

USA (TISI-TIV-TIM) SANGAM
Cultural, Educational & Sports Association

Sports
Bi-Laws

APPROVED

Sports Bi-Laws

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Article # 1- General All Sports

1) **Eligibility and Registration:**

- A) All players must of South Indian origin of **FIJI Descendants** and with **limitations to South Indian parent only**. (Motion approved by Board meeting in Seattle on 11/04/17).
- B) Any players legally adapted through the USA Court of law by a **South Indian parent** shall be eligible to participate in any sports activities. All necessary evidence shall be made available for the Sports Committee to validate the eligibility.
- C) A legally married wife of Bonafide member as described in Article 8 (1) of the USA Sangam Constitution shall be eligible to participate in all activities.
- D) The USA Sangam Sports tournaments shall be open to all USA Sangam affiliated districts only.
- E) USA Sangam, its officials, members and affiliates shall be held irreproachable against any claims, lawsuits, demands, and/or liabilities and USA Sangam does not carry or provide medical insurance coverage.
- F) All teams shall register their players 14 days prior to the last Board Meeting before the commencement of the tournament.
- G) Players shall register and play for one team only.
- H) Complete and correct names to be written and submitted on the team slips provided.
- I) All Teams, players & officials must be in good standing with USA Sangam and have all debts & other issues resolved before the fixtures drawing.
- J) All Players must be of South Indian heritage of **FIJI Descendants** and be residents of the United States. Proof of identification must be made IMMEDIATELY available if necessary.
- K) Any player under the age of 18 years old must provide a written permission statement signed by their parent or legal guardian prior to playing in the Tournament
- L) Non-Refundable Registration fees of **\$500** must be paid on or before the Managers Meeting.
- M) Participation in the USA Sangam tournament is a privilege and not a right and any verbal or physical threats, in addition to threats of civil action or lawsuits by any player, team, official will be considered seriously inappropriate and all parties concerned will be disbarred from participating in all USA Sangam Events.

2) **Associated Team Uniform Colors:**

- A) Each team shall register their uniform colors and an alternate uniform as necessary and shall wear all times. The approved colors are as follows for:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) Hayward Sangam - Blue | 4) Seattle - Black |
| 2) Golden Gate - Orange | 5) Riverside - White |
| 3) Stockton - Green | 6) Sacramento - Red |

****Any new district formed here after shall choose a color other then the above allocated district colors.**

- B) All uniform shirts/jerseys must be numbered beginning from #1.
- C) Should teams have matching uniforms (colors) a coin flip shall determine which team will use an alternate color uniforms. (This is when two teams or participants from same district compete against each other)

3) **Protest:**

- A) All protest shall be made in writing stating the reasons of protest and lodged with the Sports Chairman of the USA Sangam within 15 minutes of completion of the match to which it relates.
- B) All protest must be accompanied by a fee of \$150.
- C) No protest shall be entertained regarding player eligibility in the soccer ground.
- D) Once the protest is received all parties involved in the protest shall be given 10 minutes to respond to the protest allegations and as such present all defendant's (players/officials), evidence and witnesses to the available quorum of the USA Sangam Sports Committee within the ascribed 10 minutes.
- E) The resolution will be deliberated upon by the USA Sangam Sports committee according to the Bi-Laws and all decisions of the Sports Committee shall be final and binding. **NO APPEALS WILL BE ENTERTAINED AT THE FIELD**, even if new evidence becomes available.
- F) No protest against the decision of the referee in respect to the Laws of the game shall be entertained.
- G) Protests lodged shall be allowed to be withdrawn within 15 minutes and the \$150.00 shall be refunded. After 15 minutes no protest will be allowed to be withdrawn.
- H) When a protest is granted the \$150.00 shall be refunded along with full allocated points for the winner and goals to the winning team. However if the team has scored more than the allocated goals, the actual goals scored will count. The losing team will receive 0 points and the number of goals awarded to the protest winning team shall be counted against them.
- I) No refunds will be granted for unsuccessful protests.

