Arkansas Activities Association

Volleyball Manual

For Coaches and Officials

Fall 2010

Updated June 2010

This manual is provided for member schools participating in interscholastic volleyball and for AOA volleyball officials.

State tournament brackets will be posted on the AAA website and will be updated as needed. Check the brackets periodically for updates.

Arkansas Activities Association
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North Little Rock, AR 72117
Office: (501) 955-2500  Fax: (501)955-2600 or 955-2521

www.ahsaa.org

Nick Lasker, AAA Rules Interpreter and Liaison * nick@ahsaa.k12.ar.us

Important: Shaded Items are New or Items of Emphasis.
ELIGIBILITY
An interscholastic volleyball player must meet all eligibility requirements of the Arkansas Activities Association.

ELIGIBILITY LISTS
Coaches who are designated by their administration to do so will enter eligibility lists on the AAA website. Each student must be listed prior to interscholastic participation. Instructions are provided on the website.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION
In any school year that a student engages in interscholastic competition she shall be required to have a physical examination prior to beginning practice.

RULES
The NFHS Volleyball Rules Book shall be the official rules. NFHS Case Book situations are direct interpretations of the rules book. See rules meeting deadline in box below.

COACHES
Teacher-Coaches - Each team must have a coach (full time licensed teacher with a coaching endorsement or AAA coaching certification) OR a certified Registered Volunteer certified through the AAA and authorized by the school’s administration present for interscholastic play.

A full time, certified teacher who is assigned volleyball coaching duties but does not have a coaching endorsement or ADE approval for coaching must successfully complete the required coaches education program as shown on the Coaches Education page of the AAA website.

Registered Volunteers - A certified Registered Volunteer may not receive financial gain for services. A student teacher (teaching intern) may assist during interscholastic play during the period of assignment but may not serve as a head coach.

TEAM ROSTERS AND ONLINE RULES MEETING DEADLINES – August 23
Deadlines - Team rosters online, and online rules meeting attendance is AUGUST 23. Failure to meet either of these requirements will result in a $50.00 fine.

All volleyball team pictures and the head coach’s picture must be posted by OCTOBER 15. Failure to post will result in a $50.00 fine.

Failure to submit the roster on time may result in the school’s roster being omitted from the state program.

BEGINNING AND END OF SEASON DEFINED
The volleyball season will begin with Week #8. For 7th and 8th grade athletes and 9th graders who have not participated interscholastically on a sr. varsity team the season shall end with completion of the school team’s schedule.

For athletes in grades 10-12 and 9th graders who have participated interscholastically on a sr. high varsity team the season shall end with the completion of the state tournament in Week #17.

NON-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION
A student who is a member of a school’s volleyball team may not try out for, practice with or otherwise participate with a non-school volleyball team during the school’s volleyball season.

EVENTS DEFINED
A. Set – A contest between two teams to a defined number of points. Unless otherwise stated a team must win by two points, no cap. (Formerly “game”)
B. Dual – A contest between varsity and non-varsity teams of two schools or between varsity teams only.
C. Tri-Meet – A round robin event involving VARSITY TEAMS ONLY from three schools. Each match counts separately as one event against the season limitation.

BENEFIT GAME
One additional interscholastic contest as a benefit event for the AAA Catastrophe Insurance Fund may be played annually between sr. high and/or jr. high varsity teams only in weeks #7 through #17. The host school must agree to give to the AAA Catastrophe Insurance Fund the percentage of proceeds as stated on the Request for Sanction of Benefit Game form. Benefit events may not begin before 5:30 p.m. on a weekday.

Request for sanction of a benefit game must be submitted at least one week in advance. The sanction form and financial form are printable forms on the AAA website, Information … Forms Download.

USE OF REGISTERED OFFICIALS REQUIRED
Senior high varsity events must have officials who are currently registered and in good standing with the AOA. Schools are not permitted to pay non-registered officials for their service. NOTE: Violation of this rule could result in forfeiture.

USE OF NON-REGISTERED OFFICIALS (Schools) Schools that knowingly or unknowingly use officials in a jr. high (9th grade/varsity) or sr. high varsity contest that are not registered with the AOA will be subject to the following penalties:
First Offense – Host school will be placed on warning for the remainder of the sport season.
Second Offense – School will be placed on probation.
Third Offense – Probation and forfeiture of the contest.
NOTE: A school placed on probation cannot compete for a championship in that sport.

