

Killeen Parks & Recreation

Youth Volleyball

By-Laws



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Article I. The Killeen Parks and Recreation Philosophy

Section 1.01 KPR Mission Statement

The Killeen Parks and Recreation Volleyball League under the auspices of the Killeen Parks and Recreation Department (KPR) constitutes a youth Volleyball league designed to build, develop, and nurture young athletes' abilities and love of the game.

KPR Mission Statement

The KPR structure and regulations are based on three (3) primary objectives.

(a) To provide as many Killeen youth the opportunity to participate and enjoy the youth Volleyball experience.

Youth volleyball is quite different from the volleyball we see on television. In fact, for youth sports, the game of volleyball is unique in that: (1) the game requires individual effort from each player, yet success is achieved only when each individual learns to rely on and work with the other team members; (2) more than any other youth sport, it teaches team play, competitiveness, rule enforcement and the need for a maximum effort on the part of its participants; and (3) it is fun. The KPR is committed to maintaining a structure, through controlling costs, outside sponsorships, etc. that allows as many Killeen youth as possible to enjoy the youth volleyball experience.

(b) To provide those youth who want to improve their volleyball skills the opportunity to do so through solid coaching and competitive opportunities.

Competition is a big part of improving ourselves. Sometimes being competitive is required in order to attain success. We want our youth to understand that learning to compete effectively is even more important than wins or losses.

(c) To use the lessons taught in volleyball along with the role modeling of the league, its coaches, and personnel, in order to provide Killeen youth with a strong foundation from which to grow.

The KPR is aware of the pressures, turmoil, and choices faced by today's youth. We realize the most important facet of any youth sport program, especially volleyball, is the positive role it can play on the development of each individual participant. Coaches, have a direct impact in helping players believe in themselves, learn how to deal with competition, how to prepare to succeed and how to handle a win or a defeat. We, as the league and as coaches, must always remember that our ultimate goal is the development of our participants as individuals.

Section 1.02 Sportsmanship

The KPR regards bad sportsmanship as unnecessary and completely intolerable.

What Is Good Sportsmanship?

Good sportsmanship is when people who are playing or watching a sport treat each other with respect. This includes players, parents, coaches, and officials.

- Have a positive attitude
- Give their best effort
- Shake hands with the other team before and after the game
- Support teammates by saying "good shot" or "good try". Never criticize a teammate for trying
- Accept calls and do not argue with officials
- Treat the other team with respect and never tease or bully
- Follow the rules of the game
- Help another player up who has fallen
- Take pride in winning but do not rub it in
- Accept a loss without whining or making excuses

What's a Parent's Role in Good Sportsmanship?

Kids learn how to be a good sport from the adults in their lives, especially their parents and their coaches. As soon as your child starts competing in sports, it is important to be a good role model. Any teams your child plays on should have coaches that encourage good sportsmanship.

Show your good sportsmanship:

- Keep sideline comments positive and encouraging
- Do not bad-mouth coaches, players, or officials
- After a competition, do not focus on who won or lost. Instead, try asking, "What did you do well during the game?" "Was there something you wish you could have done better?" If your child feels there was something that could have gone better, offer to work on it together before the next game
- Applaud good plays, no matter who makes them
- Congratulate the winners, even if they are on the other team

(a) Coaches

(i) All KPR coaches are required to demonstrate positive sportsmanship in respect to their players, team parents, opposing team players, parents, coaches, and game officials. Coaches who are unable to demonstrate the proper sportsmanship will be suspended from further coaching in the KPR. Any coach who is ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will be required to leave the field of play/facility and will be unable to coach in the next scheduled game. This includes post-season play. The continued demonstration of improper sportsmanship may constitute suspension from any number of games KPR deems necessary. Coaches are also responsible in assisting referees with the sportsmanship of all playing and non-playing team members, as well as spectators and assistant coaches.

(b) Participants

(i) Sportsmanship is a priority in the development of KPR athletes. All participants must always demonstrate positive sportsmanship. Those who can't, will be dismissed from the game, by the game official. The continued demonstration of improper sportsmanship will constitute suspension from any number of games that KPR deems necessary.

