

Volleyball England
**NATIONAL COMPETITION
REGULATIONS**
2026-27

Introduction to the regulations

The purpose of these regulations is to provide a structured, safe, fair and consistent framework for the organisation of Volleyball England's National Volleyball League (NVL) and other national competitions.

The FIVB Rules of the Game, these regulations, and associated regulations for specific competitions, alongside Volleyball England's policies constitute the complete set of provisions in force from 1st of September to the 31st August in the year of issue.

These regulations are ratified by the Volleyball England Board and are the regulations, unless otherwise stated, which govern all competition matters. The operational management of the NVL and associated competitions has been delegated to the Competition Working Group (CWG) and Hub Team.

Competition regulations shall be applied in the following order:

1. FIVB Rules of the Game, unless modified by
2. Volleyball England NVL Regulations and Policies, unless modified by
3. Specific National Competition Regulations¹.

It is recognised that not every circumstance can be anticipated or addressed within these regulations. In such cases, the CWG Senior Competitions Committee holds the authority to make any necessary decisions. Volleyball England also holds the right to issue amendments to these regulations at any time.

Any queries relating to these regulations should be sent to: competitions@volleyballengland.org If you believe that the regulations are unclear, it is essential a ruling in writing is received before making any decision, as stating the regulations are unclear, is not considered as grounds for appeal. If you wish to propose a regulation change for a future season, please complete the form provided by the November of the current season.

[If you wish to make a regulation suggestion, please fill in the form here. Please note that these suggestions will not be reviewed until November 2026](#)

¹ For Under 14's, Under 15's, Under 16's, Under 18's, Inter Regional, Student Cup and Sitting indoor volleyball competitions, please refer to the Volleyball England website for current associated regulations.

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DEFINITIONS:

CEV- European Volleyball Federation

CWG- Competitions Working Group

FIVB- International Volleyball Federation

Match Official- First and Second 1/2nd-Referees

MOS- Minimum operating standards

NVL- National Volleyball League

OWG- Officials Working Group

Technical Official- Scorer, Line judge

Technical Supervisor - Major Competitions, oversees everything to ensure regulations and match protocol is followed

The Hub- Volleyball England Hub, competitions@volleyballengland.org

VE- Volleyball England

VIS- Volleyball Information System

NVL Referee Liaison- Member of OWG responsible for NVL

CWG Senior Competitions Committee - Members of the CWG Responsible for overseeing and supporting the NVL, cwg@volleyballengland.org

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SECTION A. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A 1 To enter the National Volleyball League (NVL), each team must;

- 1.1 Have paid a goodwill deposit of £100.
- 1.2 Have no outstanding debts with Volleyball England (English Volleyball Association Ltd) from previous playing seasons. Teams in debt to the Association may not be permitted to play fixtures if the previous playing season’s debts are not cleared by the 31st May. Teams/ Clubs with historic debts to Volleyball England will not be permitted entry to the NVL until the debts are cleared and the matter resolved by the CWG.
- 1.3 Operate within a club with an approved Volleyball England (Standard) Club Affiliation
- 1.4 Have a name that:
 - a. Permits easy geographical recognition of where they are from / play
 - b. Is unique in the NVL
 - c. Is agreed and approved by the CWG.
- 1.5 Agree to abide by the MOS (See Section D).
- 1.6 No team may alter its name during the competition season without the prior written approval of the CWG.

1.7 ~~NA 7. No club can alter its name or location to gain admission into any of the divisions of the NVL.~~

1.8 and 1.9 ~~No official can act as Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer of more than one NVL club, or hold any combination of these offices for more than one club.~~

Note: The place in the NVL is the right of the club as evidenced by its constitution.

A 2. Withdrawing from the National Volleyball League

- 2.1 Any club or team withdrawing from the NVL, and then wishing to re-enter later, must re-apply as a new entrant. New entrants will be placed in the lowest available division geographically as decided by the CWG.
- 2.2 Any team withdrawing from the NVL during the competition season or after their entry has been accepted by the 16th March 2027 will forfeit their goodwill deposit.

2.3 ~~Any team withdrawing from the NVL after 30th April will forfeit their goodwill deposit of £100 and will additionally will be imposed with a £200 fine.~~

A 3. Before competing in any Volleyball England competition, each team must:

- 3.1 Have their affiliation approved by Volleyball England, this could include a Standard, BUCS, Junior or School/ FEI Affiliation
- 3.2 Have its coach, players and authorised bench personnel appropriately registered with Volleyball England on VolleyZone.
- 3.3 Have paid any further competitions fees that may be in force by the specified deadlines. Late entries will only be accepted at the discretion of the CWG and will be subject to a £25 administration charge.
- 3.4 Have a registered Head coach (minimum Coach Award or equivalent) committed to supporting that team. To be considered compliant with the rule, a team must have a Head coach who is

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at least registered as a learner on a Coach Award coaching course, appearing on their team's Volleyball England page.

- 3.5 Teams which fail to meet the deadline will be sanctioned and deducted one league point for each match it plays until they become compliant.

A 4. Conditions of Entry to the National Cup / Shield

- 4.1 Entry into the National Cup will not be assumed for NVL teams, entry must be processed via VolleyZone.
- 4.2 Non NVL teams must be competing in a recognised league or approved for entry by the CWG.
- 4.3 ~~iii.~~ Players must hold a player membership on VolleyZone to be eligible to compete. Players must have an active NVL Player Registration or National Cup/Shield Registration with Volleyball England to be eligible to compete.
- 4.4 NVL clubs with multiple teams can combine and enter "Amalgam" teams. If a club enters "Amalgam" team(s), they will be recognised in the K.O. Cup as the club's highest-level team(s). Refer to Section J Regulation 1 Volleyball England Cup for further clarification.
- 4.5 NVL players may not play for another NVL Club in any Cup competition other than the one they are registered for.
- 4.6 NVL teams may contain non-NVL registered players if they can demonstrate an affinity with the NVL team they represent.
- 4.7 Refer to Section J for specific regulations and format of the National Cup and Shield.

A 56. New Team Applications

Conditions for a New Team Entry into the NVL will normally include:-

- 5.1 ~~i.~~ Proven playing ability of the team in a recognised regional / area league over more than one season.
- 5.2 ~~ii.~~ Club having been affiliated to VE for the last two seasons.
- 5.3 ~~iii.~~ Club constitution to be acceptable in that it shows:
- a. ~~(1)~~ The name of the club.
 - b. ~~(2)~~ The way its constitution may be amended.
 - c. ~~(3)~~ The financial control.
- 5.4 ~~iv.~~ The Regional or Area Association to provide a letter of support for the entry.
- 5.5 ~~v.~~ The Club should nominate a minimum of one registered referee(s), minimum Grade 3R Regional, who are from there, not currently officiating in the National League, but are prepared to referee a minimum of three games.
- 5.6 ~~vi.~~ The club's financial accounts provide evidence of the financial support for competition at National level.
- 5.7 ~~vii.~~ A team must have a registered **Head** coach (minimum Coach Award or equivalent) committed to supporting the NVL team.
- 5.8 ~~viii.~~ Club being able to nominate at least 10 players who are prepared to commit to playing for the team. If any such players are with an existing NVL team, then it must be shown that the

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team holding the NVL registration would agree to the transfer should the team requesting entry to the NVL be accepted.

~~5.9~~ ~~ix~~-The club having a suitable home venue and equipment for NVL matches in the location indicated by their team's name and specified as their normal home venue.

~~5.10~~ ~~x~~-The CWG has the right and discretion to accept or refuse any club or team admission to the league.

~~5.11~~ ~~xi~~-The deadline to submit an application to enter the NVL for the ~~27⁶-28⁷~~ season is, ~~30th 1st~~ March for new teams. ~~6⁷th~~ April for relegated division 3 teams to reapply.

~~A.67~~ ~~All Teams undertaking self-report:~~

~~6.1~~ Due to the NVL reaching capacity, both pre-existing NVL teams and new team entries, will undergo an end of year standards review to ensure all NVL teams are operating at an expected standard.

The review will be done via a self-report based off the 5-year vision upping standards. This will be then reviewed by the HUB and CWG. Any teams falling short of the NVL MOS will be at risk of being pulled out of the NVL regardless of division.

~~6.2~~ The Self Report will assess teams across four ~~key~~ areas:

- ~~i.~~ ~~a.~~ ~~6.1~~ ~~People~~- (Coaching, referees, team sec, wider team support roles, strong admin team, not withdrawing, lateness, team discipline)
- ~~ii.~~ ~~b.~~ ~~6.2~~ ~~Performance~~- (Past season performance, consistency of performance eg, do we have development/ junior teams rather than mixed match group of mates here today gone tomorrow.)
- ~~iii.~~ ~~c.~~ ~~6.3~~ ~~Club Sustainability~~- (strong governance, safeguarding, player welfare, effective leadership, committee, risk assessment, medical support)
- ~~iv.~~ ~~d.~~ ~~6.4~~ ~~Facilities~~- (access to facilities, Field of play, condition of facility, equipment, Wi-Fi, streaming).

~~VE aim to support the development of teams throughout this process, to ensure that teams are meeting the standard criteria of the NVL, in line with the 5-year vision.~~

~~6.3~~ Self-Reports must be completed by ~~15⁶th~~ February ~~2027⁶~~, any missing self-reports will lead to a £50 fine and may also lead to withdrawal from the league.

~~Note: Volleyball England aim to support the development of teams throughout this process, to ensure that teams are meeting the standard criteria of the NVL, in line with the 5-year vision.~~

The outcome of a team's Self-Report may result in withdrawal or non-promotion of a team regardless of division.

If there are any extenuating circumstances as to why a team is unable to submit this report, please email competitions@volleyballengland.org

~~A.8. No club can alter its name or location to gain admission into any of the divisions of the NVL, and no official can act as Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer of more than one NVL club, or hold any combination of these offices for more than one club.~~

~~Note: The place in the NVL is the right of the club as evidenced by its constitution.~~

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must be kept informed of the changes. Teams must be aware that sourcing Referees for changed fixtures may well be problematic and must be prepared to source their own. Requests to re-arrange a fixture due to holiday arrangements is not considered to be a very exceptional circumstance.

2.4 International Competitions- Where a team has two or more players involved in international competition, application may be made to the CWG for rearrangement. Application must be made as soon as any conflict is known and, in any event, no later than 21 days prior to a match. It is stressed that this rearrangement is discretionary. This provision does not apply to International Beach fixtures.

2.5 Approval requirements for rearrangement- A rearrangement will only be approved when a fully justifiable reason is provided, and a new date has been arranged and agreed by the teams involved. Match start times do not need agreement from both teams, unless they are outside of the times specified in the NVL regulations. Where teams cannot agree a new date then the appropriate member of the CWG Senior Competitions Committee will specify a date on which the rearranged match will be played, or the original date will stand.

