

2011 Star of the North Games Volleyball Tournament Rules

A. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

The tournament will be divided into four age divisions:

- 12 & under: one level offered
- 14 & under: two levels offered, A/B & C
- 16 & under: two levels offered, A/B & C
- 18 & under: two levels offered, A/B & C

The tournament will be played at different sites. Teams are seeded into pools of three or four teams for the First Wave of pool play, which starts at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, June 18. All teams will be seeded into new groups for the Second Wave of pool play, which will start at 2:30 p.m. Saturday and continues on Sunday, June 19, at 8:00 a.m. All teams will again be seeded into one of the multi-tiered playoffs. The playoffs begin at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

B. VENUES

This year's Star of the North volleyball tournament will utilize 34 courts at different venues in the St. Cloud area.

C. START TIMES FOR MATCHES

For Wave 1: The first match starts at 8:00 am Saturday. All subsequent matches will be played in order. Teams need to be ready to play when their match is sequentially ready,

For Wave 2: Matches 1-4 will be played on Saturday, with the first match beginning at 2:30 pm. The officials are authorized to begin this match early if all three teams (two playing teams, one refing team) are present and agree to start early. Matches 5-6 will be played on Sunday, beginning at 8:00 am.

For Playoffs: Matches will begin at 10:30 am Sunday. All subsequent matches will be played in order. Teams need to be ready to play when their match is sequentially ready.

No team should leave a venue once a wave or playoffs have started. Matches may run ahead of schedule. Teams need to be ready to play.

D. KNOW YOUR POOL PLACING

It is each team's responsibility to know where it has finished in its pool during the First and Second Waves. These placements will determine subsequent pool assignments for the Second Wave and for the Playoffs. All matches within a specific pool are played on the same court, and results will be posted on wall charts. Overall record will determine pool-play placing. In the case of ties in the overall record, a tie breaking procedure will be used. See below.

Please have at least one representative of your team (player, coach, parent) remain at the venue to learn your team's pool placing. If you are still confused about your team's placing, please consult with the venue manager on duty at each facility. You may also call the Star of the North volleyball tournament headquarters, at Halenbeck Hall, SCSU, (phone TBA.)

Pool results will also be updated periodically on the Star of the North Games website: www.starofthenorthgames.org.

Some teams will need to move to a new venue for the Second Wave or for the playoffs. Please allow enough time to travel between locations.

E. TIEBREAKER RULES

It is relatively common to have 2 or 3 teams tied with the same record in pool play. Here is the tiebreaking procedure:

If 2 teams tie with the same pool-play record, the tiebreaker will be head-to-head competition.

If 3 teams tie with the same pool-play record here is hierarchy of tiebreakers:

1. The winning percentages of total sets played within that current pool are compared. (i.e., 5-3 would be first seed, 4-3 would be second seed, and 4-4 would be 3rd seed.) If all three teams had the same winning percentage, the #2 tiebreaker will be used.
2. The most favorable point differential in ALL sets played within that pool will be compared. If all three teams had the same point differential, the #3 tiebreaker will be used.
3. Blind draw to determine the highest-seeded team.

Important: If at any time during the #1, #2, or #3 tiebreakers, one team sets itself apart from the other two, the tie between the remaining two teams will be broken by the results of their head-to-head match.

F. COMPETITION FORMAT

Four-team pools: All matches will be the best 2 out of 3 sets. The first two sets will be rally point sets to 25 and the third set, if needed, will be a rally scoring set to 15. There will be no cap on any sets.

Three-team pools: All matches will be 3 sets to 25. There will be no cap on any sets.

G. MEDALS

Medals will be awarded in the following manner:

8-team playoff groups: Playoff champion team: Gold Medals; Championship match losing team: Silver Medals; Semifinal match losing teams: Bronze Medals.

4-team playoff groups: Playoff champion team: Gold Medals; Championship match losing team: Silver Medals. No bronze medals will be awarded in 4-team playoff bracket.

H. RULES

USA Volleyball Rules will apply to all matches with the following clarifications:

1. The ceilings in all gyms are in play regardless of the height above the playing floor.
2. Players may not, at any time during play, step on an adjacent court or cross the extension of the sidelines of the adjacent court.
3. No coolers, pop, or food will be allowed on the gym floor at any site. Water in plastic bottles may be brought to the team bench area only. Players, coaches, and parents found violating this rule will be asked to remove the food and pop from the gym floor.
4. The first match of each wave will not start before the indicated time on the schedule, with the exception being Wave 2, when the officials are authorized to start early if all three teams are present and agree to the early start. Subsequent matches in a wave will be played in sequential order.
5. A five-minute warm up will be used for all matches. During the warm up, both teams get the net by themselves for 2 minutes and 30 seconds. The serving team will have the court first. Teams need to bring their own volleyballs for warm ups.
6. The lowest seeded team will call the coin toss for the first set and, if necessary, the highest seed will call the toss for the third set.
7. It is the responsibility of the team serving first to provide the game ball.
8. Teams not having six players when called to the end line at the beginning of a match will forfeit the first set after one minute. The team will forfeit the next set and match if they do not have six players within ten minutes after forfeiting the first set. Time has been allowed for the changing of gyms at the end of each wave, and the site managers will notify the next site if matches run longer than anticipated.
9. Protests: Only rule interpretations can be protested, not judgment calls made by the officials. A protest must be filed at the time of the infraction and settled before the set continues. A committee of the First Referee and the two non-playing coaches/captains from the pool will resolve the protest. The three members of the committee will vote to deny or uphold the protest; their decision is final.
10. For the 14's and 12's only: One service tossing error will be permitted per service.
11. For the 12's only: Seven-foot net will be used, and a "Lite" ball will be used for all matches and will be provided.
12. The Libero will be allowed to serve.

