

Team consultation | NVL Regulations 23-24

This paper outlines 5 regulations which the Competitions Working Group are considering changing for the 23-24 season. The suggested changes have come from feedback attained from NVL teams this season. Please note there are potentially additional changes to the regulations coming. These relate to:

- 1) How we improve the situation for referees led by the Ace Service Subgroup.
- 2) Super League development led by Charlie Ford, Rob Payne, and Bill Boagey.
- 3) Changes required to support the introduction of our [new digital platform](#).

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the below information before [completing the consultation feedback](#) to outline your preferences as a team. If you are answering on behalf of multiple teams, please list them all on question 3.

PROPOSED CHANGE 1

Headline - Change the points system for Divisions 1-3 to the same as the Super League

Regulation - I. End of NVL Playing Season Regulation I 2.

Detail – Three points 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.

Rationale **FOR** the change

- Creates a clear and unified method of awarding points across the whole NVL.
- Rewards close matches and incentivises narrow defeats.
- In the NVL it is a basic expectation that teams fulfil their fixtures, therefore rewarding this should now be unnecessary – fines for non-attendance will remain.

Rationale **AGAINST** the change

- Will discourage coaches from giving court time to fringe players to avoid losing sets that could result in dropped points, which could have negative long-term impact in the lower divisions as new players could find it harder to progress.
- Could discourage fringe players from registering/travelling as they are less likely to get court time, this will impact on club/team finances.
- Less incentive to fulfil a fixture that a team believes it will lose 3-0.

PROPOSED CHANGE 2

Headline - To remove the requirement for home teams to provide hospitality after matches.

Regulation - D. Preparation for Matches viii (7).

Detail – If the regulation is removed the home team will no longer be required to offer food and refreshments for the away team and match officials after the game.

Rationale **FOR** the change

- Some teams have asked this to be removed
- There can be waste created if away teams do not take advantage of the refreshments provided and the food is of poor quality so the home team cant take it home.
- Dietary requirements can make it more complex to cater for away teams and match officials
- Teams provide poor quality food
- Teams provide insufficient food

Rationale **AGAINST** the change

- The regulation is in place to encourage teams and officials to socialise after the game which could be lost, we are seeing more poor behaviour and referees feeling unappreciated as many teams have not provided post-match refreshment this season.
- It is more cost effective to supply and eat the refreshments supplied by teams rather than buying food on the trip home.
- The regulations already provide the ability for home teams to agree with the opposition to not provide refreshments
- The regulations already explain how to deal with dietary requirements.
- The regulations have a significant fine for teams not providing sufficient and good quality of refreshments.
- The Ace Service subgroup are looking at how to ensure that officials are treated with respect not offering refreshments could be considered counter to this effort.

PROPOSED CHANGE 3

Headline – An increased notice period for home teams to appoint officials if the officials group appointment committee are unable to do so.

Regulation - Regulation D 4. Referees vii.

Detail – The Officials Group Appointment committee will stop trying to appoint officials to NVL league fixtures 4 weeks before the match increasing the time from 1 week to 2 weeks for the home team to source officials.

Rationale **FOR** the change

- This will increase the time the home team have to find appropriate match officials for the match.
- This will enable the home to team to send out completed match confirmations in a timely manner
- It is rare that new officials become available in the one additional week so won't have any negative impact on appointments

Rationale **AGAINST** the change

- Appointing referees is a key expectation of teams and anything that could potentially reduce the number appointed should be avoided where possible.

- This change could be considered unnecessary as the vast majority of officials are appointed and notified well in advance providing already enough time for teams to source missing officials.

PROPOSED CHANGE 4

Headline – Increase the permitted shirt numbers to 1-99

Regulation - Regulation D 2. Playing kit

Detail – Teams will be permitted to use shirt numbers 1-99 instead on the current 1-20.

Rationale **FOR** the change

- For clubs that have multiple teams and large memberships it could reduce the administration of collecting and coordinating shirts after matches
It simplifies the pre-match process knowing each players shirt number.

Rationale **AGAINST** the change

- Substitution paddles are numbered 1-20 therefore a work-around solution would be required to make substitutions quickly and accurately.
- Teams have invested in solutions to substitution paddles and they will have to pay again for a new solution.
- For teams with multiple teams and membership it could create problems if a player forgets their jersey.
- It is not in line with the FIVB rules of the game (shirts above 99 are permitted in certain competitions but this is when electronic systems are used to do the substitution).

PROPOSED CHANGE 5

Headline – Amalgam NVL teams are permitted in the Knockout Cup and Shield

Regulation - Regulation A 4. Conditions of Entry to the National K.O. Cup. iii.

Detail - If a club enters amalgam team/s, they will be recognised in the cup as the club's highest-level team/s. This will affect the seeding and ability to play in the shield in some cases.

- The cup/shield will continue to be regarded as single competition BUT separate to the NVL therefore the playing up regulations will not be applied to players and players will still be limited to playing for a single team in the Cup/Shield.
- Players will only be permitted to play for one team in the competition.
- Players who have competed in the Super League cannot participate in the shield competition for an amalgam team.
- If the club has won the shield in the previous season none of the clubs amalgam teams are permitted to compete in the shield that season.

Rationale **FOR** the change

- The change will provide more flexibility to clubs that have limited capacity to enter the cup.

- The change will reduce the clubs uncertainty around eligibility of players.
- It might increase the number of NVL clubs with multiple teams that enter the Cup as they will have greater flexibility E.g. if you have 2 teams with each team having 5 players wanting to enter the cup then this is now possible

Rationale **AGAINST** the change

- This is likely to reduce the number of NVL teams entering the cup competition as if you have multiple teams in your club then rather entering all the teams you can instead choose to only enter one.
- By allowing this it will not encourage teams to bring in emerging players into their Cup team and reduce opportunities for non-NVL players from the club to experience the Cup/Shield
- Seeding will become more problematic as the players playing may not be representative of the team entered.
- It will make checking the player eligibility more complex as for NVL teams it will now be necessary to check all players from the club rather than just the players registered for the that NVL team