2.6 Postponed Fixtures- Where a fixture is postponed due to exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the teams, then any additional costs incurred in restaging the fixture shall be equally shared between the teams i.e., Sports hall costs, Referees and actual travel costs. Travel costs are to be based on travelling from your closest home venue.

2.7 Fixture Alternations- Where match Referees were appointed by Volleyball England, and the date, time or venue is changed, the original home team becomes responsible for notifying those Referees and the NVL Officials Group Member of the change and for appointing suitable replacement Referees, if necessary. Such changes to date, time or venue must be approved in writing by the appropriate CWG Senior Competitions Committee. Normal Match Confirmation procedures will then apply.

2.8 Cancelled Fixtures- Where a match is cancelled at short notice then the home team is responsible for ensuring the Officials are aware of the cancellation and communication has been received to acknowledge this. If the Referee travels to the match, then full remuneration shall be made as if the match took place.

2.9 Fixture Clashes- NVL Teams participating in national volleyball competitions including Junior Grand Prix Series BUCS, Student Cup and Regional and Local League competitions must prioritise competing in NVL fixtures. Clashes with other competitions (except National Cup and Shield) is not deemed a sufficient reason for a fixture change request to the CWG Senior Group.

2.10 NVL fixtures cannot be played after 21st March for Super League teams and 21st March 2026 for divisions 1,2 and 3. Any such requests will be under truly exceptional circumstances and will be decided by the CWG.

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[2.11](#) COVID is not normally seen as an exceptional circumstance.

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iv. If a team or club withdraw from the NVL, its players are still deemed to belong to that club. Therefore, they need to transfer before being permitted to play for another club. This is to protect clubs and their assets.

3.5

v. Unless under contract, a player is deemed to become a free agent if they have not played in the NVL in the preceding two competition seasons and have no documented indebtedness to a previous NVL club. Teams are strongly advised to consult the available player registration information available from the [Volleyball England website](#) to confirm the status of a player.

3.6 **International Transfers (ITC)** (4) Any player that has previously been registered with another Volleyball Federation above the age of 14 before being registered with Volleyball England will require an International Transfer. This includes players that have been registered to play in a volleyball competition (of any form) for a club, team, school or other volleyball entity with a Volleyball Federation outside of Volleyball England. The first Volleyball Federation a player has registered with above the age of 14 is called their Federation of Origin. A player's Federation of Origin may not coincide with the player's nationality.

3.7

(2) International Transfers are bound by the Regulations set out by the FIVB. International Transfers can be initiated by the Volleyball England Hub or the Receiving club. The player will be required to have a VIS profile created, please refer to our international transfers guide for details on how to obtain your VIS profile. The player's membership will only be activated once the International Transfer is completed, making them eligible for competition.

3.8

(3) From the start of the 2025–26 National Volleyball Season, all International Transfer Certificates (ITCs) for players whose Federation of Origin is not England will be centrally administered by Volleyball England.

There will be ~~three~~ two categories within the ITC process:

1. **ITC Continuation** – For players renewing their ITC with existing FIVB clearance still valid. These will be processed at no additional cost.
2. **New ITC Applications** – For players initiating an ITC for the first time. An administration fee of £35 will apply.

Players requiring an ITC under category 2 must purchase the relevant event via VolleyZone to initiate the process.

3.9

(4) Throughout the ~~2025-26~~ season Volleyball England will be conducting random spot check to ensure that players are following regulations. Any team found to play anyone who does not have the 'approved' International Transfer Certificate (ITC) for that team will be imposed with a £100 fine per ineligible player. The International Transfer Certificate (ITC) is automatically sent to players once they have completed their international transfer via email.

3.10 (5) It is the responsibility of teams to ensure that any player requiring an International Transfer completes the process before playing in the NVL. Any team found to be playing a player who hasn't registered correctly i.e. by selecting NVL (Federation of Origin – England)

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will be subject to an Administrative Dispute as outlined in regulation G 2 where the CWG, has the right to deduct points, fine and suspend any team should the situation warrant it.

3.11 (6) All Divisions within the NVL are bound by the FIVB International Transfer Regulations.

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3.12 (7) Any team who play in any CEV European Competition are required to have International Transfers for all players that require them. This applies to all Volleyball England approved Competitions including the National Cup and Shield.

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3.13 ~~3.2~~ **National Transfers**:- Clubs registering new players should always be aware of the possibility of the need to formally transfer, and should take the following steps:

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a) Establish from the player if they have ever been to any NVL club in the past. They may not have played, but could have registered, or simply been for training, and may have forgotten to return items.

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b) If they have been at previous NVL club(s), which are still in existence, contact the Club and obtain confirmation that they are in good standing i.e. they do not owe the club anything and are able to register for the new club.

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c) If they have been to previous NVL club(s), which are not in existence consult the available previous NVL registration data on the [Volleyball England website](#), and contact competitions@volleyballengland.org to clarify that no indebtedness or impediment has been lodged with the Volleyball England Hub. -

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3.14 Clubs playing ineligible players will be considered for disciplinary action. Clubs are advised to ensure they take all reasonable steps, as above, to ensure the eligibility of players being registered.

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3.15 Players found to have documented indebtedness to previous NVL club(s), who seek current NVL registration, and who may not have provided the new club or Volleyball England with all material information may be liable to suspension from playing until the matter is resolved.

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3.16 A club having two or more teams competing in the NVL shall be entitled to transfer player(s) between teams. Players transferred to the lower team within a club after the start of the competition season cannot use the playing up regulation. Transferring would be achieved by the club removing the player from the lower roster and transferring the player to the higher Team Roster to another and paying the required Transfer fee (in [VolleyZone](#)).

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3.17 Any player wishing to leave their club to take up a different post at another club (i.e., Head Coach etc.), may do so only with the agreement of the club holding their registration, and abide by the transfer provisions. Disputes will be referred to CWG for arbitration.

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SECTION D. PREPARATION FOR MATCHES-

For all Volleyball England competitions, only equipment deemed suitable, fit for purpose and safe, or which has FIVB approval may be used unless the CWG gives prior agreement. Playing conditions must conform to those laid down in the current FIVB Official Volleyball Rule Book.

D 1. The Home Team is responsible for:

1.1.1 Arranging for the availability of the venue and booking a minimum period of

- Three hours for single matches,
- Five hours for a double header
- Seven hours for triangular matches.

These time periods are from when the away team enter the hall.

1.2 If less time is booked and time runs out, the home team will forfeit the last match in which they played.

1.3 If, after the recommended hours booked the matches have not been completed, the teams concerned will rearrange the outstanding fixture at an agreed venue and date approved by the CWG Senior Competitions Committee as acceptable to the teams involved. The teams involved will share total costs (i.e., the cost of travel of the away team, (from their closest home venue), the venue and Referees costs) of the new match equally.

D 2. Match start times

2.1 Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the opposition, start times for matches must be:

| Type Of Match | Day | League | Start time between |
|--------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| Single Matches | Saturday & Sundays | Super League, Div 1 & National Cup, National Shield QF & SF | 12:30-15:00 |
| Single Matches | Saturday & Sundays | Div 1/2/3/ National Shield before QF | 11:30-16:30 |
| Double Matches | Saturday & Sundays | ALL | 11:30-14:00 |
| Triangular Matches | Saturday & Sundays | Div3 | 11:30-12:30 |

2.2 The first referee shall decide upon the adequacy of the court and equipment at the time of the match.

D 3. Supplying competent Technical Officials

3.1 Supplying a competent Scorer and a visual scoreboard in all Divisions and at least two competent Lines Judges in Division 2 and above. All Technical Officials should be competent in the performance of their duties.

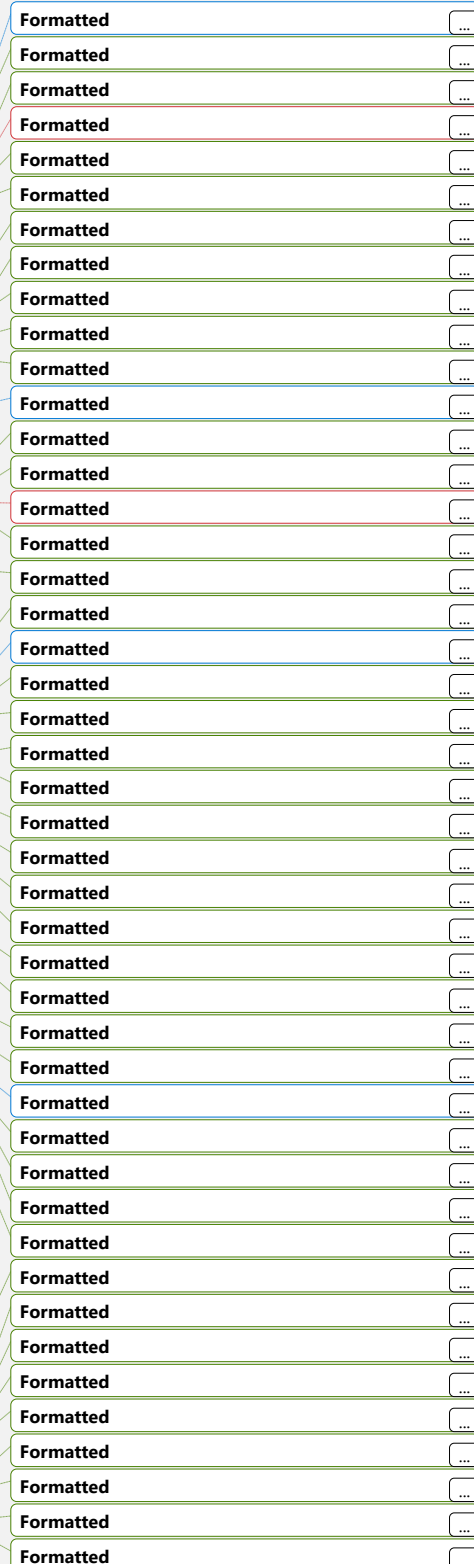
- The Scorer must be the same person throughout the match and must be present at least 30 minutes before the start of the match.
- Line Judges should be present at least 20 minutes prior to the start of the match.

Failure to provide the Technical Officials will result in.

- A minimum of a £10 fine for the first offence,
- £20 for the second offence,
- £30 for the third offence, and
- £30 for every subsequent offence thereafter.

D.4 Match Confirmations

4.1 Confirming in writing to the Secretary of the visiting team, the match Referees, and the Hub at least 14 days, and not more than 21 days prior to the date of the match, on VolleyZone;



- a. The date of the match.
- b. The venue and travel directions for the match, for both public and private transport.
- c. The time of the availability of the court.
- d. The time of the start of the warm-up.
- e. The time of the start of the match.
- f. The names of the Referees; TBC is not acceptable; Away Teams must know who is scheduled to Officiate.
- g. [Weather post and base padding is available at the match.](#)
- h. [Live stream link, if applicable.](#)

4.2 Where the match is the 2nd match of a Double header (only two NVL League/Cup/Shield fixtures and not any other preceding match) then it must be made clear in the match confirmation that this is the case and that the match start time may be subject to delay based on the finish time of the previous match.

