**2019 Surface Beach Invite/High School Co-ed 6’s**

**Policies and Procedures:**

**Updated: 7/24/2019 9:30 pm**

Welcome to the 4th annual Surface Beach Volleyball Invitational and the High School Co-ed 6’s. Please familiarize your players, coaches\*, parents, and spectators with the formats and requirements for this tournament**.**

**Playing Locations:**

The 2019 Surface Beach Volleyball Invitational will be held at Drkula's located at 6710 Cahill Ave E, Inver Grove Heights, MN  55076.  Drkula's has 4 beach volleyball courts and is the home of Surface Beach Volleyball Club.  \*Please no calls to Drkula's with any questions regarding the tournament.  All questions should be addressed with Eric at espoppelman@surfacevbc.com or 651-261-1483.

**Match Play**:

All teams are seeded into pools depending on the total number of teams entered into the event.  Teams will be broken into age divisions that fit the overall structure of the entire tournament to provide the best playing experience for everybody.

The Girls 2’s 12-18's division is on Saturday, \* *Cancelled*: July 287th, the Boys 2’s and the HS Co-ed 6’s tournament will consist of 16-20 teams.  Pools will be divided into 4 or 5 team pools.  After pool play is completed the playoff round will start immediately after the results from pool play is tabulated.  Teams may enter into a gold, silver, or bronze single elimination bracket or playoff pools.

Most matches will be played one set to 21 unless a pool needs to be modified if it’s to0 large (7 or more teams), or too small (3 teams).

Win/loss record, Head to Head, point differential, coin toss to be used to break ties.

**\**Cancelled*: HS Co-ed 6’s additional rules:**

A team may consist of more than 6 athletes. Each additional athlete must pay a $25 fee for participation. However, only 6 athletes may be on the sand at a time, 3 boys and 3 girls.

Players must serve in their rotational order.

**\*If Applicable**

**Playoff Match Formats:**

Playoff matches will alternate between Gold and Silver to ensure a break for the athletes in between rounds.

Playoff matches are one set to 21 cap at 23. Finals are one set to 21 with no cap. \*\*Loser of the playoff round must stay and officiate the next round on their courts. \*\*First place teams of each division will receive awards promptly after the finals.

Seeding and playoff format will be based on the total number of teams entered into the event.  \*Format may change due to weather, time left available in the event, or other circumstances.

**Weather**:

Every attempt will be taken to play the event. In case of heavy rain or lightning, the tournament may be stopped briefly to go inside and wait out the weather. A restructuring of the event may be necessary depending on the length of the delay(s).

**Refunds:**

Once a team registration is completed online a refund will not be issued. Every attempt will be made to hold the event. In case of extreme weather making it necessity to cancel the event, a refund minus credit card fees will be mailed by check or returned via credit card (minus fees) no more than 48 hours after the cancellation to the person that registered the team. A weather “delay” may be needed to get matches in.

**Coaching:**

Beach volleyball (like tennis) is a figure it out on your own kind of sport.  Coaching (by a coach) is allowed briefly in between side changes or in between sets during a match.  Coaching (by parents) is not allowed at any time during the match.  Parents are of course free to discuss the match and how it went with their kids post match.  Ask open ended questions and get the players thinking about what they want to accomplish in the next match.  Praise effort over performance.

**Facility Food and Beverage Rules:**

**No outside food or drink** is allowed into the playing facility (Drkula's).  Only water and sports drinks, in plastic bottles, may be brought into the event and to the player court area.

Food and beverage will be available at Drkula's and they have an extensive menu available for customers and players.  They may run a few specials for us during the event. Food is typically available to order around 10:30 am. A bar will be set up outdoors around 9 am.

**Facility Rules:**

Shoes or sandals must be worn inside the building at all times.  Foot showers are available to rinse your feet from sand so you can put your shoes/sandals on before entering the building.  Shirts must also be worn inside the building. Bathrooms are located within a few steps inside and there are Biffy's located outside.

**\*\*Alcohol Consumption:**

Only alcohol and food purchased from Drkula's will be allowed at the facility.  Alcohol and junior volleyball is a touchy subject.  Some people know how to handle themselves appropriately and some do not. If you choose to purchase and consume alcohol during the event of course you must be 21. Coaches directly working with athletes playing in the event must not be consuming alcohol at any time.  Surface VBC staff would prefer that alcohol is not consumed courtside.  This means right next the court in the courtside area.  There are tables located at the facility against the building which would be more appropriate.  Also, inside the bar area is perfectly fine.

**Athletic Trainer:**

There is no athletic trainer available for players or spectators at the event.  All players are responsible for completing their liability and medical waivers prior to the event.

