

**2026 NJHFR  
Volleyball Tournament  
Information/Rules**



**States will need to declare teams in the Rodeo Office upon arrival to the 2026 NJHFR no later than Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> by 7p.m.**

**States that have less contestants attending the NJHFR can be partnered up with other states that also have less contestants to form a team. We do our best to adjust brackets accordingly so please check the posting board.**

## **2026 NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH FINALS RODEO**

### **VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**

#### **GENERAL FORMAT:**

1. Play will consist of a SINGLE elimination tournament to determine regional champions.
  - a. Regional champions advance to the final four.
2. The four regional champions will play a SINGLE elimination tournament to determine “National Junior High Finals Rodeo Volleyball Champions.”
3. Matches will consist of the best two out of three games.
4. Each game will be played to 11 points. Teams must win by two points with a cap at 13 (if the score is 12-12, the next point will win). The third game will be progressive scoring.
5. Matches will be 30 minutes long. At the end of the 30 minutes, the team that is ahead by more than two (2) points will be declared the winner of the game. If no team is ahead by two (2) points, the game will continue using progressive scoring until a team is ahead by two (2) points. In the event that a third game is necessary, the next game will be progressive scoring with the first team to seven (7) being declared the winner.
6. In the finals of each regional tournament and the semi-finals and finals of the Final Four tournament, all matches will be two out of three to 15, using progressive scoring, with a 60 minute time limit.
7. Tournament schedule is as follows: First round of tournament will start at 1:00 pm with a ROLLING schedule. A rolling schedule means that there are no set times for games after the first round of play. Games will be played continuously following the bracket order. If your team is next up in the bracket, you have 10 minutes after the game before you is completed to have your team ready to play the next game. We MUST have a coach or team representative contact information before the tournament begins. We will have a coaches meeting 15 minutes before tournament starts.

#### **TOURNAMENT RULES:**

All rules not covered below will be from the National Federation of State High School Associations Volleyball Rule Book.

1. Teams may have a minimum of four (4) players and a maximum of eight (8) players. Must have equal number of male and female on the court at all times. If this is not possible, then the team may consist of ONE more girl than number of boys to make up the team.
2. Teams must check in at the Tournament table ten (10) minutes prior to game time.
3. One time-out per team per game (60 seconds).
4. Teams must maintain a consistent rotation.
5. Lifts, carries and double hits will be called.
6. National Federation Rules regarding player conduct will be enforced.
7. **All referee decisions are final. No protests will be allowed!!!!**
8. Game time is forfeit time.
9. Volleyball team members must wear contestant back number while playing and rubber soled shoes are recommended as play will be on grass fields.
10. The tournament director is the final authority on all decisions regarding the game, rules or any other dispute involved in the tournament.
11. A coin toss at the beginning of the match will determine who serves first.