4.3 Triangular matches will be played in the order set out on the website fixture list with the home team playing in the first and third matches unless mutually agreed in writing at least 10 days (according to the email delivery receipt) prior to the date of the match.

4-24.4 Where confirmation is sent by e-mail, it should be acknowledged by the away team and the match officials. If the home team secretary does not get the message acknowledged they should chase the confirmation using all other contacts available.

4-34.5 Any team failing to send the appropriate match confirmations shall be fined £10 per occurrence.

4-44.6 Any visiting Team Secretary or Referee who has not received confirmation within the stipulated time should contact the Hub or CWG Senior Competitions Committee for guidance.

4-54.7 The payment of any entrance fees at the venue for visiting teams and Referees. It is suggested that to avoid difficulties, Sports Centres should be contacted beforehand.

D.5 Equipment Standards

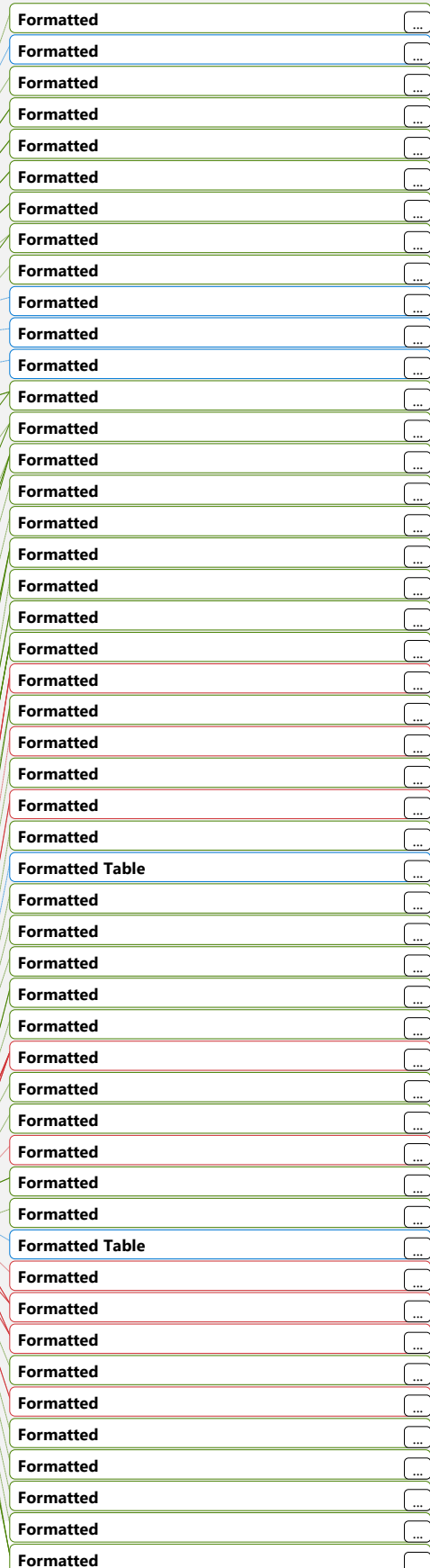
5.1 All equipment shall adhere to the following minimum operating standards (MOS). The aim of the MOS are to increase the presentation of matches, increase participant satisfaction and create an aspirational pathway through the leagues, to lower barriers to entry into National competitions in the NVL and in the National Cup (NC) and National Shield (NS) and reduce unplanned costs.

5.2 Player equipment

All teams are required to be in full match kit prior to the official warm-up at the net.

| Equipment | Standard | Same | Similar | Penalty ² |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Shirts | Uniform colour/design, clean. Sleeve length may differ. Numbered 1-99. | NVL, NC & NS | | S |
| Shorts/ Sports Leggings | Shorts and/or sports leggings are permitted: - must be uniform in colour / design. - do not have to be numbered but all the team must wear the same (either all | SL, D1 & NC | D2, D3 & NS | S |

² PENALTY TYPE: S = Standards, Safe = Safety, A = Administrative.
Volleyball England Regulations
19.2.26



| | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---------------|-------------|---|
| | numbered, matching the shirt number or all without). - lengths/styles may differ. | | | |
| Socks | Socks shall be all white or all black or all team colours | SL D1 & NC | D2, D3 & NS | S |
| Compression layers | Must be either all black or all white or all the same as the corresponding part of the sleeves and uniform, E.g. red shirt, red compression sleeves, black shorts, black cycling shorts. | NVL & NC & NS | | S |
| Libero | Different coloured shirt, easily identifiable, numbered as part of team sequence (1-99). If a team has two Liberos, their shirts do not have to match each other. | NVL, NC & NS | | S |
| Numbers | Correctly positioned, contrasting colour to shirts (front & back) as per FIVB ruling. All shirt numbers must be numbered 1-99 | NVL, NC & NS | | S |
| Captain | Identified by a stripe throughout the match (tape permissible). | NVL, NC & NS | | S |

5.2 Court Equipment

Note: Failure to provide adequate equipment cannot be attributed to a sports centre or the staff thereof, it is the sole responsibility of the home team. Failings in the facilities are also the responsibility of the home team unless matters arise, exceptionally, during or in the days approaching a match that are outside the control of the venue. e.g., electrical, mechanical or safety failures.

| Equipment | Standard | Compulsory | Recommended | Penalty ³ |
|---------------|---|---------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Net | Length (9.5-10m), depth (1m), mesh unbroken & correctly tensioned | ALL Divisions | | S |
| Sidebands | Correctly positioned | ALL Divisions | | S |
| Antennae | Correctly positioned | ALL Divisions | | S |
| Posts | Smooth, safe and height adjustable | ALL Divisions | | S |
| Post Pads | To enhance player safety by reducing the risk of injury from impacts with the posts and base during play. It shall be correctly fitted before the warmup. | ALL Divisions | | Safe |
| Base Padding | If posts have anchor points, base padding is required to ensure all components of the base are entirely covered. | ALL Divisions | | Safe |
| Referee Stand | Stable and safe and, safe. Step ladders, jump boxes and other devices not specifically designed as referee stands shall not be used. | ALL Divisions | | Safe |
| Balls | FIVB approved Mikasa balls to be used in all NVL matches (see NVL Accepted Balls) (Two identical | ALL Divisions | | S |

³ PENALTY TYPE: S = Standards, Safe = Safety, A = Administrative.

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| | balls are required for a one ball system & four for a three ball system, See FIVB Rules of the Game P16. | | | |
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5.3 Courtside Equipment

| Equipment | Standard | Compulsory | Recommended | Penalty type ⁴ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Visual scoreboard | Operable | ALL Divisions | | A |
| Scoresheet | VE approved | ALL Divisions | | A |
| Line Up Sheets | Available | ALL Divisions | | A |
| Pressure Gauge | Available | ALL Divisions | | S |
| Line Judge flags | 2x (40 x 40cm) | ALL Divisions | | S |
| Mop/ Towel | Courtside | | ALL Divisions | S |
| First Aid Kit | Located within venue | | ALL Divisions | S |
| Blood Spill Kit | | | ALL Divisions | S |

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5.4 Match Day requirements

| Equipment | Standard | Compulsory | Recommended | Penalty |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Team sheet | Teams are to present the scorer with a Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone) specifying Players Name, Shirt No. and Position, Captain and Libero and the numerical part of the VE registration number. Any Senior players that are playing up should be selectable through the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone). | All Divisions | | A |
| Live Stream | The live stream at a match must meet the below following criteria: a. Have a digital scoreboard connected to the stream. b. Be public facing and free to watch. c. Must be available to watch during and after the match in a public space. d. Filmed in a landscape orientation i.e. Minimum quality of stream 1080p Super League 720p all other divisions. | SL, D1 & NC | D2 & NS | S |
| HUDL | The home team shall record the entire match and upload to the Hudl platform within 24 hr of match start time: VE will be able to use the footage for highlights on social media, and therefore we encourage all teams to upload the footage as soon as possible after matches. To avoid a single point of failure, the expectation is that both the home and away team record each match. Stats league tables will be produced and updated each game week, so it is in the interest of all | SL | | S |

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⁴ PENALTY TYPE: S = Standards, Safe = Safety, A = Administrative.

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| | teams to ensure that all matches are recorded and uploaded without fail. See Hudl Rules and Regulations here | | | |
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5.5 Match Day People

The Referee Appointments Panel are responsible for appointing first and second referees for NVL, National Cup, and National Shield matches. The appointments will be made between five and three weeks prior to the fixture. If appointments have not been made by this point it is the responsibility of the host (home) team to make the vacant appointments.

| Equipment | Standard | Compulsory | Recommended | Penalty ⁵ |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--------------------|--|
| First Referee | Qualified & registered | All Divisions | | A |
| Second Referee | Qualified & registered | All Divisions | | A |
| Line Judges | Competent x2 | SL, D1, D2, NC & (NS QF/SF) | D3 | S - D1/D2/D3/NC & NS |
| Scorer s | Competent x2 | All Divisions | | A |

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5.6 Home Venue Criteria

| Equipment | Standard | Compulsory | Recommended | Penalty ⁶ |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Court Surface | Flat, smooth, non-slippery and safe | All Divisions | | Safe |
| Free Zone | Minimum 3m around court with preferably 5m to rear | All Divisions | | Safe |
| Court Markings | correct, and clearly visible as per FIVB court layout | All Divisions | | S |
| Air Temp. | Minimum 10°C | All Divisions | | S |
| Team Bench | Size and safely positioned | All Divisions | | S |
| Warm-up area | 3m x 3m, correctly positioned | All Divisions | | S |
| Spectator seating | Available | All Divisions | | S |

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ii. Home Venue Criteria

(1) [Court Surface](#) – [flat, smooth, non-slippery and safe](#)

(2) [Free Zone](#) – [minimum 3m around court with preferably 5m to rear](#)

(3) [Court Markings](#) – [correct, and clearly visible as per FIVB court layout](#)

(4) [Temperature](#) – [minimum 10°C](#)

(5) [Team Bench](#) – [size, and safely positioned](#)

(6) [Warm up area](#) – [3m x 3m, correctly positioned](#)

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⁵ PENALTY TYPE: S = Standards, Safe = Safety, A = Administrative.

⁶ PENALTY TYPE: S = Standards, Safe = Safety, A = Administrative.

