



## GCCYS Boys Volleyball Rules

1. Each member's volleyball coordinator must ensure that players meet eligibility guidelines. They can be found in Section 4 of the GCCYS Charter on Youth Athletics.
2. Each member's sports coordinator/director must ensure that all rosters are submitted and GCCYS liability waivers completed before the first game. Players may be added to the roster before the fifth game.
3. Pay officials before the game. Coaches should provide officials with a printed copy of their roster including boys names and numbers. Officials have been instructed not to take abuse from coaches, players, or parents. They will ask you to leave or forfeit. Let's all demonstrate good sportsmanship. A single referee will be assigned to each match for all grade levels. Total payment for this referee is \$30 (each coach should pay the referee \$15 before the start of the match).
4. All games are to be played as scheduled. The GCCYS is the only one able to change games and games will only be changed for parish/school- sponsored events that are mandatory. The GCCYS office must have 10 days' notice of any game changes unless a catastrophic reason.
5. Teams must start a match with a minimum of 5 players. This rule is in place to assist parishes in keeping teams from getting very large and for allowing some flexibility for coaches for matches to be played.
  - a. If a 6th player arrives after the start of a set, the player may not enter the match until after the current set is completed. Teams starting a set with only 5 players will result in the 6th player as a "ghost" player. Every time the ghost player moves into the serving position it will be an automatic side out to the other team (loss of point and loss of serve). The ghost player should automatically take position #6 in your serving and rotational order. If a team starting with 5 players sustains an injury, the match can continue with only 4 players. This will result in two ghost positions. If the match continues to a new set, the ghost players should automatically take positions #3 and #6 in your serving and rotational order and will continue to be a side out for the other team.
  - b. If a team has only 6 players ahead of a league game, you may obtain 2 non rostered substitutions (2 is the maximum) from a same level team or lower-level team in the same grade, or any level team in a lower grade to play without having that game count as a forfeit. Non-rostered players MAY ONLY play if the team falls below 6 available rostered players. Example – If a team has 6 rostered players, these players must play all 3 sets unless there is an injury to one of the rostered players. If a team only has 5 players, you may add one substitute for a non-rostered player, All rostered players must play before non-rostered players. The only way 2 non-roasted players would play is if the team fell to only 4 rostered players available.
  - c. The substitution rule is ONLY in effect for regular season games. All post season play will be with originally rostered players only. If you are unable to field a team in the post season inform the GCCYS Coordinator prior to post season scheduling.

- d. Sanctions will be imposed on a Coach and Parish should a team play with an ineligible player for the match to count towards standings in league play.
  - e. If you do not show up for a scheduled game the school/parish will be subject to a \$50 forfeit fee. If any fees are not paid prior to the GCCYS post season tournament, you will be ineligible for post season play.
6. All leagues will play by the National Federation Volleyball Rules with the following GCCYS modifications:
- a. Each team will play 10 regular season matches.
  - b. No A-B-C (Levels 1,2,3) teams prior to 5th grade. Grades 3rd-4th are to be evenly divided (balanced).
  - c. All teams in 3rd-4th and 5th-8th bronze level must play each player one full set from start to finish (25pts) without substituting. A 7 or 8 player rotation does satisfy this requirement. Coaches should strive for roughly even playing time or what is determined by your school/parish. The exception is if a player is injured or sick. You must play all your players regardless of the opposing team's size. This rule is in effect for the regular season as well as the post-season tournament. The scorekeeper must sit at the scorer's table. It is the scorekeeper's responsibility to keep track of playing time.
  - d. 5th – 8th grade levels of Gold and Silver do not have required playing time limits set forth by the GCCYS.
  - e. For all grades:
    - i. Scoring is rally scoring. First two sets to 25 (no cap) and third game to 15 (no cap).
    - ii. Net serves ARE allowed
    - iii. Legal contact is a touch of the ball by any part of a player's body that does not allow the ball to come visibly to rest or involve prolonged contact with a player's body.
    - iv. Timeouts – 2 timeouts per set regardless of score
    - v. No libero at any level
  - f. Third and 4th Grade levels, players may only serve 4 consecutive points. Offensive team must rotate after the fourth serve won by a server. Grade 5 may only serve eight (8) consecutive points; offensive team must rotate after the eighth serve won by a server.
  - g. Serving lines for 3rd-4th grades may move into the court 15 feet. Serving lines for 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> may move in the court 10 feet. 7th -8th grade must serve from behind the endline of the court. PLAYERS SERVE FROM SERVING LINES AVAILABLE AS NO OTHER LINES WILL BE ALLOWED FOR SUBSTITUTION.
  - h. All grades can rotate up to 8 players. Teams are permitted to rotate in 1 or 2 players. These players are listed in serving order at the beginning of each set. Players waiting to rotate onto the court may NOT touch the ball when it is hit at them. Every effort must be made to move away from the ball, judgment will be left up to the referee.
  - i. SUBSTITUTION RULE: 3rd–8th grade is 18 substitutions per set. The first line-up DOES NOT count as an entry.
  - j. The net height from the floor to the top of the net is as follows: • Grades 3 & 4: 6 feet 6 inches • Grade 5: 7 feet • Grade 6: 7 feet • Grades 7 & 8: 7 feet 4 1/8 inches
  - k. Prior to a match, teams are permitted a 5-minute warm-up time. No match will start prior to match time. Grace period for the 1st set is 10 minutes. The 2nd and 3rd set will be 5 minutes.
  - l. For grades 5-8 no High School or boys club volleyball balls can be used. (example: Molten USAV or NCAA Flistatec). Boys Game balls should align with versions similar to

