

2023-2024



GIRLS

VOLLEYBALL

MANUAL



Dates To Remember [\(TOC\)](#)

GIRLS		BOYS
August 25	Class/District Assignments Released	March 15
	Preseason Jamboree May Be Conducted After Your Team Has Completed 9 Days of Conditioning Practices	
August 25	First Allowable Contest (By-Law 3.9.1 Conditioning Requirements Must Be Met)	March 15
August 25	Post Season Entries Opened	March 15
September 5	Officials' Post Season Application Deadline	March 26
September 8	Game Officials Must Be Up-To-Date	March 29
September 8	Coaches' Online Officials Recommendations Open	March 29
September 15	Coaches' Online Officials Recommendations Due	April 5
5 Days Prior to Seed Meeting	Season Records Must Be Up-To-Date	5 Days Prior to Seed Meeting
September 26	Volleyball Officials Draft (Odd Numbered Regions)	April 16
September 27	Volleyball Officials Draft (Even Numbered Regions)	April 17
Sept 30 – Oct 7	District Seed Meetings Conducted	April 20 - 27
October 9	Finalized Districts Brackets Postings Due	April 29
October 10	District Eligibility Rosters Due	April 30
October 10	Final Date for Pass List to Be Submitted	April 30
October 17-24	District Tournament	May 4-10
October 26	Sectional Contest	
October 28	Quarterfinal Contests	May 15
November 2-4	State Championships	May 21-22



MISSOURI STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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Craig Long, Chief Financial Officer
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**Revised
12-11-2023**

District Assignments & State Tournament Brackets
May Be Found on MSHSAA Website (www.mshsaa.org)

VOLLEYBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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The advisory committee members are appointed by the Board of Director member from their respective board district. Each individual is appointed to a four (4) year term. If an appointee is unable to fulfill their term, a replacement will be appointed to complete the remainder of the term. The purpose of the committee is to represent the schools and coaches/directors within their board district on matters concerning the administration of the sport. Their role is a key component is bringing sport/activity-specific needs, concerns, and recommendations to the Board of Directors. Please make sure to use them as your voice to the MSHSAA Staff and Board of Directors.

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<u>Ex-Officio Member</u> State Tournament Officials Coordinator Andy Williams Sedalia, MO		<u>Ex-Officio Member</u> President MHSVCA Cheyanne Bailey Harrisonville

() Terms expire July 1 of the year noted

*Eligible for reappointment due to serving partial term

VOLLEYBALL RULES INTERPRETERS

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The interpreters have been selected for their knowledge of the rules and willingness to provide their advice to officials, adjudicators and coaches/directors with regards to the interpretation of rules. The executive in charge of each sport/activity is the chief rules interpreter for the state but relies heavily on the advice and counsel of these individuals. Please feel free to contact them if you have a question regarding the application of sport/activity-specific rules. These individuals do not interpret any MSHSAA By-Laws or Board Policies nor do they review video of calls.

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PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

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- A. **MISSION STATEMENT:** The MSHSAA promotes the value of participation, sportsmanship, team play and personal excellence to develop citizens who make positive contributions to their community and support the democratic principles of our state and nation.
- B. **PURPOSE OF MANUAL:** This manual has been prepared to provide a better understanding of the administration of MSHSAA sponsored events. It will serve as a guide to the participating schools and will provide for greater consistency. All information will be included in this manual except such supplementary or incidental information as may be included in the MSHSAA Journal. The regulations in this manual shall be considered official unless the schools are notified in a Special Bulletin of any changes.
- C. **PHILOSOPHY OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES:** Interscholastic activities are intended to supplement the secondary curricular program. These activities can provide the student with educational experiences and learning outcomes that contribute toward the development of good citizenship. This can be accomplished only when the emphasis is placed upon teaching "through school activities." Interscholastic activities can be justified only when this is its primary philosophy and purpose.
- D. **PURPOSE OF DISTRICT AND STATE CONTESTS:** There are two primary purposes that justify and cause district and state events to be desirable. Those purposes are to provide opportunities to demonstrate before the public the best knowledge, skills and emotional patterns taught through a particular sport, and to evaluate and compare the best knowledge, skills and emotional patterns among schools. Unless these purposes are primary, district and state athletic contests cannot be completely justified.

It is the desire of the MSHSAA Board of Directors that these events be both fun and educational. It is extremely important that competitors, coaches, and the school community make every effort to enhance, and keep in proper perspective, the educational values of these events. Competition merely for "competition's sake" cannot be sufficiently important to be included in the school program.

- E. **SUPERVISION OF COMPETITORS AND FANS:** MSHSAA By-Laws hold a school responsible, both at home and away, for the conduct of its competitors, students, coaches and fans. Coaches are required to supervise their competitors. A coach's respect for others and school property is necessary in order to instill this respect in competitors. Students staying overnight in hotels or motels in conjunction with any interscholastic athletic contest should be well chaperoned. The good conduct of students will leave a good impression on the entire school.

A school should also inform its competitors, students, coaches and fans of the role contest officials play in education through athletics. When informing these people of this, the difference in the purpose of high school and professional sports should be emphasized. Lack of respect for officials should not be tolerated. Booing of officials leads to booing of coaches and competitors. This has no place in high school athletics. Athletic administrators are urged to develop a program through any and all communication techniques available to ensure that spectators understand that high school athletics are an educational endeavor as opposed to the games being an end in themselves.

SECTION 1: ESSENTIAL RESOURCES

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The information listed/linked in this section relates to MSHSAA By-Laws, Board Policies and guidance or position statements from the MSHSAA Sports Medicine Committee (SMAC). The information is not sport or activity specific but is necessary for the safe and proper conduct of your sport/activity.