~~(7) Spectator seating—available~~

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Court Equipment

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~~(8) Net—correct length (9.5–10m) depth (1m) mesh unbroken, correctly tensioned~~

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~~(9) Sidebands—correctly positioned~~

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~~(10) Antennae—correctly positioned~~

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~~(11) Posts—smooth, safe and height adjustable~~

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~~(12) Post Pads—To enhance player safety by reducing the risk of injury from impacts with the posts and base during play. It shall be correctly fitted before the warmup.~~

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~~(13) Base Padding—If the posts have anchor points, then base padding is required to ensure all components of the base are entirely covered.~~

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~~(14) Referee Stand—stable and safe and, safe.~~

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~~step ladders, jump boxes and other devices not specifically designed as referee stands shall not be used. All divisions~~

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~~(15) Balls—Only FIVB approved Mikasa balls must be used in all NVL competitions (see NVL Accepted Balls) (Two identical balls are required for a one ball system and four for a three ball system, See FIVB Rules of the Game, page 16).~~

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Courtside Equipment

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~~(16) Visual scoreboard—operable~~

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~~(17) Scoresheet—VE approved scoresheet~~

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~~(18) Line Up Sheets—available~~

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~~(19) Pressure Gauge—available~~

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~~(20) Ball Pump—available~~

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~~(21) 2 x Line Judge flags (40 x 40cm)—available~~

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~~(22) Mop/Towel for courtside spillages~~

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~~(23) First Aid Pack~~

~~(24) Blood Spill Kit~~

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~~Note: Failure to provide adequate equipment cannot be attributed to a sports centre or the staff thereof, it is the sole responsibility of the home team. Failings in the facilities are also the responsibility of the home team unless matters arise, exceptionally, during or in the days approaching a match that are outside the control of the venue. e.g., electrical, mechanical or safety failures.—~~

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Any delay to the start of a match attributed to lack of equipment, listed in the court equipment and points 16,17&18 from courtside equipment the home team will be penalised in accordance with regulation E 5. Late Arrival; this does not apply to equipment failures during the Official Warm-up or the match; these shall be dealt with in accordance with the Rules of the Game as Exceptional Delays-

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iii. Match day Requirements

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| | Super League | Div1- | Div2- | Div3- | National Cup | National Shield |
|---|-----------------|------------------------|-------|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone Regulation C.2) | Y- | Y- | Y- | Y- | Y | Y |
| Line Judges- | Y | Y | Y | R- | Y | QF & SF |
| Live Stream- | Y (with scores) | Y (no scores required) | R- | N- | Y | R |
| Match Reports- | R- | N- | N- | N- | | |
| Hudl Match Footage | Y | N- | N- | N- | N | N |

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All Divisions:

Team Sheets (produced in VolleyZone)-

Teams are to present the scorer with a Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone) specifying Players Name, Shirt No. and Position, Captain and Libero and the numerical part of the VE registration number. Any Senior players that are playing up should be selectable through the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone)-

Divisions 1 & Super League

Live Stream:

The live stream at a match must meet the below following criteria

- Have a digital scoreboard connected to the stream
- Be public facing and free to watch
- Must be available to watch during and after the match in a public space
- Filmed in a Landscape orientation
- Minimum quality of stream 1080p Super League 720p all other divisions

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Super League Only:

Match Reports-

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~~Creating match reports is an important way of publicising your club's team and should be published across your social media platforms. A brief synopsis with available photos should be sent to communications@volleyballengland.org as soon as is possible after the match. The information will then be used as a round-up for the Super League on Monday or Tuesday following the match.~~

~~Video Capture of Match Footage (Hudl)~~

~~In the Super League the home team is required to capture the entire match footage and upload to the Hudl platform within 24 hours of the match start time. Further information will be provided Teams in a separate guidance document. VE will be able to use the footage for highlights on social media, and therefore we encourage all teams to upload the footage as soon as possible after matches. To avoid a single point of failure, the expectation is that both the home and away team record each match. Stats league tables will be produced and updated each game week, so it is in the interest of all teams to ensure that all matches are recorded and uploaded without fail.~~

~~[Please see the Hudl Rules and Regulations here](#)~~

~~Non-compliance with the MOS will be subject to a fine under Regulation G1.; repetitive non-compliance will be reviewed by the CWG.~~

~~D.6 Referees~~

- ~~6.1 The Referee Appointments Panel are responsible for appointing first and second referees for NVL, National Cup, and National Shield matches. The appointments will be made between five and three weeks prior to the fixture. If appointments have not been made by this point it is the responsibility of the host (home) team to make the vacant appointments (see point 6.10).~~
- ~~6.2 First Referee - shall be qualified and registered.~~
- ~~6.3 Second Referee - shall be qualified and registered.~~
- ~~6.4 Scorer – shall be competent.~~
- ~~6.5 Line Judges – shall be competent.~~

~~v. Ball Retrievers – competent, preferably six, where used~~

- ~~6.6 The use of Referees who are directly connected with the teams playing is discouraged. Where used the connection should be noted in the confirmation to visiting teams. If requested a neutral referee should act as First Referee.~~
- ~~6.7 When a team appoints its own Referee, they must notify the other teams, and include the name and email address in the match confirmation. If the referee is not qualified, they are classed as a 'non-panel referee'. -If they are officiating in the NVL for the first time Volleyball England will create an account on VolleyZone for them. -This will need to be activated in advance of the fixture so that the post-match administration can be undertaken.~~

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- 6.8 Teams are not permitted to cancel any Referee appointed by the NVL Appointment Sub-Committee and appoint their own.
- 6.9 Details of Referee appointments are available from VolleyZone. Club / Team Secretaries must use the system when sending out appointment confirmations. Club / Team Secretaries are also responsible for ensuring that the details held are correct and inform the NVL Referee Liaison or Volleyball England Hub as appropriate of any inaccuracies.
- 6.10 In case of difficulty finding referees, clubs should use the 'Find a Ref' mechanism held on the Volleyball England Club Hub webpage to contact referees to request support for their fixture. The data within this page should be used for the sole purposes of finding a referee and should not be shared externally.
- 6.11 Evidence of the home teams' efforts to obtain referees must be made available to the CWG Senior Competitions Committee and the -NVL Referee Liaison in case of a ~~complaint~~complaint.
- 6.12 Where only two Referees have been appointed to a triangular fixture, they will be expected to officiate all three matches. If the home team wishes to officiate the middle fixture, then both officials must be currently registered with Volleyball England, and the first Referee must be at least Grade 3 Regional.
- 6.13 If a home team has not been able to source two registered match officials, then they should notify their opponents, CWG Senior Competitions Committee and -NVL Referee Liaison. Whilst it is always preferable to have registered officials it is recognised that there is insufficient referee availability on occasions. The home team should look to source a qualified referee to fulfil the fixture with someone who is not on the NVL Panel this competition season but may be officiating regularly in local leagues. Failing that the home team should source the most competent, experienced, and suitable person e.g., player or coach, to act as second official, again advising opposition and the CWG Senior Competitions Committee. The Referee must sign up for an account as a non-panel Referee to enable them to be assigned to the match. They must then undertake the responsibilities assigned to a Referee.
- Note: Referees must hold a Volleyball England referee grade. Please follow the information on the Volleyball England website.

D 7. Expenses for Referees:

- 7.1 Expenses for Referees should be paid on the day, preferably by electronic transfer, or by electronic transfer within three working days of the match (e.g. by Thursday morning for a weekend match).--

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|---|
| Super League | £30 | per match |
| Div 1 & 2 | £27 | per match |
| Div 3 | £25 | per match |
| | £75 | for 3 triangular matches |
| | £6 | Additional fee, applicable if the referee only officiates matches 1 & 3 in a triangular |
| National Cup and Shield | £27 | per match in the rounds |
| | £30 | per match in the semis finals |
| All Competition Finals | £35 | except where tournament fees apply |
| VE Tournaments | £50 | rate per day |

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E 3. The Schedule

3.1 i- The times listed on the Volleyball England website specify the match start time. The warm-up period shall be 30 minutes before the match start time. The scoresheet shall record the time of first service.

3.2 ii- Triangular Match Schedule. -

The following will apply to matches that are headed accordingly in the match schedule, see below example of how matches could be scheduled:

| Match* | Timing | Example Warm up time | Example Start time |
|--------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| A vs B | In accordance with published warm up and start time. | 12:00 | 12:30 |
| B vs C | Warm up no later than 1 hour after first match start time. | 13:30 | 14:00 |
| A vs C | Warm up no later than 2 hours after first match start time. | 14:30 | 15:00 |

*Team A = Home team, Team B= Closest away team, Team C=Team with the most travel

3.3 iii- In the event that on arrival at the venue there has been a mistake with the venue booking then the home team has one hour to arrange for the match warm-up to start at that venue or another one. If it is a Triangular Fixture, then the first match is defaulted after one hour and they have a further 30 minutes to allow the warm-up of the second match. If the home team is unable to book the requisite amount of time for the scheduled fixture(s) any uncompleted matches will be awarded to the opposition.

Note: As the home team alone is responsible for the venue and equipment, venue changes, double bookings, missing equipment will not normally be considered to be outside the control of the team.

E 4. Arrival of teams

4.1 i- It is advised that a team allows an hour contingency plan whether travelling by public or own transport, with an arrival time of at least 30 minutes before the warm-up is due to start. Should a team not be able to fulfil its fixture, then a member of the team will need to contact the opposition as soon as possible, utilising numbers available on or website for secretary, coach, other personnel, and venue as required. Home teams should then advise the Referees, Volleyball England Hub and CWG Senior Competitions Committee immediately. Should a fixture not be played then the CWG Senior Competitions Committee shall consider the available evidence, and rule as to whether the match should be replayed, forfeited, declared null and void and any sanctions applicable.

4.2 ii- Where a problem arises on match day or on the way to the match, the team must make every effort to contact the opposition and CWG Senior Competitions Committee to explain and resolve the problem.

4.3 iii- Where a team is delayed by factors that are wholly out of a team's control (e.g., public transport breakdown on the day) and can be backed up by professional and independent reports of confirmation (e.g., public transport company, police, motoring organisation, MET Office) indicating driving conditions and advice, this can be considered by the CWG Senior Competitions Committee as an extenuating circumstance. However, every attempt must be made to travel and play matches as scheduled. Additional travel time requirements would not be a reason not to play, and teams cannot "postpone" matches without the approval of the CWG Senior Competitions Committee. Delays such as traffic problems, vehicle breakdowns

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(unless by public transport) are not normally considered as factors outside of a team's control. Teams are expected to inform the CWG Senior Competitions Committee, the home team and the Referees of the delay as soon as possible.

4.4 ~~iv.~~ Away teams are responsible for planning their route of travel and are responsible for any charges or fines resulting from tolls, low emission or congestion charging zones.

4.5 ~~v.~~ If a fixture or competition is cancelled by Volleyball England, any expenses incurred by the participating teams or Referees will not be refunded.

E 5. Late arrival

Providing the court is available, and one team is ready to commence play,

5.1 ~~i.~~ Any team failing to appear on court, ready to commence play, within 20 minutes of the published start time shall forfeit the first set. The set shall be lost 25-0. The time available up to the 20 minutes may be available for warm-up subject to agreement from the team already present and ready to play (who will have already warmed up for up to 30 minutes).

