

## Event Rules – All Participants

1. Ability Level: Teams and individuals of all abilities are welcome and all reasonable accommodations will be made to ensure an enjoyable day.
2. Registration Entities: Teams are generally comprised by individuals who are affiliated with a company or organization, but unaffiliated individuals may also assemble teams. There are no limits to the number of teams that any company or organization may enter in the competition, but no individual may compete on more than one team, within the same event. AIA membership is not required to participate.
3. Vehicular Access: No motorized vehicles are allowed beyond designated parking areas.
4. Tournament Direction: The competition will be overseen by a committee of volunteers who will not tolerate abusive language or behavior. Offending participants will be issued a warning and then disqualified from the competition with a second violation of this rule. Particularly egregious or harmful behavior will result in the *immediate* disqualification of the competitor, without warning.  
2024 Competition Committee:
  1. Ben Kweller, Sand Fest Co-Chair
  2. James Cowan, Sand Fest Co-Chair
  3. Brett Klinger, Sand Castle Competition Director
  4. Samantha Ayotte, Volleyball Tournament Director
  5. Patty Lampert, AIA Cleveland Executive Director
  6. Allison Lukacsy-Love, Sand Fest Chair Emeritus
5. Metroparks Oversight: Adherence with all Metroparks rules is required.
6. Appeals: Any disciplinary or competitive appeals should be immediately referred to the competition committee, who will make a swift decision; all decisions made by this committee are final.
7. Competitor Waivers: All competitors are required to be listed on the team manifest and to have a liability waiver on file with event organizers. Participants must confirm their compliance with these conditions by checking in at the desk and receiving a bracelet. **Only individuals with bracelets will be allowed in competition areas.**
8. Equipment: Teams are responsible for bringing their own beverage coolers and shading devices. Sand socks, gloves, and light clothing with good coverage are also recommended to avoid injury during the event.
9. Refuse: Per Metroparks, no glass containers or illicit substances are allowed on the beach; all teams are responsible for the removal of their supplies and debris.
10. Concessions: Food and beverage (including alcohol) will be available for purchase from food trucks as well as the Edgewater concession stand, which includes a family-friendly concession stand and full service bar.
11. Weather: Event is rain or shine; competition will be suspended only in the presence of lightning or other beach closure (not including swim advisories, warnings, and closures). No refunds will be awarded.
12. Public health: All teams will be provided with the public health plan assembled by event organizers and approved by Metroparks. Failure to adhere to the plan's requirements may result in disqualification.

### Competition Rules: Sand Castle

1. Fees: Participation fee is **\$450** per team if registered by June 17, 2024 and is paid prior to the event. Event fee increases to \$500 on June 18 - July 5, 2024. (\$50 per individual by 6/17, \$75 per individual on 6/18 and after.)
2. Registration: All teams must pre-register to compete in the sand castle competition and will be assigned a plot.
3. Timing: Team check-in opens at 7AM, at which point teams are free to setup their build site. No sand may be moved until the start of the build, at 8AM. All building must occur between 8AM and 3PM.
4. Building Provisions: Each team is provided the following:
  - a. 20' x 20' beach plot, within a 24' x 24' staked site (dimensions may change based on public health plans);
  - b. 3+ yards of clean building sand;
  - c. Access to clean water near the competition area; and
  - d. 10' x 10' shade tent immediately South of the build site.
5. Site Selection: Chosen at random. Locations will be distributed to teams in days prior to event.
6. Implements: Teams are responsible for providing all of their own formwork, tools, and other equipment. Buckets, shovels, sprayers, and masonry tools of all kinds are recommended.
  - a. All team members and supplies must remain inside the team's designated build area or immediately "behind" (North). Teams that fail to constrain their activities within their designated area will be (1) warned and then (2) disqualified from award consideration.
  - b. All equipment, formwork, and foreign materials must be removed prior to judging at 3PM.
7. Foreign Materials: No adhesives, glues, or foreign materials of any kind are allowed in the construction of the castle. The only non-sand materials exempted from this rule are objects or materials found on Edgewater Beach.
8. Communication: Sand castle teams are encouraged to appoint a team spokesperson willing to speak with spectators curious about the team's activities. A single sign that promotes the build team and its design concept is also encouraged. The sign must be no larger than 18" x 24" and should conform with event format.
9. Captain's Duties: All official communication for the competition will be done through the designated captain, with contact information provided.
10. Judging: Judging will take place after shovels down by a panel of "local celebrity" judges. Award categories and judging criteria will be posted to the Sand Fest website.

### Competition Rules: Volleyball

1. Fees: Participation fee is **\$350** per team if registered by June 17, 2024 and is paid prior to the event. Event fee increases to \$400 on June 18 - July 5, 2024. (\$50 per individual by 6/17, \$75 per individual on 6/18 and after.)
2. Registration: All teams must pre-register to compete in the volleyball competition.
3. Honors: Awards will be conferred upon the competition winner and runner-up.
4. **Timing: Team check-in begins at 8AM. First matches will begin at 9AM**, with rolling matches starting thereafter. If at least four players (two women, two men) are not present within five minutes of the announced start of the pool play match, the opposing team is granted 10 points. If the team has not arrived after ten minutes the entire match is forfeited. During tournament play, if the team is not present within five minutes of the match time, the first set will be forfeited. If the team has not arrived at the tournament match after ten minutes, the entire match is forfeited.
5. Rest Periods:
  - a. Teams are entitled to a 10-minute break between consecutive matches; additional water breaks may be allowed, based on weather conditions.
  - b. A 1-minute timeout may be used by each team during a match. Injuries automatically qualify as a timeout.
6. Competition: Tournament is a co-ed, seeded tournament with round-robin pool play followed by two separate single-elimination tournaments: Bracket A (competitive) and Bracket B (recreation). Bracket assignment and seeding will be determined by pool play results. This format ensures all teams of at least four matches and tournament play against teams of roughly equal caliber.
7. Composition & Subbing: Teams must play with at least four participants on the court and not more than six, with **at least one** of the participants being a woman. Unlimited substitutions may be made at the server position only. Players must play a full rotation prior to subbing out (injured players may sub out from any position, but may not reenter a set that they leave).
8. Scoring: Tournament will observe rally scoring. All matches will be one set, played to 30 points; the victor must win by 2. Pool play matches will be capped at 35 points. There will be no cap for tournament play.
9. Side & Serve: "Rock-paper-scissors" will be used to determine side and serving order with the winner choosing side or serve, and the other team determining the remaining option. Side is switched when either team reaches 15 points, 30 points (if nec.), and every five points thereafter (if nec.).
10. Rules: Scooping, lifting, pushing, or allowing the ball to roll on the body will be considered a held ball. Attacks may be attempted by any player on the court, while blocking can only be done by front row players. Serves may be initiated from any point behind the end line and may not be attacked.
11. Officiating: Matches will be officiated by certified referees who will not tolerate abuse directed at either themselves or other players.
12. Weather: Tournament is rain or shine, but gusty winds will mandate more frequent side switches and will be determined by the competition committee.