

**CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS
of the
DUPAGE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION**

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**CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS
of the
DUPAGE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION**

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CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

This organization shall be known as the DuPage Volleyball Association. The Association shall be comprised of two conferences (as identified in Section 1, below). Each conference shall be comprised of one or more leagues, each representing a gender and school class.

Section 1: The two conferences are:

DuPage Parochial Conference - This conference is for the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Grade "A" teams, which would be the team containing the best 6 players of the gender/class.

DPL West Conference - This conference is for schools having more than one team per gender/class, and would be for 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teams not containing the best 6 players of the gender/class.

Article II

The purpose of the Association shall be to provide a mechanism for schools to compete in the game of basketball on an interscholastic basis in a structured, organized manner which attempts to protect and promote the athletic and other interests of the schools belonging to the Association.

ARTICLE III

Section 1: The Association shall be composed of any grammar school in DuPage County which is initially accepted into the Association (see Section 1.2 below), desires continued membership in the Association, timely notifies the Association of its intent to participate in the Association, agrees to submit a signed Principal Support Agreement (the form and content of which shall be determined by the Board), and follows the rules and regulations of the Association as herein defined.

Section 1.1: A Principal Support Agreement must be submitted annually.

Section 1.2: Non-member schools wishing to become a member must be approved by a majority vote of the Officers based on the school's proximity to other member schools, its willingness and ability to comply with Association By-Laws, and other factors considered pertinent by the Officers. Upon being granted membership, the school shall be placed on two year probation, during which time their compliance to the entry criteria shall be judged. The school may have its membership revoked by the Officers at any time during the probationary period. At the conclusion of probation, only the Board of Control may revoke that membership.

Section 2: Schools will forfeit membership by failure to annually notify the Association of its intent to participate in volleyball competition. Participation of boys' teams and girls' teams may be on the 8th grade level, 7th grade level, 6th grade level, 5th grade level, or any combination of these grade levels. However, in order for a team to participate in the DPL West Conference, the school must have its related "A" team participating in the Association's DuPage Parochial Conference.

Section 3: Any violation of the rules of the Association shall render the offending school liable for expulsion by a majority vote of the Association's Board of Control

ARTICLE IV

Section 1: Authority over and responsibility for the Association shall be vested in a Board of Control, consisting of one representative from each member school. Representatives shall be the school's athletic director, volleyball coordinator, or other recognized official as determined by the school's principal. Representatives shall, as a condition of his/her school being a member of the Association, provide the Association with both his/her work and home telephone numbers, and the work and home telephone numbers of an alternate school representative having equivalent authority. A directory of members and alternates will be created and provided to Association Officers and appropriate school representatives.

Section 1a: Administration of the Association shall be vested in the Officers, subject to the oversight of the Association's Board of Control.

Section 2: The Officers of the Association and their duties shall be:

A. The President shall:

- Serve as the head of the Board of Control
- Oversee all Association functions
- Uphold the Association's Constitution and By-Laws
- Call Association meetings
- Coordinate the arbitration of problems, the resolution of issues, the interpretation of rules, and the determination of penalties
- Act as liaison between the Association and school administrators
- Supervise Association officers
- Appoint interim officers
- Administer the distribution of awards
 - Collect traveling trophies from prior year winners, remove current year blank nameplates, and deliver trophies to tournament sites for distribution
 - Regular season 1st place to be picked-up at agreed upon site
 - Tournament 1st & 2nd place to championship site
 - Have current year plates engraved and distributed to trophy winners
- Serve on the Competition Committee
- Serve as an authorized check signer on the Association's checking account

B. The Secretary shall:

- Monitor compliance of the Assistant Secretaries with the rules related to distribution of scores and standings
- Distribute materials for meetings
- Record minutes of all Association meetings
- Serve as liaison with the Schedule Chairperson(s) who will produce the game schedules and coordinate subsequent changes to the schedules.
- Prepare the worksheet calculating each school's net fee based on the final schedules, and arrange for the preparation of school invoices
- Assign and supervise the league Assistant Secretaries
- Preside over meetings in the absence of the President
- Fill the office of President, if vacated, until filled by election
- Serve on the Competition Committee
- Serve as an authorized check signer on the Association's checking account

C. The Treasurer shall:

- Collect Association fees
- Pay bills of the Association
- Prepare and present annual financial reports (as of the December 31 fiscal year-end), including the distribution of copies of the December 31 bank statement, at the Annual Meeting
- Serve on the Competition Committee
- Serve as an authorized check signer on the Association's checking account

D. The Conference Commissioners shall:

- Uphold the Association's Constitution and By-Laws
- Arbitrate problems and investigate By-Law violations
- Act as liaison between the Conference and school administrators
- Collect team rosters (normally done by the DPL West Commissioners)
- Acquire awards
- Assist the President in the administration of awards
- Serve as an authorized check signer on the Association's checking account

Section 2a: While it is the responsibility of the Officers to interpret rules, make judgements, and assess penalties, it is the responsibility of member school administrators (primarily the Board of Control member) to interact with a school's players, coaches, parents, and fans, especially in the administration of Association penalties. In no instances should an Officer have to communicate directly with anyone other than a school principal or Board of Control member.