4) **Player Release:**

- A. Players must be in good standing with the District & National and has no pending or disciplinary action against the player. All disciplinary decision must be fully met before a player can be released, such as paying the complete fine and fully completing the disciplinary term. Player release fees for all Districts to be set at \$300 (\$200 to District and \$100 to National board).
- B. If a player is relocating his or her residence to a new district which has to be at least 60 miles away from current residence and is a member of the district 90 days prior to convention, the release fee shall be \$50. Release and proof of residence must be submitted to the National Sports Chairman 90 days prior to the convention to qualify for \$50 release fee.
- C. If a player is on the final roster/player list of a District in the prior years, that player has to seek a release from that District to play for another District for the current/subsequent year.

5) **Refuse to complete a match:**

Teams shall not be allowed to walk off the field of play during the duration of the play. Any team failing to observe this shall forfeit the points in favor of the opposing team and be fined a minimum of \$300, payable before their next game. All teams are expected to complete their games (and then if necessary file a protest).

6) **Teams and Districts responsibilities:**

- A) Only two officials/delegates per team, approved and in good standing with USA Sangam (namely the manager and the president) as mentioned herein will be recognized and be allowed to entertain their

- concerns, problems and grievances related to sports in writing to **Sports chairman** only. The names of the delegates must be submitted to the Secretary of USA Sangam at the Managers meeting.
- B) All Tournament/League concerns, problems and grievances must be written and given to the Sports chairman. Should a prompt resolution be requested, the matter will be forwarded to the available quorum of the USA Sangam Executive Board for immediate deliberations.
- C) All Other disputes including concerns, problems and grievances must be written and forwarded to the Secretary for consideration in a timely fashion. **The decision of the USA Sangam Executive Board shall be final and binding and will not be subject to further review.**
- D) Any official, team spectator and/or player abusing or using physical or verbal aggression against a member of the USA Sangam Executive Board including the President/Acting President/Tournament Directors and/or referees shall be suspended immediately and further disciplinary actions including fines will be decided at the next USA Sangam Executive Board Meeting.
- E) All USA Sangam Executive Board officials shall have the same privilege of enjoying all USA Sangam events as guests of the Association. Should a need arise for the Executive Board to resolve or regulate an issue (Protests/Disciplinary matters), the President or Acting President shall activate the full quorum of the available Board to resolve all matters needing immediate attention.
- F) The Sports chairman shall preside over, notify and activate the Sport Committee regarding all WRITTEN protests and disciplinary action that may need immediate resolutions at the Field.
- 7) Disciplinary Action:**
- A) The USA Sangam Disciplinary Committee shall decide upon any and all further disciplinary action to be necessary, up to and including a fine (up to \$250 per individual action) and/or suspension from the tournaments.
- B) Any player, official and/or spectator using physical or verbal aggression toward the referee, other players, spectators and/or officials will be banned from the tournament/league competition and will face further disciplinary action including fines (up to \$250) which will be dealt with by the USA Sangam Disciplinary Committee and if necessary the matter will be forwarded to the Police.
- C) Teams and their officials must be responsible for their team officials, players & spectators behavior both on and off the field. The teams shall be liable for minimum \$150 fine and disciplinary action for any misbehavior.
- D) Alcohol will not be allowed on or around the field.
- E) **Any and all decisions of the USA Sangam Disciplinary Committee will be final and will not be subject to review or further appeal.**
- F) All team fines, tournament dues, additional penalties and/or monetary obligations must be paid off before the kickoff of any game. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture/loss of the immediate game(s) with loss of points and will not be subject to protest.
- G) Players fined for infractions must fully comply with their disciplinary sanction and pay their fines prior to playing again. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of the immediate game(s) with loss of points and will not be subject to protest. Should the player not return to the team (except during suspensions) the team shall be liable for the fines at the end of the season.
- H) The following disciplinary guidelines shall apply for all violations beyond a red card infraction:
- I) First Offense: Minimum 1 game suspension & \$50 fine per incident/offense up to a life ban & \$250 fine.
- II) Second Offense: Minimum 2 games suspension & \$100 fine per incident/offense up to a life ban

- & \$250 fine.
- III) Third or More Offenses: Minimum 1 Tournament suspension & \$250 fine per incident/offense up to a life ban & \$250 fine.

