



2024 VOLLEYBALL PLAYBOOK



Please note: This is an addendum to the United Hmong Family, Inc. volleyball rule book to solidify the adoption of the Hmong Volleyball playstyle. This addendum was approved by the United Hmong Family's (UHF) Board of Trustees on Friday, June 9th, 2023.

The Hmong International Freedom Festival (a.k.a Hmong J4) will utilize USA Volleyball, set by the United States Volleyball, Inc. rules as a foundation; however, adjustments have been made to better suit the playing fields and participant skill levels.

Coach/Manager Responsibilities:

- ❖ **Review Modified Rules:** Please thoroughly review the modified rules within this playbook.
- ❖ **Explain Rules to Players:** Ensure all players on your team understand the adapted rules.
- ❖ **Compliance and Agreement:** Confirm that all players understand and agree to abide by the modified rules, including any potential changes implemented during the tournament.

Final Decisions and Concerns:

- ❖ Please be aware that the rules outlined for this event may be subject to change at the discretion of the sports lead. Any such changes will be communicated clearly to all participants before the event begins.
- ❖ **Referee's Decisions are Final:** Please respect the referee's judgment on the field.
- ❖ **Reporting Concerns:** If you have any concerns about the modified rules **prior to** the start of your game, please contact the Volleyball Lead, **Chue Kong Thao at (651) 398-2359**.

Additional Resources:

We encourage coaches and managers to discuss any questions or clarifications regarding the modified rules with their players. We look forward to a fun and competitive July Sports Festival!

The Roster

Team Rosters and Player Identification:

- ❖ To ensure eligibility and accurate record-keeping, all team members must be included on the registration form with their full legal name and date of birth.
- ❖ The coach or designated team representative acknowledges that this information will be available upon request to United Hmong Family, Inc. (UHF) and confirms its accuracy for all players participating.
- ❖ Only players listed on the official roster will be permitted to compete.

Consequences of Non-Compliance: Teams allowing unregistered players to participate risk forfeiture of prizes and potential suspension from the current and future tournaments.



Verification of Eligibility:

- ❖ UHF reserves the right to verify player eligibility through the registration form in case of complaints regarding age, participation on multiple teams, or unregistered players.
- ❖ Coaches and team managers are responsible for ensuring all team members meet age requirements and are properly registered.

Celebrating Asian Culture and Heritage

Hmong International Freedom Festival (HIFF) is dedicated to fostering appreciation for Asian culture and heritage through the lens of athletic competition. We welcome athletes of all ethnic backgrounds to participate and showcase their skills.

Team Composition:

- ❖ To ensure a focus on Asian cultural representation during gameplay, a minimum of 75% of actively participating players (on the court/field during a game) must be of Asian descent.
- ❖ Definition of Asian Descent:
 - HIFF aligns with the U.S. Census definition of "Asian," which encompasses individuals with origins in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. This includes ethnicities such as Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Japanese, Vietnamese, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, Thai, Bengali, Mien, Karen, and those categorized as "Other Asian."

IMPORTANT NOTE: Side-out or Rally scoring is yet to be determined, it will be based on the number of teams registered and a final decision made at the time of the drawing when all team representatives are present and by majority vote.

- Side-out: a set played to 15 points. Each set must be won by 2 points and caps at 20. Scoring only on serve. Best out of 3, wins the match.
- Addendum to Side-out:
 - Over set is illegal
 - Jump setting the ball over the net is illegal
 - Setting the ball below the top of the net is illegal
 - Let serve is illegal (see definition below).

***Rally: a set played to 21 points. Each set must be won by two points and caps at 25. Best out of 3, wins the match.



Addendum to Rally Scoring: let serve is legal.

***by definition: a let serve in volleyball is a serve that makes contact with the net, but still rolls over in-bounds onto the opponent's side of the net. When the ball rolls over, in-bounds onto the receiving team's side of the net, the ball is considered in play. If the ball hits the net and falls on the server's side of the net, the ball is then considered dead.

How to Play Volleyball:

- ❖ A volleyball game consists of two teams of six players each, separated by a net. The six volleyball court positions are setter, middle blocker, outside hitter, opposite hitter, defensive player and/or serving specialist (optional).
- ❖ To start, flip a coin to determine which team serves the ball first.
- ❖ Then the two teams will rally—or hit the ball back and forth over the net—until a fault occurs. There is a maximum of three hits per side.
- ❖ The objective is to score points by sending the ball over the net, grounding it into the opponent's court.
- ❖ Volleyball matches are made up of three sets.