Section 2.1: There shall be an ex-officio Assistant Secretary assigned by the Schedule Chairperson to each league. The Assistant Secretary shall collect scores and publish results/standings to the league's head coaches, the Association's officers, and all of the Board of Control members on a weekly basis during the regular season and during the post season tournament.

Section 2.1a: If the Assistant Secretary falls more than one week behind the above described distribution schedule, the Secretary shall warn the Assistant Secretary and notify that school's Board of Control member that distribution must be caught up within one week. If the situation is not resolved within that one week, the school shall be fined \$50 per week until the delinquency is rectified.

Section 2.1b: If the Assistant Secretary is unable to obtain scores from a league coach, that school's Board of Control member should be notified, and the athletic director shall take the action necessary to rectify the situation.

Section 2.1c: The Assistant Secretary shall prepare tournament pairings in accordance with the published tournament schedule and will communicate these pairings both verbally (by 10:00pm on the Monday following the last scheduled regular season game) and in writing (postmarked by 5:00pm on the Tuesday following the last scheduled regular season game) to each league head coach, the Conference Commissioner, the Competition Committee members and the Association's Secretary and Schedule Chairperson. Therefore, all regular season matches must be concluded by 7pm on the last Sunday where regular season matches are scheduled. Conflicts that cannot be resolved by the Assistant Secretary may be referred to the Schedule Chairman. Tournament games that cannot be rescheduled by the Schedule Chairman shall be forfeited by the team that cannot play the scheduled tournament game.

Section 2.2: The Association checking account shall be set up such that all disbursement checks require two signatures. The Treasurer, as well as all Association officers, shall be account signatories.

Section 2.3: The Association shall have a standing Competition Committee with responsibility over the proper placement of teams within the Conferences and Divisions. The Committee shall be comprised of the Association President, Secretary, and Treasurer (with the Conference Commissioners acting in an advisory capacity).

Section 2.3a: The Competition Committee shall meet on a bi-weekly basis (or other basis as determined by the Committee to be more appropriate) during the season to review standings and game results for the purpose of detecting possible team splitting violations.

Section 3: Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the Board of Control at the Annual Meeting and shall perform the duties of their office until the next Annual Meeting.

Section 3.a: Nominations of candidates must be made to the Secretary at least three weeks prior to the Annual Meeting such that they can be communicated to all Board of Control members at least two weeks before the Annual Meeting (this to give Board of Control members adequate time to properly consider all candidates).

Section 3.1: A Perpetual List of member school officer responsibility (Exhibit A) shall be maintained from which, in the absence of a candidate for office, the open position shall be filled by a representative of the school at the top of the list. The List, which includes only those schools with teams participating in at least 25% of the leagues for the upcoming season, shall be initially

established by lottery, with subsequent new member schools placed in the third position on the list. Schools placing an officer (excluding ex-officio secretaries) shall be dropped to the bottom of the list. Schools unwilling or unable to fulfill, or are unsuccessful in carrying out the duties of an officer obligation under this section shall be immediately expelled (upon a majority vote of the Board of Control) from the Association for one season.

Section 4: At the discretion of the Board at its Annual Meeting, ex-officio assistants may be elected for one year terms to assist any of the officers or commissioners.

Section 5: The Board of Control shall determine the rules and regulations governing the Association, hereinafter known as the By-Laws. The By-Laws shall be adopted and modified by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Control.

Section 6: The Board of Control may be required to hear formal complaints, decide protests, etc. at the discretion of the President.

Section 7: The Board of Control will set League fees for each member school by a majority vote at its Annual Meeting, based on its then current financial status and the projected expenses of operating the Association programs for the upcoming season. All League fees are payable as prescribed by the Board at the time fees are set. The Association Officers may assess a reasonable late charge to schools delinquent in paying their fees.

Section 8: League fees are to be used to pay direct operating expenses of the Association only. This includes service charges and fees paid to the Schedule Chairperson(s), Assignment Chairperson(s), and any other party who performs a compensable product or service to the Association (amounts to be negotiated between the product or service provider and the Board of Control), and an annual stipend of \$150 paid to the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and each Commissioner.

