

# RVVA Juniors Doubles League Rules of Play

We will be using the same rules that USAV uses for club indoor volleyball with the following changes or exceptions:

## Match Rules:

- 1. All regular season matches are 2 sets to 25, rally scoring with no cap. Playoff matches will be best 2 out of 3 to 25 with the 3<sup>rd</sup> set to 15.**
2. After your team has finished playing its match you need to report your scores to the person in charge. They will be recorded in the scorebook so that we can keep track of your season record for seeding purposes in the playoffs.
- 3. Teams are responsible for keeping up with their own score in the games. Each person before they serve needs to say the score out loud so that everyone on the court hears and agrees.**
- 4. Teams need to SWITCH SIDES during the game any time the combined score equals a multiple of 10.** Example: if the score is 5-5 then the teams switch. (=10) Then if it's 12-8 you switch again. (=20) then if it's 16-14 switch again. (=30) and so on.... The reason for doing this is so each team has to play on both sides of the court evenly. Many times the sun or wind is a factor in games and this makes sure both teams have to deal with the elements equally.
- 5. Players are responsible for Officiating their own games.** This means calling net if you touch the net. If your set is bad you need to stop play and say you carried or had a double contact on your set. If a player touches the ball two times or you have 4 contacts you need to stop play and call it. (These are just examples of how you should Officiate your own game.)
- 6. If there is a dispute about a rule or argument that can't be solved, players should NOT continue the discussion. Simply find the person or persons who are in charge that night and ask them for a ruling. The person in charge will make the final call and whatever they say goes. Players will then go back and continue the game with no further discussion.**
- 7. Teams can consist of 3 players** but only 2 are allowed on the court at the same time. Whichever 2 start the set must finish it. You can only change players between sets, not during play.

## Game Play:

1. The boundary for the court is a rope. If the rope moves or jumps when a ball lands near it then the ball is considered to have hit the line and counts as being IN.
2. There are no antennas on the net so any ball crossing over the net between the net supports or poles is considered good. If it goes under the top rope or between the net ropes it is considered out.
3. There is no 10 foot line in doubles so players can attack from anywhere on the court.
4. There is no center line in doubles. Players can cross under the net as long as they do not interfere with the other team. If a player crosses under the net and interferes with the other team as they attempt to play the ball it is considered a fault, point/side out to the team being interfered with.
5. Stepping on the court rope while serving is considered a foot fault.
- 6. Players cannot hand SET the ball over the net at any time. If a player trying to SET a hitter sets the ball using her hands and it goes completely over the net it is considered a fault. If the set ball is still over the top of the net and a player from the other team blocks or hits it there is no fault and play continues because the ball never totally crossed the net. If a player BUMP sets the ball and it goes over the net there is no fault and play continues.**
- 7. Players cannot send the ball over the net using an OPEN HAND dink/dump or open hand set. Players can hit, roll, punch, or poke the ball over the net.**
8. Players CAN receive any serve or first ball over the net using an open hand setting motion and double contact is allowed. (just like high school) If the ball is held or lifted though it is considered a fault. Also if the ball is overpassed and goes over the net from the open handset it is a fault.

## What to Bring/What to Wear:

1. Players need to bring water with them as there are no water fountains at the field.
2. Gnats and mosquitoes are normally the two biggest pests. Be sure to bring bug spray or OFF with you to keep them away if they bother you. The mosquitoes are normally only bad once the sun goes down.
3. **Dress appropriately for playing outside.** The courts are mainly grass but as time goes on it turns more to dirt or dust in spots. **Don't wear indoor volleyball shoes unless you don't need them anymore. Also don't wear cleats. Wear trail running shoes or something similar.**
4. You can wear knee pads if you like but it's not necessary. If you do decide to wear them make sure they are a pair you don't need anymore or don't plan to use again inside.
5. Sunglasses are fine and sometimes needed if it is really clear and sunny. It's up to each individual if they want to use them. **Try to wear athletic type sunglasses if you do or that are shatter proof for safety.** If the ball should happen to hit you in the face make sure the sunglasses are of a design that they won't hurt you if broken. Designer or metal type sunglasses are discouraged.
6. **We WILL sometimes play in the RAIN. Dress for the WEATHER.** If the weather has been dry throughout the day and we get showers at game time we will PLAY on. **Games will only be canceled if it has been raining steady all day and the courts are saturated.** We will also of course not play in lightning or thunderstorms. **Should a thunderstorm threaten we will ask players to get in their cars until it passes.**

## Game Cancellations:

1. If games are canceled because of weather the league will move the entire night to a new date. If this new date does not work for the teams involved (or you have matches scheduled on a night you are unable to play) **IT IS UP TO EACH TEAM to schedule and MAKE UP their games BEFORE THE END OF THE SEASON.** We allow teams to move games as needed but all involved must be OK with this change for it to happen. Teams are free to go down to the nets in Salem ANY TIME, ANY DAY to make up their games. If teams are unable to schedule and make up missed games by the end of the season they will be considered Forfeit. **\*\*\*You will need to provide your own GAME BALL for any matches played on days and times other than when the league plays.\*\*\***
2. **Cancellations will be posted on the Website by 4pm** if it's a situation where it has been raining steady all day and the courts are saturated. **If we decide to cancel games after 4pm it will be done by Email or at the field if closer to match time.**
3. If you know your team will not make a scheduled game assignment **PLEASE** contact the other team and let them know. That will help eliminate teams coming down to play another team that doesn't show. Contact information for teams will be emailed out at the start of the season.
4. **YOU CAN HAVE SUBS on your team to FILL IN for missing players.** If one person on the team can make a scheduled game and another cannot, you can replace the missing person with a sub so your team still plays. The sub has to be someone who is **NOT** already playing on another Juniors Doubles Team. The sub cannot be an adult. The sub also should be of similar skill to the player being replaced or age/skill appropriate for the division.

## HAVE FUN!!!!

1. If players are struggling & would like advice on what to do or just want to know more about doubles strategy in general we will be happy to help as best we can.
2. **Be sure to check the website ([www.rvva.net](http://www.rvva.net)) for updates and any changes that come up with the schedule. We can be contacted anytime at: [RVVAJuniors@gmail.com](mailto:RVVAJuniors@gmail.com)**

THANKS!