

2011 TVA Beach League Guidelines:

The following is a very basic guide to rules of play in TVA's beach leagues. It is not all-inclusive and generally covers only the basic and/or exceptions to the USA Volleyball Rules. For further explanation or interpretation, refer to the USA Volleyball domestic competition guideline or contact the TVA office.

1. Matches will consist of 2 games to 21 points, **RALLY SCORING** with NO cap (teams switch sides of the court every SEVEN points). If games are running behind, the amount of games or the length of games may be adjusted by the on-site league director
2. Three matches are scheduled each night on each court. Schedules are made to be fair as possible; however they may not be a true round robin format. If you notice a scheduling problem, contact our office ASAP.
3. Due to time constraints, matches that are rained out may or may not be rescheduled. We will inform you of any schedule changes or makeups. Teams are encouraged to make up games on non-league nights whenever possible. Contact the office when games are made up.
4. The on-site director will be on site by 5:30 PM traffic permitting.
5. **The referee team of the first match must have the lines set up by 6:00 PM. The work team for the first match is responsible for picking up lines & clipboard/score sheet from the on-site league director.**
6. **The first match is to start no later than 6:15 PM.** Teams arriving late will lose one point per minute up until 6:30PM. For second and third matches, a similar rule will apply with teams losing points up until the 15-minute limit. At that time, the entire match will be forfeited. The 2nd and 3rd matches will start ASAP (within 10 minutes) following the finish of the previous matches. It is very important that matches get started on time and warm up time is kept to a minimum. Play must be completed by dark.
7. **On each net, the work team for the last match is responsible for returning the lines & clip board/score sheet to the on-site league director. If the work team for the last match DOES NOT turn these items in to the on-site league director when play is over for the night, they will forfeit all of their games for the night. If the court lines and clipboard are not recovered before the next night of play, the work team will also be fined \$50.00. This fine will need to be paid before the team will be allowed to play again.**
8. **There is no deadline for adding alternates.** Additions to the roster can be made on-site with the league director or via the TVA office. To be eligible to play in the playoffs and/or finals, a player must have been present and listed on the line-up sheet for at least one third of the games during the regular season.
9. Any team who forfeits more than one third of their games during the regular season will not be eligible to participate in playoffs.
10. All players are encouraged to make honor calls. Work teams are not able to see all nets and rule infractions. Honor calls cannot be made in your own favor.
11. Alcohol is not allowed at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront. Don't jeopardize our privilege of playing at the beach by bringing alcohol. Please put trash in the cans provided. Keep the courts safe.
12. **If the weather is questionable (severe weather such as hurricanes or tornadoes), please DO NOT call the TVA office until 5:30 PM! The TVA staff will make a decision by 5:30 PM as to whether or not league will be cancelled. At this time, a message will be placed on the voicemail. If there is no message after 5:30 PM, then the league is not cancelled.** For your basic thunderstorm or passing shower, DO NOT CALL THE OFFICE. Show up at the beach for the determination of league play.
13. One 30-second time-outs per team, per game are permitted.
14. Failure to provide a referee on time will result in the forfeiture of all games that night. Certification is not required for referees.
15. Protests must be submitted immediately to the representative regarding rules, illegal players or other infractions. Protests may not be filed after the date of play.
16. A serve may not be blocked or attacked above the height of the net.
17. Players are permitted to travel under the net as long as the action does not interfere with the opponent's play on the ball.
18. **NO PROFANITY ALLOWED!**
19. A member may only play on one team at a time in the same division (including substitutes).
20. **If the server releases the ball for service and does not complete the service, the team will be penalized with a side-out.**
21. Side switches should be done without delay. Side switches are not a time-out, nor are they a "TV Time Out." Play should continue as soon as the sides are switched.

Rules for specific divisions:

BEACH DOUBLES AND TRIPLES:

1. Substitutions during the game **ARE NOT** permitted. More than 2/3 players per night are allowed, however no more than 2 players per game may be used for doubles and 3 players per game for triples. If one player is unable to continue in a game because of injury or any other reason, that game will be forfeited. An alternate may be used for any further games.
2. TVA tournament rules will be followed for league play. Rules are available online at www.playtva.org or from the on-site TVA league director.
3. In coed 2's, one male & one female are required. **No exceptions will be made for this rule.** In coed 3's, a minimum of one male and one female must be on the court at all times.
4. Block does count as a team hit.
5. Open hand dinks (finger action) **ARE NOT** allowed. The ball must be struck cleanly with the palm, arm or hand when attacking the opponents' court.
6. Teams are not permitted to play with a "ghost" player.

COED 4's:

1. A team may play with a minimum of 3 players (a minimum of 1 female), but the "ghost rule" will apply. When the missing player comes around to serve, it will be a side out and point.
2. No more than 2 men on the court at one time.
3. If the ball is contacted more than one time, a female must touch the ball. The block does not count as a hit.
4. Open hand dinks (finger action) **ARE NOT** allowed. The ball must be struck cleanly with the palm, arm or hand when attacking the opponents' court.
5. Players may line up anywhere on the court, it is not possible to be out of rotation. Any player regardless of positioning may attempt an attack or block. Teams must follow a serving order.
6. Substitutes **ARE** permitted during a game as long as the sub is on the team roster.

COED 6's:

1. A team may play with a minimum of 5 players (a minimum of 2 females and 1 male), but the ghost rule will apply. When the missing player comes around to serve, it will be a point and a side out.
2. No more than 3 men on the court at one time.
3. If the ball is contacted more than one time, a female must touch the ball. The block does not count as a hit.
4. Open hand dinks (finger action) **ARE** allowed.
5. Players must maintain their positions in rotation.

For clarification on the following, read the current Official United States Beach Volleyball Rules book:

1. "Open-hand tip" or "dinks" - ***directs as attack-hit with the fingers, using an "open-hand tip" or "dink."***
2. "Receiving serve with open hand/finger action" - ***USAV 13.4.2/13.4.3:Plays involving finger action require special attention.If the play is defensive and reactive in nature,as in the case of a hard-driven ball,momentarily held or double-hit balls are not considered faults.If the player decides/intends to employ finger action,as in the cases of off-speed hit defense or setting,the action must be "clean."***
3. "Hand set as an attack" - ***USAV 13.4.2/13.4.3:Plays involving finger action require special attention.If the play is defensive and reactive in nature,as in the case of a hard-driven ball,momentarily held or double-hit balls are not considered faults.If the player decides/intends to employ finger action,as in the cases of off-speed hit defense or setting,the action must be "clean."***

TVA Office Contact Information

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