



BADGER REGION YOUTH FALL VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE HANDBOOK

This handbook is dedicated to those of you who will use it over the course of developing, managing and improving fall league volleyball in Wisconsin

Updated May 2021

Badger Region Volleyball Association Mission Statement:

The Badger Region Volleyball Association promotes initiatives for safe, structured and fun life-long volleyball experiences!

Our Vision:

Grow the number of players, coaches, officials, spectators and other volleyball enthusiasts;
Provide the highest quality volleyball experience in education, training, and competition;
Provide advocacy, support, recognition and administration to the volleyball community

Badger Region Youth Fall Volleyball League Philosophy:

Debuting in the Fall of 2019, the Badger Region Youth Fall Volleyball League is designed to offer competition and development for athletes new to volleyball at the middle school level and experienced players. The program is a high school feeder program and relies heavily on the adult volunteers of that specific high school encouraging youth to play. Middle school coaches who make up the league are mostly volunteers who love the sport. The league differs from club in that it depends on the leadership of the school contacts and varsity coaches to make this happen. While schools can elect to make cuts and pick their teams as they choose, many schools do not make cuts.

BRYFVL is intended to be a learning environment for everyone involved: players, coaches, officials and even parents! We know mistakes will be made among all of the parties and it's our hope that everyone involved will realize that to foster the life-long love of the sport, the BRYFVL atmosphere remain positive, encouraging and fun.

Badger Region Youth League is a high school feeder program for athletes in fifth through eighth grade. The league provides quality competition between many high school feeder schools and prepares young athletes for their high school program.

Starting a program:

If you are interested in starting a program for your school district, please contact the varsity coach of the school district you reside in. It is important to have the varsity coach on board to help oversee the program, help get gym time for player placement dates and practices, etc. Also reach out to Sara Voigt at the Badger Region office or contact the Badger Region office membership@badgervolleyball.org. They will help you get things started with items like getting your contact information, program and school information, attending parent meetings, player placement dates, and helping to answer any questions you may have along the way.

Programs usually start the process in late April/early May, however there are some programs that don't assemble teams until June or July depending on schedules and facility availability.

USAV Membership:

Badger Region Volleyball is one of the 40 regions of USA Volleyball. When you register for a membership with Badger Region, you also become a member of USA Volleyball.

All participants (adult or child) must be a current registered member to participate in Badger Region and USA Volleyball events and BRYFVL. Whether someone wants to officiate at fall league or join a school program as a coach or player, everyone must be a registered member for safety purposes.

Additionally, a Badger Region / USA Volleyball membership will provide:

- Access to regionally and nationally sanctioned events and programming
- Secondary insurance coverage
- A framework of rules and guidelines to protect the sport and individuals
- Policies and guidelines to safeguard our membership
- Educational opportunities for players, coaches, club directors and officials
- Competition opportunities for players, coaches and teams
- Grassroots programming to develop a new understanding and love of the sport
- Networking opportunities with volleyball enthusiasts around the nation
- A safe, healthy environment for players to develop through rules, regulations and resources

There are no refunds once a membership has been purchased. This is because dues to USA Volleyball and insurance are paid upon purchase, as well as administrative services by Badger Region staff.

Please go to the Badger Region website for more information on how to access Sports Engine USAV memberships and register for a \$15.00 USAV junior summer membership which is good from May 1st until August 31. After Aug 31st the member must purchase a \$50.00 full junior membership which expires on Aug 31st 2022. Click here for our informative one-pager on BRYFVL memberships <https://badgervolleyball.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/BRYFVL-Memberships.pdf>

Call Sara Voigt at the Badger Region office if you have any questions at 262-349-9785. You can also visit our website for more information about USAV memberships

Player Eligibility

All players who are selected to play on district teams MUST RESIDE IN THE DISTRICT THEY ARE PLAYING FOR. Due to previous out-of-district player recruitment issues, only players that reside in a school district can play for that program. It is incredibly important to follow this rule because the spirit of the league is to help the specific districts build their volleyball program by developing players for their own district's high school. Do not confuse this league with club volleyball, as they are both different. We want to allow families/athletes who cannot afford other volleyball programs the chance to learn the game of volleyball, get the feeling of competition against other schools, and make friends with others who will be attending their same high school. This is a strict rule which must be followed in order to allow teams to play in the league. Programs that fail to follow this rule will be removed from the fall league with no refunds.