8) Cautions and Dismissals:

- a. Where two cautions (yellow cards) are recorded against a player in a match resulting in an automatic red card, the player shall automatically be suspended for the next match.
- b. A red card will constitute a one game minimum suspension to be served during the following game and a
- c. \$50 fine paid immediately.
- d. A red card offence will be accessed by the sports committee based on the referees report and other witnesses and further disciplinary action will be taken against the concern player or official.

9) Parade and Official Opening:

All Teams shall adhere to the official opening and parade as respect to the guests shall not leave in middle of the ceremony. If any team not adhering to this shall be fined \$250 and must be paid before their next match. There shall be minimum 11 soccer players and 7 TIM members for parade.

10) Points and Overall Winner:

Each Sport and other activities shall have a fair point allocation to each team and participations. Please refer to Article # 2 with the designed scoring chart that will be used at the convention. The USA Sports Committee shall make changes deemed necessary time to time for making the convention more competitive and smooth running however these changes has to be made prior to convention and made aware to all the districts.

11) Awards and Recognitions:

- A. The rotational trophy shall be given to the district who achieved the highest points after tally of all sports and activities as listed on the score sheet.
- B. There shall be a trophy for winner and runner-up for soccer, volleyball and Netball.
- C. Individual trophies shall be awarded to the winning teams registered players and two officials.
- D. All kids' activities winners and participants shall receive trophies, medals, certificates or prizes.
- E. Each Sport shall have a trophy for MVP.
- F. It is upon the host districts to arrange for all the awards.

12) General:

- A) Regulations, rules and by-laws not appropriated herein shall be resolved and implemented by the USA Sangam Sports Committee from time to time as deemed appropriate. The USA Sangam Sports Committee shall have the right to make any and all changes, adjustments and modifications to any tournament/league competition as deemed necessary for the betterment of the games. **The decisions of the USA Sangam Sports Committee will be final and binding.**
- B) Teams, players, officials and non-members must ACKNOWLEDGE, agree, and with full responsibility understand that USA Sangam events are being held to promote and foster a medium for Sports & Social enrichment among all participants and it is a privilege for members to participate in these events. **USA SANGAM DOES NOT CARRY MEDICAL INSURANCE AND RECOMMENDS PARTICIPANTS TO SECURE THEIR OWN MEDICAL INSURANCE.**
- C) Teams, players, officials spectators, members and non-members must FULLY UNDERSTAND that:
- i) SPORTING ACTIVITIES INVOLVE RISKS AND DANGERS of serious bodily injury, including permanent disability, paralysis and death;
 - ii) these Risks and dangers may be caused by one's own actions, or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the soccer matches/Tournaments, the condition in which the Tournament or games take place, or the negligence of USA Sangam, its members and officials;
 - iii) there may be other risks & errors, social and economic losses either not known or not readily foreseeable at this time; and teams, players, officials, and non-members must FULLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, COSTS, AND DAMAGES that may incur to them as a result of their participation in USA Sangam sanctioned events.
- D) Teams, players, officials, spectators, members and non-members must AGREE AND WARRANT that participation in the soccer matches/Tournaments is voluntary and participation, viewing, or observing the USA Sangam events are based on an individual's own free will and USA Sangam, its members, officials and affiliates are not liable for any loss, damage and/or injury incurred.
- E) Teams, players, officials, spectators, members, and non-members by participating in a USA Sangam sanctioned event HEREBY RELEASE, discharge, indemnify and covenant not to sue USA Sangam, its officers & members, sponsors and affiliates from all liability, claims, demands, losses or damages on any account caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of USA Sangam event organizers or officials, and further agree that if, despite this release and waiver of liability, assumption of risk, and indemnity agreement, anyone on their behalf, makes a claim against USA Sangam its officials members, they shall HOLD HARMLESS, all parties mentioned herein from any and all litigation, expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage, demands, cost or civil judgments which any may incur as a result of such claim.