Source Locations:

[MSHSAA Handbook \(HB\)](#)

[Sports Medicine Page \(SMP\)](#)

- A. Alcohol/Tobacco Usage Around Interscholastic Activities (HB-Board Policy)
- B. Charity/Awareness Events (HB-Board Policy)
- C. Concussions Education and Management Protocol ([SMP](#))
- D. Conduct – Removal of Teams & Ejections (HB-By-Law 5.5)
- E. Guidelines for Fan Support Items (HB-Board Policy)
- F. Hazardous Weather Conditions/Lightning Guidelines ([SMP](#))
- G. Heat Acclimatization (Hb-By-Law 1.7 & [SMP](#))
- H. On-Site Protest Procedures (HB-Board Policy)
- I. Oxygen Use Position Statement ([SMP](#))
- J. Sanctioning (HB-By-Law 3.18)
- K. Wet Bulb Globe Thermometer Use ([SMP](#))

SECTION 2: REGULAR SEASON

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- A. **GAME RULES:** The current National Federation Volleyball Rules Book shall govern all competition except where modified by the MSHSAA. MSHSAA By-Law 3.18 and Board policies regarding all tournaments shall be followed by volleyball tournament managers.
- B. **VOLLEYBALL PRESEASON JAMBOREE:** Refer to MSHSAA By-Law 3.16.7 for general rules regarding the preseason jamboree. Volleyball teams have an opportunity to scrimmage other schools prior to their first regular season contest. Each school will be allowed to participate in only one preseason volleyball jamboree. **The jamboree may be conducted after your team has completed nine conditioning practices and before your first contest.** Team scoring and all NFHS rules shall be followed and enforced. Teams may wear practice or game uniforms.

The jamboree can be a three or four team format only. When there are three schools participating, a maximum of six sets (three against each team to 21 points) shall be allowed. When there are four schools participating, a maximum of nine sets (three against each team to 15 points) shall be allowed. Point caps are at the host's discretion.

3-Team Format

A vs. B

B vs. C

A vs. C

4-Team Format

A vs. B

C vs. D

A vs. C

B vs. D

A vs. D

B vs. C

- C. **REQUEST FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:** The NFHS sport rules allow for state associations to authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique and extenuating circumstances. The accommodations should not fundamentally alter the sport, heighten risk to the athlete/others or place opponents at a disadvantage. The school of a competitor with a disability or special need may request specific accommodations or to use special equipment. The following items are required before accommodation requests can be reviewed and considered:

1. A written request from the school administrator, describing the participant's special needs and the specific accommodation(s) being requested. The letter should include the rules references of applicable NFHS sport rule(s) that would be violated without the accommodation.
2. A letter from the parent(s) or guardian confirming the need for an accommodation and acknowledging the potential risk of injury associated with the accommodation.
3. A letter from the participant's doctor or applicable caregiver describing the medical circumstance or special need, and confirming the need for an accommodation.
4. Photographs of:
 - a. The special equipment, and
 - b. The participant wearing the special equipment, if applicable.

Subsequent requests (after a student is initially approved for an accommodation) will only require the school request (number 1 on the list above).

Written approval from the MSHSAA office is required **prior** to any competition. The letter of approval from MSHSAA must be presented to contest officials before any accommodations may be used. Please include all sports the competitor may be participating in for the school year. MSHSAA can issue one letter covering all sports for the year and you will not have to submit a request prior to the start of each sports season.

Please allow ONE WEEK for the request to be reviewed prior to the first contest.

MSHSAA will consider requests if:

1. The sport is not fundamentally altered by the accommodation,
2. The accommodation does not create a risk to either the competitor or to others, and
3. The accommodation does not place opponents at a disadvantage.

- D. REGULAR SEASON WARM-UP PROCEDURE:** The Board has approved a statewide regular season warm-up procedure in volleyball, which is consistent with the district and state series warm-up procedure of 16-minutes, in order to insure a safer and more consistent procedure throughout the state. Neither individual schools nor conferences may reduce warm-up time prior to the match; however, the 3-minute shared stretching and ball-handling portion of the warm-up may take place in another appropriate area of the facility prior to teams taking the competition court for the remainder of the pre-match warm-up.

Note: The regular season district and state series warm-up is 16 minutes, consisting of 3 minutes of shared stretching and ball-handling followed immediately by the 12-minute warm-up (6-6: Receiving Team: full court, which includes serving. Serving Team: full court, which includes serving; plus 1 minute to clear court) When one team is assigned to the full court the opposing team shall not be permitted to use balls, in any capacity, during that 6-minute period.

- E. VOLLEYBALL CLOCK PROTOCOL AND COUNTDOWN:** The following clock protocol for volleyball matches is to be implemented for consistency during warm-ups. (For additional information refer to 'Checklist When Hosting Volleyball Contests' located in Appendix C).

Time on Scoreboard

18:00	Pre-match conference – When multiple matches are played on the same date, an 18-minute clock shall start as soon as the officials have completed their duties from the previous match. Clock does not stop.
16:00	Pre-match conference completed; 3 minutes shared stretching/ball-handling – Receiving Team and Serving Team; teams shall remain on their side of the net.
13:15	Official Whistle – Serving Team vacates court
13:00	Sound Horn – 6 minutes (full court) Receiving Team
7:15	Official Whistle – Receiving Team vacates court
7:00	Sound Horn – 6 minutes (full court) Serving Team
1:15	Official Whistle – Serving Team vacates court
1:00	Sound Horn – Prepare for announcement of team line-up; National Anthem (if performed) etc.

- F. INDIVIDUAL PLAYER LIMITS:** Except in tournament play, a team may participate in a maximum of three matches against three different schools (triple dual) on one calendar date.