Section 8.1: A change to a completed League schedule that requires the schedule to be redone will result in an additional fee (the per team charge as determined in Section 8 above times the number of teams in that league) paid to the Schedule Chairperson by the school causing the change. Similarly, a change to a completed League schedule that does not require redoing the entire schedule shall result in the school causing the change paying a \$5 per changed game (i.e., the school's game and any related game changes) fee to the Schedule Chairperson.

ARTICLE V

Section 1: An Annual Meeting of the Board of Control shall be held on the evening of the last Wednesday in April. A General Meeting (which includes the coaches of member schools) may be held at a date between the Annual Meeting and the start of the season if it is determined by the Board to be necessary or desirable. A Post-Season Meeting of the Board of Control shall be held on the evening of the first Wednesday in December, for the sole purpose of discussing issues from the past season and developing a list of proposed rule changes to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2: Special meetings of the Board of Control may be held upon notification by the President.

Section 3: Meetings of the administrators of member schools may be held when deemed necessary by the Board of Control.

Section 4: Special meetings of the Board of Control shall be called by the President upon written request from at least four member schools.

Section 5: Each member school should have a representative present at all meetings. In order to encourage attendance, failure to attend an Association meeting, or to have a representative from your school present, will result in a phone call to your school principal and a fine of \$100. Suspension from Association membership may result from chronic absence from meetings. Such a suspension (or probation) may be enacted by a majority vote of the Board of Control.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1: All matters involving the Constitution or By-Laws shall be decided by a two-thirds vote of the Active Members of the Board of Control. All matters of routine business shall be decided by a majority vote of the Board. Each Active Member school shall have one vote.

Section 1.1: To be an Active Member, a member school must have teams in at least 25% of the Association's leagues. This determination shall be made based on a school's team commitment for the upcoming season.

Section 2: The Constitution of this Association and its By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Control at any meeting at which a quorum is present, provided the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Officers of the Association not less than one month prior to the meeting. The President shall submit such proposed amendments to the members of the Board of Control at least two weeks prior to a vote on any amendment.

Section 3: A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the Active Members of the Board of Control. All meetings of the Association shall be held under Robert's Rule of Order.

Exhibit A

Perpetual List of Officers
(schools having teams in more than 25% of the leagues)
7/1/06

St. Irene
Sacred Heart
St. James
St. Alexander
St. Matthew
Our Lady of Peace
St. Joan of Arc
St Michael
Holy Trinity
St. Raphael
Sts. Peter & Paul
St. Petronille
St. Pius
St. Dominic
St. Joseph (DG)
St. Mary (DG)
St. John the Baptist

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Match Schedule

Section 1: The official league schedules will be produced by the Schedule Chairperson in accordance with the rules contained herein and approved by either the Association's President or its Secretary. The number of games scheduled shall be in accordance with Section 1.2, subject to gym availability. In order to achieve game limits under conditions of inadequate gym availability, schools may, as an exception to the normal game-days of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, both provide and play weeknight games. Teams are expected to adhere to their schedule, with changes to the schedule made only under exceptional circumstances, and then only with the approval of the Schedule Chairperson. All regular season matches must be concluded by 7pm on the last Sunday where regular season matches are scheduled.

Section 1.1: Each league shall consist of one or more divisions. The number, size, and composition of divisions, as well as the format for crossover games, will be determined annually by the Schedule Chairperson, subject to the approval of either the Association's President or its Secretary.

Section 1.1a: If more than one division is established in any league within the DuPage Parochial Conference, the divisions will be tiered, and teams will be assigned to divisions based on relative class size (by gender). Once assigned to a division, teams will be seeded by the Schedule Chairperson based on their prior year performance and other pertinent factors.

Section 1.1b: In order to determine divisional assignments in the DuPage Parochial Conference, schools shall provide the Association with a listing of the number of boys and girls in each grade of the school.

Section 1.1c: Schools may petition the Association's Competition Committee for a divisional transfer of one or more of their teams if exceptional circumstances exist which clearly indicate that competition within the League would be significantly enhanced by such a transfer, or if a grave injustice would be imposed on a team if left in a division to which it was assigned. Petitions must be communicated to the Schedule Chairman by June 15th.

Section 1.1d: The Competition Committee shall be empowered to force teams to change divisions if it judges that an overwhelming inequity would exist otherwise.

Section 1.2: Each team will play all other teams within its division at least one time. Girls will play 10 matches per season; boys will play 8 matches per season.

Section 1.3: Interdivisional games will be limited (whenever possible) to lower seeded upper tier teams playing higher seeded lower tier teams, and such games, when played, will count towards a team's regular season win/loss record.

Section 2: The Association will sponsor post-season tournaments for each League, with seeding based on final regular season standings. Tournament schedules will be prepared by the Schedule Chairperson and approved by either the Association's President or its Secretary.