5.2 ~~ii.~~ The second set shall commence 20 minutes later, i.e., 40 minutes after the published start time. A team arriving between the start times shall be able to use the available time for warm-up. If a team is not on court ready to play 40 minutes after the published start time, then they shall lose the second set 25-0.

5.3 ~~iii.~~ The third set shall commence 20 minutes later, i.e., 60 minutes after the published start time. A team not on court ready to play at that time shall lose the third set 25-0, and thus loses the match 3-0.

5.4 ~~iv.~~ The defaulting team may forfeit the match, be fined and lose league points consequently.

5.5 ~~v.~~ The time should be taken from the referees if there is a dispute between teams over the exact time.

Note: If a team arrives (ready to play) 19 minutes after the official match start time they are still entitled to play the first set, but they forgo their warm-up, if however, the team arrives (ready to play) 20 minutes or later, after the official match time, that team loses the first set 25-0. The late team could use the remaining minutes as warm-up before starting the second set if play commences within the 40 minutes of the scheduled match start time.

E 6. The Players

6.1 ~~i.~~ Only players who are correctly registered with Volleyball England via may play in competitions. Guidance on gender eligibility in Volleyball England competitions can be found in [Volleyball England's Transgender Policy](#).

Note: Referees are not expected to prevent a player playing if the team believes him/her to be correctly registered, providing that the player's identity can be proven by suitable photographic identification. Should such a player play, this is at the team's own risk, since playing with an ineligible player will lead to forfeiting the match (see 6.6 below).

6.2 ~~ii.~~ All players in a team, apart from the Libero(s), must wear a strip of identical colour and design with regulation size numbers on the front and back. The numbers 1-99 may be used. The Libero(s) shall wear a different coloured, easily identifiable, numbered shirt (1-99); if a team has two Liberos, their shirts do not have to match each other. In all respects, kit must conform to [FIVB Official Volleyball Rules 25-28](#).

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2.2 If the appointed match official does not turn up on the day, then the photo of the scoresheet should be emailed to the Hub via competitions@volleyballengland.org

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2.3 If there are any discrepancies with the results, contact competitions@volleyballengland.org.

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Note: This is required so that Volleyball England's communications team can produce weekend match reviews.

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SECTION G. PENALTIES, PROTESTS AND APPEALS

It is anticipated that teams will abide by both the letter and the spirit of these competition regulations, and the Official Volleyball Rules and that defeat will not be an excuse for making a complaint.

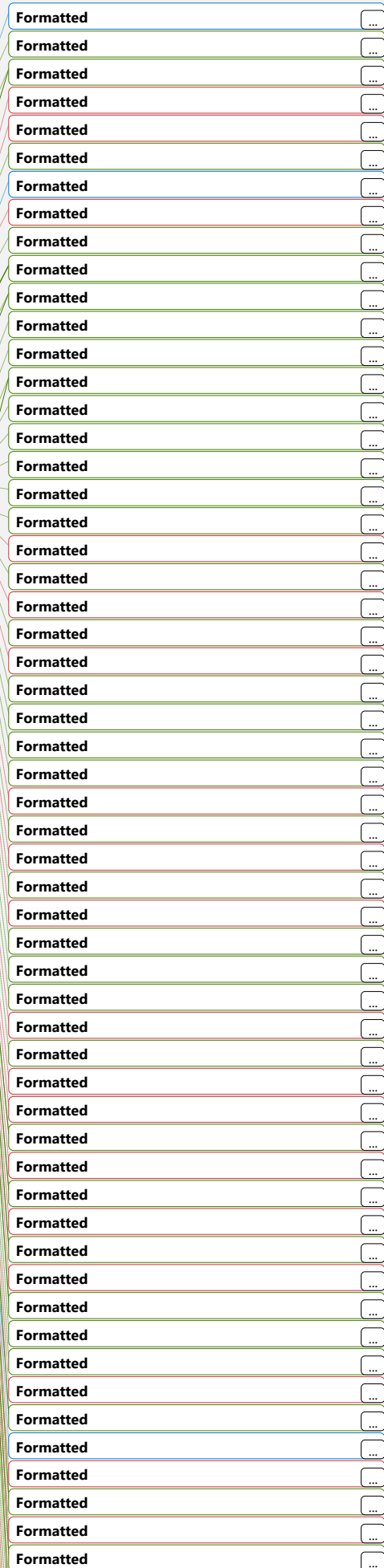
Following the decision of the CWG Senior Competitions Committee, all parties have a right to appeal the decision. [See G 6.](#)

Note: Before making any decision, CWG members, must declare an interest in any matter that they are remotely associated with.

G 1. Penalties

Penalties can be applied to all breaches of the regulations. Where not actually stipulated in the regulations, the penalty will be determined by the Competitions Lead, for the event.

| | Breach | Super league | Division 1 | Division 2 | Division 3 |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| 1.1 | i. Games not being played and/or forfeited | 1st offence Min. fine £500 Review of team’s future in the league by CWG 3 league point deduction 2nd Offence -Same as above | 1st Offence Min. fine £100 2nd Offence £200 fine Review of team by CWG | 1st Offence Min. fine £100 2nd Offence £200 fine Review of team by CWG | 1st Offence Min. fine £100 2nd Offence £200fine Review of team by CWG |
| In Divisions 1,2 & 3 where a team fails to play either of its last two fixtures of the playing season the fine can be £200 (A set of triangular matches equals one fixture). | | | | | |
| 1.2 | iii. Game being brought into disrepute | Min. fine £250-00 | Min. fine £50-00 | Min. fine £50-00 | Min. fine £50-00 |
| 1.3 | ii. Interfere with the running of the event | Max. fine £250-00 | Max. fine £50-00 | Max. fine £50-00 | Max. fine £50-00 |
| 1.4 | vi. Safety concerns where referee allows game to take place: | Max. fine £500-00 | Max. fine £100-00 | Max. fine £100-00 | Max. fine £100-00 |
| 1.5 | v. Administrative failures | Max. fine £100-00 per offence | Max. fine £20-00 per offence | Max. fine £20-00 per offence | Max. fine £20-00 per offence |
| Administrative fines will be notified by the Hub | | | | | |
| 1.6 | vi. Player Equipment Standards failure | First Offence Written Warning Second Offence Max. fine £100 | First Offence Written Warning Second Offence Max. fine £20 | First Offence Written Warning Second Offence Max. fine £20 | First Offence Written Warning Second Offence Max. fine £20 |
| 1.7 | vii. Court Equipment Standards | First Offence Written Warning Second Offence Max. fine £100 | First Offence Written Warning Second Offence Max. fine £20 | First Offence Written Warning Second Offence Max. fine £20 | First Offence Written Warning Second Offence Max. fine £20 |



G 2. Administrative Disputes

Disputes relating to administrative matters and interpretation of competition regulations shall be the responsibility of the CWG.

2.1 Disputes arise only where teams are unable to resolve difficulties amicably between themselves, and they are urged to make every endeavour to do so. It is intended that matches should be decided on the court of play. Therefore, in all but the most exceptional administrative cases, and unless a penalty is otherwise stipulated, any team found to have broken the regulations will be fined, and their match result may stand. However, teams must be aware that breaches of the Regulations may mean forfeiture of matches.

2.2 The CWG, has the right to deduct points, fine and suspend any team should the situation warrant it.

G 3. Technical Disputes

Those relating to the match itself under areas covered by the match Referees.

3.1 If, prior to the start of a match, a dispute arises, this should be noted on the scoresheet by the Scorer (under the direction of the first referee) in the 'remarks' section before the match commences. If no such entry is made, it is assumed that up to that point all events and conditions are satisfactory. The referee may also note at this point any breaches of competition regulations.

3.2 If, during a match, a dispute arises, the first referee's decision is final. Any legitimate protest is to be recorded on the scoresheet after the end of the match by the scorer (under the direction of the first referee).

3.3 All disputes must be referred in writing to the Hub as soon as possible prior to the scheduled match date, or within five days after the match took place. Disputes beyond this period shall not be entertained.

3.4 A party to match wishing to make a protest should follow (Regulation G.5)

G 4. Remarks on the Scoresheet

4.1 Comments relating in any way to the competence of the match Referees must not be recorded on the scoresheet.

4.2 Any complaints about the competence of the officials must be forwarded within five days of the match:

- a. Where the Official(s) is/are unqualified, the CWG Senior Competitions Committee will deal with the dispute.
- b. Where the Official(s) is/are qualified then any protest will be dealt with by the OWG. Any comments should be sent to the Hub.

G 5. Protests

5.1 All disputes must be referred in writing to the Hub as soon as possible prior to the scheduled match date, or within five days after the match took place or when the decision was made. Disputes beyond this period shall not be entertained.

5.2 A party to a match wishing to make a protest to the Hub must also copy their protest to their opponents and the referees, within five working days of the match, so that they may give their account.

5.3 Following the submission of these documents a decision on the dispute will be made by the relevant Competitions Lead responsible.

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5.4 ~~iv.~~ Only disputes regarding the technical application of the Regulations and Rules will be considered. This does not cover the award of Red Cards.

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5.5 ~~v.~~ Any party that disagrees with the decision of the relevant Competitions Lead has the right to Appeal the decision.

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G 6. Appeals

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6.1 An appeal will only be considered if (acting reasonably) that one or more of the following grounds has been met:

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- ~~a.~~ The decision of the relevant body was based on error of fact or could not have reasonably been reached by a relevant body when faced with the evidence before it;
- ~~b.~~ There was injustice because of a serious procedural or other irregularity in the proceedings before or during the relevant body; and/or
- ~~c.~~ The sanction imposed by the relevant body was manifestly unreasonable in the light of the facts presented to the body.

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Note If significant and relevant new evidence has come to light which was not available before the conclusion of the findings from the relevant body but, had it been available, may have caused the relevant body to reach a materially different decision then the matter should first be re-visited by the relevant body before referral:

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G.7 Filing an appeal against a decision.

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7.1 ~~i.~~ On filing an appeal with the Hub against the decision of a Competitions Lead, a copy of the appeal shall be sent to any other affected party at the time of submission. A deposit of £100 must be paid when lodging any appeal, with such deposit to be returned if the appeal is successful. The Hub should give out the relevant documents to each affected party. No appeal will be considered unless a copy of the appeal submission and the £100 deposit is received by Volleyball England within the 14-day deadline.

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7.2 ~~ii.~~ The Hub will issue written confirmation of acceptance of the appeal.

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7.3 ~~iii.~~ The CWG will respond within five working days with details of the hearing, which will normally be a minimum of a further 10 days hence, to enable any documents to be submitted and circulated.

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7.4 ~~iv.~~ The appeal should be heard by the CWG within 28 days of receipt, and such appeal shall be chaired by the CWG Lead, or their appointed deputy, and the CWG Senior Competitions Committee shall be able to ask any party questions concerning the subject of the appeal.

