

## Policy XVII: Volleyball Playdown

(Revised Sept. 9, 2020)

### 1. Eligibility

- a) Students must meet all eligibility requirements as set out in the HCAA Bylaws.
- b) “Senior” volleyball teams consist of eligible players enrolled in grade 9, 10, 11, or 12. “Junior” volleyball teams consist of eligible players enrolled in grade 6, 7, 8, or 9.
- c) A grade 9 student may be a member of both a senior team and one junior team.
- d) A grade 8 student may become eligible to play on a senior team if the need, request, and approval from the SHSAA have followed proper channels.
- e) Refer to Section 3 for junior and junior “B” eligibility.

### 2. Senior Volleyball

- a) The rules for senior play shall be governed by the rules as set out in the current SHSAA Handbook (Volleyball Canada rules with the SHSAA’s exceptions as noted).
- b) There will be no HCAA (District) playdown in senior volleyball as all teams may choose to enter into the SHSAA playoffs through SHSAA Conference and/or Regional play.

### 3. Junior Volleyball

- a) The rules for junior play shall follow that of senior play with the **exception** that an unlimited number of players may dress and play in junior (append extra players in the lineup to the scoresheet), notwithstanding the fact that no more than 12 players may play in any one game.
- b) The HCAA will sponsor championships in four categories: Jr. “A” Girls (or simply Jr. Girls), Jr. “A” Boys (or simply Jr. Boys), Jr. “B” Girls, and Jr. “B” Boys.
- c) For HCAA junior playdowns, each school may enter a maximum of ONE team into each one of the four categories in the previous clause.
- d) Net Height:   Jr. “B” Girls and Jr. Girls     2.15m  
                      Jr. “B” Boys and Jr. Boys     2.24m
- e) Eligibility:
  - i. A junior player is a student enrolled in grades 6, 7, 8, or 9 who has not yet attained the age of 16 as of midnight, August 31 of the (beginning of the) school year.
  - ii. Athletes dressing and/or participating in League, Pre-District, and/or District PLAYOFFS in one junior category are NOT eligible to compete in the other junior category (in effect, a player dressed for any League, Pre-District, and/or District playoff with your junior "A" team is not eligible to also dress and/or play in any playoff for your junior "B" team and vice-versa).

f) Junior “B” Category

- i. There will be no rules modifications at junior “B” Pre-Districts or junior “B” Districts (*notwithstanding section 3. a) from above*)
- ii. Teams may enter the junior "B" category if they meet ONE of the following criteria:
  - 1) Their school program does not include grade 9 (e.g. a K-8 school)
  - 2) Their school has formed 2 boys or 2 girls junior volleyball teams, and split them into an "A" and "B" squad on the basis of ability whereby the "B" squad is considered developmental or less skilled (*notwithstanding point f) iii. 3) below*)
  - 3) Having formed only one boys or one girls team, does not have a single grade nine on that team
- iii. Teams are NOT eligible to enter the junior "B" category if any ONE of the following applies:
  - 1) Their school program includes grade 9 and their school has formed 2 boys or 2 girls junior volleyball teams that have not been split on the basis of ability (thus forming 2 "equal" squads)
  - 2) Their school program includes grade 9, they have formed only one boys or one girls team, and at least one grade nine is a member of the team
  - 3) Their school program has only grade 9 at the junior level (e.g. 9-12 school)

g) Pre-Districts

- i. There are typically four Pre-Districts held in junior girls and junior “B” girls, and two Pre-Districts held in junior boys and junior “B” boys (the number of Pre-Districts can be adjusted when warranted by team entry numbers).
- ii. HCAA Bylaw X states: “A **volleyball**, curling, or basketball team which knowingly cannot or will not participate in the District Championship shall not be permitted to enter into the Pre-District tournament.”
- iii. The boundaries for Pre-Districts will be drawn by the HSD ASA **after all teams have declared their intent to participate** in Pre-Districts. The boundaries will be drawn with an attempt to balance the number of teams within each section and with consideration to geography and some consideration to seeding.
- iv. Each Pre-District will be scheduled on a school day. See Appendix A for schedules.
- v. Only the **top team** from each Pre-District will advance to the District Championship (and thus the District Championship will consist of a maximum four teams when Pre-Districts were held).
- vi. Booking of all officials for Pre-Districts shall be the responsibility of the host. Consult the HCAA referee-in-chief if you require assistance.  
Payment of officials for each Pre-District is the responsibility of the host school. Most schools will run food services to offset officiating costs.
- vii. The winning team at each Pre-District will receive a “Pre-District Team Winner” plaque.

