1. **GENERAL RULES:**

1.1 This volleyball competition shall be held in accordance with the rules of International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) 2017-2020 Edition and as modified by and/or supplemented by the guidelines stated hereunder.

1.2 In case of any dispute on the text, The English version of the FIVB Rules shall prevail.

1.3 Any unforeseen event not covered by the rules shall be dealt with as follows:

   1.3.1. Cases of general nature shall be resolved in accordance with the guidelines of DepEd Palarong Pambansa.
   1.3.2. Technical question shall be resolved in accordance with the Technical Guidelines, rules & Regulations of Volleyball.
   1.3.3. Question on Eligibility shall be resolved in accordance with the screening and eligibility guidelines of DepEd Palarong Pambansa.

2. **SPECIFIC RULES:**

2.1. **PARTICIPANTS**

The DepEd Palarong Pambansa Volleyball Tournament shall be participated by the Elementary Boys & Girls and High School Boys & Girls team(s) to a total of Seventeen Regions in each level.

2.2. **ELIGIBILITY RULES:**

The DepEd Palarong Pambansa eligibility rules shall be adopted in the elementary and secondary boys and girls' teams.

2.3 **ENTRIES AND TEAM INFORMATION:**

Each region is entitled to send entries in two (2) divisions and two levels – the Elementary Boys & Girls and Secondary Boys and Girls divisions.

2.3.1. **COMPOSITION OF A TEAM:**

A team shall be composed of the following:

- 12 Players including one (1) or (2) LIBEROS
- 1 Head Coach
- 1 Asst. Coach
- 1 Chaperon in case of Girls' team (female chaperon only)

A team may have three (3) or more team officials (the coach, the chaperon, trainer, and medical doctor) to be able to assist their team during the warm-up session, provided they are in the official list of their respective team. Only the twelve (12) players will be allowed to take warm-up in the court. As the game starts, the coach, asst. coach and the chaperon as the case may be, will be the only team officials left on the player’s bench.
2.4. **SPORTS SOLIDARITY MEETING:**

Coaches and team captains of all participating teams are obliged to attend Sports Solidarity meeting or the General Technical Meeting to be able to clarify rules to be applied / adopted. Failure to attend waives its right to file neither protest nor complaint against any matter discussed and agreed during the meeting. It is also in this meeting that the coach of each participating team must:

2.4.1. Submit their entries to the Volleyball Tournament Management to confirm officially its participation following the modified/simplified O-2 VIS Form with twelve (12) players including the LIBERO and three (3) or more officials – the Coach and the chaperon (in case of girls’ team entry), trainer, and medical doctor.

2.4.2. Attend the “Preliminary inquiry” in the said meeting and submit for inspection the two (2) team captain’s uniform and that of the LIBERO.

2.4.3. Be furnished a copy of schedule of games from the 1st to the last day of the DepEd Palaro.

2.5. **HOW TO WIN A SET/MATCH**

2.5.1. All games for the elementary boys and girls shall be played on a 2-out-of-3 sets following the Rally Point System. A team which scores 25 points with a minimum lead of two (2) points wins a set. In case of a 24-24 tie, play is continued until a two-point lead is achieved i.e., 26-24; 27-25; etc. Should there be 3rd or deciding set, the change sides of court shall be at score 13 and the team which scores 25 points or with a minimum lead of two (2) points, wins a set.

2.5.2. All games for the Secondary boys and girls during the preliminary rounds and the battle for 3rd shall played on a 2-out-of-3 sets following the Rally Point System. A team which scores 25 points with a minimum lead of two (2) points, wins a set. In case of a 24-24 tie, play is continued until a two-point lead is achieved i.e., 26-24; 27-25; etc. Should there be 3rd or deciding set, the change sides of court shall be at score 13 and the team which scores 25 points or with a minimum lead of two (2) points, wins a set. In the Championship Match, games will be played on a 3-out-of-5 sets. Should there be fifth (5th) or deciding set, teams change sides of the court at score 8 and a team which scores 15 points or with a minimum lead of two (2) points, wins the set.

2.6. **CONDUCT OF COMPETITION:**

2.6.1. The First Referee shall not permit any discussion about his her decisions. Rule 23.2.4.

2.6.2. Referees accredited by DepED and officially endorsed by their respective regions will be tapped to officiate the Volleyball games.

2.6.3. The Rule of Succession in scheduling games in all levels shall apply. Hence, teams shall be within the vicinity of the court forty-five (45 min) to one hour ahead of their scheduled time of play. Fifteen minutes prior to the start of the match, the 1st and the 2nd referees will conduct the toss coin and game proceedings. Games shall start as scheduled.
2.6.4. Players, coaches, including identified team supporters, pointing dirty fingers, use of profane language or any derogatory remarks addressed to the officiating officials, shall be warned and repetition of the same offense warrants sanction. The team shall be sanctioned by loss of service or point against it if the spectator is identified to be the team supporter.

