



NOTE: Rules regarding Scoring, Ball in Play, and Referees may be updated based on final number of teams. Final version of rules will be released on Monday, June 12th, 2023.

Behind The Ball Sand Volleyball Tournament follows USA Volleyball rules unless stated otherwise below.

REGISTRATION AND TOURNAMENT FEES

We prefer you register for the tournament through our online registration system which offers the ability to **register only** then pay via debit or credit card.

CHECK-IN

Tournament check-in begins thirty (30) minutes prior to tournament start time. Approximately 10 minutes prior to starting play, Tournament Director will have a brief meeting with the teams to discuss rules and answer any questions.

TOURNAMENT PLAY

Double Elimination Bracket Play

In a double elimination bracket tournament, there will be a winner and loser bracket. Each team will play at minimum two games. All teams will begin playing in the winner's bracket. When a team loses, they will move into the loser's bracket and play the subsequent losing team for their chance to be placed back onto the winner's bracket.

Scoring

- Teams will play the first 2 games to 25 with a cap at 27 (rally score). Teams must win by 2 points.
- The 3rd game will be played to 15 with a cap of 21 (rally score). Teams must win by 2 points.

"Rally Score" means that every time a point is finished, one team will be awarded a point, whether they served or not.

Switching Sides

Due to certain conditions (sun in eyes, wind, etcetera), teams switch sides after set one and after set two and at the eight-point mark for set three.

Time Outs

Each team is allowed two thirty second (:30) timeouts per match. Time outs may be called at any dead ball.

Deciding Serve or Receive

The home team will get the first serve. The second set will be served by the opposite team who did not start the match with serving. The third serve will go back to the home team.

Serves and Rotation

- 2's and 3's team members do not have to rotate position on the court but must rotate service.
- 4's, 5's, and 6's team members must rotate on the court and must remain in that position until the serve has been contacted. The player in the back right hand corner of the rotation will be designated to serve and continue to rotate clockwise.
- Server rotation is required. Teams may not attack a serve. The service line is the back-end line on both sides of the court and runs the length of the end line. No screening is allowed, (blocking path of vision to the server). The ball may touch the net on serve as long as it goes over the net.
- The server may not step on or over the end line until the ball has been contacted. The width of the service area is from sideline to sideline. The depth of the service area is infinite.
- Serves may be returned on the first hit. The serve may not be blocked or spiked. Serves may be returned by:
 - Bump pass.
 - Clasping their hands together.
 - A closed fist.

Ball in Play

- Each team has up to three contacts at the ball before the ball returns to opposing team's side of the court; blocks do not count as a contact.
- A player may not contact the ball two times in a row.
- Two players may contact the ball at the same time; however, it is considered two hits.
- You cannot lift (carry), double contact, or throw the ball. A double contact is only allowed on a hard driven ball.
- Tips are allowed with an open hand or closed fist.
- No kicking is allowed but a ball that bounces off a planted foot/leg is still a live ball.
- No one may carry or lift the ball. A carry or lift will be determined by the visible intention to hold or catch and lower the ball.
- Players can't interfere with opponent's movements when blocking.
- Hand(s) may pass beyond the net after an attack-hit, as long as the contact was made within the team's playing space.

Referees

All games are officiated by a referee. No calls will be made by any team and all rulings made by a scoring official is final.

Sportsmanship

The idea of Behind the Ball Sand Volleyball Tournament is to have fun. We hope that all participants keep that in mind when becoming involved. Although the games may become intense, you still can be competitive while maintaining good sportsmanship. With this said, any behavior deemed unacceptable by staff may result in suspension and/or ejection from a game or the tournament.

Forfeits

Teams must be present for their game even when the start time is earlier than indicated. If more than two players are not present, the team will forfeit the game resulting in a loss. We will not start the game earlier than 15 minutes prior to the listed start time.

Waivers

To participate in the league, each participant must sign the team waiver. Waivers are provided at check-in and must be completed before your first game time.

RAINOUTS/POSTPONEMENTS/CANCELLATIONS

We will have the tournament rain or shine. However, we will postpone the tournament if it is a heavy rain and/or lightning during tournament and sometimes cancel tournament depending on how long the heavy rain and/or lightning will last. Any notice concerning a rainout or other tournament cancellation or postponement prior to the start of the tournament will be emailed or texted to the team manager, whichever he or she prefers. If you have not received notification and unsure of the status, please email info@fc-presents.com. We will do our best to provide you as much advance notice as possible but please keep in mind that weather is very unpredictable so we may not be able to make a weather decision until closer to a scheduled tournament time. In the event a tournament must be cancelled prior to the start of the tournament and the tournament cannot be rescheduled, all tournament fees will be refunded.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms are not required. Players must play barefoot or use some approved sand sock.

For any questions or concerns, please contact info@fc-presents.com