Section 2.1: Final League standings will be based on overall season record. Ties will be broken first by head-to-head competition (matches won/lost percentage) during the regular season; then by divisional win-loss record (only if all tied teams played the same number of divisional matches); then by win-loss percentage of League games played between tied teams; then by cumulative point differentials of League games played between tied teams; and finally by coin flip. First place ties will be broken in the prescribed manner for tournament seeding purposes only, but, if not broken by head-to-head regular season competition, will be named co-champions for trophy purposes. There will be no playoff games to break ties in final regular season standings.

Section 2.1a: In situations of head-to-head ties between multiple teams, if a point is reached where a tie-breaker splits one or more teams out of the tie situation, yet one or more other teams remain tied, those teams that continue to be tied within this multiple team tie-breaker procedure will revert back to the beginning of the tie-breaking steps in Section 2.1 above. First place ties of multiple teams will be broken in the prescribed manner for tournament seeding purposes only, but will be named co-champions for trophy purposes.

Section 2.2: The post-season tournament will schedule higher seeded teams to play lower seeded teams, and on an interdivisional basis in the DPL West Conference if more than one division exists.

Section 2.3: If a post-season tournament game is scheduled for a neutral site, neither team shall be permitted to practice at that site unless equivalent practice times are provided to both teams.

Section 3: The Association will not sponsor post-season All-Star games.

Section 4: Unplayed games shall be handled as follows:

- 1) The team that is unable to play a scheduled game shall, if the opposing team is **unwilling** to reschedule the game, forfeit the game and be placed on probation. The forfeiting team will be liable to the opposing team for a \$25 penalty and to the host school for a \$20 penalty.
- 2) The team that is unable to play a scheduled game shall, if the opposing team is **unable** to reschedule the game, forfeit the game. The forfeiting team will be liable to the opposing team for a \$25 penalty and to the host school for a \$20 penalty.
- 3) If both teams **mutually agree** to not play a scheduled game and it is not rescheduled, both teams are charged with a loss. Each team will be liable to the host school for a \$10 penalty.

- 4) If one or both teams are not able to play a scheduled game, mutually agree to reschedule the game, and notify the Schedule Chairman of their desire to reschedule the game, the originally scheduled game will be officially cancelled without penalty to either team, except for the financial penalty of \$20 (paid to the host school) which will be assessed to the school that initiated the reschedule. However, once the rescheduled date is agreed upon by the coaches (and the Schedule Chairman is notified), or, alternatively, is determined by the Schedule Chairman (if requested to do so or if the coaches fail to agree on a date), it is the responsibility of both teams to play the rescheduled game as if it was the originally scheduled game. If the game cannot be rescheduled, it will go unplayed with both teams being charged with a loss.
- 5) If scheduled games are not able to be played for reasons **beyond a team's control** (normally a school or parish required event) and the Schedule Chairman both agrees with the "beyond control" reason and is unable to reschedule the game, the game will go unplayed with neither team being given a win or charged with a loss. There will be no financial penalties in these situations.
- 6) A rescheduled game is the financial responsibility (e.g., paying for new referees, compensating the new host school for the gym use, etc.) of the team(s) initiating the reschedule.
- 7) Teams failing to show up for a game will immediately be placed on probation, forfeit the game (unless the opposing school desires and can work out a reschedule date), and compensate the host school \$20 for the vacancy and pay a \$25 fine to the opponent's school.

ARTICLE II

Officiating

Section 1: There are two classes of referees. **Certified** referees are patched by the IHSA. **Trained** referees have read the rulebook and received instruction on floor mechanics. (Note - One of the goals of this Association is to provide an environment and an opportunity for young/new referees to gain the experience that will allow them to make mistakes, learn, and progress towards higher levels of officiating. The Association expects fans, coaches, and players to recognize and accept this philosophy, just as they recognize and accept that both players and coaches also make mistakes, learn, and progress while playing volleyball games.)

Section 1.1: All regular season league games shall be **officiated** within the following minimum standards:

- DuPage Parochial Conference - by one certified (patched) up referee and one trained down referee

- DPL West Conference - by one certified (patched) up referee and one trained down referee

Section 1.1a: It is recommended that the Board of Control member or Athletic Director hold training at each school for all officials prior to the beginning of each season.

Section 1.2: All post season tournament games shall be **officiated** by one certified (patched) up referee and one trained down referee.

Section 1.3: Referees for all regular season league games will be **assigned and paid** by the host school in cash with host school funds, using the allowance provided by the Association (credited against the league fee).

Section 1.4: All referees for post season tournament games will be **assigned and paid** by the host school in cash with host school funds, using the allowance provided by the Association (credited against the league fee).

