

2026-27 TSSAA SPORTS CALENDAR
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

- First Practice Date is the Monday of NFHS Week 4.
- **Scrimmage Rule** does apply.
- The Date of the First Contest allowed is the Monday of NFHS Week 7. Eligibility and schedules must be filed online.
- Maximum number of regular season contests is 35 matches. Maximum number of tournaments is four with each tournament counting as three matches.
- Maximum of eight days of **Off-Season** team practice within a 15 consecutive school day period after January 1 and prior to the end of the school year.
- In the **Summer** there are no restrictions in regard to practice.
- **Dead Period Rule** does apply.

IMPORTANT GIRLS VOLLEYBALL DATES

Rules Meeting information can be found on the [TSSAA Website](#).

First Practice Date.....	July 27, 2026
First Contest Date.....	Aug. 17, 2026
Deadline to File Eligibility & Schedules	Aug. 17, 2026
DI Districts (MBC By).....	Oct. 9, 2026
DII A Regions (MBC By).....	Oct. 10, 2026
DI Regions (MBC By).....	Oct. 13, 2026
DII A & DII AA First Round	Oct. 13, 2026
DI Sectionals	Oct. 15, 2026
DII A & DII AA Quarterfinals	Oct. 17, 2026
DII State Championships.....	Oct. 20-22, 2026
DI State Championships.....	Oct. 20-23, 2026
Dead Period.....	June 28 – July 11, 2027

Dead Period Rule – No coaching, observing, or contact between coach and players in sport involved. There is no practice, no open facilities, and no weight training/conditioning. The Dead Period, which is to be observed by all schools, is the week of the 4th of July and the preceding week – 14 days.

TSSAA Benefit Games – Schools may choose to host one additional contest with the host of the game contributing \$100 towards the construction of the new state office building. Each school would be allowed to play in up to two of these games per sport season. These games will not count against the number of regular season contests schools are allowed to schedule. Schools must request permission to participate in a TSSAA Benefit Game, regardless of whether or not the school is the host. Schools will be charged a fee of \$100 for the game they host.

Off-Season – Begins with the school’s elimination from postseason tournament play in a particular sport and concludes with the end of the school year. Individual instructions may be given to no more than three students per day.

Open Facilities – Permitted year round (Monday through Friday) except during the **Dead Period**. Schools may use their facilities for students in their building prior to or after the school day. Coaches may serve in a supervisory capacity only. There is no instruction, no teaching, no coaching, etc. Coaches may not participate or play in any manner. It is a free play type atmosphere. Sport specific skills cannot be taught. ATTENDANCE CANNOT BE MANDATORY.

Practice - Any interaction between a coach and student-athlete(s) where instruction, teaching, coaching, etc., is occurring. Happenstance communications between coach and student-athlete(s), in circumstances where attendance by the student-athlete is neither expected nor required, are not considered to be practice. Such communications may not, however, be used to circumvent the requirement in open facilities that a coach act in a supervisory capacity only. In addition, try-outs are considered practice.

Practice During the School Day – All athletic practice during the regular hours of any school day shall conform to the same rules, regulations, and season as corresponding athletic practice outside the school day.

Pre-Season – Begins the first day of school until the first official day of practice in that particular sport.

Scrimmage Rule – After the TSSAA first official day of practice in all sports, a school can practice with or scrimmage another school. Once a school has played their first game, there can be no more scrimmages (Applies to High School & Middle School Division). In the high school division a school may have a maximum of four scrimmages or two scrimmage dates or one scrimmage date and two scrimmages (A scrimmage date is defined as more than two schools scrimmaging on the same day). **If registered TSSAA officials are used for a scrimmage, the schools are subject to the same sportsmanship requirements and penalties that apply to regular season contests.**

Summer – The period of time from the end of the school year until the Monday of NFHS Week 4 (opening day of practice).

Tournament – All tournaments shall be held on consecutive days with no other regular season games being played during the tournament unless permission is granted by the Executive Director. A tournament is defined as competition of three or more teams and three or more games, matches, etc., which progress to determine a winner.

Weight Training/Conditioning – Permitted at all times except during the **Dead Period**. Must be generic type program that would be beneficial to all students and not sport specific. Exceptions: 1. In baseball and girls softball, players may throw to condition arms. 2. In lacrosse, players may do stickwork (fundamental catching and throwing). Sport specific skills cannot be taught. Only students who are enrolled and in regular attendance at the school may participate during the school year. ATTENDANCE CANNOT BE MANDATORY.