(c) Spectators

(i) All spectators must remain seated throughout all KPR games and are expected to demonstrate positive sportsmanship. Spectators, who fail to do so, will be required to leave the game site and will not be allowed to attend the next game. The continued demonstration of improper sportsmanship will constitute suspension from any number of games that KPR deems necessary.

Article II. KPR Volleyball Program

Section 2.01 Definitions

- (a) KPR. Killeen Parks and Recreation Department.
- (b) Coordinator. Designated Athletic Coordinator for KPR will serve as the KPR Coordinator.
- (c) Director. Director KPR/ or his/her designee will serve as the KPR Supervisor.
- (d) Pronouns. The personal pronoun of either gender (him, her, he, she, they, them, etc.) shall apply equally to males and females.

Section 2.02 Rule Administration

KPR Staff acts on the behalf of players, coaches, and parents as representatives. Any approved modification or changes from KPR will be distributed in writing to the effected teams as soon as possible.

Section 2.03 League Structure

The Director is responsible for overseeing the administration of the volleyball program. The Coordinator manages the day-to-day operations of each team(s) in each division(s). Divisions are separated into three or four separate divisions based on age(s).

Section 2.04 Player Eligibility

All players, ages 8-14, are eligible to participate in the KPR volleyball program.

- a. If a player's birthdate is 15 July 2013, they will be 10yrs old at the start of the season and will participate in the 10 and under Division.
- b. If a player's birthdate is 7 January 2013, they will be 11yrs old at the start of the season and will participate in the 12 and under Division.

Note: The KPR believes players should participate at their own age level. We discourage the practice of playing up with older participants.

Section 2.05 Coaches Eligibility

Adult volunteers (18yrs and older) will act as volleyball coaches. They will be selected by and allowed to coach under the authority and approval of KPR. As a result, coaches may be removed for cause, at any time by KPR.

(a) In addition, all KPR coaches must complete and follow:

- (i) Criminal background checks will be conducted.
- (ii) The recognized Head or assigned Assistant Coach are required to be present at all practices, games, and mandatory meetings.
- (iii) All rules and regulations apply equally to the Head and Assistant Coaches unless otherwise specified.

Section 2.06 Coach Selection

Head Coach selection shall be based upon sportsmanship, experience, leadership, dependability, and ability to assume overall responsibilities of the team.

The Assistant Coach's will be selected by the team's Head Coach. The Head Coach must ensure all Assistant Coaches are certified prior to the first practice as written in section 2.05. Assistant Coaches must be in the capacity to coach the team for the entirety of the season. Coaches should not be picked based on their child's skill level or position. Only Head Coach and Assistant Coaches will be allowed on the court during matches.

Article III. KPR Operations

Section 3.01 Player Registration

- a. For a player to be officially registered, his/her: fees must be paid in full.
- b. Registration will be held at the Park and Recreation Office, 1700 E Stan Schlueter Loop, Killeen, TX 76542, Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm or online at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/killeen>

Section 3.02 Contact Information

KPR Office Number: (254) 501-6390 KPR Office Location: 1700 E Stan Schlueter Loop, Killeen, TX 76542 and 2201 E Veterans Memorial Blvd, Killeen, TX 76543

In addition, the KPR communicates with coaches regularly via e-mail. This helps keep everyone informed and updated about the program. KPR staff can also be reached via email:

Antonio Murphy, Executive Director of Killeen Parks & Recreation	Amurphy@killeentexas.gov
Kaitlyn Roberts, Recreation Manager	KRoberts@killeentexas.gov
Anthony Vaughters, Athletics & Aquatics Manager	Avaughters@killeentexas.gov
Paige Stephens, Athletic Coordinator	Pstephens@killeentexas.gov
Leon'ta Brown-Lewis, Athletic Coordinator	Lbrown-lewis@killeentexas.gov
Ozias Wright, Athletic Coordinator	owright@killeentexas.gov

Inclement Weather Number: Please call the KPR Office during normal business hours Monday–Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm or visit the Athletics website at www.teamsideline.com/killeen . Coaches should call the Hot line or check website on any day that may have a chance of cancellation due to dangerous weather or unplayable field conditions for games and practices.

