



**VOLLEYBALL
ENGLAND**

**RULES AND
REGULATIONS
2025/25 SEASON**

**JUNIOR
GRAND PRIX**



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A. Competition Philosophy

Volleyball England has an inclusive competition pathway for juniors aged 7 to 18 years.

The nature of competition is passionate, committed and, on occasions, controversial however an environment of respect, responsibility and reflection must be created and maintained by all involved in every aspect of competition. The interaction between players, coaches, officials, organisers, volunteers, and spectators, both on and off court, must always be:

Respectful: in the language used, support given, actions taken and the care towards the facilities and the surroundings

Responsible: in the care of everyone to ensure a safe environment and a positive experience for all

Role Model: in a calm, constructive and progressive manner for the young people in our care, the people watching volleyball in the venue and on the live stream.

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

This document refers to National Junior Competitions (NJC). The FIVB Rules of the Game will apply unless modified by the Regulations below. Please also note that the [Volleyball England NVL regulations](#) also apply to junior competitions except where modified below.

Teams in NJC are to be entered via VolleyZone (VZ), details of which will be sent to all interested teams. Organisations are responsible for ensuring they fulfil their administrative requirements on VZ. Support is available via FAQ's, training videos and support through volleyzone@volleyballengland.org Organisations repeatedly failing to fulfil this duty, maybe asked by the CWG to leave the competition or league.

The Regulations are designed to ensure child welfare, integrity, fairness and give the maximum competitive playing opportunities for junior players.

B. Definitions:

1. "Organisation" means School, Academy, College, Club, or Region. The constituted organisation to which teams belong.
2. "Lead" means, the individual named by the Competitions Working Group as overseeing the event at any location. It could be the organiser of a round, a deputy for the Competition Lead or the Competition Lead him/herself.
3. NVC – National Volleyball Centre
4. CWG – Competitions Working Group
5. VE – Volleyball England
6. The Hub – Volleyball England Hub, competitions@volleyballengland.org
7. VEN – Volleyball England Number
8. NVL – National Volleyball League
9. FIVB – International Volleyball Federation
10. "Grand Prix Series" means several individual Grand Prix's joined together to create a series of events.
11. "Grand Prix" means one individual event consisting of 3/4/5 teams.
12. "Super Series" means the top 8 teams based on National Rankings in the U18 Grand Prix Series.
13. "Tier 1" is a National Grand Prix Series which gives National Rankings accumulating in a National Cup Final.
14. "Tier 2" is a developmental single Grand Prix which is based regionally.
15. "Inter Regionals" means the regional championships competition for U15 and U17 Boys and girls.
16. Grand Prix event – A round robin competition where every team will play each other once. Each age group can compete in up to three, four or five Grand Prix events across the series depending on age groups.
17. Pool points – The points earned during a Grand Prix event which contribute to the team's position in the Grand Prix.
18. Grand Prix points – The points assigned to each team at the end of each Grand Prix event based on their final position.
19. National Rankings – The overall National Ranking of teams based on their number of accumulated Grand Prix Points
20. U18 Grand Prix Series – The 1st round pools will be seeded from the previous year's final rankings.
21. Super Series – At the start of the U18 competition the top 8 teams from the previous season will compete in the Super Series for GP#1
22. Preliminary Round – Pools will be seeded from the previous year's final rankings.
23. Super Series/Platinum/Gold/Silver/Bronze Pools – After Grand Prix #1 teams will be assigned into Nationally ranked tiers based on their Grand Prix Series standings. Super Series / Platinum being the top tier, Gold being the 2nd tier, Silver 3rd tier and Bronze 4th tier. NB more Pools maybe created if entries warrant it.
24. Last 6's (L6) will play to compete for the Golden Ticket to the Cup Finals. Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup will conclude with a Gold and Bronze medal match.
25. Weightings – The multiplication of Grand Prix points to reward teams competing in higher ranked pools as they will be playing stronger opponents.

C. Eligibility:

1. All Organisations must be affiliated to Volleyball England and comply with all relevant policies and procedures.

D. Junior Competitions Calendar 2025-26:

2025-26 Calendar	October	November	December	January	February	March	April
U14/U15 Boys/Open T2 4 vs 4		01/11/2025 29/11/2025			07/02/2026	28/03/2026	
U14/U15 Girls T2 4 vs 4		02/11/2025 30/11/2025			08/02/2026	29/03/2026	
U15 Boys/Open T1				10/01/2026	14/02/2026	14/03/2026 - L6	CUP FINAL 25th/26th
U15 Girls T1				11/01/2026	15/02/2026	15/03/2026	CUP FINAL 25th/26th
U16 Last 6					21/02/2026 - L6		
U16 Boys/Open		15/11/2025	13/12/2025	17/01/2026	28/02/2026		CUP FINAL 25th/26th
U16 Girls		16/11/2025	14/12/2025	18/01/2026		01/03/2026	CUP FINAL 25th/26th
U18 Super Series	04/10/2025	08/11/2025	06/12/2025	Boys 31/01/2026	Girls 01/02/2026	21/03/2026 - L6	CUP FINAL 25th/26th
U18 Men/Open	04/10/2025	08/11/2025	06/12/2025	31/01/2026		07/03/2026	CUP FINAL 25th/26th
U18 Women	05/10/2025	09/11/2025	07/12/2025		01/02/2026	08/03/2026	CUP FINAL 25th/26th
Game Days	3	9	5	6	6	8	2

E. Entry costs excluding hosting fees*.

	Tier 1		Tier 2
	Preliminary Round & Grand Prix #1 #2, #3, #4	Last 8's	All Grand Prix
Under 14			£18.75
Under 15	£115	£115	£18.75
Under 16	£154	£115	£18.75
Under 18	£192	£115	

All Prices have been increased by Volleyball England's Competitions inflation rate of 4%. All payments will also incur 3.2% and 50p VolleyZone service provider fee.

