



Coaches, Players and Spectators,

Welcome to the fourth annual Southern Invitational Volleyball Tournament. **Please note that this Coaches Packet has been revised effective 9/23 to reflect the withdrawal of a team.** Most of the thirteen teams in the competition are among the top teams in their respective states, so we are looking forward to a highly competitive event—one that will help prepare you for your Regional and State Tournaments next month. Every team will be guaranteed five matches. We start early – 8 a.m. – to facilitate finishing up and getting you on the road as soon as possible. Doors to the Southern Volleyball Center will open at 7:00 a.m.

A WORD ABOUT SEEDING

We have done our best to seed the tournament fairly, but you can imagine that it's a difficult task when assembling teams from multiple states. To the extent possible we have organized the initial pools such that teams are playing teams from other states rather than their own. We did our best to minimize the number of times teams were placed in pools that included previous opponents, but when the field was reduced to 13 teams, playing in three pools, this goal became unachievable.

FORMAT/ POOL PAIRINGS

The 13 teams will be organized into two pools of four teams and one pool of five teams. To help ensure that teams from the five-team pool are not disadvantaged in bracket play, those teams playing in the five-team pool will play two sets to 25 points; not the best of three sets. In this manner, teams in the five-team pool will enter bracket play

having played eight sets, while those in the four-team pools will play best of three sets, resulting in a minimum of six and a max of nine sets played prior to the Championship Bracket. With the exception of the last-place team in each pool, all teams will advance to the Championship Bracket. Last-place finishers will conclude tournament play in a 3-team consolation pool.

TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

Teams qualifying for the championship pools but tied for position only shall not compete in a playoff set to determine seed. 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, switch sides at 13, 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 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.

MATCH PROTOCOL AND WARM-UPS

All matches will be based on two out of three sets to 25 (third, if necessary, to 15).

Match warm-ups will be limited to four minutes per team.

FACILITY/PARKING

Parking at Southern Volleyball Center is free and should be sufficient to handle this event. Directions are available here: <http://southernvolleyball.com/contact/> We ask that school buses park in the rear of the building. In the event that parking in front of the building is full, there is ample parking in the rear, and there is also an entrance to SVC in the rear. Indeed, weather permitting, many teams choose to set up tents and chairs and tailgate in the grassy area in front of the building.

We will have a parking attendant on site. Please don't park on the grass, in a reserved spot or in a handicap spot (unless displaying the proper credentials), or block any cars in. Those who do will be subject to being towed. In the event that our lot fills, there is ample space across the street in AT&T's lot.

TRAINERS

We will have a trainer on site beginning at 7:30 a.m. through the end of the competition. If you want your ankles wrapped please bring your own tape.

FOOD TABLES

SVC does not have a concession stand, so teams must provide for their own lunch. Food tables will be allowed in the facility and we will provide 1/2 table per team. Please don't try to bring additional tables into the facility as there is not room for them. No heating or cooking devices (e.g., crock pots) are permitted. Outside tailgating is permitted and encouraged. Again, please tailgate in the grassy area to the front of the building; don't put your tents or chairs in parking spaces.

FOLDING CHAIRS

There are sufficient chairs and bleacher space to facilitate spectators on every court, but you may bring your own chairs if you like.

PRACTICE BALLS

It is not necessary to schlep your volleyballs to the Southern Invitational. We will provide warm-up volleyballs. We ask that they not leave the building. If your players want to pepper outside on the grass, please bring your own balls for that purpose.

GATE

\$5; children under 10 are free.

We hope you enjoy the tournament and we welcome your feedback.

Thank you!

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