



Tripleball Tips

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Tripleball is a variation on standard volleyball that is typically used with beginning / younger players of the game. Tripleball gets its name from the 3-ball sequence that is used. The sequence is as follows:

1. Team A serves the ball to Team B to initiate a rally, just as in standard volleyball. The rally is played to completion.
2. Someone associated with Team B tosses a ball over the net from Team A's side towards Team B. The rally is played to completion.
3. Someone associated with Team A tosses a ball over the net from Team B's side towards Team A. The rally is played to completion.
4. The players on Team B rotate and serve to Team A, with the sequence continuing.

Volleyball Alberta has two variations of Tripleball. One for 13U and another for 14U. You can reference the specifics of each format in the following documents:

[13U Tripleball](#)

[14U Tripleball](#)

The following are some tips that will help you officiate triple ball:

- Identify who the ball tossers and retrievers are before the match and give them instructions. Getting everyone on the same page will make the match flow better.
- It is often helpful if the score keeper places small check marks in the exit score box to keep track of the three ball sequence.

- Ensure each team provides both a ball tosser and a ball retriever. Line judges should not be ball retrievers.
- Often the ball tosser is a member of the coaching staff. Remember to instruct them not to coach their team through the net. This is distracting for the team on the side of the net where the ball tosser is standing.
- During the coin toss, instruct the captains to have their team roll the ball behind them when the ball is out of play. If the teams forget during the match, help them remember with a soft whistle and a quick gesture. This is key to keeping the game flowing at a good pace.
- Ball tossers should always be positioned on the same side of the court as the first referee. Ideally this will be opposite the team benches. This helps when you need to give them directions.
- Ball retrievers should always be positioned against the back wall behind the end line.
- After tossing a ball, ball tossers should remain without a ball for the remainder of the three ball sequence. This means that by looking at them, you can determine where you are in the three ball sequence depending if they have a ball or not.
- Ball retrievers should be instructed to hold on to volleyballs that are out of play until the three ball sequence has completed.
- You should instruct ball tossers to give out of play volleyballs to the ball retriever. Sometimes they put them on the floor. This can become a safety hazard.
- If you struggle to keep track of who the serving team is, one commonly used trick is to place an elastic band around your wrist on the side of the serving team and change it from side to side before each serve.

If you have any other tips or suggestions for officiating Tripleball, please let us know!

Tags: Tripleball