

# ACEL Volleyball Plan 2021-2022



# **The General Season Information**

## **The 2021 Volleyball Schedule**

Volleyball has a 10-week regular season with an additional week for both playoffs and the state championship. For 2021-2022 there are 16 varsity girls' teams, 10 junior varsity girls' teams and 4 varsity boys' teams.

### **Districts**

Districts are roughly geographic with some manipulation to even the number of varsity girls' teams per district. Districts are not determined by JV teams as has been done in the past.

### **Schedule Priorities**

Varsity boys' teams are tied to the schedule of the varsity girls' team from their organization. District varsity girls' games were scheduled first. All varsity girls' teams that also have a varsity boys' teams were then scheduled for both home and away games with all out-of-district opponents that also had varsity boys' teams so as to give the boys the maximum number of games possible. Junior varsity games were then added to the schedule with all out-of-district teams playing each other once. Finally, out-of-district varsity girls' games completed the remaining dates.

### **Number of Games**

The number of games scheduled is dependent on the district and on having VB and/or JVG. VG teams have 17-19 games, JVG have 10-15 and VB have 6. Discrepancies in the number of scheduled games always cause concern among coaches. Every effort was made to keep the number of games as even as possible without randomly cutting games for the sake of equity. Districts with more Jv teams simply get more Jv games. Teams with both VB and JVG get more JV games because they play some out-of-district opponents twice. Rest assured that our power point system is able to handle these relatively minor discrepancies fairly.

### **Varsity Boys**

The ACEL will sponsor a Varsity Boys' Volleyball State Championship game at state this season; however, there will be no semi-final games for boys at state.

There will be one ACEL All-State Team for varsity boys' this season as well as a league MVP and coach of the year award.

If you are interested in additional games for your varsity boys' team, Mt. Olive Christian School has an unofficial varsity boys' team that wants to play your team!

## Playoffs: Week of October 18th

**Varsity Girls':** Top 6 teams by regular season power points advance to playoffs with #1 and #2 earning byes to the state semi-finals. Highest seed will host playoff games for seeds 3-6.

**JV Girls':** Top 4 teams by regular season power points advance to playoffs. Highest seed hosts the semi-final round with the final game played at state.

**Varsity Boys':** With so few VB teams, only the VB championship game will be played at state. Semi-final games will be hosted by the higher seed during playoff week.

## State Championship

The 2021-2022 ACEL Volleyball State Championship is scheduled for Friday & Saturday, October 29 & 30 in Alexandria. The ACEL 8-Man Football State Championship will also take place on October 30 in Alexandria immediately following the conclusion of volleyball state.

## Reminders

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### Read the ACEL Standing Rules

Please make sure to read the ACEL Standing Rules available for download on the website. If any particular situation is not covered in the ACEL Standing Rules, the current NFHS rules apply. (ACEL Rule 1.5) If you have any questions about ACEL rules or operating procedures, please ask your athletic director for clarification. Be aware that ACEL rules and procedures are tailored to the unique needs of our member organizations. Therefore, some ACEL rules are unlike those customarily found in other leagues.

### Administrator Required at Each Game

An administrator or a designated representative for each team must be in attendance at all ACEL events. The administrator may NOT be the team's coach nor may they sit on the bench. The purpose of the administrator is to handle issues that may arise with the fans, players, or coaches of their organization. The administrator must locate and introduce themselves to the administrator of the opposing team prior to the beginning of the game. Administrators for each team will work together to handle any issue that arises beyond the scope of the officials' authority. (ACEL Rule 13)

## Update Your Coach Information

Please check the members' section of the ACEL website (theacel.com) to confirm that the contact information for your coach and the location of your facility are correct. (The members' section of the website is password protected. Your administrator and athletic director have the password.) To update your information, use the "Information Update Form" available from the forms and downloads section of the website.

## MaxPreps

The use of MaxPreps to report player stats for all-state consideration in the ACEL is mandatory. No all-state nomination will be accepted without an accompanying MaxPreps stat report.

Please do not underestimate the time that it can take MaxPreps to approve new organizations or to fix problems within existing accounts. ***If you are new to MaxPreps or are having issues with your MaxPreps account, NOW is the time to get those fixed.***

In order for MaxPreps to work for us as it is intended, player stats must be uploaded for each ACEL game in which an all-state nominated player participates. Stats should be uploaded routinely throughout the season. Waiting until the end of the season makes it difficult for our other teams to link to your schedule and for stat reporting to be transparent.

