

2022 Rev

**Takkyu Volley Rulebook**  
(Rules and Commentary)  
Japan Takkyu Volley Federation

# TAKKYU VOLLEY

**REC DAY**

APRIL 27, 1-3 PM @ THE JWC - COLLINS COURT

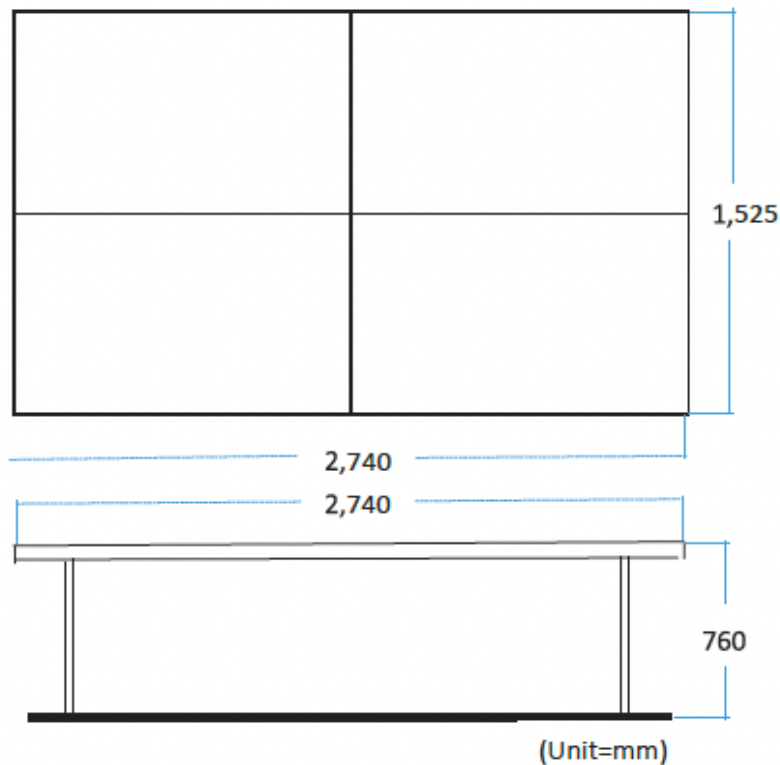


## <<Takkyu Volley Rules>>

### (A) Equipment and Tools

#### 1. Table

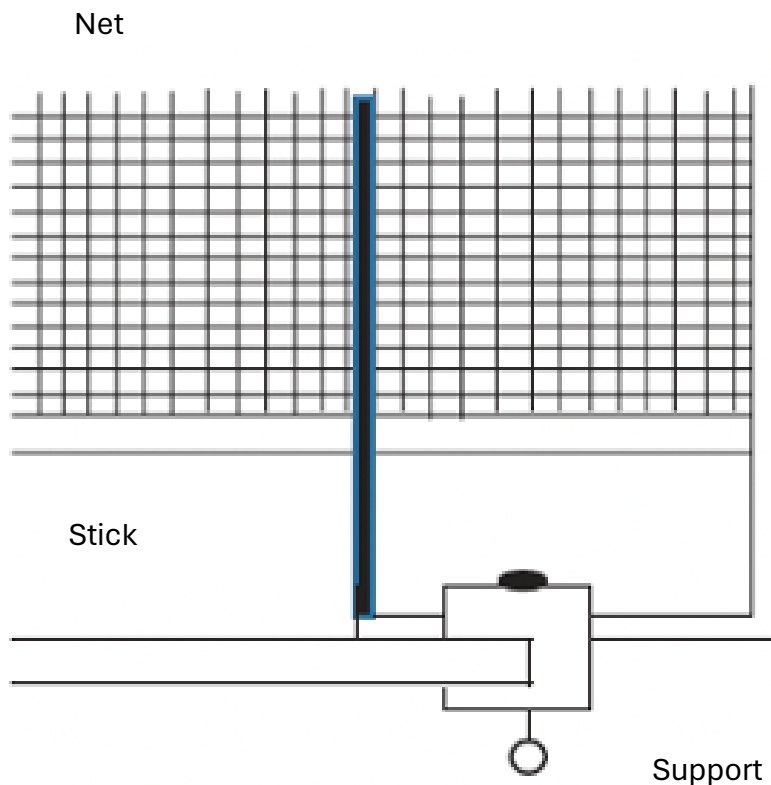
The table is a rectangle of 2,740 mm in length, 1,525 mm in width, and 760 mm in height.



#### 2. Balls

The ball is 40mm in diameter; 4 pieces of metal balls are in it, and the total weight is 3.6 - 3.8 g.

### 3. Net



A net (152.5 mm high) shall be stretched vertically in the center of the table (1,370 mm from the end line), parallel to the end line, with the bottom edge of the net 57 mm above the court surface.