Section 1.5: All certified, up referees must maintain a professional appearance, which includes a standard white polo shirt with the IHSA patch clearly visible, black pants or shorts, and clean, close-toed black gym shoes. All trained, down referees should also be in proper uniform, which is a white polo shirt, black pants or shorts and any color close-toed gym shoe.

Section 2: All games shall have an official scorebook keeper and an official scoreboard operator.

Section 2.1: The scorebook keeper and scoreboard operator will be scheduled by the host school and paid by the host school with its own funds. An allowance will be granted (credited against the league fee) to host schools by the Association to help defray the cost of these workers.

Section 2.2: The selection of the official scorebook keeper and scoreboard operator shall be left to the discretion of the host school, with no quality restrictions imposed by the Association beyond the requirements that they be trained and that they be no younger than 7th graders.

ARTICLE III

Match Operations

Section 1: IHSA rules, except as modified by these By-Laws, shall be adhered to.

Section 2: The scoring format shall be rally scoring for 5th, 6th 7th and 8th grades, with the following components:

- 2 out of 3 games
- 25 point games (no cap); must win by 2 points
- 15 point deciding game (no cap); must win by 2 points
- 2 time-outs per game; no additional time out given
- a point will be awarded for each loss of rally
- include let serve and setting a serve

Section 3: The following special rules shall apply to all 5th and 6th grade matches:

- The serving line may be moved up 5 feet from the regular serving line for 5th grade **under**hand serving only. The line must be clearly marked. All 6th grade servers (either over- or underhand) and 5th grade overhand servers must use the end line.
- When a 5th or 6th grade server serves 3 consecutive points (either under- or overhand), his/her team retains the serve, but rotates to the next server. If the server does not rotate after 3 consecutive serves, the serving team loses the extra point(s) attained after the 3 consecutive serves and receives a side-out.

Section 4: Cancellations of matches for reason of adverse weather conditions shall be the right of the host school or an Officer of the Association.

Section 5: Should either team fail to arrive and be ready for coin-toss by five minutes after the scheduled starting time of the match, that team shall forfeit the match.

Section 6: Should one of the referees not arrive by five minutes after the scheduled starting time of the match and a qualified replacement is not readily available, the match shall proceed with one referee (provided that referee meets the minimum referee requirement of the missing official). Should neither referee arrive by five minutes after the scheduled starting time of the match, the game is officially postponed and will be rescheduled by the Schedule Chairman.

Section 6.1: In situations where one referee must officiate a match alone, that referee shall receive a 1/2 rate premium pay for the match, in addition to the base rate.

Section 6.2: In situations where one referee is officiating a match alone and the other referee arrives late, the tardy referee should be paid a pro rata fee (likewise, the first referee should receive a pro rata premium). In all cases of tardy or absent referees, head coaches should inform their respective Board of Control member, who in turn will notify the person who assigned the referee (either the host school or the Assignment Chairman).

Section 7: Should the official scorebook and scoreboard operators not arrive by the scheduled starting time of the game, the game shall proceed using personnel selected by the referees, in the following order:

- qualified volunteers
- assistant coaches
- reserve players

Section 8: Each team shall be allowed two time-outs per game, not to exceed 60 seconds. With the inception of rally scoring, no additional time-out will be allowed when both teams have scored 14 points.

ARTICLE IV

Host School Rights and Responsibilities

Section 1: The host school shall be responsible for providing facilities that participating teams might reasonably expect in order to play a volleyball match. At a minimum (but not limited to) this should include:

- a properly lined court free of hazardous conditions
- an adequately sized court

- proper standards fit for the purpose (7 feet)
- a timekeeping and scoring device
- a suitable place for changing clothes
- six volleyballs for each team to warm up with
- a first aid kit at the scorer's table

Section 2: The host school is required to provide a game volleyball of good quality and an official scorebook, and have available at the scorers' table a copy of these By-laws.

Section 3: The host school shall provide two referees for all regular season games played in the host's gym according to Article II, Sections 1, 1.1, 1.3 and 1.5.

Section 3.1: The selection of the referees for all regular season games is left solely to the discretion of the host school, with no restrictions other than that they meet the minimum requirements as described in Article II, Section 1 and Section 1.1 of these By-Laws.

Section 3.2: The host school may remunerate the referees, but without recourse to the Association. However, the host school may use the allowance provided by the Association (credited against the league fee) towards any remuneration paid.

Section 4: The host school shall provide an official scorebook and scoreboard operator for all League games played in the host's gym.

Section 4.1: The selection of the official scorebook and scoreboard operators is left to the discretion of the host school, with no restrictions other than they are trained and no younger than in 7th grade.

