

**CITY OF MINERAL WELLS
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
YOUTH VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE RULES
Spring 2021**

I. Facemask/Covid-19 Requirements

- A. Coaches and Players will not be required to wear mask when actively involved in a practice or match.
- B. Players on the bench will be asked to socially distance or wear a mask while on the bench.
- C. When not actively participating in a practice or match mask must be worn by all players and coaches 10 years old and older.
- D. Spectators who are 10 years old and older, will be required to wear mask when in the building and are asked to socially distance as much as possible.

II. General Information

- A. The City of Mineral Wells Parks & Recreation Department youth volleyball league teams will be registered with the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (T.A.A.F.). All head coaches must pass a background check and attend a coach's clinic in order to be a head coach in the Mineral Wells Parks and Recreation Department's youth volleyball program.
- B. The standings for the league tournament seeding will be determined by the win-loss records of the 18 regular season sets. Any ties will be settled by the following criteria:
 - 1st) Head-to-head competition of teams tied (head-to-head wins and losses of sets).
 - 2nd) The point differential between the teams tied.
 - 3rd) Number of forfeited games (fewest forfeit losses wins the tie breaker).
 - 4th) Total number of points for the season scored minus the total number of points allowed for the season.
 - 5th) If the above four criteria are still tied, a one game playoff will be held to determine the places for seeding.

II. Teams/Rosters

- A. A maximum of twelve (12) players are allowed on each team roster.
- B. Rosters may be adjusted until the end of regular (round robin) season play. No additions will be allowed after the end of regular season play going into tournament play. (If an injury, or other extenuating circumstance, causes a team to not have enough players, an exception may be made to this policy. It will be solely up to the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Superintendent, if any changes will be allowed. Any replacement of players to gain a competitive advantage will never be allowed. This restriction applies to City of Mineral Wells league play only.

C. No player may play on more than one (1) team in the same league or in different leagues per season.

III. Player Eligibility

Players must meet the following requirements in order to participate in a league game:

- A. All players must have completed a registration form with the legal guardian of the participant having signed the waiver of liability.
- B. All players who play in the 14 and Under league must be fourteen (14) years of age, or younger, as of **September 1, 2020**.
- C. All players who play in the 12 and Under league must be twelve (12) years of age, or younger, as of **September 1, 2020**.
- D. All players who play in the 10 and Under league must be ten (10) years of age, or younger, as of **September 1, 2020**.
- E. All players who play in the 8 and under league must be eight (8) years of age, or younger, as of **September 1, 2020**. Players in the 8U league must be at least seven (7) years of age to participate.
- F. Players may play in an older age group than their proper age group, but players may never play in a younger age group than their proper age group. No player may participate in more than one league/age group.
- G. The penalty for using an ineligible player that has not been approved by the Parks and Recreation Department will result in that team forfeiting any sets(s) in which the ineligible player participated.

IV. Playing Rules

The Mineral Wells Parks and Recreation Department will adopt the playing rules of the National Federation of High Schools and T.A.A.F. youth volleyball rules as the league's official playing rules. Any exceptions or additions to those rules are listed as follows:

- A. Each **match** will consist of three (3) **sets**. Each set will play to twenty-five (25) points, with rally scoring. Teams must win each set by two (2) points. There will be an 18 minute time limit on all sets. The cap for each set in regular season play will be 30 points.
- B. The coin flip will be done at the scoring table immediately after the third set has started for the match scheduled in front of you. Try to have all your players arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled match as matches may end early.
- C. Each match will be allotted fifty five (55) minutes. Match time is forfeit time for the first set. Forfeit time for the second set is ten (10) minutes after the scheduled match time. If a team still does not have enough players to begin play, the forfeit time for the third set will be 20 minutes after the scheduled match time.
- D. Teams will be allowed a one (1) minute break between the 1st and 2nd sets and a one (1) minute break will be allowed between the 2nd and 3rd sets.