- (1) Attach a white cloth of 15 mm in width to the lower edge of the net without sagging.
- (2) Both ends of the lower edge and upper edge of the net shall be attached to the pole brace, and the lower edge shall be stretched horizontally.
- (3) Put the Stick on a net at the end of the upper support brace.

#### **4. Support**

Attach pole brace to the table to hold nets.

#### **5. Racket/Paddle**

Wooden Plate with a size of 300 mm or less. It must be flat and hard. Minimal processing for racket retention is permitted.

#### **6. Wheelchairs or Chairs**

Players must sit on a chair or wheelchair to play the game.

### **(B) Team and Players**

#### **1. Team**

- (1) One team consists of 6 to 12 players.
- (2) Of the 6 players, two on the net side are blockers, and the other four are servers.

#### **2. The Manager/Game captain**

- (1) Among the team, there is one manager and one game captain.
- (2) The manager can request strategy time and player change.
- (3) The manager and game captain may serve concurrently.
- (4) The game captain is the voice of the players and may ask the chief referee for clarification of judgments.

### **3. Attire**

(1) All players in a team shall wear uniforms with the same color and pattern, with a number (on the back), the name of the team, and a player (or a player number).

(2) The manager and game captain shall mark in the designated positions in accordance with the tournament rules.

### **(C) Victory/Defeat**

One set is 15 points, and the team which gets 15 points first wins. In three-set match, and the team who gets two sets first wins.

### **(D) Selection of Service or Court Rights**

Prior to the start of the game, the teams' game captains toss whether to choose the first serve or the court, and the winner can preferentially select either one.

### **(E) Service**

1. The ball is placed in the server's area. After the referee's signal, the server hits the ball to start the game. The ball shall reach the opponent's court without touching the net including the pole brace.
2. Services are done by the four players (servers) except for those at the net (blockers), in order from the referee's side. Services in the second and subsequent sets shall be

done by the team that did not serve first in the previous set.

3. Each team will take turns doing the service.
4. Fouls related to Service
  - (1) When the server do not do regular service
  - (2) When the server deliberately swing-and-miss and feint
5. When a mistake in the order of service happens, take the following actions and resume the service.
  - (1) If the error is noticed during the rally, resume the service when the rally ends.
  - (2) The score is still valid.
  - (3) An appeal after the service is not allowed.

### **(F) Batting**

1. Blockers cannot return a served ball within one hit.
2. Each team can hit the ball a maximum of three times. However, if the third shot ball hits the net, another stroke is allowed.
3. Valid hitting means when you hit a ball and it passes under the net and reaches (touches) the opponent's court. Even if you touch the net except services, every time the ball passing under the net is considered valid.

### **(G) Points**

Scoring takes a rally point system.

**(H) Fouls (with following situations, the opponent team will get the point as foul)**

(1) Service Miss

When a service did not go to the opponent court, hit the “Stick”, or the net.

(2) Serve Block

When a blocker touches the service.

(3) Ball out

When a ball goes outside of the court.

(4) Holding

When a player hold down a ball with a racket or pushes a ball down with a racket.

(5) Dribble

When a player hits a ball two or more times in a row (exception: when a ball hits the net, the same player is allowed to hit it again.)

(6) Support

When the ball hits the “Stick” or goes outside of the “stick.”

(7) Touch net

When a racket or a player’s body touches the net (whether hitting the ball or not).

(8) Over net

When a racket or a player's body breaks the plane of the next (above or below the table).

(9) Body ball

When the ball hits a player's body other than the hand(s) (or the arm in case a player get permission to grab a racket with his/her arm).

(10) Stop ball

When the ball stops during the rally.

(11) Overtimes

When the ball is not returned within three hits (exception: when the 3<sup>rd</sup> hit strikes the net, one additional hit is allowed).

(12) Standing

When a player lifts off their chair/wheelchair (even slightly) or moves their chair/wheelchair (even when away from the action).

(13) Intention foul

When a player advances the ball without the racket (i.e. blowing on the ball), switches their racket hand, or does any other inappropriate actions.

**(I) Others**

1. No court change.

However, depending on the condition of the court, it can be



implemented by the referee's judgment.

2. In principle, swinging during a rally is allowed, but if the ball is affected, the referee's instructions should be followed.

3. When the ball stops on the court at the seam of the table or has an irregular bounce, no count may be made at the discretion of the chief referee.

## **<<Takkyu Volley Rules Description>>**

### **(A) Equipment and Tools**

#### **1. Table**

(1) It is desirable that the legs of the table have a shape that makes it easy for wheelchair users to enter.

(2) Due to the nature of the ball rolling of this sport, it is preferable for the court surface to be flat, leveled, and seamless. However, at present, consideration should be given to avoiding steps at the seam as much as possible.

(3) The table must be approved by the Japan Table Tennis Association.

