

## Activity Advisory Committee Recommendation to the MSHSL Board of Directors

Submitted on Fri, 10/14/2022 - 12:10 PM

### Activity/Activities (Check all that apply)

Volleyball, Girls

### Indicate the category of the proposed recommendation

Regular Season and Section Tournament Format Recommendations

### Authors of the Proposal

Darin Swenson (MNVBCA President), Jim Lee (MNVBCA President-Elect), Becca Pulju (MNVBCA Past-President), Lonnie Morkin (MNVBCA Class A Representative), Marty Kiebel (MNVBCA Class AA Representative), Becca Rue (MNVBCA Class AAA Representative), Theresa Brummer (MNVBCA Class AAAA Representative)

## Current Rule/Policy

State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.

Volleyball: Board Policy

OFFICIAL SQUAD

15 Players

2 Student Managers

3 Coaches

Total of 20

## Proposed Recommendation

Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.

OFFICIAL SQUAD

18 Players

2 Student Managers

3 Coaches

Total of 23

Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.

None

## Rationale

What is the history of the proposal?

Volleyball has steadily increased in participation over the years to the point where it is now the largest girls sports in Minnesota.

However, there are some current restrictions that prevent girls from participating to the end of their season. The current MSHSL policy states that the official roster size for Section and State Tournament play is only 15 players. This causes many programs around the state to cut players at the end of the regular season to comply with the policy. Other sports have similar policies, but are more supportive of allowing more participants to remain on the team. For example, girls basketball

has a roster limit of 18 players, while only having 5 players compete on the court at the same time. Volleyball has 6 players competing on the court at the same time. This proposal is supported by 27 of the 32 (84%) of the Minnesota Volleyball Coaches Association Board of Control, the representative organization of Minnesota volleyball coaches.

**How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?**

Our proposal provides an opportunity for more student-athletes to remain with their team through the completion of the competitive season and rewards them for the commitment they have made to their teams, programs, and schools.

**What other policies are significant in this proposal?**

This is a very limited proposal in terms of its affect on other policies.

**Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups**

This proposal is supported by 27 of the 32 (84%) of the Minnesota Volleyball Coaches Association Board of Control, the representative organization of Minnesota volleyball coaches. The majority of Athletic Directors we have spoken with are also in favor of this proposal.

## **Impact**

**How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools**

This proposal only affects volleyball in a positive way. By allowing more players to participate at the completion of the season, these players will be rewarded for the commitment they have made to their teams. It does not provide a benefit to any class more than another as all schools, regardless of class, will have the option to carry 18 players on their official squad, but will still retain the option to carry fewer if they choose to.

## **Administration**

**How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?**

The proposal would require Section and State Tournaments to provide 3 more medals for every stage of the tournament that awards medals. However, this additional cost would be minimal to the overall budget and expense. It should have no other negative impact that would prevent this proposal from succeeding.

## **Length of Tournament**

**How does your proposal impact the needed competition time for section and state tournaments?**

The only impact this would have would be announcing three more players per team during lineups, which would result in introductions being increased by less than 10 seconds.

## **Participants**

**How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?**

This proposal would positively impact the number of participants who get to experience the excitement of a postseason run with their volleyball team.

**How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?**

It would have no impact on the number of teams that qualify for the state tournament.

## **Facilities**

**How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?**

Our proposal would impact accommodations at the section and state level in a minimal way. There would need to be enough chairs or room on the bench to accommodate the additional players, but most facilities would have little to no trouble accommodating this increase. There would also be potential an increase to hotel room needed for the state tournament teams. Three more players would require one more room per team if the team is staying in a hotel for the tournament.

## **Awards**

**How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?**

As mentioned above, the proposal would require Section and State Tournaments to provide 3 more medals for every stage of the tournament that awards medals.

## **Other**

**Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal**

Our goal is to help as many students as possible experience the benefits of completing a season to the end with their team. Allowing up to 3 more players per school to experience this opportunity would be enormously beneficial to those players and their teammates who would notice the loss of their teammates at the end of the regular season. With the clear popularity of girls volleyball in the state, the time to increase the opportunity is now.

## **Primary Author and Contact for Proposal**

**Proposal submitted by**

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