- viii. The HSD ASA shall set the format, schedule, and match-ups for each tournament. In the event of pools, shall assign the pools. Formats can be found in Appendix A.
- ix. A technical committee shall be formed by the commissioner prior to the competition (as per HCAA Policy VII: Duties of Commissioners) to deal expeditiously with protests or disciplinary issues.

h) District Championships

- i. The HCAA Jr. Boys, Jr. Girls, Jr. “B” Boys, and Jr. “B” Girls District Championships are normally scheduled on a school day.
- ii. The hosting rotation for Districts shall be as follows (Pre-District boundaries typically result in the geographical descriptions represented in the chart):

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Junior Girls	NW	SW	SE	NE
Junior “B” Girls	NE	NW	SW	SE
Junior Boys	S (or E)	N (or W)	S (or E)	N (or W)
Junior “B” Boys	S (or E)	N (or W)	S (or E)	N (or W)

- iii. Only one team will have advanced from each Pre-District (if Pre-Districts were held), so a single court suffices for the District Championship. Formats are found in Appendix A.
- iv. The HSD ASA shall set the schedule, pools, and match-ups for each tournament.
- v. The HCAA referee-in-chief, in consultation with each host commissioner and the HSD ASA, will assign all officials to the District Championships.

The HCAA will be responsible for the payment of officials.

- vi. A “District Champion” Pennant will be awarded to the top team at the District Championship in each of junior girls, junior boys, junior “B” girls, and junior “B” boys categories. Each player from each winning team will also receive an individual medal. Individual silver medals will also be presented to each player from each runner-up team.
- vii. A technical committee shall be formed by the commissioner prior to the competition (as per HCAA Policy VII: Duties of Commissioners) to deal expeditiously with protests or disciplinary issues.

#### 4. Financial

Transportation, supervision, and accommodation arrangements/bookings/costs for Pre-Districts, Districts, Conferences, Regionals, and Provincials are the responsibility of the individual school and its coach. Refer to your Board or Band policy to determine which costs can be recovered through Board or Band funding.

# **APPENDIX A: VOLLEYBALL FORMATS AND SCHEDULING**

(revised September 2020)

## 1. Pre-Districts

The following formats are recommended for use for all HCAA Pre-District play:

### **a) Three Team Tournament:**

- One court
- Full round-robin – NO PLAYOFF (exception: see “Tie-Breaking” below)
- All matches best-of-three

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

4:15 p.m.	1 vs. 2
5:15 p.m.	1 vs. 3
6:15 p.m.	2 vs. 3

### **b) Four Team Tournament:**

- One court
- Full round-robin – NO PLAYOFF (exception: see “Tie-Breaking” below)
- All matches best-of-three

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

2:00 p.m.	1 vs. 2
2:50 p.m.	3 vs. 4
3:40 p.m.	1 vs. 3
4:30 p.m.	2 vs. 4
5:30 p.m.	2 vs. 3
6:30 p.m.	1 vs. 4

### **c) Five Team Tournament:**

- One court
- Full round-robin – NO PLAYOFF (exception: see “Tie-Breaking” below)
- All matches best-of-three

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

10:30 a.m.	1 vs. 2
11:20 a.m.	3 vs. 4
12:10 p.m.	2 vs. 5
1:00 p.m.	1 vs. 4
1:50 p.m.	3 vs. 5
2:40 p.m.	2 vs. 4
3:30 p.m.	1 vs. 3
4:30 p.m.	4 vs. 5
5:30 p.m.	2 vs. 3
6:30 p.m.	1 vs. 5

**d) Six Team Tournament:**

- One court
- Two pools of three – full round-robin
- All matches best-of-three
- Top two teams in each Pool advance to playoffs (exception: see “Tie-breaking” below)

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

11:00 a.m.	Pool A	A1 vs. A2
11:50 a.m.	Pool B	B1 vs. B2
12:40 p.m.	Pool A	A1 vs. A3
1:30 p.m.	Pool B	B1 vs. B3
2:30 p.m.	Pool A	A2 vs. A3
3:30 p.m.	Pool B	B2 vs. B3
<i>(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)</i>		
4:30 p.m.	SF 1	(1st Pool A vs. 2nd Pool B)
5:30 p.m.	SF 2	(1st Pool B vs. 2nd Pool A)
<i>(the team winning SF 2 may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)</i>		
6:30 p.m.	Final	(Winners of SF's)