**Safety:**

**No parents or spectators are allowed on the sand at any time during the event.  Only coaches and players are allowed on the sand. All parents and spectators are made aware that flying objects and volleyballs may enter the spectator area during play.  All players, parents, and spectators assume this risk and may not hold Surface VBC or Drkula's liable for any damage or injury suffered during the event.  Once registered for the event it is the duty of the players and their parents to inform any person(s) coming to watch the event of the safety notice for the event.**

**If any injury should happen to a player or spectator during the event, it must be immediately brought to the attention of the tournament director.  An incident form must be completed and filled out appropriately.  3 copies will be made.  1 for Drkula's, 1 for Surface VBC, and 1 for injured party.**

**Balls:**

Two game balls will be provided per court.  You can bring your own warm up balls with you.  If you and your opponent would prefer to use a different ball than is provided, you may do so. The game balls must remain at the court during the entire tournament.  No balls are allowed to be hit around in the spectator area.

**Tournament Policies/Rules:**

1.  **Registration** will begin at 8:15 am on Saturday and Sunday of the tournament based on your scheduled day of play. All players and parents that registered the team must be there at 8:30 no matter if you play or ref the first match of the day. At 8:30 there will be a brief player/parent meeting with play set to begin promptly at 8:45-9 am. All other matches will be played in order.  Teams are to be ready to play when their match is sequentially ready to be played.  The tournament director should not be looking around the facility for you to be ready for your match.  The players must take responsibility for following the progress of the match prior to their.  Coaches and parents may also support the players with keeping on schedule and being available.

2.  **Warm ups**:

The officiating team will be players with a possible coach (not parent) as an assist.  The officiating team will toss a coin to determine who will serve and what side the teams will start on.

Warm ups will be 5 minutes long. 3-4 minutes shared hitting and 1-2 minutes shared serving.  Balls should be shared between both teams during warm ups.  Stay on your side of the net, shag the ball of your opponent, then use that ball for your "hitting" line.  If you choose to serve during this 5 minutes, both sides must agree so you are not serving into your opponents hitting line.

3.  **Officiating**:

2 players must officiate.  One keeps the flip score and the other records the score on the pool sheet. \*\*One team will be assigned the blue numbers on the scoreboard, and the other team the red numbers. Because the teams switch every 7 points, it’s too difficult to be constantly switching the scores from side to side while the game is in progress.  Both players should be attentive and observe the match for any violations set forth in the tournament rules.  **\*No cell phones are allowed while reffing**.  Officiating is handled by the officiating team as well as the players participating.  Beach volleyball is an "honor" sport.  Players should call their own double contacts, net violations, and touches.  You may not call your opponent for a violation.  You may appeal to the officiating team.  They are mostly responsible for keeping score and notifying teams of the side changes which will happen every 5 points scored during the set.  Should there be a problem between players and officiating the tournament director will assist and support the players and resolve all issues.

4.  **Rules:**

Any part of the ball that hits the line is considered "in" regardless of the line's home position.  The line will move during game play.  It is the responsibility to adjust boundary lines as needed.

Players may not contact any part of the net.

One serve attempt is allowed.

Block touches count as a hit.  A player may play their own ball after a block touch.  However, this will be considered 2 of the team's 3 contacts.

Open hand setting of serves is not allowed.  If received over-head, hands/fists must be joined together.

Open handed tips are not allowed.  Balls can only be "dinked" over the net with a closed hand or using knuckles

Hand digs are allowed on hard driven balls and the ball may spin. Soft driven balls may be dug with hands, however, the ball must leave the hand “clean.” This is always a grey area in beach volleyball. To take the grey area out, simply dig balls with your platform.

**DO NOT stop play** if you suspect a rule was violated. Play every point out. If there is an issue, discuss it with the refs. If you can’t resolve it, please get a tournament director for guidance.

Hand sets over the net are not allowed \*unless the ball is set directly forward or directly backward with relation to the player’s body.  The exception is when wind blows the ball over the net.  Both playing teams and the officiating team must agree with this. Hand setting is called tighter in beach volleyball.  Balls may not rotate more than 2 full rotations.  However, balls are allowed to be held a bit longer to help accomplish this.  Bump setting is dominant in beach volleyball especially at the junior level.

The serve may touch the net tape.

You may not step on the end line while serving.

The ball must pass through the antennas or poles during play.

You must have a foot in the sand while playing balls near boundaries.

A ball that ends up outside the playable area after a point must be shagged by the spectators and not the teams playing or officiating.  The second ball should be used while the other ball is being returned to the court.  The officials should be monitoring and asking the spectators for assistance if needed.

**Fan Behavior:**

All spectators, participants, and parents are expected to behave in a fair and supportive manor throughout the event.  You may receive a warning for unruly behavior or asked to leave the event by the tournament director, Drkula's business owner, Surface VBC staff.  Please respect the event and all involved.  Should you not follow these rules, a call to police will be made.

**Admission:**

**To be determined...**

**No Pets:**

No pets are allowed on premises.

**Store:**

Items will be available for purchase at the tournament desk throughout the day.  Shirts, hats, Sockwa beach socks and possibly other items will be available.  Cash only please.

**For any further questions please email Eric at espoppelman@surfacevbc.com or call him at 651-261-1483**