2.6.5. At the end of the match, team captains shall congratulate and shake hands with the Referees [a gesture of sportsmanship], sign the score sheet to ratify the result of the match. (Rules 5.1.3.1)

2.6.6. There shall be regular inspection of/checking of player’s ID before the start of the game.

2.7. PARTICIPANT’S CONDUCT:

2.7.1. Participants must know the “official volleyball rules” and abide by them.
2.7.2. Participants must accept Referee’s decision with sportsmanlike conduct, without disputing them;
2.7.3. Participants must refrain from actions or attitude aimed at influencing the decision of the referees or covering up the faults committed by their team.
2.7.4. Participants must behave respectfully and courteously in the spirit of fair play not only towards the referee but also towards the officials, the opponent, teammates and spectators. (Rule 20.2.1)

2.8. OFFICIAL VOLLEYBALL RULES, UNIFORM AND NET HEIGHT

2.8.1. The competition shall be played in accordance with the FIVB Rules 2017-2020 edition. All necessary interpretations will be made before the competition, i.e., during the General Technical Meeting of Coaches and Referees.

2.8.2. A team must officially register and declare one (1) or two (2) LIBEROS prior to its first game or during the Technical Meeting.

2.8.3. THE LIBERO: The coach has the option to field in any of the LIBEROS. Replacement of Libero shall be unlimited amongst them. No way that the two liberos shall be fielded at the same time in the same set.

2.8.4. PLAYING UNIFORM: The playing uniform must be in conformity with the regional color and of the FIVB General Regulations. The player’s number 1-20 registered on the O-2 this form must be the same number on the uniform and shall be the same number to be used by the player throughout the Palarong Pambansa game duration. The uniform of the LIBERO must be in contrast with team’s color. (Rule: 4.3.1; 19.2)

2.8.5. COACHES AND TEAM OFFICIAL’S UNIFORM: The officials on the player’s bench must wear polo shirt or T-shirt with collar. Team officials who are in short pants and/or in slippers will not be allowed to participate during the warm-up. Teams without registered team officials before the start of their scheduled game will lose the game by default. “No Coach No Play rule shall apply. In case a team coach is thrown-out due to unsportsmanlike conduct, the asst. coach or chaperon may act as a coach upon request of the team captain. A “thrown-out” or “penalized coach” however still holds that responsibility to take care of his/her team after the game.
2.8.6. **HEIGHT OF THE NET**

- Elementary Level: Boys: 2.15 meters Girls: 2.10 meters
- Secondary Level: Boys: 2.43 meters Girls: 2.24 meters

2.9. **MODE/FORMAT OF TOURNAMENT:**

The 2018 Palarong Pambansa shall adopt the Single Round Robin, Cross-Over and Knock-out System of tournament in all levels/division, hence, there shall be grouping of teams:

2.9.1. **GROUPING PROCEDURE:**

The seventeen (17) regions/teams shall be divided into four (4) groups, A, B, C, & D. Three (3) groups will have four (4) teams each, and ONE group will have five (5) teams. Seeding shall be based from the result of the previous Palaro result.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP “A”</th>
<th>GROUP “B”</th>
<th>GROUP “C”</th>
<th>GROUP “D”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>2nd</td>
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<td>9th</td>
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<td>11th</td>
<td>12th</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>15th</td>
<td>14th</td>
<td>13th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teams in each group shall play a single round robin and shall be ranked accordingly. Top two (2) teams in each Group A, B, C, & D will advance to the Quarter Finals and play on a crossover knock-out system. Respective winners will advance to the semi-finals; losers will play for consolation round (optional). Losers from the Semi-Finals will play for 3rd and 4th Places respectively the winners will play for the Championship (1st & 2nd Places.)

**QUARTER FINALS (4 GAMES)**

- QF1: A1_________ -vs- D2_________
- QF2: A2_________ -vs- D1_________
- QF3: B1_________ -vs- C2_________
- QF4: B2_________ -vs- C1_________

**SEMI-FINALS (2 Games)**

- SF1: Winner QF1_________ -vs- Winner QF4_________
- SF2: Winner QF2_________ -vs- Winner QF3_________

**FINALS**

- Loser SF1_________ -vs- Loser SF2_________ 3rd and 4th
- Winner SF1_________ -vs- Winner SF2_________ 1st and 2nd

2.10 **CLASSIFICATION OF TEAMS**

Classification of Teams will be considered in the following orders:

2.10.1 Number of Victories; The teams will be classified in descending order by the number of matches won.
2.10.2 In The Case of Equality in the Matches Won. Ranking points will be considered.
The following points will be awarded per match to each team:

| Match Won  | 2-0 | 3 points |
| Match Won  | 2-1 | 2 points |
| Match lost | 1-2 | 1 point  |
| Match lost | 0-2 | 0 point  |
| Match Forfeited | 0 point (25-0;25-0) |

2.10.3 In case of Equality of Ranking Points:

2.10.3.1 Set Quotient- In the case of equality in the number of matches won by two or several teams, they will be classified in descending order by the quotient resulting from the division of the number of all sets won by the number of all sets lost.

