

Open Challenge I Tournaments

Al Herbert

The Ohio Valley Region will host tournaments for 18 Open, 17 Open, and 16 Open teams at the Columbus Convention Center on January 28-29. These tournaments will last 2 days and be similar to the Open Challenge II tournament set for later in March. One difference is that these tournaments will be limited to 16 teams instead of 24 teams. The format for these tournaments will be as follows.

First Round

9 am start on Saturday. Four pools of 4 teams each. Play from 9 am until about 3 pm.

Second Round

3 - 4 pm re-pool with top two teams from each morning pool advancing to two 4-team pools and the 3rd and 4th place teams advancing to two 4-team pools. Play the first 4 matches of the second round from 4PM until 8PM Saturday. Finish the last two matches of the second round beginning at 8AM Sunday (note the earlier start time on Sunday). Finish the second round at about 10AM.

Third Round

10-11AM Sunday, re-pool by taking the top two teams from the top 2 pools into a single 4-team pool. Place the other two teams from the two top pools into a single 4-team pool. Place the top two teams from each of the lower 2 pools into a single 4-team pool. Place the other two teams from the lower 2 pools into a single 4-team pool. Play this third round from 11AM until about 5PM. Placement in the tournament will be determined by each team's finish in their third-round pool. There will not be any bracket matches.

Each team will play 5 matches on Saturday and 4 matches on Sunday (assuming a full 16 teams in the tournament). If there are fewer than 16 teams entered in an age group, then some of the pools will play best of 5-set matches instead of best of 3-set matches. There will not be any tie-breaking sets played at the end of any round. In the case of a 2-way tie in a pool, the order of finish for those 2 teams will be determined by their head-to-head match. In the case of a 3-way tie in match record, order of finish will be determined by set records, point differential and if necessary, coin toss.

These tournaments will be an excellent opportunity for teams to play a significant number of matches during the weekend. Also you will play at least 6 different teams during the 9 matches. Out-of-region teams will be allowed to enter these tournaments.

Contact Al Herbert (herbert@ovr.org) with any questions.



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