All players must have a USAV membership. If the athlete played club volleyball the season prior to BRYFVL, their membership is good through August 31st. If they didn't, they would need to purchase a \$15.00 junior summer membership which is available from May 1st through August 31st. After August 31st, only \$50.00 full junior memberships are available for players after Sept. 1. When a player is selected to a team, the program will need your athlete's membership number. The member number is needed when submitting the BRYFVL roster. Player must also submit a USAV medical release form and concussion form, to be kept by the coach. All updated forms are available on the Forms page of the Badger Region website <http://badgervolleyball.org/forms/>

Private School Player Eligibility

If you are starting a feeder program for a private high school, player eligibility is different due to the lack of district borders. A private high school feeder program cannot actively recruit athletes from other existing programs. A private high school program may not take athletes who have participated in another established BRYFVL program for more than two years.

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Coach Eligibility

All coaches must have a USAV membership. If the adult was a club coach the season prior, their membership is good through August 31st. If they didn't coach club, they would need to purchase an adult summer adult membership which is available from May 1st through August 31st. After August 31st, only \$50.00 full adult memberships are available for coaches after Sept. 1. When a coach is assigned to a

team, the program will need the coach's member number. The member number is needed when submitting the BRYFVL roster.

In addition to a USAV membership, a coach must have a current background screen processed through USAV, Safe Sport training and IMPACT coach certification. The USAV background screen can be added when the coach is obtaining a USAV membership for \$30.00 however it is available until Aug 7th. Safe Sport training is offered free online through the USAV Academy. IMPACT is offered for free to fall league coaches. Badger Region offers online IMPACT which is mandatory for all new fall league coaches. The link to register can be found in your USAV Academy in Sports Engine.

Team Registration:

Team registration forms and fees are due to the Badger Region Office no later than August 1st. in order to be able to start planning and scheduling the season. Team registration fees are \$795 per team. Our Badger Region tournament director needs the team count and a significant amount of time to assemble the league schedule so it is very important to get the team registrations submitted as soon as possible. If you are having problems, please contact Sara Voigt sara@badgervolleyball.org.

All completed BRYFVL rosters including player and coach info are due to Sara at Badger Region no later than August 15th. The rosters must include player name, USAV membership number and name of high school they will be attending. Format for submission is provided on the Badger Region website. Incomplete rosters in the incorrect format will not be accepted. Roster format can be found here <..\Documents\BRYL2020\BRYFVL Roster Format 2021.xlsx> or on the Badger Region website under the BRYFVL page <https://badgervolleyball.org/bryfvl/>

If you need facility insurance for practices, submit a certificate of insurance request form which can be found on the forms page of the Badger Region website. Remember insurance requests are only good until August 31st. Please re-submit your request on September 1st for any dates beyond that time.

League play starts the weekend after Labor Day and finishes with an end of league tournament the last weekend of October. League play is not scheduled the first weekend of October, opening weekend of U14 club tryouts, to allow athletes to have an open weekend for tryouts. This also eliminates the chance of forfeits due to players missing league for club.

Teams are guaranteed 12-14 matches in a 6-7-week span. We try to offer a consistent schedule of 5th and 6th graders on Saturday and 7th and 8th graders on Sunday, however it all depends on the number of teams registered and facilities available. The schedule will be posted no later than a week before the start of the league.

For the 2021 season, the schedule may vary depending on Covid-19 safety regulations for social distancing, gathering size, team counts and other variables. These items will be communicated as soon as they are determined.

Frozen rosters/Roster Jumping/Playing "Up"

Once an athlete is assigned to a submitted roster they cannot be moved to a different roster throughout the season. Athletes cannot play on multiple teams during the same weekend of competition. If there is an issue with multiple sicknesses, vacations, etc that will cause the team roster size to be lower than five players, please reach out to Sara Voigt about temporary changes to allow the team to play.

Athletes must play in their own grade with no playing up regardless of skill. Grade is established by what their grade will be that specific year of fall league. Exceptions will be made with boys due to low numbers.

Suggested Timeline for Building a Program

- **Jan-Feb:** Start reaching out to parents and coaching staff of the feeder high school
- **March:** Organize and schedule a parent informational meeting. Use this meeting to recruit parent coaches
- **March-April:** Send out a google form or other type of registration tool to families for athlete registration. Start looking for facilities to run player placements/tryouts.
- **May:** Adult and Junior BRYFVL memberships open for all that did not play club and need a membership. Apply for certificates of insurance for facility usage until Aug. 31. Also indicate if new certificate is needed after Sept. 1 for the remainder of the season.
- **April-June:** Lay out and organize teams per grade as established through registration numbers and number of coaches. Register teams through Badger Region volleyball with form on fall league page
- **June-July:** Schedule team placement/tryout dates
- **August:** Send registration money to Badger Region Volleyball (info on fall league page)
- Send completed rosters to Sara at sara@badgervolleyball.org

