

## Junior Competition Regulation Amendments 2022/23

A formal review/consultation of the Junior Competitions was completed to evaluate the success of the new Grand Prix format introduced for the 2021/22 season  
This document highlights all amendments made to the junior competition regulations for 2022/23. All amendments can be found in red.

The full regulations for Junior Competitions 2022/23 can be found here.

### **Competition Philosophy**

Volleyball England **has a competition pathway** for juniors aged 7 to 18 years old irrespective of ability, disability, gender, ethnicity, or beliefs.

Through competition juniors are learning the various roles, whether player, coach, official or spectator, and the standards and expectations associated with these roles.

It is for everyone to respect, reflect and be responsible **so** they continue to enjoy and grow through the challenge of competition in their journey to becoming volleyballers for life.

**We ask that all hosts, clubs, schools, and organisations make every effort to ensure all those associated with them are made aware of the competition's philosophy.**

**This document refers to National Junior Competitions.**

Please also note that the [Volleyball England NVL regulations](#) also apply **to junior competitions** except where modified below.

Teams in **national junior competitions** are to be entered via VolleyZone ([www.volleyzone.co.uk](http://www.volleyzone.co.uk)), details of which will be sent to all interested teams.

**The following Regulations are designed to ensure integrity, fairness and give the maximum competitive playing opportunities for our juniors.**

#### **B. Definitions:**

1. In this document "Organisation" means School, **Academy**, College, Club, or Region. The constituted organisation to which teams belong.

#### **D. Multiple Entries**

1. Each Grand Prix is **part of a series of events for Tier and Age Group (this is inclusive of Last 8 competitions).**
4. No player may play for more than one team in any one round / **weekend** of a Grand Prix from the same age group.
5. **Matches between teams from the same Organisation in the same pool are played first.**

#### **E. Player Age:**

1. **Ages are as of 1<sup>st</sup> September in the season of the competition, e.g. U15 on 1<sup>st</sup> September etc. This is in line with School Years. For further details see Appendix B.**

#### **F. Players**

1. **For each age group there will be 2 competitions: Boys/Open and Girls. Please refer to the Transgender Policy for eligibility into the Girls competition.**
2. **The Boys/Open competition is open to all players of a specific age group.**
4. **All players must be individually registered for the 2022-23 season and aligned to the team on [www.volleyzone.co.uk](http://www.volleyzone.co.uk). The cost of registration is £5 per player.**
6. **No player may play for more than one Team in each Grand Prix round (per age group).**
7. **Players may play in more than one age group.**
8. **In Tier 2 – Players can play in different Grand Prix for different Teams/Clubs/Organisations.**

9. In Tier 1 – Players may not play in different Grand Prix for different Clubs/Organisations. \*
  10. A Tier 2 Player may play in Tier 1 – If 2 rounds are played in Tier 1, the player may not return to Tier 2 within the same age group.
  11. A Tier 1 Player may only play in Tier 2, if only 1 round has been played as Tier 1 with in the same age group.
  12. It is the organisations responsibility to ensure the eligibility of their players competing in the Junior Grand Prix Series. If a team is found to have played an ineligible player in a match that match will be defaulted 25-0, 25-0. It is the responsibility of the team to keep records of all players competing until the next competition season.
  13. If a player is not in attendance at any specific Grand Prix, they must have their name deleted from the team list at the end of the Grand Prix.
  14. Only players who have been on a validated team sheet in a previous Grand Prix may play in the Last 8's or Final of any Competition for that Team.
- \* Except in exceptional circumstances which must be submitted in writing at least 14 days in advance of the next Grand Prix. This would be decided by the Competition's Working Group.

#### **G. Withdrawal of Teams**

2. Failure to **notify of withdrawal before the 14 days deadline will** result in that Organisation being required to pay for their share of the hosting costs and no return of the entry fee.
3. Teams failing to arrive on the day of the competition will be fined £50.00 dependent on relevant circumstances, **be required to pay for their share of the hosting costs and no return of the entry fee.**

#### **J. Team Kit**

3. **If a Team is in the National Final team kit must be numbered 1-20. (Libero can be 1-99)**

