



# HIGHLANDS RANCH

## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

# ADULT SAND VOLLEYBALL

## League Rules

4 vs. 4

**REGISTRATION, RULES AND PROCEDURES**

**HIGHLANDS RANCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
9568 S. UNIVERSITY BLVD  
HIGHLANDS RANCH, CO 80126**

[www.hrcaonline.org](http://www.hrcaonline.org)

Patrick Gojan, Sports Programs Supervisor – 303-471-8869 or [patrick.gojan@hrcaonline.org](mailto:patrick.gojan@hrcaonline.org)  
Brooke Ballard, Sports Coordinator – 303-471-8838 or [Brooke.Ballard@hrcaonline.org](mailto:Brooke.Ballard@hrcaonline.org)  
Jacob Armbrust, Sports Programmer – 303-471-7039 or [Jacob.armbrust@hrcaonline.org](mailto:Jacob.armbrust@hrcaonline.org)

## **SECTION I: GENERAL LEAGUE GUIDELINES & DETAILS**

Welcome to the Highlands Ranch Community Association Adult Sand Volleyball Program. Highlands Ranch Community Association offers non-sanctioned volleyball leagues for the recreational enjoyment of the participants. The volleyball leagues shall follow the volleyball rules described in the USA Beach Volleyball Rule Book and the Highlands Ranch Community Association's Rules with the following clarifications.

Team captains are responsible to make all team members aware of the USA Beach Volleyball Rules and HRCA League Rules. USA Beach Volleyball Rule Books are available by contacting Kodey Stauffer at [Kodey.stauffer@hrcaonline.org](mailto:Kodey.stauffer@hrcaonline.org). Rules can also be found on the USAV website, [www.usavolleyball.org](http://www.usavolleyball.org).

### **1. REGISTRATION PROCESS**

- A. Captains must register the teams prior to the registration deadline and are responsible for paying the team fee. These fees are listed on the HRCA website, [www.hrcaonline.org](http://www.hrcaonline.org).
- B. Either full payment or a non-refundable deposit of \$100.00 can be made at the time of registration. The \$100.00 non-refundable deposit will be used to hold your spot and applied to your team registration fee and the remaining balance is due prior to the 1st match. If payment is not made, the team must forfeit and will not be allowed back in the league until payment in full is received.
- C. Players may be added to the roster until the last match of the regular season to be eligible to play in the playoffs. After the final regular season match, the roster will be frozen as it pertains to playoff eligibility.

### **2. LEAGUE SKILL LEVELS**

- A. The HRCA Adult Sand Volleyball Program offers both a competitive league and a recreational league but with no modified rules from one league to another.

### **3. PLAYERS:**

- A. A photo I.D. must be available for all players at each game. Photo I.D.'s may be checked if there is a question about identity. Players, who cannot prove their identity, if asked, will be considered ineligible.
- B. A Free Agent list of individual players is kept. If you are interested in picking up a player contact Jacob Armbrust at [Jacob.Armbrust@hrcaonline.org](mailto:Jacob.Armbrust@hrcaonline.org)

### **4. EQUIPMENT:**

- A. The official ball to be used shall be provided by the HRCA Sports Department.
- B. Uniforms are not required for these leagues.
- C. Players must remove all jewelry prior to entering the playing field. Players may not cover the jewelry in an effort to hide the jewelry and play.
- D. Plaster casts or other hard substances in their final form may not be worn during the game.

### **5. FORFEIT PROCEDURE/STARTING A GAME:**

- A. All games will start at their scheduled time or as soon as possible if the preceding game runs over time.
- B. At scheduled game time, a team must have at least 3 legal players on the court ready to play and properly registered or their opponent has the option to:
  - i. Ask for an immediate forfeit or
  - ii. The supervisor may wait 5 minutes for a third player to arrive. If they do not have enough players after 5 minutes, the team will forfeit the first game. The supervisor will wait 15 minutes prior to calling the next two games.
- C. Teams cannot be forced to start earlier than scheduled but may start earlier if both teams agree.
- D. In the event of a forfeited game, the teams will be allowed to use the court for a limited time to practice. The court must be vacated 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the next game.

## 6. **MATCH PROCEDURES:**

- A. Regular season structure will be round robin format. Team standings will be determined by the actual number of matches won.
- B. The regular season will conclude with a single elimination tournament. The tournament will be seeded based on most matches won. In case of a tie, the team with the highest positive point differential in all games will be given the high seed.
- C. Tournament champions will receive championship t-shirts for each member on their team roster.
- D. All schedules will be played as published unless modified by the Sports Department. Matches will not be re-scheduled due to teams being short of players.
- E. Inclement Weather Policy: In the event of inclement weather, the Sports Department will reschedule games on predetermined make-up days that will be communicated to the teams at the beginning of the season. If there is lightening within 10 miles of Eastridge, the sand volleyball courts must be cleared, and everyone must go inside. The league will not resume until 30 minutes has passed since the last lightning strike within a 10-mile radius of the sand volleyball courts or until the on-site supervisor deems it safe to play. There must be a minimum of 30 minutes of playing time available in order to complete a match. Otherwise, the game will be canceled.

## **SECTION II: HRCA LEAGUE RULES**

USA Beach VB rules will govern play with the exception of specified league rules outlined below.

