

2018 Southern Swing Fall League
MIDDLE SCHOOL Division
League Rules
October 7, 2018

1. Each team must have an adult coach present on the bench during all games.
2. Teams are responsible for their own practice facilities and warm-up balls. Game balls will be provided.
3. In weeks 1 - 3 of league play, all matches will be 2 sets to 25 (rally scoring, cap 30). There will be a 40 minute time limit for each match. In the event of a tie score when the designated time period runs out, the next point wins the set. Teams scheduled to play the first match of the night should be warmed up and ready to begin at the scheduled start time. There will be no formal warm-ups for subsequent matches other than a brief period of peppering/ball handling while captains are called. Teams should stretch and be ready to play at the conclusion of the previous match. We will not wait to begin if matches are running ahead so please be ready. The only match that will begin at the scheduled time will be the first match of the evening.
4. Seeding for week 4 (play-off bracket) will be based on the percentage of SETS won during weeks 1 - 3 of league play. In the event of a tie at the end of week 3 the order of seeding will be determined as follows:
 - First – head to head results of the tied teams with the winner receiving the higher seed; if still tied then
 - Second – comparison of the total point spread between the tied teams with the higher point spread receiving the higher seed; if still tied then
 - Third – comparison of the total point spread over all opponents during the first 3 weeks of league play

ALL TEAMS will play in week 4 regardless of their seeding. The format for bracket play will be a single-elimination bracket.

5. Teams may play with a minimum of five players. Teams playing with five will observe a “ghost” spot for the sixth player resulting in a loss of serve when that position reaches the server’s spot.

Teams with less than five players may still play but will be required to forfeit the match for purposes of league standings. To avoid a forfeit, teams may use a substitute player if they do not have the minimum number of players required to play (5); HOWEVER, the substitute player must pay an entry fee of \$10 for the week that they play and must have a completed release of liability on file. **If a team chooses to use a substitute player even though they have the minimum**

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number of players required to play (5) they will forfeit the match for purposes of league standings.

Teams using players in weeks 1 - 3 that are not on their rosters by “borrowing” jerseys or failing to register those players as substitutes will be required to forfeit those matches for purposes of league standings. Teams cannot use substitute players during any play-off bracket games in Week 4.

6. If a team is 10 minutes late, they will forfeit the first set. If they are 15 minutes late, they will forfeit both sets. If a team must forfeit for any reason, they should contact Southern Swing immediately by calling **361-210-6876** or by email at **ssvball@yahoo.com**. Please give as much advance notice as possible so that other teams can be notified and schedules can be revised.
7. Game cancellations will not be made up. The canceling team will be credited with the losses.
8. Each team must provide a scorekeeper and line judge for each match.
9. There should be no ball handling or warm-up in the Sports Center lobby, on the sidelines or on the sand court. Players and spectators should not be on the sand court or in the locker room or faculty areas of the Sports Center at any time. Please use only the designated public restrooms at the end of the rear hallway.
10. Please remind your players and parents to dispose of any empty water bottles or other trash in the lobby, bleacher and bench areas of the gym before they leave. No outside food or drinks other than water or sports drinks in containers with secured, screw-on lids are allowed in the gym. There are tables located in the lobby area of the Sports Center where your players and spectators may sit to eat and plenty of large trash cans available to dispose of trash. We consider it a privilege to be able to use the Victoria College Sports Center so please help us maintain that privilege by following these simple rules.
11. As always we have elected to use paid officials for this league. We rely on them to enforce the rules of the game and control activity on the court as best they can. We ask that all coaches, players and spectators please refrain from unnecessary remarks and treat them with respect. Officials will be calling all games in accordance with UIL rules.