



2021 Boys Volleyball Handbook
Published: 8/1/21
*Subject to changes

[NCAA RULE BOOK](#)

Table of Contents

NCAA RULE BOOK	1
Table of Contents	2
Boys 2021 Sports Standards	4
Volleyball Rules	4
NYSCHSAA Volleyball Rules	5
MMHSAA playoff competition	6
Date, location, time	6
Volleyball advisory committee	6
Volleyball Rules Changes - 2020-21	7
Letters of authorization	8
Mechanics of signals and communication	9
Reporting of scores and recording statistics	9
Stats to track	9
Boys volleyball participating teams 2021	10
Definition of a scrimmage	10
Coaches' responsibilities for MMHSAA play	10
Site Chairperson Responsibilities	11
SUPERVISORS	11
Special Responsibilities of Site-Chairperson	12
Reminders	12
Playoff tournament	12
Tie-breaking system for seeding	12
REPRESENTATION	13
Contingency Plan for MMHSAA Competition	13
MMHSAA Policies	14

Regulations Regarding Senior All-Star & Outside Agency Contest	14
ALL-WNY Scholar Athlete	15
MMHSAA AED Policy	15
CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT	15
Sportsmanship Philosophy	15
Code of Conduct Philosophy	16
Sportsmanship Pledge	16

Boys 2021 Sports Standards

1. Rules: NCAA
2. Maximum Number of games: 24
3. First practice: August 23
4. Practice Requirements: Number of practices to represent school: 6 (individual)
5. First scrimmage: August 30
 - a. Scrimmage limitations per day: 1 scrimmage
6. First contest: August 30
7. Nights rest between contests: 1 night
8. Individual contests limitation per day: 3 matches/ day or 15
9. Season ends: October 29

Volleyball Rules

1. Waivers of NCAA Volleyball Rules:
 - a. Two score keepers are permitted with a home score book as the official score book. (Feb. 2008)
 - b. With MMHSAA approval, the use of lines people during league play may be waived. (May 2007) This has been approved by MMHSAA.
 - c. Teams can warm-up behind or adjacent to the court during the warm-up period. (May 2005)
 - d. If uniform specifications are not compliant, these procedures will be followed:
 - i. Notify the coach of the team at fault of the violation. The team will attempt to legalize the uniform of the team member(s) in question.
 - ii. If the uniform fault cannot be legalized, meet with the opposing coach to determine whether a protest will be filed.
 - iii. If no protest is filed at this time, no future protest will be accepted on this issue.
 - iv. If no protest is filed, follow the protest procedure and play the match.
 - v. The libero uniform is exempt from this modification.
2. The time length of all time outs is 60 seconds. (Aug. 2009)
3. Waiver of rule 1.5.4 – referee stand in Boys and Girls Volleyball.
4. Waive the NCAA Challenge Review System. (July 2016)
5. Boys Volleyball - The use of NCAA Volleyball Rules with the same modifications used in girls' volleyball beginning in the fall of 2009. (Jan. 2009)

6. Boys Volleyball - A player may touch the opponent's court with hand(s) or feet, provided some part of the hand(s), foot/feet remain either in contact with or directly above the centerline, and the penetration does not interfere with the opponents play.
7. Boys Volleyball - For boys' competition, the height of the net from the center of the court is 7' 11 5/8". (Aug. 2011)
8. Boys Volleyball - Allow the use of two liberos: (Oct. 2020)
 - a. The team must designate at the beginning of the match if they are using 2 liberos. The team can only use those two designated players as liberos for the entire match. Teams will follow the NCAA rules when using one libero.
 - b. Only one libero can serve during the set.
 - c. Only one libero may be on the court at any time.
 - d. The libero may be designated as a captain.
 - e. The replacement player may replace and be replaced by either libero.
 - f. The acting libero can only be replaced by the player whom he replaced (for that position) or by the second libero.
 - g. If one libero cannot continue to play due to injury or illness the team will play the rest of the match with one libero. If the remaining libero cannot continue to play due to injury or illness the libero may be replaced.
 - h. If one libero is disqualified due to unsportsmanlike behavior the team will continue the set without the use of any liberos. The second libero may be used in the subsequent sets.
9. Boys Volleyball - Libero uniform waiver through the 2018 season. (Oct. 2015)
10. Boys Volleyball - Play the 5th set to 15 points with teams switching at 8 points.
11. Boys Volleyball – Warm time procedures: Five minutes of shared time; five minutes of visiting team – full court serving; five minutes home team – full court serving; five minutes of visiting team full court hitting; five minutes of home team full court hitting. (May 2019)
12. Girls & Boys Volleyball – Waiver of NCAA court striping (Rule 1.2.2.1); the interrupted solid boundary line. (May 2019)