**d) Seven Team Tournament (ONE COURT):**

- One pool of four and one pool of three – round robin
- All matches best-of-three
- Top two teams in each Pool advance to playoffs (exception: see “Tie-breaking” below)

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

9:00 a.m.	A1 vs. A2
9:50 a.m.	A3 vs. A4
10:40 a.m.	B1 vs. B2
11:30 a.m.	A1 vs. A3
12:20 p.m.	A2 vs. A4
1:10 p.m.	B1 vs. B3
2:00 p.m.	A2 vs. A3
3:00 p.m.	B2 vs. B3
4:00 p.m.	A1 vs. A4
<i>(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)</i>	
5:00 p.m.	SF 1 (1st Pool A vs. 2nd Pool B)
6:00 p.m.	SF 2 (1st Pool B vs. 2nd Pool A)
<i>(the team winning SF 2 may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)</i>	
7:00 p.m.	Final (Winners of SF's)

**e) Seven Team Tournament (TWO COURTS – TWO TOWNS):**

- Two gymnasiums
- One pool of four and one pool of three – round robin
- All matches best-of-three
- Top two teams in each Pool advance to playoffs (exception: see “Tie-breaking” below)

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

	<u>Court/Gym A</u>	<u>Court/Gym B</u>
11:00 a.m.	A1 vs. A2	
11:50 a.m.	A3 vs. A4	
12:40 p.m.	A1 vs. A3	B1 vs. B2
1:30 p.m.	A2 vs. A4	B1 vs. B3
2:30 p.m.	A2 vs. A3	B2 vs. B3
3:30 p.m.	A1 vs. A4	
<i>(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)</i>		
4:30 p.m.	SF 1 1st Pool A vs. 2nd Pool B	
5:30 p.m.	SF 2 2nd Pool A vs. 1st Pool B	
<i>(the team winning SF 2 may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)</i>		
6:30 p.m.	Final (Winners of SF’s)	

**f) Seven Team Tournament (TWO COURTS – ONE TOWN):**

- Two gymnasiums (or two courts in one gymnasium **provided courts are regulation size AND have at least 1 full meter beyond each endline**)
- One pool of four and one pool of three – round robin
- All matches best-of-three
- Top two teams in each Pool advance to playoffs (exception: see “Tie-breaking” below)

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

	<u>Court/Gym A</u>	<u>Court/Gym B</u>
12:00 p.m.	A1 vs. A2	
12:50 p.m.	A3 vs. A4	
1:40 p.m.	A1 vs. A3	B1 vs. B2
2:30 p.m.	A2 vs. A4	B1 vs. B3
3:30 p.m.	A2 vs. A3	B2 vs. B3
4:30 p.m.	A1 vs. A4	
<i>(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)</i>		
5:30 p.m.	SF 1 (1st Pool A vs. 2nd Pool B)	SF 2 (1st Pool B vs. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Pool A)
<i>(either team winning a SF may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)</i>		
6:30 p.m.	Final (Winners of SF’s) – to be played on full court if both courts were in the same gym	

**g) Eight Team Tournament (IN TWO TOWNS):**

- Two gymnasiums
- Two pools of four – round robin
- All matches best-of-three
- Top two teams in each Pool advance to playoffs (exception: see “Tie-breaking” below)

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

	<u>Court/Gym A</u>	<u>Court/Gym B</u>
10:30 a.m.	A1 vs. A2	B1 vs. B2
11:20 a.m.	A3 vs. A4	B3 vs. B4
12:10 p.m.	A1 vs. A3	B1 vs. B3
1:00 p.m.	A2 vs. A4	B2 vs. B4
2:00 p.m.	A2 vs. A3	B2 vs. B3
3:00 p.m.	A1 vs. A4	B1 vs. B4

*(insert travel time for Pool B)*

*(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)*

4:30 p.m. SF 1 1st Pool A vs. 2nd Pool B

5:30 p.m. SF 2 2nd Pool A vs. 1st Pool B

*(the team winning SF 2 may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)*

6:30 p.m. Final (Winners of SF's)