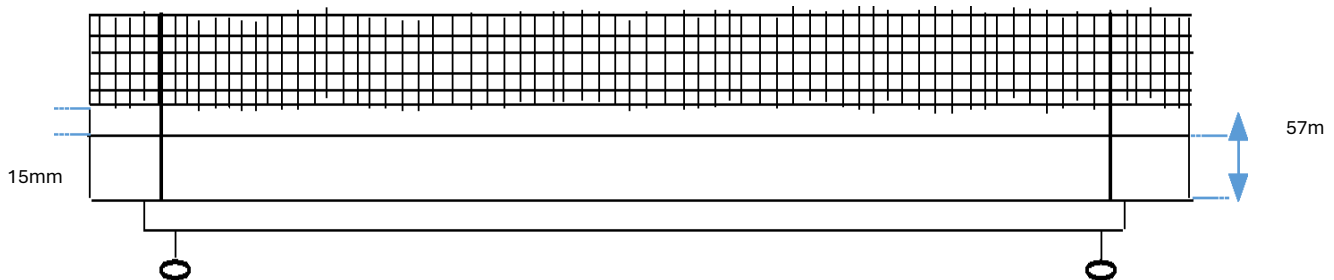
#### **2. Balls**

The ball should contain metal balls inside, and should be approved by the Japan Disabled Sports Association.

### 3. Net

(1) Use normal table tennis net, but set it upside down, put a white cloth of 15 mm in width on the lower edge of the net and keep it at the same interval at a be too slack horizontally to stretch.

(2) Bottom of the net shall be the boundary of the court.



### 4. Support

(1) When attaching a post (support) to a table, the part that comes out on the table (the part of the metal fixture that supports the support) should be as small as possible.

(2) To prevent the ball from passing under the net outside of the “Stick”, a fence (or something else) should cover over the space.

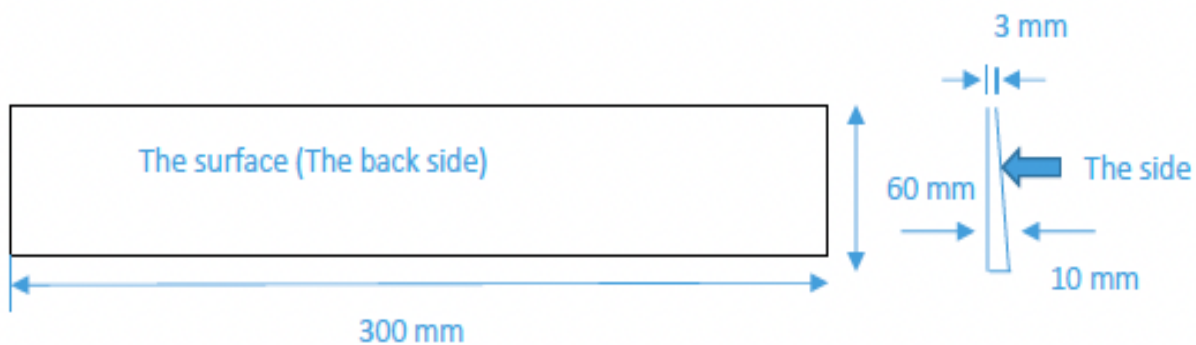
### 5. Rackets

(1) Shape and weight are arbitrary, but they should be wooden with the size of 300 mm or smaller both vertically and laterally, hard and flat. (The size includes the part a player grabs the racket).

(2) Only in cases where a physical disability makes it difficult to hold the racket, minimal modifications for holding the racket are permitted. Attachment to the hands, feet, arms, etc. with a single-colored cloth is also permitted.

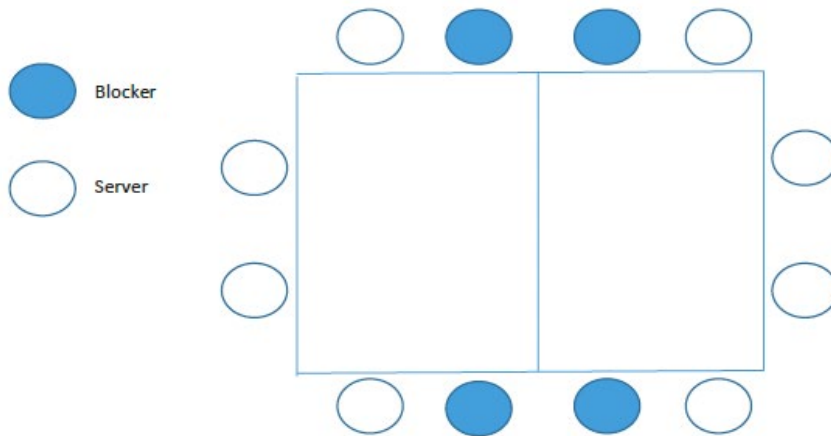
(3) If there is writing (writing, drawing, painting) on the surface of the racket that interferes or may interfere with the competition, the chief referee may inspect and discontinue the use of that racket. Attaching stickers, etc., is prohibited.