1. Daily Set Limitations for Dual Competition
 - a) High School Varsity Level – Plays 3-out-of-5 Set Matches.
 - b) High School Junior Varsity Level – Plays 2-out-of-3 Set Matches.
 - c) Any high school player may participate in a maximum of six sets on one calendar date against the same school in regular season dual competition.
 2. Season Limits:
 - a) High School Level – A player is eligible to play in no more than 180 sets for the season.
- G. VOLLEYBALL VARSITY FORMAT:** Missouri school will utilize the three-out-of-five-set format at the high school level. The three-out-of-five-set format will be used in the district and state series. Lower level contests (junior high, freshman, junior varsity) will continue to be played in the two-out-of-three-set format only.
- H. TEAM BENCHES:** The MSHSAA Board of Directors approved a state association adoption per rule 9-1-2 of the NFHS Volleyball Rules Book for teams to remain on the same benches throughout the match. In the event there is a clear and distinct disadvantage, teams may switch sides. Officials shall determine if a disadvantage is present.
- I. MODIFIED 3RD SET IN SUB-VARSITY MATCHES AND TOURNAMENTS:** The MSHSAA Board of Directors approved a state association adoption per rule 1-2-1 of the NFHS Volleyball Rules Book to allow schools the option for sub-varsity level (i.e. junior high, freshman, junior varsity only) dual matches and tournaments to abbreviate the third set, when played, to be completed at 15 points or 25 points. The modification should be specified in the game contract, the officials' contract and agreed upon prior to the date of the match. If both schools do not agree to abbreviate the 3rd set, the set will be played to 25 points.
- J. OFFICIALS FOR VARSITY CONTESTS:** There shall be two (2) MSHSAA registered officials for all varsity level volleyball contests within the boundaries of Missouri and/or hosted by a member school (grades 6-12). For sub-varsity contests, only one official may be used (**By-Law 6.1.2**).
- K. LINE JUDGES AND FLAGS:**
1. It is recommended that adults be used as line judges during regular season play. This position is considered official game personnel, along with the official scorer, libero tracker, and timer.
 2. In Missouri, each school shall be responsible for providing one-line judge to officiate all levels of volleyball matches. MSHSAA Registered Officials are to be used as line judges at sectionals and state tournament matches and at other matches when possible.
 3. Line Judges may use flags. The flags shall be solid red in color and of a recommended size of approximately 12x12 inches to approximately 16x16 inches. The flag and hand grips should be securely affixed to the pole. The school will be responsible for providing the flags for the line judges, however the contest officials will be allowed to provide flags if needed.
- L. JUNIOR HIGH COMPETITION:**
1. All NFHS volleyball game rules shall apply to the **competition**. All matches and tournaments shall utilize the two-out-of-three-set format only. However, schools with a prior mutual agreement may lower the net to 7 feet to accommodate this age group.
 2. B-Team Abbreviated Match Modification – At the junior high level it would be permissible for the B team dual matches only to play one set, not a complete match, if there are not enough players with sets remaining as per the individual daily set limits in By-Law 3.30.8 for dual competition. All NFHS volleyball match playing rules must be followed. The modification should be specified in the game contract, the officials' contract and agreed upon by both schools prior to the date of the match.
- M. VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS:** Abbreviated play may only be utilized during pool play. An abbreviated pool play match **does count** toward the team contest limitations. Varsity tournaments may utilize the best of three or the best of five set format. Junior varsity, freshman and junior high tournaments may only utilize the best of three set format.
- N. GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP:** Good sportsmanship is an integral part of school activities. Coaches, players and fans should display only those actions which reflect the highest ideals of sportsmanship in the athletic program at all times. Any type of cheering, yelling and other similar actions which are done in a fashion to disconcert or be derogatory toward the opposing team or a specific opponent at the point play is occurring is considered inappropriate. Cheering, yelling and other support should be in a positive nature toward the school team and not done to taunt or disconcert opponents.

- O. **UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT:** The Board of Directors is vested with the power to suspend schools from membership for the unsportsmanlike conduct of teams, coaches, students or fans. Each school is responsible for the conduct of its teams, coaches, students and fans at matches both at home and away.
1. The Board may delegate to the Executive Director power to take immediate action when a situation demands such. The party or parties concerned shall have the privilege of requesting a hearing before the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting for a review of the case and the action taken by the MSHSAA Office.
 2. The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, substitute a fine not to exceed the sum of \$25.00 for each offense in lieu of suspension from the Association or to take any action that it deems advisable that does not exceed the maximum penalty of 365-day(s) suspension from the Association.

SECTION 3: POST-SEASON CRITERIA

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- A. **MSHSAA BY-LAW PROVISIONS:** In order to enter students in the MSHSAA District and State Volleyball Championships Series, the following provisions must be met:
1. A school must have employed a volleyball coach and offered instruction in volleyball as provided in MSHSAA By-Law 3.1.
 2. A school must meet all provisions of MSHSAA By-Law 5.1.2 concerning the number of matches which must be scheduled.
 3. In part, By-Law 5.1.2 indicates "No individual student shall be entered who has not represented her school in interscholastic competition in that sport during the season." In volleyball, as all sports, if a player is to be entered in the district tournament she shall have played in at least one regular season contest PRIOR to the district tournament.
- B. **CLASSIFICATION:** The district, sectional and state volleyball tournaments will be administered under an annual classification based upon the total number of schools participating in the sport. There will be a total of 5 classes with the lowest enrollment schools representing Class 1 and the highest enrollment schools representing Class 5.
- C. **DISTRICT ASSIGNMENTS:** District assignments, listing host sites and local managers will be published on the MSHSAA website early in the season. Girls: Friday, August 25, 2023. Boys: Friday, March 15, 2024.
- D. **SPORTS REGISTRATION FEE:** Schools which submitted the Tournament Registration Fee for volleyball have been assigned to a District Volleyball Tournament.
- E. **SPORTS SEASON:** Only those schools participating in the fall girls' and/or spring boys' volleyball season, as outlined in MSHSAA Athletic By-Laws (Section 3) will be eligible to enter the district volleyball tournament.
- F. **GAME BALL:** The official game ball for districts and the state tournament series for 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 is the Mikasa VFC1000 in **red/white/blue**. A game ball will be shipped to all sites from the MSHSAA office. **DISTRICT TOURNAMENT:** The tournament series will consist of eight district or sixteen district tournaments per classification scheduled to be played during the windows listed below. Refer to Appendix E for specific hosting criteria.
Girls: October 17-24, 2023
Boys: May 4-10, 2024

SECTION 4: POST-SEASON ENTRY PROCEDURES

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- A. **PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT TOURNAMENT:** Any team scheduled to play in the district tournament that does not appear as scheduled is subject to a forfeit and shall be responsible for paying the scheduled officials' fees.
- B. **ROSTER AND BENCH PERSONNEL:** During the district and state series, only 15 players may be listed on the roster. These 15 players, team coaches and two managers shall be permitted to sit on the team bench.
- C. **SEED MEETING:** The district manager shall schedule a meeting to draw the tournament bracket. The meeting shall be held no earlier than Saturday, September 30th and no later than Saturday, October 7th for the girls tournament and held no earlier than Saturday, April 20th and no later than Saturday, April 27th for the boys

tournament.. All schools assigned to the tournament should be notified of the time and place for the meeting at least seven days in advance and all schools are requested to send a representative.

