

Adult Co-Rec Volleyball League 2024 By-laws

Article I (Administration)

A. Function of the Ocean City Recreation Department:

1. Scheduling and organization of all meetings relevant to successful operation of league activities.
2. Collection of fees and rosters as defined by the bylaws of this organization. The Team Representatives are responsible for the collection of **ALL** fees to be handed in to the League Coordinator by the first night of games Tuesday, February 20, 2024.
3. Preparation and distribution of schedules regulating league play.
4. Supply officials.
5. In the event of inclement weather look for an email from the league supervisor, call the Ocean City Recreation and Parks cancellation number @ 410-250-2124, or look on Ocean City Recreation Facebook page.

B. Function of teams:

1. Designate a team member to act as a Representative.
2. Submit all fees and rosters as required by these bylaws. Fees are due the first week of play and final rosters are due the third week of play.
3. Team Representatives will accept responsibility for the actions of the players on the roster and any accompanying spectators, and ensure that these bylaws are followed.
4. Notify the League Coordinator at least 2 hours prior to game time if it is known that a team will have to forfeit a match. Rescheduling of a forfeited match is at the League Coordinator's discretion. Should a match be rescheduled, the forfeiting team is responsible for paying the \$25.00 officiating fee.

Article II (Rosters & Fees)

A. Rosters and player eligibility:

1. All participants must be 18 years of age or older.
2. All waivers must be submitted to the OCRPD on the first night of games and/or the individual's first night of play. The form must be complete with the player's name, mailing address, phone number and emergency contact.
1. All final rosters are due at the conclusion of the third week of play.
2. **Rosters may not be altered after March 5, 2024.**
3. Players on more than one team roster must play with the team they first participated with.
4. Team rosters cannot exceed 12 players.
5. **Players must play in 50% of their regular season matches to be eligible to play in playoffs.** It is the responsibility of each player that his/her name is in the scorer's book each match they play in.

B. Fees:

1. League fees will be established in relation to the following costs:
 - a. Number of matches
 - b. Game officials
 - c. Awards
 - d. Equipment
 - e. Insurance
 - f. 10% Administration fee
2. Established fee payment must be submitted on the first night of play.

Article III (Player Regulations)

A. Player Regulations:

1. League will be comprised of 1 Division.
2. Players desiring to switch teams may do so provided they have written approval from their Team Representative.

3. Matches will only be rescheduled, in extreme cases, by and at the discretion of the League Coordinator. The team wishing to change the match must pay the officiating fee of \$25.00.
4. This league is strictly recreational and is designed for players who want to have fun and play in an organized and relaxed setting. A variety of players and abilities exist in this league.

Article IV (Match Format & Rules)

A. Match Format & Rules:

1. A match consists of three games played to 25 points. All games will use the rally point system for keeping score. If the serving team wins the rally, it scores a point and will continue to serve. If the receiving team wins the rally, they will be given a point and will also gain the serve. There is a point cap in all three games of 30 points. The team does not have to be leading by 2 points to win the match if either team reaches the 30-point cap.
2. A coin toss, or similar contest, will determine who will serve in game one and game three of the match.
3. Teams must win the game by two points. A team does not have to be serving to win a game/match.
4. During the regular season all games count toward the standing. The final standings are determined by the team's winning percentage.
5. An official/scorekeeper shall be provided by the OCRPD for each match.
6. USA Volleyball rules will be in effect unless otherwise noted in these bylaws. Some USA Volleyball rules have been stated in these bylaws to reinforce and serve as a reminder.
7. During games, the official and League Coordinator shall decide all questions involving judgment. The decision of the official is final.
8. **Teams may play with as few as 4 players, on one day during regular league play, two of which must be female. If 5 or 6 players are playing, two women must be on the court at all times. A team who starts a match with fewer players than 6 can add additional players only when their team has the serve.**

9. Teams may utilize a libero. The libero is restricted to perform as a back-row player and is not allowed to complete an attack-hit from anywhere if, at the moment of contact, the ball is entirely above the top of the net.
 - i. The libero may not block or attempt to block.
 - ii. The libero is allowed to replace any player in a back-row position.
 - iii. The libero can only be replaced by the player whom they replaced.
10. Substitutions not pertaining to the libero are unlimited and must be made while the ball is out of play and before the authorization for service.
- 11. If a team playing with 5 players incurs an injury that reduces the playable roster, they must forfeit the remainder of their matches or elect to use their one day of 4 players.**
12. Any ball that hits the ceiling, flag or basketball apparatus will be playable. Any ball that hits the curtain in the gym will be ruled out of play.
13. A serve may be returned in any fashion that is not deemed a lift/carry by the official. You cannot block a serve or complete an attack hit on the serve.
14. The server will be allowed one bad toss as long as the ball falls directly to the floor without being touched by the server.
15. The ball may touch the net while crossing it, this includes the serve. Any ball that contacts the antennas will be whistled out of play.
16. The ball may touch any part of the body and various parts provided that the contacts take place simultaneously.
17. A player may penetrate into the opponent's court provided this does not interfere with their play. Touching an opponent's court under the net with a hand or foot is permitted providing some part of the penetrating hand or foot remains either in contact with or directly above the center line.
18. Each team is given two timeouts per game.
19. OCRP reserves the right to suspend any player from the league should they exhibit excessive unsportsmanlike conduct. The League Coordinator will follow the procedures in the player conduct guide.

Article V (Forfeits & Protests)

A. Forfeits:

1. A game may be called a forfeit by the game official or the League Coordinator when;
 - a. Any player refuses to abide by the official's decision or engages in unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - b. A team will forfeit the first game of a scheduled match if their team is not present two minutes after game time. They will be given a 15-minute grace period to field a team or they will be issued a forfeit for the remaining games in that match.**
 - c. If a team fails to have 2 women on the court.**
 - d. If a team has already used their one day with 4 players and does not have at least 5 players.**
 - e. A team is using illegal players. All games the illegal player played in will also be considered a forfeit. Teams will not be permitted to pick up players from other teams to play, or to add players to their rosters after the final rosters have been handed in.
 - f. When a forfeit occurs, it is the responsibility of the players to make sure their names are in the scorebook to be given credit for the match. Only players that are present may sign in.
2. A team will be allowed two forfeits during the season. On the third forfeit the team will be suspended from the league.

B. Protests:

1. Any protest other than that of using illegal players must be announced immediately at the time of the dispute.
2. The protest must be submitted in writing within twenty-four hours to the League Coordinator.
3. A \$25.00 fee must accompany each protest. This fee will be returned only if the protest is won.
4. If it is necessary, a review committee consisting of the Team Representatives not involved with the protest will be asked to join the OCRP staff to make a decision. The decision of the committee is final.

Article VI (Playoffs)

A. Playoffs

1. Teams will be split into two divisions per their regular season team ranking and there will be separate double elimination
2. Two double elimination playoffs shall be held at the conclusion of the regular season, one for the top-half teams and one for the bottom-half teams.
3. All teams will advance to the playoffs.
4. A coin flip, or similar contest, shall determine who will serve in games one and three.
5. **All playoff participants must have played in 50% of their regular season matches.** It is the responsibility of each player that his/her name is in the scorer's book each match they play in.
6. Teams will be seeded according to their regular season win-loss record. In the event of a tie in team standings, the regular season head-to-head match will be used to determine the higher seed. If there is still a tie, a point differential will be used +/- ratio. If there is still a tie it will be determined by individual game record. If all else fails to break a tie, we will flip a coin to determine it.
7. Playoffs will consist of match play (best 2 out of 3). The point cap will also be 30 for these games.