



MISSOURI STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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PLEASE NOTE: New wording has been underlined
and areas of emphasis are in **bold** text.

Revised
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MSHSAA VOLLEYBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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VOLLEYBALL RULES INTERPRETERS

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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 commentary on incidental information 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 insure 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. CONCUSSION 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 (By-Law 1.7 & [SMP](#))
- H. HEAT/HYDRATION – WET BULB GLOBE THERMOMETER ([SMP](#))
- I. ON-SITE PROTEST PROCEDURES (HB-Board Policy)
- J. OXYGEN USE POSITION STATEMENT ([SMP](#))
- K. SANCTIONING (HB-By-Law 3.18)

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 3.16.5 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 four sets (two against each team to 21 points) shall be allowed. When there are four schools participating, a maximum of six sets (two 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. **SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:** 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 rule references of applicable NFHS Volleyball Rules that would be violated without the accommodation.
 2. A letter from the parent(s) or guardian confirming the need for an accommodation and approving the accommodation request.
 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 1) the special equipment, and 2) the participant wearing the special equipment, if applicable.

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 allow ONE WEEK for requests 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 participant or 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 5-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 5 minutes of shared stretching and ball-handling followed immediately by the 10-minute warm-up (5-5: 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 5-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; 5 minutes shared stretching/ball-handling – Receiving Team and Serving Team; teams shall remain on their side of the net.
11:10	Official Whistle – Serving Team vacates court
11:00	Sound Horn – 5 minutes (full court) Receiving Team
6:10	Official Whistle – Receiving Team vacates court
6:00	Sound Horn – 5 minutes (full court) Serving Team
1:10	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) During the regular season dual competition, at all levels, a player may participate in a maximum of four sets on one calendar date against the same school.
 - b) Players participating in a varsity 3/5 set match, may participate in a maximum of five sets on one calendar date against the same school in regular season dual competition. Such players may only participate in a combination of varsity and junior varsity play (i.e. not in a freshman match).
 2. Season Limit: A player may participate in a maximum number of sets for the season that equals four times the number of dual matches (excluding tournament matches) played by the higher team on which the individual plays. [Example: Varsity selects schedule of 16 duals and 3 tournaments. Players are limited to 16x4 (64 sets) plus participation in three tournaments over the course of the season.] [Extra sets played in 3/5 set matches must be counted and may not exceed the maximums described above.] For additional Information, refer to MSHSAA By-Law 3.25 in the MSHSAA Official Handbook.
- G. VOLLEYBALL VARSITY FORMAT:** Missouri school will have a one-year transition period (2020-21 school year only) as volleyball moves forward to the three-of-five-set format for varsity volleyball. This transition year will allow the varsity team to utilize a two-of-three-set format for no more than 50% of its scheduled dual matches, with the rest of the dual matches required to utilize the three-of-five-set format. Mutual consent by both schools is required to play a two-of-three-set format; if schools do not agree, the three-of-five-set format shall be played. The format for the match must be clearly specified on the game contract and the officials' contract prior to the contest. The three-out-of-five-set format will be used in the district and state series beginning with the

2020-21 school year. Lower level contests (junior high, freshman, junior varsity) will continue to be played in the two-of-three-set format only.

- H. **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 match.
- I. **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 7-12). For sub-varsity contests, only one official may be used (**By-Law 6.1.2**).
- J. **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.
- K. **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 3.25.1b 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.
- L. **VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS:** For interscholastic volleyball tournaments which involve pool play, each pool shall be limited to five teams. Abbreviated play may only be utilized during pool play. Abbreviated pool play matches do not count towards the tournament match limitations. No team in the tournament shall compete in more than **six** regulation matches in the tournament.
- M. **APPROVED FORMATS OF ABBREVIATED POOL PLAY:**
1. 2 sets rally scored (no third set) (choice of points, win by two)
 2. 2 out of 3 sets rally scored (choice of points, third set **must** be abbreviated, win by two)
- NOTE:** Point caps are allowable under either of the above forms of abbreviated pool play.
- 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 concerning the number of matches which must be scheduled.
 3. In part, By-Law 5.1 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 (Friday, August 21, 2020).
- 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’ volleyball season, as outlined in MSHSAA Athletic By-Laws (Section 3) will be eligible to enter a girls’ district volleyball tournament.
- F. **GAME BALL:** The official game ball for districts and the state tournament series for 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 is the Baden VX5EC Perfection 15-0 in **red/white/blue**. A game ball will be shipped to all sites from the MSHSAA office.
- G. **DISTRICT TOURNAMENT:** The tournament series consists of sixteen district tournaments in each class scheduled to be played during the week of October 26-29. All district tournaments shall end Thursday, October 29, 2020.