(i) These numbers should be disseminated to parents and the public as widely as possible.

(ii) Inclement weather decisions are normally made after 3:00 PM on weekdays and by 7:30 AM on Saturdays.

Section 3.03 Liability

The KPR and KPR are not liable for any injury to players, officials, cheerleaders, coaches, spectators, media, sideline personnel, or any other persons attending a KPR or KPR event.

Article IV. Volleyball League Operations

Section 4.01 Scheduling of Games

KPR will schedule all games for the KPR volleyball league in each Division KPR has a team represented. KPR will make all efforts to alleviate conflict dates/times in the scheduling of games. There are no guarantees.

Once the season schedule is posted, KPR will inform all Head Coaches. Rescheduling will be limited to rainouts and administrative issues, at the discretion of KPR.

Section 4.02 Players per Team

It is our intent for each team to have 8-12 players. These numbers may be adjusted based on the number of players and teams available in a division.

Section 4.03 Loss of Players

If at any time, a team loses a player, (whatever the reason) the Head Coach must contact the league office via email within forty-eight (48) hours after realizing this loss and inform KPR of the loss.

It is our intention to contact all players who withdraw from the league to:

- (a) Determine why they left.
- (b) Determine what the KPR can do to improve its ability to retain its players.

If the loss occurs early enough in the season, the open slot on the team MAY be filled by the assignment of a player from a "waiting list."

Section 4.04 Uniforms

Player game uniforms are provided as part of the registration fee. Teams may not modify the jersey in any way other than what is instructed by KPR. Any player with an illegal uniform will not be allowed to play.

Section 4.05 Equipment

All KPR volleyball players will be required to have the following equipment to participate:

- a) All players are required to wear kneepads and gym shoes.
- b) No Jewelry, or headgear containing hard unyielding material, including billed hats.
- c) All players that wear prescription glasses must wear a safety strap at all times. Shorts cannot have pockets. **Pockets can NOT be stapled or taped.**
- g) Players that do not meet these requirements on any given game day will not participate in that game.

Section 4.06 Practices

- (a) Practices scheduled by KPR will be held at **Lions Club Park Family Recreation Center**. Both courts will be split in half, and four teams will practice per allotted session. Sessions will be one hour.
- (b) Only registered players may participate in a practice, and only certified volunteer coaches can run/participate in practice.
- (d) Teams will receive two scheduled practices a week. Once scheduled game play begins, practices will no longer take place.

Article V. KPR Game Mechanics

The following regulations apply to the KPR program's Game Mechanics.

Section 5.01 Game Play

KPR will follow all rules as outlined in the KPR Volleyball By-Laws. KPR will provide one copy of the KPR Volleyball By-Laws to the Head Coach of each team and publish them to www.teamsideline.com/killeen.

Section 5.02 Participation

8U-12U: All players who are present for a game must play at least **1.5** set of each match.

14U: All players who are present for a game must play at least **1** full set.

Section 5.03 Court Measurements

- a) The court will be regulation size 59 feet by 29.5 feet.
- b) **8U / 10U / 12U / 14U Court:**

The net will be set at 6'1" (8u division), 7'0" (10u division) and 7'4" (12u/14u division).

Section 5.04 Game Length

- a) Games in 8u will consist of (3) 12-minute sets. While games in 10u/12u/14u divisions shall consist of (3) 15-minute sets.
- b) The first team to reach a score of **25 points in the first two sets** and **15 in the third set** or having the highest score at the end of time will be declared as the winner. Teams do not have to win by TWO POINTS in league play. Regular season game sets can end in a tie. While playoff game sets will not end in a tie and will be determined on a next point wins overtime basis.

- c) The play clock will be a running clock and will only stop for timeouts and injuries.
- d) There will be a 1-minute break between each set.
- e) If the clock is stopped for an injury, the injured player must be substituted from the set and may return at the discretion of the coach/KPR staff.
- f) Time begins when the official blows whistle and signals first serve.