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7.5 ~~v.~~ The appeal panel will normally consist of at least 3 CWG members who will either sit in person or by conference call. In exceptional circumstances the panel may sit with two CWG member. Any member with a personal or prejudicial interest will not be allowed to sit on the panel.

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7.6 ~~vi.~~ Any party to an appeal shall have the right to an oral hearing (face to face or via conference call).

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~~vii.~~ 7.7 Any party wishing to refer to any document or letter shall submit copies of such items to all parties concerned at least ~~seven days~~ seven days prior to the appeal being heard. All parties will have a right to reply within a deadline of ~~three days~~.

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~~viii.~~ 7.8 At the end of the appeal hearing, the Chair shall announce the decision, but shall be entitled to reserve the decision for further consideration and later announcement / communication to the parties.

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7.9 ~~ix~~-Failure to comply with these procedures may result in a further fine being imposed by the CWG.

7.10 ~~x~~-No appeals of any description whatsoever shall be considered unless filed within 14 days of notification of the original decision and the relevant deposit paid. Original decisions are those made by the relevant Lead at the time and on the available information. Once the decision is made no further information will be considered, nor decisions reviewed, except under appeal. Therefore, teams are reminded that they must submit all information for consideration when asking for a CWG Senior Competitions Committee ruling.

G 87. Disciplinary Committee

8.1 ~~i~~-There shall be a right of appeal of the decision of the CWG to the Volleyball England Disciplinary Committee. Any appeal must be submitted to the Hub within 10 days of the Appeal decision date. Please refer [here](#) for more details.

SECTION H. MISCONDUCT

H 1. Sanctions

1.1 The first Referee will ensure that all sanctions issued to players, coaches and authorised bench personnel are recorded on the scoresheet.

H 2. Disqualification

2.1 In the case of expulsion or disqualification, the first referee will submit a full report (RC9) to the Volleyball England Hub and to the NVL Officials Group Member after the match.

H 3. Penalty Points

The below table outlines penalty points which will be applied to, players, coaches, and authorised bench personnel if they are issued with the below sanctions. (These do **not** apply to delay sanctions)

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| <u>H3.</u> 1 | Misconduct (red card) | 3 disciplinary points |
| <u>H3.</u> 2 | Expelled (Red and yellow card jointly) repetition of a misconduct offence | 5 disciplinary points |
| <u>H3.</u> 3 | Expelled (Red and yellow card jointly) for single offence | 5 disciplinary points |
| <u>H3.</u> 4 | Misconduct (Red card) followed by Expelled (Red and yellow card jointly) | 5 disciplinary points in addition to the 3 disciplinary points previous |
| <u>H3.</u> 5 | Disqualified (red and yellow card separately) | 9 disciplinary points, Where disqualification results from aggressive conduct, these 9 points will add to any previous disciplinary points received during the match. If disqualification occurs because of other misconduct following an expulsion, the 9 points will replace the 5 points awarded for expulsion. |
| <u>H3.</u> 6 | Disqualified (red and yellow card separately) due to aggression | Minimum 1 match suspension This matter will then be automatically referred to the Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee (See Regulation H7) |

H 4. Suspensions

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4.1 The following penalties shall apply when a player, coach or authorised bench personnel accumulates disciplinary points in the same competition season:

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 8 disciplinary points | 1 match suspension |
| 16 disciplinary points | A further 3 match suspension |

It is the team's responsibility to ensure that suspended players do not participate in matches.

4.2 The points are cumulative during the competition season and anyone receiving additional disciplinary points shall have their case reviewed by the Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee. The Sub Committee shall be entitled to impose further penalties, as it deems appropriate. The Sub Committee may require the attendance at an appropriate meeting of any player, coach or authorised bench personnel concerned. Equally, the person concerned has the right to attend or be represented at any meeting discussing their case.

4.3 A player, coach or authorised bench personnel shall have the right of appeal to the CWG from the decision of the Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee.

4.4 Player suspensions apply to the next fixture played in any competition covered by these regulations. All matches in which a suspended person participated will be forfeited. Such suspensions must be for either the same team or, if transferred, the new team in such competitions. The onus rests with the team to ensure that the suspension is served correctly.

4.5 In the case of triangular fixtures, both matches will count as one fixture and the suspension will take effect in the first match of the next fixture.

4.6 Coaches and authorised bench personnel who receive suspensions will serve their ban in their next scheduled League / Cup match with the team they accumulated the points with regardless of their role within that team.

Note: Any person who is required to serve a suspension cannot attend the suspended match(es) under another team role (e.g., a coach/bench personnel who is serving a suspension cannot attend the suspended match as a player and vice versa).

4.7 Disciplinary points shall not carry forward from one competition season to the next. If suspensions must be served and there is no opportunity to do so in the current competition season, then such suspension shall be served in the next available match/matches of the following competition season.

H 5. Illegal Approaches

5.1 No official from any other club shall approach a player with a view to inducing them to leave that club unless permission has been granted in writing by a duly authorised representative of the club for which the player is currently contracted or registered.

5.2 This restriction applies to all club officials, including coaches and players or other persons acting on behalf of or purporting to act on behalf of a club. Infringements of this regulation will be referred to the Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee as being liable to bring the game into disrepute and may be dealt as misconduct.

5.3 The CWG shall receive any allegations of breaches of this regulation. The CWG shall have the right to seek evidence and testimony from all parties involved, and a record of all complaints made shall be kept and reviewed.

5.4 Where it is felt there is a case to answer, it shall be referred to the Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee for investigation and resolution. Sanctions may include reprimand, fine or suspension. No transfer will be approved until the conclusion of the disciplinary process.

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~~5.5~~ ~~v.~~ Coaches are reminded of their obligations under the Volleyball England Code of [Code of Conduct](#).

~~5.6~~ ~~vi.~~ If a player approaches a club seeking transfer, without having requested to leave their club, the club which the player seeks to join must notify the existing club of the player concerned in writing within seven days. An infringement of this regulation would be referred to the Disciplinary Sub Committee as being liable to bring the game into disrepute.

H 6. Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee

6.1 ~~i.~~ The Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee shall be chaired by the Chief Executive Officer or the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and consist of members nominated by the Competitions Working Group and/or the Officials Working Group.

H 7. Conduct

~~7.1~~ ~~i.~~ The Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee is empowered to discipline a player, coach, club, team, or team follower whose actions are considered to bring the game into disrepute. The Sub Committee is empowered within its absolute discretion to suspend or fine a coach, player, club, or team in circumstances where it considers it appropriate. These provisions apply to NVL /K.O. Cup Competitions, Student, Junior, Sitting, Beach tournaments and any other competition in which Volleyball England registered players may participate. The Officials Group is responsible for any disciplinary action relating to match Referees.

~~7.2~~ ~~ii.~~ The Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee, CWG or Volleyball England Disciplinary Committee is empowered to discipline any registered player, coach, club, team, or team follower. The penalties imposed shall be within the absolute discretion of the Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee, CWG as appropriate.

~~7.3~~ ~~iii.~~ Club officials and NVL Referees must respond, within a reasonable specified period of time, to legitimate requests for information made by the Volleyball England Hub, CWG or Officials Group when conducting preliminary investigations. Failure to do so may result in a fine and will be taken into consideration when complaints and appeals are being considered.

~~7.4~~ ~~iv.~~ The Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee shall be entitled in its absolute discretion to impose penalties for the following:

- ~~a.~~ ~~(1)~~ Aggressive behaviour to players/spectators
- ~~b.~~ ~~(2)~~ Aggressive behaviour towards Referees
- ~~c.~~ ~~(3)~~ Threatening behaviour
- ~~d.~~ ~~(4)~~ Abusive conduct
- ~~e.~~ ~~(5)~~ Behaviour likely to undermine the authority of match Referees
- ~~f.~~ ~~(6)~~ Conduct likely to bring the game into disrepute.

~~7.5~~ ~~v.~~ In the event of the Competitions Disciplinary Sub Committee considering alleged behaviour as above, then the player/coach/club official/ spectator may be required to attend a disciplinary hearing.

~~7.6~~ ~~vi.~~ There shall be a right of appeal to the Volleyball England Disciplinary Committee of any decision made by the Competitions Disciplinary Sub-Committee.

~~1.a.~~ If the reason for the sanction is safeguarding, then the sanction remains in place until after the appeal is finalised.

~~2.b.~~ For other circumstances, the sanction maybe suspended if requested in writing however if the appeal is unsuccessful then the sanction will be increased.

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SECTION I. END OF NVL PLAYING SEASON

1.1 -Any club or team not entering for the ensuing competition season must notify the CWG by 9th March 2027, otherwise, all fees and goodwill deposit will be retained.

1.2 National League positions

~~1.1.1~~ In all Divisions, three points will be awarded to the team winning a match should the score be 3-0 or 3-1. Two points will be awarded to the winning team and one point to the losing team should the score be 3-2.

~~1.2~~ ~~ii.~~ In the event of a tie at the end of the playing season in any division, the teams will be classified in the order of:

~~a.~~ Set quotient; number of total sets won / number of total sets lost,

~~b.~~ Point's quotient; number of total points scored / number of total points conceded (during all sets).

~~1.3~~ ~~iii.~~ If two teams are still tied, the head-to-head record will determine the position of the two teams.

Post NVL Playing Season

1.3 Super League Final 4 & Elimination Super League play-off.

~~3.1~~ ~~i.~~ The date of the Final 4 and ~~Elimination Super League~~ play_off will be detailed in the Volleyball England calendar.

~~3.2~~ ~~ii.~~ The hosts / venue for play_off matches will be selected by Volleyball England, Volleyball England reserves the right to host, amend the play_offs, or cancel them, as required.

~~3.3~~ ~~iii.~~ The top four teams in the Super League table at the end of the Regular Season will take part in the Super League Final 4, and the ~~6th & seventh~~ placed teams in the Super League will take part in the ~~Eliminator Super League~~ play-off.

~~3.4~~ ~~iv.~~ Where a host Final 4 Super League Team does not finish in the top 4 teams in the Regular Season Division, Volleyball England reserves the right to replace the 4th Placed Team from the Regular Season Division with the selected host Super League Team.

~~The order of matches will be confirmed by Volleyball England ahead of the event, for both Final 4 and the Super League play-off.~~

~~3.5~~ ~~Matches will be played at the venue of the selected host with the costs shared between the teams in line with the agreement made with the selected host Super League team by Volleyball England.~~

~~To be able to play at the NVL play-offs, a player must have played in a minimum of three league matches in the current season for the team they are representing. In exceptional circumstances the CWG may waive this requirement.~~

~~3.6~~ ~~v.~~ The Final 4 will have the following format,

Semi-Finals (1st vs 4th and 2nd vs 3rd)

Based on the Regular Season Division finishing positions,

Medal matches

Bronze medal (loser of SF1 vs loser SF2), and

Super League Champions (winner of SF1 vs winner of SF2).