1. At the seeding meeting, the participating coaches present shall rank teams for seeding purposes. The teams shall be ranked fairly regardless of how this may affect each coach's team. Each coach shall rank each team in the district, excluding his/her own team, from top to bottom on a secret ballot that will then be published in open forum and tallied to determine the overall seeding. When ranking teams, the committee shall take into account, each team's win-loss record (varsity matches only), head-to-head competition, caliber of competition and common opponents they have played over the season. **NOTE:** In tournament play, if a one-set playoff format is utilized to determine the advancement of teams to the finals, this one set is not counted in match play.

If a tie should occur in this seeding process, the tournament committee shall look at the tied teams only and their individual seeds from the other schools in the district to break the tie. Based upon each ballot, the tied teams would be assigned one or two points based upon their relative seeds. The team with the fewest points shall be awarded the higher seed. Should a tie still exist, the tournament committee shall determine the seeds of the tied teams. A tournament committee member whose team is involved in the tie shall abstain. The tournament committee shall have the authority to throw out a ballot that is obviously cast to negatively influence the seeding process. The committee shall reverse the right to accept or reject the coaches' recommendations.

2. Teams shall be placed on the bracket by the committee. In districts of eight or fewer teams, the teams shall be placed on the bracket according to seeding as illustrated on the MSHSAA website. Any byes are to be given to the first-seeded team, then the second-seeded team, etc. In districts of nine or more teams, the teams shall be placed on the bracket according to seeding as illustrated on the MSHSAA website. Any byes are to be given to the first-seeded team, then the second-seeded team, etc.

D. ENTRY PROCEDURES:

1. All school/team district entries shall be submitted online for the MSHSAA District and State Tournament Series. The online guide for accomplishing this entry process can be found on the MSHSAA website by following these steps:
 - a. Select the Login Link in the upper right-hand corner of the MSHSAA website.
 - b. Under "Sports and Activities" select the link "District Entries"
 - c. Click on "Girls/Boys – Volleyball"
 - d. Complete the screens as listed.

Be sure to submit your Official Recommendations, District Eligibility Roster, Season Record and Pass List by the indicated individual deadlines listed on the MSHSAA website and included in this manual.

All eligible players shall be listed on the roster at the time of the beginning of each tournament (the District Tournament is one tournament and the Sectional/State combination is a second single tournament). No new players may be added to the roster once the team has participated in the respective tournament. **Example:** A coach may add a player to the roster at the completion of the District Tournament prior to participating in the Sectional Tournament. Once sectional match play begins no further additions would be allowed.

2. Officials Recommendations: All coaches are **required** to submit Postseason Volleyball Officials Recommendations, on the MSHSAA website under the "District Entries" link. Recommendations must be submitted online no later than **Friday of Week number 11 (September 15, 2023) for girls and no later than Friday of Week number 40 (April 5th, 2024) for boys**. These recommendations will also be used when determining Sectional, Quarterfinal and State assignments.

Purpose of Official Recommendations: MSHSAA takes the officials recommendation/non-recommendation process very seriously. This process for post-season officials is designed to enhance the quality of officiating through input from each school on those officials that should be considered for post season contests. MSHSAA has the right to dismiss any recommendations/non-recommendations, submitted by head coaches, if it is determined that the coach has abused and/or manipulated the process for intentions not aligned with MSHSAA's purpose and philosophy in selecting post season officials.

3. District Eligibility Roster: This information shall be submitted online one week prior to the first allowable playing date of the district tournament (**Girls - Tuesday, October 10, 2023 and Boys – Tuesday, April 30, 2024.**) A school should include on the list all of its eligible athletes for volleyball (maximum of 15). Failure on the part of the school and/or head coach to complete this process could result in the elimination of the school from the MSHSAA district and/or state championship series and a \$50 late fee will be assessed to the school.

4. Season Record: This information shall be submitted online five calendar days **prior** to the seed meeting date to draw the district tournament bracket.
5. Pass List: The district pass list shall be submitted on the MSHSAA website to the district manager no later than one week prior to the first allowable playing date of the district tournament (**Girls - Tuesday, October 10, 2023 and Boys – Tuesday, April 30, 2024.**)
6. Sideline Cheerleaders: A maximum of 10 varsity cheerleaders in official cheerleading uniforms and their coach will be admitted free to the session their team plays, provided they have cheered during the regular season and the school athletic administrator has submitted their names through the MSHSAA online district entry process. Cheerleaders must enter the gate as a group and they must be accompanied by their coach. Specific instructions on how to obtain the digital pass for the cheer coach will be included in the information packet sent to each state qualifier by the MSHSAA Administrator responsible for that sport.
7. Late Entries: Managers are allowed to accept late entries up to the time of the seed meeting to draw the district tournament bracket commences. A late entry penalty fee of \$50 shall be assessed for the late entry. No entries will be accepted after the commencement of the district seed meeting to draw the tournament bracket begins. The district manager shall notify MSHSAA regarding any late entries for the tournament. MSHSAA shall invoice any school(s) owing a late entry penalty fee.
8. Additions/Substitutions:
 - a. Prior to Districts: The school may substitute prior to their first match in districts, any athlete from its eligibility list to replace one listed on the roster section of the District Volleyball Entry and Information Form. Substitutions after the first set begins may be made only in case of illness, verified by a physician. Any player who is thus replaced may not return to competition in the district tournament, but may return to competition during the sectional and/or state tournament provided her name has been added to the team roster prior to the first set of the state series tournament (see below). Additions may be made to the team roster after it is submitted for the district tournament, even if the number of names listed is less than the maximum limit of 15. **A \$50 late fee per entry will be assessed to the school for any changes made after the deadline.**
 - b. After Districts but Prior to Sectionals: A school may substitute or add to the team roster which was submitted for district play, prior to the start of the first match of the state tournament (sectional semi-finals). Additions may only be made until the maximum roster limit of 15 is reached. No additions or substitutions can be made after the sectional match of the state tournament.

