

Hawthorne's Backyard Volleyball Game Rules

1. A "match" shall consist of 3 sets (games) to 25 points (27 cap) rally score if time allows. At the end of the allotted time 1 team must have 11 points to win, if neither team has reached 11 points the set will continue until one team scores 11 points, win by 1. Officials will announce when 5 minutes are left in the match at which point neither team is allowed to call time out. Each courts start and end time is determined by the official on that court.
2. Legal Lineups: Female/Male = 6F, 5F/1M, 4F/2M, 3F/3M, 2F/4M, 1F/3M. Teams are not required to alternate male/female in their lineup.
3. A coin toss shall determine which team shall serve and which side teams will play on.
4. Server is allowed only 1 toss per serve. Server is not allowed to step on the baseline until their striking hand has contacted the ball.
5. Serves that hit the net are "in play".
6. Teams are allowed 3 contacts per side. A block is not considered one of these 3 contacts. There is no mandatory girl contact rule.
7. The ball must be played cleanly and not held, lifted, carried or "steered".
8. Players **are** allowed to play the ball with their feet.
9. Players are not allowed to attack or block serve. Players are never allowed to attack a ball unless some part of the ball is on their side. They are allowed to reach into the opponents playing area to block providing the opposing player is attempting to make an offensive play.
10. Players are allowed to double contact any **first** ball that enters their court during any volley providing they make only one motion to play the ball. Double contacts are not allowed on a team's 2nd or 3rd contact.
11. Players are not allowed to contact any part of the net at any time during a volley.
12. Teams must rotate every sideout.
13. Late player entries must enter the game in the back row.
14. Each team is allowed two 30 second time outs per game. Only captains are allowed to make the call.
15. This league does not allow pursuit rule.
16. Teams will be granted a replay if the ball contacts any part of the trees or bushes around the court causing interference with the players **REASONABLE** ability to play the ball. It will be the judgment of the official if had the interference item was not there would the player been able to make the play. If not there will be no replay directed.
17. Rotation: There are 2 ways to rotate. 1. Man for man: Two players may sub back and forth for each other an unlimited number of times. 2. Rotating sub: Players must rotate out only in the server (1) or middle back (6) position only. If there are only 2 females, they are allowed to stay in as to maintain a 2 female minimum ratio. Additionally: When a team is in a rotation with only one female in the front row they are allowed to switch a male from the back row with a female in the front row for the purpose of blocking only. This rule is gender specific. This male player is not allowed to attack the ball above the net only to block.

These are a very basic overview of the rules. More detailed rules will be explained as they occur