

GUIDELINES FOR BEACH (OUTDOOR) VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS

MATCH WARM-UP

Ten minutes are allowed for warm-up (ball-handling, shared hitting) for the first match of the day played by a team. Six minutes warm-up is allowed for all other matches.

FORFEIT PROCEDURES

The following match forfeit procedures apply to Format B (two or more sets) matches only. When the match start has been called, a late or incomplete team forfeits set 1. The late or incomplete team will have 10 minutes before forfeiting set 2 and the match. If the late or incomplete team arrives with sufficient players before the 10-minute period has elapsed, they will be allowed to warm up during the remaining time.

Forfeit procedures for Format A (one set) matches should be published and announced in advance to the participating teams.

TEAM OFFICIATING PROCEDURES

In pools, the refereeing duties are assigned. In elimination events, the losing team referees the next match. Teams should be warned not to skip refereeing assignments after they lose. They do not have to referee personally, but they are responsible. Failure to referee should have pre-announced penalties. When there is a choice of two losing teams to referee one match, the earlier finishing losing team should be excused.

Each court should have a clipboard, pool chart and pencil, and a team on that court in charge of posting the match results. Pool winners should return the pool sheets to the Tournament Desk.

OPTIMUM POOL DESIGNATIONS

Waiting list teams should not be accepted unless the addition creates a desirable number of teams. In large events (30 or more teams), only four-team pools should be used or very good court supervision is required.

While pools of four are the ideal number, you can put more teams on a court, using pools of five, if space is limited. Many tournaments have four-team pools that play only two sets to 21 points instead of best-two-of-three matches.

When the same division has pools with different numbers of teams, the point differential should be calculated as the average point differential per set. This will account for the pools playing different numbers of sets during pool play.

Four-team pool

1 vs. 4 (2)

2 vs. 3 (1)

1 vs. 3 (4)

2 vs. 4 (3)

3 vs. 4 (2)

1 vs. 2 (3)

Five-team pool

2 vs. 5 (4)

3 vs. 4 (2)

1 vs. 5 (3)

2 vs. 3 (5)

1 vs. 4 (2)

3 vs. 5 (1)

2 vs. 4 (3)

1 vs. 3 (5)

4 vs. 5 (1)

1 vs. 2 (4)

Six-team pool (on two courts)

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|-----|-------------|-------------|
| (1) | 1 vs. 6 (4) | 2 vs. 5 (3) |
| (2) | 3 vs. 4 (2) | 1 vs. 5 (6) |
| (3) | 4 vs. 6 (5) | 2 vs. 3 (1) |
| (4) | 1 vs. 4 (6) | 3 vs. 5 (2) |
| (5) | 2 vs. 6 (4) | 1 vs. 3 (5) |
| (6) | 2 vs. 4 (1) | 5 vs. 6 (3) |
| (7) | 1 vs. 2 (4) | 3 vs. 6 (5) |
| (8) | 4 vs. 5 (3) | |

SUGGESTED TIE-BREAKER PROCEDURES

Teams are tied if they have the same match win-loss record (if pool used match play) or same set win-loss record (if pool did not use match play). In case of ties, use the following recommended tie-breaking procedures. Teams should not be eliminated from assignment to championship competition on a point or any other non-competitive system.

Two teams tied and two teams advance:

In priority order: head-to-head match result; head-to-head point differential; overall point differential; coin toss.

Two teams tied and one team advances:

Head-to-head match result (if pool used match play) or head-to-head sets (if pool did not use match play). If teams are tied head-to-head sets, then the two teams will play one 15-point rally-score set. The winning team will advance.

Three teams tied and two teams advance:

- Seed the teams using, in priority order, overall set winning percentage; overall point differential.
- The top seed will advance. The teams seeded second and third will play one 15-point rally-score set, with the winner advancing. The top seed will officiate this tie-breaker set.

Three teams tied and one team advances:

- a. Seed the teams using, in priority order, overall set winning percentage; overall point differential.
- b. There will be two tie-breaker sets (15 points, rally scoring). The teams seeded second and third will play the first set and the top seed will officiate.
- c. The winner of the first tie-breaker set will play the top seed and the losing team from the first set will officiate. The winner of the second set advances.

Tie-breaking procedures for situations involving four or more teams should be written and announced in advance to the participating teams.