

# THE TOURNAMENT BRAIN



east coast  
**VOLLEYBALL**  
NATIONALS

## TEAM DUTIES

### “Home” Team

- 1) Supply game ball
- 2) Have a scorer at the scorer’s table as the OFFICIAL Book. Also include libero tracking
- 3) Supply one line judge
- 4) Bring and use your volleyballs for warmups.
- 5) Any team representative / parent should enter the final score in **ECSCORES.com** as soon as possible.

### “Visiting Team”

- 1) Supply one line judge
- 2) Provide a flip chart Scorer
- 3) Bring and use your volleyballs for warmups.
- 4) Any team representative / parent should enter the final score in **ECSCORES.com** as soon as possible.

All matches are best 2 out of 3.

1st, 2nd sets to 25- win by 2 (capped at 28).

3rd set to 15- win by 2, (capped at 18)

Warmups for the first match of the day 4-6-6 (if needed), 2-4-4 all other matches.

**ALL MATCHES WILL START AT POSTED TIMES, except for the last match of the day if both teams are ready to go.**

**What volleyball is acceptable?** Especially for the boys game, a permitted volleyballs must have the NFHS stamp or logo on it. Officials will check.



# Age Eligibility Rules

## Age Eligibility

East Coast Nationals events have streamlined and re-structured their Age Eligibility Rule since 2023 to come in alignment with the national tournament scene and State Conference rules.

With this broad approach, there will no longer be exemptions. **By registering you go on the record that your players are all homeschool students only! Private and Public school students are not allowed on East Coast Nationals rosters.**

**14-U “MS” 14 or younger as of 9/26/2025**

**17-U “JV” 17 or younger as of 9/26/2025** *(a player cannot possess a diploma or GED)*

**19-U “Varsity”**

**Must be 18 or younger as of Aug 1st, 2025, (meaning, can turn 19 after August 1st) (a player cannot possess a diploma or GED )**

**IF MY ORGANIZATION ENTERS MULTIPLE TEAMS, IS MY PLAYER ALLOWED TO PLAY ON MULTIPLE TEAMS?**

**No, this rule is STRICTLY enforced, and any roster issues must be resolved 30 days PRIOR to the event.**



# A Tournament Pool is...

Each tournament pool is a grouping of 4 teams using geography first, and balanced team strength second to the best of our ability based on insights gathered from MaxPreps, States results, etc.

Pool numbers are arbitrary and mean nothing as to best pool or worst pool. The goal is to have 4 teams in each pool that hopefully have not played each other during the season, however border battle teams are making it more and more difficult and there is no guarantee of your pool makeup.

## Note:

- a pool of all strong teams is a disadvantage - causing the better teams to play tougher competition and having their records blemished before the brackets are created.

- a pool of all weaker teams is also unfair because the pool play competition is weaker and gives a deceptive won-loss record as the brackets are created

Pool play is “round robin” meaning that each team will play the other 3 teams in their pool for a total of 3 pool play games.

**POOLS are different than Brackets. Read the next page on how brackets are formed.**

# How BRACKETS Are Formed

## How Brackets are formed...

After pool play has completed, ALL teams in their respective divisions are re-seeded after the tie-breaker system is applied.

After pool play (completion of 3 games)

1. Each team accumulates team points based on its wins. A team receives 3 pts for a win.
2. Team points and tie-breakers will determine how teams are seeded and grouped into brackets.
3. A series of tie-breakers is used in cases where teams are tied in total team points at the completion of pool play.

## Tie-breakers

1. **Head-to-head** - how did the 2 teams do against each other if they played each other in pool play. This is only applied when 2 teams in the same pool finish 2-1. A 3-way tie in the same pool is a circular result and no team gains an advantage.
2. **Sets Won Percentage** is the number of sets won DIVIDED by Total number of sets played during Pool Play.
3. Higher Cumulative **Point Differential** during Pool Play
4. **Least Points Allowed** During Pool Play
5. **Coin toss**

Read on...

## **Forming Brackets**

After the 3 pool-play games have been completed AND tie-breaker rules are applied (see above), teams are seeded from top to bottom. For example, in the 19-U division of 32 teams, teams are seeded #1 through #32.

### **19-U Girls 32 teams would form these brackets:**

“8A” BRACKET (Top 4 Teams)

“7A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“6A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“5A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“4A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“3A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“2A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

### **17-U Girls 28 teams would form these brackets:**

“7A” BRACKET (Top 4 Teams)

“6A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“5A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“4A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“3A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“2A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

### **14-U Girls 24 teams would form these brackets:**

“6A” BRACKET (Top 4 Teams)

“5A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“4A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“3A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“2A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

### **19-U Boys 12 teams would form these brackets:**

“3A” BRACKET (Top 4 Teams)

“2A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

“A” BRACKET (Next 4 Teams)

### **Advancing to semi-finals in each bracket**

Seed #1 plays Seed #4 followed by Seed #2 playing Seed #3 in the semi-finals round.

### **Advancing to a bracket championship games**

The winner of both semi-final games, advance to the Championship game.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Place Game for each bracket**

Losing teams of the semi-final games will face off in the 3<sup>rd</sup> place game.



# AWARDS and BANNERS

## **AWARDS and Banners (based on the PROJECTED 2025 Volleyball Nationals)**

All awards will be self-presented by your team leaders/parents either on the court, or in front of the backdrop in the lobby (team's choice).

Our staff will deliver the awards and banners to the scores table prior to the start of your game.

On court presentation: At the conclusion of the game, present 2nd place first and allow for photos before presenting 1st place.

### **19-U Girls**

8A

**Championship team** : Championship banner and a plaque. **Coach picks the MVP**

**2nd place team**: Runner-up banner and a plaque

**3rd place team**: 3<sup>rd</sup> place plaque

7A, 6A, 5A

**Championship team** : Championship banner and a plaque.

**2nd place team** receives a plaque

4A, 3A, 2A, A

**Championship team** : receives a plaque.

**2nd place team** receives a plaque.

### **17-U Girls**

7A

**Championship team** : Championship banner and a plaque. **Coach picks the MVP**

**2nd place team**: Runner-up banner and a plaque

**3rd place team**: 3<sup>rd</sup> place plaque

6A, 5A, 4A

**Championship team**: Championship banner and a plaque.

**2nd place team** receives a plaque

3A, 2A, A

**Championship team:** receives a plaque.

**2nd place team** receives a plaque.

## 14-U Girls

6A

**Championship team :** Championship banner and a plaque. **Coach picks the MVP**

**2nd place team:** receives a plaque

**3rd place team:** 3<sup>rd</sup> place plaque

5A, 4A

**Championship team:** Championship banner and a plaque.

**2nd place team** receives a plaque

3A, 2A, A

**Championship team:** receives a plaque.

**2nd place team** receives a plaque.

## 19-U Boys

3A

**Championship team :** Championship banner and a plaque. **Coach picks the MVP**

**2nd place team:** Runner-up banner and a plaque

**3rd place team:** 3<sup>rd</sup> place plaque

2A

**Championship team :** Championship banner and a plaque.

**2nd place team** receives a plaque

A

**Championship team:** receives a plaque.

**2nd place team** receives a plaque.