**h) Eight Team Tournament (IN ONE TOWN):**

- Two gymnasiums (or two courts in one gymnasium **provided courts are regulation size AND have at least 1 full meter beyond each endline**)
- Two pools of four – round robin
- All matches best-of-three
- Top two teams in each Pool advance to playoffs (exception: see “Tie-breaking” below)

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

	<u>Court/Gym A</u>	<u>Court/Gym B</u>
12:00 p.m.	A1 vs. A2	B1 vs. B2
12:50 p.m.	A3 vs. A4	B3 vs. B4
1:40 p.m.	A1 vs. A3	B1 vs. B3
2:30 p.m.	A2 vs. A4	B2 vs. B4
3:30 p.m.	A2 vs. A3	B2 vs. B3
4:30 p.m.	A1 vs. A4	B1 vs. B4

*(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)*

5:30 p.m. SF 1 (1st Pool A vs. 2nd Pool B) SF 2 (1st Pool B vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> Pool A)

*(either team winning a SF may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)*

6:30 p.m. Final (Winners of SF's) – to be played on full court if both courts were in the same gym

## 2. Districts

The following formats are recommended for use for all HCAA District play:

### **a) Four Team Tournament:**

- One court
- Full round-robin, top 3 teams make the playoffs
- All matches best-of-three

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

10:00 a.m. 1 vs. 2

10:50 a.m. 3 vs. 4

11:40 a.m. 1 vs. 3

12:30 p.m. 2 vs. 4

1:30 p.m. 2 vs. 3

2:30 p.m. 1 vs. 4

*(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)*

3:30 p.m. SF (3rd vs. 2nd)

*(the team winning the SF may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)*

4:30 p.m. Final (Winner of SF vs. 1st)

### **b) Six Team Tournament (not in use since 2013):**

- One court
- Two pools of three – full round-robin
- All matches best-of-three
- Top two teams in each Pool advance to playoffs (exception: see “Tie-breaking” below)

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

9:30 a.m. Pool A A1 vs. A2

10:20 a.m. Pool B B1 vs. B2

11:10 a.m. Pool A A1 vs. A3

12:00 p.m. Pool B B1 vs. B3

1:00 p.m. Pool A A2 vs. A3

2:00 p.m. Pool B B2 vs. B3

*(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)*

3:00 p.m. SF 1 (1st Pool A vs. 2nd Pool B)

4:00 p.m. SF 2 (1st Pool B vs. 2nd Pool A)

*(the team winning SF 2 may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)*

5:00 p.m. Final (Winners of SF's)



**c) Eight Team Tournament (IN TWO TOWNS) – not in use since 2013:**

- Two gymnasiums
- Two pools of four – round robin
- All matches best-of-three
- Top two teams in each Pool advance to playoffs (exception: see “Tie-breaking” below)

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

	<u>Court/Gym A</u>	<u>Court/Gym B</u>
9:30 a.m.	A1 vs. A2	B1 vs. B2
10:20 a.m.	A3 vs. A4	B3 vs. B4
11:10 a.m.	A1 vs. A3	B1 vs. B3
12:00 p.m.	A2 vs. A4	B2 vs. B4
1:00 p.m.	A2 vs. A3	B2 vs. B3
2:00 p.m.	A1 vs. A4	B1 vs. B4

*(insert travel time for Pool B)*

*(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)*

3:30 p.m. SF 1 1st Pool A vs. 2nd Pool B

4:30 p.m. SF 2 2nd Pool A vs. 1st Pool B

*(the team winning SF 2 may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)*

5:30 p.m. Final (Winners of SF's)

**d) Eight Team Tournament (IN ONE TOWN) – not in use since 2013:**

- Two gymnasiums (or two courts in one gymnasium **provided courts are regulation size AND have at least 1 full meter beyond each endline**)
- Two pools of four – round robin
- All matches best-of-three
- Top two teams in each Pool advance to playoffs (exception: see “Tie-breaking” below)

Schedule (will flex as some matches will go two, others three games):

	<u>Court/Gym A</u>	<u>Court/Gym B</u>
10:00 a.m.	A1 vs. A2	B1 vs. B2
10:50 a.m.	A3 vs. A4	B3 vs. B4
11:40 a.m.	A1 vs. A3	B1 vs. B3
12:30 p.m.	A2 vs. A4	B2 vs. B4
1:30 p.m.	A2 vs. A3	B2 vs. B3
2:30 p.m.	A1 vs. A4	B1 vs. B4

*(any team required to play back-to-back entering a playoff may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin)*