Article # 2

USA SANGAM CONVENTION SCORE SHEET

1	Parade Participation:	Eastbay	Golden Gate	Portland	Riverside	Sacramento	Seattle	Stockton
	Total Points Scored							

**5 Points for each team, 0 points for any team not participating fully

2	Uniform Judging:	Eastbay	Golden Gate	Portland	Riverside	Sacramento	Seattle	Stockton
	Best Dress Team TIV							
	Best Dress Team TIM							
	Best Dress Team Kids							
	Total Points Scored							

**5 Points for Best Dress Winners and 2 points for each for other teams in the parade.

3	Cultural Presentation:	Eastbay	Golden Gate	Portland	Riverside	Sacramento	Seattle	Stockton
	Cultural Item # 1							
	Cultural Item # 2							
	Total Points Scored							

**10 Points for Each Item

4	Kids Activities: - U12	Eastbay	Golden Gate	Portland	Riverside	Sacramento	Seattle	Stockton
	Participation Points							
	# 1 – Sack Race							
	#2 - Water Balloon / Ornament Spoon Race							
	3 – 100 Meter Race							
	Activity # 4 - Points							
	Activity # 5 - Points							
	Activity # 6 - Points							
	Total Points Scored							

**Participation - 1 point per team per activity

**Kids 12 years and under can only participate.

**Points Allocated in each activity as following ranking - 1st - 12, 2nd - 10, 3rd - 8, 4th - 6, 5th - 4, 6th - 2, 7th - 1

**Each Kids Activity shall have equal number of participants per team. The number of participants shall be made aware prior to the begin of the event.

**Host districts should disclose the activities and guidelines by the last board meeting prior to convention.

**If an activity where the ranking cannot be determined beyond certain ranking, then all other participants should be awarded the next best ranking points, example if 1st and 2nd is determined then the other participants shall be given the 3rd ranking points.

5 Soccer:	Eastbay	Golden Gate	Portland	Riverside	Sacramento	Seattle	Stockton
Participation Points							
Soccer Games Points							
Total Points Scored							

**Participation - 5 point per team

**Winner - 12 points / Runner-up - 10 points / Losing Semi-finalist - 8 points / all other teams 6 points.

6 Netball	Eastbay	Golden Gate	Portland	Riverside	Sacramento	Seattle	Stockton
Participation Points							
Soccer Games Points							
Total Points Scored							

**Participation - 5 point per team

**Winner - 12 points / Runner-up - 10 points / Losing Semi-finalist - 8 points / all other teams 6 points.

7 Volleyball	Eastbay	Golden Gate	Portland	Riverside	Sacramento	Seattle	Stockton
TIMS Participation Points							
TIV Participation Points							
TIMS Games Points							
TIV Games Points							
Total Points Scored							

**Participation - 5 point per team

**Winner - 12 points / Runner-up - 10 points / Losing Semi-finalist - 8 points / all other teams 6 points.

8

TIMs Food, Art & Craft

	Eastbay	Golden Gate	Portland	Riverside	Sacramento	Seattle	Stockton
Participation Points							
Activity # 1 - Points							
Activity # 2 - Points							
Activity # 3 - Points							
Activity # 4 - Points							
Activity # 5 - Points							
Activity # 6 - Points							
Activity # 7 - Points							
Activity # 8 - Points							
Activity # 9 - Points							
Activity # 10 - Points							
Activity # 11 - Points							
Activity # 12 - Points							
Activity # 13 - Points							
Activity # 14 - Points							
Activity # 15 - Points							
Total Points Scored							

**Participation - 5 points per team per activity

**Points Allocated in each activity as following ranking - 1st - 12, 2nd - 10, 3rd - 8, 4th - 6, 5th - 4, 6th - 2, 7th - 1

**1 Participant per team per activity

**Host districts should disclose the activities and guidelines by the last board meeting prior to convention.

**If an activity where the ranking cannot be determined beyond certain ranking, then all other participants should be awarded the next best ranking points, example if 1st and 2nd is determined then the other participants shall be given the 3rd ranking points.

