

IMPORTANT: The policies that follow are specific to this sport and must be adhered to by every member of the NRHSAA. Each sport policy is numbered. Many of the Policies in this sport specific section make a direct reference to a specific ARTICLE or SECTION in the NRHSAA CONSTITUTION/ POLICY MANUAL. Where relevant, you will find direct reference(s) to the ARTICLE and/or SECTION of the NRHSAA CONSTITUTION/ POLICY MANUAL. If you want to refer to the NRHSAA CONSTITUTION log on to <http://www.dsbm.org> and then click on "schools link". Or, use <http://www.dsbm.org/athletics>. Make sure that you are familiar with each one.

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|-----|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Season of Play: | Girls = Winter Season | |
| 2. | Levels of Competition: | | |
| | Junior Level | Girls | ZONE; SOSSA |
| | Senior Level | Girls | ZONE; SOSSA; OFSAA |
| 3. | Members: | Appendix A | |
| 4. | Executive: | | |
| | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE | | ARTICLE VI |
| | ROLES OF THE EXECUTIVE | | ARTICLE VII |
| | STANDING COMMITTEES | | ARTICLE IX |
| | Section 1 - Board of Reference - GENERAL | | |
| 5. | CONVENERSHIPS | | ARTICLE XIV |
| | Section 1 - Athletic Conveners | | |
| | Section 2 - Athletic Convener Packages | | |
| 6. | SOLICITING STUDENTS | | ARTICLE XVIII |
| 7. | INSURANCE | | ARTICLE XIX |
| 8. | PERSONAL PROPERTY | | ARTICLE XX |
| 9. | TEAM SELECTION | | ARTICLE XXII |
| 10. | SAFETY | | ARTICLE XXIII - NO TAPED JEWELRY |
| 11. | SUPERVISION OF INTERSCHOOL TEAMS | | ARTICLE XXIV |
| 12. | ELIGIBILITY | | ARTICLE XI |
| | Section 1 - School | | |

Senior Level - The following classifications shall apply for Senior GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL:

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|--------|-----------------------|
| "A" | under - 500 students; |
| "AA" | 501 - 900 students; |
| "AAA" | 901 - 1,250 students; |
| "AAAA" | over - 1,251 |

Junior Level - The following classifications shall apply for Junior GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL:

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|------|---|
| "A" | Schools with a population of 799 or under |
| "AA" | Schools with a population of 800 or more |

Note: School SENIOR classification (A, AA, AAA, AAAA) is based on enrolment on **October 31st** of the PREVIOUS

school year.

NOTE: According to ARTICLE XV; Section 1 a team may opt to play at a higher classification if they declare their intention by the Declaration of Play deadlines. SEE THE TABLE BELOW ON HOW TO “DECLARE UP”.

DECLARING UP: A school cannot just decide that a team is changing divisions!
If your school would like to declare up for this sport, this must be done in writing, on letterhead, signed by a Principal or Vice Principal of that school.
The declaration must go the NRHSAA Zone Coordinator, the Athletic Convener running this sport, and also be forwarded to the SOSSA Secretary by NOVEMBER 15TH. of each school year.
The school must submit the written declaration first.

If a school’s September 30th enrolment changes their classification then they must honor their current schedule for the remainder of that sport season.

Section 2 - Individual

ELIGIBILITY FOR JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL: Only students in their first two years of high school, based on the date they entered grade nine, will be eligible for junior team competition.

Also: **NOTE:** The individual’s birth certificate indicates that she has **not reached her 16th birthday by August 31st** prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held.

EXCEPTION: a student who has been accelerated one year in elementary school shall be allowed to play at the junior level for a maximum of two (2) consecutive years in the first three (3) years of his/her high school career. The student shall meet the above age requirement and documentation of the acceleration shall be provided with the eligibility sheet. (As of September 2009)

ELIGIBILITY FOR SENIOR VOLLEYBALL: Refer to Section 2, ART. XI of the Constitution for more information.

NOTE: The individual’s birth certificate indicates that she has **not reached her 19th birthday by January 1st** prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held.

Section 3 - Special Consideration: Refer to Section 3, Article XI of the Constitution for this information.

