

Becoming A BBOWS High School Volleyball Official

Thanks for your interest in finding out what it takes to become a certified high school volleyball official for BBOWS. Please check the BBOWS website at www.bbows.org for more information.

What is BBOWS?

The **B**altimore **B**oard of **O**fficials for **W**omen's **S**ports is a service organization providing the most desirable sports officiating services to girl's and women's sports. Our Board recruits, trains, and provides continuing education for people interested in becoming an official.

The members of the Baltimore Board strive to provide the leadership appropriate in terms of ethical conduct and consistency with the highest level of performance and achievement of the athletes involved.

In general what times are volleyball matches scheduled?

Matches are generally scheduled on all weekdays. Starting times range from 3:15PM to 6PM. Officials need to arrive at the game site no later than 30 minutes prior to start time of the game, properly dressed and on the court prepared to begin the pre game warmups . There are minimal Saturday matches that occur during the season.

Which schools are provided officials for the sport of volleyball?

BBOWS will service the following schools:

- Baltimore County Public (MPSSAA)
- Baltimore City Public (MPSSAA)
- Interscholastic Athletic Association of Maryland (Private and Parochial Schools)
- MIAA Boys Volleyball League
- Other various Independent Middle and High Schools

The volleyball season runs from September 1 to November 15. There is Recreation ball in the spring and summer.

What is the registration fee to become a BBOWS volleyball official?

The total registration fee is \$175.00 for a first year/new official. This covers the cost of the training class, annual BBOWS sport specific season registration fee, MPSSAA sports insurance coverage, and high school federation rules and casebook. Keep in mind a payment schedule can be accommodated or the fees can be paid in full. You will recoup these fees quickly with the assignments you receive. There is also a requirement of your attendance at regular volleyball sport meetings as well as the annual BBOWS meeting that is held in the June.

What type of instructional training is provided for officiating volleyball?

There are instructors who provide classroom and courtside training. Training classes are held in August, from 6:30 to 8:30 at a local high school. The training and meeting dates are available on the website.

Becoming A BBOWS High School Volleyball Official

There are organized play dates that provide non-paid officiating opportunities prior to the start of the season. It is very important for new officials to be available to work these matches. The rules for high school volleyball are governed by NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations). The NFHS test must be taken and completed with a passing grade. A training fee is associated and must be paid prior to the first class.

What are physical demands associated with the sport of volleyball?

The physical demands of Volleyball are minimal. Basically, you must be able to stand for at least 1 and one half hours. Being prepared mentally as an R1 or R2 requires total concentration and, the ability to anticipate what will happen next is a must.

What are the uniform/equipment requirements and their associated costs?

The uniform consists of:

- ✓ Black polyester slacks
- ✓ White volleyball shirt
- ✓ Black Shoes
- ✓ Black Fox 40/Mini Fox worn with a black lanyard

Optional Equipment for the first year consists of:

- ✓ BBOWS Jacket

The associated cost for the uniform and equipment is **generally less than \$150**.

What are the match fees for officials?

In general, two officials working together on a Varsity match will each earn between \$65-\$70 per match. Two officials working together on a Junior Varsity (JV) match can make between \$50-\$55 each. Usually, officials work both V and JV matches at the assigned location.

How am I assigned games?

BBOWS uses an assigner for each sport. Officials do not get assigned by an individual school or school system. Your games are scheduled using a web-site (www.arbitersports.com) and internet email. Factors influencing assignments are availability, attitude, experience, and dependability. All requirements must be met before being assigned.