

## WALLYBALL Rules & Regulations

## The University of Akron Student Recreation & Wellness Services Intramural Sports

Participation in any and all activities within this facility and/or sponsored by The University of Akron is voluntary. All participants understand and agree that use of this facility and/or participation in an activity sponsored by the university is at their own risk and that the university is not responsible for any incidents, injuries or loss of property that may occur.

All team representatives, including players, substitutes, replaced players, coaches, trainers, spectators and/or other persons affiliated with the team are subject to the rules of the game and shall be governed by decisions of Officials assigned to the game as well as the Site Supervisor.

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

- All students, faculty or staff can participate provided they meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the Intramural Sports Participants Handbook. All participants must present a valid, physical copy, University of Akron ZipCard. **NO ID, NO PLAY!**
- All games will be played on the ONAT Wallyball/Racquetball Courts.
- Following three (3) weeks of regular season play, teams will advance to a single elimination playoff bracket, provided their sportsmanship rating maintains a minimum average of 9.
- Each team will consist of four (4) players; a minimum of three (3) is required to avoid a forfeit.
- A player may only play on one (1) team in any given league (i.e.: one single-gender team, and one co-rec team).
- This is a self-officiated event; any disputes can be brought to the attention of the Site Supervisor. If there is still no resolve, the serve shall be replayed.
  - Any dispute that cannot be resolved will be ruled over by the Court Monitor. If teams cannot reach an agreement, the point in question shall be re-played.
- Each team shall designate to the Officials a player as the court captain. This person is the only player who may communicate with the Officials.

### EQUIPMENT:

- Wallyballs will be available at the ONAT Front Desk.
- Non-marking athletic shoes must be worn. No sandals, boots or non-athletic shoes will be allowed.
- Players may wear a headband made of soft pliable material. No other headwear will be allowed.
- **All jewelry must be removed, and can NOT be taped over.**
  - Only Medical Alert bracelets and/or necklaces will be permitted, and must be taped to the body, leaving vital information visible.

### GAME FORMAT:

- All matches will be played to best two (2) out of three (3) games.
- Points will be awarded following "service" scoring. Teams will only earn a point upon winning the rally for which they had served.
- All three (3) games will be played to 21 points with a team winning by two (2) points.
- A coin toss, called by the Visiting Captain, at the beginning of the match will determine the choice of service or side. The winning Captain will have the following options:
  - Service in either the first or second match, OR
  - Side of court in either the first or second match
    - Teams will change sides of the court between the first and second match.
  - The opponent is allowed the alternate choice.

- If a third match is needed, another coin toss will determine service.
- Each team will receive two (2) time-outs, of no more than 1 minute, per game.

### **SUBSTITUTIONS:**

- Substitutions must follow either of the following two (2) methods, however, teams may not use a combination of the two:
  1. The incoming player must take the position and place in the serving order of the player for whom he/she is substituting. If the original player re-enters, he/she must be in his/her original position and place in the serving order.
  2. A standard rotation order may be established to allow for “free substitution” following each rotation. The same rotation order must be maintained throughout each game.
- The Libero position will NOT be used.
- Players who arrive late must check-in with the Court Monitor at an appropriate break in play, before entering the game.

### **THE GAME:**

- The service area is designated by a line three (3) feet from the back wall and extends the entire length of the court. The server must be completely behind the service line when serving.
- A team will rotate clockwise before beginning a service term.
- Any part of the body above the waist may be used to hit the ball.
- The ball must not come to rest upon any part of the body during play.
- Players may not touch the net during play.
- Players may follow through across the net after hitting the ball, but must not reach over the net to contact the ball. Some part of the ball must cross the plane of the net before being contacted by an opponent.
- Setting the ball on the return of service is permitted.
- The ball shall be called out of bounds whenever it hits:
  - The ceiling or back wall on the opponent’s side.
  - Two (2) or more walls consecutively on a serve, volley, or block.
- A ball that hits the back wall or ceiling will be in play provided it hits on the team’s side that hit the ball and it is legally played after the wall contact.
- The ball may hit two (2) or more walls during play provided the ball is first touched by a player on the team receiving the serve or volley.
- If the ball crosses the net after contacting two (2) or more walls without making contact with a player, a side-out or loss of serve is called.
- If a player contacts the ball in such a manner to cause the ball to deflect off the back wall on his/her side of the court and go over the net, the ball shall be considered good and in play.
- A serve may hit the sidewall of the court (on either the server’s or opponent’s side of the net) before being played by the opponent, but may not hit two (2) walls.
- Climbing the wall to block, set, or serve is illegal.

### **AWARDS:**

- The winning team in each division will receive Intramural Sports Champion T-shirts.

*Updated 8/22/18*