1. The Junior Competitions Entry Window will open early July.
2. U18 Tier 1 will enter before Monday 8th September 25 and be committed to play all 5 Grand Prix's.
3. U16 Tier 1 & Tier 2 Grand Prix Series will enter before Monday 29th September 25 and be committed to play all 4 Grand Prix's
4. The U14/U15 T2 Grand Prix #1 entries will close on Monday 22nd September 25.
5. U15 Tier 1 will enter before Monday 1st December 25 and be committed to play all 3 Grand Prix's
6. Individual Grand Prix Tier 2 entries for the U16, U15, & U14's will be £18.75 for each Grand Prix and can be entered throughout the year.
7. The Competitions Lead shall nominate an organisation to host each pool group on behalf of the Competitions Working Group.
8. Tier 1 competitions shall not commence before 10.30 and Tier 2 competitions shall not commence before 10am without the written consent of all participating teams.
9. Officials, Linespersons and Scorers shall be organised by the competition host selected from the teams in the pool.
10. Ideally, sports halls in these rounds should conform to Volleyball England NVL regulations. Because of cost implications, however, a good gymnasium may be used with approval from Volleyball England

F. Multiple Entries

1. Each Grand Prix is part of a series of events for Tier and Age Group (this is inclusive of Last 6's competitions).
2. An Organisation may enter more than one team in the same Grand Prix.
3. Teams will be named in the Team Roster on Volley Zone e.g. 'Wessex A', 'Wessex B' in order of strength.
4. No player may play for more than one team in the same age group in any one round and/or weekend of a Grand Prix from the same age group.
5. Matches between teams from the same Organisation in the pool are played first.

G. Recommended Format for Grand Prix Events

Teams in Pool	Matches	Recommended Minimum Time
3	3 set matches	5 hours
4	3 set matches	6 hours
5	3 set matches reduced to 21 points	7 hours
6 (2 pools of 3)	3 set matches	5 hours
6 (2 pools of 3) with crossover	3 set matches	7 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, the host has the authority to make the necessary changes to the format on the day to make sure the Grand Prix is completed

H. Hosting Grand Prix series events

1. If you are interested in hosting a Grand Prix, please download and fill in the [Hosting Junior Competitions form](#) then send the completed form to competitions@volleyballengland.org.
2. Teams entering the Junior Grand Prix Series are asked to voluntarily determine which of the fixed competition dates that they can host.
3. All Grand Prix series events except Tier 1 Super Series and the Last 6's will be hosted by organisations. The Super Series and the Last 6's events will be held at a venue provided by Volleyball England.
 - a. Tier 1 - The costs of hosting will be supported by visiting teams. **The host will choose one of the following options which will be the cheapest for the travelling teams.**
 - b. **Option 1** - The host can ask for an equal percentage up to the maximum of £50 per team e.g. the hall costs are £175 for a 4-team pool, the hosts will ask each team to pay 25% of the total - £43.75
 - c. **Option 2** - The hosts can ask for a set amount to cover the hall costs up to a maximum of £50 e.g. the hall costs £250 for a 4-team pool, each team pays a maximum of £50 the host will cover the shortfall.
 - d. Tier 2 - U14's / 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 prior to the Grand Prix date directly to the host in accordance with the hosts confirmation. Teams with outstanding hosting fees after the Grand Prix date will be excluded from the next round of competition until payment has been completed.
5. Tier 1 the U18 Super Series and the age groups Last 6's will be hosted by Volleyball England. The hosting fee for these events are:

Super Series	£115 per team per GP
Last 6's	£115 per team

This hosting fee includes, members of the VE Hub team, hall hire, referees, medical support, safeguarding provision, live streaming of games and an account with Hudl* statistical analysis software (*only at Super Series events).

I. Venue Rules

1. All participants should respect the rules of hosts / venues in use for events. These rules can include:
 - a. The wearing of footwear with non-marking soles.
 - b. Taking food into the arena.
 - c. Use of drinks containers.
 - d. All venues should be left in the same tidy state as found.
 - e. The use of items that may make excessive noise. For example, drums and airhorns.

J. Players

1. For each age group there will be 2 competitions: Boys and Girls. Please refer to the [Transgender Policy](#) for eligibility.
2. The Boys competition is open to all players that meet the age requirement.
3. Teams can list up to 12 players including a maximum of 2 liberos in a single match. They are permitted to bring a larger squad to a Grand Prix. If the squad size exceeds 12 the team must submit an individual team sheet for every match.
4. In the Last 6 and Cup Finals teams can list up to 12 players and additionally up to 2 Liberos listed on their Team Sheet (there is no limit to the number of players registered on the Club's specific Team Roster on VolleyZone).
5. All players must be individually registered for the 2025-26 season and aligned to the Team Roster and Team Sheet on VolleyZone. The cost of registration is £10.50 per player. All payments will also incur a VolleyZone 3.2% and 50p service provider fee.
6. At the start of the season clubs must complete their Team Rosters in Volley Zone for each team completing in the Junior Grand Prix Competitions
7. Prior to the start of each Grand Prix, every team is required to complete their Team Sheet on Volley Zone and submit a team sheet to the scorer on the day of competition.
8. Players may play in more than one age group.
9. In Tier 2 – Players can play in different Grand Prix for different Teams/Clubs/Organisations.
10. In Tier 1 – Players may not play in different Grand Prix for different Clubs/Organisations within the same age group*.
11. In Tier 1 – Players may play for any other team within the same club before the Last 6.
12. Only players who have been on a validated team sheet in any previous Grand Prix for that team may play in the Last 6's or the Cup Final.
13. Once a Tier 2 Player has competed in 2 Grand Prix Tier 1 competitions they may not return to Tier 2.
14. Once a Tier 1 Player has competed in 2 Grand Prix Tier 1 competitions they may not play in Tier 2.
15. 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 25-20, 25-20. It is the responsibility of the team to keep records of all players competing until the next competition season.
16. If a player is not in attendance at any specific Grand Prix, they must have their name deleted from the team sheet at the beginning of the Grand Prix.

