

2023-24 TSSAA Handbook

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL REGULATIONS

I. GENERAL REGULATIONS (Division I: Class A, AA, AAA; Division II: Class A, AA)

- A. In Division I, TSSAA schools shall be divided into eight regions in Class A, Class AA, and Class AAA for girls' volleyball competition. In Division II, TSSAA schools shall be divided into three regions: East, Middle and West in Class A and Class AA.
- B. In regular season play and post-season tournament play, Varsity District matches must be 3 out of 5 games (25, 25, 25, 25, 15).
- C. During regular-season play no air horns, cow bells or individual type noise makers will be allowed.
- D. For non-district varsity matches the best 2 out of 3 format may be used with all games being played to 25. For invitational tournaments only the third set may be modified to play to 15 points. Varsity matches must use adult line judges. All JV and Freshman matches must be the best 2 out of 3 format with the third game played to 15 points.
- E. Schools hosting invitational tournaments involving out-of-state teams must have the tournament sanctioned by the TSSAA Office (Contact: Kim Alley – kalley@tssaa.org).
- F. For the regular season, during the pre match conference, once the coin toss is conducted and the winner of the toss chooses whether to serve or receive, the teams will decide whether or not to change sides after each set. If both teams cannot agree on an answer, or there is an overhead obstruction within the playable area, or there is an issue with lighting or sunlight, teams will switch sides after each set.
- G. Video taping or filming is permitted if the taping or filming is for private use or use by the two schools involved and not for public or commercial use. Video taping or filming must be done from the individual's seat. Individuals will not be allowed to use tripods. A school taping or filming its own game may use a tripod. A school will not be allowed to tape or film a game unless its team is involved in the game. All taping or filming by a school may be approved by the local Game Director or Tournament Director, and the Tournament Director or Game Director shall assign space, when available, from which the school may tape or film.

II. DISTRICT AND REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS (Division I: Class A, AA, AAA)

- A. Tournament play shall begin at the district level provided both districts in the region have three or more teams. If this criterion is met, then each district shall determine the district winner and runner-up in any manner they choose provided every team plays a complete district schedule. Otherwise, all teams in the district must be given the option of participating in the district tournament.

The tournament director and participating teams shall make the district tournament draw.

Since each district sends two teams to the regional tournament, the Board of Control has approved a set single elimination bracket for tournament play as shown below:

Top Bracket	Bottom Bracket
Odd District Winner	Even District Winner
Even District Runner-Up	Odd District Runner-Up

A coach may dress no more than 14 players for the regional tournament.

District coaches shall select their regional tournament site on a rotation basis. In odd-numbered years, the odd-numbered districts shall select the regional site and in even-numbered years, the even-numbered districts shall select the regional site.

TSSAA shall supply the championship and runner-up plaques for the district and regional tournaments.

- B. Tournament play shall begin at the region level if one or both districts in the region have less than three teams in each district. If this criterion is met, then the teams within the region shall determine the region winner and runner-up in any manner they choose.

A coach may dress no more than 14 players for the regional tournament.

2023-24 TSSAA Handbook

District coaches shall select their regional tournament site on a rotation basis. In odd-numbered years, the odd-numbered districts shall select the regional tournament site and in even-numbered years, the even-numbered districts shall select the regional tournament site.

TSSAA shall supply the championship and runner-up plaques for the regional tournament.

- C. During the district and region tournaments, the higher seeded team is considered the home team, they will select their team bench first, and teams will not switch sides after each set. In the region tournament, if both teams are the same seed, the team from the odd-numbered district will be considered the home team, and will select their team bench first, and teams will not switch sides after each set. For the district and region tournaments, if there is an overhead obstruction within the playable area, or an issue with lighting or sunlight, teams will switch sides after each set.

III. STATE TOURNAMENT (Division I: Class A, AA, AAA)

- A. The first- and second-place teams in each region shall be eligible to enter the state tournament. The sectional round of the state tournament shall be as follows:

Site 1: Winner Region 1 vs. Second Region 2
Site 2: Winner Region 2 vs. Second Region 1
Site 3: Winner Region 3 vs. Second Region 4
Site 4: Winner Region 4 vs. Second Region 3
Site 5: Winner Region 5 vs. Second Region 6
Site 6: Winner Region 6 vs. Second Region 5
Site 7: Winner Region 7 vs. Second Region 8
Site 8: Winner Region 8 vs. Second Region 7

- B. The regional winner at each site shall host the sectional match and will select their team bench first and teams will not switch sides after each set. However, if there is an overhead obstruction within the playable area, or an issue with lighting or sunlight, teams will switch sides after each set. The Executive Director of TSSAA has the authority to select another sectional site if the regional winner's facilities are not adequate to host the match.
- C. The eight winners of the sectional shall advance to the central tournament site. The state tournament will be a modified double elimination format with no "if" matches. The draw shall be made so that if two teams from the same region reach the central tournament site, they will be drawn to opposite sides of the bracket. The draw shall be made by the Board of Control. The top team in the bracket will be considered the home team, they will select their team bench first, and teams will not switch sides.
- D. A coach may dress no more than 14 players for the state tournament.

