



Coaches:

Thank you for participating in the 2016 Georgia Challenge (Freshman Division). This popular tournament has grown steadily such that we are again full with 16 teams and we had to turn several procrastinators away.

All play will be conducted at Southern Volleyball Center. Address, directions, etc. are available at <http://southernvolleyball.com/contact/> Doors will open at 7 a.m.; play will commence at 8. **It is important that every coach read this document in its entirety, as it will take the place of a coaches' meeting.**

#### **POOL ASSIGNMENTS AND COMPETITION FORMAT**

16 teams will be competing. They will be organized into four pools of four teams each. The top two finishers in each pool will advance to the Championship Bracket and remain in contention for the Tournament Championship. 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers will advance to the silver bracket, while fourth place finishers will advance to the bronze bracket. Pool assignments will be furnished to Coaches and are available on the website. Please don't spend a lot of time trying to interpret the seeding. While we did attempt to seed the tournament as fairly as available information allowed, we then manipulated the pools to allow those teams traveling the greatest distances to commence their first match at

9:00 a.m. versus 8:00. The website: <http://southernvolleyball.com/southern-volleyballs-upcoming-tournaments/high-schooljvfreshmanms-tournaments/freshman-georgia-challenge-tournament/>

**Additional Information:**

- matches will be best two of three sets, with the first two sets being to 25 points, and the deciding set—if necessary—to 15. Tiebreaking protocol is described below.
- The warm-up protocol will be 2-4-4 for all matches—i.e., 2 minutes of shared court time for warm-up on your side only; 4 minutes for serving team to hit and/or serve; 4 minutes for receiving team to hit and/or serve. To enable the playing of matches to 25 without the tournament falling behind, officials will call for the Captain's Meeting of the subsequent match immediately upon completion of the previous match, and the 10-minute warm-up will commence at that time.
- Every team is guaranteed four matches.
- The first matches will commence at 8:00 a.m.; subsequent matches will commence immediately upon completion of the previous match.

**TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES**

Teams qualifying for the championship pools but tied for position only shall not compete in a playoff set to determine seed. Similarly, teams tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place will not play a tie-breaker match. Rather, each team's position shall be determined by the priority system described below.

- Set percentage
- Point percentage
- Coin flip

No teams shall be eliminated from contention for the Tournament Championship bracket based solely upon set or point percentage. If there are more teams tied for the championship bracket based on match results than there are positions available, the tied teams will compete in a minimum number of playoff sets.

- Any playoff necessary to determine which team will advance will be resolved with a one-set playoff to 25 points, win by 2 with no cap.
- If two (2) teams are tied for two positions, both teams advance and each team's position or seed shall be determined by the following methods. When using these methods to determine position of teams the following order will be followed without repetition.
  - If two teams are tied for two spots, the higher seed is determined by the results of the match between the two teams.
  - If three or more teams are involved the superior team(s) is determined by best match record, followed by set percentage, followed by point percentage
  - If still tied, a coin toss will determine playoff positions.

- If two or more teams are tied for one playoff position, the minimum number of 25-point rally-point sets will be played:
  - Two teams tied for one position: head-to-head results govern and a tiebreaker will not be played
  - Three teams tied for one position: Superior team, determined by best record using set percentage, then by total point spread, will receive a BYE and plays the winner of a 25-point rally-point set between the two remaining teams.
- If three teams are tied for two positions: Team with best record using set percentage, and if still tied, then by best total point spread is given the first position and automatically advances, with the two remaining teams playing one 25-point rally-point set to determine the second position.

**NOTE: If a team involved in a tiebreaking match has left the building for any reason they will automatically forfeit their position.**

## **GATE**

There is a **gate of \$5/day**; children 10 and under are admitted free.

## **FOOD TABLES**

Food tables are allowed in SVC, but SVC will furnish the tables. Because of space constraints within the facility, each team will be allocated ½ table, or about 15 square feet. If teams want more space than that, **they are welcome to tailgate outside**. This has become a popular option, weather permitting.

## **PARKING**

The parking lot in front of the building will fill up first. Please be advised that there is additional parking – along with an entrance to the facility – in the back. Should the back parking lot fill, please park in the AT&T lot across the street. Please don't park on the grass and please respect our neighbors' (well-marked) reserved parking spaces.

## **CHAIRS**

Bleachers and chairs are provided by SVC, but you are welcome to bring your own if you desire.

## **VOLLEYBALLS**

We will furnish game balls, but teams must bring their own warm-up volleyballs to the event.

Please feel free to call or email either of the undersigned with questions. We look forward to seeing you at the Varsity Georgia Challenge this Saturday.

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