(4) At present, as for Takkyu Volley, a racket in the picture below is widely used.



## (B) Team/Players

1. Each team has six players (2 blockers and 4 servers). They sit as shown in the picture.



2. No appeal may be allowed against the referee's decision and the interpretation of the rules.
3. The team manager can ask for time out or player change to the referee when the ball is out.
4. The manager can request time out (1 time/set for 30 seconds) and player change (up to 2 times/set). Up to 2 players changes are allowed per one player change request. (The position changes are not allowed due to the player change). However, this does not apply if the chief referee determines that the player is unable to continue playing.
5. The change of positions shall be made every set. Position changes within a set are not permitted.

### **(C) Victory/Defeat**

One game is based on 15 points · 3 set matches in principle (No deuce) but may be changed according to tournament regulations.

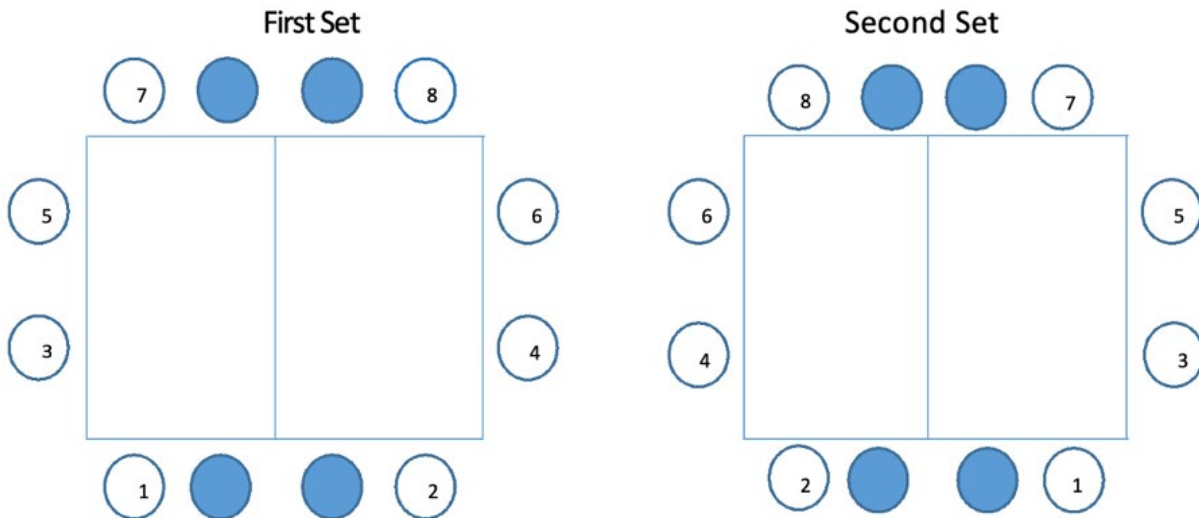
## **(D) Selection of Service or Court Rights**

The game captain who won the toss game can firstly choose one of the following. The toss is either via rock/scissors/paper or coin toss:

- The first service
- The first receive
- A court side

## **(E) Service**

1. The area in front of the server is within the shaded area in the figure, where the ball can be placed in a sitting position, and the racket can be reached. This does not apply when the characteristics of impairment makes this unavoidable.
2. Dribbling or holding the ball when you hit a service shot is a foul.
3. Order of Service
  - (1) When you start from 1 to 8 in order, start from 1 again.
  - (2) The service of the second set is from the team that did not play first in the previous set. At the start of any new set, player No.1 has to start the service shot. (do not continue from the previous set)

