

Washington's Birthday Bash



Tournament Handbook

February 13-14, 2021

Rocky Mount Event Center

285 NE Main St, Rocky Mount, NC 27801

We are very pleased to have you at the inaugural **Washington's Birthday Bash** tournament hosted by Showtime Events. This packet should contain all the information you need to compete in this year's event. Please be sure to read everything very carefully as we will not have a coaches' meeting prior to playing on Saturday. We know hosting events are difficult during these unprecedented times but we have put in a lot of safety measures & pool play formats to ensure a healthy, safe, and fun tournament.

SCHEDULES:

All schedules and results will be posted on the AES website starting on Tuesday, Feb 9th. Website is:

www.advancedeventsystems.com

TEAM CHECK-IN:

Team check-in will be **Friday, Feb 12th from 5-8pm** at Rocky Mount Event Center. This is mandatory for all teams since we will be passing out your spectator wristbands at that time. Please bring the following:

- a copy of your *Roster* (unless it's loaded into AES before Wed)
- the *RMEC COVID waivers* (one for each player & coach on the roster)
- the *JVA Coach Form* (one per team)

VENUE:

Rocky Mount Event Center
285 NE Main St, Rocky Mount, NC 27801

PARKING:

Parking is available at the facility for **\$5/car**. Please bring cash and be sure to read facility signage and park in the designated spots. Do not park in the fire lanes and do not park illegally. Violators will be towed at the owner's expense. Also masks are required from the time you exit your car.

FOOD/CONCESSIONS:

No outside food, drinks or coolers will be allowed into the facilities. Concessions are sold at the facility.

PRE-SOLD TICKETS:

There is a spectator admission of **\$20 for a weekend pass**. No children under the age of 18 will be allowed in the facility per the city's rules. All tickets are sold online only and limited to 20 per team. You will need your team code - which was sent to the club director - in order to purchase tickets. The link is:

<https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/8049003/showtime-events-volleyball-rocky-mount-rocky-mount-event-center>

All spectator and coach wristbands will be separated by team and can be picked up by one team representative at the Coach check-in on **Friday, Feb 12th from 5-8pm**. You cannot get your wristbands at the door on Saturday morning. If you miss picking them up Friday night, then you won't be allowed in the facility.

AGE SPECIFIC RULES:

All teams playing in 10-11s or 12s divisions are allowed to use the "step-in line" to serve. The step-in line will be 6'6" into the court. If a player gets 3 serves in a row from the step-in line, they will be asked to move back beyond the endline until their service turn is ended.

AWARDS:

Medals will be given to 1st place and 2nd place in the GOLD bracket of each division only.

WARM-UP PROCEDURES:

Both teams will share the court for 2 mins (please keep balls on your own side). Then each team will then get the entire court for 4 mins (serving must be a part of this time). The team that elects to serve first gets the court first.

*****NB: if a team plays back to back, then there will be NO warmup for that team*****

POOL-PLAY FORMAT:

In all pools, matches will be best 2 of 3 sets with sets 1 & 2 played to 25 points. If necessary, a 3rd and deciding set will be played to 15 points. All sets have no cap and must be won by 2 points. Pool play will consist of 3, 4, or 5 team pools. Most teams will play 3 matches on Saturday & 2 on Sunday, but a few teams (especially in 5-team pools) might play 4 matches on Saturday or even just 2 but play 3 on Sunday. Regardless, all teams will receive a minimum of 5 matches (or 10 sets) for the weekend.

TIEBREAKERS:

There will be **NO PLAYOFFS** during pool play (not even for Gold or Silver). All ties will be solved via the following protocol:

- o Match Percentage
- o Head-to-head (ONLY used if it is 2-team tiebreaker)
- o Set Percentage
- o Point Percentage
- o Flip a coin

All calculations are viewable on AES online. Please monitor scores as they are updated to be sure this information is accurate throughout the day.

ALTERNATE MATCH FORMAT: (due to COVID-19)

In an effort to reduce the number of people in the gym for Covid-19 reasons, we will be playing **all 4-team pools on 2 courts simultaneously** (i.e. there is no down time). Teams will warm up, play 3 straight matches and then leave the gym. Therefore parents must cover the responsibilities of the “work team” since the teams will be playing. Here are the details:

- all teams play back-to-back-to-back
- one parent from each team will call lines
- one parent from each team will either flip score or do the scoresheet. They do not have to be certified to do either of these tasks - they are fairly simple.
- there will be NO down ref (R2) because the coaches will be coaching and we would not want an uncertified parent put in that position. Players will wait at the substitution line and the R1 will signal them the sub in.
- parents do not need to be registered, background checked or Safesport trained, as they will not have direct contact on an individual basis with the kids. The liability insurance is the same as if they were sitting courtside and were injured by a ball for example.

****WITHOUT THIS FORMAT WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO HAVE ANY SPECTATORS****

30MINS EARLY ONLY:

Only teams *playing* will be allowed in the facility. If your team is not playing, they must wait outside the facility until 30mins prior to your match start time. Whenever possible, try to wait in the upstairs mezzanine if your court is running behind. We have built in some breaks to help ensure things run on time but we can't predict every start time. Don't worry, we will NOT start the first match of a new wave early unless everyone is on the court and agrees to begin.

SATURDAY WAVE TIMES:

- 1st wave (AM): Doors open 6am, first match at 7am
- 2nd wave (Mid-Morning): Teams can enter at 10am, matches start at 10:30am
- 3rd wave (Early Afternoon): Teams can enter at 2:30pm, matches start at 3pm
- 4th wave (PM): Teams can enter at 6pm, matches start at 6:30pm

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS:

1. Teams will not switch sides or shake hands.
2. Temperature checks are required upon entering the facility and you must use the entrance nearest Parking Lot A (see attached map).
3. There will be no bleachers in the facility, only about 15 folding chairs at each court. The city is fearful that bleachers will cause people to not social distance.
4. Masks are mandatory for everyone in the building and in the parking lot. There are NO exceptions or exemptions to the mask mandate. If you don't wear it, you won't be allowed in the facility or will be escorted out immediately.
5. Any effort to manipulate the mask mandate will be treated as refusal to comply and the team can be disqualified from the event. To be clear, any parent, player, coach, etc. refusing to follow this protocol can lead to team disqualification. ***The coaches will be held responsible for monitoring compliance on their own team.***
6. The alternate match format (listed above) was created to help keep the number of people in the gym to a minimum and to follow occupancy guidelines. ***This format will require parents to call lines, flip the score and do the scoresheet.***
7. Teams will not be allowed to enter the facility until 30 minutes prior to their match time on both Saturday and Sunday. The teams might also be ushered upstairs while they put on shoes and wait for their court to finish the match prior. We do not want crowds forming around the courts.
8. Teams not playing should exit the facility immediately. A coach can remain inside so that you know when to re-enter. Once your team pool play or bracket is finished, everyone must exit the building.
9. Attendance as a participant or spectator is strictly voluntary and at your own risk. If an individual does not agree with the protocols or any of the additional event or facility protocols, we ask you not to attend the event.
10. Please check the facility website for more specific information regarding number of spectators allowed, seating allowed and other COVID requirements. Should you have any comments or concerns please talk to your club director prior to the event or the facility manager or head referee at the event.

Thank you for your understanding, support and cooperation in following the above COVID-19 protocols. Our goal is to make sure our athletes can safely play the game they love with the requirements given us by the local state and city officials. We have put in these measures to ensure a safe, healthy, limited capacity event but it will take each person following the rules to help make that a reality.

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