IV. REGION TOURNAMENT (Division II: Class A)

- A. The East Region, Middle Region, and the West Region shall determine the top four teams in any manner they choose.
- B. During the district and region tournaments, the higher seeded team is considered the home team, they will select their team bench first, and teams will not switch sides after each set. In the region tournament, if both teams are the same seed, the team from the odd-numbered district will be considered the home team, and will select their team bench first, and teams will not switch sides after each set. For the district and region tournaments, if there is an overhead obstruction within the playable area, or an issue with lighting or sunlight, teams will switch sides after each set.
- C. TSSAA shall supply the championship and runner-up plaques for the regional tournament.
- D. A coach may dress no more than 14 players for the regional tournament.

2023-24 TSSAA Handbook

V. STATE TOURNAMENT (Division II: Class A and Class AA)

- A.** In Class A, the top four teams from the East Region, the top four teams from the Middle Region, and the top four teams from the West Region shall qualify for the first round. The First Round sites shall be as follows:

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Site 1:	#4 Middle @ #2 East	#4 Middle @ #3 West	#3 East @ #2 Middle
Site 2:	#4 East vs. #3 West (H)	#3 East vs. #2 West (H)	#4 Middle @ #2 West
Site 3:	#4 West @ #2 Middle	#4 West vs. #2 East (H)	#4 East vs. #3 West (H)
Site 4:	#3 Middle @ #3 East	#3 Middle @ #4 East	#3 Middle @ #4 West

In 2023-24, #1 Middle will host the #4 East vs. #3 West First Round game.

In 2024-25, #1 Middle will host the #4 West vs. #2 East First Round game and #2 Middle will host the #3 East vs. #2 West game.

In 2025-26, #1 Middle will host the #4 East vs. #3 West First Round game.

The Quarterfinal Round sites shall be as follows:

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Site 1:	FR Site 1 Winner @ #2 West	FR Site 1 Winner @ #1 East	FR Site 1 Winner @ #1 West
Site 2:	FR Site 2 Winner @ #1 Middle	FR Site 2 Winner @ #2 Middle	FR Site 2 Winner @ #2 East
Site 3:	FR Site 3 Winner @ #1 East	FR Site 3 Winner @ #1 Middle	FR Site 3 Winner @ #1 Middle
Site 4:	FR Site 4 Winner @ #1 West	FR Site 4 Winner @ #1 West	FR Site 4 Winner @ #1 East

The Executive Director has the authority to select another site if the host's facilities are not adequate to host the match.

For the First Round and Quarterfinals, the home team is designated in the pairings and they will select their team bench first, and teams will not switch sides after each set. However if there is an overhead obstruction within the playable area, or an issue with lighting or sunlight, teams will switch sides after each set.

The winners of the quarterfinal round matches shall advance to the central tournament site.

The state tournament will be a modified double elimination format with no "if" matches. If all three #1 Seeds advance to the central tournament site, the first matches of the state tournament shall be as follows:

Match 1: Quarterfinal Site 1 Winner vs. Quarterfinal Site 2 Winner

Match 2: Quarterfinal Site 3 Winner vs. Quarterfinal Site 4 Winner

If all three #1 Seeds do not advance to the central tournament site, the bracket shall be set by the Executive Director upon completion of the quarterfinal round matches.

For the state tournament, the top team will be considered the home team, they will select their team bench first, and teams will not switch sides after each set.

A coach may dress no more than 14 players for the state tournament.

- B.** In Class AA, there will be an East Region, Middle Region and West Region. The ten teams that qualify for the post-season tournament shall be as follows: the top three teams from the East Region, the top four teams from the Middle Region, and the top three teams from the West Region. Seeding will be based on regular season records. The First Round sites shall be as follows:

Site 1: #4 Middle @ #3 West

Site 2: #3 Middle @ #3 East

The Quarterfinal Round sites shall be as follows:

Site 1: First Round Site 1 Winner @ #1 West

Site 2: #2 East @ #1 Middle

Site 3: First Round Site 2 Winner @ #1 East

Site 4: #2 Middle @ #2 West

2023-24 TSSAA Handbook

The Executive Director has the authority to select another site if the host's facilities are not adequate to host the match.

For the First Round and Quarterfinals, the home team is designated in the pairings and they will select their team bench first, and teams will not switch sides after each set. However if there is an overhead obstruction within the playable area, or an issue with lighting or sunlight, teams will switch sides after each set.

The winners of the quarterfinal round matches shall advance to the central tournament site.

The state tournament will be a modified double elimination format with no "if" matches. The first matches of the state tournament shall be as follows:

Match 1: Quarterfinal Site 1 Winner vs. Quarterfinal Site 2 Winner

Match 2: Quarterfinal Site 3 Winner vs. Quarterfinal Site 4 Winner

For the state tournament, the top team will be considered the home team, they will select their team bench first, and teams will not switch sides after each set.

A coach may dress no more than 14 players for the state tournament.

VI. GENERAL TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

- A.** No air horns, cow bells, or individual type noise makers will be allowed at district, regional, sectional, or state tournaments.

VII. OFFICIALS

- A.** Two officials are required for all varsity matches, including invitational tournaments and post season tournaments.
- B.** In district, regional and sectional competition two officials shall be used.
- C.** The TSSAA state office shall select the regional, sectional, and state tournament officials.
- D.** An official must be recommended by a local assigner to be eligible to work in district, regional, sectional, or state tournaments.