*** 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 Junior Competition's Working Group.**

K. Player Age:

1. The below table illustrates the age criteria for the competitions.

Age Group	Not born before	Up to school year
Under 14	01/09/2011	9
Under 15	01/09/2010	10
Under 16	01/09/2009	11
Under 17	01/09/2008	12
Under 18	01/09/2007	13

L. Coaching Staff

1. All Bench Personnel must be listed on the Team Sheet at the start of each Grand Prix.
2. All individual schools, academies, and colleges that enter the Age Group competitions must either be coached by a member of staff from that school, academy, or college or by a qualified coach who is registered with Volleyball England.
3. Any coach responsible for juniors aged 18 and under should have a Volleyball England Coach Award (L2) or equivalent and be registered with Volleyball England
4. All coaches responsible for juniors aged 18 and under should have completed the Safeguarding Children and Adults in Volleyball course available on [VE Learning](#)
5. All coaches should have a valid DBS check ideally through Volleyball England.

M. Team Kit

1. Tier 1, shirts recommended numbers 1-99 (numbered front & back) and shorts should be uniform.
2. Super Series, matching uniform is compulsory, players need to be allocated a specific shirt number at the start of the season.
3. Tier 2, ideally as above, however, players not in uniform shorts and numbered shirts will be allowed to play.

N. Balls and First Aid Kit:

1. Teams should bring their own warm-up balls. Unless stated otherwise in the Grand Prix confirmation by the host.
2. If a match ball is not provided, the teams playing should provide a match ball.
3. For U15 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](#)).
5. Each team should bring a first aid kit to all Grand Prix.

O. Rules of Play

1. The games will be played under [FIVB Rules](#) except where modified by the Volleyball England Regulations of Competition, or the regulations of individual Competitions as indicated below.

P. Net Heights

	Girls	Boys
U14	2.17 metres	2.24 metres
U15	2.24 metres	2.35 metres
U16	2.24 metres	2.35 metres
U17	2.24 metres	2.43 metres
U18	2.24 metres	2.43 metres

Q. Warm Up Time Allocation

1. Teams playing their 1st game in the pool will be allowed a 10-minute warm up consisting of ball handling, over the net and serve.
2. Teams playing their 2nd game will be allowed a 5-minute warm up of ball handling.

R. Match Points

1. Tier 1 must be played to best of 3 sets.
2. Starting point best of 3 sets, 25, 25,15.
3. For Tier 2 U16 - Competition leads can vary depending on pool size, hall booking and other factors but best of 3 sets is preferred. For Tier 2 U15 - Competition leads can vary depending on pool size, hall booking, and other factors timed sets of 6-8 minutes is preferred.
4. In all pool matches, match points will be awarded as follows:
 - a. Win 2 points.
 - b. Lose 0 points.
 - c. Draw (Where appropriate) 1 point.

S. Late arrival of teams

1. If a team is likely to be late, they must notify the Host and Competition Lead at the earliest possible opportunity.
2. Where possible the Host or Competition Lead will adapt the order of play to compensate for late arrivals.
3. Teams arriving less than 20 minutes late for their first pool match will forfeit the right to time outs in the first set.
4. Teams arriving more than 20 minutes late for their first pool match will forfeit the first set to nil. If the team is not ready within a further 20 minutes, then they will forfeit the match to nil.

T. Non-arrival of teams

1. On the day: the coach should contact the Lead for the Competition by phone as soon as possible if they are unable to attend the event.
2. If a team withdraws less than 3 days prior or fails to attend on the day of competition, No National Ranking points will be awarded and is required to pay the hosting fee.
3. If a team withdraws less than 7 days of a Grand Prix, they will be awarded half the National Ranking points and is required to pay the hosting fee.
4. If a team withdraws less than 14 days of a Grand Prix, they will be awarded the National Ranking points and is required to pay the hosting fee.
5. If a team fails to arrive at the Last 6's, Cup Final or Inter Regionals, it will be eliminated.

U. Adverse (Weather, etc.) Conditions

1. In the event of a competition being cancelled or a team(s)/player's inability to attend a competition(s) due to circumstances beyond the control of Volleyball England, the Association will not be liable for any costs associated to the team(s) or individuals because of the cancellation or non-attendance (venue hire, hotel accommodation or transportation etc).
2. In the event of bad weather, teams should make every effort to play their fixtures whilst taking responsibility for their own safety. If either team feels they are unable to complete the fixture they must ensure they have professional and independent evidence (e.g., Weather (MET Office), Public transport company, Police, Motoring organisation, Sports Hall) indicating travel conditions and advice or hall closure notice. Teams are expected to call and email the host, the opposition and email the Competition Lead at VE as soon as possible.

V. Withdrawal of Teams

1. Any Organisation wishing to withdraw from any competition it has already entered, at whatever stage of the competition, must give at least 14 days' prior notice, via email, to the relevant Competition Lead and the Volleyball England Hub. The refund will incur an administration fee of £10.
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 and will be required to pay for their share of the hosting costs. Fines may be waived in exceptional circumstances.

W. Discipline & Code of Conduct

1. Any Player, Coach, Bench Personnel or Team Manager expelled or disqualified at any stage of any Junior Competition shall be automatically suspended for the next match in any of the competitions and the matter shall be referred to the Junior Competitions Working Group.
2. Any Organisation or Organisation representative breaching these regulations may be subject to disciplinary action.
3. Please refer to NVL Regulations (Section G. Penalties, Protests and Appeals) for further information.

