

2026 Hawthorne's Backyard Volleyball League Rules

1. There will be two separate seasons. Spring season runs from May 4th – mid July (weather permitting). Summer season runs mid-July – September (weather permitting). Game times will be 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15 & possible 10:15 makeup matches. All teams are guaranteed 9 weeks of play, 7 weeks of round robin play plus 2 weeks of playoffs. (Except teams that lose in the first round of playoffs). Teams that have no rain makeups **may** get additional play. Hawthorne's Backyard gift certificates will be awarded to the teams that finish in 1st place for the regular season and for the teams that win their division/night playoffs.
2. Team fees will be \$ 410.00 per season. Cash only. Team fee is required with entry form. Entry forms will not be accepted that do not include payment in full with entry form.
3. **Returning teams from the 2025 Summer season have first choice to sign up for the 2026 Spring season.** *Definition of returning team:* The team captain that is listed on the 2025 summer entry form will be recognized as the returning team. If any player(s) choose to split from a team to form a different team, they now are considered a new team and will be placed on the waiting list if the night/league they are applying for becomes full with either returning teams or any new teams that are on the waiting list ahead of them. Returning team deadline is **APRIL 1st 2026.** **Teams that miss the deadline will risk losing their spot.**
4. **Waivers:** All players are required to sign a waiver. Any player(s) that is caught playing in any league game/match who has not signed a waiver shall be expelled from the match and the team on which the player was playing on shall forfeit any game this player participated in. This rule is retroactive to the start of the season. The roster/waiver form will be kept on premises so additional players may sign in at any time.
5. **Rainouts:** Decisions regarding rainouts **will not** be made any earlier than **1 hour prior** to your scheduled game time. **Do not call earlier!** If a match is cancelled due to inclement weather it will be posted on our website and face book or you can call Jay at 630-913-0200 or Bob at 630-661-8322. If your match is cancelled please follow the next week's schedule as posted, you will be notified of reschedules. **ONLY RAINOUTS** will be rescheduled. Teams will have a minimum of 24 hour notice of any schedule change.
6. **Participants must be over 21 with one exception. 1 player under 21 will be allowed to be on the court during league play.**
7. Players are required to enter and exit through the front entrance. **ABSOLUTELY NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINKS ARE ALLOWED!!** **Any outside alcohol will result in team being banned from the leagues with no refund!** Players are NOT allowed to park their vehicles on McQueen Street. Only the volleyball officials are allowed to park next to the courts.
8. Unsportsmanlike conduct toward players, officials or staff will not be tolerated. Any violation of these rules will result in expulsion from the court, premises and/or league.
9. **There are NO pets allowed on the property!**