8 General:

Total Points	Eastbay	Golden Gate	Portland	Riverside	Sacramento	Seattle	Stockton
KIDS							
TIM							
TIV							
TOTAL POINTS							

RANKING:	
1st Place - Overall Winner	
2nd Place - Runner-up	
3rd Place	
4th Place	
5th Place	
6th Place	
7th Place	

Signature

Score Keeper: _____

Sports Chairman: _____

National President: _____

For any activities if there is dispute in points the Sports Chairman should be notified and the Sports Committee will verify the results and points and shall make a decision which shall be final and binding.

Article # 3 - Soccer

1) All teams shall register a maximum of 22 players **14 days prior to the last Board Meeting before the convention.** All disputes or concerns to be resolve at the last Board Meeting. Late registration will be a subject to a \$200 fine may not be entertained.

2) Duration of Match:

- A) Each match shall be 60 minutes or less (divided between two of 30 minute periods).
- B) All matches shall start at the scheduled time. A grace period of 10 minutes shall be given to all teams. Failure to report for the game will result in the referee terminating the match and reporting it to the USA Sangam Sports Committee.
- C) The USA Sangam Sports Committee shall retain absolute authority when deciding to award the match by default to the opposing team, however, it shall also have the authority to resolve the matter as deemed fit for the benefit of the game should extra ordinary circumstances arise.
- D) Each team shall have at least 7 players to start off a match and complete a match and failing this shall the match shall be awarded to the other team.
- E) After each game the teams will be given a minimum of 30 minutes break.
- F) Under extreme conditions or other genuine reasons beyond its control, the USA Sangam Sports Committee or the Executive Board shall have the right to postpone the games and/or the tournament.

3) Mode of Play:

- A. The tournament system of play shall include two games for each team during the first stage of play (as determined by the fixtures) with the top four teams qualifying for the elimination playoffs.
- B. The following point system shall apply: Win- 3 points; Draw- 1 point; Loss -0
- C. The top four teams shall be ranked from 1 to 4 as follows - highest points to lowest points and shall advance to the semi-final, if points are same for two or more teams then goal difference shall decide the winner, if goal difference is the same then the tie breaker should be decided by as outlined below.
- D. Should more than two/three teams have equal points and goal difference, the winner and runner- up will be decided by a shootout between the teams, with the first two teams picked from a hat shooting penalties first. The winner of the first shoot out shall be ranked first for that particular ranking spot. The 2nd and 3rd ranking should be decided by the penalty shooting between the losing shoot out team and the other team and ranked accordingly.
- E. Semi final matches shall be team ranked #1 vs #4, #2 vs# 3
- F. The semi finals will be played on a knockout basis. If the teams are tied at the end of the match, then the penalty shootout rule will apply.
- G. The final will be played on a knockout basis. Should the final remain tied at the end of regulation, two five minute overtime periods shall be played. Should there be no winner at the end of overtime the winner shall be decided by a penalty shootout.
- H. When a protest is granted the \$150.00 shall be refunded along with 3 points and 2-0 goals to the winning team. However if the team has scored more than 2 goals, the actual goals scored will count. The losing team will receive 0 points and the number of goals awarded to the protest winning team shall be counted against them.

- I. Other formats shall be approved & determined by USA Sangam Sports Committee prior to the commencement of the tournament only.

4) Team Roster & Equipment:

- A) Each team must submit a new team slip to the match official before each game with correct names and correct numbers as it appears on the registration form.
- B) Registration forms cannot be altered or changed once the tournament officially kicks off.
- C) Proper sports equipment must be worn by each player during the Tournament. Players not wearing the proper equipment will not be allowed to play.
- D) Teams and their officials must be responsible for their teams/spectators behavior both on and off the field.
- E) Only reserve players and two officials shall remain seated by the reserve bench area during their game.