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, October 10th and no later than Saturday, October 17th. 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:** Tournament record shall be recorded as a match won if two sets are won, as a match lost if two sets are lost, and as a tie if there is a split in pool play. **NOTE:** 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. Log on to your school page as the Athletic Director/Coach
 - b. Under "Sports and Activities" select the link "District Entries"
 - c. Click on "Girls – 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 to submit Post Season Volleyball Officials Recommendations, on the MSHSAA website under the "District Entries" link. Recommendations must be submitted online no later than **Friday of Week number 12 (September 25, 2020)**. These recommendations will also be used when determining Sectional/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 (Monday, October 19, 2020). A school should include on the list all of its eligible athletes for girls' 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 (Monday, October 19, 2020).
6. Sideline Cheerleaders: Varsity sideline cheerleaders in uniform from each school that have been listed on the pass list shall be admitted free at each session in which their team participates. All cheerleaders must arrive as a group with their coach for admittance; coach's name must be listed on the pass list as well.
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 first match of the state tournament (sectional semi-finals).

SECTION 5: CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

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A. DISTRICT AND SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT FORMATS:

1. Scoring Format: The scoring format to be used for the 2020-21 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 tournament shall advance to the state championships.
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 5 minutes shared stretching and ball-handling. The 10-minute warm-up (5:5: Receiving Team, Serving Team – serving time has been included in the 5-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 5-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 5-minute period.
 - a. Each team is entitled to one half of the court during the 5-minute stretching and ball-handling period.
 - b. Each team will have access to the full court during their 5 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 5-minute warm-up for each team includes serving.
 - f. 1 minute left on clock to clear the court for competition.
 - g. Back-to-back matches: see number 6 below.
 - h. 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 and sectional managers, individual schools shall be responsible for providing their own volleyballs for warm-ups.
5. Home Team: The top team on the bracket shall be the home team. The bottom team on the bracket shall be the visiting team and shall call the toss for serve.
6. Matches in a Day: Unless some unusual scheduling problems arise, a team shall not be required to play more than two matches in one day.
7. Break Before Finals: When semifinal and final matches are being played on the same date the two teams from the top half of the bracket shall play the first match, the two teams from the bottom half of the bracket shall play the second semi-final match. Following the second semi-final match, both coaches shall meet with host administration to determine the length of the intermission period. There shall be an intermission of thirty minutes between the second and third matches in addition to the 5:5 warm-up, unless participating coaches

mutually agree to a lesser time. Host administration may need a period of time (to be included within the 30-minute intermission) for court cleaning, etc.; however, following this maintenance period (if necessary) each team may use only their half of the court for stretching and ball-handling. The full court may not be used by either team until the pre-match warm-up period begins.

8. **Maximum Participants:** A maximum of 15 players may be on the roster and in uniform for tournament matches. Boys shall not play in the district, sectional, or state matches of the girls' volleyball series.
 9. **Practice:** Visiting schools participating in the district or sectional rounds will not be allowed to practice at the tournament site prior to the start of the tournament.
 10. **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)
 11. **District Winners:** Each team that qualifies for sectional play will be provided a packet of instructions by the district tournament manager. The sectional hosting format for this year is located in Section 4-B. The sectional tournament manager may have additional instructions to give competing schools upon arrival. If there is a change in the team roster, the change shall be updated on the MSHSAA website and provided to the tournament manager in advance of the tournament. (Changes must adhere to the substitution policy)
 12. **Awards:** Plaques will be awarded to the first and second place teams in each district 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.
 13. **Spectator Restrictions:** See Section 1-E in this manual.
 14. **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. SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE:** Matches will be held at **four** sites in each class on Saturday, October 31, 2020 (See bracket in Appendix D). **Time Schedule and Pairings and host sites for Sectional Tournaments are provided below. Teams that finish first in their district will advance to the sectional tournament.**

ATTENTION – HOST SITES: The sectional tournament will be hosted by one of the 4 district winners assigned to that sectional. Schools participating in sectionals may select either Option 1 or Option 2

below to determine the tournament start time. All schools attending that sectional must agree on the start time selected or Option 2 shall be used.

