



Welcome to the Stonewall Sports 10<sup>th</sup> Annual National Tournament! These rules outline the structure and expectations for the Indoor Volleyball Tournament. The Indoor Volleyball Tournament will be held on Saturday, July 20, and Sunday, July 21, 2024, at the University of Minnesota Recreation and Wellness Center (RecWell).

## Format

**Matches.** Each team is guaranteed at least four (4) matches: Three (3) on Day 1 (Saturday) and at least one (1) on Day 2 (Sunday).

**Divisions.** Teams will be assigned to 1 of 2 divisions: a Competitive Divisions composed of 8 teams or a Social Division composed of 10 teams. Teams will only be assigned to play and officiate within their own division.

**Schedules.** Matches will tentatively be held between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on both days. Team schedules for Saturday will be announced in advance of the Tournament. Sunday schedules will be available following Saturday play.

## Tournament Structure

### *Day 1. Saturday, July 20*

Teams will be randomly assigned three matches against an opponent within their division.

Matches will be played best of 3 sets, time permitting, with 40 minutes scheduled for play.

Based on the results of the Day 1 matches, teams will be ranked to determine seeding for the Day 2 Bracket. Ranking will be determined as follows:

1. Ranking Points will be awarded based on the results of each Day 1 match.

Match Result	Points Awarded
2-0	2.0
2-1	1.5
1-1	1.0
1-2	0.5
0-2	0.0

2. Teams will also be assigned a Ratio of the total points scored (PS) to the total points scored against (PA) across all Day 1 matches.
3. Team Totals used for rankings will be the sum of the Ranking Points and the Ratio.
4. If necessary, tie breaks will be determined by tournament staff.

### *Day 2. Sunday, July 21*

Based on the seeding from Day 1 matches, each team will be placed into their division's Elimination Bracket for Day 2 (see brackets below). Winning teams will advance through the bracket while losing teams will be eliminated (single elimination). Deciding matches will be played to determine 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> placed teams.

Matches will be played best of 3 sets with 50 minutes scheduled for play.

## **Tournament Rules**

The Stonewall Indoor Volleyball National Tournament will operate under the competition rules and regulations as outlined in the [2023–2025 Indoor Rules](#) book as adopted by USA Volleyball.

The rules listed below are specific to the Stonewall Sports Indoor Volleyball National Tournament and supersede the rules in the USA Volleyball Rule Book.

### **1. Match Time and Number of Sets**

- a. Saturday matches are allotted 40 minutes for play, and Sunday matches are allotted 50 minutes for play. We ask that all players be respectful of time. Please be assembled and ready to play at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled match time. In the event a match directly before yours is running slightly over, please be patient and ready to play immediately upon conclusion of that match.
- b. During play, keep the match moving and avoid unnecessary delays. Intentionally stalling is not acceptable and may be penalized with a warning and then additional sanctions for offending players at the discretion of the referee.
- c. Each match will be played as the best of 3 sets. The first 2 sets of a match will be played to 25 points, using rally scoring. If a third set is necessary, it will be played to 15 points, using rally scoring.
- d. The first team in a set to score 25 points (or 15 points for the third set) will be the winner of that set.

- e. If the set score reaches 24–24, the first team to reach a two-point advantage (e.g., 26–24) will be the winner of that set. Scoring is capped at 27 points for the first two sets and 17 points for the third.
- f. If a match reaches the time limit before the completion of the deciding set, the teams will be allowed a maximum of 5 minutes to finish the current set. If that set does not reach a winning score by the end of the additional 5 minutes, the match will end and the team with the most points will be declared the winner of that set.
- g. A new set may not begin at or after the expiration of the allotted time; if teams are tied 1–1 at/after the scheduled conclusion, the match ends in a tie.
- h. If a final set does not reach at least 10 total points (the sum of both teams' scores) prior to being ended for time, it will not be counted and only the scores of the first two sets will stand. (Example: After the 5 additional minutes have concluded, the score of the current match is only 3–5. The match will not be counted.)