I. OFFICIALS AND REFEREE DUTIES

The Star of the North Games will provide a "First Referee" for all matches. All teams will provide additional official ("refing") help as scheduled throughout the tournament. When scheduled, each team will provide two line judges, a scorekeeper, a scoreboard operator, and a coach/adult as the Second Referee (bring a whistle.) Teams must be on time for their refing responsibilities as if they were playing. Teams which do not show up for their scheduled refing will lose the first set of their next match by a 0-25 score.

In all 8-team playoffs, the semifinals and championship matches will be refed by LOSING teams from the previous round. This is a necessary and unavoidable situation. We understand that this is an inconvenience for teams wishing to "hit the road" after elimination from the playoffs. However, the smooth and fair operation of the tournament depends on teams fulfilling this responsibility.

In a 4-team playoff, the championship match will be refed by one of the LOSING semifinal teams.

After losing in the playoffs teams should check with the venue manager and/or referees to make sure they do not have a commitment to referee one more match. Teams failing to fulfill their referee duties in the playoffs may face a sanction and/or financial penalty at the 2011 Star of the North Summer Games.

J. TEAM NAMES AND NUMBERS

Each volleyball team has been assigned a unique name and number. This number begins with a "VB" followed by four digits. We hope this number will help you locate your team and avoid any confusion between teams with similar names. It will also help the registration staff quickly process your team when you arrive at registration.

K. COACHES AND CLUBS ENTERING MULTIPLE TEAMS

In some age divisions, there are two or more teams representing the same club. These teams are usually differentiated by color ("Moorhead Black"), number ("Airborne Attitudes I"), or coach's name ("Wabasha/Linda"). In listing these teams on the schedule, we have used the designation provided us by the coach or team contact. If no such designation was provided, our registration staff applied a unique designation to each team that we hope will be immediately recognizable.

L. ROSTERS

Rosters will be frozen at registration, and no players may be added to a team roster after registration. No player may be rostered or play on more than one team. Violation of this rule will cause a team to forfeit any match(es) that an illegal player participated in.

M. TEAM CHECK-IN

All teams must check in at the Star of the North Games registration headquarters before your first match. The location of headquarters for the 2011 Star of the North Games will be at the [Halenbeck Hall Fieldhouse](#) on the campus of [St Cloud State University](#). This is the same location we used in 2009. The address is 1100 - 4th Ave S., St. Cloud, MN 56301.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO HEADQUARTERS:

From I-94: Take Exit 171 into St. Cloud. Follow Stearns County Road 75 for 3.5 miles. Turn right at the intersection of County Road 75 and Cooper Avenue. This roadway becomes University Drive. Drive east on University Drive for about 14 blocks. Turn right on Fifth Ave S. (Light here) Halenbeck Hall on SE corner of this intersection. Turn left on 13th St. ([National Hockey Center](#) on your left). Park in the Husky Pay Lot, directly south of [Husky Stadium](#). Parking fee will be waived during Star of the North.

From US Highway 10: Coming from the Twin Cities, turn left on Highway 301/Minnesota Blvd SE (at the State Prison) (directional sign for Clemons Munsinger Gardens), or Coming from the north, turn right on Minnesota Blvd SE (at the State Prison). Stay on this road until it turns right at Riverside Park and becomes Killian Blvd SE. Turn left on University/10th St S. (light here). Cross Mississippi River. Turn left on Fifth Ave S. (Light here) Halenbeck Hall on SE corner of this intersection. Turn left on 13th St. ([National Hockey Center](#) on your left). Park in the Husky Pay Lot, directly south of [Husky Stadium](#). Parking fee will be waived during Star of the North.

Headquarters Hours:

Friday, June 17: 2 pm-8 pm.

Saturday, June 18: open at 7am.

O. FURTHER QUESTIONS

Please call the Star of the North Games office, 763.785.5603 or 800.756.7827 toll free. After June 16, all calls should go to the Games headquarters at Halenbeck Hall. Volleyball information number during the tournament is (phone number TBD).

P. FIRST AID AND ATHLETIC TRAINING SERVICES

Each site will be staffed with a Venue Manager, who will have access to a first-aid kit.

An athletic trainer will be on duty at Halenbeck Hall during the tournament. Full medical information will be available at check-in. All major emergencies will be handled through the “911” emergency response network.

It is the responsibility of each team to bring their own:

- Ice (fill a cooler at home or at your hotel each morning.)
- Basic first-aid supplies (bandages, gauze, tape, rubber gloves, etc.)

Q. ALL-EVENTS PASSES

Passes are required for admission to all Star of the North Summer Games events and may be purchased for \$7 per person at registration check-in, or at any of the venues. Admission is free for children 12 and under. All athletes and up to two coaches per team receive a credential for free admission to all competitions and events during the Summer Games.

R. FOR MORE INFORMATION

Registration questions prior to June 17:

Star of the North Summer Games Registration Office
763.785.5603 or 800.756.7827
sgames@mnsports.org

Tournament questions after June 17:

Games HQ at Halenbeck Hall
Phone TBD
sgames@mnsports.org

Volleyball tournament questions (rules and schedule interpretations, venue locations, etc.)

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