



## PLAYER INFORMATION & RULES

Volleyball Atlanta would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for entering this year's IRONMAN<sup>®</sup>, the *Twenty First* ever of this original, unique event. For many of you, this tournament is the tournament to play every summer. For others, it wasn't such an easy decision to commit two days and subject your bodies to so much abuse. Rest assured that the participants of the previous IRONMAN<sup>®</sup> tournaments have not suffered physically in vain for the refinements of the format you will experience this weekend. We do appreciate any and all suggestions for the improvement of future events. For all of you, we hope that this tournament will be fun and as much the subject of conversation for the rest of the season as past IRONMAN<sup>®</sup> tournaments have been!

### HOUSEKEEPING

1. Saturday check-in must be complete and **play started by 8:30**. Sunday play starts at 9:00am.
2. It is very important to observe house rules at our facilities - no food or drink on the courts, and absolutely no alcohol.
3. Please pack out your trash!
4. Lost & Found: Please clean out all you stuff when you leave a site!



### SAFETY

1. Drink plenty of fluids and start early before you feel really thirsty!! If you feel faint, nausea, tunnel vision, muscle cramps, etc. please seek **immediate** help. **Don't wait until it's too late.**
2. Water and Powerade are available at the outdoor venues; bring your own for indoors.
3. Severe weather: Play must be suspended when there is lightning in the vicinity.
4. If it rains, the court/site manager may suspend play if the courts become muddy. We may have to move you, even in mid-match if this happens both for your safety and to avoid ruining the turf (and our chances of ever using this site again!).
5. Ice for injuries only and minimal first aid will be available at each site.



### PLAY

1. **Match Play:** Each match consists of one game to AS NOTED ON YOUR POOL SHEET, PERIOD (**Games are "capped" as noted on the pool sheets**). Playoff match format may be revised based on the time available if weather conditions delay play.
2. **Switch courts** on multiples of 7 points total for all games.
3. **Rules:** USAV OUTDOOR Rules for GRASS and SAND and USAV INDOOR Rules for INDOOR play will be observed *except as may be interpreted or modified*



- herein*. No attempt is made here to cover the most basic rules, which all of you know or you wouldn't be here.
4. **How to Lose without Playing:** Teams and referees must be on the court within *three* minutes after the end of the previous match. Failure to present your team at the start of your match will cost you 1 *point per minute* until you get on the court. After 11 minutes, the game is forfeited and the score is recorded as a shutout for the opponent. **No warm-ups for late teams. Late referees:** Same penalties, to be assessed on your next match.
  5. **Warm-ups:** must be kept to a minimum in order to get this tournament finished. **A maximum of 6 hits and 2 serves per player is allowed (6 minutes max, regardless). No pepper on the court.** Please warm-up before your match. Refs are to enforce this rule strictly.
  6. **Refereeing for Real!** The referee's discretion is final. Call your own doubles or carries and things will go much better for all. Referees are expected to really referee & keep track of rotation.
  7. **Time Outs:** Each team will be allowed two (2) **30-second time-outs**. Come to the court prepared for play so you don't need to run to your car for a towel or drink or whatever. Please don't use the court changes like a time out!!!
  8. **Ready-To-Play:** If you are not ready to receive serve, hold up your hand or turn your back to the net. There will be no re-serves allowed unless you do so. Time is critical, especially Saturday.
  9. **Blocks:** The block **does NOT count** as a hit except in the OPEN Divisions.
  10. **Oversets:** Clean overhand sets going over the net are legal, but you must be squared-up to the shot ("6" or "12" position) for intentional dumps. Good sets that happen to drift (because of wind or tightness of the set) over the net are not *automatic* faults, although should be called very strictly.
  11. **Let Serves:** Let serves ARE played in the IRONMAN<sup>®</sup>.
  12. **Hard-driven balls:** Open hand digs with momentary lift involving multiple contacts (but still not a carry) are allowed on hard-driven first contacts.
  13. **Serve-Receive: GRASS AND SAND:** The serve, if received with *finger-action* cannot be doubled or lifted; (typically called very strict). Serves are never considered hard-driven. AVP/FIVB Outdoor rule and practice.
  14. **Serve-Receive: INDOOR:** The serve, can be RECEIVED with *finger-action* AND can be doubled;. Serves are never considered hard-driven. Usav/FIVB Indoor rule and practice.
  15. **First-contacts:** All first contacts, (including serve receives) may be double contacted.
  16. **Center-Line:** There is no center line violation except for interference Grass, Sand or Indoor. Contact under the net happens and is a normal part of play unless it interferes with an opponent's play.
  17. **Antenna:** The standards will act as the antenna on GRASS and SAND surfaces, there are antenna at the INDOOR surfaces.
  18. **Net contact:** Any contact with the net while playing the ball or during follow-through is a net violation. Hats count, hair does not.
  19. **Refereeing:** Each game will have one referee positioned at the net. Referees are expected to do a good job. You will keep score and verbalize it, or use the flip cards if available, on a regular basis. You will also be expected to keep track of the serving order and to notify teams at appropriate times to switch courts. Points earned cannot be removed for failure to switch courts.
  20. **Service Order:** The referee must keep track of the service order.
  21. **The Ball: GRASS AND SAND:** The official ball is the Gold Wilson AVP tournament ball unless *both* captains agree on some other ball.
  22. **Balls: INDOOR:** The official ball is a USAV/FIVB -Approved INDOOR volleyball unless *both* captains agree on some other ball (AVP or otherwise), i.e., if one



team wants an indoor ball and the other an outdoor ball, the indoor ball prevails. Coin toss if all else fails over two sanctioned balls.