3:30 p.m. SF 1 (1st Pool A vs. 2nd Pool B) SF 2 (1st Pool B vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> Pool A)

*(either team winning a SF may request a 20 minute break before warm-ups begin for the Final)*

4:30 p.m. Final (Winners of SF's) – to be played on full court if both courts were in the same gym

## **Tie-Breaking**

Tie-breaking in the standings will follow the format below (as adapted from Volleyball Canada and Ontario Volleyball Association rules):

The following shall be followed in order until the tie is broken:

*(If three or more teams are tied at the end of the round-robin, the following criteria will be applied in order until all ties are broken, and all tied teams ranked. This means that if there is a tie among teams X, Y & Z and criteria b. is able to determine X as first, Y as second and Z as third, then no further criteria is needed. However, if criteria b. determines X as first (or third) and there is still a tie between Y & Z, then the ranking of the remaining teams will be determined by proceeding to criteria c. and so on, if necessary. Continue through the sequence of criteria and DO NOT start at a. again.)*

- a. The team having the best ratio of won/lost matches, considering matches played between the tied teams, will be ranked higher.
- b. The team having the best ratio of won/lost games, considering matches played between the tied teams, will be ranked higher.
- c. The team having the best ratio of won/lost games, considering all matches of the schedule, will be ranked higher.
- d. The team having the best ratio of points for/against, considering games played between the tied teams, will be ranked higher. ***However, if this criteria would eliminate a team from the playoffs (or in the event of a four or five team Pre-District, from advancing to Districts), see the note below.***
- e. The team having the best ratio of points for/against, considering all games played during the schedule, will be ranked higher. ***However, if this criteria would eliminate a team from the playoffs (or in the event of a four or five team Pre-District, from advancing to Districts), see the note below.***

NOTE: For criteria (d) and (e) only – after the sequence of (a), (b), and (c) has been followed:

- If two teams are tied for one playoff spot, they will play a single game to 15 points\* with the winner getting the final playoff spot.
- If three teams are tied for one playoff spot, the teams ranked 2nd and 3rd by tie-breaker (d) or (e) will play a single game to 15\*. The winner will immediately play the team ranked 1st by tie-breaker (d) or (e) in a single game to 15\* with the winner getting the final playoff spot.
- If three teams are tied for two playoff spots, the team ranked 1st by tie-breaker (d) or (e) will advance to the playoffs in the higher spot. The teams ranked 2nd and 3rd by tie-breaker (d) or (e) will play a single game to 15 points\* with the winner getting the final playoff spot.

\* 5 minute “common warm-up” only; switch sides at 8 points

## **APPENDIX B: DISTRICT POOL SEEDING (8 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP)**

Not in use since 2013

### **Junior Girls:**

2010:	Pool A	1 <sup>st</sup> NW 1 <sup>st</sup> SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE	Pool B	1 <sup>st</sup> SW 1 <sup>st</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SE
2011:	Pool A	1 <sup>st</sup> NW 1 <sup>st</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE	Pool B	1 <sup>st</sup> SE 1 <sup>st</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW
2012:	Pool A	1 <sup>st</sup> NW 1 <sup>st</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SE	Pool B	1 <sup>st</sup> SW 1 <sup>st</sup> SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NW 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE

### **Junior Boys:**

2010:	Pool A	1 <sup>st</sup> NW 1 <sup>st</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE	Pool B	1 <sup>st</sup> SE 1 <sup>st</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW
2011:	Pool A	1 <sup>st</sup> NW 1 <sup>st</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SE	Pool B	1 <sup>st</sup> SW 1 <sup>st</sup> SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NW 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE
2012:	Pool A	1 <sup>st</sup> NW 1 <sup>st</sup> SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE	Pool B	1 <sup>st</sup> SW 1 <sup>st</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SE

### **Junior "B" Girls:**

2010:	Pool A	1 <sup>st</sup> NW 1 <sup>st</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SE	Pool B	1 <sup>st</sup> SW 1 <sup>st</sup> SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NW 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE
2011:	Pool A	1 <sup>st</sup> NW 1 <sup>st</sup> SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE	Pool B	1 <sup>st</sup> SW 1 <sup>st</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SE
2012:	Pool A	1 <sup>st</sup> NW 1 <sup>st</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NE	Pool B	1 <sup>st</sup> SE 1 <sup>st</sup> NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> NW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> SW