SECTION 5: CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

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A. DISTRICT, SECTIONAL AND STATE TOURNAMENT FORMATS:

1. Scoring Format: The scoring format to be used for the district and state series competition will be: best three-out-of-five sets; the first four sets shall be rally scored to 25 points; with no point caps. The fifth and deciding set shall be 15 points (no cap), and a team must win by two points (NFHS Rule 1-4). The match shall end when one team has won three sets.
2. Single Elimination: District and Sectional tournaments will be conducted as single elimination. There will be no third place matches at districts. Teams that win their sectional round shall move to the quarterfinal round. Teams that win their quarterfinal round shall advance to state.
3. Warm-Up: The time between matches shall be a maximum of 18 minutes, consisting of a maximum of 2-minute pre-match conference followed immediately by the 3 minutes shared stretching and ball-handling. The 12-minute warm-up (6:6: Receiving Team, Serving Team – serving time has been included in the 6-minute warm-up) and 1 minute to clear the court for competition. The clock and countdown shall begin as soon as the officials have completed their duties from the previous match. **The clock shall not stop.** The 3-minute stretching and ball-handling period should start as soon as the court is available. The District Tournament Committee may lengthen this time allowance only if conditions warrant. **NOTE:** The full court may be utilized by the teams prior to the timed warm-up. Teams must stay on their side of the net: balls may be used by the teams. **NOTE:** When one team is assigned to the full court, the opposing team shall not be permitted to use balls, in any capacity, during that 6-minute period.
 - a. Each team is entitled to one half of the court during the 3-minute stretching and ball-handling period.
 - b. Each team will have access to the full court during their 6 minutes to warm-up.

- c. The team that will receive first will warm-up (full court) first.
 - d. The serving team will warm-up (full court) during the second 5 minutes.
 - e. The 6-minute warm-up for each team includes serving.
 - f. 1-minute left on clock to clear the court for competition.
 - g. If space permits, teams shall be allowed to warm-up during the match prior in a designated area of the host schools' facility.
4. Warm-Up Balls: Unless notified otherwise by the district, sectional and quarterfinal managers, individual schools shall be responsible for providing their own volleyballs for warm-ups.
 5. Home Team: The following shall be used to determine Home and Visitor on the bracket.
Districts: For the district tournament the higher seeded team is the home team on the bracket. The visiting team shall call the toss for serve.
Sectional and Quarterfinals: The top team on the bracket shall be the home team in odd numbered years and the team on the bottom of the bracket in even-numbered years. The visiting team and shall call the toss for serve.
 6. Practice: Visiting schools participating in the district, sectional or quarterfinal rounds will not be allowed to practice at the host site prior to the start of the event.
 7. Music: Pre-recorded music at the district and state series tournaments shall not be played by the individual schools in the playing/practice areas, but the host school may provide music for all schools if approved by the tournament committee. (Refer to Appendix B MSHSAA Position Statement Regarding U.S. Copyright Compliance)
 8. Spectator Restrictions: See Section 1-E in this manual.
 9. Continuous Standing: The district tournament committee shall establish specific guidelines regarding student cheer and spirit groups. The committee shall create these guidelines with a primary focus on sportsmanship and respect for other schools and spectators. The guidelines shall also consider the seating needs of the host facility. If the establishment of designated student seating sections is recommended by the tournament committee, the following criteria shall be enforced:
 - a. At least one empty row must serve as a buffer between the floor and the student sections.
 - b. The student sections shall be specifically marked and separated (such as by rope, pennants or other barrier) from the general spectator seating areas.
 - c. The student section shall be cleared out at the conclusion of each game for use by the schools playing the next contest. If a school is playing back-to-back games with its boys and girls teams, that school may remain in its section for both contests, as long as remaining in that section does not conflict with information mentioned in item g below.
 - d. In the interest of sportsmanship and positive behavior, the student sections for competing teams shall not be adjacent to each other, directly behind either goal, or directly behind the bench of the opposing team.
 - e. The student sections shall be placed in locations that minimize the obstruction of other patrons when the students stand in unison.
 - f. Sportsmanlike behavior is expected at all times from the student section.
 - g. An administrator with the responsibility of supervising students should be present at all contests involving that particular school and be present throughout the contest in the vicinity of the student section or in an area designated by the host site administrator.
 - h. An administrator from each participating school, the host site administrator and a representative of the game officials shall meet prior to game time to reiterate the site's guidelines for student cheer and spirit groups; discuss the sportsmanship goals of the contest; and to confirm the physical location of the school administrators during the contest.

B. DISTRICT MATCHES:

1. Districts shall begin for girls on Tuesday of week 16 (October 17, 2023) and conclude no later than Tuesday of week 17 (October 24, 2023), and shall begin for the boys on Saturday of Week 44 (May 4, 2024) and conclude no later than Friday of Week 45 (May 10, 2024) for the boys districts. No Sunday play is allowed.
2. The district tournament committee may allow the option for the first round tournament matches to be played at the higher seeded school. The district manager and tournament committee will draft the officials and establish the bracket and start time. If the tournament committee does not allow this option, all matches must be played at the district host school.

3. No school shall play in more than one match per calendar date. No more than 3 matches shall be schedule per school night if held at one gymnasium. (**NOTE:** Friday night is not considered a school night.)
4. In order to host a district tournament a school **MUST** meet the criteria outlined in Appendix E, letter B. If a school cannot accommodate these minimum requirements, the school shall not be considered as a district host site.
5. District Winners: Each team that qualifies for sectional play will be provided a packet of instructions by the district tournament manager. The sectional and quarterfinal hosting format for this year is located in Section 4-C. If there is a change in the team roster, the change shall be updated on the MSHSAA website and provided to the sectional manager in advance of the match. (Changes must adhere to the substitution policy).
6. Awards: Plaques will be awarded to the first and second place teams in each district tournament.