#### **K. Balls and First Aid Kit:**

1. Teams should bring their own warm-up balls. **Unless stated otherwise in Grand Prix confirmation by the host.**
3. To ensure that the young people get maximum enjoyment it is recommended that an FIVB approved ball is used. **For under 15 tier 2 competitions reduced weight balls are permitted (see U15 Tier 2 adaptations).**
4. **Tier 1 Match balls must comply with the NVL Match ball regulations ([NVL Accepted Balls \(1\).pdf \(volleyballengland.org\)](#)).**

#### **M. Net Heights**

	Girls	Boys/Open
<b>U15</b>	2.17 metres	2.24 metres
<b>U16</b>	2.24 metres	2.35 metres
<b>U17</b>	2.24 metres	<b>2.43 metres</b>
<b>U18</b>	2.24 metres	2.43 metres

#### **N. Match Points**

2. **Tier 1 must be played to best of 3 sets.**
3. **For Tier 2 - Competition leads are able to vary this depending on pool size, hall booking and other factors but best of 3 sets is preferred.**

#### **Q. Discipline & Code of Conduct**

2. **Any organisation or organisation representative breaching these regulations may be subject to disciplinary action.**

#### **R. Disputes**

3. In the spirit of the competition, we do not expect to see many if any disputes. The primary scenario in which a protest may be entertained is in regards to the age or **eligibility** of a player.

**U. Non-arrival of teams because of bad weather**

2. If a team fails to arrive at a Grand Prix #1, #2 or #3 or Last 8's event because of bad weather, it will finish bottom of the pool.

**Specific Regulations for the Tier 1 Under 15, 16 & 18 Junior Grand Prix Series**

**X. How pools are decided**

1. Grand Prix #1 – U18 and U16 Teams will be seeded into pools based on last year's final rankings. U15 Teams will be placed into geographical pools.
2. Grand Prix #2 (including U15's) – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #1.
3. Grand Prix #3 / Last 8's – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on accumulated Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #1 and Grand Prix #2

**Y. Grand Prix points**

1. The below table illustrates how Grand Prix points are allocated to teams' final standings in Grand Prix 1.

Position	3 team pool	4 team pool	5 team pool
1 <sup>st</sup>	8 points	8 points	8 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6 points	6 points	6 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 points	4 points	4 points
4 <sup>th</sup>		2 points	2 points
5 <sup>th</sup>			1 point

**AA. How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix 2 and 3 (for those not competing in last 8's)**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the gold pool.
2. 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the silver pool.
3. 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the bronze pool.
4. Below is an example of how weighted points are practically applied to a four-team pool

Position	Bronze pool	Silver pool	Gold pool	Platinum Pool*
1 <sup>st</sup>	8 points	12 points	16 points	20 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6 points	10 points	14 points	18 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 points	8 points	12 points	16 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	2 points	6 points	10 points	14 points

\*If more than 15 teams are entered into a Grand Prix event a fourth tier may be added as a platinum pool. As additional groups of 4 teams enter further pools of bronze, silver and gold may be created in that sequence.

**Specific Regulations for the Tier 2 Under 15, 16 & 18 Junior Grand Prix Series**

**BB. How pools are decided**

3. For Grand Prix #3 teams may have the option to be allocated into pools covering a larger (sub regional) distance to enable them to compete against different teams. If you wish to do this please contact the Competitions Team.

**CC. U15 Tier 2 adaptations**

7. Contact the ball is allowed with any part of the body, the ball is allowed to strike the foot, but kicking is forbidden. A kick will result in a loss of a point.
9. The server is a backcourt player.
10. To provide a positive experience to the players we advise the use of reduced weight balls.

**DD. Hosting Grand Prix series events**

1. Teams entering the Junior Grand Prix Series are asked to voluntarily determine **which of the fixed competition** dates that they can host.
2. All Grand Prix series event expect **Tier 1 Last 8's** will be hosted by **organisations**. **The Last 8's events will be held at the National Volleyball Centre, Kettering.**
3. The costs of hosting will be supported by visiting teams. They will pay the host an amount based on the below criteria:
  - a. 1 court booking - 3 team **competing** = £25 or 33% of the hall hire. Whichever is the cheapest amount.
  - b. 1 court booking - 4 team **competing** = £25 or 25% of the hall hire. Whichever is the cheapest amount.
  - c. 1 court booking - 5 team **competing** = £25 or 20% of the hall hire. Whichever is the cheapest amount.
  - d. 2 court booking - 5 team **competing** = £50 or 20% of the hall hire. Whichever is the cheapest amount.
  - e. 2 court booking - 6 team **competing** = £50 or 16% of the hall hire. Whichever is the cheapest amount.
  - f. **2 court booking - 7 team competing = £50 or 14% of the hall hire. Whichever is the cheapest amount.**
  - g. **2 court booking - 8 team competing = £50 or 12% of the hall hire. Whichever is the cheapest amount.**
  - h. **For Tier 2 U15's the sports hall cost will be split as the lower of, £25 or equal percentage for all teams competing.**
4. The visiting teams are required to pay the hosting fee directly to the host **in accordance with the hosts confirmation.**
5. Tier 1 **Last 8's** will be hosted by Volleyball England.