Tachikara SV-5 Game ball. The official ball will be the referee's choice (color ball may be used) – best ball available. 3rd -4 th grade will use Volley Lite balls, or any similar lightweight ball designed for 12 and under play.

- m. No jewelry, bracelets or necklaces can be worn at any time.
  - n. Division winners are determined by the total number of sets won not by the number of matches won. All sets must be played every match unless they are in the post season and GCCYS tournament play will be first team to win 2 sets.
  - o. Every team is automatically entered in the GCCYS postseason tournament. The tournament pairings will be based on records after around the 6th - 8th match. If you do not wish to be entered in the tournament you must notify GCCYS a minimum of two weeks prior to the end of the regular season.
  - p. Each team should provide one line person to help the official. The line person will be 18 years or older and the clock/score operator must be in High School or older.
7. The winning team must report scores within 48 hours of the match. Team winning at least two of the three sets is considered the winning team.

## **Libero Update 2025**

1. Available in 7th and 8th grade in Gold and Silver brackets only, teams may choose to utilize the Libero position in the GCCYS Boys Volleyball League. If a Libero is not listed on the line-up sheet for a particular set the team may not use a libero for that set. The Libero must wear a uniform shirt that is immediately recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team.

a. The Libero is restricted to performing as a back-row player and is not allowed to complete an attack hit from anywhere if the moment of contact, the ball is entirely above the top of the net.

b. The Libero may not block or may not attempt to block an opposing teams contact

c. A teammate may not complete an attack-hit when at the moment of the attack-hit the ball is entirely above the top of the net, if the ball is coming from an overhand finger pass by the Libero in front of the 10ft zone the next attack must be below the top of the net. Other ball contacts (non fingertip action) are not subject to this restriction.

d. The Libero is allowed to replace any player in a back-row position only. The standard use of the Libero is to replace 1 of the 2 middle blockers in the rotation. The Libero can serve in one position per set or not at all. The Libero can only be replaced by the player whom the Libero replaced originally and this is the responsibility of the team utilizing a Libero to use a Libero tracking sheet.

e. Replacements involving the Libero are not counted as regular substitutions. These replacements are unlimited.

f. Ideally, each home team would be responsible for supplying a person to track the Libero replacements to ensure that: 1) once the libero is replaced, at least one serve must take place before the libero can replace another player unless the libero is on the court and is replacing the player moving into the serving position (RB) 2) when the libero leaves the court, the player replacing the libero must be the same player that the libero replaced when she last entered the game. However, if the home team does not use the libero player, the school that does use the libero must provide the official libero tracker

for the match. This must be clearly established prior to the start of the game in the pre-match meeting with the official.

g. The Libero replacements will be tracked on a separate form (Libero tracking sheet)

h. For a complete list of rules regarding the use of the Libero position please read the NFHS Volleyball Rules regarding this position in its entirety.