## **2. Net Height**

- a. As a co-ed tournament, we will strive to use a net height at or very near 7'9 5/8”.

## **3. Team Composition**

- a. A team may consist of up to 10 players, including the captain.
- b. A team must have at least 6 players present to play a match.
- c. A player arriving late may enter the rotation only if a complete rotation has not occurred in the current set. If the team has fully rotated through, the late player may join in the subsequent sets. Players may enter as late as the third set.
- d. All players must rotate through all sets. Captains are responsible for ensuring that their rotations are fair and consistent. Deliberately excluding a player from a rotation for a competitive advantage is prohibited.

## **4. The Libero Position**

- a. If a team wishes to use a libero, it is the team's responsibility to clearly identify the libero and to notify the referee of the method used to identify them. Some suggested methods include colored arm bands or a jersey worn over the player's shirt.

- b. If a referee feels that the libero is not clearly identifiable during play, the referee may stop play and require the team to identify the libero more clearly.

## **5. Volunteer Officials**

- a. Throughout the tournament, teams are required to provide 4 player volunteers to serve as the head referee, line judges, and scorekeeper for assigned matches. The schedule for volunteer officials will be published prior to the beginning of the tournament. Failure to provide volunteer officials will result in sanctions up to and including team disqualification from the tournament.
- b. Captains are responsible for ensuring that assigned volunteer officials are present, familiar with the rules and hand signals, and fully attentive to the match.

## **6. Player Conduct**

- a. If a player exhibits any behavior that deliberately subverts tournament rules or the mission of Stonewall Sports, verbal warnings and/or removal from the tournament can be issued by the referee or tournament staff.
- b. Three levels of sanctions are available to the referee and may be issued at their discretion. Depending on the nature of the offense, these sanctions need not be issued in order:
  - i. Verbal warning to the player(s) and team captain.
  - ii. Yellow card to the individual player(s) committing the offense. A player issued a yellow card is removed from the current set, and service is given to the opposing team. Players issued a yellow card may return to play in a subsequent set.
    - 1. Yellow cards apply to individual players; however, they also serve as a verbal warning to the entire team. Teammates committing a similar infraction will not receive an additional warning but will automatically be issued a yellow card.
  - iii. Red card to the individual player(s) committing the offense. A player issued a red card is removed from the match, and service is given to the opposing team.
    - 1. Players receiving a red card are disqualified for at least the remainder of the current match. Red cards will be reviewed