#### EE. Entry costs excluding hosting fees

	Tier 1			Tier 2		
	Grand Prix #1	Grand Prix #2	Grand Prix #3 / Last 8's	Grand Prix #1	Grand Prix #2	Grand Prix #3
Under 15	£31	£31	£31/£67	£15.50	£15.50	£15.50
Under 16	£31	£31	£31/£67	£15.50	£15.50	£15.50
Under 18	£31	£31	£31/£67	£15.50	£15.50	£15.50

\*All Prices have been increased by Volleyball England's inflation rate of 3% (6% below the UKs inflation rate).

#### FF. Recommended Format for Grand Prix Events

Teams in Pool	Matches	Recommended Minimum Time
3	3 set matches	4 hours
4	3 set matches	5 hours
5	3 set matches reduced to 21 points	6 hours
6 (2 pools of 3)	3 set matches	4 hours
6 (2 pools of 3) with crossover	3 set matches	6 hours

1. Competitions Leads may deviate from the above only with the prior permission of the relevant **Volleyball England** Competitions Lead. The most important factor, however, is that all matches are completed within the available time.

#### GG. Last 8's (Tier 1 teams ranked 1-8)

4. The Last 8's will be split into 2 pools based on Grand Prix ranking position.
  - a. Pool A – 1st, 4th, 5th and 8th
  - b. Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th
7. On the completion of the pools, crossover semi finals will take place: 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B. 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A. The winners will progress to the National Final.

- Volleyball England will provide qualified 1<sup>st</sup> officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide competent 2<sup>nd</sup> officials, live stream scorers, scorers and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.

#### HH. Grand Prix #3 (Tier 1 teams ranked 9 onwards)

- Grand Prix points will be awarded to decide positions 9 and below.

#### FF. Finals

- The Finals shall be the best of 5 sets as per FIVB Rules.

### Specific Regulations for the Inter Regional Championships U15 and U17 Boys/Open and Girls

#### JJ. Players

- Players must have a connection to the Region they play for. This may be residence, attending a school, or be registered as a player with a club in the Region.

#### KK. Format

- Each region can enter a maximum of one team per age category.
- The competition will commence with teams playing in pools. Each team will play each other in a round robin format. The top 2 teams in each pool will progress to a knockout phase to determine overall winners.
- Matches will immediately follow on from each other. If there is a walk over (due to a region not entering a team), the court will be unavailable for access for 30 minutes after which time the next two teams can use it for warm-up and the next match will begin at the time agreed by the Competition Organiser and the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee for the next match.
- After each match, it will be the winning Captain's responsibility to get the score sheet to the Competition Organiser.
- Volleyball England will provide qualified 1<sup>st</sup> officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide competent 2<sup>nd</sup> officials, live stream scorers, scorers and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.
- Team lists must be handed in during registration. Teams can list up to 12 players in a single match, including up to 2 Liberos. A new team list may be created for every match played.

### Appendix A

#### LL. Basic Volleyball Rules for Playing the Game (for tier 2 reference)

- Maximum of three contacts per side (excluding the block).
- A player may not hit the ball twice in succession (A block is not considered a hit).
- The ball may be played off the net during a rally and on a serve.
- It is not a fault if the ball contacts the net during a serve.
- A back court player cannot play an attacking shot whilst in the front court (3m line) when the ball is played above the height of the net.

### Appendix B

The below table illustrates the age criteria for the competitions.

Age Group	Not born before	Up to school year
Under 15	01/09/2007	10
Under 16	01/09/2006	11
Under 17	01/09/2005	12
Under 18	01/09/2004	13