C. SECTIONAL AND QUARTERFINAL MATCHES:

1. **Sectional**
 - a. Schedule: These matches shall be played:
Girls - on Thursday of week 17 (October 26, 2023)
Boys – No Sectional Matches Played
 - b. Host: The team on the top of the bracket in odd-numbered years and the team on the bottom of the bracket in even-numbered years. The host school shall secure two local MSHSAA registered officials to officiate lines. In order to host a sectional match, a school **MUST** meet the criteria outlined in Appendix E, letter C. If the host school cannot accommodate these minimum requirements, the school has the opportunity to secure an alternate facility with prior approval from the MSHSAA office. The neutral site shall be at no additional expense to the MSHSAA. If the determined host is unable to secure such a facility, the opponent would then become the host site provided they can meet the established criteria.
 - c. Match Time: The contest shall take place at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Quarterfinal**
 - a. Schedule: These matches shall be played:
Girls - on Saturday of Week 17 (October 28, 2023)
Boys – on Wednesday of Week 46 (May 15, 2024)
 - b. Host: Will be determined by the following
 - i. NO SECTIONAL – Team on the top of the bracket in odd-numbered years and the team on the bottom of the bracket in even-numbered years.
 - ii. WITH SECTIONAL
 - 1) If one team has hosted a sectional match and the other has not; the team that did not host the sectional match will host the quarterfinal match.
 - 2) If both teams have hosted or neither has hosted a sectional match the team on the top of the bracket in odd-numbered years and the team on the bottom of the bracket in even-numbered years will host the quarterfinal match.
 - 3) The host school shall secure two local MSHSA registered officials to officiate lines.
 - 4) In order to host a quarterfinal match, a school **MUST** meet the specific criteria outlined in Appendix E, letter D. If the host school cannot accommodate these minimum requirements, the school has the opportunity to secure an alternate facility with prior approval from the MSHSAA office. The neutral site shall be at no additional expense to the MSHSAA. If the determined host is unable to secure such a facility, the opponent would then become the host site provided they can meet the established criteria.
 - c. Match Time: For Girls, Schools participating in quarterfinals may select a 1:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. start time. If both schools cannot agree the 3:00 p.m. start time shall be used. For Boys, the quarterfinal game will begin at 6:30 p.m.

CI. STATE TOURNAMENT: Four teams from each class will advance to the state tournament. Trophies will be presented to the first, second, third and fourth place teams in the state tournament along with individual medals for 15 players, the head coach and the assistant coach.

1. State Tournament Time Schedule and Pairings: Please note that matches may start later than the time listed below depending on pace of play.

Girls Tournament: November 2-4, 2023 at the Show Me Center in Cape Girardeau, MO

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Time	Class	Court 1	Court 2
9:57 a.m.	National Anthem		
10:00 a.m.	Class 3 Semifinals	1 vs. 3	4 vs. 2
Noon	Class 4 Semifinals	1 vs. 3	4 vs. 2
2:00 p.m.	Class 5 Semifinals	1 vs. 3	4 vs. 2
4:00 p.m.	Class 3 Third Place	TBD	Open
6:00 p.m.	Class 4 Third Place	TBD	Open
8:00 p.m.	Class 5 Third Place	TBD	Open

Friday, November 3, 2023

Time	Class	Court 1	Court 2
9:57 a.m.	National Anthem		
10:00 a.m.	Class 3 Championship	TBD	Open
Noon	Class 4 Championship	TBD	Open
2:00 p.m.	Class 5 Championship	TBD	Open
4:00 p.m.	Class 2 Semifinals	1 vs. 3	4 vs. 2
6:00 p.m.	Class 1 Semifinals	1 vs. 3	4 vs. 2

Saturday, November 4, 2023

Time	Class	Court 1	Court 2
9:57 a.m.	National Anthem		
10:00 a.m.	Class 2 Third Place	TBD	Open
Noon	Class 2 Championship	TBD	Open
2:00 p.m.	Class 1 Third Place	TBD	Open
4:00 p.m.	Class 1 Championship	TBD	Open

Boys Tournament: May 21-22, 2024 at Maryville University, St. Louis, MO

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Time	
TBD	National Anthem
TBD	1 vs. 3
TBD	4 vs. 2

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Time	
TBD	National Anthem
TBD	Third Place
TBD	Championship

APPENDIX A: PROGRAM INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

[\(TOC\)](#)

The MSHSAA staff strives to publish the most accurate materials for all Championship events. Since a majority of the information contained in Championship publications is submitted by qualifying schools, it is imperative that the MSHSAA office receive correctly-spelled names, accurate classifications (year in school), season results, statistics of participants and coaching information. The MSHSAA Board of Directors has approved a fine process for all late, incomplete or illegible submissions for MSHSAA Championship publications. Schools that do not submit their information to MSHSAA in a timely, legible, complete and accurate manner will be fined \$25 per offense (Board Policy). Electronic reports must be submitted by the appropriate deadline in the format and style included with the report instructions. It is the responsibility of the school to verify that MSHSAA has received its program information, team photo and any other required information by the appropriate deadline.

In addition to the appropriate roster and schedule information, the following statistical information will be requested for Volleyball teams advancing past the district tournament:

MP	Matches played for the individual
GP	Sets played for the individual
K	Kills recorded to date
E	Hitting errors to date
TA	Total attacks to date
Pct	Hitting percentage (kills minus errors divided by total attacks)
AST	Assists recorded to date
SA	Serving aces recorded to date
Dig	Digs recorded to date
TB	Total Blocks (includes solo blocks and block assists)

NOTE:

- 1) These numbers should represent all matches played through the district tournament and will be required for teams advancing past the district tournament. Any statistical information to be found incomplete will result in a fine per Board Policy on Delinquent Submissions of Required Data as listed above.
- 2) Stats only need to be entered once prior to the Sectional game. The stats will not need to be updated after each playoff contest.
- 3) If you have any statistical questions, do not hesitate in contacting Jason West in the MSHSAA office by e-mailing jason@mshsaa.org or calling (573) 875-1077.

APPENDIX B: MSHSAA POSITION STATEMENT REGARDING U.S. COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE [\(TOC\)](#)

Educators, coaches, and administrators who wish to use copyrighted material need to understand the privileges and rights of the copyright owner and must abide by defined limitations as expressed in U.S. Copyright Law. It is the responsibility of the school administration to ensure their school community is in compliance with U.S. Copyright Laws at all times when playing music at your events, reproducing consumable materials, and all other events taking place at school facilities where copyright laws are to be followed. When hosting a MSHSAA postseason event, the host site is responsible for confirming any music being played over a public sound system, used in video clips, etc., has the gained written permission and/or secured the necessary license(s) to play the music, video clips, etc. from the appropriate Performing Rights Organization (i.e. ASCAP, BMI, SESAC, other).

