6-on-6 Sand Volleyball Rules

I. **Eligibility**
   a. Any undergraduate student, enrolled in a minimum of one credit hour, with a valid Bethany ID card is eligible until they withdraw from the college or fail to comply with other eligibility guidelines.
   b. Any faculty member or administrative/staff personnel employed by the college w/ an administrative/staff ID card.
   c. Current school year intercollegiate student-athletes are eligible to participate in all IM sports NOT related to their respective sport in their NCAA traditional season. Refer to IM handbook for further details.

II. **Roster Size**
   a. Maximum 10 players

III. **Scoring**
   a. **Match length:** The first team to win 2-out-of-3 games. All games will utilize rally scoring to 25. If there is a third game needed, it will be rally scoring to 15.
   b. **Grace Period:**
      a. Late up to 10 minutes = 5 points and service to team on time.
      b. Late 10-15 minutes = forfeit of the first game.
      c. Late after 15 minutes = forfeit of the match.
   c. **Time Outs:** Two per team-duration: 45 seconds or whenever the team calling the time out is ready.
   d. **Scoring:**
      a. **Game:** All games will utilize rally scoring to 25 (3rd to 15).
      b. **Match:** The first team to win 2 out of 3 games in a series.
      c. **Rally Scoring:** A point is scored on every serve by either team.
   e. A team must be in possession of the serve in order to earn a point.

IV. **General Rules**
   a. Official MSHSL rules will be followed except where specified below.
   b. A team may consist of six people with an even amount of girls and guys, or more girls than guys.
   c. Substitutions can only be made in a rotating basis, except in the case of an injury.
   d. The winner of rock, paper, scissors will choose either the serve or side to start the game.
   e. Each rotation, the server is allotted two tosses for their serve. If the first toss is not hit, the serve should let the ball bounce on the floor before catching and reattempting their toss.
   f. All players (except the server) must stand inside the playing court before the serve is contacted.
   g. Let serves (when the ball touches the net and goes over) will be allowed.
   h. Blocking the serve is illegal.
   i. The ball may touch any part of the body (including the feet) and be counted as a legal contact.
   j. Each team may use 3 contacts before they return the ball to the other side of the court. (A block touch does not count as a contact)
   k. A ball touching the line is considered in.
   l. Players may not touch the net or step over the center line at any time during play.
   m. A point is earned when the opposing team breaks a rule, hits the ball in the net, out of bounds, or allows the ball to contact the floor in their playing area.

V. **Serving**
   a. Each team member shall serve in turn and may have one chance to hit the ball over the net on the serve.
   b. A re-serve shall be called when the server released the ball for service, then catches it or drops it to the floor. The official will cancel the serve and direct a second and final attempt serve. Only one re-serve is permitted per player, per turn in rotation at service.
c. The server shall stand with both feet behind the rear boundary line. The serving area shall be behind the end line and from sideline to sideline. Both sideline extension lines are included in the width of the serving area.

d. The ball may be served underhand, overhand or sidearm and may be hit in any manner by the hand.

e. A served ball may not be blocked or attacked by the receiving team.

f. Teams will alternate serves between games: The team that is listed first on the schedule shall call the coin toss. The team that serves the first game, will receive serve the second game. If a third game is necessary, then a coin toss will occur to determine who gets the choice of serve or side. The team listed second on the schedule will call the coin toss.

g. If ball hits net and goes over it is a fair serve.

VI. PLAYING RULES

a. When receiving the ball for service after a side-out has been called, each member of that team shall rotate one position in a clockwise direction.

b. A ball hit into the net, may be recovered provided a player does not make contact with the net or cross the centerline.

c. A player may not play the ball in succession, unless played once by another player. Exception: One player can make contact with the ball twice if initial contact is a block.

d. A team must return the ball across the net with three or fewer contacts. A block does not count as contact.

e. If a player is hit by the ball or touched the ball, it is considered legal contact and to have been played. Legal contact is a touch of the ball by a player’s body above including the waist; which does not allow the ball to visibly come to rest or involve prolonged contact with a player’s body.

f. When the ball lands on the boundary line, it is considered in the court. It is legal for a player to run out of bounds and play the ball.

VII. FOULS/VIOLATIONS

- The following are fouls or violations:
  a. Minor violations may be overlooked. Referee will make calls as he/she sees fit.
  b. Serving illegally, or out of turn.
  c. Touching the net or reaching under the net to interfere with an opponent playing the ball.
  d. Stepping over the centerline into the opponent’s court, a player may step on the line.
  e. Spiking or blocking the ball in front of the 10’ line when playing the back row position.
  f. Contacting the ball twice in succession, unless the first contact is a block.
  g. Catching or holding the ball while playing it.
  h. Contacting the ball in an underhand motion with open hand or hands (slapping or scooping).
  i. Failure to return ball over the net in three or fewer contacts.
  j. A player that blocks or interferes with the intended set of the opposing team.
  k. If a foul is committed by the receiving team- a point is awarded to the serving team.
  l. If a foul is committed by the serving team- a point plus the service rally scoring.

VIII. Recording of Scores/Results

a. Complete the official results form and give to IM Director