NYSCHSAA Volleyball Rules

1. Girls Volleyball - A Match shall consist of sets in a best of 3 out of 5 formats, all 25-point games; Boys abide by NCAA rules for 5 set games. Dual and Tri-matches are consistent with the definition of a match. Each day of a tournament shall count as one (1) contest.

2. Girls Volleyball - A tournament is 4 or more teams that participate in a pool play and bracket format is not a match. A bracket can consist of best 2 out of 3 or single set rounds. Scoring options are starting at 0-0 or 4-4 going until 25 points or a cap. The total number of tournament games played in one day shall not exceed fifteen (15) games. An additional 15- point game is permitted only to break ties in pool play to advance to finals as per tie- breaking procedures.
3. In tournament play, volleyball teams shall have at least ten-minutes of rest between matches.
4. All games will be played according to NCAA Rules with all games played to 25-points.
5. Teams will be permitted eighteen (18) substitutions and will switch at 13-points in the deciding game.
6. Boys Volleyball – When there are three teams in a division, if during Championship pool play, the teams each win one set (July 2019):

MMHSAA playoff competition

Note: Start times for MMHSAA contests are standardized; however, if a legitimate need for a time change arises within a school, a request must be submitted in writing to the executive director 48 hours before the final scheduled league match. Afterwards, time changes will be considered only in extenuating circumstances and must be approved by the executive director and the sport chairperson.

Date, location, time

Semi-finals: Tuesday, November 2, Highest seed court, 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm

Finals: Friday, November, at Nardin 5:00 pm

MMHSAA reserves the right to change the schedule as deemed necessary

Volleyball advisory committee

Committee voting privileges: As per the MMHSAA constitution, “The representative members on each sport committee will be the coaches of the school participating and have only one vote per school. The sport chair may vote only when the vote is tied. A sport chair who also represents a school can serve in both capacities but will have only one vote.” This committee can only make recommendations to the athletic director’s committee.

MMHSAA chairperson

Tom Weislo, Canisius High School, Weislo@canisiushigh.org

Volleyball Rules Changes - 2020-21

6.5 and 6.5.1 (NEW)	To assess an administrative red card (one-point penalty) to a team wearing a non-compliant uniform. This is a one-time penalty that will be assessed prior to the first set. The administrative red card will not impact individual and team sanctions. Rationale: This proposal establishes an appropriate penalty for teams with non-compliant uniforms, while still allowing the match to take place.
7.1.1.1	To delete the requirement that all team members, with the exception of the libero, shall be dressed alike and allow players to wear uniform bottoms that differ in style and cut, provided the color and trim is identical (i.e., players could wear shorts, spandex of varying length, pants or skirts). Manufacturers' logos and lettering anywhere on uniforms are not required to be identical. Rationale: Currently, the only way for a student-athlete to wear a different style uniform bottom is to request a waiver, which stands as a barrier to inclusion. With the dramatic increase in waiver requests, this proposal allows teammates to wear different uniform bottoms for competition as long as the bottoms are identical in color and trim. The difference in uniform bottom does not alter the competitiveness or outcome of a contest.
7.1.3.4 (NEW)	To allow a member institution's national flag on the jersey. The flag may not exceed 2 1/4 square inches and may not obstruct the uniform number. Rationale: While it is common practice to allow a flag on the jersey, current rules do not address this.
18.1.3.2 (NEW)	To allow a third official (R3) to be used as a replay official to decide the outcome of a challenge by viewing the video instead of the second referee. The R3 would sit at the scorers' table and have the final decision to confirm or reverse the original ruling. The R3 would be permissible, but not required. Rationale: The rules committee has experimented with this proposal for the past two seasons. The data collected showed that using an R3 decreased the review time by approximately 20 seconds. It also removed the perception of the second referee's inability to overturn crew calls. This would not be a required position.