The NFHS (National Federation of State High Schools) has established an agreement with ASCAP to allow schools and non-school sites hosting a MSHSAA postseason event, to perform/play music in which they own the rights (at least 50%) of the work at no charge. It is your responsibility to ensure the music performed onsite is owned by ASCAP. To determine if the music is owned by ASCAP to go www.ASCAP.com and select the link 'Repertory' to search their catalog. If the work is not owned by ASCAP (at least 50%), you will need to work directly with the organization that does own the rights (BMI, SESAC, etc.) to secure the necessary license or not use that work. This agreement only

extends to the playing of music recordings downloaded to personal electronic devices, CD's, etc. but does not extend to mash-up recordings or music altered from its original recording without the site obtaining a license to do so.

APPENDIX C: SITE SELECTION PROCESS

(TOC)

A. General Criteria: The following district site selection process shall be used for Volleyball.

1. Following the assignment of all registered schools to classifications and districts, the MSHSAA staff shall select one Athletic Administrator or Principal (per district) to serve as the Site Selection Chairperson for the purpose of coordinating the process.
2. The chairperson shall be contacted and confirmed via email by the MSHSAA staff.
3. Each chairperson shall review the list of schools assigned to their district located on the activity page on www.mshsaa.org under the "Class and District Assignments" link
4. Each chairperson will contact all athletic administrators of schools and arrange a meeting (face-to-face is preferred but telephone conference call, email, fax, ballot, etc. is acceptable) to select the host site(s). MSHSAA shall incur no expense in conjunction with this meeting.
5. The request shall be to select the host site(s) for only the current classification cycle.
6. Schools wishing to host, shall complete and submit the District Host Submission information to provide evidence that facilities and staffing meet the necessary and/or recommended requirements to safely, securely and adequately provide for the conduct of the district tournament.
7. The chairperson shall distribute all submitted forms to district members for review prior to the selection meeting.
8. The chairperson shall notify the MSHSAA office, via email, by the established deadline and indicate the selected host site(s) and manager's information and the District Host Submission Form.
9. The MSHSAA staff shall review the submitted host sites for any necessary adjustments and final approval. The MSHSAA staff and/or Board of Directors shall select the host site when a district committee is unable to reach agreement or the Board determines a suggested site is unacceptable due to site constraints. A neutral site may only be used, provided there is prior approval from MSHSAA, due to confirmation of inadequate facilities at the assigned district schools or unusual circumstances. The neutral site shall be at no additional expense to MSHSAA.
10. Prior to final approval, a Medical Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for all state series sites and venues must be confirmed/uploaded to the MSHSAA website prior to hosting. The medical EAP shall specifically require an onsite AED and use of MSHSAA's AED Guidelines as posted on the Sports Medicine page at www.mshsaa.org
11. Following final approval, host sites shall be added to the district assignments link and the district managers' packets shall be forwarded to each district manager within an appropriate time frame to allow for proper administering of the event.

B. Specific Criteria for District Sites

1. The Board of Directors has taken the position on the locations for District and State Tournaments that competition sites for all district and state series events shall be conducted in Missouri unless a school owned facility, contiguous to the school campus is beyond the state border..
2. The site facility(s) must be in compliance with the Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act as a place of public accommodation.
3. A Medical Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the venue being used for hosting a postseason contest must be uploaded and accounted for at www.mshsaa.org. The medical EAP shall specifically require an onsite AED and use of MSHSAA's AED Guidelines as posted on the Sports Medicine page at www.mshsaa.org
4. Secure location for contest officials to be sequestered from teams and spectators.
5. Ability to take admission for all contests.
6. Seating capacity shall be adequate to accommodate anticipated attendance.
7. Adequate off-street parking available for the seating capacity of the facility – required.
8. Adequate concessions available for spectators – required

C. MSHSAA Specific Criteria for Volleyball Districts

1. Districts shall begin for girls on Tuesday of week 16 (October 17, 2023) and conclude no later than Tuesday of week 17 (October 24, 2023), and shall begin for the boys on Saturday of Week 44 (May 4, 2024) and conclude no later than Friday of Week 45 (May 10, 2024) for the boys districts. No Sunday play is allowed.
2. No school shall play in more than one match per calendar date. No more than 3 matches shall be schedule per school night. (**NOTE:** Friday is not considered a school night)
3. In order to host a district tournament a school MUST meet the following:
 - a. Facility/site must be located within the boundaries of the State of Missouri and
 - b. The facility MUST be able to accommodate a minimum of 60 spectators per participating school in that match. A facility may allow more spectators per school if facilities allow it. Equal number of tickets per team/school shall be allocated.
 - c. Adequate off-street parking available for the seating capacity of the facility.
 - d. The site/facility must be in compliance with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act as a place of public accommodation.
 - e. Adequate concessions available for spectators.
 - f. Adequate team locker rooms.
 - g. Private dressing facilities for contest officials
 - h. If a school cannot accommodate these minimum requirements, the school shall not be considered as a district host site.
4. Team rosters are limited to a maximum of 15 players per school.

CI. MSHSAA Specific Criteria for Volleyball Sectionals

1. These matches shall be played on Thursday of week 17.
2. There will be 8 sectional matches per class.
3. The 4 schools in that quadrant of the bracket shall be rotated each year (districts 1-4, 5-8, 9-12, 13-16).
4. The sectional match will be hosted by the team on the top of the bracket in odd-numbered years and the team on the bottom of the bracket in even-numbered years.
5. The host school shall secure two local MSHSAA registered officials to officiate lines.
6. In order to host a sectional match, a school MUST meet the following:
 - a. Facility/site must be located within the boundaries of the State of Missouri and
 - b. The facility MUST be able to accommodate a minimum of 60 spectators per participating school in that match. A facility may allow more spectators per school if facilities allow it. Equal number of tickets per team/school shall be allocated.
 - c. Adequate off-street parking available for the seating capacity of the facility.
 - d. The site/facility must be in compliance with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act as a place of public accommodation.
 - e. Adequate concessions available for spectators.
 - f. Adequate team locker rooms.
 - g. Private dressing facilities for contest officials
 - h. If a host school cannot accommodate these minimum requirements, the school has the opportunity to secure an alternate facility with prior approval from the MSHSAA office. The neutral site shall be at no additional expense to the MSHSAA. If the determined host is unable to secure such a facility, the opponent would then become the host site provided they can meet the established criteria.