X. Expectations and conduct of spectators.

1. All spectators are expected to follow the Competition Philosophy and the Volleyball Code of Conduct be a positive role model to the junior participants at all levels of competition.
2. All Organisations are responsible for the conduct of their spectators.
3. Any inappropriate behaviour or conduct by a spectator should be brought to the attention of the competition host, Volleyball England Event Lead, or the designated Safeguarding Officer at the earliest opportunity.
4. This designated person will listen to the concerns raised and make appropriate action in line with Volleyball England Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Policy.
5. If the incident requires intervention, then it will be recorded and processed in accordance with the code of conduct and safeguarding procedures, this will then be sent to the Volleyball England Competitions Lead and Safeguarding Officer.
6. Volleyball England will assess the scenario and take appropriate action and record the incident.
7. The Competition Host, Volleyball England Event Lead or designated Safeguarding Officer have the right to ask the spectator to leave the court/facility if the incident has breached the Code of Conduct or the Safeguarding Guidelines to protect the junior participants from further negative behaviours.

Y. Non-payment of fines

1. Not paying a fine may result in being denied entry to future Volleyball England competitions.

Z. Disputes

1. In Grand Prix competitions where more than one round is played on either the same day or weekend, to complete the day/weekend matches, the decision of the Host Competition Lead shall be final.
2. Teams seeking to dispute match results during any stage of a competition should immediately notify the Host Competition Lead when submitting their results.
3. All disputes regarding results should be resolved by the Host Competition lead at the Grand Prix venue before the end of the days competition and results are forwarded to the VE Competition Lead.
4. Teams can express their protest via email at that time to the VE Competition Lead
5. The grounds for protest to the VE Competition Lead are limited to player eligibility
6. The decision of the VE Competition Lead will be final

AA. Specific Regulations for the U18 Junior Grand Prix Series

The U18 Grand Prix Series consists of 5 rounds of competition from October to March with the National Cup Finals in April. The top 8 teams based on National Rankings from the previous season will start in the Super Series with the following teams ranked 9-32 starting in Gold, Silver and Bronze pools. Teams will accumulate Grand Prix points each round which will lead to the National Rankings, after each Grand Prix there will be promotion and relegation from each pool. The top 6 teams based on National Rankings after Grand Prix #4 will go forward to the Last 6's and 7-30 will play for the Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup.

BB. How pools are decided

1. The national rankings from the previous season will be taken to create the pools for GP#1 in the U18 Grand Prix series.
2. The Top 8 teams from the Boys and Girl's national rankings from the previous season will create the first round of the Super Series
3. Teams 9-16th will be placed in the Gold Pools.
4. Teams 17-24th will be placed in the Silver pools.
5. Teams 25-32nd will be placed into the Bronze pools.
6. Teams 33-48 will be placed in 4 National 2 pools.
7. Teams 49-64 will be placed in 4 National 3 pools
8. New teams will be placed in National 3 pools
9. The entries are capped at 64 teams, if you enter after the event is full you will be placed on a waiting list.
10. Existing teams will be given priority to retain their place before any new teams entering.
11. Each time the waiting list reaches 4 teams we will create an additional pool.
12. Teams will be allocated into pools of four where possible. If the entries result in a pool of three or five teams, they will be assigned to the lowest ranked pool.

CC. Pool Points

1. U18 Grand Prix Points

Amount of Pools	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4
Position	Super Series	Gold Pool	Silver Pool	Bronze Pool	National 2	National 3	National 4	National 5	National 6
1 st	40 points	36 points	32 points	28 points	24 points	20 points	16 points	12 points	8 points
2 nd	39 points	34 points	30 points	26 points	22 points	18 points	14 points	10 points	6 points
3 rd	38 points	32 points	28 points	24 points	20 points	16 points	12 points	8 points	4 points
4 th	37 points	30 points	26 points	22 points	18 points	14 points	10 points	6 points	2 points
5 th	36 points								
6 th	35 points								
7 th	34 points								
8 th	33 points								

DD. Grand Prix Series National Rankings

1. Shall be decided on total Grand Prix points accumulated across the series.
2. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on sets difference per matches played.
3. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on points difference per sets played.
4. If teams are still tied, they will be ranked based on the result between the teams.
5. In 4 above the teams haven't played each other the order will be decided on a toss of a coin.

EE. How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix #2-#4

1. Teams finishing 1st-6th in the Super Series GP#1 will remain for the following GP. Teams finishing 7th and 8th will be relegated to the Gold Pools.
2. Winners of the 2 Gold pools will be promoted to the Super Series, the team finishing 4th will be relegated to the Silver Pools for the next GP.
3. Winners of the Silver pools will be promoted to the Gold pools, the team finishing 4th will be relegated to the Bronze pools for the next GP.
4. Winners of the Bronze pools will be promoted to the Silver pools, the team finishing 3rd or 4th will be relegated to the National 2 pools for the next GP.
5. Winners of the National 2 pools will be promoted to the Bronze pools, the teams finishing 4th will be relegated to the National 3 pools for the next GP.
6. Winners of the National 3 pools will be promoted to the National 2 pools for the next GP.
7. This will continue through National 4-6
8. If a club/team wishes to stay in the National 2-6 format and not be promoted to the Bronze pools, then they can request to do so by emailing the Competition Lead.

FF. Grand Prix #5

1. After Grand Prix #4 there will be no promotion or relegation, GP #5 will be based on National Rankings after GP#4 results.
2. The top 6 nationally ranked teams after Grand Prix #4 will qualify for the Last 6's.
3. The teams ranked 7th onwards will qualify to compete for the Gold, Silver or Bronze Cup.
4. Each cup will consist of 8 teams and will be hosted at a two-court venue.
5. 7th – 14th ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Gold Cup.
6. 15th – 22nd ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Silver Cup.
7. 23rd – 30th ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Bronze Cup.
8. Any lower ranked pools will be a pool of 4 and will be hosted by one of the teams involved in the pool.
9. National Ranking points will be awarded for GP #5

GG. Last 6's

1. The event will be hosted by Volleyball England.
2. No Pool shall commence before 10.00am without the written consent of all participating teams.
3. The Last 6's will be split into 2 pools based on Grand Prix ranking position.
 - a. Pool A – 1st, 4th and 5th
 - b. Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, and 6th
4. All teams in the Pool shall play each other in a round robin format.
5. All matches shall be played to the best of three sets.
6. Super Series Grand Prix points will be awarded.
7. On the completion of the pools, the following games will take place:
 - a. 5th vs 6th playoff game
 - b. Semi Final - 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B.
 - c. Semi Final - 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A.
 - d. The winners will progress to the National Final.
8. Volleyball England will provide qualified 1st officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide a competent adult 2nd official, live stream scorers, scorers (to complete a 3 set NVL scoresheet) and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.

