

# **Spike Frog Volleyball**

## **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

### **For Players, Spectators and Coaches**

Spike Frog Volleyball acknowledges the right for spectators and coaches to voice their opinion of the action which takes place during an event (practice, game, or tournament). Voicing an opinion of a coach or an official's judgment is certainly part of the game. While we prefer these comments be kept to yourself, we realize some spectators or coaches may go beyond a level of acceptability.

Spike Frog Volleyball has a **zero tolerance policy** regarding certain actions that may take place.

- I. Audible Obscenity
  - a. **Rule** – Players, Coaches and Spectators shall not be allowed to use an audible obscenity while attending a Spike Frog Volleyball event
  - b. *Definition* – Audible Obscenity shall be defined as the use of language commonly known and understood to be profane. If uttered loud enough to be heard clearly and loudly by a referee, coach, opponent or spectator, it shall be considered audible
  - c. Penalty – Offender will be asked to leave premises immediately
- II. Visible Obscenity
  - a. **Rule** – Players, Coaches and Spectators shall not be allowed make any obscene gestures while attending a Spike Frog Volleyball event
  - b. *Definition* – Visible Obscenity shall be defined as any actions or gestures by a person that commonly have an obscene meaning as understood by a reasonable person or of an inappropriate nature
  - c. Penalty – Offender will be asked leave premises immediately
- III. Abuse of the Ball
  - a. **Rule** – Players, Coaches and Spectators shall not violently, dangerously, in frustration or anger, throw or kick the ball with negligent disregard of those inside or outside the playing area
  - b. Penalty – Offender shall be removed from the contest and reported to Spike Frog officials. They will determine severity of abuse and may chose between verbal warning, suspension or further investigation
- IV. Theft of property
  - a. **Rule** – Players, Coaches and Spectators shall not steal or borrow without permission another's property.
  - b. Penalty – Offender shall be immediately suspended from Spike Frog Volleyball
- V. Verbal Abuse
  - a. **Rule** – Players, Coaches and Spectators shall not verbally abuse the referee, teammates, opponents, spectators or Spike Frog officials
  - b. *Definition* – Verbal Abuse shall be defined as statements that imply dishonesty, negligence or that are derogatory, insulting or otherwise offensive
  - c. Penalty - Offender will be asked leave premises immediately
- VI. Physical Abuse

- a. **Rule** – Players, Coaches and Spectators shall not physically abuse or intend harm to any referee, teammates, opponents, spectators or Spike Frog officials
  - b. **Definition** – Physical Abuse shall be defined as any act of another party involving contact intended to cause feelings of physical pain, injury or bodily harm
  - c. **Penalty** – Offender will be removed from premises immediately
- VII. Unsportsmanlike Conduct
  - a. **Rule** – Players, Coaches and Spectators shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner, giving due regard to the authority of all Spike Frog officials and all the rights of teammates, opponents and spectators
  - b. **Definition** – Unsportsmanlike Conduct shall be defined as any conduct that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the success of the activity or sport. This shall include heckling, taunting, cheating, excessive celebration or other activity not listed previously that may show a lack of self-control when dealing with others
  - c. **Penalty** – Offender shall be removed from the contest and reported to Spike Frog officials. They will determine severity of abuse and may choose between verbal warning, suspension or further investigation
- VIII. Response to Threats
  - a. Any threatened Spike Frog official, referee, or coach are now required to immediately remove themselves from the area WITHOUT RESPONSE (make no attempt to respond or engage the person making the threat) and report the incident to the nearest Spike Frog official, facility manager or security officer who will provide a safe haven.
  - b. There will be no acceptable excuse or reason which will allow the person making the threat to remain on the premises. He/she must be asked to remove themselves from the premises immediately without further comment and not return to any facility being used for the remainder of the event, regardless of length.

When a penalty must be assessed, parties and witnesses may be asked to submit a written or verbal incident report as part of the investigation. This will be at the discretion of the Spike Frog Director. Until a decision has been reached, offender(s) may not return or attend any future Spike Frog Volleyball event. Penalties may range between a verbal/written warning to expulsion from Spike Frog Volleyball and possible criminal actions.

Under no circumstances will an offender be given a refund of their league fees.