13. TRANSFERS ARTICLE XII
STANDING COMMITTEE(S) ARTICLE IX
Section 2 - Board of Reference - TRANSFER
Transfer meeting dates will be published the first week in Sept. of the current school year.
Section 1 - Transfer Policy
Section 2 - Ineligible Ruling
Section 3 - SOSSA Appeal Process

14. SCHEDULING ARTICLE XV
Section 1 - Declaration of Play
Section 2 - School Classification
Section 3 - League and Play-off Format
Section 4 - Stages of Scheduling

No games shall be scheduled during the week that schools go into exams.

SPORT SPECIFIC POLICIES:

GAME DAY AND SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES:

15. ELIGIBILITY SHEETS ARTICLE XII

16. GAME TIME: ARTICLE XV; Section 4

The first game of a double-header will start at 3:30 (no earlier without Convener’s knowledge and both Principals’

permission). The second part of the double-header will start 15 minutes after the completion of the first match unless a mutually agreeable start time is agreed upon by both coaches.

WARM UP:

The warm up will consist of a 5-5-5 format.

Five (5) minutes will be common time for on court warm up, five (5) minutes for the team serving first at the net; five (5) minutes for the team receiving first at the net.

17. **OFFICIAL RULE BOOK:** The official rule book will be the OVA - Official Rule Book.
18. **OFFICIALS:** All officials must be accredited by the Niagara District of Volleyball Officials.
19. **The NO SHOW of an OFFICIAL:**
 - If a referee does not show, there will be an agreement between the 2 coaches to find the best qualified person present to referee and continue the match(es).
20. **FORFEITING GAMES/MATCHES:**
 - a) If a team is not present at the scheduled start time, the first set is forfeited. After 15 minutes, the second set is forfeited. After an additional 15 minutes the third set and consequently the match is forfeited. This will be followed if the team does not have a justifiable reason.
 - b) In the event that a coach is removed from a volleyball game, and there is no coach on the bench to finish the match, the match will be forfeit.
21. **HOME SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES:**
 - Set the net up in advance and at the correct height: Junior Girls - 215 cm AND Senior Girls - 224 cm.
 - Referee “stands” must be secure and safe. Proper official stands should be used.
 - Note: This does not mean a box horse/chair/desk/table!!
 - Provide 2 competent line persons; do not expect the visiting team to provide a line person.
 - Provide 1 competent scorekeeper;
 - Warm-up Equipment: Schools are responsible for providing their own warm-up balls;
 - Use a game ball that is acceptable to both teams.
 - All schools should be using “DSBN” score sheets or facsimile;
22. **SCORING/SETS:**
 - All JUNIOR matches will be best 2 out of 3 If the 3rd game is not needed a 3rd game to 25 will be played. Junior finals will be a best 3 of 5 match.
 - All SENIOR matches will be best 3 out of 5;
 - If a JUNIOR or SENIOR match is tied 1-1 or 2-2, the 3rd. or 5th and deciding game is played to 15 points with a minimum lead of 2 points.
 - All matches will use the rally point scoring system
 - Each rally wins a point;
 - If the receiving team wins a rally, it gains the right to serve and a point, while the players rotate one position clockwise before their team serves.
 - A set is won by the team which scores 25 points first with a minimum lead of 2 points. If the game is tied 24-24, the game is continued until a 2 point lead is achieved (e.g, 27-25 or 34-32 etc.).
23. **SERVICE:**
 - On a serve the server is allowed only one toss; if he/she tosses the ball and lets it fall to the floor, this is counted as a missed serve. That is, there is no longer a second attempt to serve.
 - On service..... a ball TOUCHING THE NET ON SERVICE and dropping into the playing area is in play. (Re: OFSAA Bulletin, #3 June 2000 –page 21)
24. **SUBSTITUTIONS:**

EACH TEAM is allowed 12 substitutions in any one set.

- There is no limit to the number of times a player may leave or re-enter the set as long as the maximum number of 12 substitutions is adhered to and as long as they leave or re-enter for the same player.
- Once you have a designated partner, that person is the only player that you may leave or re-enter the set for (this may change between sets).
- These substitutions may occur at any point in the set.
- All other substitution rules must be followed.

