



LUTHERAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI, INC. VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Grade School Rules September 2021

FORMAT

- 1.01 There shall be one division of girls' competition as further defined herein.
- 1.02 That state tournament shall be conducted on a "pool" basis with a championship bracket and a consolation bracket or brackets, in which all teams will continue to play after qualification by means of "pool" play.
- 1.03 Each team will be guaranteed pool play and at minimum one (1) bracket play game in either the Gold or Silver Bracket.
- 1.04 Courts will be available 30 minutes prior to the first match of the day.

TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

- 2.01 The L.S.A.M. Board of Directors shall select, or cause to be selected by whatever means in their opinion is appropriate in the circumstances, the most representative teams in the state (also see Rule 2.02) for participation in the state tournament.
- 2.02 That LSAM Board of Directors reserves the right to require preliminary playoffs in circumstances where, in the sole opinion of the Board of Directors, more entry applications are received than can be accepted for participation.

TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- 3.01 Teams must be established squads which represent a Lutheran grade school in an established league or tournament during the current scholastic year, not a combination of established squads, with a maximum number of 15 players.
- 3.02 Each team is allowed a maximum of three persons to function as coach, manager, or statistician.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 4.01 Players must be full-time students of the sponsoring grade school and have complied with the eligibility rules of their league(s) and/or tournament(s). To participate in the state tournament, players must have been full-time students of the participating school before October 1 of the current scholastic year.
- 4.02 All players must have participated in at least fifty percent of the entering team's total scheduled matches. Evidence of such participation must be available in the form of scorebooks, sign-in sheets, certification by league and/or tournament chairmen, etc., if requested by the Board of Directors. In order to qualify under this rule, a player will be considered to have played in a match if he/she dressed for the match. Exceptions may be permitted in case of injury, illness, late entry into the sponsoring school or similar circumstances, providing advance approval is obtained from the Board of Directors prior to the entry deadline date or as provided in Rule 9.08.

TEAM ENTRY APPLICATION

- 5.01 Each team is required to submit by the entry deadline date, prior to the first playing date of the state tournament, an entry application, and the tournament entry fee in the form of a check or money order made payable to L.S.A.M.
- 5.02 All entry applications must be approved by the principal of the sponsoring school.
- 5.03 The official roster must contain the following information for each player: signature, full name (for program book), date of birth, uniform numbers, certification by the school's principal, and other information specified on the official application.
- 5.04 Any application received or not completed until after the entry deadline date will be accepted only if a state tournament berth is available.
- 5.05 Acceptance of entry applications shall be final and entry fees accompanying approved applications shall not be refundable.

EQUIPMENT

- 6.01 Each team is required to supply its own practice volleyballs and other match and locker room equipment.

EQUIPMENT continued

- 6.02 Each team is required to have one set of numbered shirts, all which must be of the same basic colors, except the shirt worn by the Libero, it must be of contrasting color. Teams may use the uniforms of one of their local area teams that is not participating in the state tournament in order to fulfill this requirement.

- 6.03 Under no circumstances will a player be allowed to participate in a match without a numbered team shirt, conventional shorts and conventional indoor gym shoes.

PLAYING RULES

- 7.01 Missouri State High School Athletic Association volleyball rules shall govern play, except where specifically superseded by these rules.
- 7.02 The net height used in the girls' competition shall be 7'4".
- 7.03 As of 2005 a libero is optional for all teams - the libero's shirt may or may not have a number on it.
- 7.04 All matches shall have one registered official and one scorekeeper. Each team is required to furnish one line judge during its pool play matches. LSAM Board members will serve as line judges for tournament (bracket) play. Officials shall be members of state volleyball officials' associations selected by the Board of Directors.
- 7.05 Any player, coach, manager, statistician, or cheerleader ejected from a game shall automatically be ineligible to participate in the team's next game. Before such next game, the Board of Directors shall review the event of ejection and gather or require any other information that the Board deems necessary to determine if a further penalty should be assessed. Such further penalty, if any, shall be assessed before the team's next game and may not be appealed.
- 7.06 Any protest must be submitted to the match officials in accordance with Missouri State High School Athletics Association volleyball rules immediately following the incident being protested. The officials shall immediately deliver the protest to the Board of Directors and play shall be suspended while the directors adjudicate the protest. The judgment rendered by the directors may not be appealed and play shall resume upon such judgment.
- 7.07 Unadorned bobby pins 2 inches or less in length may be worn.
- 7.08 During the coin toss for deciding sets, the captains meet at center court and the teams go to their benches.
- 7.09 The down ref manages illegal libero substitutions.
- 7.10 The ball may touch any body part and still be legal.
- 7.11 Multiple substitutions may be made, with only one player and sub in the sub zone at a time.
- 7.12 The head coach may stand while coaching, provided that he/she remains at least 6' back from the sideline.
- 7.13 The libero replacement zone is from the 10' line to the base line.
- 7.14 At the end of a set, the referee will blow the whistle and release players from their respective end lines. The players may go to their benches, or at the end of the match may shake the hands of their opponents before going to the bleachers.

- 7.15 Artificial noise makers and posters (other than the school's official banner) are not allowed in either pool or tournament play.

AWARDS

- 8.01 One team trophy shall be awarded to each participating team.
- 8.02 One award shall be presented to the team that best exemplifies the true spirit of Christian fellowship and sportsmanship both on and off the playing court.
- 8.03 One team award shall be presented to each team for the first place team in the championship bracket and in any other bracket.
- 8.04 Individual medals shall be presented to each player, coach and manager.

GENERAL

- 9.01 The principal, and the principal's designees, shall be responsible to the L.S.A.M. and State hosts for matters pertaining to all athletic and non-athletic activities of their school at the State tournament. In addition, they shall be responsible to insure that their school is properly represented at all State events and shall be responsible for the conduct of their participants and other persons from their school, including spectators. Coaches and managers shall also be responsible for team conduct both on and off the playing court.
- 9.02 It is the clear obligation of students, school staff, boards of education and all other official representatives of participating schools in practice and promote the highest principles of Christian behavior, sportsmanship and ethics of competition. It is also their obligation to maintain proper crowd control at all State activities. The L.S.A.M., its directors, volunteers, host schools, tournament sites and tournament officials shall have no responsibility for crowd control nor of the actions of school representatives, including spectators. The Board of Directors shall have full authority over all schools, their representatives and spectators and shall have full authority, at its sole discretion, to penalize any school, any of whose representatives or spectators may be adjudged upon competent evidence to have violated these obligations.
- 9.03 Housing accommodations, transportation and meals shall be the responsibility of participating teams.
- 9.04 Pool assignments and first match time, site, and opponent will be available on the LSAM website for participating teams the week of the tournament.
- 9.05 Players and teams must comply with the eligibility rules of their own league(s) and/or tournament(s) and the state tournament.

GENERAL continued

- 9.06 These state tournament rules will not operate to make a player or team eligible for regular season league(s) and/or tournament(s) when such player or team would be ineligible under the rules of a team's regular season league(s) and/or tournament(s). The rules of a team's regular season league(s) and/or tournament(s) will not operate to make a player or team eligible for the state tournament when such player or team would be ineligible under state tournament rules.

- 9.07 Requests for granting of exceptions to published rules must be submitted in writing to the L.S.A.M. Board of Directors no less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date by which a ruling on such requests is required. Rulings by the Board of Directors are final.
- 9.08 The Board of Directors reserves the right to collectively amend, and or allow exceptions to the rules of the State Tournament when deemed appropriate.