- E. In the 8U and 10U leagues, after five (5) **consecutive** points (side out point plus four serves) received by the offensive team (serving team), the official will whistle for an automatic side out and the opposing team will be awarded the serve. In the 12U and 14U league, there will be not be a cap of how many serves that one player can have during a player rotation as server.
- F. The ball may be served anywhere behind the ten (10') foot line for the 8U league, the 23 foot line for the 10U league, and the back court line for the 12U and 14U leagues.
- G. The ball may be served either underhanded or overhanded.
- H. Each team will be allowed two (2) 30 second time outs in each set.
- I. Teams must have a minimum of four (4) players to start the game.
- J. Line ups are to be turned in to the score table at least five (5) minutes before scheduled match time. Changes can be made between sets, but those changes must be completed before the minute between sets has been completed. If the changes are not complete in that one minute intermission or if the original lineup is not turned in five minutes prior to the match, a point (and side out, if applicable) will be awarded to the opposing team.
- K. Starting players are to report to the score table before taking the court to check in with scorer.
- L. Each coach should initial the official's score sheet after each match. This will ensure that all records are correct and have been accepted by both team coaches. Failure to initial the score sheet will be an indication that the team coach has accepted the score sheet and has forfeited his/her right to review. League standings will be based on the score sheets.

V. Substitutions

- A. The 8U league will only substitute players when rotating. All other age groups will use the one for one substitute method as per the National Federation of High Schools playing rules.
- B. If teams have more than six (6) players attending a match, they will substitute players by rotating them into the center back position when awarded the serve (in the 8U league only). (Substitution guidelines may change to keep in sync with T.A.A.F. player substitution rules. Substitution methods will be discussed at coaches/managers meeting.)
- C. Exception to substitution policy: A player may be substituted at any time in case of injury. Substitute player will move to the position of the injured player.
- D. All players must play in at least one complete set per match.

VI. Equipment

- A. **All players are required to wear knee pads.**
- B. Matching uniforms are NOT required for local league play. Any team wishing to wear matching shirts may purchase them at their own expense. However, matching uniforms will be required if advancing to T.A.A.F. regional or state tournament. However, permanently affixed numbers on the back of the shirts are the minimum requirement for league play. Numbers made of tape or handwritten numbers will not be allowed.

- C. The 8U and 10U leagues will play with a volleyball lite. The 12U and 14U leagues will play with an official size volleyball.
- D. No jewelry, caps, or any other objects that might interfere with playing of the game will be allowed. The official has the discretionary right to determine what is, and what is not, allowed.

VII. The Court

- A. The court will be regulation size.
- B. The net shall be set at a height of 6'1" for 8U division, 7'0" for 10U division, and 7'4" for the 12U and 14U divisions.
- C. Parent volunteers from each team will be needed to call lines.

VIII. Sportsmanship/Conduct

- A. Any player, coach, or fan ejected for any display of unsportsmanlike conduct, will be ejected from the facility. An additional one (1) match suspension will apply. If the conditions of the misconduct warrant a more severe suspension, the Parks and Recreation Department may increase the amount of time of the suspension.
- B. Participants must accept the official's decisions with good sportsmanlike conduct. Only a coach or team captain may request a clarification of a call made regarding rules of play. There will be no questioning of judgment calls.
- C. Spectators or players are not permitted to approach the score table or official at any time. Only the coach, or assistant coach has the authority to speak with an official, or the score table, regarding the awarding of a point.

IX. Tournament Play

- A. The league championship tournaments will be double elimination tournaments unless a league only has five (5) regular season matches, in which a three game guarantee tournament may be necessary in order for each team to play at least eight total matches.
- B. The tournament will be played best two (2) out of three (3) sets.
- C. The first and second set will be played to twenty five (25) points, The cap for each set in tournament play will be 30 points.
- D. The third set, if needed, will be played to fifteen (15) points, The cap for each set in tournament play will be 30 points.
- E. There will be no time limit on tournament match sets.
- F. All sets will be played with rally scoring to 25 points must be won by at least two (2) points.

X. Awards

All participants will receive a participation award. The first place teams in each division will receive a first place award.

XI. Inclement Weather

In case of inclement weather (i.e. ice or snow), please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 940-328-7803 to determine the status of games. A determination of the status of matches will be made by 4PM on Fridays and by 7:30 a.m. on Saturdays.