Site	Match-Up	Host Site	Time –Option 1	Time – Option 2
Sectional #1	District 1 vs 3	Winner of District 3	12:30	1:30
	District 4 vs 2		2:30	3:30
Sectional #2	District 5 vs 7	Winner of District 7	12:30	1:30
	District 8 vs 6		2:30	3:30
Sectional #3	District 9 vs 11	Winner of District 11	12:30	1:30
	District 12 vs 10		2:30	3:30
Sectional #4	District 13 vs 15	Winner of District 15	12:30	1:30
	District 16 vs 14		2:30	3:30

C. **STATE TOURNAMENT:** Four teams from each class will advance to the state tournament to be held at the Show-Me Center in Cape Girardeau and will take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 5-7, 2020.

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

Thursday, November 5, 2020

Time	Class	Court 1	Court 2
9:57 a.m.	National Anthem		
10:00 a.m.	Class 3 Semifinals	1 vs. 4	2 vs. 3
Noon	Class 4 Semifinals	1 vs. 4	2 vs. 3
2:00 p.m.	Class 5 Semifinals	1 vs. 4	2 vs. 3
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 6, 2020

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 1 Semifinals	1 vs. 4	2 vs. 3
6:00 p.m.	Class 2 Semifinals	1 vs. 4	2 vs. 3

Saturday, November 7, 2020

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

APPENDIX A: PROGRAM INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

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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 #19 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: CHECKLIST WHEN HOSTING/WORKING A VOLLEYBALL CONTEST

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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 D: SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

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Sectional Semi's Sectional Finals State Qualifiers



See Section 5 for the Sectional and State Championship Schedule.

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

Sectional Hosts and Sites:
Winners of Districts **3, 7, 11** and **15** will be the site and host of the sectional tournament.

APPENDIX E: SITE SELECTION PROCESS

[\(TOC\)](#)

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

1. Assignments of schools to specific districts shall be established annually by MSHSAA staff.
2. The MSHSAA staff shall select one Athletic Administrator or Principal (per district) to serve as the chairperson who shall coordinate the site selection process for each activity.
3. The chairpersons will be contacted and confirmed via email by the MSHSAA staff.
4. Each chairperson shall review the list of schools assigned to his/her district on the MSHSAA website under the district assignments link.
5. Each chairperson will contact all athletic administrators of schools assigned to the specific district and arrange for 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.
6. The request shall be to select the host site annually.
7. Specific criteria shall be established and published in each MSHSAA activity manual. The chairperson and school representatives shall follow the specific criteria to determine the appropriate course of action to be followed when selecting the district host site(s).
8. The district chairperson shall notify the MSHSAA office, via email, by the established deadline and indicate the selected host site and manager's information.
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. 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. MSHSAA Specific Criteria for Volleyball Districts

1. Facility/site must be located within the boundaries of the State of Missouri.
2. Seating capacity shall be adequate to accommodate anticipated attendance.
3. The site facility(s) must be in compliance with the Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act as a place of public accommodation.
4. Adequate off-street parking available for the seating capacity of the facility – required.
5. Adequate concessions available for spectators – required.
6. Adequate team locker rooms and private dressing facilities for match officials – preferred.

C. MSHSAA Specific Criteria for Volleyball Sectionals

1. Facility/site must be located within the boundaries of the State of Missouri.
2. Seating capacity shall be adequate to accommodate anticipated attendance (recommend minimum of 800 seating.)
3. The site facility must be in compliance with Disabilities Act as a place of public accommodation.
4. Adequate off-street parking available for the seating capacity of the facility – required.
5. Adequate concessions available for spectators – required.
6. Adequate team locker rooms and private dressing facilities for match officials – preferred.