To: Parents and Coaches of Grade 6, 7 Volleyball Athletes

CC: RETSD Middle Years Administrators, PE Specialists and Superintendents

From: Brian Hatherly, Physical Education, Health Education Consultant (Gr 6- 12)

Date: September 15, 2017

**Re: Year two of change in format for grades 6 and 7 volleyball to Triple Ball Volleyball**

**One year ago, we were pleased to announce the initiation of Triple Ball Volleyball format for play in grade six (Four on Four Triple Ball) and grade seven (six on six Triple Ball). Our Grade 8 game remained the same as previous.**

Making decisions about training and competition in Middle Years Athletics requires collaboration and making use of tools such as Long Term Athlete Development Models developed by each National and Provincial Sport Governing Organizations.

Considerations at that time, began the year prior with a mini-forum where Scott Koskie, Provincial High Performance Coach, Volleyball Manitoba was asked to facilitate and advise a larger city group then subsequently, our PE staff in RETSD.

Statistics presented based upon current play demonstrated that by initiating a rally with the serve in the U13 group:

* 57% of rallies contain 2 or less contacts
* 29% of all serves were missed, 28% of all serves were aces
* a third contact attack occurs 16% of the time

The goal for volleyball Canada:

* To increase the probability of creating a rally (more than one or two contacts)
* Successful rallies "are an integral part for learning and enjoying the game"

RETSD PD opportunities were presented for the PE specialists, coaches, officials and minor officials.

Additionally, announcements and a link from the RETSD home page was provide for further clarification.

Upon post-season meetings with PE staff in charge of PE Programming in the schools, we were pleased with the overall results of; longer rallies (more touches of the ball), more attack plays, more opportunities for blocks to be used on defense, to list a few. We are thrilled with the outlook that these skills should provide for the grade eight league and looking forward to the same formats for all leagues, grades 6- 8, in the upcoming season. Further, our high school PE staff were hugely in favor!

Grade 7 Triple Ball rules can be reviewed at:

<https://retsdca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/bhatherly_retsd_mb_ca/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=MmqhDL1VT%2fFIwn%2btY97G4iU94uD9NhYyzNERBO%2fm1RM%3d&docid=18f5fc75f72804394bcc97053a9f6881c&rev=1>

Grade 6 Triple Ball guidelines can be reviewed at:

<https://retsdca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/bhatherly_retsd_mb_ca/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=wsb1xB6ovxQFKB2zn2XIFAg4y5yaKC%2bdc15dHQYO2%2fA%3d&docid=1cdeaabeb270b4b97afeb9490b17d4bed&rev=1>
For further information following the review of the above links, please contact your school’s PE Teacher. If you may still require information you may contact me via bhatherly@retsd.mb.ca

*Good luck to athletes, players, coaches and officials in the upcoming volleyball season!*

*Actively,*

*Brian Hatherly*

*RETSD PH/HE Consultant (MY, SY)*