

# Jr. Bronco Volleyball Rules



## YMCA GOAL

The YMCA goal is to give every child between the grades of 1st-6th a chance to play volleyball. To teach skills, sportsmanship, working together as a team, promote new friendships, positive family interactions and to have FUN!

## YMCA FACILITY POLICES

All YMCA facilities and game and practice locations are smoke tobacco, and alcohol free zones. All facilities and locations are pet/animal free zones for the direct safety of the kids.

## GYM RULES

Parents are to supervise their children while within the facilities to minimize accidents from happening. If players own their own volleyball, players are advised to bring them to practice in case teams are short of volleyballs. Different facilities may have different equipment. Teams may be required to set up/take down nets.

## EQUIPMENT

Practice balls will be available but please share if there is another team. Volleyballs must be returned in their entirety after practices. Nets and other necessary set up equipment will be available at practice facilities. Gym shoes are permitted. Knee pads are recommended.

## SCHEDULE

Teams are guaranteed 6 games/matches in 6 weeks.

## UNIFORMS

Team jerseys will be given to each player prior to the first game.

## PRACTICE RESERVATIONS

Teams will practice once/week for an hour. Coaches will pick day/time.  
Please sign up for a practice at the coach's meeting and please be consistent.

## COURT SIZE

Grades 1st-2nd: 15' x 30' (may vary slightly).  
Grades 3rd - 6th: 30' x 60' (Regulation size).

## BALL SIZE

Grades 1st-2nd: Will use a training volleyball (lighter than a Volley Lite) to help develop skills.  
Grades 3rd-4th: Will use Volley Lite volleyballs for practice and a training volleyball for games.  
Grades 5th-6th: Will use Volley Lite volleyballs (lighter weight, same regulation size).

## NET HEIGHT

Grades 1st - 2nd: 6' 0" approximately  
Grades 3rd - 4th: 6' 6" approximately  
Grades 5th - 6th: 7' 0" approximately

## NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Grades 1st - 2nd: 4 on each side, 2 in the front row and 2 in the back row (4 v 4).  
Grades 3rd - 6th: 6 players on the court on each side. (May play with 5 players).

## TIME LIMIT

Grades 1st – 2nd: For the first 30 minutes, teams will practice on one side of the court. Teams will then take a 1 minute break. Following this, both teams will then play a game for 20 total minutes, switching sides at 10 minutes.

Grades 3rd – 4th: Two sets of 22 minutes. Teams will switch sides at half. 1 minute break. Teams are given one, 30 second timeout per half.

Grades 5th – 6th: Matches are limited to 50 total minutes. Teams can play as many games as the 50 minutes allow. Each game consists of 25 points (team needs to win by 2 points if the game is tied at 24). Teams will switch sides after every game. At the end of 50 minutes, whether the game is tied or a team is ahead by 1 point, the game will end as is. Each team has one, 30 second timeouts per game.

## SCORING

Grades 1st – 2nd: Score will not be kept at this grade level.

Grades 3rd – 4th: Score will not be kept at this grade level.

Grades 5th – 6th: Rally scoring is used - Any team can score a point when it wins the rally or the opposing team commits a fault. If the serving team wins the rally, it scores a point and continues to serve. If the receiving team wins the rally, it scores a point and gains the right to serve.

## ROTATION OF PLAYERS

All players present at the game should play in each game. Players sit along the sideline in a team rotation order. Players rotate into the game at the right/left front position and rotate out. Rotation occurs after a side out and only the serving team rotates. The team losing the serve does not rotate.

## OFFICIALS

Grades 1st – 2nd: There will be no official for this age group. Coaches/parents are to officiate and keep the game(s) flowing.

Grades 3rd – 6th: One YMCA official will officiate all games.

## SERVING LIMITS

Grades 1st – 2nd: Each player has the chance to serve up to a maximum of 3 times per rotation. If a player does successfully serve 3 times in a row, the ball will be awarded to the opposing team. Coaches, please keep track of the 3 serves in a row.

Grades 3rd – 6th: After a team has scored 3 straight points while serving, the ball will be awarded to the opposing team.

## SERVING

Play/rally begins with a serve by the serving team. **Players at all grade levels are required to serve overhand. All grades will have the option to “throw” the ball over the net as the serve.** This is in place to develop the arm rotation that is used to overhand serve and spike as the kids get older.

Grades 1st – 2nd: The server will be given 2 chances on his/her first serve on every rotation to serve a legal serve. There will be no foot faults. Serving line to be determined by coach (may move in as far as necessary to get the ball over the net).

Grades 3rd – 6th: The server will be given 2 chances on the first serve of every rotation. Serving line to be determined by coach (may move in as far as necessary to get the ball over the net).

## BOUNCE RULE

All grades will be given the option to use and play off the bounce every time the ball is received on their side of the net. Players may let the ball bounce on the serve or at any time during their team’s rally, including a pass. Although not required, the bounce rule is highly encouraged as it will help eliminate fear of the ball, to develop proper technique in contacting the ball, force communication, and slow the game down to develop proper fundamentals.

## **SERVE RECEIVE**

Grades 1st – 4th: **The receiving team can either catch the serve or pass it to a teammate.** If a player catches the serve (this is considered 1st contact), he/she must then make a two-handed underhand toss to a teammate. The teammate must then contact the ball (considered 2nd contact) with a forearm pass, a set, or spike. If the receiving team elects to pass the serve it must then be contacted by a teammate before going over the net. The receiving team must have a minimum of 2 contacts, maximum of 3 contacts, before the ball can legally go over the net, if the first ball is caught. If first ball is passed, the ball may be played over the net on the first ball; however encourage your team to have more than one contact.

Grades 5th – 6th: The ball may be played over the net on the first ball, however encourage your team to have more than one contact. The maximum is 3 contacts before the ball goes over the net. No catching allowed.

## **VIOLATIONS**

All violations will be called loosely to encourage gameplay. Officials and coaches are encouraged, when a violation does occur, to help correct a mistake at the proper time. Judgment calls will be made of officials.

Grades 1st – 2nd: A serve may NOT touch the net on a serve. The ball CAN touch the net during play. Judgment of ball handling skills is loosened to promote the development of skills. The attempt to do the skill right is more important than if the ball was cleanly handled.