~~3.7~~ ~~vi.~~ The Eliminator play-off will have the following format, Super League Playoff structure;

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4.12 Should teams drop out of any of the Divisions during the competition season, then the CWG reserves the right to alter the Promotion/Relegation regulations e.g., to cancel a play-off if not required.

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1.5 League Structure for following Season

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5.1 ~~ix~~ If teams do not fill their respective places in the NVL in the following season, the CWG will fill those places with existing teams.

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5.2 ~~x~~ If the playing season has completed normally then usually these gaps will be filled from teams from the lower division (however the CWG reserve the right to alter this if in their sole opinion this is unreasonable).

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5.3 ~~xi~~ If the playing season has not completed normally then usually these gaps will be filled from teams that were previously in the higher division (however the CWG reserve the right to alter this if in their sole opinion this is unreasonable).

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5.4 ~~xii~~ In the lowest division due teams entering and leaving there is often a need to rebalance the league geographically and numerically. Therefore, teams may find themselves in a different conference that they might have expected. The HUB works hard to make this difficult decision based on geography, travel time, travel distance to make it as fair as possible on average for all teams and sometimes this means one team will end up with more travel but overall, for all teams there is less. Teams do not have the right to appeal in this case.

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5.5 ~~xiii~~ All teams in a promotion position must take their place in the appropriate division if permitted to do so by other regulations. However, in exceptional circumstances the CWG may review the situation if a written submission is received by 8th April during the current competition season.

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1.6 Teams within the same club

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6.1 Volleyball England recognizes clubs' use of multiple teams in a hierarchical structure to develop their players. To improve the diversity and standard of teams in the NVL, teams within the same club will no longer be permitted to compete in the same division of the NVL in the 2026-27 season.

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6.2 Teams within the same club include all teams listed in the clubs' team rosters on VolleyZone. Any doubts over the affinity of teams in the NVL must be clarified with the CWG lead or the Volleyball England Competitions Team.

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6.3 If promotion/relegation of teams result in teams of the same club competing in the same division the following season, the following outcomes will apply:

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a. If the higher-level team is relegated; the lower-level team will be relegated to the next division below. If the lower-level team is in division 3, the team's entry to the NVL for the following season will be removed.

b. If the lower-level team is promoted; the lower-level team's promotion is void and promotion will be rewarded to the next placed team in the division.

c. If the higher-level team is relegated while the lower-level team is promoted; both teams' promotion and relegation will be void and teams will remain in their respective division.

d. If your teams are separated by a single division e.g., Super League and Division 2. If the higher team is relegated the lower team promotion is void.

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xiv. 3.15 Teams that withdraw from the National Cup and Shield will be subject to a minimum fine of £100. Furthermore, they may be debarred from such competitions for a period of one season. Teams defaulting from National Competitions may be debarred from such competitions for a period of one year.

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xv. If a team withdraws after the draw, the CWG reserves the right to amend the draw.

xvi. 3.16 Shirt numbers must be numbered as per the requirements in the minimum operating standards (refer to Section D.3 Equipment Standards).

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xvii. 3.17 Matches must be played on the scheduled date unless agreed in writing by the CWG Senior Competitions Committee.

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3.18 The final for the National Cup and Shield will be played during the Cup Finals Weekend between the 24th-25th of April in the National Volleyball Centre in Kettering Loughborough. Specific arrangements will be communicated when teams qualify.

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4. J.4 England National Squads in the National Cup

i. 4.1 If England Under 20s are entered into the National Cup for this season the following will apply.

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ii. 4.2 Players with a 20087 birth date and younger will be eligible to for selection.

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iii. 4.3 Players selected by England will not be cup tied, therefore will be permitted to compete for their club team when not selected by England.

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iv. 4.4 Players are not permitted to compete for both club and country in the same round.

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v. 4.5 England will select their squad 21 days prior to the match and communicate the selection with all teams with players involved.

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vi. 4.6 England will select a maximum of 3 players from a team that is currently competing in the National Cup / Shield.

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4.7 Cup / Shield teams have until 14 days prior to the match to inform The Hub (competitions@volleyballengland.org and talent@volleyballengland.org) if they have exceptional circumstances whereby they cannot fulfil the fixture due to the player selection. A decision will be made up to 10 days prior to the match on the outcome of the request.

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SECTION L.1 ANTI-DOPING (DRUG TAKING) REGULATIONS

1.1 ~~1.1~~ If you are an player or Athlete Support Person (this includes bench personnel) participating under the jurisdiction of Volleyball England, then the anti-doping rules of Volleyball England apply to you, regardless of what level you participate at.

1.2 ~~1.2~~ A copy of the Volleyball England Anti-Doping Policy and regulations for doping control is available [here](#).

1.3 ~~1.3~~ Doping Controls may be carried out at any time during or out of competition.

The anti-doping rules of Volleyball England are the UK Anti-Doping Rules published by UK Anti-Doping. These rules can be amended from time to time, such rules shall take effect and be construed as the rules of Volleyball England.

SECTION M. BLOOD INJURIES

1.1 ~~M1~~ A player is not allowed to play with a bleeding wound, regardless of the seriousness of the injury. Any blood on a player's skin, playing kit, floor or equipment must be dealt with immediately. Referees should stop the game and instruct the player to receive the appropriate medical intervention to stem the blood flow, and clean any blood from the player, and the floor / equipment, as required. Safe and sterile cleaning materials must be used. It is the team's responsibility to clean any blood from the floor / equipment.

1.2 Although the player does not have to be substituted immediately, they should leave the court for treatment. An assessment of the likelihood of the player returning within three minutes (in blood free kit) should then be made.

1.3 If the bleeding has stopped and the player is in blood free kit, then the match should resume as soon as it is possible. If the blood flow cannot be stemmed or dealt with within the 3-minute period, then the player may have to be substituted legally or exceptionally. This may, in time, mean teams taking their time outs to prolong this period. If a player does not recover and a substitution cannot be made in accordance with Rule 17.1.2 then the team will be considered incomplete.

1.4 It is required that teams equip themselves with a small box with disposable gloves, antiseptic wipes, disinfectant, cloths and nappy sacks for safe disposal. All contaminated material including any used gloves should be doubled bagged before appropriate disposal.

SECTION N. SPORTS BETTING

N 1, Sports Betting

1.1 No player or club/team representative shall place or attempt to place a bet on a match or other event or competition in which they or their club participates.

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ii. [1.2](#) No player or club/team representative shall solicit or facilitate, or attempt to solicit or facilitate, another person to bet on a match or other event or competition in which they or their club participates.

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iii. [1.3](#) No player or club/team representative shall offer, or attempt to offer, a bribe to fix or contrive a result or the progress of a match or other event or competition in which they or their club participates.

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iv. [1.4](#) No player or club/team representative shall receive, seek or attempt to receive or seek a bribe to fix or contrive a result or the progress of a match or other event or competition in which they or their club participates.

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v. [1.5](#) A player or club/team representative shall report any approach or other activity which contravenes, or which may contravene, the sport's rules on betting to the CWG Senior Competitions Committee, co-operate with any investigation and/or request for information including the provision of documentation (e.g., telephone/betting records to officials engaged in the investigation of suspected integrity issues in the sport in relation to betting).

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vi. [1.6](#) A player or club/team representative shall perform to the best of their ability in any match or other event in which they participate in.

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[1.7](#) Any breach of this regulation will be dealt with under Regulation H 7 Conduct.

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SECTION P. APPENDICES

Appendix A – Procedure for Player Transfers

1. Player Transfers are required to be completed via [VolleyZone](#) using the NVL Transfer Event process which includes paying the Transfer fee. Players can access the NVL Transfer Event here, click on "NVL Transfer Fee xxxx-xx Season", and complete the process.
2. The old team are required to provide evidence of approval for the Player to submit via the NVL Transfer Event process that they agree for the Transfer to go ahead.
3. In the event a team wishing to object they must inform the Hub via competitions@volleyballengland.org as to why any request is being withheld within 7 days of the request, providing any relevant evidence at the time of notification. Failure to provide proper notification and reasons for objection will result in a fine of £20 and thereafter, such penalty as the CWG may decide.
4. Failure to provide evidence of approval to the player or failure to give proper notification of any objection to competitions@volleyballengland.org will result in the Hub being able to approve a player being transferred irrespective of the lack of consent from the team.
5. Releasing clubs should refer to [Regulation C.3](#) regarding reasons for objecting to the proposed transfer.
6. Teams must manage indebtedness of their players within season. The CWG will only accept player debts to a maximum of one month's fees with appropriate evidence [in order for a transfer to be approved. It is important to note that this in no way supersedes or removes a wider obligation of debt that a player may have with a club.](#)
7. Once the Transfer fee has been paid and approvals have been gained, Volleyball England will then approve the Transfer. [The deadline for Transfers ahead of a weekend fixture is 12:00 noon on Thursday.](#)

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8. [Domestic transfers will be processed for the weekend if the VolleyZone payment is made by 12:00 noon on the Thursday with the required approval from departing club attached.](#)

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[The required approval needs to be a screenshot of an email or message which visibly shows:](#)

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- [Visual consent that the departing club are approving your transfer request.](#)
- [It was sent from a committee member from the departing club.](#)

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The CWG is empowered to approve transfers, provided that the process is complete and in accordance with the above.

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The onus is on the club holding the player registration to advise of any reason why the transfer cannot be completed as requested.

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Once approval has been evidenced in [VolleyZone](#) or in the absence of approval within specified timescales, and the transfer fee has been paid, the transfer will be approved by the Hub. A current club refusing to release a player MUST provide proof of indebtedness or contract within 7 days of receipt of request to leave. In the event of dispute, the CWG Senior Competitions Committee will decide.

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Appendix B – Player Contracts

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1. Where a club and player enter into a form of contract, then such contracts shall be registered within 14 days of execution by both parties, by sending a certified copy to the Volleyball England Hub. The Volleyball England Hub will provide an acknowledgement of registration by issuing a contract number.

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2. Any such contract must amongst other things provide for commitment from the club concerned to:

- provide proper and adequate coaching facilities
- provide proper and adequate match facilities
- ensure due entry to the National League and K.O. Cup
- conduct its affairs in a proper manner as required from time to time by the Competitions Working Group.

3. Such contract must amongst other things provide for commitment from the player to:

- train as directed by the club's appointed coach
- attend matches as required by the club's appointed coach
- adhere to club rules (a copy of which must be supplied to the player)
- observe the code of conduct as laid down by the Competitions Working Group.