Section 5.05 Pregame Coaches Meeting and Equipment Inspection

- a) Coaches' meeting will take place 10 mins. prior to game time.
- b) Referees will check every player's equipment (knee pads, jewelry, shorts and shoes) before each game.
- c) The Home team will have the choice to start offense or defense.
- d) A minimum of 5 players must be present at game time or it is a forfeit. (There will be a 10-minute grace period during the first week of games)

Section 5.06 Coaches and Authorized Conferences

- a) Each team will have maximum of (2) coaches in the bench area during a game. ALL coaches must submit/pass a criminal background check prior to ANY/ALL involvement with team in the role of coach.
- b) Coaches may provide visual aids for their players.

Section 5.07 Time-Outs

- a) Each team is entitled to 2 charged timeouts per set.
- b) Each time-out will be 30 seconds in length.
- c) A time-out may be called only by head coach.
- d) Officials may call additional time-outs at their discretion.
- e) During officials' time-outs the clock stops

Section 5.08 Game Play Rules

Scoring

(8u-14u)

- a) All sets will be played under the rally point scoring format. Under rally scoring, either the serving or the receiving team will receive a point on every server.

Playoffs

- a) During the playoff bracket after the conclusion of the regular season games. The time limits for each division will increase.

8u – 15-minute sets

10u – 20-minute sets

12u – 20-minute sets

14u – No time limit (First team to 25 points wins)

- b) Running Clock – Time will only stop for timeouts and injuries.
- c) Games cannot end in a tie; they will be determined on a next point wins overtime basis. (NOT win by two)
- d) All 3 sets of gameplay will be played regardless of the set count.

Substitutions

- a) All substitutions will be conducted by coaches on the 3rd set via the use of designated timeouts. The 1st and 2nd set must be filled out on the roster sheet prior to start of game. The only exception for this rule is injury or extreme fatigue.
- b) In the 14u Division, coaches are able to substitute at any point in the 3rd set.
- c) In the 14u Division, libero replacements are not considered substitutions and are unlimited, BUT there must be a rally in between two libero replacements. Libero replacements may take place only at the end of a rally or at the start of each game after the umpire has checked the starting lineup, as well as anytime the ball is out of play and before the whistle for service.

The libero can only be replaced by the same player it replaces.

Special Rules

- a) 8u the ball may be served from anywhere behind the 10' line. Players have 8 seconds to serve the ball, if not the opposing team will receive the point. After 5 consecutive service points, the official will blow the whistle for an automatic change of possession and the opposing team will be awarded the serve.

- b) 10U the ball may be served from anywhere behind the 25' line. Serves can be overhand or underhand per the server's comfortability. Players have 5 seconds to serve the ball, if not the opposing team will receive the point. After 5 consecutive service points, the official will blow the whistle for an automatic change of possession and the opposing team will be awarded the serve.
- c) 12U the ball may be served from anywhere behind the back court line. Serves can be overhand or underhand per the server's comfortability. Players have 5 seconds to serve the ball, if not the opposing team will receive the point. Serves are unlimited.
- d) 14U the ball may be served from anywhere behind the back court line. All serves must be overhand. Players have 5 seconds to serve the ball, if not the opposing team will receive the point. Serves are unlimited.

Liberos may not start the game.

The libero is restricted to performing as a back row player and is not allowed to complete an attack hit from anywhere (including playing court and free zone) if at the moment of contact the ball is entirely above the net.

- f) In all divisions of play if the server has a bad toss, the server must let the ball drop to the floor. The server may let the ball drop once during their time of service.

Player Conduct

- a) If the referee witnesses any unsportsmanlike act, the game will be stopped, and the player will be ejected. Foul play will not be tolerated.
- b) Trash talking is illegal (from players, parents, and coaches). The referees will give one warning but if it continues, the referee is entitled to eject players from the game.
- c) Fighting: Player(s) involved will be ejected from the game, further discipline will be decided by KPR Staff. If a team fight occurs, the teams involved will be ejected from the tournament and denied participation in any league play or tournament.