18.1.4.1	To combine decisions regarding in/out/touch, net and antenna faults into one challengeable action. This allows the referee to call the first fault seen on the review. Rationale: When a coach challenges a decision on in/out/touch, the current rule only allows the second referee to review and consider those faults, even if the second referee clearly sees a net fault on review. This change allows the referee to make the right call.
18.1.4.2 (NEW)	To allow any play to be challenged if the referee's decision is dependent on whether or not a particular player touched the ball. Rationale: Current rules do not allow challenges on whether a player contacted the ball if the resulting decision is illegal block, illegal (back-row) attack, or illegally reaching beyond the net. This change allows any play to be challenged if the referee's decision depends on whether an involved player touched the ball.
18.1.5.3	To allow a challenge by either team if the result of the play is a replay. If the decision is reversed as a result of that challenge, the team that lost the point after review would be able to challenge an earlier fault of the same play. Rationale: Current rules only allow a challenge if there has been a completed rally. This proposal would allow either team to challenge if play is stopped due to circumstances such as external interference or injury, and a replay results.
19.5.2.4 (NEW)	When requested by the first referee, to allow line judges to provide assistance regarding a player contacting the antenna. Rationale: Line judges often have a better view of this play than the referees.
19.5.2.5 (NEW)	When requested by the first referee, to allow line judges to provide assistance when a player contacts the ball while in a non-playing area. Rationale: Line judges often have a better view of this play than the referees.

Letters of authorization

Authorization is required from the state association for any special accommodation for an individual player, a memorial patch on the uniform or any other special circumstance not specifically covered in the rules. It is the responsibility of the school coach to contact the appropriate staff of the state association to seek the authorization following the established procedure set forth by the respective state association. Appropriate support material and early contact by the school to the state association is expected and prevents confusion when a player shows up and is not in compliance with the rules and not permitted to play by the game officials. It is NOT the responsibility of the officials to seek the authorization. It IS the responsibility of the coach to obtain the authorization

before the contest and to present such authorization to the officials prior to the start of the match.

Mechanics of signals and communication

The proper execution of the mechanics of signals and position of the second referee and line judges are critical elements of the responsibilities of the officiating crew. The quality of the signal mechanics is the major means of communication between referees, officiating crew, coaches, spectators, and media. A one, two, three approach to the signal will assist officials when signaling and meeting the responsibility of good communication.

- One is the proper signal with attention to how it looks. A sharp signal communicates confidence in the call and clearly indicates the result of the play.
- Two is to hold the signal long enough that the officiating crew is aware of the signal, the table officials know the call and can accurately record play results, and coaches, fans, and media are able to keep up with the play action.
- Three is a release of a signal and confirming with necessary members of the officiating crew that the action (such as substitution, request of a time-out, or turning the set back to the first referee to the next serve) has been properly attended to.

Sloppy or lazy mechanics will create confusion of the result of play action and could lead to a coach getting upset unnecessarily. Poor positioning will place the second referee or line judges in a location that inhibits their ability to make correct calls. Signals are the universal language for the officials. Your communication depends on them.