5) Substitutes:

- A) The number of substitutes shall be unlimited during the tournament.
- B) The substitute should be from the list of players listed on the team slip provided to the match official prior to the commencement of the match.

*****The above Bi-Laws are in addition to the General Sports Bi-laws in Article # 1*****

Article #4 - Netball

1. ALL THE SAME SPORTS BY-LAWS AS DOCUMENTED UNDER SECTION 1 APPLIES TO NETBALL REQUIREMENTS & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY
2. REGISTER 10 ELIGIBLE PLAYERS, A MONTH BEFORE THE CONVENTION
3. ONE REFEREE & 2 LINE JUDGES WILL REFEREE EACH GAME
4. REFREES & LINE JUDGES WILL BE VOLUNTARY AND AGREED BY BOTH TEAM CAPTAINS PRIOR TO MATCH
5. ALL TEAMS/PLAYERS SHOULD WEAR UNIFORMS.

A) NETBALL RULES

1. Teams shall consist of 7 players. There must be at least 5 players, one of whom must play centre, to enable the fixture to go ahead.
2. The Captains shall toss for choice of the goal end or first centre and notify the referee and the scorers of the result.
1. Each game Play Netball will provide a referee to officiate the game.
2. Players need to respect any decision given by the referee.
3. No descent will be tolerated towards referee.

B) Players

- 1) Players must not wear any jewelry during play
- 2) Players nails need to be smooth and short
- 3) Wedding ring should be taped over
- 4) All players shall be in good health to participate and shall be liable for any injuries.

C) Timing

- 1) Games will be played in 4 equal quarters
- 2) Each quarter will be 8 minutes long
- 3) There will be a 1 minute rest period in between quarters
- 4) Games will start at the arranged time and any teams 10 minutes late will default the match and 3 points and 20 goals shall be awarded to the other team. 3 points and 20 goals shall be counted against the defaulting team.

D) Centre Pass

- 1) All players must be in their respective goal third for the centre pass.
- 2) When the centre who is taking the pass steps in the circle with wither one or two feet the whistle shall be blown and if any players are offside then a free pass will be given

E) Out of Court

- 1) If the ball touches the ground out of the court it is out.
- 2) If the ball touches an object or a person in contact with the round outside of the court then it is out.
- 3) If the ball hits the goal post and stays in the court then it is NOT out of court.

F) Offside

- 1) If a player enters any area that is not designated for their position they will be judged offside.

- 2) However a player may reach into another area to retrieve the ball but their feet must not step into the area.
- 3) A free pass will be given if a player steps into an area that is not designated for their position.

G) Contact

- 1) There is no contact at all in Play Netball
- 2) Accidentally or deliberately and a penalty pass or shot will be awarded.

H) Obstruction

- 1) A defending player can try and intercept or defend the ball as long as they are 3 feet away from the player with the ball.
- 2) Defending players can jump upwards or towards the player with the ball as long as they stay 3 feet away.
- 3) The defender is not obstructing if their arms are outstretched to: Catch the ball, intercept the ball or to deflect the ball.
- 4) A penalty pass or shot will be given when its applicable.

I) Injury

- 1) Players must call 'time' for the referee to stop the game in the event of any injury.

J) Footwork

- 1) A player cannot take a second step with their landing foot after they have received the ball.
- 2) If a player lands on both feet at the same time they can choose which one is the landing foot.
- 3) A free pass can be given if a footwork rule is broken.

K) Playing the Ball

- 1) A player may catch the ball, or direct it to another player, having bounced the ball once.
- 2) A player may only throw the ball from a standing position
- 3) A player cannot kick the ball
- 4) A player cannot strike the ball with their fist.

L) Penalties

- 1) The penalized player must not attempt to take part in the play until the ball has left the hands of the thrower.