Section 4.2: It shall be the responsibility of the host school to assure that only the two official scorers sit at the scorers' table (i.e., no friends, guests or cell phones), and that every effort be made to have impartial scorekeepers. In addition, each team may have one representative sit at the table.

Section 4.3: The host school may remunerate the scorebook and scoreboard operators, but without recourse to the Association.

Section 5: The host school shall have the right to postpone matches without prior approval of an Association Officer only in situations of adverse weather conditions or other event that precludes use of the gym.

Section 5.1: In the event the host school does postpone a match due to weather conditions, it is the host school's responsibility to put forth its best effort to notify all teams affected by the postponement, as well as the referees.

Section 6: In order to maintain the scheduled starting and completion times of League matches, the host school shall have the right to modify warm-up time before a game with a maximum of 20 minutes and minimum of 10 minutes.

Section 6.1: Game overruns not averted by steps taken pursuant to Section 6 must be accepted by the host school without circumventing the rules.

Section 7: The host school shall have the right to charge an admission fee to any non-player, non-cheerleader, non-coach guest.

Section 7.1: Admission fees are limited to \$.50 for students, \$1.50 for adults, and \$3.00 for families. Schools are encouraged to set fees below these limits.

Section 7.2: Admission fees may **not** be charged to players, cheerleaders, and coaches arriving for their scheduled game, nor to teachers or principals for any games involving their students.

Section 8: Schools hosting trophy round tournament games shall be responsible for formal player introductions and award presentations.

Section 9: In order to demonstrate both the Association's and the school's belief in and requirement of sportsmanlike conduct by spectators, host schools shall be required during the month of September to give each fan entering the gym to watch an Association sponsored game, a copy of the Association's Code of Spectator Conduct.

Section 9.1: Host schools are expected to appropriately handle violations of the Code of Spectator Conduct. This would include directly confronting spectators committing gross misconduct, and notifying the athletic director of the school "owning" any fan guilty of **either** gross misconduct or any incident of disruptive behavior (even if the spectator is not confronted).

Section 9.1a: Any athletic director who is informed of fan misconduct is expected to take appropriate action, especially if such conduct is gross misconduct or if disruptive behavior is a recurring problem with a particular spectator.

Section 10: It is recommended that host schools take actions necessary to keep non-players off the court during the pregame warm-up period.

Article V

General

Section 1: Schools must commit themselves to participation by June 15th each year for the upcoming season.

Section 1.1: Gym availability schedules and class size declarations must be submitted to the Schedule Chairman by June 15th.

Section 1.1a: If a school places four or more teams of one gender from one grade level into the Association, at least two of those teams must play in the corresponding DuPage Parochial Conference (i.e., two must be "A" teams). However, a school may petition to the Competition Committee in order to have the second "A" team converted to a "B" team (thus, the school would have three equally split "B" teams in the DPL West Conference).

Section 1.1b: If a second (or third, etc.) squad from one school participates in the same grade level of the DuPage Parochial Conference as its first squad, the seeding and tier assignments will be based on the distribution of the school's six best players (i.e., the class size and prior year record will be modified based on the distribution of those six players).

Section 1.2: Principal Support Agreements must be submitted to the Association prior to the first regular season game.

Section 2: Team rosters (including uniform numbers) of all teams must be submitted to the DPL West Conference Commissioner by the Board of Control member of each school prior to the Friday following the first league game. All games played without a roster on file will be forfeited.

Section 2a: "A" team players are defined as the players from the squad containing at least the six best players from a grade.

Section 2.1: Team rosters may be made available by the Commissioner, at his/her discretion, to coaches of other teams if requested for the purpose of investigating roster rule violations. If released, the roster in question would be given to the Board of Control member of the school of the requesting coach.

Section 2.2: Changes to rosters may be made only with the permission of the Commissioner.

Section 3: Member schools that have a school gymnasium must provide at least 6.5 hours of gym time per team for regular season home games, occasional neutral site games, and tournament games.

Section 3.1: Schools that do not have a gymnasium will be expected to monitor/staff any high school or public school gyms that the Association uses for regular season or tournament games.

Section 3.2: Schools that do not have a gymnasium or otherwise are unable to meet minimum gym administration requirements may be required to pay a League fee premium of per deficient game (\$10 for schools without a gym; \$25 for schools with a gym but unable to meet the minimum requirement).

Section 3.3: Schools playing more games in their gym than the minimum requirement will receive a \$25 per game credit against their league fee.

Section 4: Traveling trophies will be presented to the top team in each division of each Conference based on the final standings of regular season play, and to the tournament champions and second place teams in League tournament play.