AOA Official - Any official who officiates a varsity contest with a non-registered official will be subject to penalties that may include an AOA warning or probation for the specified sport season. When a person who is not an AOA member officiates a varsity contest that person will not be allowed to register as an AOA member for the next calendar year (July 1 – June 30).

Hiring Officials – It is unethical for a school to hire a game official (R1 or R2) immediately related to a coach or player.

Coach/Team – Officials Relations – It is inappropriate for game officials to mix socially with coaches or players on game day.

NOTE: All registered officials will be listed on the AAA website. It is the responsibility of the school’s coach, A.D. and administration to verify that all officials are registered with the AOA in that sport either by checking the AAA website or contacting the AOA secretary at the AAA office. (kimberly@ahsaa.k12.ar.us)

LENGTH OF MATCHES - SR. HIGH, JR. HIGH, JV
A. Sr. High Varsity – A match shall consist of the best three-out-of-five sets. Sets 1-4 to 25 points, no cap; set 5, if needed, to 15, no cap.
B. Jr. High Varsity – A match shall be the best two-out-of-three sets, all to 25, no cap.
C. All JV Matches - Jr. High and Sr. High - A match shall be the best two out of three sets. Sets 1-2 to 25 points, no cap; set 3, if needed, to 15, no cap.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EVENTS (Limitations)
A. A member school shall be limited to eighteen regular season events and two invitational tournaments.
B. A playday/jamboree in which no awards are given but which exceeds the maximum play for one regular season event shall be considered an invitational tournament or two or more regular season events. This limit is five games for sr. varsity teams and three for JV or jr. high teams.
C. In order to facilitate travel or scheduling, a team may play two events on the same day if, in doing so, there is no violation of the rule concerning AAA sanction of events. However, only for dual contests (not tri-meets) may the school schedule or play two events on the same weekday.

NOTE: In years when the state tournament is played in week #18 to avoid conflict with an ACT testing date, sr. varsity teams ONLY may schedule one additional event to be played in week #17. (DOES NOT APPLY IN 2010.)

INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS
Tournament – An event where teams are placed in a bracket through which an eventual champion is named.
A. Tournaments can include mini-sets to seed teams into bracket play. Up to six teams per seeding group are permitted and each team can play the others two mini-sets to 25 points (capped).

B. Arkansas teams playing in out-of-state tournaments shall be permitted to play the designated format of that tournament.

OFFICIALS AND ASSISTANT OFFICIALS – The home team or tournament host shall provide the required officials, first and second referees, and the assistant officials, i.e., scorer, libero tracker, timer and line judges. See the NFHS Volleyball Rules book and the Case Book and Manual for specific responsibilities.

SIGNAGE – Signage at all events must be positive in content and appropriate in size and location. Signs must not obstruct the view of spectators and, if hung on a wall, must be in that team’s designated seating area. Host management has the authority to prohibit all signage and the responsibility for the appropriate use of signage that is allowed. Signs or other objects may never be thrown or otherwise used inappropriately. Violation of the signage regulations may cause ejection from the event.

ARTIFICIAL NOISEMAKERS - The use of artificial noisemakers is prohibited at indoor events.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TOURNAMENTS
Middle schools that have a separate AAA membership may play in one tournament that does not count against the total number of allowable tournaments for a junior high. No middle school athlete may compete in more than three total junior high and/or middle school tournaments.

CONTRACTS
It is recommended that written contracts on AAA forms be used for school-to-school and school-to-official agreements to help prevent misunderstandings. Contract forms are available at www.ahsaa.org ... Information ... Forms Download.

TEAM BENCH OPTION – Teams shall occupy the bench adjacent to their playing court throughout the match.

Only if both coaches agree, may the teams remain on the same benches throughout the match. OFFICIALS: This should be determined in the pre-match conference.

LINE JUDGE PROTOCOL
A. Coaches should train line judges prior to game day.
B. Players in uniform should not be used as line judges.
C. Line judges should wear an official shirt provided by the home team.
D. The same line judges should remain throughout the entire match.