HH. Cup Finals Weekend

1. The Finals shall be the best of 5 sets as per FIVB Rules.
2. Volleyball England will provide all Officials.
3. The "3 or 5 ball system" will normally be used.
4. A Team trophy shall be awarded to the Champions.
5. 19 medals will be awarded to 14 players and 5 bench personnel
- 6.

This is the schedule format of the Super Series GP#1 – GP#4

		Game	Round 1			Officials
Court 1	Round 1	1	Rank #1	vs	Rank #5-8	Rank 5-8 G3
Court 2	Round 1	2	Rank #2	vs	Rank #5-8	Rank 5-8 G4
Court 1	Round 1	3	Rank #3	vs	Rank #5-8	Winner G1
Court 2	Round 1	4	Rank #4	vs	Rank #5-8	Winner G2

		Game	Round 2			Officials
Court 1	5th - 8th	5	Loser 1	vs	Loser 3	Winner G3
Court 2	5th - 8th	6	Loser 2	vs	Loser 4	Winner G4
Court 1	S Finals	7	Winner 1	vs	Winner 3	Loser G1
Court 2	S Finals	8	Winner 2	vs	Winner 4	Loser G2

		Game	Round 3			Officials
Court 1	5th - 6th	9	Winner 5	vs	Winner 6	Loser G7
Court 2	7th - 8th	10	Loser 5	vs	Loser 6	Loser G8
Court 1	1st - 2nd	11	Winner 7	vs	Winner 8	TBC
Court 2	3rd - 4th	12	Loser 7	vs	Loser 8	TBC

Round 1 – Teams ranked #5-#8 will be completed at the live draw to see which of the #1-#4 seeds they will play in Round 1. The officials for the final 2 games will be determined on the day depending on the results of the previous games

Schedule for the Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup. Top three placings will receive medals and the winners a trophy.

		Game	Round 1			Officials
Court 1	Q Final	1	Rank #1	vs	Rank #8	Rank #6 G3
Court 2	Q Final	2	Rank #2	vs	Rank #7	Rank #5 G4
Court 1	Q Final	3	Rank #3	vs	Rank #6	Winner G1
Court 2	Q Final	4	Rank #4	vs	Rank #5	Winner G2

		Game	Round 2			Officials
Court 1	5th - 8th	5	Loser 1	vs	Loser 4	Winner G3
Court 2	5th - 8th	6	Loser 2	vs	Loser 3	Winner G4
Court 1	S Finals	7	Winner 1	vs	Winner 4	Loser G1
Court 2	S Finals	8	Winner 2	vs	Winner 3	Loser G2

		Game	Round 3			Officials
Court 1	5th - 6th	9	Winner 5	vs	Winner 6	Loser G7
Court 2	7th - 8th	10	Loser 5	vs	Loser 6	Loser G8
Court 1	GOLD	11	Winner 7	vs	Winner 8	TBC
Court 2	BRONZE	12	Loser 7	vs	Loser 8	TBC

II. Specific Regulations for the U16 Tier 1 Junior Grand Prix Series

The U16 Grand Prix Series consists of 4 rounds of competition from November to March with the National Cup Finals in April. The teams in Grand Prix #1 will be seeded into geographical pools, the top 8 teams from the U15 National Rankings from the previous season will be the top ranked teams Grand Prix #1 and #2 will be tiered. Teams will accumulate grand prix points each round which will lead to the National Rankings, after each Grand Prix there will be promotion and relegation. The top 6 teams based on the National Rankings after Grand Prix #3 will go forward to the Last 6's and 7-30 will play for the Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup.

JJ. How pools are decided

1. Grand Prix #1–U16 Teams will be seeded into pools based on last year's U15 national rankings.
2. Grand Prix #2 –Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #1
3. Grand Prix #3 –Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #2
4. Grand Prix #4 / Last 6's – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on accumulated National Ranking points from Grand Prix #1, Grand Prix #2 and Grand Prix #3
5. Teams will be allocated into pools of four where possible. If the entries result in a pool of three or five teams, they will be assigned to the lowest ranked pool.

KK. Pool Points

1. U16 Grand Prix #1 National Ranking Points

Position	3 team pool	4 team pool	5 team pool
1 st	5 points	5 points	5 points
2 nd	4 points	4 points	4 points
3 rd	3 points	3 points	3 points
4 th		2 points	2 points
5 th			1 point

2. Grand Prix #2 and #3

Position	National 2	Bronze Pool	Silver Pool	Gold Pool
1 st	8 points	12 points	16 points	20 points
2 nd	6 points	10 points	14 points	18 points
3 rd	4 points	8 points	12 points	16 points
4 th	2 points	6 points	10 points	14 points

LL. Grand Prix Series National Rankings

1. Shall be decided on total Grand Prix points accumulated across the series.
2. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on sets difference per matches played.
3. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on points difference per sets played.
4. If teams are still tied, they will be ranked based on the result between the teams.
5. In 4 above the teams haven't played each other the order will be decided on a toss of a coin.

MM. How pools are tiered and weighted in U16 Grand Prix #1.

1. The number of entries will determine the composition of each competition.
2. Grand Prix #1 - U16 Teams will be seeded into pools based on last year's U15 national rankings.