Reporting of scores and recording statistics

Scores will be reported using the MMHSAA [Scores reporting form](#). Scores must be reported by the home team immediately following the game. We will be using MaxPreps to track league records and statistics. All coaches are responsible for entering their teams statistics as soon as possible following their league and non-league games.

More MaxPreps Links App links

<http://support.maxpreps.com/hc/en-us> <http://www.maxpreps.com/mobile/home.aspx>

Stats to track

1. Number of sets a player appeared in
2. Serving: attempts, aces, errors
3. Attacking: attempts, kills (points), error
4. Blocking: stuff blocks for points

5. Setting: assist, assists per set
6. Digging: digs, digs per set

Boys volleyball participating teams 2021

Canisius
Cardinal O'Hara
St. Francis
St. Joe's

Definition of a scrimmage

A scrimmage is a practice that is a SIMULATED CONTEST. In scrimmages,

- (a) both squads use the same field simultaneously, with both coaches making corrections and giving instructions
- (b) GAME RULES MUST BE ALTERED
- (c) no official score is kept
- (d) no admission is charged.
- (e) The use of officials would be permitted and encouraged whenever possible for the purpose of instruction regarding the rules and proper application of rules.

A volleyball scrimmage must include one or more of the following:

- Each server shall serve three to five consecutive serves regardless if the point was scored before the other team would get the ball. (rotate)
- Games would start at point 4 all and end at point 25 or a game could be timed with no point cap

Coaches' responsibilities for MMHSAA play

- Read the boys volleyball handbook carefully; it contains a detailed list of coach and school responsibilities.
- EVERY COACH/SCHOOL is asked to:
 - Complete the official league Google Roster form with ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION as soon as teams are finalized.
 - ALL ROSTERS ARE DUE before your first game. Finalized rosters are due by September 17, 2021. Games played without a COMPLETED roster will be forfeited.

- The home team coach in ALL MMHSAA matches is required to submit the score of the game, using the official google score form, immediately following their game.
- All coaches are responsible for reporting any ejections issued to any member of their team using the official google caution ejection form. Make sure referees verify all ejections before they leave the game site.
- Teams should arrive at the site no later than thirty minutes prior to the scheduled match.
- All players must wear jerseys numbered on the front and back, with no duplicate numbers.
- Participating teams must bring:
 - Practice balls. To be secured during the match.
 - Personal towels, locks, med. kit, etc.
- Be responsible for the behavior of all persons listed on your roster. This includes behavior on the bench, in the locker rooms, and anywhere else on the MMHSAA site.

Site Chairperson Responsibilities

The Site Chairperson will:

Make himself/herself accessible and visible to supervisors, coaches, players, spectators, and officials.

Station all supervisory personnel assigned to the match.

Greet supervisors at the door and make assignments immediately.

Assign the following adults:

1. Scorekeeper/timer
2. Supervisor (if necessary)
3. Announcer

NOTE: MMHSAA will provide ticket sellers/takers for playoff gates unless schools are otherwise notified. Cooperate with the MMHSAA crew handling the gate/purse for all playoff games.

SUPERVISORS

All supervisors are to report to the Site Chairperson for supervisory assignments. This includes supervisors from both participating teams, as well as the host school supervisors. It is strongly suggested that supervisors wear a ribbon that will make them readily visible, identifiable, and accessible to the crowd and to the Site Chairperson.

Special Responsibilities of Site-Chairperson

1. The Site-Chairperson will inform participating coaches that there are 30 minutes for pre-game warm-up. No one should take the playing surface sooner.
2. Provisions should be made for a simple flag ceremony or Star-Spangled Banner prior to the match.
3. Starting teams and officials should be introduced to the spectators.
4. Have phone numbers of local ambulance, police, and rescue squad/fire department.
5. Any additional expenses MUST be approved by the Executive Director PRIOR TO THE EVENT.
6. For the officials' pay schedule, refer to the Officials Contract.
7. Admission policy: There will be an admission charge for the league playoffs, not to exceed \$15.