25. OFSAA recognizes the use of the LIBERO player. Zone recognizes the Libero player. NOTE: The use of the Libero is a coaching option. If you choose never to designate a Libero player - that is your choice!!!

From Rule 20 of the Volleyball Canada 2001/2002 Indoor Rulebook:

20.1: DESIGNATION OF THE LIBERO:

20.1.1: Each team has the right to designate among the list of 12 players one (1) specialized defensive player "Libero".

20.1.2: The number of the Libero is to be recorded on the line-up sheet for each set.

20.1.3: The Libero can be neither team captain nor game captain.

20.2: EQUIPMENT:

The Libero must wear a uniform whose jersey must contrast in color with that of the other members of the team.

The Libero uniform may have a different design but it must be numbered like the rest of the team members.

20.3: ACTIONS INVOLVING THE LIBERO:

20.3.1: THE PLAYING ACTIONS:

20.3.1.1: The Libero is allowed to replace any player in a back row position.

20.3.1.2: He/she is restricted to perform as a back row player and is not allowed to complete an attack hit from anywhere (including playing court and free zone) if at the moment of the contact, the ball is entirely higher than the top of the net.

20.3.1.3: He/she may not serve, block, or attempt to block.

20.3.1.4: A player may not complete an attack hit from higher than the top of the net. If the ball is coming from an overhand finger pass (one or two hands) by a Libero in his/her front zone, the ball may be freely attacked if the Libero makes the same action from behind the front zone.

20.3.2: REPLACEMENT OF PLAYERS:

20.3.2.1: Replacements involving the Libero are not counted as regular substitutions. They are unlimited, but there must be a rally between two Libero replacements. The Libero can only be replaced by the player whom he/she replaced.

20.3.2.2: Replacements must only take place while the ball is out of play and before the whistle for service. At the start of each set, the Libero cannot enter the court until the referee has checked the starting line-up.

20.3.2.3: A replacement made after the whistle for service but before the service hit should not be rejected but must be the object of a verbal warning after the end of the rally. Subsequent late replacements must be subject to delay sanction.

20.3.2.4: The Libero and the replacing player may only enter or leave the court by the sideline in front of their team bench between the attack line and end line.

20.3.3: RE-DESIGNATION OF NEW LIBERO:

For OFSAA, and therefore for ZONE competition, a team may re-designate the Libero player at the beginning of each set. (As per OVA youth competition rules).

20.3.3.1: In case to an injury to the designated Libero and with the previous approval of the first referee, the coach can re-designate as a new Libero, one of the players not on the court at the moment of the re-designation. The injured Libero may not enter to play for the remainder of the match. NOTE: In OFSAA and ZONE competition, where you can re-designate at the beginning of each set, the injured Libero could recover and be re-designated for the beginning of the next set.

26. The coach no longer has to remain seated in the seat next to the scorer's table.

27. PAYMENT OF OFFICIALS ARTICLE XXVI

The home team is responsible for payment of officials for all league and play-off games. The amount will be announced at the first meeting. The visiting team is responsible for transportation costs to and from the competition.

If a gate is charged at an NRHSAA league or play-off game then all expenses will be paid from the gate (referees, minor officials, linesmen, security, score keepers, etc.) and the remainder of the gate will be divided equally between the home and visiting team.

In the event a play-off game is played at a neutral site then the cost of officials will be shared equally between participating teams.

28. REPORTING SCORES ARTICLE XXVII

The home team will report the scores to the Athletic Convener in charge.

29. SUSPENSIONS ARTICLE XXV

Section 1 - Ejection from competition YELLOW / RED CARD (SEPARATELY)
Section 2 - Physical or Verbal Altercation

30. STANDING COMMITTEE(S) ARTICLE IX

Section 3 - Board of Reference - SANCTIONS AND PROTESTS
Procedures
Penalties
Protests
Procedures

31. League Format for NRHSAA ZONE 3 AND 4 Boys' Volleyball:

All sport schedules shall have NO more than 12 league games in a season.

