

2026 Pacesetter State Volleyball Tournament

Playing Rules – Grades 7-8-9

All play will be the same as the Minnesota State High School League playing rules with the following exceptions:

1. Matches will be best-of-three 25-point sets. Sets will be played with a 28-point cap. 3rd set (if necessary) played to 15 points, 18-point cap. (UNLESS noted otherwise on the bracket.)

Note: Caps are waived in Championship final match only.

2. Coin Toss: A coin toss will determine serve/side.

3. Scoring points/Rally point play: A new point is initiated each time the official signals for service to begin. When a team commits a fault, the result is a loss of rally & the opponent shall receive a point. If the serving team wins the rally, it scores a point and continues to serve. If the receiving team wins the rally, it scores a point and gains a serve. Each time a team gains the serve, it must rotate one position clockwise before serving.

4. Libero: Use of libero position is permitted. The libero is allowed to serve.

5. Substitution Rule: 18 is the maximum permitted per team per set. The re-entering player shall assume their original position in the serving order in relation to their other teammates. A substitution is illegal when the substitute re-enters or attempts to re-enter as a 19th substitution. Starting the set does not count as one entry.

6. Time-outs: Charged time-outs shall not exceed 45 seconds and each team is limited to two time-outs per set.

7. The scoreboard is the official score. Any questions regarding the score must be raised by a coach immediately at the moment of the disputed scoring. If necessary, the head coach may stand and raise both hands to ask for a “scoring timeout” to double check the score. Any question on disputed scores will be settled by the officials, coaches, and scorekeeper or the tournament director at the request of one of the officials.

8. Roster & Starting line-ups: Team roster must be turned in to the score table at the beginning of pre-match warm-ups. Starting line-ups must be turned in to the score table no later than two minutes prior to the end of the pre-match warm-ups and no later than one minute prior to the subsequent sets.

9. Line-up check: Coaches can request a line-up check at any time.

10. Good sportsmanship is expected from all players, coaches, parents and fans. Please set a good example for our young people!

Play Hard, Be A Good Sport, and Have Fun!