- The Law:** The tournament directors, Jaime Dutro or Diane Holmes will interpret tournament rules. Their decisions will be final. All disputes must be settled on the spot with court managers facilitating the resolution of all issues, calling the TD if necessary immediately.
- UnSportsmanlike WARNING:** Sportsmanship is expected. Hold down the cursing and taunting. We play at many churches Referees may issue penalties as required to maintain proper decorum. Court managers have the right to eject players from the current round for any serious problems. The TD's reserve the right to eject any player from the whole tournament.
- Scorekeeping: IMPORTANT:** *It is imperative that all referees calculate and all teams verify their own point differential totals on pool sheets prior to the end of each round. We cannot recreate history, and it may eliminate you from the playoffs!!* (Point differential example: Team A's match results are 21-9, 9-21, 10-21, 21-0; points differential for day is +12 -12 -11+ 21 = +10)

#### POOL RESHUFFLING

- At the end of each surface's round-robin play, pools will be re-seeded from top to bottom for the next round. One further step is that the Tournament Director applies discretion in pool reshuffling to assure that overall play is fair in that teams get to play as many different teams as possible in order to assure fair competition.

#### PLAYOFFS

- The number of teams that make the playoffs will be as noted on the pool sheets after all teams are registered.
- Teams make the playoffs based on overall win-loss record; two or three teams tied for the playoffs will make the playoffs based on head-to-head games then on head-to-head points between them, then the overall point spread for all matches, then by a coin toss.
- Playoffs will be single elimination, match format at the tournament director's discretion based on the time of day and number of teams remaining.

#### TRAVEL INFORMATION

- TRAVEL BETWEEN SURFACES ON SATURDAY:**  
**EAT ON THE ROAD; DON'T STOP FOR A SIT-DOWN LUNCH!**  
IF YOU GET LOST: Call 404-229-9010 or 404-229-1913
- DIRECTIONS FOR SUNDAY TO THE BEACH (CLAYTON INTERNATIONAL PARK) (From Downtown):** Take I-75 South to exit #228 (Highway 138-Stockbridge), turn right (west), go approx. 3 miles to first light, turn left into the Park. Follow the signs.

#### SUNDAY PLAY

- ALL DIVISIONS WILL PLAY AT CLAYTON COUNTY INTERNATIONAL PARK (AKA ATLANTA BEACH) ON SUNDAY. PLAY STARTS AT 9:00 AM SHARP.** There will be another brief Captain's Meeting Sunday morning AT 8:30 SHARP to check in the teams and to discuss the Play-off situation. We will meet at the check-in tent.
- There will be no access to the pond (you don't want to go there anyway!)

**FINAL WORDS:** The IRONMAN® has always been about great and not-so-great players who love the game, the competition, and the people. The object of the rules is

to determine the best teams. The format has been carefully designed to do that but is the result of continuing experience, including this year. Sometimes, weird things happen that makes it difficult to be fair to all: the Tournament Director will make the fairest possible decision and will be the final arbiter of all disputes.

#### IRONMAN® PAST FACTS:

- 1985 The first IRONMAN® had 7 teams. Proceeds paid part of the way for an Atlanta Junior player, Inger Eberhart, to go to the Junior Nationals. We played one game to 25 using the Finish (pro beach tour) scoring system. *VBAI* was then known as the *International Volleyball Club of Atlanta*.
- 1987 12 teams. Same Finnish scoring: Games went to 25 points, rally until game point unless you served first, then not. The tournament was still in one day and play continued past 2:00 am.
- 1988 Expanded to 18 teams over two days. Still only a Men's Open. Eric Stidsen & Jim Horencamp won over local legends Kip and Bear. Mikasa "Suede-Spike" ball, heavy when wet.
- 1989 Most durable shirts. 27 teams. First Masters year; John Knuttson & Jim White win. For first time, women's division offered, but no teams entered.
- 1991 78 teams. Men's Open Winners: Pete Bell & Chip Seal, Panama City Beach FL Men's A Winners: Rob Cheney & Roger Sanford, Warner Robbins and Columbus, GA; Women's Open Winners: Anna Bush & Anna Marie Schildmeyer, Atlanta, GA
- 1995 80 teams: 18 Women's, 62 Men's. Apex of popularity to date.
- 2003 Reduced court size to 8m and many used the new AVP Wilson ball, 1cm larger. Mike Carter and Steve Lanier take the Men's Open; Annette Garza and Liz the Women's Open. For the first time, Ironman shirts are black.
- 2006: Where's the Pickle Juice?
- 2007 Dehydrationnation

#### VOLLEYBALL ATLANTA MEMBERSHIP AND TOURNAMENTS

For registration and information contact us via:

Email: [dholmes@volleyballatlanta.org](mailto:dholmes@volleyballatlanta.org) Website: [www.volleyballatlanta.org](http://www.volleyballatlanta.org)

Beware of information regarding our tournaments posted on other local websites!

#### Sat-Sun July 14-14 Georgia Games Championships

Mens & Womens Triples all Divisions, Rev Coed Dbls, Junior Girls Triples. Coed 6's

#### Sat August 12 Hot Toes Sand Tournament

Mens & Womens Doubles Open A & B, Coed 4s BB & B, Girls Juniors 4s

Clayton County International Park, Jonesboro

#### Sat Aug 25 Atlanta Grass Championships

Mens & Womens Triples all Divisions, Rev Coed Dbls, Junior Girls Triples

Forsyth County Central Park (Exit 17 off GA400)

#### Sat Sep 8 Atlanta Sand Championships

Mens & Womens Doubles Open A & B, Coed 4s BB & B

Clayton County International Park, Jonesboro

