**Sand Volleyball Rules**

**Villanova Intramurals**

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| Sport Type: | Tournament |  |
| Cost: | $20 per team |  |
| Location(s): | West, South |  |

**GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME!**

**All decisions on forfeit times are at the sole discretion of the on-site Intramural supervisor.**

**Rules**

**Eligibility**

* A player can play on one (1) men’s or one (1) women’s team and one (1) All-Gender team.
* Current Villanova volleyball players are ineligible to play in the same academic year. No more than two (2) club players per intramural team.

**The Team**

* There is a maximum of four (4) players on the court for each team.
* A minimum of 2 players per team is required to start a match.

**Officiating**

* Matches are self-officiated. Players/teams must make their own calls.
  + Teams can designate subs to “officiate.”
* If teams disagree on calls, the point will be replayed. There will be a supervisor on location with any rule questions.
* A scorekeeper may be provided. If no scorekeeper is available, designate one player on the bench to keep track of the score on the scoreboard

**Starting Play**

* Rock-paper-scissors determines first serve or side of the court. Winner has the option to choose serve (serve or defer), OR side of the court to start, other team chooses the leftover option.
* Sides are switched and the opposing team serves first in the 2nd set. If a 3rd set is played another coin toss will determine first serve or side of the court.

**Match Length/Scoring**

* Best 2-out-of-3 matches.
* First two sets up to 21 with “rally” scoring – point on every serve. Team winning point serves next point.
* If it gets to the 3rd match, deciding set up to 11 with “rally” scoring.
* Each set must be decided by a 2-point advantage, with cap of 30 (MUST WIN BY 2 POINTS).
* A point will be awarded on every ball in play, not just when a team has serve.

**Boundaries**

* A ball may not be played if it goes onto another court that has play in progress, however, it may be played if there is not a game in progress.
* A ball that hits the boundary lines is in-bounds.

**Hits**

* A player cannot hit the ball twice in succession (unless there are simultaneous contacts by teammates or opponents).
* A team cannot hit the ball more than three times before sending it over the net. If the first contact is a block, then the next play on the ball is considered the first hit.
* A block is not considered a hit.
* All underhand, open-handed hits contacted below the shoulders are illegal.
* It is recommended that all players try to bump serves to prevent violations such as double hits or illegal hits.
* Kicking or heading the ball is allowed.

**Rotation and Serving**

* Players must serve from the service area, from the end line to six feet back.
* The server has five seconds to serve the ball after the referee’s signal to serve.
* The server cannot step on the service line to serve, or step over the service line until the ball has been contacted.
* If the server serves before the whistle by the official, it is automatically a side-out.
* A let serve is allowed (when the ball contacts the net and falls in play).
* Receiving team may not block/attack serves!

**Centerline**

* There is no centerline rule.
* Players may cross the centerline at any time.

**Around the Net**

* Players may reach over the net only in an attempt to follow through a hit.
* Players cannot reach over the net to block.
* Any player who is in the net will be called by the referees.
* Contact of the net results in a point for the other team and possession of the next serve.

**Time Outs**

* Each team receives one (1) time out per set. It is one-minute in length.

**Substitutions**

* There may be an unlimited number of substitutions, however the sub must replace the server after the team wins the serve back. Exceptions may be made for injuries.

**All-Gender Sand Volleyball Rules**

**Players**

* A team may only have a maximum of two (2) males on the sand at any given time.