## Volleyball Coaches' Meeting

There will be a meeting for all ACEL coaches immediately following the membership meeting on August 7 in Alexandria. Sport specific discussions will follow the general coaches' meeting. Attendance at the coaches' meeting is not required but is highly encouraged. An agenda plus the time and location for the coaches' meeting will be published later this summer.

## All-State Voting

All organizations participating in volleyball are required to attend All-State Voting even if no player is nominated for all-state from the organization. There is a \$500 fine for failure to attend. The Volleyball All-State Voting meeting will be via Zoom, Saturday, October 23rd.

New this season, volleyball all-state teams will be comprised of a setter, a libero and 4 additional players.

## AED

The ACEL strongly recommends that all organizations have an AED at all ACEL events.

# **Volleyball Rules, Procedures & Policies**

The ACEL follows the rules and regulations set by the National Federation of State High Schools (NFHS) for all sanctioned ACEL sports. ACEL supplemental policies and exceptions to NFHS rules are listed below.

## **ACEL Specific Rules and Policies for Volleyball 2021-2022**

### **Schedule Changes**

The ACEL allows organizations to easily change their schedules as necessary. All that is required is for both the home and away teams to submit a schedule change form through the website.

### **Score Reporting**

Scores must be reported by both the home and away teams by noon the following day. Failure to report the score will result in a fine. (See ACEL Rule 6.1)

When reporting volleyball scores, the score from the team that ultimately won the game is **reported as the first score** for all sets even if that team did not win that particular set.

### **Physicals and Coaches' Concussion Course**

Per ACEL Rule 14.1.7, all athletes participating in league competition (boys/girls) are required to take and pass a physical examination. These physicals are good for one calendar year. Physicals must be kept on-hand by athletic directors and coaches at all ACEL events and must be presented immediately upon request.

All ACEL coaches are required to take a concussion course and be able to provide evidence/certificate of completion upon request.

### **The Game**

ACEL 18.1.2

Varsity volleyball matches between member schools/associations shall be decided by winning 3 out of 5 possible games. Jr. Varsity matches shall be decided by winning 2 out of 3 possible games.

### **The Court**

Organizations participating in basketball or volleyball, must submit a diagram of all courts on which they regularly play home games along with their commitment forms this season. The ACEL Court Diagram Form is available for download under the Forms & Downloads tab of the website. Teams that do not submit a complete Court Diagram Form by the commitment deadline will not be added to the schedule. There is no need to submit an additional court diagram if you are using the same facility for which you submitted a diagram last year.

### **Player Equipment and Uniform**

No Spandex

Spandex is not allowed in the ACEL as outerwear. Shorts must have at least a 4” inseam so that undergarments are completely covered. (Soffee shorts and many of the current Nike shorts have a 3” inseam and are not allowed.) Please choose shorts that are not form fitting, as they can appear to be spandex even with a 4” inseam.

### **Officials**

Two 2 patched officials assigned by your area assignment secretary are required at every ACEL sanctioned match.

### **Score Keeper/Clock/Line Judges/Libero tracker**

- The official clock and scorebook must be manned by an adult 18 years or older (it may not be a student of the host school)
- Line Judges MUST be an adult
- Teams with liberos must also supply a libero tracker

### **Stat Keepers**

Please adequately train your volleyball stat keepers. Volleyball stats are challenging to both understand and to record in real time.

- o Refer to “statistical Definitions” located on the ACEL Volleyball page
- o Consider using video to help record more accurate stats
- o Have a “caller” for stat keeper

## **ACEL Standing Rules Changes/Amendments for 2021-2022**

The final draft of the 2021-2022 ACEL Standing Rules will be available for download following the membership meeting on August 7.

## **Communicate with your Executive Director**

Most problems and misunderstandings can be avoided simply through communication. Coaches, if you have a league concern please discuss it with your athletic director ASAP. In many instances athletic directors will already have related information from the ACEL. Athletic directors, please do not hesitate to contact me with any league issue you may have. The more you all communicate with me, the better I understand what is actually happening within our league, making me better able to act in the best interest of all our organizations. I cannot address what I do not know.

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(Leave a message, and I will get back to you.)