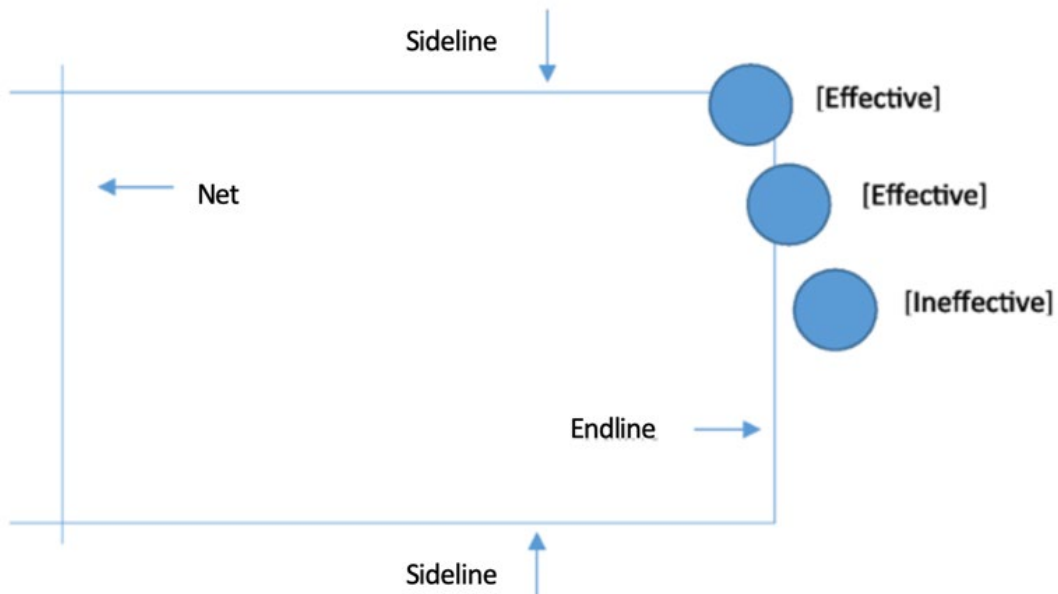


**(F) Hit ball**

1. Valid hit ball

(1) When the ball passes under the net and reaches the opponent's court.

(2) The ball remains in the side line and end line including space.



2. When the ball touches the net, you can hit the ball one more time (exception: service)

3. At the moment of hitting, deliberately releasing the racket from the hand will result in a foul (Intentional Foul). Even if it is not deliberate, in case the racket slips away from the hand either touching the net or the pole support, or making the opponent's team disadvantaged, it is a foul.

4. How to hold and handle the racket

(1) A player can hold the racket with one or both hands. The range of any racket shall be up to the front of the projecting bone of the wrist (not including the bone).

(2) In case that a player holds the racket with both hands can hit a ball with one hand. However, the holding hand may not be switched.

(3) If a player wants to handle a racket other than (1) or (2) due to a disability or other reason, he/she shall report it to the chief referee before the match, and if approved, the racket shall be allowed to be handled as follows:

- (i) When the player cannot support his/her upper limbs without
- (ii) placing his/her elbows, the racket shall be handled up to the elbow of the arm of the racket he/she is holding.
- (iii) When a player holds the racket with his/her body other than with his/her hands, the chief referee

shall judge the situation and determine the range of the racket.

## **(G) Scoring**

One set is 15 points. The team which gets 15 points first will win. (No juice) However, the tournament rules can override it.

## **(H) Fouls**

### 1. Service Miss

Including when the ball hit the net or the support

### 2. Serve Block

When a blocker touches returns the service and the ball hit the net, then another hit ball reaches to the opponent court, it is valid.

### 3. Ball out

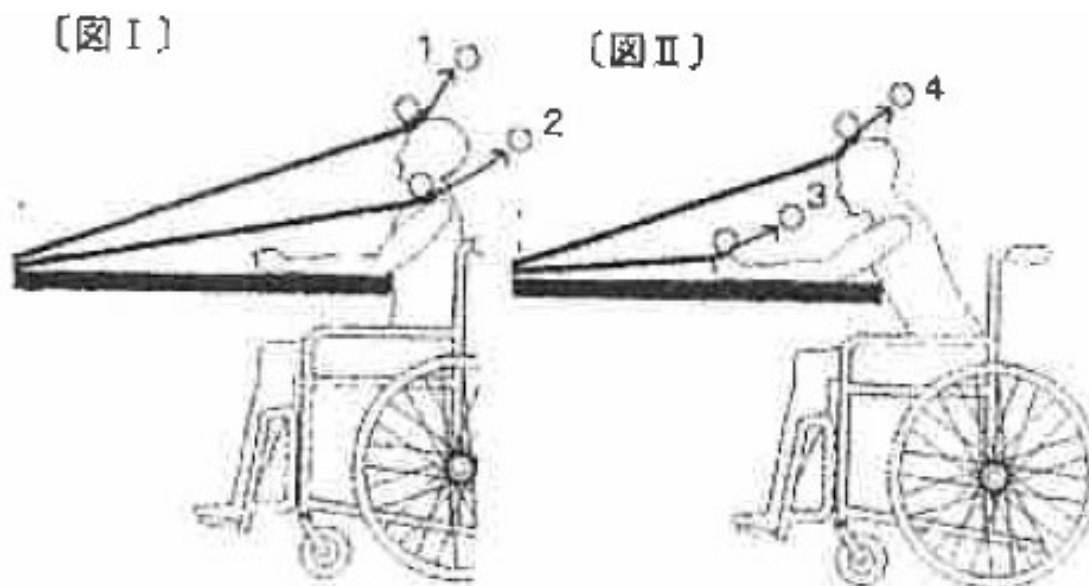
When the ball passes under the net and does not land on the opponent's court including when the ball is floating in the air in the following cases.