In team sports where standings are used to determine play-offs, the win/loss achieved against teams that drop out will be taken away (not added) to teams that are still yet to play them.

32. League PLAY-OFF format for NRHSAA ZONE 3 AND 4 Boys' Volleyball:

In team sports where standings are used to determine play-offs, the win/loss achieved against teams that drop out will be taken away (not added) to teams that are still yet to play them.

Play-offs will be determined at the Conveners Individual Sport Body Meeting. It is suggested that for A/AA/AAA/AAAA Divisions that have 8 or more schools, top 8 make the play-offs; 6 or 7 school, top 6 make the play-offs; 4 or 5 schools, top 4 make the play-offs; 2 or , all 2 or 3 make the play-offs; 1 school, that school would be the zone representative at SOSSA.

All schools participating are to send a representative to the Conveners Individual Sport Body Meeting otherwise forfeit all **rights for input in** the league and play-off format.

33. TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES when determining a play-off position when a league schedule leads to play-offs:

ARTICLE XXVIII

- (1) Record between tied teams;
- (2) Record against teams higher in the standings (1 above, then 2 above, etc.);
- (3) Record against teams lower in the standings (1 below, then 2 below, etc.);

- (4) (a) Coin flip to determine play-off position only.

The conveners will determine a time and location for the coin flip. Schools involved may send the coach or a

representative to verify the results. If a school is unable to send a representative the school that is present for the flip will choose “heads” or “tails”. If no school is present then the school that is alphabetically ranked highest will have “heads” in the coin flip (see appendix A1 and A2 for alphabetical listing for each zone). The convener will notify schools involved of the results.

(b) Play-off on a neutral field/court or a coin flip for home field if both coaches agree, if it is to determine the final play-off position.

(c) If the tie breaking procedures found in the NRHSAA Volleyball policies cannot break ties where one or more teams face elimination, we will follow a modified application that OFSAA uses to break multiple ties for volleyball.

- i) a) the team having the best ratio of won/lost matches, among the tied teams will be ranked higher. Then go back to NRHSAA Tie Breaking Procedures 1-4 if still tied.
- i) b) the team having the best ratio of won/lost games, among the tied teams will be ranked higher. Then go back to NRHSAA Tie Breaking Procedures 1-4 if still tied.
- i) c) the team having the best ratio of won/lost games among the teams ranked higher in their division.

(d) In the event of a multiple team tie where one or more teams face elimination, and where existing tie breaking policies cannot be applied, the conveners in consultation with the NRHSAA Executive and the schools involved will determine a tie-breaking procedure.

34. SOSSA INC. GIRLS’ VOLLEYBALL:

Constitution and By-Laws : pages 1 to 25 of the SOSSA handbook;

GIRLS’ VOLLEYBALL: SOSSA volleyball regs

1 champion from each Zone will go to SOSSA. The championship will held in the fall at least one week prior to the OFSAA. Check ofsa.on.ca for that date.

35. Sending TWO teams from SOSSA to OFSAA:

Sometimes, SOSSA INC is allowed to send 2 teams (including the host entry) to OFSAA. FROM SOSSA INC. ARTICLE 7 - SECTION 3 - # 11.

“For all SOSSA INC. Sports, when SOSSA INC. qualifies to enter two (2) teams to the OFSAA tournament:

- i) the SOSSA INC. champion is an automatic entry;
- ii) the SOSSA INC. runner-up may be challenged for the second entry by the team losing to the SOSSA INC. champion in the SOSSA INC. semi-finals.

UNLESS:

- a) the challenging team is from the same zone as the runner-up and finished lower in their zone championship;
- b) the runner-up defeated a team from the same zone as the challenging team, and the defeated team finished higher than the challenging team in their zone championship.”

(This motion does not cover a host entry)

The SOSSA championship will be held in the fall at least one week prior to the OFSAA. Check ofsa.on.ca for that date.

36. SOSSA “HOST” TEAM FOR OFSAA CHAMPIONSHIPS:

If a school hosts an OFSAA Championship, the school has the first right of acceptance or refusal of the SOSSA Championship for that activity, in the same school year, as the OFSAA Championship.