M) Toss Ups

- 1) The two players going for the toss-up must have their arms by their side and be stood 3 foot away.
- 2) The ball can be caught or batted in any direction once the umpire releases the ball into the air.

N) Contest

- 1) If the referee feels that each player has committed to the same ball and reached it at the same time. The whistle will not be blown and play will continue and only if the players do not let go of the ball the whistle will be blown and the umpire will do a toss-up.

*****The above Bi-Laws are in addition to the General Sports Bi-laws in Article # 1*****

Article # 5 - Volleyball

ALL DISTRICTS:

1. ALL THE SAME SPORTS BY-LAWS AS DOCUMENTED UNDER SECTION 1 APPLIES TO VOLLEYBALL; REQUIREMENTS & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY
2. REGISTER 10 ELIGIBLE PLAYERS, A MONTH BEFORE THE CONVENTION
3. ONLY TWO REGISTERED SOCCER PLAYERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY VOLLEYBALL PROVIDED THEIR NAMES WERE REGISTERED IN THE VOLLEYBALL TEAM LIST
4. EACH GAME WILL CONSIST OF 3 SETS OF MATCHES
5. ONE REFEREE & 2 LINE JUDGES WILL REFEREE EACH GAME
6. REFREES & LINE JUDGES WILL BE VOLUNTARY AND AGREED BY BOTH TEAM CAPTAINS PRIOR TO MATCH
7. REFREES DECISION WILL BE FINAL
8. ALL TEAMS/PLAYERS SHOULD WEAR UNIFORMS.

VOLLEYBALL RULES

A) The Serve

1. Server must serve from behind the end line until after contact
2. Ball may be served underhand or overhand
3. Ball must be clearly visible to opponents before serve
4. Served ball may graze the net and drop to the other side for point
5. First game serve is determined by a volley, each subsequent game shall be served by the previous game loser
6. Serve must be returned by a bump only. no setting or attacking a serve

B) Scoring

1. Rally scoring will be used.
2. There will be a point scored on every score of the ball.
3. Offense will score on a defense miss or out of bounds hit.
4. Defense will score on an offensive miss, out of bounds hit, or serve into the net.
5. Game will be played to 25 pts.
6. Must win by clear 2 points if the teams are tie at 24 points.

C) Rotation

1. Team will rotate each time they win the serve
2. Players shall rotate in a clockwise manner
3. There shall be 4-6 players on each side.

D) Playing the Game

1. Maximum of three hits per side
2. Player may not hit the ball twice in succession (A block is not considered a hit)
3. Ball may be played off the net during a volley and on serve
4. A ball touching a boundary line is good
5. A legal hit is contact with the ball by a player body above and including the waist which does not allow the ball to visibly come to a rest
6. If two or more players contact the ball simultaneously, it is considered one play and the players involved may not participate in the next play
7. A player must not block or attack a serve
8. Switching positions will be allowed only between front line players. (After the serve only)

E) Basic Rule Violations

1. Stepping on or over the line on a serve
2. Failure to serve the ball over the net successfully
3. Hitting the ball illegally (Carrying, Palming, Throwing, etc)
4. Touches of the net with any part of the body while the ball is in play. If the ball is driven into the net with such force that it causes the net to contact an opposing player, no foul will be called, and the ball shall continue to be in play
5. Reaching over the net, except under these conditions
 - a) When executing a follow-through
 - b) When blocking a ball which is in the opponent's court but is being returned (the blocker must not contact the ball until after the opponent who is attempting to return the ball makes contact). Except to block the third play
6. Reaches under the net (if it interferes with the ball or opposing player)
7. Failure to serve in the correct order
8. Blocks or spikes from a position which is clearly not behind the 10-foot line while in a back row position