(1) In Figure I, in both cases 1 and 2, since the ball touches the player's body out of the court, it is considered "ball out" (the receiving team gets point).

(2) In the Figure II, in case 3 and 4, the ball hits the player's body inside of the court, it is considered as the body ball



(the hitting team gets the point.)



<b>The situation of B team's court</b>	<b>Foul or not</b>	<b>Judge (Point)</b>
Landing on the court	In ball (effective hit)	Continue playing
Hitting the racket in the court and landing on the court	In ball (effective hit)	Continue playing
Falling on the court and becoming ball out	Ball out	A team
Hitting a racket in the court (one touch) and becoming ball out	Ball out	A team

Hitting the body in the court	Body ball	A team
Going out of court	Ball out	B team
Hitting the body out of court	Ball out	B team
Hitting the racket out of court	Ball out	B team

\*The determination of air balls shall be made by the chief referee, incorporating the judgment of the assistant referee and the line judge.

\*The adoption of a line referee shall be decided by the organizer of the tournament.

#### 4. Holding

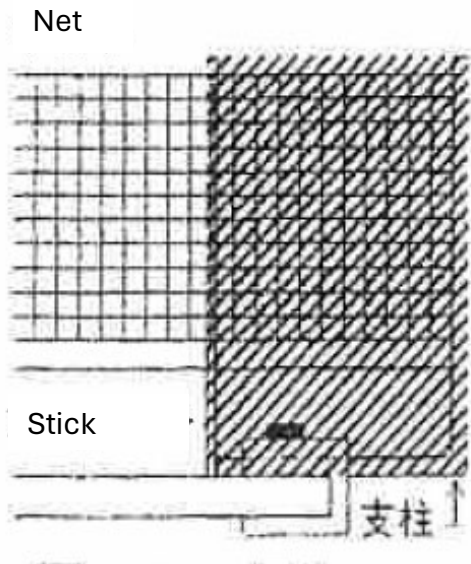
When dragging the ball or pulling it in and pushing it out.

#### 5. Dribble

When the ball rolls on the racket surface, instead of hitting, it is considered hitting twice and more and dribble foul.

#### 6. Support

The shadowed area is supposed to be the support (between brace and the “stick”), when the ball hits this area, it is considered as “support” foul.



#### 7. Touch net

Regardless of “after hitting the ball” or “before hitting the ball”, if a player touches the net during the game, it is a foul.

#### 8. Over net

Regardless of “after hitting the ball” or “before hitting the ball”, if a racket or a player’s body breaks the plane of the net (above or below the table).

#### 9. Body ball

The range of any racket shall be up to the projecting bone of the wrist (not including the bone). When the ball hits any parts of a player’s body or his/her chair/wheelchair within the court, it is considered body ball.

#### 10. Stop ball

The ball is in a completely stationary state. When a ball is rotating in one spot, it is valid.

#### 11. Overtimes

When the third shot touches the net, you can hit a ball one more time. (4th shot)

#### 12. Standing

In the case of moving a wheelchair/chair, or lifting one leg, regardless of “after hitting the ball” or “before hitting the ball” (except the case of disabilities).

#### 13. Intention foul

(1) During rally, when changing racket.

(2) During rally, when the racket is deliberately released from the hand.

(3) When deliberately blowing or bleaching the ball on the court.







(4) When there is any bad manner such as inappropriate manners of players.










### **(I) Others**




1. Prior to the game, the referee must confirm “matter of dealing”. This includes acknowledging both teams about disability levels of any players.

2. The chief referee has all authority. And ultimately responsible for the referees.

## Takkyu Volley Referee`s Signal

<p>1. Play Ball (allowing to serve)</p>  <p>Extend an arm over the net, and bend the elbow toward the receiver</p>	<p>2.Point</p>  <p>Raise your arm diagonally up to the side of the team that scored.</p>	<p>3.Service Miss</p>  <p>Extend arm forward with thumb's up.</p>
<p>4.Service Block</p>  <p>Extend arm, hand open, palm parallel to the net</p>	<p>5.Ball Out</p>  <p>Extend arm, flex elbow with open palm towards face</p>	<p>6.Holding</p>  <p>Extend arm, palm moving down</p>

<p><b>7.Dribble</b></p>  <p>Extend arm with elbow straight, with two fingers up (index and middle), palm facing away</p>	<p><b>8.Support</b></p>  <p>Extend arm with index finger pointing to the location of the foul</p>	<p><b>9.Touch Net</b></p>  <p>Extend arm with palm open, and tap the net</p>
<p><b>10.Over Net</b></p>  <p>Place hand over the net with palm down</p>	<p><b>11.Body Ball</b></p>  <p>Tap chest twice with fist</p>	<p><b>12.Stop Ball</b></p>  <p>Point at the ball.</p>
<p><b>13.Over Times</b></p>  <p>Extend arm, palm away, 4 fingers up.</p>	<p><b>14.Standing</b></p>  <p>Extend arm while lifting palm up</p>	<p><b>15.Intention Foul</b></p>  <p>Bend elbow, curl fingers without making a fist.</p>

