible removal from the league.

**Equipment**

- Kenston Community Education will furnish volleyball, uniforms and other necessary equipment.
- Knee pads are required but are not provided.
- Game ball sizes – 1st-6th divisions will play with Volley Lite, 7th-9th with regulation size
- Net height will be as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> - 6 ft 6 in
  - 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> - 7 ft

**Practices**

Teams will have one 1-hr weekday practice dependent on gym availability & coach preference.



### Games

Once game schedules are posted, schedules will only change if weather related, school related, or an admin error. Games will not be rescheduled at coach request.

### Uniforms

Kenston Community Education will provide game shirts for each registered player. No jewelry is permitted to be worn during practices or games. This includes necklaces, earrings, studs, bracelets, etc. Newly pierced ears must be covered with tape. Medical identification bracelets are permitted but should be covered with a wristband or other soft material. Hair control devices may be worn, but must be made of soft material. Players must provide their own knee pads.

### Participation

- Only officially registered players are allowed to play.
- All players must play equal time.
- Any player that cannot meet participation rules due to injury or illness must be reported to game officials immediately.
- If a team cannot field at least five players, they may borrow a player or two from the other team so the kids can still play, but the game will be considered a forfeit in the books.
- Teams are also allowed to borrow a registered player from the younger division for games, but only if they are short players and if it doesn't interfere with the younger player's divisional game.
- Referees and league officials have the right to stop the game so corrections can be made.
- **Violation of the participation rule may result in a team forfeit and coach suspension.**

### Sportsmanship and Fair Play

- Coaches, parents and players must cooperate with officials and league personnel.
- Prior to and during each game all coaches are required to promote fair play and sportsmanship.
- Coaches are not permitted on the court during a game. Coaches may sit on the team bench or stand in front of their respective team bench during a game.
- Coaches are responsible for any unsportsmanlike behavior of their coaching staff and players, including the behavior of spectators.
- Any player, coach or spectator demonstrating poor sportsmanship will be immediately ejected from the game and the facility.
- Any ejection will result in a 2-game suspension beginning with the next game.
- A second ejection will result in a suspension for one full calendar year.
- DO NOT argue a call or disrespect a game official.

### Scorekeeping and Standings

- Score will be kept in all divisions.
- Standings will be kept in grades 3-4 & 5-9 for end-of-season tournaments.
- Coaches of the winning teams (grades 3-9) **must report scores** online by 9pm on game day.

### Length of Game

- Court time shall last one hour.
- 10 minutes will be allotted at the beginning of the hour for warm-up time. Game will start immediately following the warm-up.
- The number of games played is not limited; a match consists of a max. of three games.
- PLEASE RESPECT THE FACILITIES AND MAKE SURE ALL PLAYERS, FANS, AND SIBLINGS STAY IN THE GYM BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE GAME.



### Game Rules

- Coaches and officials should meet prior to each game to discuss participation and playing rules.
- A coin toss shall determine who will have 1<sup>st</sup> serve. The team who does NOT have 1<sup>st</sup> serve of the game will rotate into the serve.
- All leagues play under the rules of the Ohio High School Athletic Association OHSAA unless otherwise stated here.
- No protests will be heard. Decisions by referees or league officials stand.
- League officials, including referees, have the right to rule on anything not covered below.

### Rotation/Service Order

- Coaches must submit the service order (the order the players will come to serve) to the scorekeeper prior to the game.
- The service order must be maintained throughout a game. You may make changes to the service order only at the start of a new game. In the event of a player showing up late, he/she will be placed at the bottom of the order list if the team has not made it through the rotation a full time. If the team is starting on their 2<sup>nd</sup> time through, that player will be put in as the 'next' server and inserted accordingly.
- In order to maintain equal playing time, teams will rotate a player into the service position each time possession of the serve changes.

### Playing Rules:

- The number of players on the court is six. Rotation is always clockwise with the exception of the 1<sup>st</sup> serve of the game.
- Rally scoring shall be used (a point is awarded on each serve, either to the offensive or defensive team).
- Games shall be played to 25 points. 3<sup>rd</sup> game tiebreaker played to 15. (Win by 2)
- Time outs: Two time outs are allowed per game.
- Ceiling Rule: If the ball hits the ceiling after being struck by a player, it may be played by the same team provided the ball remains on that team's side of the court. A point shall be awarded to the opposing team if a player strikes the ball and it hits the ceiling on the opponent's side of the court.
- Service Rule: All serves must be made behind the appropriate line according to age group. Servers are allowed to move laterally behind the appropriate service line to place their serve.
  - **1st-2nd:** Both underhand and overhand serves must be made behind the 10' (attack) line.
  - **3rd-4th:** Underhand serves must be made behind the 10' (attack) line. Overhand serves must be made no more than 6' in from the back service line. (At most courts, this will be the basketball free throw line, extended to each side of the volleyball court) And may have one redo if the server has not scored a point in the current service.
  - **5th-9th:** Both underhand and overhand serves must be made behind the service line.
- Net serves: If the serve hits the net it is playable on the defensive side. If the ball remains on the server's side of the court, no re-serve shall be awarded. A point and the serve will be awarded to the defense. A re-serve shall be awarded to any player if that player does not attempt to serve on a bad toss. Only 1 re-serve will be awarded per time of service (that servers' turn that time).
- A maximum of 4 service points may be recorded by one player.
  - For players in grades 1-4, if a player serves 4 consecutive points, the serving team surrenders the serve to the opposing team. The opposing team will rotate and serve.
  - For players in grades 5-9, if a player serves 4 consecutive points, the service team must rotate to the next player, who continues serving until the serve is lost (or until that player serves 4 consecutive points).
- Each team shall designate one line judge. The line judge can be a player, parent or older sibling.
- Referees have final say on the calls.