Reporting of Scores – Scores must be reported by the home team as soon as possible (same night) after each playing date to the statewide and local newspaper and any person, website or other place agreed upon by the conference.

CLASSIFICATION AND STATE QUALIFIERS
There shall be five classes of volleyball schools – Classes 7A, 6A, 5A, 4A and 3A (includes 2A and 1A). Each class shall qualify teams to a state tournament through an assigned conference. Each classification's
conferences shall certify the following number of entries to the state tournament.

7A - Six from each of two conferences.
6A - Six from each of two conferences.
5A - Four from each of four conferences.
4A - Four from each of four conferences.
3A - Three from each of five conferences.

**NOTE:** Schools shall only be admitted to a conference in team sports at the beginning of a classification cycle.

| Position Statement - In determining a team’s season record matches to be used will be those played as 2/3 or 3/5 in regular season play and tournament bracket play. (This is not to include mini-sets or pool play.) |

**CONFERENCE TIE BREAKING PROCEDURE**

If a tie results when comparing conference records, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that is successful in doing so. **At each step the primary consideration is head-to-head competition.**

A. Three or more tied teams shall first be considered in sets of two-way ties.

B. Head-to-head match competition between the tied schools; (Example: If A defeated B and B defeated A in the double round robin, the tie-breaker must go to the next step. If A defeated B in both matches in the double round robin A would prevail and the tie is broken. B is eliminated from further consideration.)

C. Set record in head-to-head competition between the tied schools; (Example: If A defeated B 3-2 and B defeated A, 3-2, the tie remains; however, if A defeated B 3-2 and B defeated A 3-1, B would prevail and the tie is broken.)

D. Winning margin of all head-to-head set in (B) above; (Example: A defeated B by a total of 6 points and B defeated A by a total of 8 points, B would prevail and the tie is broken.)

E. The tied schools shall resolve the tie with a playoff match (3/5) between the tied schools.

F. If the tied schools mutually agree not to play a playoff match the tie will be resolved by a coin toss administered by the Executive Director of the Arkansas Activities Association or his designee.

**CONFERENCE CHAIR AND STATE QUALIFIERS**

**Chair** - Each conference shall, by the end of each season, name the school that will serve as chairman for the following school year. It shall be the responsibility of the current chairman to report the name of the new chairman or school for the following year to the AAA office at the end of the conference tournament or no later than the end of the state tournament.

**Qualifying** - If qualification to the state tournament is determined by playing a conference tournament, the tournament format shall be best three out of five, single elimination, with the same point structure as sr. varsity regular season play. Or, the conference may adopt a plan to determine state qualifiers based on the results of their round robin schedule.

Schools are limited to entering only one team in the conference tournament.

**REPORTING CONFERENCE RESULTS**

Results must be reported immediately following the conference tournament by the chairman or tournament director as instructed in the information sent by the AAA office prior to the end of the season. **The absolute deadline for determining and reporting qualifiers shall be Wednesday, October 20, 2010.**

**STATE TOURNAMENTS – Oct. 26-28, 2010**

State tournaments are held in AAA Calendar Week # 17. Brackets will use a single elimination format.

First round – Tuesday, October 26
Quarterfinals - Wednesday, October 27
Semifinals – Thursday, October 28
Finals – Saturday, October 30 – Bentonville HS

State tournament play will be single elimination, best three out of five, 25 points (no cap) and 15 points (no cap) for the deciding game.

For the state tournament there shall be a maximum of 18 players in the following situations:

A. Listed on the team roster;
B. Listed in the tournament program;
C. Sitting on the team bench; and
D. Dressed in school uniforms.

Total team personnel shall not exceed 24, including coach(es), stat keeper, scorebook keeper and manager(s). Eighteen chairs should be provided.

**WARM-UP PROCEDURES**

**Regular season play – Jr. high and JV:**
5-minutes – Visitors use full court.
5 minutes – Home team uses full court.

**Regular season play – Sr. varsity:**
5 minutes – Shared warm-ups, each team using their half of the court.
5-minutes – Visitors use full court.
5 minutes – Home team uses full court.

**State Tournament:** 20 minutes on the clock
20-15 - Prematch conference
15-10 - Shared warm-ups, each team half court
10-5 - Visitors use full court
Last 5 - Home team uses full court

**NOTE:** For all matches the coin toss shall be conducted during the prematch conference and not during either team’s warm-up time.