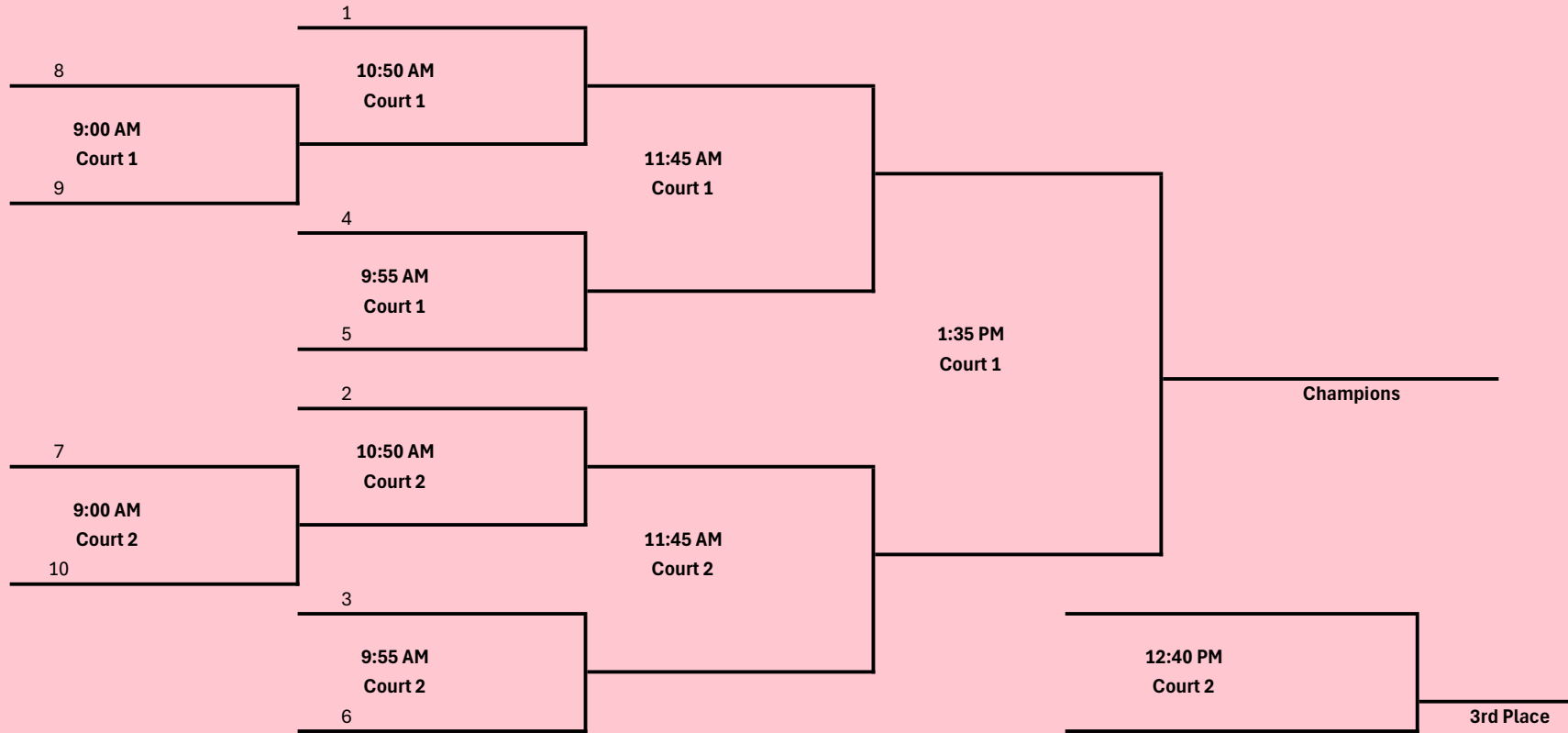
by tournament staff who may impose additional sanctions based on the nature of the incident.

- c. Captains may calmly discuss a play with the referee for the purpose of clarification or explanation of what was observed. Referees may discuss these plays with line judges, but captains may not approach line judges directly. Referees may consult tournament staff regarding rules, but the final decision rests solely with the referee.
- d. Captains may also bring to the attention of the referee any opposing player they believe is intentionally violating the rules. In such cases the referee may pay specific attention to the player in question and may call upon a member of tournament staff for additional support.
- e. No player may argue with or berate any referee, official, or opponent. Violations will be subject to immediate sanction up to and including a red card at the discretion of the referee. Any player who exhibits overly or consistently aggressive behavior or who physically contacts or personally insults any referee, official, or opponent will receive an automatic red card.
- f. Arguments between teams, up to and including fighting, will result in red cards issued directly to all involved players and may result in the immediate ending of the match at the discretion of the referee and tournament staff.

## **7. Injuries and Player Safety**

- a. Player safety must always be the priority of all referees, officials, and tournament staff. Referees have complete discretion to halt a match to ensure player safety. Referees have authority to take any necessary measures to ensure safe conditions prior to resuming play.
- b. In the event of an injury, the match shall be stopped by the referee and the injured player removed from the court when it is safe to do so. If the injured player is unable to return to play, a new player should be rotated into the set.
- c. All player injuries must be reported to tournament staff.

# Social Elimination Bracket



# Competitive Elimination Bracket