4. Any such contract must be for a stated and limited period and cannot be for more than 2 years. On expiry of such contract, a player shall be free to transfer to another club, subject to the provisions concerning transfers.
5. In the event of dispute between a player and club, then either party may apply in writing to the CWG for arbitration. Such application must give basic details of the dispute stating the breaches of contract alleged. A copy of any application made to the CWG must be sent at the same time to the parties involved. The Competitions Working Group shall if requested by either of the parties concerned hold an oral hearing. In the event of an oral hearing then the parties concerned must file at the Volleyball England Hub seven days prior to such hearing a list with copies of all correspondence notes and written material to which reference is to be made.
6. The CWG shall be entitled if the club is at fault to release the player from the terms of the contract and to permit (in its absolute discretion) the transfer of such player to another club. Such relief shall only be granted in circumstances where there has been a lack of proper commitment from the club in fulfilling its obligations under the terms of contract.

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Appendix C – Pre-Match Protocol

The total warm-up will last for 30 minutes. Prior to the start of the 30 minutes the Home Team prepares the court (See NVL Regulation D 1) and erects the posts and net.

Note: The preparation of the court and the correct erection of the net is not the responsibility of the referees; they are only responsible for checking the facility and equipment.

| Timing | Action |
|-----------------|--|
| - 45 (-30) mins | Referees' courtside and in uniform. |
| - 30 (-20) mins | Net ready for initial height check by Referees. Home team to adjust net height if necessary. |
| - 30 mins | Scorer to be present. Team and Referee registration details submitted to the scorer. Scorer commences scoresheet. Home team provides the match balls. Second Referee checks match balls conform to the rules and are at the correct pressure – DO NOT apply your signature to the match balls. |
| - 15 mins | First referee calls team captains to the scorer's table and checks whether captains agree for their teams to share the net warm-up, or whether one team prefers separate warm-ups (Rule 7.2.2). Enquire if the Captain is likely to be involved in a Libero action and remind them that they need to nominate a game Captain if they leave the court. NOTE: (i) A captain still has the right to ask for separate warm-ups up to the time of the whistle to begin the warm-up. (ii) If it has not already been established teams should confirm whether they will be using a Libero and, if so, whether the Libero is likely to replace the team captain. In the latter case, it is helpful if referees are informed who is likely to be the game captain in such situations. The toss is taken in the presence of the two <i>team captains</i> . Each captain will be allocated a side of the coin which shall be caught and not allowed to hit the floor. After the toss, team captains go to the scorer's table to sign the scoresheet. The scorer is informed of the result of the toss. Both Coaches to check and sign the scoresheet. Both teams at their respective benches at this time and be in full playing kit. |
| - 14 mins | Begin official net warm-up: this takes the format of 4 minutes through position 4, then 4 minutes through position 2, then 2 minutes serving – but this can be varied, if both teams agree. (If one team chooses to warm-up separately then the serving team will have the court for the first 5 minutes. The receiving team should remain at their bench; NOTE they are not allowed to use balls or any part of the free zone for warming up). |
| -12 mins | Coaches submit line up sheets for the first set to the second referee. The line-up sheet must have the name of the team and the set number and must be signed by the coach. |

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| | <p><u>not the assistant coach. The ‘Libero’ is only excluded from the match if he/she is not named in the space provided on the scoresheet.</u></p> <p><u>Second referee ensures that the scorer has both team line-up sheets. Scorer must ensure each team does not see the opposition’s line-up sheet or the line-up recorded on the scoresheet.</u></p> |
| - 4 mins | <p><u>First referee whistles to signify the end of the warm-up. Referees ensure all is in order and ready for commencement of play.</u></p> <p><u>Line judges go to their positions.</u></p> |
| -3.30 mins | <p><u>Presentation of teams.</u></p> <p><u>Teams enter the court and line up on the 9m (end) lines.</u></p> <p><u>The team captain stands with one foot on the 9m line, closest to the bench with the 1st libero standing next to them, remaining players in numbered order and 2nd libero at the end of the row.</u></p> <p><u>Both referees must be located on the side line on either side of the post, on the side of the court nearest the scorer’s table, 1st referee on the side of team A, 2nd referee on the side of team B, facing the crowd.</u></p> |
| -3 min | <p><u>First Referee initiates the fair play handshake once teams have lined up on the 9m line.</u></p> |
| - 1 min | <p><u>First referee goes to the stand. Second referee stands at the post on their side of the court. The first referee calls teams to line up on their baseline, then onto the court.</u></p> <p><u>Second referee checks each team’s line up. Libero may not enter the court until his/her team line up has been checked.</u></p> |
| 0 min | <p><u>Start match.</u></p> |

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Appendix C – Pre-Match Protocol

For Super League Live Pre-Match protocol please follow the Cup Finals protocol here:

The total warm-up will last for 30 minutes. Prior to the start of the 30 minutes the Home Team prepares the court (See NVL Regulation D.1) and erects the posts and net.

Note: The preparation of the court and the correct erection of the net is not the responsibility of the referees; they are only responsible for checking the facility and equipment.

The NVL warm-up protocol is as follows:

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| - 45 mins | Referees’ courtside and in uniform. |
| ▲ 30 mins | Net ready for initial height check by Referees. Home team to adjust net height if necessary. |
| ▲ 30 mins | <p>Scorer to be present. Team and Referee registration details submitted to the scorer. Scorer commences scoresheet.</p> <p>▲ Home team provides the match balls. Second Referee checks match balls conform to the rules and are at the correct pressure.</p> |
| ▲ 15 mins | <p>First referee calls team captains to the scorer’s table and checks whether captains agree for their teams to share the net warm-up, or whether one team prefers separate warm-ups (Rule 7.2.2).</p> <p>NOTE:</p> |

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| | <p>(i) A captain still has the right to ask for separate warm-ups up to the time of the whistle to begin the warm-up.</p> <p>(ii) If it has not already been established teams should confirm whether they will be using a Libero and, if so, whether the Libero is likely to replace the team captain. In the latter case, it is helpful if referees are informed who is likely to be the game captain in such situations.</p> <p>The toss is taken in the presence of the two <i>team captains</i>. Each captain will be allocated a side of the coin which shall be caught and not allowed to hit the floor.</p> <p>After the toss, team captains go to the scorer's table to sign the scoresheet. The scorer is informed of the result of the toss</p> |
| ▲ 14 mins | <p>Both coaches check and sign the scoresheet.</p> <p><i>If they have not already done so, all players change into <u>full</u> playing kit prior to the net warm-up.</i></p> |
| ▲ 13 mins | <p>Presentation of teams. Teams to line up on the side lines near the scorer's table from the 3-metre line towards the respective baselines. Captain, followed by starting libero, then players in number order, and second libero. On the first referee whistle 14 players to enter the court lining up laterally in the middle of the court facing (the scorer table or the main TV camera). Referees to walk towards the first referee chair. The players of the two teams shake hands and return to their respective benches. Referees to return to the scorer's table.</p> |
| ▲ 12 mins | <p>Begin official net warm-up: this takes the format of 4 minutes through position 4, then 4 minutes through position 2, then 2 minutes serving – but this can be varied, if both teams agree.</p> <p><i>If one team chooses to warm-up separately then the serving team will have the court for the first 5 minutes. The receiving team should remain at their bench. NOTE; They are not allowed to use balls or any part of the free zone for warming up.</i></p> <p>Coaches submit line up sheets for the first set to the second referee. <i>The line-up sheet must have the name of the team and the set number and must be signed by the coach, not the assistant coach. The 'Libero' is only excluded from the match if he/she is not named in the space provided on the scoresheet.</i></p> <p>Second referee ensures that the scorer has both team line-up sheets. Scorer must ensure each team does not see the opposition's line-up sheet or the line-up recorded on the scoresheet.</p> |
| ▲ 2 mins | <p>First referee whistles to signify the end of the warm-up. Referees ensure all is in order and ready for commencement of play.</p> <p>Line judges go to their positions.</p> |
| ▲ 1 min | <p>First referee goes to the stand. Second referee stands at the post on their side of the court. The first referee calls teams to line up on their baseline, then onto the court.</p> <p>Second referee checks each team's line up. Libero may not enter the court until his/her team line up has been checked.</p> |
| 0 min | <p>Start match.</p> |

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Appendix D – Expectations for Volleyball England sanctioned matches

Note - Clubs are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents/carers of players, coaches, technical officials, volunteers and spectators.

No person(s) attending a match shall:

1. Use offensive or obscene language to any player, coach, referee, technical official or other spectator or anyone else present;
2. Enter the field of play during a match without the prior approval of the court manager appointed by the home club and/or league;
3. Dispute the decision of a match official either during or after a match;
4. Assault or act with aggression to any person/s;
5. Behave in a way contrary to the spirit of the game;
6. Behave in a way which disturbs the enjoyment of the match by any other person/s, or brings discredit to the home club, away club and/or league and/or the game of volleyball;
7. Act in such a way as to exhibit intolerance towards individuals or groups, due to their gender, age, race, disability, religion, faith, sexual orientation or any other visible or non-visible difference, either by language or other conduct, to any other person/s;
8. Refuse to accept the reasonable direction of the court manager, official of the home club and/or league, or official of the team/club which that person/s is supporting.

See Volleyball England code of conduct on www.volleyballengland.org

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Appendix E – Guidance in the event that a season ends prematurely

Although the exceptional circumstances may require the CWG to modify the guidance below, we thought it important that teams are aware of how we would most likely treat this circumstance.

1. Season likely to be completed if at least 60% of scheduled matches in all divisions have been played.
2. All unplayed matches will be awarded as a draw.
3. If the season is not completed there will be no promotion or relegation.
4. For all Cup competitions unless the competition has reached the finals stage the competitions will likely be voided and no winners. If semis having been played, then teams will have the option to play the final; Volleyball England will support by trying to appoint referees and paying for those they appoint and providing medals.

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Appendix F – Emergency Player Registration Process – For Registrations after 31st January

For an emergency registration the following steps are required.

1. Get approval in writing from the CWG Senior Competitions Committee
2. Create [VolleyZone](#) profile for the player (if not already created).
3. Use [VolleyZone](#) to purchase an NVL registration (this can be done by the player or relevant club official).
4. Add the player to the Club's specific Team Roster for the team they will play for.
5. Select the player on the Team Sheet (produced in [VolleyZone](#)) as required for matches.

All steps are required to be completed before a player's registration is complete.

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Appendix G – New Team Entrants

Guidance notes to help with [Regulation A 5](#).

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When requesting support from the Regional or Area association ~~you~~ [Volleyball England will should](#) provide a copy of your completed NVL application form, so the association is aware of the full details of your application.

If a team already has a team in the NVL then they do not have to provide your club constitution (unless it has changed since the last team applied).

Please remember [Regulation H 5](#) if you are intending to have players that previously played for another NVL team.

Please ensure that if you have players that have played for another NVL team that the player has notified their previous team of their decision before adding their name to your application.

Appendix H – VolleyZone

Please use the following VolleyZone URL to login to the most appropriate area of [VolleyZone for you](#).

All Membership, Event Entry and National Transfer Fees are as per the prices listed on VolleyZone. The stated fees will have a Service Fee of 3.2% + 50p added per Transaction.

Refer to the [Volleyball England website for more guidance on VolleyZone](#).

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