Any comments or suggestions should be addressed to:

Jennifer Armson-Dyer, Executive Director	jen@badgervolleyball.org
Scott Spiess, Operations Manager	scott@badgervolleyball.org
Brian Sharkey, Program Director	brian@badgervolleyball.org
Kelly Lehman, Region Tournament Director	kelly@badgervolleyball.org
Sara Voigt, Program Specialist	sara@badgervolleyball.org
Membership & Registration Questions	membership@badgervolleyball.org
Office Phone Number: 262-349-9785	



Badger Youth Volleyball League Rules

The Badger Youth Volleyball League games will be played either Saturdays or Sundays depending on number of teams. Team schedule will be available no later than a week before the start of the league.

Net height:

7' 4 1/8" for 7th and 8th grade boys and girls

7' for 5th and 6th grade boys and girls

Volleyballs:

This is a high school feeder program; high school volleyballs are utilized as much as possible.

L2 volleyballs for 7th and 8th grade girls

Pro touch for 7th and 8th grade boys

Volleylites for 5th and 6th grade boys and girls

The league does not supply a game ball so the home team (first team listed on the scoresheet) supplies the game ball for the match.

****We understand that volleyballs are expensive. If your program has different brands of volleyballs, please continue to use them. If you are the home team and the ball is different from the one listed above, please check to see if the opposing team has the correct ball. If not, use what you have as the game ball.**

Each team supplies two volunteers (parent, older sibling over 16 years of age) to help with score and line judging. Official will help guide volunteers and explain rules before each match. NFHS scoresheet will be used.

Coin toss:

Home team (first team listed on scoresheet) calls the toss in game 1.

Away team calls the toss if there is a deciding 3rd game. **If there is no deciding set and there is still time to play, the official will start a deciding set with the losing team getting the serve. The official will allow the teams to play for the time remaining in that match.

Warm ups:

Away team: 3 minutes full court time

Home Team: 3 minutes full court time

Shared serving time: 2 minutes

Teams will not be permitted to ball handle on the sidelines. This is a safety issue for both players and spectators.

For safety reasons, players cannot wear any jewelry of any kind during warm ups or competition.

Each team is allowed two 60 second time-outs per set.

Each team is allowed 18 substitutions per set.

Step-in Serving Rules for 5th grade and 6th grade select divisions:

Badger Region Server Step-in Rule modification: For 12s and younger age groups only.

******* PLEASE NOTE** servers **WILL NOT ROTATE** after three serves in ANY age division.

- Use of the Badger Region Server Step-in Rule is for all BRYFL matches.
- The player must be in front of the end-line with the ball before the referee beckons for serve (designates a "step-in server")
- If possible, the step-in line should be marked with court tape "approximately 6 feet" in front of the end line. (** Specific locations may not be able to place additional lines on courts due to facility restrictions. In these instances, coaches/officials should work together to visually define the serving area.)
- Limit of two step-ins per term of service (score up to 2 points with step-in serve)
- If two points are scored using step-in, the next and all subsequent serves for that term of service must be from behind the end line (normal serving rules)
- Step-in cannot be used if a team has 20 or more points in a set, or 12 or more points in a deciding set

Jersey Rules:

Jersey rules will be consistent with NFHS rules, [click here](#) for details. Waivers can be granted by the Badger Region office if requested before August 31st, 2020.

Match play:

Match play will consist of 2 games to 25 and 1 game to 15 (if a deciding set is needed), no cap. We allot 60 minutes per match so if time allows, the official will allow the teams to play a third set even though one team won the first two sets. This third set will only go until the top of the hour and will be stopped mid-set so as to not allow the match to go over its allotted 60 min time. If it is a deciding set, the set will be played to 15 points, no cap.

A starting lineup may consist of as few as 5 players. If less than 5, a team may need to forfeit. If there is a known issue of a low roster count, please contact Sara at the Badger Region office as soon as possible. Combining players from other team rosters will not be permitted unless the region office gets prior notice. If prior notice is not possible, please communicate to the official on your court. To avoid a forfeit, the official will allow a player to play from a different roster if the team has 4 or less players if approved by the Badger Region office or site manager.

Forfeit Rules: If a team forfeits more than two matches during regular play, that team may not be permitted to participate in BRYFVL Championships. If a team forfeits during Championship weekend, that program may not be permitted to participate in BRYFVL the following season. We strongly encourage you to contact the Badger Region office ASAP if you will have issues with team attendance during normally scheduled league play. Please contact Sara Voigt at sara@badgervolleyball.org

We thank you for your interest in BRYFVL and we hope that you will join us in creating a wonderful learning environment for our youngest players.