

# Olathe Parks & Rec Spring Volleyball League

## 4th Grade League Overview

League Coordinator: Kylie Guthier- [kguthier@olatheks.org](mailto:kguthier@olatheks.org)

1. Only individual registrations will be accepted. Participants will sign up for the grade they are currently in school for this year.
2. Participants will be grouped together based on if they request a particular coach during sign ups as 1<sup>st</sup> priority. Those who do not have a coach prior to signing up will be paired together by proximity. Often, we will need a parent from that group to volunteer to coach ASAP!
  - a. If you have confirmed with a head coach they have space for you on their roster, then please list their name in the registration.
3. The **wearing of jewelry** by players is addressed in a change to Rule 4-1-7, which now states that all jewelry must be removed, except small, secured studs or posts worn above the chin. No jewelry is permitted below the chin, including string bracelets, commemorative bracelets, and body jewelry. In addition, taping over jewelry is not permitted. These rules change aligns high school rules with NCAA rules on the wearing of jewelry.
4. If you would like to be a head coach please complete a coaches application online at this [link](#).
5. Game shirts are no longer provided for this league. Your team will need to coordinate and purchase shirts on your own.
6. Coaches will be sent information on how to schedule their practice once they reach 6 players registered under their name in our registration system. What specific day of the week practices are held (Monday – Friday), location, and time will depend on the head coach preference and what is available. Each team will practice 1 day per week for 1 hour. Olathe gym rentals are closed whenever students are out of school (including inclement weather for practices), in that instance you will want to schedule a different day to practice on that week or skip it. It is not permissible to schedule two practices in one week to be paid by Olathe Parks & Rec in any scenario.
7. Games will be played at an Olathe middle school. Most games (12) are played on Saturdays anytime from 8 AM – 6 PM with double headers. There is potential for an occasional Sunday game.
8. If you have questions about if a game or practice will be held due to inclement weather you will check the rainout line at this [link](#) or by calling (913) 204-0858 Ext 7. The schools will dictate the availability of gyms in the event of inclement weather. The instant that we have information from the school district on playability that line will be updated.
9. League Champions and league runners up will receive awards.
  - a. No tournament of any kind is included in the league registration. League format is 12 regular season games to determine a league champion.
10. Each team is responsible for providing their own practice volleyballs (volley-lite). It is recommended each player purchase their own volleyball to bring to practice and so that they can practice at home.

**I. Scheduling, Administration, Rosters.**

- a. Coaches may submit up to three (2) conflicts for games before the season begins that will be honored. The cut-off for schedule conflicts to be turned in to Kylie is 3/16. Any conflicts that arise after this date will not be guaranteed to be accommodated.
- b. Players may request a certain coach or teammate. The minimum roster size is 6 and the maximum roster size is 12. Teams with less than 8 players enrolled can have players added by league administration based on teammate or coach requests, proximity, and availability. Coaches may not refuse a player being added until the minimum is met.

## **4th Grade League Timeline**

**March 9<sup>th</sup>** – Practices can begin. \*Will be communicated by the head coach\*

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>**- Game Schedules are finalized. \*Will be communicated by the head coach.

**March 28<sup>th</sup>** – League games begin.

**May 16<sup>th</sup>** – Last day of league games.

# 4th Grade League Rules

## **I. General Rules**

1. Participants must accept referees' decisions with sportsmanlike conduct and without dispute. In case of doubt, clarification may be requested through the coach only.
2. No food or drink is allowed in the gym; however, we do allow a water container with a lid. Coaches, please express this policy to the parents to help us keep the facility in good shape.
3. The Home team is responsible for supplying a scorekeeper upon the Official's request. This person should be over the age of 16, if possible. The Line Judge is not allowed to communicate with the coaches, players, or fans.
4. Each team is responsible for providing a Line Judge. The Line Judge cannot be a member of the team's coaching staff and should be over the age of 16 if possible. The Line Judge is not allowed to communicate with the coaches, players, or fans.
5. The Visiting team calls the coin toss before the 1st Set. Winner will have the option of serving or receiving. The second set will start opposite of the first set.
6. **Coaches must rotate players before each serve except the opening serve of the game.** The player who had just served will be substituted for if there are players on the bench. Exception: players may be substituted for at any time in case of injury.
7. There should be 6 players on the court for each team.
8. A team may start and play the game with 4 players. If a team does not have 4 players at game time it will be a forfeit.
9. **Time Outs**—Each team will have the option of one 30-second time out per set.
10. **Ceiling**—If the ball hits the ceiling and remains on the same side of the court, it is still in play. If it hits the ceiling and bounces to the other side of the court, it is considered out of bounds and a point will be awarded to the other team. Lights, rafters, basketball goals, and anything attached to the ceiling counts as part of the ceiling. Exception: If a serve hits the basketball goal that hangs over the court, the ball will be dead and served again.
11. **Dividers, Bleachers, and Walls**—All dividers, bleachers, and walls are considered out of play. If a player hits a ball that then hits any of these objects, it will be a side out and a point will be awarded to the other team.
12. All players must currently be registered and only play for one team in the OPRD Volleyball program. Using an illegal player will result in forfeiture of the game.

## **II. Serving**

1. **Service Limitations**  
A single player will only be allowed to serve up to **5** consecutive points. It will be side out after that. No point will be awarded to the other team, but they will rotate and be allowed to serve.
2. *Let* serves are allowed. A *Let* serve is a serve that hits the net, but still goes over the net inside the boundaries of the opponent's court.
3. First serve of the first and third games will be decided by a coin toss. One captain from each team will meet the referee prior to the first game to do the coin toss. The team winning the coin toss will be awarded first serve; the losing team will choose which side they want to defend.
4. Both feet of the serving player must be behind the designated line for each age group. The designated serving line will be 10 feet in front of the baseline boundaries.
5. Players must wait for the whistle from the referee to serve.
6. Players may not block or attack the serve.
7. The server may move freely within the service zone.
8. In the case of a bad toss during service, the serving player may not touch the ball before it hits the ground. If the ball is touched before hitting the ground, it will result in a side out and point for the other team. After a service tossing error, the referee must authorize the service again. One service tossing error is permitted for each service.

### **III. Playing Court and Equipment**

1. All age groups play with the full-sized boundaries.
2. Coaches and players on the bench must stay at least 5 feet back from the court boundaries.
3. **Volleyballs**— A “Volley-Lite” ball will be used, it is the same size as regulation, but lighter and softer.
4. Players are encouraged to wear kneepads.
5. No jewelry made of metal, ceramic or rock will be allowed. Each team will receive one warning for wearing jewelry. If a player has jewelry on after the warning has been given, they will be removed from the match.

### **IV. Game Play**

1. All games will be rally-scored, meaning a point will be awarded to one team after each play. All games will be played to 25, win by 2 with a cap of 27. The teams will play all three games of a match during league games no matter what the outcome is of the first two.
2. Each team is entitled to a maximum of 3 hits to return the ball to the opponents. Hits include intentional hits by a player as well as unintentional contact with the ball.
3. It is a fault to touch any part of the net except for incidental contact by a player’s hair and insignificant contact by a player not involved in the action of playing the ball.
4. **The net height will be 6’6**
5. If a ball or other item comes onto the court during live play, the Official will whistle the play as dead and then whistle for the play to be redone.