2.10.3.2 Points Quotient- If the tie persists as per the set quotient (2.10.3.1) the will be classified in descending order by the quotient resulting from the division of all points scored by the total of points lost during all sets.

2.10.3.3 If tie continues as per the points quotient (2.10.3.2) between two teams, the priority will be given to the team which won the last match between them. When the tie in point quotient is between three or more teams, a new classification of these teams in terms of 2.10.3.1, 2.10.3.2 and will be made taking into consideration only matches in which they were opposed to each other.

2.11 AWARDS:

2.11.1. TROPHIES AND MEDALS:

Trophies and corresponding medals shall be awarded to the mythical six (6)/ MVP and the winning coach of the champion team. Participants shall also be awarded the Certificate of Participation by the DepEd as the Palarong Pambansa Organizer.

NOTE: All Volleyball Players must wear their official uniform by region in receiving the medals, trophies and certificate of participation during the volleyball awarding and closing ceremonies which will follow immediately after the championship match. Failure to appear during the awarding and closing ceremonies forfeits their award.

3. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS:

3.1. PROTEST/COMPLAINTS:

Protest on eligibility shall be addressed to the Screening/Eligibility Committee while protest on Technicality shall be addressed to the Technical Manager. Such protest must be submitted/presented in writing within 30 minutes' period after the game in question duly signed by the team captain and coach accompanied with the proof or evidence. The burden of proof lies on the protestor. Failure to submit it within 30 minute would mean non-interest on the part of the protesting party to pursue the case; hence, it shall be
considered a nuisance protest. In which case, the team lodging such nuisance protest shall be given stern warning.

In case the protest is pursued and the concerned player has been found to be ineligible, the team fielding ineligible player shall be penalized by forfeiting all the games where the ineligible player has played in favor of the opponent without prejudice to punitive sanction such as suspension or disqualification from coaching.

3.2. **CONDUCT DURING COMPETITION AND CORRESPONDING PENALTIES**

3.2.1 **PLAYERS AND COACHES ATTITUDE DURING GAMES**

Participants must refrain from actions or attitudes aimed at influencing the decision of the referees, otherwise, the player/team/coach shall be issued verbal warning. Repetition of the same offense warrants penalty.

3.2.2. **UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF LIQUOR:**

Any member of the team found to be under the influence of liquor or drugs shall not be allowed to sit on the bench.

3.2.3. **SANCTIONS:**

All forms of misconduct during competition shall be subject to sanction in accordance with the sanction scale. (Rule 21.3.)

3.2.4. **DEFAULT:**

A team that does not appear fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled time of their game shall be declared in default in favor of the opposing team.

3.2.5. **DEFAULT/FORFEITURE/WALK-OUT:**

A team that declare its game in default, voluntary forfeiture and/or walks-out before or during the match shall be given zero (0) point. Chances are, it might entail exclusion from the next qualifying/ranking round. This rule applies from the preliminary up to the championship round. All matches previously played will be declared forfeited with score: 0-2; (0 25; 0-25 for two out of three sets and 0-25; 0-25; 0-25 for three out of five sets.)

3.2.6. **3-BALL SYSTEM**

To avoid delay of games and to be able to finish the game within the prescribed period, three ball systems shall be applied. Teams are advised to tap the ball to the ball retriever’s side.

3.3 **MEDICAL SERVICE/KIT**

It is recommended that all participating teams must provide themselves “Medical” team or a “Medical First Aid Kit”.

4. **AWARDS (TROPHIES, MEDALS & CERTIFICATES)**

Winners in respective category/division shall be awarded the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Champion</th>
<th>- 12 Gold Medals</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Runner-up</td>
<td>- 12 Silver Medals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Runner-up</td>
<td>- 12 Bronze Medals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. **VICTORY CEREMONIES:**
Victory ceremonies shall follow immediately after the conclusion of the tournament. Coaches of top three (3) teams must advise their players to be in full volleyball uniform particularly those who will be receiving their awards.

6. **PROTOCOL:**
The Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) protocol shall be adapted during the preliminary rounds and the World Grand Prix (WGP) protocol during the Championship matches.

All teams and players must be within the vicinity of the volleyball court 45 minutes prior to their scheduled game. Fifteen minutes prior to the match, the First Referee and the Second Referee will conduct the toss coin and the other game proceedings. Games shall start as scheduled.

7. **PROLONG INTERRUPTIONS:**
Interrupted matches, even if it exceeds four hours and played in another venue, match shall continue with the same scores, players, and position. Interrupted set shall continue normally, with the scores of completed set/s kept as played.

8. **UNFORSEEN ITEMS:**
As regards the specific items not expressly foreseen in this regulation, the Tournament Manager will decide in consultation with the General Rules and Guidelines contained in the FIVB and the *Palarong Pambansa* Rules and Regulations.