**AT STATE TOURNAMENTS** teams may not use balls in the competitive area prior to timed warm-ups. Teams may warm up in the competitive arena without balls if the area is available. Warming up with balls is permitted if an auxiliary gym is available to all teams and the team’s coach is present.

**STATE AWARDS**

A plaque shall be awarded to the state champion and state runner-up team following each state championship match. An individual plaque will be awarded to each classification’s MVP.
ALL STATE QUALIFICATION
Coaches in each conference may select the same number of All State players as the number of teams in the conference (maximum of 8) and the chairman must report these to the AAA office on the proper form, signed by all coaches present. The AAA will provide All State certificates.

ALL STATE TOURNAMENT TEAM
Each team’s coach at the state tournament shall name a player(s) to the All State Tournament Team. All participating teams shall have one player. Players in the semifinals may name an additional player for a total of two. Finalists may name three players. The coach of the winning team shall designate one of the three players as the MVP. The AAA will post these names on the AAA website, www.ahsaa.org.

The coach of the losing team in each match through the semifinals of the state tournament team form to the tournament director before leaving the tournament site the day of the team’s loss. Finalists shall submit their forms to the designated tournament administrator following the semifinal match. NOTE: Failure to comply may result in name(s) being omitted from the media release.

AHSCA OUTSTANDING COACH SELECTION
Each conference may select its outstanding coach and submit the name to the AAA office. In order for a coach to be eligible for inclusion on the statewide ballot he/she must be a current AHSCA member. State championship head coaches not already submitted will be added to the ballot, if an AHSCA member. The ballot will be conducted online.

AHSCA ALL-STAR COACHES AND SELECTION
Selection shall be from the largest number of votes received. Only classifications having more than one nominee will be on a second ballot to select the head coach. The highest four vote recipients will be on the All-Star staff. The highest vote recipient will be the head coach, with the other three being assistant coaches, if eligible. A head coach is not eligible to be on the following year’s staff. An assistant is only eligible to be a head coach the following year. If a finalist is not eligible to be an assistant coach the next highest eligible vote recipient in that class will be an assistant. If there is no eligible coach on the original ballot in that class, the next highest vote recipient overall will be eligible to be the assistant.

The AAA office will notify the head coaches. The head coaches will call their assistants and report back to the AAA office. In the event one of these coaches declines to serve, the AAA office will go to the next highest vote recipient in order to fill the position. If an elected coach declines the All-Star position, that coach will not be eligible for nomination again for two years.

AHSCA ALL-STAR PLAYERS
There shall be fourteen players per team with two of these being defensive specialists (libero players), all current year graduates.

AHSCA ALL-STAR MANAGERS
There shall be one manager per team, selected by the head coach. The manager must have been in grades 9-12 the school year prior to the All-Star games.

SELECTION OF AHSCA ALL-STAR PLAYERS
All-Star coaches will meet at the AAA office for a media conference and to conduct player selection in January. The coaches will be given All-Star nomination lists provided by conferences and instructions for player selection.

Players selected will be two from each volleyball classification and four wildcards from any classification. A list of alternates will be named as well. The AAA will maintain a database of players and materials received.

Each player, with the assistance of her coach or administration, is asked to submit a one-page program ad at $150. This may include local sponsors, picture(s) and may specify appropriate text. It will be important to note and adhere to the deadlines for submitting ads and information as stated on each form.
State tournament brackets will be posted on the AAA volleyball web page and will be updated as changes are known. Check the brackets periodically. Pairings will be added as they are reported. www.ahsaa.org ... Sports ... Volleyball

FORMER STATE VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONS

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STATE TITLES

Ashdown: (1) 1978
Benton: (1) 2009
Bentonville: (2) 2007, 2008
Brookland: (2) 2006, 2007
Cabot: (2) 1989, 1990
Conway: (1) 1998
Harrison: (1) 2000
Lake Hamilton: (1) 2007
Lavaca: (1) 2008
LR Central: (1) 1986

2010 STATE TOURNAMENT SITES & AND TOURNAMENT MANAGERS

Tuesday-Thursday, October 26-28 *** Finals – Saturday, October 30

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