Section 4.1: The Board of Control representative from each member school shall be responsible for delivering to the Association President by September 1st all of the traveling trophies won by that school during the preceding season. Schools failing to deliver these trophies by the due date shall be subject to a \$50 per trophy late fee.

Section 4.2: Individual awards will be presented to the rostered players on the tournament championship teams in each division of each Conference.

Section 4.3: Awards should be comparable across Conferences.

Section 5: There will be neither All-Star games nor All-Star recognition.

Section 6: It is the responsibility of all coaches to be familiar with these By-Laws and IHSA volleyball rules. Schools failing to comply with the By-Laws are subject to disciplinary action, including expulsion from the Association.

Section 7: Unsportsmanlike behavior by players, coaches, or fans is prohibited.

Section 7a: Using videotaped games of opposing teams for game planning or for any coaching purposes is considered unethical and, as such, is a violation of Association rules. Videotaping one's own team for use by the coaching staff is an acceptable practice.

Section 7.1: A yellow card is administered by the referee as a warning for a first minor offense to a player, coach or bench personnel. The warning will be recorded in the official score book and the person receiving the warning should be made aware of the offense.

Section 7.2: A red card is administered by the referee as a penalty against a coach or player for unsportsmanlike behavior (especially, but not limited to, verbal confrontations with referees or inappropriate displays of anger, aggression, or intimidation) and shall carry a minimum one game suspension (self-imposed, beginning with the next Association sponsored game). See Section 7.4 below for penalties.

Section 7.3: When serving a suspension, a coach is not permitted to attend the game(s) being suspended from (i.e., may not be in the gym building during the game), and a player, while allowed in the gym, is not permitted to be in uniform.

Section 7.4: Penalties for red card violations:

Coaches & Players

Gross misconduct = minimum 1 game suspension, plus additional game suspensions depending upon the severity of incident (as determined by the Conference Commissioner).

Section 7.5: All red card violations for unsportsmanlike behavior shall be reported to the Conference Commissioner by the head coach of the team that the violation was assessed against or the incidence was committed by. The Commissioner will then determine the length of the suspension (if beyond the one game minimum), verify that the suspension was served, and notify the school's athletic director of the incident.

Section 7.5a: Head coaches are responsible for both communicating reportable violations and enforcing self-imposed suspensions (their own, their coaches', and their players') under penalty of game forfeitures and the coach's own (additional) suspension.

Section 7.6: Coaches are expected to control the behavior of their players and exert influence in controlling unsportsmanlike behavior of their fans.

Section 7.6a: All instances of disruptive and/or unsportsmanlike behavior of spectators should be reported (by coaches, athletic directors, or host school administrators) to the athletic director of the school "owning" the fan. See Article IV, Section 9-1a for the responsibilities of the athletic director receiving reports of fan misconduct.

Section 7.7: All red card violations against fans or bench personnel, if imposed after a warning to the head coach by either a game referee or a host school

administrator, shall carry an automatic, self-imposed one game suspension of the head coach (specifically the next Association sponsored game).

Section 7.8: When serving a suspension, the coach is not permitted to attend the game(s) being suspended from (i.e., may not be in the gym building during the game), and the player, while permitted to be in the gym, may not be in uniform nor sit in the vicinity of the bench.

Section 8: The Leagues will be set up on the basis of separate boys' leagues and girls' leagues. Participation of girls as active players in boys' leagues or boys as active players in girls' leagues is prohibited.

Section 9: The Leagues are competitive by design. It is expected that teams will put forth their best effort to win all games.

Section 10: Players must be full time students registered in their respective school.

Section 10.1: Players are subject to a four year eligibility rule, such that a player is designated as:

- a 5th grader for the school year in which he/she first enters the 5th grade of any public or private school.
- a 6th grader for the school year in which he/she is enrolled in any public or private school next following the year he/she is designated as a 5th grader.
- a 7th grader for the school year in which he/she is enrolled in any public or private school next following the year he/she is designated as a 6th grader.
- an 8th grader for the school year in which he/she is enrolled in any public or private school next following the year he/she is designated as a 7th grader.

Section 10.1a: A student is not eligible to participate in Association sponsored games after he/she has completed the school year in which he/she was designated as an 8th grader.

Section 10.2: Under no circumstances will students registered in grades below 5th be eligible to participate in Association sponsored games.

Section 10.3: Players may play in games of their own grade or any upper grade; they may not play in a lower grade game.

Section 10.3a: When schools have more than one squad on a grade level of a conference, rostered players may not play across squads (i.e., play for two or more squads in the same league).