*****The above Bi-Laws are in addition to the General Sports Bi-laws in Article # 1*****

Article # 6 - District Endorsement

All USA SANGAM DISTRICTS, Teams, players, participants, members, officials and spectators acknowledge and understand on behalf of themselves and their representatives that participation in these events is voluntary and of one's free will and USA Sangam, its officials, members and affiliates are not liable for any loss, damage and/or injury incurred. All USA SANGAM DISTRICTS, Teams, players, participants, members, officials and spectators hereby irrevocably agree to indemnify USA Sangam, its officials, members and affiliates and hold them irreproachable against any injuries, claims, lawsuits, demands, and/or liabilities. All USA SANGAM DISTRICTS, Teams, players, participants, members, officials and spectators have read this agreement, fully understand its terms, understand that they have given up substantial rights by joining USA Sangam and participating in USA Sangam events and have freely and without any inducement or assurance of any nature and with full responsibility intend it to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability for their team, players, spectators, officials and/or third parties.

READ AND APPROVED BY:

Name:	District:	Position:	Date:
NISIA GOUNDER	SACRAMENTO	PRESIDENT	31 MAR 2018
BAL RAM	SEATTLE	PRESIDENT	31 MAR 2018
[Signature]	EAST BAY	President	31 - Mar 2018
Arvind Ramon	NP	NP	31 March 2018
RAMAN RAO	RIVERSIDE	President	31 March 2018
[Signature]	STOCKTON	DRIVER	3/3/18
[Signature]	TIMS-NP	→	3/31/18
Praveen Nand	Sacramento	National Secretary	3/31/18
YESHOD NAIDU	SACRAMENTO	TREASURER	3/31/18
RONALD RAJU	HAYWARD	SPORTS CHAIRMAN	3/31/18

Drafted by: Ronald Raju - Sports Chairman
Sports Committee - Bal Ram, Ram Raju and Praveen Nand

03/31/2018.

Sports Bylaws Amendments Added 2/22/2025 (Seattle, Washington)

Soccer

4.A. Player Release Fee Changed: \$100 payable to USA Sangam Only and no longer paid to Districts effective 2026. **(USA Board passed 2023)**

3-year Release requests window: Jan 1 thru Mar 31 incrementally every 3 years starting 2023. Districts will submit all Release Requests within the 90 day window. **(USA Board passed 2023)**

Exception to 3-year Release Window: players are eligible to join another district only if their current district becomes unaffiliated with USA Sangam. The former district must have submitted an official dissolution letter to USA Sangam and ONLY if approved by USA Sangam. Release Fees will not be applied in this instance.

District registrations finalized: NLT 15 April of each year. Any new player additions afterward must show sufficient proof of arrival in the USA after 1 April, ie; original Passport stamp with arrival date and original Birth Certificate, no exceptions. Sports Chairman and District Presidents will provide guidance and make the final approval. No approval will be granted to new player requests after 10 May of the convention year.

Volleyball

Article 5 Volleyball bylaws. The presidents voted to increase the number of registered men's players to 10 with no restriction on soccer players. Only registered players will be allowed to play.

Golf

There will be 2 Winners Trophies. 1 winning trophy for paid current USA Sangam members. And 1 trophy for Open Winner - all non Sangam Golfers

READ AND APPROVED BY:

Name:	District:	Position:	Date:
Danny Raman	Stockton	President	02/22/25 DR
Karnal Chetty	Seattle	President	22/02/25
PRAVEEN NAND	Sacramento	National Secretary	02/22/25

Continued on next page

Sports Bylaws Amendments Added 2/22/2025 (Seattle, Washington)

(continued from previous change)

Name:	District:	Position:	Date:
KARUN PILLAI	SEATTLE	NATIONAL TREASURER	02/22/2025
KAMAL GOUNDER	SEATTLE	NATIONAL ASSET SEC	02/22/25
BAL RAM	SEATTLE	N.P.	02/22/2025
VJ GOUNDER	SACRAMENTO	VP	2/22/2022
Arvind Raman	Hayward	Asst Treasurer	2/22/22
YESHOD NAISU	SACRAMENTO	PRESIDENT	2/22/25

Drafted by VJ Gounder - Sports Chairman

**Approved by USA Sangam Board
Seattle, Washington
2/22/2025**