Reminders

These are located in the NYS Handbook, available from your athletic director.

- * Only 15 games allowed in one day at tournaments.
- * Single game tiebreakers in tournaments do not count as part of the 15 per day rule.
- * There should be at least 10 minutes rest between matches in tournament play.
- * Minimum team practices needed to scrimmage are 6 and minimum individual practices needed to scrimmage are four.
- * Prior to the first contest, six practices and six individual practices are needed.
- * Scrimmages must include coaching/instruction in order to be considered scrimmages. Please refer to the definition of a scrimmage.
- * The maximum number of matches is 24. Tournaments count as one match. MMHSAA playoffs do not count towards the limit.
- * For record keeping purposes, only a completed best-of-three or best-of-five match can be counted towards team/coaches wins/losses record. Pool play of only two sets and one game playoffs do not count towards overall record.
- * The elimination of the use of lines people in regular season volleyball was approved.

Playoff tournament

All schools may participate in MMHSAA playoffs.

Tie-breaking system for seeding

If teams have identical records, the following criteria will be used to break the tie:

1. Head to head

2. The team with the most league/division wins will be the higher seeded team.
3. The team with the fewest league league/division losses will be the higher seeded team.
4. Total sets won head to head
5. Total set won in a division
6. A toss of a coin will determine the higher seeded team.

REPRESENTATION

A contestant or athletic team shall not represent a school except in conformance with all rules and regulations. It shall be the duty of trustees and boards of education to require that athletic activities be limited to competition between secondary school students.

To be eligible for MMHSAAA or state competition, a team must have competed in six school-scheduled contests which occurred on six different dates during the season.

Team Sports: For the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, and volleyball, an individual is eligible for the team if he/she has been an eligible participant on a team in that sport in that school for a minimum of six scheduled contests during the regular season. For football, a student must be an eligible participant for a minimum of three contests. For Competitive Cheerleading, a student must be an eligible participant for a minimum of two competitions.

Contingency Plan for MMHSAA Competition

Contests will be postponed only if a participating school is officially closed due to weather or illness.

1. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director (or designee) to notify the Executive Director that the school has been closed due to weather conditions (or illness) as soon as he/she becomes aware of such action. Officials and the media will be notified by the home school Athletic Director (or designee).
2. In the event that a school is closed on the day its playoff contest is scheduled, the decision to play shall rest with the District Superintendent.
3. When a contest is at a non-school site: If the competition facility and the roads to that destination are open, then the competition will go on as

scheduled. If either the roads or the facility is closed, then the competition will be cancelled. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES is a site contracted by MMHSAA available for practice when a meet is cancelled. Individual schools wishing to use a site for practice must follow standard rental procedures through their Athletic Director.

4. The home school Athletic Director will notify the Executive Director of any postponements.
5. PLEASE NOTE: It is up to the individual leagues to recognize the potential for snow days, power outages, etc., that may cause cancellations and problems. The individual leagues should schedule their last league contest at least one or two days prior to the seeding meeting, allowing for a make-up league contest(s) prior to the seeding meeting if necessary. The storm in February 2006 that closed schools the day before the seeding meeting bears this point out.

MMHSAA Policies

MMHSAA Policy on Travel to State Competition

- [Summary for Individual Sports](#)
- Member schools participating in state/federation competition will be responsible for all costs related to that participation.
- Supervision:
- One or more certified coaches are required to travel with the student athletes from their school and must be present on any MMHSAA contracted bus, where the athletes are housed, at the state competition site and all related events.

Regulations Regarding Senior All-Star & Outside Agency Contest

1. All Senior All-Star and Outside Agency contests MUST be approved by MMHSAA. In addition, Senior All-Star contests must be approved by MMHSAA. The forms required are posted on the section website.
2. All Senior All-Star and Outside Agency contests must be conducted within the season dates approved by the MMHSAA Athletic Council for that sport. The calendar of approved season dates for all sports is posted on the section website.
3. Only seniors who have completed their secondary school eligibility in that sport may compete in these contests.
4. A contestant may participate in any approved senior all star athlete contest in the same sport during the school year. (approved October 24, 2013, MMHSAA Executive Committee Meeting).

