

2025 Early Bird Tournament Guidelines

****We look forward to hosting everybody in Rochester the weekend of November 23-24th. Please note the tournament policies and guidelines below. We ask that everybody cooperates to help make this tournament a success. Please note that if you play at Century High School, please enter through the national volleyball center. There are connecting doors to Century HS****

- **Pre and post-game expectations**
 - If you play one of the 8am games, we ask that you do not show up to the facility more than 45 minutes before the start of your game. This gives our tournament staff time to set up and be prepared for the day. We have tried to minimize back-to-back games for teams, there are very few this year.
- **Concessions**
 - We are still working with facilities for concessions. However, some of them will likely not have concessions. Please plan accordingly as a result. We will send out more dining options around town as we get closer to the tournament
- **Admissions and merchandise**
 - There will be no admission fee for parents and fans this year.
 - Merchandise will be available at RCTC, NVC, and Stewartville Bear Cave. We have a vendor printing your t shirts and sweatshirts at those sites this year with many options so make sure to stop by and get your merchandise!!
- **Scorekeeper**
 - We ask that each home team provide a scorekeeper for the game. Official scoresheets will be provided, inside of the court binder. The home team is the bottom team listed on the bracket, or if it is pool play, the first team listed
 - A scoreboard operator will be provided by the tournament staff. If there is no scoreboard operator due to limited staff, we ask that the opposing team provide a scoreboard operator, thank you
- **Officials**
 - We are working to staff 2 officials for each game. However, due to the nation-wide shortage of officials, some of the younger aged games, may have only 1 official. Please be mindful of this, should you have a game with 1 official. They are out there trying their best given the difficult circumstance.
- **Facility Changes**
 - Please be cognizant of your teams current and upcoming schedule. There are teams throughout the weekend that will need to travel from one site to another from Saturday to Sunday please be aware of this as well.
- **Pool-Play to Bracket-Play**
 - Similar to facility changes, based off of your pool standing, please beware of where you will be placed onto the bracket following pool-play. Some divisions will go into bracket play immediately on Saturday
 - For teams in a true Double elimination bracket there is an if Necessary Game in your bracket immediately following your Championship Sunday if the team that lost game 1 it is their first loss.
 - For some divisions where it is only 1 pool the top 3 teams will be placed and given awards.