Olathe Parks & Recreation  
Girls Volleyball League  
Grades 3-6

Coaches and players are responsible for knowing and following the game rules. Coaches, please go over these rules with the parents to prevent them from questioning calls made by the referee. Any questioning of a call or ruling must be made by the coach, NOT a parent, player, or spectator.

I. General Rules
1. Participants must accept referees’ decisions with sportsmanlike conduct and without dispute. In case of doubt, clarification may be requested through the coach only.
2. No food or drink is allowed in the gym; however we do allow a water container with a lid. Coaches, please express this policy to the parents to help us keep the facility in good shape.
3. **Coaches must rotate players before each serve except the opening serve of the game.** The player who had just served will be substituted for if there are players on the bench. Exception: players may be substituted for at any time in case of injury.
4. There should be 6 players on the court for each team.
5. A team may start and play the game with 4 players. If a team does not have 4 players at game time it will be a forfeit.
6. **Time Outs**—Each team will have the option of one 30-second time out per set.
7. **Ceiling**—If the ball hits the ceiling and remains on the same side of the court, it is still in play. If it hits the ceiling and bounces to the other side of the court, it is considered out of bounds and a point will be awarded to the other team. Lights, rafters, basketball goals, and anything attached to the ceiling counts as part of the ceiling. Exception: If a serve hits the basketball goal that hangs over the court, the ball will be dead and served again.
8. **Dividers, Bleachers, and Walls**—All dividers, bleachers, and walls are considered out of play. If a player hits a ball that then hits any of these objects, it will be a side out and a point will be awarded to the other team.
9. All players must currently be registered and only play for one team in the OPRD Volleyball program. Using an illegal player will result in forfeiture of the game.

II. Serving
1. **Service Limitations**
   3rd & 4th: A single player will only be allowed to serve up to 5 consecutive points. It will be side out after that. No point will be awarded to the other team but they will rotate and be allowed to serve.
   5th & 6th Grade: A single player will only be allowed to serve up to 5 consecutive points. After 5 successful serves, the serve will be given to the next player in the rotation on the same team.
2. **Let serves** are allowed. A *Let* serve is a serve that hits the net, but still goes over the net inside the boundaries of the opponent’s court.
3. First serve of the first and third games will be decided by a coin toss. One captain from each team will meet the referee prior to the first game to do the coin toss. The team winning the coin toss will be awarded first serve; the losing team will choose which side they want to defend.
4. Both feet of the serving player must be behind the designated line for each age group. For the 3rd & 4th grade division, the designated serving line will be 10 feet in front of the baseline boundaries. For the 5th grade division, the designated serving line will be 5 feet in front of the baseline boundary.
5. Players must wait for the whistle from the referee to serve.
6. Players may not block or attack the serve.
7. The server may move freely within the service zone.
8. In the case of a bad toss during service, the serving player may not touch the ball before it hits the ground. If the ball is touched before hitting the ground, it will result in a side out and point for the other team. After a service tossing error, the referee must authorize the service again. One service tossing error is permitted for each service.

III. Playing Court and Equipment
1. All age groups play with the full-sized boundaries.
2. Coaches and players on the bench must stay at least 5 feet back from the court boundaries.
3. Volleyballs—A “Volley-Lite” ball will be used, it is the same size as regulation, but lighter and softer.
4. Players are encouraged to wear kneepads.
5. No jewelry made of metal, ceramic or rock will be allowed. Each team will receive one warning for wearing jewelry. If a player has jewelry on after the warning has been given they will be removed from the match.

IV. Game Play
1. All games will be rally-scored, meaning a point will be awarded to one team after each play. All games will be played to 25, win by 2 with a cap of 27. The teams will play all three games of a match during league games no matter what the outcome is of the first two. League standings will be based off of games and not matches.
2. Each team is entitled to a maximum of 3 hits to return the ball to the opponents. Hits include intentional hits by a player as well as unintentional contact with the ball.
3. It is a fault to touch any part of the net except for incidental contact by a player’s hair and insignificant contact by a player not involved in the action of playing the ball.
4. The net height for 3rd & 4th grade will be 6’6”, 5th and 6th grade net height will be 7’0”.
5. Subs are allowed from another team registered in the league. You may get a sub from the grade you are playing in or the grade below. No player is allowed to play down. Notify the official you have a sub and have the sub wear their own color jersey.

V. Practices
1. Coaches will be given a one hour practice per week.
2. While practicing in any Olathe School District facility, please abide by their policies and procedures.
3. Be courteous to other players and coaches in the gym, especially people who are practicing before and after you.