NOTE: A Senior All-Star contest by MMHSAA standards, is one in which an athlete's participation is based solely on outstanding performance as a member of a high school team. If open-trials are held, the contest is NOT a MMHSAA All-Star contest.

ALL-WNY Scholar Athlete

Coaches and Athletic Directors are encouraged to nominate athletes for selection to the ALL-WNY Scholar Athlete in Soccer. Applications must be completed on-line before a date TBD. Coaches should check back during the season. The winners will be honored by the Buffalo News. Click for the [selection criteria and on-line application](#)

MMHSAA AED Policy

Although the New York State legislature may have not gone so far as to make Education Law Section 917 applicable to nonpublic schools, the MMHSAA believes that its member schools should observe the law's requirements as a "best practice" and therefore strongly encourages them to do so. For events that the MMHSAA hosts at neutral sites, there will be AED equipment present as well as people who know how to operate the equipment. For playoff matches at a member school, the member school is responsible for providing the AED. During the soccer season, it will be the independent responsibility of each school to ensure whether and how the school will observe these best practices relating to AED's.

CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

MMHSAA has recommended that every school develop a written policy for concussion management and return-to-play protocol. Each school is responsible to follow the policy and guidelines set forth by their home school. (Refer to www.nysphsaa.org for a reference)

In addition, in regards to officials, coaches shall note: "if a student exhibits signs and symptoms of a concussion, the official may remove the student from competition. The chief school medical officer shall determine when a student may return to play."

Sportsmanship Philosophy

1. We believe that interscholastic athletics is an important part of education and support the ideals and values embodied in good sportsmanship.
2. We believe that sportsmanlike behavior is essential if interscholastic competition is to contribute usefully and constructively to the broad goals of education and to the quality of life of those involved.

3. We pledge ourselves individually and collectively to encourage and support the development and maintenance of a sportsmanlike atmosphere for athletic competition.

Code of Conduct Philosophy

1. A genuine interest in and enjoyment of interscholastic competition requires conduct that reflects the understanding that contests as a part of an overall school program are intended to be enjoyed. Behavior that reflects a winning-at-all-costs attitude violates this standard.
2. Interscholastic competition provides valuable lessons and learning experiences that are not possible in the regular classroom setting. All involved must support the need to develop the ability to compete with enthusiasm and to accept winning with grace and losing with dignity.
3. Coaches, players, and fans should know that participation is an honor and privilege which requires them to conduct themselves in a manner that brings honor and pride to their school and community.
4. Respect for the cultural and ethnic diversity of one's opponents, their school, and community is a fundamental tenet of wholesome athletic competition. This standard suggests that planned activity is needed to demonstrate a warm and friendly welcome, mutual respect, and a genuine readiness to participate in a sportsmanlike manner.
5. Players should demonstrate both knowledge of the rules and respect for game officials and their decisions. Coaches and school officials have the responsibility to teach and encourage these attributes.

Sportsmanship Pledge

The New York State Catholic High School Athletic Association and the Monsignor Martin High School Athletic Association requires that game administrators, school administrations and officials enforce a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY for athletes, coaches, and spectators. They will not tolerate negative statements or actions between opposing players, especially abusive language, trash talking, taunting, or baiting of opponents. If such comments are heard or actions seen, a penalty will be assessed immediately. Spectators are reminded that "The fee paid to gain admission to this Monsignor Martin High School Athletic Association event does not entitle you to:

- a. berates officials;
- b. question the coach;
- c. make negative comments toward either team;
- d. display inappropriate behavior

The playing field is an extension of the classroom. Please practice good sportsmanship."

This announcement stands as the official warning and the ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY is posted at the entrances to today's game.