

Tournaments

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General Overview

Depending on the age group/team hcSYNERGY Volleyball will sign up for 10-15 tournaments throughout the season. Most of our tournaments will be one day tournaments (i.e. Qualifier, League and Non Leagues). The special event tournaments (i.e. California Kickoff, President's Day, and Far Westerns) will range from two to three days.

Tournament locations are usually 15 to 45 minutes driving distance. Occasionally, there could be a change where we are placed at locations that could vary from 1 to 2 hours driving distance. Location addresses can be found on the NCVA website (www.ncva.com) and will be emailed out by the team parent as soon as the information is posted on NCVA.

One day tournaments will run on a 3 to 4 team pool in the am wave and conclude with bracket play in the pm wave. Teams are placed in their pools/brackets on records, scores and/or points. For the two to three day tournaments, pool play and bracket play will depend on the number of days within the tournament. (i.e. Two day tournament: day one will only be pool play, day two of the tournament will be another round of pool play and wrap up with bracket play).

Key Points

- Parents are responsible for transportation to tournaments.
- Arrival time for tournaments is 45 minutes before the first match begins. This ensures athletes to be completely dressed and on the court warming up.
- Athletes should arrive at the tournament wearing the appropriate uniform. (i.e. Warm up suit, tournament shirt, jersey and spandex). This is to ensure that we look like and act like a team both on and off the court. In addition, athletes should ALWAYS have both jerseys with them when attending a tournament. If any part of the uniform is missing – there could be a chance that you will be sitting out the entire day.
- Honor the game! Sportsmanship is required from coaches, players and parents at all times. **Please note that an athlete could be dismissed from the team or club if a parent approaches a coach before, during or after a match/tournament in a confrontational manner.**
- Tournament campsites need to be cleaned and left in the same manner as when we arrived.
- Please notify your coach immediately, if late or absent from a tournament.

Officiating

Athletes will be expected to learn the rules of the game and be able to carry out all of the team's officiating duties, which may include

- Up Official
- Down Official
- Line Judge (2 athletes)
- Scorebook
- Score Flipper
- Libero Tracker

Officiating duties are to be handled with the same level of concentration and effort as playing. Remember that other teams will also be officiating your matches and you want their best effort also.

How individual officiating duties are assigned will be handled on a team by team basis.

No athlete is allowed to leave the tournament until the entire team's officiating responsibilities are complete unless otherwise approved by the coach in advance.

NCVA Tournament

(Insert taken from the NCVA 2011-2012 Handbook)

Area League Tournaments

- Area League tournaments will be offered in the following age groups: 18, 16, 14, and 12. All teams who do not participate in the Power League are eligible to play in an Area League tournament. If you are entered into Power League, your team is not eligible to play in Area League Tournaments.
- The entire Area League consists of a one-day Qualifier, four league dates, and a two-day Region Championship. To enter the entire league you must register and pay online for the league and your complete paperwork & all payments are **DUE @ 5:00 PM on Wednesday, January 4, 2012.**
- The cost for these tournaments is \$150 per tournament, \$350 for the Regional Championship or \$700 per team for the entire league (if entered by deadline) which includes the Regional Championships.
- A team must play in at least two Area League tournaments to be eligible to play in the Region Championships.
- All teams participating in the Area League will receive points. The Area League point structure will be used to seed teams into the Region Championships. All teams remain in their same typical areas to compete in Region Championships.
- If there are enough teams to warrant, teams in the same age division will be divided into groups. Following League #1, and continuing through League #4, teams will be moved up and down based on their finish in the league event.
- The number of teams that will move up and down, and the points given, will be based on the total number of teams in your area.
- Each team will have the option to play as close to home as possible or to travel; typical travel time is 90 minutes. However, sites and travel times are subject to change.
- The deadline to enter individual tournaments (\$150 per team) will be 9:00 AM 12 days prior to the event. You must register and pay online to be entered.
- Play will begin at 8:30 AM.
- Each match is the best two-out-of-three sets to 25 points in the first two sets and to 15 points in the third set, if necessary. All sets will use rally scoring with no cap.
- After pool play, teams will advance to playoff brackets. If bracket play cannot be completed by 6:00 PM, the tournament director may change the scoring method from a best two-out-of-three sets to one set to 25 points. Teams will switch sides when one team scores 13 points. The decision will be based on leaving the site by 6:00 PM.
- The 12 and under Area League and 12 and under Non-League tournaments will use the lite ball and players are not allowed to step into the court when serving. Only teams that do NOT have 12-year olds—players who are 11 years old and under—are allowed to use the lite ball AND one step into the court when serving.

Warm-Ups

- Teams will be given sole use of the court for 5 minutes prior to their first match of the day. During the 5 minutes the team may hit, practice ball handling and serve (serving must be done during their 5 min.) No other time will be allotted to practice serving.
 - Serving Team – 5 minutes solo court
 - Receiving Team – 5 minutes solo court
- Once all teams in the pool have players, the teams scheduled to play the next match will share the court for 5 minutes. Only hitting will be allowed during this time. (There will be no serving allowed during this time).
 - Both Teams – Shared hitting 5 minutes
 - Rule 7.2.2b: —For junior competition, when one team has exclusive use of the court, the other team must either be at its team bench or out of the playing area. Warming up with balls at the team bench or the spectator walkways is not permitted.
- Since no ball handling is permitted during the opposing team’s use of the court, it is recommended that each team provides shaggers for the opposing team’s warm-up. This allows for more reps for the team warming up. Due to insurance and liability requirements only NCVA registered and on the roster personnel will be allowed to retrieve balls.

Tie-Breaking Procedure

2-Way Ties

2-way ties, in match record, in a pool are broken by head-to-head competition results between the two tied teams.

3-Way Ties

3-way ties in a pool are broken by:

1st	Matches	Won/lost record.
2nd	Sets	Won/lost percentage. Calculation: the team’s total number of sets won divided by the team’s total number of sets played equals the won/lost percentage. The highest percentage wins the pool.
3rd	Point Differential	Determined among the tied teams. Calculation: the team’s total points scored minus the team’s total points allowed in ALL the matches of the pool.

Sanctions

Food in the Playing Facility

Tournament directors may impose the —13-Point Rule

For teams who are violating the —No Food in Gym policy. The —13-Point Rule means that in the team's next set, the score will begin at 0-13, with 13 points automatically awarded to the opposing team. This will be noted in the tournament director's report, which will result in the club's being fined \$100. During the tournaments located in Convention Centers, if your team is caught with food you may be removed from the tournament.

Late for an Officiating Assignment

Tournament directors may impose the —13-Point Rule for teams who are late for an officiating assignment. If it is the last match of the day, the team can be fined \$100 by the NCVA.

League Commitment

Once a team has committed to play in the League, the team is automatically entered into each League date. If a team cannot attend a League tournament, the team must still cancel from the tournament by mailing, delivering, faxing, or emailing the Tournament Cancellation Form, using the criteria stated in this Handbook. The club will not receive a refund for the canceled tournament. The team will be placed as the last finisher in that tournament and receive last place points. The team will be dropped to the next division, depending on the League structure. There are no refunds and sanctions may occur if your team does not cancel in the allotted time.