

# Tournament Guide

*Provided by JVC Tournaments*



[Heartland MLK Classic](#) running January 18-20, 2025 is a 3-day tournament that will be played at the CHI Health Center in downtown Omaha, Nebraska.

All information regarding our multiple site locations, directions, and parking for this event can be found on our [Directions & Parking](#) page.

This document contains all important information pertaining to:

- Match Length
- Tie Breakers
- Awards
- Officials
- Protests
- Facility Rules
- Athletic Trainers

If you have any further questions regarding First In Show, please email our Tournament Director, AJ Joseph, at [AJ@jvctournaments.com](mailto:AJ@jvctournaments.com).

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## Match Length

All matches will be best of 3 games to 25 with the deciding game, if necessary, to 15. An exception would be a 3-team pool without crossovers that will play 3 sets to 25, which is the equivalent of three matches. There is no cap on any set!

**\*\*TEAMS MISSING ANY OFFICIATING ASSIGNMENT WILL BE PENALIZED ONE POINT PER MINUTE LATE, UP TO 25 POINTS, ON THEIR NEXT MATCH.**

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## **Tie Breakers**

As in previous years, there will NOT be any tie-breaking games played in this event.

**In the case of a tie in matches, the teams will be ranked by head-to-head results first, and then, in the case of 3 or more teams tied in matches and the tie not broken head-to-head: set percentage. If two teams are still tied on set percentage, the tie will be broken by the head-to-head result of their match, OR if three or more teams are still tied the tie will be broken by point percentage. If 2 or more teams are still tied on point percentage the tie will be broken by the original pool seed.**

Note that the 3 or more teams tied procedure is slightly different than previous years based on the updated procedures used at the USAV Junior National Qualifiers and National Championship events!

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## **Awards**

Individual medals will be awarded for 1st-3rd in the Gold Bracket and 1st place in the Silver and Bronze brackets for each division.

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## **Officials**

Paid 1st officials provided for all matches. Paid 1st and 2nd officials for Gold Finals.

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## **Protests**

If a protest is to be filed, it must be done at the time of the incident, NO LATER!

The first referee is obligated to acknowledge and record all protests. **ONLY THE FLOOR CAPTAIN MAY FILE PROTESTS.** The exception to this rule applies to the 14U and younger divisions, where the acting team coach may act.

The Protest Committee will handle all protests and their decision is binding. A Protest Committee will consist of any two of the following:

- Tournament Director
- Assistant Tournament Director
- Head Official
- Florida Region of USA Volleyball Board Member
- National Official or a non-involved Club Director.

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### Facility Rules

Due to incidents in previous years, there will be a **NO TOLERANCE policy** for misbehavior by players/teams and spectators in the venues:

- Ball Handling is NOT allowed outside of the playing facilities.
- Coolers and outside food and drink are NOT ALLOWED in ANY of the facilities.
- **Only water and sports drinks may be brought inside the facility.**
- In order to comply with the fire marshal, **OUTSIDE CHAIRS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE VENUE.**

Violation of these policies or any other general misbehaviors may result in **IMMEDIATE dismissal** from the facility for the remainder of the day/tournament!

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### Artificial Noisemakers and Portable Music Devices

Due to their disruptive nature, artificial noisemakers are prohibited at this event. In addition, teams may not use portable music devices courtside including during warmups.

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### Athletic Trainers

There will be athletic trainers available to tape and assist with minor injuries at each facility. **Athletes must provide tape and pre-wrap for any pre-existing needs.** Tape and pre-wrap are only provided by the tournament for emergency purposes.

*Tournament Guide last updated on 05/09/24.*