NN. How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix #2 and Grand Prix #3

1. All U16 teams based on Grand Prix Points from GP#1 will be allocated into Gold, Silver, and Bronze pools in sequence.

OO. Grand Prix #4 (Tier 1 teams ranked 7 onwards)

1. The teams ranked 7th onwards after Grand Prix #3 will qualify to compete for the Gold, Silver or Bronze Cup.
2. Each cup will consist of 8 teams and will be hosted at a two-court venue.
3. 7th – 14th ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Gold Cup.
4. 15th – 22nd ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Silver Cup.
5. 23rd – 30th ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Bronze Cup.
6. Any lower ranked pools will be a pool of 4 and will be hosted by one of the teams involved in the pool.
7. National Ranking points will be awarded.

This is the format of the Gold, Silver, and Bronze Cups, top three placings will receive medals and the winner a trophy.

		Game	Round 1			Officials
Court 1	Q Final	1	Rank #1	vs	Rank #8	Rank #6 G3
Court 2	Q Final	2	Rank #2	vs	Rank #7	Rank #5 G4
Court 1	Q Final	3	Rank #3	vs	Rank #6	Winner G1
Court 2	Q Final	4	Rank #4	vs	Rank #5	Winner G2

		Game	Round 2			Officials
Court 1	5th - 8th	5	Loser 1	vs	Loser 4	Winner G3
Court 2	5th - 8th	6	Loser 2	vs	Loser 3	Winner G4
Court 1	S Finals	7	Winner 1	vs	Winner 4	Loser G1
Court 2	S Finals	8	Winner 2	vs	Winner 3	Loser G2

		Game	Round 3			Officials
Court 1	5th - 6th	9	Winner 5	vs	Winner 6	Loser G7
Court 2	7th - 8th	10	Loser 5	vs	Loser 6	Loser G8
Court 1	GOLD	11	Winner 7	vs	Winner 8	TBC
Court 2	BRONZE	12	Loser 7	vs	Loser 8	TBC

PP. Last 6's

- The top 6 ranked teams after Grand Prix #3 will qualify for the Last 6's.
- The event will be hosted by Volleyball England.
- No Pool shall commence before 10.00am without the written consent of all participating teams.
- The Last 6's will be split into 2 pools based on Grand Prix ranking position.
 - Pool A – 1st, 4th and 5th
 - Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, and 6th
- All teams in the Pool shall play each other in a round robin format.
- All matches shall be played to the best of three sets.
- On the completion of the pools, the following games will take place:
 - 5th vs 6th play off game
 - Semi Final - 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B.
 - Semi Final - 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A.
 - The winners will progress to the National Final.
- Volleyball England will provide qualified 1st officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide a competent adult 2nd official, live stream scorers, scorers (to complete a NVL scoresheet) and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.
- Last 6's Grand Prix points will be awarded as follows:

Position	Last 6
Cup Finalists	24 points
Semi Finalists R-Up	22 points
5th Place	20 points
6th Place	18 points

QQ. Cup Finals Weekend

- The Finals shall be the best of 5 sets as per FIVB Rules.
- Volleyball England will provide all Officials after
- The "3 or 5 ball system" will normally be used.
- A Team trophy shall be awarded to the Champions.
- 19 medals will be awarded to 14 players and 5 bench personnel

RR. Specific Regulations for the U15 Tier 1 Junior Grand Prix Series

The U15 Grand Prix Series consists of 3 rounds of competition from January to March with the National Cup Finals in April. Grand Prix #1 will be a regional round with the teams then placed into a Gold, Silver and Bronze pool for Grand Prix #2. Teams will accumulate Grand Prix points each round which will lead to the National Rankings, after each Grand Prix there will be promotion and relegation. The top 6 teams based on National Rankings after Grand Prix #2 will go forward to the Last 6's and 7-30 will play for the Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup.

SS. How pools are decided

1. Grand Prix #1 (U15) - Teams will be seeded on the previous U15 National Rankings from the previous season and organised into geographical pools to reduce travel times.
2. Grand Prix #2--Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #1
3. Grand Prix #3 / Last 6's – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on accumulated Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #1 and Grand Prix #2.
4. Teams will be allocated into pools of four where possible. If the entries result in a pool of three or five teams, they will be assigned to the lowest ranked pool.

TT. Pool Points

1. U15 Grand Prix #1 Series Points

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

2. U15 Grand Prix #2 and #3

Position	National 2	Bronze Pool	Silver Pool	Gold Pool
1 st	8 points	12 points	16 points	20 points
2 nd	6 points	10 points	14 points	18 points
3 rd	4 points	8 points	12 points	16 points
4 th	2 points	6 points	10 points	14 points

UU. Grand Prix Series National Rankings

1. Shall be decided on total Grand Prix points accumulated across the series.
2. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on sets difference per matches played.
3. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on points difference per sets played.
4. If teams are still tied, they will be ranked based on the result between the teams.
5. In 4 above the teams haven't played each other the order will be decided on a toss of a coin.

VV. How pools are tiered and weighted in the U15 Grand Prix #1.

1. The number of entries will determine the composition of each competition.
2. Grand Prix #1 U15 - Teams will be seeded on the previous U15 rankings from the previous season and organised into geographical pools to reduce travel times.

WW. How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix #2

1. All U15 teams based on Grand Prix Points will be allocated into Gold, Silver, and Bronze pools in sequence.

XX. Grand Prix #3 (Tier 1 teams ranked 7 onwards)

1. The teams ranked 7th onwards after Grand Prix #2 will qualify to compete for the Gold, Silver or Bronze Cups.
2. Each cup will consist of 8 teams and will be hosted at a two-court venue.
3. 7th – 14th ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Gold Cup.
4. 15th – 22nd ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Silver Cup.
5. 23rd – 30th ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Bronze Cup.
6. Any lower ranked pools will be a pool of 4 and will be hosted by one of the teams involved in the pool.
7. Grand Prix points will be awarded.