1. Teams will receive 5 minutes of shared time to warm-up prior to the beginning of the match.
2. Matches are limited to one hour (55 minutes game time plus 5 minutes to warm-up) in length for all divisions.
3. Each team will receive two (2), 30 second time-outs per game.
4. There will be a one (1) minute break between games of a match.
5. All leagues will be self-officiated. A league staff member is on site to provide guidance, but not make official rulings. Any ruling discrepancies between team captains will result in a replay.
6. **All Divisions play 4 vs. 4**, minimum number of players need to start a game is three (3). Teams can play in the following configurations:
  - A. Minimum of two females on the court *unless* your team fields 3 players you need at least one female on the court in that situation.
7. You may not play with more than two males on the court at one time.
8. There are no required hit rules – for example two males can hit the ball over without a female touching the ball.
9. Matches will consist of three (3) games during the regular season. Each game will be played to 25 using rally scoring, must win by 2 points, and cap is 27. The 3<sup>rd</sup> game, if playing to 25, will be capped at 25.
10. If the third game is started 20 minutes or less from the start of the next match (or next hour) then that game will be played to 15 using rally scoring. Cap is 15.
11. During tournament play, a third game will only be played if it's a deciding game. The deciding game will be played to 15 using rally scoring, must win by 2 points, and cap is 17.
12. Jump serving is permitted in all 4v4 Divisions.
13. The players are free to position themselves anywhere on the court. There are no determined positions on the court. There are no positional faults.
14. A service order fault is committed when the service is not made according to the service order.
15. There is no designated substitution zone.
16. HRCA will follow the 2025-2027 Outdoor USAV Rules. Specifically, please review the following Net Rules in the USAV Rule Book:
  - A. Penetration Under the Net USAV Rule 11.2, pages 29 - 30
  - B. Contact with the Net USAV Rule 11.3, page 30
  - C. Player's Faults at the Net Rule 11.4, pages 30 - 31
17. Matches called off by the Sports Department will be made up as soon as possible however may be played other than the normally scheduled day. Please see Match Procedures section E for the HRCA inclement weather policy.

## **SECTION III: DISCIPLINE**

The following disciplines apply to incidents before, during and after a match:

1. Intentional blatant play resulting in injury: (Examples: Determined by the official/league staff that the player intentionally struck, pushed/shoved or kicked another player, spectator, league/facility

staff person or game official and caused injury/damage of some type). Will result in (A.) and (B.) and may result in (C.), (D.) or (E.) of the following penalties:

- A. Immediate ejection from the match. The player must leave the facility before play is restarted or the team will forfeit the remainder of the match.
  - B. Suspension from the next (2) two scheduled matches for his/her team.
  - C. Suspension from the league for the next (4) four scheduled matches or the remainder of the season, whichever is longer.
  - D. Temporary suspension from the league for a determined amount of time depending on the severity of the suspension (ex: 3, 6, 9 or 12 months).
  - E. Permanent expulsion from the league.
2. Intentional blatant play with intent to cause injury/damage (Examples: Determined by league staff that the player had intent to cause injury/damage but did not cause injury/damage). Will result in (A.) and may result in (B.) of the following penalties:
- A. Immediate ejection from the match. The player must leave the facility before play is restarted or the team will forfeit the remainder of the match.
  - B. Suspension from the next (2) two scheduled matches for his/her team.
3. Foul language or verbal abuse directed towards a league player, or league/facility staff: Will result in (A.) and may result in (B.) of the following penalties:
- A. Immediate ejection from the match. The player must leave the facility before play is restarted or the team will forfeit the remainder of the match.
  - B. Suspension from the league for a minimum of two (2) matches or longer. Suspensions will carry over to next season if they cannot be served for the current season because of number of matches left to be played.
4. Any player ejected twice during the same season: Will result in (A.) and may result in (B.) of the following penalties:
- A. Suspension from the league for the next (4) four scheduled matches or the remainder of the season, whichever is longer.
  - B. Temporary suspension from the league for a determined amount of time depending on the severity of the suspension (ex: 3, 6, 9 or 12 months).

## **SECTION IV: CAPTAINS, PLAYERS & SPECTATORS EXPECTATIONS**

### **1. CAPTAINS EXPECTATIONS**

- A. Team captains are responsible for enforcing suspensions. Suspended players found to have played during their suspension periods will result in an automatic forfeit for all games played. Captains will be informed of all suspensions for players on their teams.
- B. Captains are responsible to see that each player on the team reads and understands all rules and expected player conduct.
- C. It is the captain's responsibility to control their team members and spectators before, during and after games.
  - a. Failure to calm and remove an ejected player from the facility will cause the forfeiture of the game without prior warning. The Sports Office will not review protests involving this type of forfeit situation.

### **2. PLAYER & SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS**

- A. Good sportsmanship is expected and must be maintained at all times.
- B. Any HRCA representative may eject any player or spectator without prior warning for any player conduct situation regardless of the severity of the situation.
- C. All grievances must be communicated through the Captain.
- D. Profanity or derogatory remarks will not be tolerated. See discipline section for penalties.
- E. Children must be supervised at all times and not interfere with play at any time.
- F. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on HRCA property.