

The Signature Club

Basic Volleyball Rules

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At the moment of the serve, each player must be in their proper position on the court. After the serve, players may move around and occupy any position on the court.

The ball is in play from the moment the service is hit until the whistle is blown. If the whistle is blown for a fault, play stops when the fault occurs.

A rally is the sequence of playing actions that begin with service and ends when the ball is out of play.

The ball can touch any part of a player's body. Balls must be hit cleanly – contact must be immediate and brief (no lifting, pushing, catching or throwing).

The ball can touch the net as it crosses over.

A service that is executed before the referee's whistle is cancelled and repeated.

Players cannot screen the act of service from view by the opposing team.

A ball is "in" when it touches the playing field within the boundary lines, including touching the lines.

A ball is "out" when it contacts the ground **completely** outside of the boundary lines, hits the antennas or poles, and touches an object outside of the court or a person not in play.

There are a maximum of three (3) hits per play, in addition to blocking. Four or more hits are a fault.

A player may not touch the ball two (2) times consecutively with any part of the body.

If two (2) players touch the ball simultaneously, it will be counted as two (2) touches.

A player may not use a teammate or a structural object as support in order to hit the ball (but a player who is about to commit a fault can be stopped or held back by a teammate).

If two opponents commit faults simultaneously, a double fault is called and the rally is replayed.

Attacking.

All actions directing the ball toward the opposing team's court are considered to be attack hits.

An attack can be made by "tipping" the ball as long as the ball is cleanly contacted and not caught or thrown.

An attack is completed when the ball crosses over the net into the opposing team's space, or touches an opponent.

After an attack, a player is permitted to extend his/her hand beyond the net into the opposing team's space, provided contact with the ball was made on his/her own side.

Front row players can attack the ball at any height as long as the contact with the ball was made on the attacker's playing side.

Back row players can attack the ball from any height, provided the contact with the ball was made from behind the 10ft line.

A back row player can attack the ball in front of the 10ft line, if at the moment of contact any part of the ball is lower than the top of the net.

No player is permitted to complete an attack hit on service when the ball is in front of the 10ft line and is completely higher than the top of the net.

Blocking

Only front row players are allowed to block.

When contact is made with the ball, some part of the attacker's body must be above the net, or the contact will count as a hit.

Players can place their hands and arms beyond the net when blocking provided that they do not interfere with the play. Interference will be called if a player touches the ball or an opposing player before or during the attacker's hit. (This means you cannot touch the ball when the opposing team is setting.)

Net

Players cannot interfere with play by penetrating into the opponent's space under the net.

A fault will be called if any part of a player's body touches any part of the net. (This rule has been changed under USAVB rules, but for safety reasons, we are going to keep it at the Signature Club.)