<p>16.No Count</p>  <p>Two thumbs up</p>	<p>17.Times Out</p>  <p>Make a letter T with two hands</p>	<p>18.Member Change</p>  <p>Make two fists, stack arms and rotate</p>
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## << Takkyu Volley Rules Q&A >>

### (A) Equipment / Tools

**Question 1.** How much processing is allowed to hold the racket?

**Answer:** Minimal processing is permitted when it is difficult to hold the racket due to physical disabilities. Processing is not minimal if it would be advantageous to do so.

### (B) Team (Athletes)

**Question 2.** If there is an argument concerning the judgement of the referee, who can challenge the opinion to the referee?

**Answer:** Only the game captain can challenge the opinion to the referee (other players cannot). Make sure to tell your opinion through the game captain. In addition, if there is a verbal abuse, measures such as giving 1 point to the opponent's team may be taken.

### **(C) Choice of Services VS court right**

**Question 3.** If I win in toss game prior to the start of the game, will I definitely become first server?

**Answer:** Those who win the toss game can choose either the first serve or the court side. Those who lose the toss game can choose the one that is left.

### **(D) Service**

**Question 4.** In case server did not serve the ball within 5 seconds, will this be judged as intentional foul?

**Answer:** Consideration for players who cannot serve soon is due to various circumstances. However, deliberately delaying will result in an intentional foul.

### **(E) Hit the Ball**

**Question 5.** What is the decision when a batted ball goes through the net and floats in the air? How do you judge a hit ball that floats in mid-air when a hit ball from the opponent's court (team A) goes under the net and comes mod to team B with no bounce?

**Answer:** There are many different cases. Please refer to Takkyu Volley Rules Description (F) Hit ball 1.(2) and (H) Foul Play 3.



**Question 6.** The ball which reached the opponent's court comes back though no one of the opponent team hits it. Is this an effective hit?

**Answer:** It is a valid hit. Not only when the ball enters the opponent's court and returns to the self-court without being hit presumably by the influence of the spin etc., but also when the ball hit by the back spin reaches its own court and returns immediately to the self-court, the referee will interpret it as a 0 stroke.

### **(F) Scoring**

**Question 7.** Is there a relationship between the scores and the order of service?

**Answer:** The scoring for Takkyu Volley is based on an all-points system (rally point system). Each team takes turns to serve one ball each. Therefore, the total points scored by both teams and the order of service are interrelated. For example, when the total points of both teams is 8, the next server will always be number 1. Knowing this relationship is helpful in finding the next server when the order of service is not clear.

### **(G) Foul**

**Question 8.** The ball hit the stick, but it hit the opponent's side of the stick. Since the ball hit the stick after it entered the opponent's court, doesn't that count as a point for us?

**Answer:** It will not be. The rule of the Game state that a support foul occurs "when the struck ball touches a support, stick, braces or net between the posts or bars." The rules of the game state that "When the ball touches a post, pole, or net between them. Therefore, it is a foul on the player who hit the ball, no matter which side of the stick it hits. If the ball enters the opponent's court and is judged not to be a human error, such as an irregular ball due to the tilt of the table or the unevenness of the joints of the tables, the ball will be considered to be uncountable.

**Question 9:** In our team, as a strategy, we keep our hands forward and close to each other to avoid gaps between rackets. As we extend our hands, our heads and other parts of our bodies enter the court. The other team bounces the ball hard from the edge of the net and hits it hard toward our heads and faces in our court, trying to get a body ball foul. Is this acceptable as a strategy?

**Answer:** It is not a foul as a rule. However, it is problematic from the standpoint of sportsmanship to consider making it a strategy. If it seems to be too much, it may be a foul as a bad manner.

## **1. Service mistakes**

**Question 10:** If I make a mistake in the order of service, will it be a service mistake?

**Answer:** When noticing that it is wrong, the referee will ask the players to return to the regular order. Since the score is valid so far, mistaking the order of the service will not result in a service mistake.

## **2. Serve Block**

**Question 11** Are blockers allowed to touch the ball served for the first time?

**Answer:** The foul of serve block is when the blocker returns the serviced ball directly to the opponent's court. Even if you touch it first, you do not have to return it directly to the opponent's court. There is no problem if you pass it to your teammates.

## **3. Ball out**

**Question 12.** Why is it that when the ball hits my body, with no bounce, sometimes my opponent get a foul of ball out, and sometimes I get a foul on my side of the body ball?

