Tournament Guide

Provided by JVC Tournaments

NIKE New England Winterfest will be played across 3 weekends!

- **Weekend #1:** January 9-10, 2027 (Hartford, CT - 2 Days)
- **Weekend #2:** January 16-18, 2027 (Hartford, CT - 3 Days)
- **Weekend #2:** January 16-18, 2027 (Providence, RI - 3 Days)
- **Weekend #3:** January 23-24, 2027 (Hartford, CT - 2 Days)

All information regarding directions & 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
- Roster Rules
- Officials
- Protests
- Athletic Trainers

If you have any further questions regarding NIKE New England Winterfest, please email AJ Joseph, at AJ@jvctournaments.com.

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 best of 3 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.**

Tie Breakers

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!

Roster Rules

NEW ENGLAND REGION ROSTER RULES FOR CONVENTION CENTER EVENTS:
All rostered players and personnel must be **FULL MEMBERS** of a Region of USA Volleyball. Athletes turning 18 during the season (September 1st - August 31st) will be required to take "Core" Center for SafeSport training prior to participation.

PLAYER'S NUMBER ON OFFICIAL ROSTER:

For all Events, each player is required to wear the same jersey number as listed on the official roster throughout the entire Event, with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications.

If a player is found playing in the wrong numbered jersey, the Event Arbitrator, with the input of the Tournament Director, will determine the penalty(ies) to be imposed.

Penalties for an incorrect number are listed below:

- If the error is discovered prior or after the team's match, the roster may be adjusted, and the player may play once the corrected roster is presented to the referees..
- If the error is discovered during the match, the player may not compete for the remainder of the match and the roster may not be adjusted until the conclusion of the match.

If the player is on the court at the time of the discovery, USAV 7.3.5.3 as listed in the 2025-2027 Indoor Rules Book is applied:

- If the Team at fault is currently serving, all points scored during that term of service are removed, and the lineup is corrected.
- If the opponent is serving, the lineup is corrected, and no additional penalty or sanction is assessed.

No penalty is assessed on previous rounds or matches where the player may have played in the wrong numbered jersey.

PLAYER MISSING FROM OFFICIAL ROSTER:

For all Events, each player is required to be listed on the official roster throughout the entire event. If a player is found participating and is not on the official roster, the following penalties will be imposed:

- If the missing player is discovered prior to the team's first match of the tournament, the player may be added to the roster and may play once the corrected roster is presented to the referees.
- If the missing player is discovered during the match, the following will occur:

- Player may not compete for the remainder of the match and Rule 7.3.5.4 as listed in the 2025-2027 Indoor Rules Book is applied.

Where a player is found to be on court but he/she is not registered on the team roster, the opponent's points remain valid, and in addition they gain a point and service. The team at fault will lose all points and/or sets (0:25, if necessary) gained from the moment the non-registered player entered the court, and will have to submit a revised line-up sheet and send a new registered player into the court, in the position of the non- registered player.

- The team may add the player to the roster after the conclusion of the match, but before the next match.

Note: the player must be an eligible member within the Club and available to be added to the roster. Please reference the USA Volleyball Age and Identity Falsification Policy for further review.

If the missing player is discovered after the completion of the match, the following will occur:

- The team will forfeit the most recent match within the round where the illegal player was found to have played.
- The player may only be added to the roster after confirming the player is eligible, and the team pays a $50 roster change fee to be paid to the tournament desk.

Note: the player must be an eligible member within the Club and available to be added to the roster. Please reference the USA Volleyball Age and Identity Falsification Policy for further review.

After teams have advanced to the next round of play, no forfeits will be assessed on the previous round where the non-rostered player may have played.

STAFF MISSING FROM OFFICIAL ROSTER:

For all Events, each Rostered Staff is required to be listed on the official roster throughout the entire event. If a Rostered Staff is found on the bench and is not on the official roster, the following penalties will be imposed:

- If a person that is not listed on the official roster for a team and is found present on the team's bench prior to the match, the roster may be adjusted,

but only after the Rostered Staff has been confirmed as eligible and the corrected roster is presented to the referees.

- If a person that is not listed on the official roster for a team and is found present on a team's bench during a match, a roster violation has occurred, and the individual is deemed an Illegal participant for that team. The following penalties will be enforced:
    - The Illegal Participant will be asked to leave the bench for the remainder of the match, and a delay warning will be imposed on the team.
    - If the same individual is caught a second time and verified during the match, they will be removed from the event and the team will forfeit the current set.

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.

Officials

Paid 1st officials provided for all matches. CLICK HERE for officials' registration details for this and other NERVA/JVC-hosted tournaments!

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
- NERVA Region of USA Volleyball Board Member
- National Official or a non-involved Club Director.

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!

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.

Athletic Trainers

Athletic trainers will be available to tape and assist with minor injuries at the Convention Center. **Athletes must provide tape and pre-wrap for any pre-existing needs.** Tape and pre-wrap are only provided by the tournament for emergencies.

Tournament Guide last updated on 9/9/26