Section 5.09 Injuries

All injuries will need to be assessed by officials, coaches, and staff. When a child "goes down" on the court of play, coaches need to wait until officials have beckoned them to the court. Coaches that enter the field of play without permission, due to injury, may lose a team timeout. This will be up to the discretion of the Head Referee.

Injuries that require medical attention will be handled by EMS, KPR staff and/or Parent/Guardian.

Section 5.10 Hazardous Weather

The protection of Killeen Parks and Recreation participants is of paramount importance. Every participant should recognize the danger presented by lightning, tornados, and other hazardous weather. The following items represent generally accepted principles regarding the dangers involved with lightning and tornados.

Over the past century, lightning has consistently been 1 of the top 3 causes of weather-related deaths in this country. It kills approximately 100 people and injures hundreds more each year. Lightning is an enormous and widespread danger to the physically active population. Practice and training increase recreation performance. Similarly, preparedness can reduce the risk of the lightning hazard. Lightning is the most frequent weather hazard impacting athletics events. Baseball, football, lacrosse, skiing, swimming, soccer, tennis, track and field events...all these and other outdoor sports have been visited by lightning. Education is the single most important means to achieve lightning safety. The following is the lightning safety plan for Killeen Parks and Recreation as suggested by the National Lightning Safety Institute:

1. If the athletic area should need to be cleared the following is a list of SAFE lightning evacuation sites. SAFE evacuation sites include:
 - a. Fully enclosed metal vehicles with windows up.
 - b. Structurally sound buildings.
 - c. The low ground. Seek cover in clumps of bushes.
2. UNSAFE LIGHTNING SHELTER AREAS include all outdoor metal objects like flag poles, fences and gates, high mast light poles, metal bleachers, golf carts, cars, machinery, etc. AVOID trees. AVOID water. AVOID open fields. AVOID the high ground.
3. Lightning's distance from you is easy to calculate: if you hear thunder, it and the associated lightning are within auditory range...about 6-8 miles away. The distance from Strike A to Strike B also can be 6-8 miles. Ask yourself why you should NOT go to shelter immediately. Of course, different distances to shelter will determine different times to suspend activities. A good lightning safety motto is: "If you can see it (lightning) flee it; if you can hear it (thunder), clear it."
4. If you feel your hair standing on end, and/or hear "crackling noises" - you are in lightning's electric field. If caught outside during close-in lightning, immediately remove metal objects (including baseball cap), place your feet together, duck your head, and crouch down low in baseball catcher's stance with hands on knees.
5. Wait a minimum of 30 minutes from the last observed lightning or thunder before resuming activities.

6. People who have been struck by lightning do not carry an electrical charge and are safe to handle. Apply first aid immediately if you are qualified to do so. Get emergency help promptly.

LIGHTNING:

- i. All thunderstorms produce lightning and are dangerous.
- ii. Lightning often strikes as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall. You are in danger from lightning if you can hear thunder. You are in danger if you can see lightning.
- iii. Lightning injuries can lead to permanent disabilities or death. Look for dark cloud bases and increasing wind.
- iv. Lightning can travel sideways for up to 10 miles and strike when skies are blue.
- v. Soccer fields are a dangerous place to be during a lightning storm. When lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or when dark threatening clouds are observed, quickly suspend the game and/or practice and move to a safe location.
- vi. Avoid standing in an open area, near soccer goals, under a tent, near trees or in water. The safest place during a thunderstorm with or without visible lightning is in a car, but not a convertible.

TORNADOES:

- i. Watch for rapidly darkening skies.
- ii. The sound of an approaching tornado is often described as that of an approaching train.
- iii. The funnel of a tornado does not have to touch down to cause extensive damage and injuries.
- iv. Tornadoes can produce winds of 300 miles per hour or more.
- v. Most people who are hurt during a tornado are hurt when they are struck by flying debris.
- vi. Seek safety in a solid structure, preferably in a basement or in an interior room. If no building is available, lay down in a ditch.