**Answer:** Valid places for competition include the space above the court. In other words, if the ball is in space, but on the court, it is considered valid. Therefore, if a ball hits a body with no bounce, the question is whether the position where the ball hit the body is in space on the court. If it is in the space on the court, the ball is considered valid, and a body ball is taken,

which is an infraction by the player who was hit. If the ball was hit outside of the on-court area, the ball is out of bounds, so a ball out foul is called on the side that hit the ball. See Question 5.

#### **4. Holding**

**Question 13.** We often have taken a foul of holdings, but I do not know exactly what is wrong.

**Answer:** The principle of how to hit a Takkyu Volley states that “It is the moment that the ball and the racket hit each other”. “Pushing down or pushing out” means that the ball and the rackets are in contact for a certain period of time. Even if you hold the ball with the racket to change the direction of the ball, it is also a foul of holding.

#### **5. Dribble**

**Question 14.** The first shot hit the net and returned, so the same Player hit the second shot. The second shot hit the net as well, so the same player hits the third shot again. Is this a foul of dribbling?

**Answer:** Yes, this is a foul of dribbling.

The rules stipulate that “When you touch the net, the same player can touch the ball only one more time”. If the ball is touched for the third time, a foul of dribbling is committed. Of course, if another players hits the third shot, it will not be considered as a foul.

## 6. Touch net

**Question 15.** At the moment of hitting the ball, the racket hits the net away from the hands. Is this a foul play of touch net?

**Answer:** It will be a foul play of touch net. If the racket is held at the moment you hit a ball, which is an effective hit, but if you touch the net with the racket, there will be penalty of touching net.

## 7. Over net

**Question 16.** While I was a blocker, I was warned about the sitting position.

**Answer:** Foul of over net applies not only on the net but also on extended lines. In other words, if the foot, shoulder, elbow, etc. of the blocker are on the other side of the net from the extension of the net, it is considered as a foul of over net. Of course, when you cannot maintain your posture due to the state of disabilities, you may ask the referee for exception.

**Question 17.** While playing, the opponent team blocker's arm hits my body and it is unpleasant. Is it a foul play?

**Answer:** It is a foul play.

However, it depends on "intention" of the players at the beginning. In addition, when "there is no noticeable disadvantage to the opponent's team", we may continue

playing based on the judgment of the referee, for the smooth progress of the game.

## **8. Body Ball**

**Question 18.** Because the rackets did not reach the ball, I switched the racket with the opposite hand and hit it. Is this a foul of body ball?

**Answer:** At the time of switching rackets, it is considered as a foul of “intentional foul”.

## **9. Stop balls**

**Question 19.** The ball was not moved, but I hit it when it is in rotating state. Will this be a stop ball?

**Answer:** A stop ball is a state in which the ball is completely restrained, including the rotation of the ball. Hence, in the state where the ball is not moving, but rotating, the ball can be said to be valid, so it will not be a foul of a stop ball.

## **10. Overtime**

**Question 20.** The third shot hit the net and returned, so another player hit the fourth shot, but since that also hit the net, I hit the fifth shot. Is this a foul of overtime?

**Answer:** Yes, it is an overtime of offense. The third shot hit the net and returned is “you can hit only once (fourth shot)”. Therefore, even if different players hit the ball in the fourth shot, hit the net and returned, it is foul.

## **11. Standing**

**Question 21.** Is it a foul of standing when trying to hit a ball at a slight distance hip lifted from a chair?

**Answer:** Standing's foul is judged not only when you obviously lift your hip from a chair, but also when you move the chair or lift the legs of the chair. Therefore, in this case it can be said to be a foul of standing.

## **12. Intention Foul**

**Question 22.** After hitting the ball, the racket left my hand. The ball that the opponent hit rolled over the racket and a foul was called. Is it still a foul even if I did not speak intentionally?

**Answer:** It is not an Intentional Foul unless the player intentionally released it. In this case, the ball rolled over the racquet that had been released, so it was a dribbling foul. In the case of an Intentional Foul, it is up to the referee to decide if it was intentional or not.

## **(H) Other**

**Question 23.** Is it possible to enter the server after the right blocker become a substitute player within the same set?

**Answer:** Change player can be done twice per set. The number of substitutional players is limited to 2 persons per time. However, position changes during the set due to player substitution are not allowed. Therefore, in this case, once you reserve players, you can return as a competitor in the same

position as before, but you will not be allowed to enter different position. Of course, in the next set, you can take different position.

### **Translation Note:**

The PDF copy of the official rulebook in Japanese is found on [this link](#). The Japanese has been translated to English by Yuri Matsuo to be used for the US premier of Takkyu Volley hosted at UCLA John Wooden Center.

The event was hosted by UCLA Disability Studies, UCLA Recreation, and UCLA Adaptive Recreation.

Web Address of rule book:

<http://www.net1.jway.ne.jp/miyatasuisinkai/img/file12.pdf>