

VOLLEYBALL  
(Lawn Volleyball\*)

\*Specifications and rules following are for Official Volleyball. For Lawn or Garden Volleyball, or for backyard play, net height is usually 7'; court size approximately 40' x 20'. Area dimensions may vary in accordance with available space.

\*\*\*\*\*ILLUSTRATION FROM SPORTCRAFT RULE BOOK\*\*\*\*\*

**EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES**  
**COURTS**

Size - The playing surface (courts) shall be 60' long by 30' wide,

including outer edge of lines. The height shall be 30 or more feet and free from any and all obstructions.

**Boundary Lines** - The courts shall be bounded by lines 2" wide, which shall be at least 6' from walls or obstructions. The lines on all short sides of the courts are "end lines", the long sides are "side lines". **Center Line** - A line 4" wide shall be drawn across the center of the playing surface, separating the two courts.

**Service Areas** - To mark the service areas, two lines 6" by 2" shall be drawn 8" back of each end line and each to be as a continuation of each side line, so as to permit service from anywhere between them and the back end lines. The service areas shall be a minimum of 6' in depth back of the end lines and between the side lines. In the event the playing area does not provide space for such a depth, then the service area shall extend into the court to whatever distance is necessary to provide such a minimum service area.

**Spiking Lines for Back Line Players** - A 2" line shall be drawn across each court from sideline to sideline, the center of which shall be 10' from and parallel to the middle of the center line.

#### **NET**

The net shall be 3' wide overall and at least 32' in length when stretched. It shall consist of 4" square mesh of at least #21 size dark, natural or synthetic cord. A white 2" wide double thickness of canvas or single thickness of durable synthetic material shall be sewn along the full length of the top of the net. Through the top shall run a 3/16" - 1/4" wide flexible steel cable. Through the bottom shall run a 1/8" - 1/4" wide flexible steel cable or rope. Through each side may be inserted a 1/2" - 1" wide wood, metal or fiberglass rod which, when the net is installed, holds the sides perpendicular to the floor.

**Vertical Tape Markers** - A 2" vertical marker of tape shall be fastened over the entire width of each side of the net at each end to be directly above and vertical to the side lines.

#### **RULES**

1. **Number of Players** - Each team shall consist of not more than six to a team. Each side to have an equal amount of players.
2. **Position of Players** - Each player must be in his own position before the ball is served. After the server strikes the ball, each player may cover any section of his own court. (See diagram for positions.)
3. **Service** - Each player shall serve in turn and will continue to serve until side is out. When serving, the ball must go over the net; if the ball hits the net when served and goes over

the net, the ball must be reserved. If the ball does not go over the net when served or is out of bounds or touches any teammate before touching an opponent or opponent's court, the side is out and the opponent takes possession and becomes the serving team.

4. **Rotation** - After a team has lost its serve, the team receiving the ball for the first serve shall, before serving, rotate one position clockwise.
5. **Volley** - The ball may be volleyed only three times from one team member to another before returning it over the net. During this volley a player may not hit the ball twice in succession. One or both hands may be used.
6. **Officials** - The game is controlled by the referee; aided by the umpire, the official scorer and two linesmen. Team coaches, managers and captains are responsible for team discipline; they may ask for a time-out or a substitution. At a time-out or substitution the coach must not enter the court, though he may speak to his players. Captains are the only players allowed to speak to officials. Any dispute over the interpretation of rules is to be settled on the spot by the referee and the disputing captain. There is no appeal during the match against any decision.
7. **Fouls**
  - a. Holding the ball or throwing it.
  - b. If the ball touches any part of the body, except the hands or forearms.
  - c. Touching the net with any part of the body or hands, or reaching over the net.
  - d. If player plays out of position when ball is being served.
8. **Errors** - When a player, when the ball is in play -
  - a. Does not clearly hit the ball or allows the ball to come to rest in any part or parts of the body.
  - b. Hits the ball out of boundaries of the court.
  - c. Allows the ball to hit the floor or any object outside or over the court (except net), before being legally returned to the opponent's court.
  - d. Touches the ball twice in succession.
  - e. Fails to make a good serve.
9. **Penalty** - The penalty for foul or errors committed shall be "point" or "side out", as the case may be.
10. **Scoring** - The serving team can only score. When the serving team fails to score, it is "side out" and the receiving team becomes the serving team.