This is the format of the Gold, Silver, and Bronze Cups, top three placings will receive medals and the winner a trophy.

		Game	Round 1			Officials
Court 1	Q Final	1	Rank #1	vs	Rank #8	Rank #6 G3
Court 2	Q Final	2	Rank #2	vs	Rank #7	Rank #5 G4
Court 1	Q Final	3	Rank #3	vs	Rank #6	Winner G1
Court 2	Q Final	4	Rank #4	vs	Rank #5	Winner G2
		Game	Round 2			Officials
Court 1	5th - 8th	5	Loser 1	vs	Loser 4	Winner G3
Court 2	5th - 8th	6	Loser 2	vs	Loser 3	Winner G4
Court 1	S Finals	7	Winner 1	vs	Winner 4	Loser G1
Court 2	S Finals	8	Winner 2	vs	Winner 3	Loser G2
		Game	Round 3			Officials
Court 1	5th - 6th	9	Winner 5	vs	Winner 6	Loser G7
Court 2	7th - 8th	10	Loser 5	vs	Loser 6	Loser G8
Court 1	GOLD	11	Winner 7	vs	Winner 8	TBC
Court 2	BRONZE	12	Loser 7	vs	Loser 8	TBC

YY. Last 6's

- The top 6 ranked teams after Grand Prix #2 will qualify for the Last 6's.
- The event will be hosted by Volleyball England.
- No Pool shall commence before 10.00am without the written consent of all participating teams.
- The Last 6's will be split into 2 pools based on Grand Prix ranking position.
 - Pool A – 1st, 4th and 5th
 - Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, and 6th
- All teams in the Pool shall play each other in a round robin format.
- All matches shall be played to the best of three sets.
- Grand Prix points will be awarded.
- On the completion of the pools, the following games will take place:
 - 5th vs 6th play off game
 - Semi Final - 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B.
 - Semi Final - 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A.
 - The winners will progress to the National Final.
- Volleyball England will provide qualified 1st officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide a competent adult 2nd official, live stream scorers, scorers and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.
- Last 6's Grand Prix points will be awarded as follows:

Position	Last 6
Cup Finalists	24 points
Semi Finalists R-Up	22 points
5th Place	20 points
6th Place	18 points

ZZ. Cup Finals Weekend

- The Finals shall be the best of 5 sets as per FIVB Rules.
- Volleyball England will provide all Officials.
- The "3 or 5 ball system" will normally be used.
- A Team trophy shall be awarded to the Champions.
- 19 medals will be awarded to 14 players and 5 bench personnel

AAA. Specific Regulations for the Tier 2 U14, U15, & U16

BBB. How pools are decided

1. Teams will be seeded into pools based on:
 - a. The geographical location of teams – aiming for the least combined travel time.
 - b. The availability of hosts to accommodate the pool.
2. Teams will be allocated into pools of four where possible, however in some circumstances it may only be possible to be a pool of 3 or 5.
3. For Grand Prix #4 U16 to Grand Prix #3 (U15) teams may have the option to be allocated into pools covering a larger distance to enable them to compete against different teams. If you wish to do this, please contact the Competitions Team.
4. The U14/U15 Tier 2 will have 4 Grand Prix events starting in November and finishing in March.

CCC. U14 & U15 Tier 2 adaptations

1. The U14 & U15 Tier 2 competition will be played as a 4 v 4 format.
2. It is recommended that matches are played on badminton courts using the outside tramlines (approx. 13.4m x 6.1m)
3. Due to the number of matches being played at once (up to 4 matches in a standard sports hall) we advise the competitions to run using a timed format:
 - a. The timed format will be 3 sets, each of 8 minutes, teams win 3-0 or 2-1. Timing can be adjusted as required.
 - b. One time out is permitted per set when the first team reaches 8 points.
 - c. No substitutions are permitted in the last 3 minutes of the set, unless using the rotation system (see 4b below)
 - d. When the whistle is blown to signify the end of the set, if the ball is in play the point shall be concluded and counted.
 - e. If the teams are tied at the end of the set, a final point will be played to decide the winner of that set.
4. Teams with more than 4 players in their squad can choose one of the below options for substitutions:
 - a. The traditional substitute rule i.e., Player A replaces B and then Player B can only go back on for A.
 - b. A rotation system where players rotate off and then rotate back on to serve.
5. If a player scores 3 successive serves the team will rotate but keep the serve.
6. If a team scores 6 successive serves they will pass the ball to the opposition, the score doesn't change.
7. Contact of 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.
8. Roles are not specialised to individual players.
9. The server is a backcourt player.
10. To provide a positive experience to the players we advise the use of reduced weight balls – Mikasa VS170W is recommended.

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

1. 6 players on court, 3 on the front row and 3 on the back row.
2. Maximum of three contacts per side (excluding the block).
3. A player may not hit the ball twice in succession (A block is not considered a hit).
4. The ball may be played off the net during a rally and on a serve.
5. A ball hitting a boundary line is "in".
6. A ball is "out" if it hits an antenna, the floor completely outside the court, any of the net or cables outside the antennae, the referee stand, the ceiling, or any object outside the court.
7. It is legal to contact the ball with any part of a player's body (except in U14/U15, see U14/U15 Tier 2 adaptations).
8. It is illegal to catch, hold, or throw the ball (refer to refereeing in Tier 2).
9. If two or more players contact the ball at the same time, it is considered one play and either player involved may make the next contact (provided the next contact isn't the teams 4th hit).
10. A player cannot block or attack a serve from on or inside the 3m line.
11. After the serve, front line players may switch positions at the net.
12. It is not a fault if the ball contacts the net during a serve.
13. 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.

EEE. Refereeing for Tier 2

1. The first principle of refereeing at this level is to enable the game to flow. As such the referee should set a level of handling that facilitates game play. The officials for each match will come from the teams competing in the pool and they will be able to pitch the level of refereeing to match the players development capabilities. This should ensure the game flows without too many interruptions whilst maintaining the critical aspects of the game.