LIGHTNING DETECTORS:

KPR staff will carry a "Personal Lightning Detector" during any outdoor event, open swim, or field competition. The "Strike Alert HD" has 360-degree lightning strike detection and detects lightning up to 40 miles away. This device serves as further security against lightning storms.

GAME SUSPENSION REQUIREMENTS:

In any of the circumstances outlined below occurs, KPR staff or referee(s) should immediately suspend the game:

1. If thunder is heard, the game should be suspended, and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
2. If lightning is seen, the game should be suspended, and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
3. If a thunderstorm is heard or seen coming or your hair stands on end, the game should be suspended, and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter. Do not wait until it rains.
4. Wait a minimum of 30 minutes from the last observed lightning or thunder before resuming activities.
5. The game will be cancelled by the decision of KPR staff if lightning continues for an extended amount of time, or if the forecasted weather is unsafe for participants and spectators.

Anything not covered within these by-laws falls under our youth sports policies and procedures manual



Coaches Discipline Guide

Offense	Directed Toward	Minimum Action	Maximum Action
Tobacco use (chewing, smoking)	during games, practices or league functions	Verbal	Ejection(s)
Alcohol, illegal substances	during games, practices or league functions	Ejection for remainder of game	Suspension, suspension up to 1 calendar year
Allowing a player to play or participate while knowing of an injury or concussion	During game or practices	Game ejection	Season suspension
Foul or abusive language directed at	Player, Coach, official, spectator or staff	Verbal warning and/or ejection for remainder of game	Game suspension
Continued foul or abusive language. Blatant disregard for staff and officials	Player, Coach, official, spectator or staff	Current game suspension	Multiple game suspension
Encouraging foul language, threatening language, unsportsmanlike behavior, encouraging or telling players to have that kind of behavior	Player, Coach, official, spectator or staff	Current game suspension	Season suspension
Threat of physical abuse, assault, threat of bodily injury of any kind	Player, Coach, official, spectator or staff	Ejection for remainder of game and next game suspension	Season suspension to lifetime suspension. Level of threat will determine length of suspension
Fighting or physical assault of any kind	Player, Coach, official, spectator or staff	Ejection for remainder of game and next game suspension	Season suspension to lifetime suspension. Level of threat will determine length of suspension
Playing an illegal player (see definition #5)		Ejection of next game and forfeiture of current game	Multiple game suspension to league removal
Pulling children off a field for any reason other than weather.		Suspension for next three games	League removal

Spectators Discipline Guide

Offense	Directed Toward	Minimum Action	Maximum Action
Alcohol, illegal substances	during games, practices or league functions	Ejection for remainder of game	suspension, suspension up to 1 calendar year
Foul or abusive language directed at	Player, Coach, official, spectator or staff	Verbal warning and/or ejection for remainder of game	Game suspension
Continued foul or abusive language. Blatant disregard for staff and officials	Player, Coach, official, spectator or staff	current game suspension	multiple game suspension
Encouraging foul language, threatening language, unsportsmanlike behavior, encouraging or telling players to have that kind of behavior	Player, Coach, official, spectator or staff	current game suspension	Season suspension
Threat of physical abuse, assault, threat of bodily injury of any kind	Player, Coach, official, spectator or staff	Ejection for remainder of game and next game suspension	Season suspension to lifetime suspension. Level of threat will determine length of suspension

Appendix A: COACH'S CODE OF ETHICS

The function of a coach, at any level, is to develop, nurture the love of the game, and educate children and athletes through participation in recreation competition. Each athlete should be treated with the utmost respect, and his or her welfare should always be considered in decisions by the coach. Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by Killeen Parks & Recreation.

- The coach shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, and thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.
- The coach shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with students, parents, officials, and athletic administrators, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.
- The coach shall avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.
- The coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members and spectators. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.
- The coach shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators.
- The coach shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials, players, or Recreation staff is unethical.
- The coach should meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after the contest.
- The coach shall not exert pressure on athletic administrators to give an athlete special consideration.
- The coach shall not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the league.

Printed Name

Signature