CII. MSHSAA Specific Criteria for Volleyball Quarterfinals

1. Schedule: These matches shall be played:
 - a. Girls - on Saturday of Week 17 (October 28, 2023)
 - b. Boys – on Wednesday of Week 46 (May 15, 2024)
2. There will be 4 quarterfinal matches per class.
3. Hosting criteria:
 - a. If one team has hosted a sectional match and the other has not; the team that did not host the sectional match will host the quarterfinal match.
 - b. If both teams have hosted or neither has hosted a sectional match the team on the top of the bracket in odd-numbered years and the team on the bottom of the bracket in even-numbered years will host the quarterfinal match.
4. The host school shall secure two local MSHSAA registered officials to officiate lines.
5. In order to host a quarterfinal match, a school MUST meet the following:
6. Facility/site must be located within the boundaries of the State of Missouri and
7. The facility MUST be able to accommodate a minimum of 60 spectators per participating school in that match. A facility may allow more spectators per school if facilities allow it. Equal number of tickets per team/school shall be allocated.
8. Adequate off-street parking available for the seating capacity of the facility.

9. The site/facility must be in compliance with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act as a place of public accommodation.
10. Adequate concessions available for spectators.
11. Adequate team locker rooms.
12. Private dressing facilities for contest officials
13. If a host school cannot accommodate these minimum requirements, the school has the opportunity to secure an alternate facility with prior approval from the MSHSAA office. The neutral site shall be at no additional expense to the MSHSAA. If the determined host is unable to secure such a facility, the opponent would then become the host site provided they can meet the established criteria.

APPENDIX D: CHECKLIST WHEN HOSTING/WORKING A VOLLEYBALL CONTEST

(TOC)

The following suggestions are not new, but if all parties will follow these suggested time-saving procedures, and adhere to them on match nights, concerns about long evenings can be alleviated. If consistently applied, these suggestions could save up to 45 minutes on an evening with 3 matches scheduled and all matches would go to the maximum number of sets allowed.

Administration:

1. Establish clearly defined prematch introduction and National Anthem procedure. Make sure all parties (coaches and officials) are aware of the procedure so there is little delay in the execution of these items. This should be done before the day of the contest. It is suggested an email be sent to the visiting school's athletic director **prior** to the day of the contest to share with their coaching staff as well as the contest officials secured to work the match.
2. Secure ball retrievers (i.e. players from other levels or middle school students) to work the contest to chase balls between rallies and during warm-ups for both teams.
3. Secure and properly train personnel to work at the scorer's table (clock, scorer, libero tracker) to ensure substitutions are conducted timely and all time-outs and intervals between sets are efficiently timed. Secure and train your line judge working the match. Have them ready to meet the officials prior to the match.
4. Provide towels and/or floor mops near scorer's table to wipe the floor when necessary to minimize delays in the match. Balls are out and available for warm-ups.
5. Meet the officials upon arrival and escort them to the gym to inspect the court and playing area.
6. Be in the gym during the match for any problems or concerns that may require your attention.
7. Be in the gym at the conclusion of the match to get the next match and teams on the floor. If the last match of the evening, escort the officials off the court and to their changing area.

Officials:

1. Arrive in plenty of time to conduct prematch responsibilities. It is suggested no later than 45 minutes prior to the first match of the evening.
2. Prior to each match, the R1 holds coin up and whistles head coaches and captains to immediately begin the prematch conference. Host administration should assist with the process.
3. Conduct all responsibilities during the match quickly and efficiently to keep the contest moving (i.e. substitutions, time-outs, signaling for serve, table communication, etc.).

Coaches:

1. Have your teams immediately available to begin warm-up for the next match.
2. Ensure captains and head coaches are immediately available for the prematch conference and coin toss with the officials.
3. Have your teams ready for play following the timed warm-up, timeouts or intervals between sets.
4. Secure and train your line judge working the match. Have them ready to meet the officials prior to the match.

Pre-match Conference: **Note:** When multiple matches are played on the same date, an 18-minute clock shall start as soon as the officials have completed their duties from the previous match. The officials will conduct the conference in the first 2 minutes of the running clock and will release teams to their warm-up activities at 16 minutes on the clock. The conference shall be concluded before the 16-minute mark. The clock will continue without interruption.

1. Introductions of captains, head coaches and officials.
2. Officials inquire if all players are properly equipped and uniforms legal. Request any letters of authorization.
3. Cover playable area and any restrictions.
4. Conduct coin toss.

APPENDIX E: SECTIONAL BRACKET

[\(TOC\)](#)

Sectional Quarterfinals State Qualifier

District #1 Winner

6:30 pm

District #2 Winner

Quarterfinal #1

Winner
Quarterfinal 1

District #3 Winner

6:30 pm

District #4 Winner

See Section 5 for the Sectional and State Championship Schedule.

The State Tournament will be held at:
Girls: The Show-Me Center in Cape Girardeau
Boys: Maryville University in St. Louis

Sectional & Quarterfinal Hosts and Sites:
Refer to Appendix E for hosting criteria.

District #9 Winner

6:30 pm

District #10 Winner

Quarterfinal #3

Winner
Quarterfinal 3

District #11 Winner

6:30 pm

District #12 Winner

District #13 Winner

6:30 pm

District #14 Winner

Quarterfinal #4

Winner
Quarterfinal 4

District #15 Winner

6:30 pm

District #16 Winner

District #5 Winner

6:30 pm

District #6 Winner

Quarterfinal #2

Winner
Quarterfinal 2

District #7 Winner

6:30 pm

District #8 Winner

QUARTERFINAL BRACKET – NO SECTIONAL

Quarterfinals State Qualifier

District #1 Winner

	Winner
Quarterfinal #1	<u>Quarterfinal. 1</u>
District #2 Winner	

See Section 5 for the Sectional and State Championship Schedule.

District #5 Winner

	Winner
Quarterfinal #3	<u>Quarterfinal. 3</u>
District #6 Winner	

The State Tournament will be held at the Show-Me Center in Cape Girardeau.

Quarterfinal Hosts and Sites:
Refer to Appendix E for hosting criteria.

District #7 Winner

	Winner
Quarterfinal #4	<u>Quarterfinal. 4</u>
District #8 Winner	

District #3 Winner

	Winner
Quarterfinals #2	<u>Quarterfinal. 2</u>
District #4 Winner	



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