A grayscale photograph of a volleyball match in progress. Two players are jumping high above the net, reaching for a volleyball. Other players are visible on the court in various positions. The text is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**VOLLEYBALL
ENGLAND**

**RULES AND
REGULATIONS
2025/25 SEASON**

**INTER REGIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Specific Regulations for the Inter Regional Championships

The Inter Regional Championships (IRC) will adhere to Volleyball England's Junior Competitions Philosophy

Regions in the IRC are to be entered via VolleyZone (VZ), details of which will be sent to all regions. Organisations are responsible for ensuring they fulfil their administrative requirements on VZ. Support is available via FAQ's, training videos and support through volleyzone@volleyballengland.org. Regions repeatedly failing to fulfil this duty, maybe asked by the CWG to leave the competition.

The Regulations are designed to ensure child welfare, integrity, fairness and give the maximum competitive playing opportunities for junior players.

FFF. Players

1. The competition will be 6 v 6 players.
2. The below table illustrates the age criteria for the competition.

Age Group	Not born before	Up to school year
Under 14	01/09/2011	9
Under 15	01/09/2010	10
Under 16	01/09/2009	11
Under 17	01/09/2008	12
Under 18	01/09/2007	13

3. 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 an indoor club competing in the Regions competitions.
4. All representatives of each region that are included on the official team sheet and the team manager should always wear Regional representative clothing. Any representative involved in a game will not be permitted to participate in any games if they do not have the correct regional clothing.
5. All players must be individually registered for the current season and aligned to the region on VolleyZone. The cost of registration is £10.50 per player. All payments will also incur a VolleyZone 3.2% and 50p service provider fee.
6. It is the regions responsibility to ensure the eligibility of their players competing in the Inter Regional Championships. If a region is found to have played an ineligible player in a match that match will be defaulted 21-15, 21-15. It is the responsibility of the team to keep records of all players competing.
7. Team sheets must be completed before the start of the IRC and presented upon registration.
8. Teams can list up to 12 players and additionally up to 2 Liberos listed on their Team Sheet (there is no limit to the number of players registered on the Club's specific Team Roster on VolleyZone).

GGG. Net Heights

	Girls	Boys
U14	2.17 metres	2.24 metres
U15	2.24 metres	2.35 metres
U16	2.24 metres	2.35 metres
U17	2.24 metres	2.43 metres
U18	2.24 metres	2.43 metres

HHH. Warm Up Time Allocation

1. Teams playing their 1st game in the morning will be allowed a 10-minute warm up consisting of ball handling, over the net and serve.
2. All the other pool games and positional games will be allowed a 5-minute warm up of ball handling.
3. Semi Finals and Finals will be given a 10-minute warm up consisting of ball handling, over the net and serve.

III. Late arrival of teams

1. If a team is likely to be late, they must notify the Event Lead or Event Staff at the earliest possible opportunity.
2. Where possible the Event Lead will adapt the order of play to compensate for late arrivals.
3. 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 1st Referee for the next match.
4. Teams arriving less than 20 minutes late for their first pool match will forfeit the right to time outs in the first set.
5. Teams arriving more than 20 minutes late for their first pool match will forfeit the first set to nil. If the team is not ready within a further 20 minutes, then they will forfeit the match to nil.
6. Any team late or not fulfilling their refereeing commitments during the weekend will be sanctioned.

JJJ. Event Format for the Inter Regional Championships

1. The IRC will have 4 competitions, girls Saturday morning until Sunday lunchtime, boys Sunday lunch until Monday evening.
 - a. U15 Girls
 - b. U17 Girls
 - c. U15 Boys
 - d. U17 Boys
2. There are 10 regions in each age and gender category, these regions are:

IRC Regions	
East East Midlands London North East North West	South East South West Wales West Midlands Yorkshire

3. The Regions will be split into 2 pools
 - a. Pool A
 - b. Pool B
4. All teams in the Pool shall play each other in a round robin format.
5. All matches shall be played to the best of three sets (21,21,15) to 2 clear points.
6. However, all pool games will be capped at 23, 23, 17.
7. Each region will be allocated one timeout per set
8. In all pool matches, match points will be awarded as follows:
 - a. Win 2 points.
 - b. Lose 0 points.
9. On the completion of the pools, crossover semi-finals will take place:
 - a. 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B.
 - b. 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A.
 - c. The winners will progress to the IRC Final.
 - d. Losers of the semi-final will play in the Bronze Medal match
10. The other ranking matches will be as follows:
 - a. 5th and 6th Play off - 3rd in pools
 - b. 7th and 8th Play off – 4th in pools
 - c. 9th and 10th Play off – 5th in pools

KKK. Format

1. Each region can enter a maximum of one team per age category.
2. The competition format will depend on the number of Teams entered.
3. 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.
4. The knockout phase may consist of cross over matches between groups as outlined in the match schedule.
5. Volleyball England will provide qualified 1st officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide an adult 2nd official, live stream scorers, scorers (FIVB scoresheet) and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.

LLL. Changeover between competitions

1. After the Girls Finals on the Sunday there will be a medal presentation.
2. The girl's presentation will take place outside of the sports hall after the conclusion of the Girls Final.
3. On completion of the Girls Final the Event Staff will prepare the courts for the boy's competition.
4. There will be a whole event briefing on the courts for the boys before the start of the competition.
5. All coaches and players should respect this briefing and refrain from warming up on courts until this is completed.
6. All warm ups for the following competition will start after the briefing has commenced.
7. Each team will have the opportunity to a 10-minute warm up in line with the competition format.

Appendix A – VolleyZone

Please use the following VolleyZone URLs to complete your administration tasks:

[The VolleyZone Administration: Log in link](#)

[Club Affiliation Help Centre](#)

[Membership Help Centre](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions – Step by Step Guides - Competitions](#)