Volleyball Rules:

Fundamental rules of the volleyball game:

- ❖ 6 players on the court at all times: 3 in the front row and 3 in the back row. ***(no more than two non-asian players on the court)
- ❖ Players may not hit the ball twice in succession (a block is not considered a hit).
- ❖ A ball hitting a boundary line is in.
- ❖ A ball is out if it hits an antenna, the floor completely outside the court, any of the net or cables outside the antennae, the pole, or a non-playable area.
- ❖ It is illegal to contact the ball with any part of a player's body, other than the arms and/or hands (see Rule Violations regarding illegal hits).
- ❖ It is illegal to catch, hold or throw the ball.
- ❖ Substitution: One for one only and at service position (P1) or front left (P4).
- ❖ After the whistle, front-line players may switch positions at the net (stacking is required).
- ❖ Matches are made up of 3 sets.
- ❖ Good sportsmanship is highly encouraged (taunting/bullying will not be allowed)
- ❖ All players must wear jerseys with clearly visible identification numbers. (NO marker marked)
- ❖ Tennis shoes are mandatory for all players on the court.

Volleyball Rule Violations:



Committing any of these volleyball rule violations results in a point (or side-out) for the opponent.

- ❖ Stepping on or across the service line when serving while making contact with the ball.
- ❖ Failure to serve the ball over the net successfully.
- ❖ Ball-handling errors and contacting the ball illegally:
 - Double touching
 - Setting on the serve
 - Lifting
 - Carrying
 - Throwing
 - Kicking, etc.
- ❖ NOTE: illegal hits are often a judgment call, a captain can dispute the call but players must respect the Ref's Call (after a decision has been made).
- ❖ Touching the net with any part of the body while the ball is in play.
- ❖ Blocking a ball coming from the opponent's court and contacting the ball when reaching over the net if your opponent has not used 3 contacts AND has a player there to make a play on the ball.
- ❖ Attacking a ball coming from the opponent's court and contacting the ball when reaching over the net when the ball has not yet broken the vertical plane of the net.
- ❖ Crossing the court centerline with any part of your body.
 - Due to safety concerns, it is considered a violation if any part of the body touches the court centerline
- ❖ Serving out of rotation or out of order.
- ❖ Back row player blocking (deflecting a ball coming from the opponent) when, at the moment of contact, the back row player is near the net and has part of their body above the top of the net. This is an illegal block.
- ❖ Back row player attacking a ball inside the front zone (the area inside the 3 meter line) when, at the moment of contact, the ball is completely above the net. This is an illegal attack.

Additional Notes:

- ❖ Teams will be split into each court by designation of drawing.
- ❖ Depending on the number of teams and by majority vote, we'll have two options of play:
 - Round Robin, rally scoring, where all the teams will play against each other and the teams with the most wins advances to the playoffs (top 3 teams, Top team gets bye in the 1st round)
 - Bracket play, double elimination, side-out scoring, top 2 teams advance to the playoffs. Play off is single elimination, best 2 out of 3 sets wins the match.

Expectations & responsibilities of Coaches and Managers

- ❖ Safety of your players



- ❖ You are responsible to make sure each player on your team is healthy to play the game.
- ❖ You are responsible to make sure each player on your roster is playing for only your team.
- ❖ You are responsible to make sure your players' names are legally spelled.
- ❖ You are responsible to make sure your players understand the rules, and follow the referees' directives.
- ❖ It is illegal for a team or player to solicit illegal activity while participating in this tournament.
- ❖ Alcohol will not be allowed on the field or near the field.
- ❖ Players under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be disqualified from that game.
- ❖ You enter this tournament with an agreement to comply with the rules above.
- ❖ ***The manager “main team representative” who signed the application will be liable for his/her player's conduct during the time participating in this tournament.***

Automatic team disqualification

- ❖ Age falsification after the start of the first game of the tournament
- ❖ One player plays for two teams
- ❖ Every player must have his/her legal ID with him/her.
 - Referees will not delay the game for ID check longer than 5 minutes.
 - No proof of identification within five (5) minutes, the referee can disqualify the team/player.

Nonrefundable fees

- ❖ Registration fee is not refundable under any circumstances. (at UHF’s discretion)
- ❖ Registration fee must be paid in full and by the deadline.

Prize Distribution:

- ❖ **Prize checks will be issued to the designated “Main Team Representative.” UHF is not responsible for distributing prize money amongst team members.**
- ❖ The disbursement of prize checks by UHF will commence 30 business days following the conclusion of the event.
- ❖ The Main Team Representative must submit a W-9 tax form to UHF upon winning. Prize disbursement will be withheld until the W-9 is received.

In the situation a team is disqualified during the semi or final game, that team will receive no prize or trophy. The host holds the right to keep the prize of that place defaulted by the disqualified team. No other team will be awarded that prize.

The managers who signed the registration form have agreed to abide by this rule.

- ❖ ***Warnings: United Hmong Family, Inc. and the volleyball lead are not responsible for any injuries, loss, stolen properties, and/or bodily harm while you are participating in this tournament***