Section 10.4: Participation in conference games will be allowed as herein provided:

- "A" team players (DuPage Parochial Conference) are ineligible to participate in "B" (DPL West Conference) games on their grade level.
- If there are two "A" teams or two "B" teams at the same grade level (i.e., two 7A teams or two 6B teams) players may not play for either team at that level
- One (and only one) player from a lower grade team ("A" or "B") or the "B" team of the same grade (collectively - lower level teams) may participate as a "non-rostered substitute" of an upper level game in which he or she is

substituting, and then only if the upper level team has less than six players in attendance. Also see Section 10.4a below.

- Players from lower level teams ("A" or "B") may **not** participate in upper grade tournament games, regardless of the number of players in attendance. Note - This would result in a forfeit for the upper level team if there were not enough players to play the game.
- A player from a lower level team may only play on the same higher level team twice per season.
- At least 50% of the players on any team participating in the DPL West Conference must be from that grade level. This 50% test is applied at the time of each and every Conference game.

Section 10.4a: Coaches using non-rostered players (i.e., "B" player playing in an "A" game or any lower grade player playing in an upper grade game) must declare the name and number of those players to both the opposing head coach and the official scorer prior to the start of the game. Failure to do so results in that player becoming ineligible for the game, and if the player then enters the game, it will be automatically forfeited. In addition, the head coach of the team that played the ineligible player will be considered to have committed gross misconduct under the sportsmanship rules (for the misconduct penalty, see Article V, Section 7).

Section 10.4b: In order to be eligible for Conference post season tournament play, a player must be on the active roster of his/her team for at least 50% of the team's regular season conference games.

Section 10.5: Schools entering more than one team from a grade level in the DPL West Conference (e.g., two 6th grade girls' teams) must use their best effort to split the teams equally as to skill/talent.

Section 10.6: Teams may be accepted into the DPL West Conference even if they fail to meet the requirements of Section 10.4 (above) if, in the opinion of the Officers of the Association, it is in the collective best interest of the school and the Conference based on the facts and circumstances known by the officers at the time of granting the exception. Any such exception must be approved by a majority of the officers.

Section 11: Players are limited to appearances in 2 matches per day, unless the entire team plays more than two matches per day. Note - This would only happen if a player were, in addition to his/her own team, also playing on an upper level team.

Section 11.1: Players who dress for a game must play at least a minimum of 15 points per match, including tournament games, and no team shall be required to play more than the number of players on the opponent's squad.

Section 11.2: The Association President shall have the authority and responsibility to send qualified observers to selected games in order to spot check for rule violations (player minimum playing time, as well as any other Association rules), and to pay these observers up to \$20 per game. The annual budget for paid observers is \$200. Coaches violating the minimum playing time rules shall be **suspended** for one game, the game in question shall be **forfeited**, and the team shall be placed on **probation**.

Section 12: Coaches must remain with their team at all times when in a host school.

Section 13: The Association will not hear protests of games. However, coaches are encouraged to report suspected By-Laws violations of other schools to their Athletic Director and the Athletic Director will contact the appropriate commissioner. (Note - The Association may, upon investigation, impose penalties on violators.)

Section 14: Players wearing illegal numbers or otherwise illegal uniforms (e.g., t-shirts of the wrong color worn under the jersey or compression shorts of the wrong color under the shorts) will not be permitted to play. Game officials should not make exceptions, except as noted below.

Section 14.1: The only two exceptions to the rule which allows only t-shirts of the same color as the principal color of the jersey are 1) teams that are required to wear pullovers provided by the host school, or 2) if **all** (100%) of the players have the same colored t-shirt (e.g., If two of eight green jersey'd players are wearing green t-shirts, then both are acceptable under IHSA rules. If seven of eight green jersey'd players are wearing white t-shirts, that is not acceptable and the white t-shirts must be removed. If all 8 players are wearing white t-shirts under their green jerseys, they are considered "uniform" and are an acceptable exception.)

Section 15: In situations where the host school fails to provide at least six practice volleyballs for each team, any other available volleyballs (the host school's or either team's) must be shared equally up to the point both teams have at least six volleyballs.

Section 15.1: "Volley Lite" ball are prohibited from league play.

Section 16: Non-player bench personnel are limited to three in number.

Section 17: Any rule violation may be waived or prescribed penalty modified by a unanimous vote of the Officers of the Association.

Points of Emphasis

- A) Official rosters for both teams should be given to the host school scorer before each match. Line-ups for the match should be retained by the host school after the match and kept for the balance of the season.
- B) A "Short List" of important match rules that are unique to the Association will be provided to each host school, for the purpose of having it available at the scorer's table for every match.
- C) The rescheduling of matches should be a rare event; that is, teams should do everything possible to fulfill their schedule obligation. When matches must be rescheduled, the rescheduling process should involve the athletic director from both teams involved and the Association Schedule Chairman.

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