



POLICY HANDBOOK

(Revised July 2018)

Southern League

Welcome to all players!

Please familiarise yourself with the rules and regulations set out in this handbook. Any questions should be directed to a Committee Member.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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Version History

Version	Date	Details of Change
2.0	February 2015	Baseline
2.1	March 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tasmanian Volleyball Academy teams/players exempted from club restrictions – add rule 1(e), 3(a), 9(c) Amend 5(d) to allow for non-finals matches only Substitute 11(c) to require approval/exemption Add 13(b) in relation to standard of officiating 17(c) re-worded for simplicity
2.2	August 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend rule 9(c) to allow only one match per night outside of nominated division Add rule 11(d) to restrict number of matches in a higher division to 50% (TVA nominated teams/players exempt)
2.3	July 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend rule 11(d) to clarify the restriction on the number of matches played in a higher division before exclusion from a lower nominated division Amend rule 13(a) to require all duty teams to provide a first ref, second ref and scorer regardless of division being officiated

1. CLUB/TEAM NOMINATION:

- (a) In order for a recognised club to compete, it must enter a minimum of two (2) teams in a given Southern League competition; plus it must also nominate a finance officer to handle match and registration fees and a team manager for each team. Any responsibility of a 'team', as referred in this document, is also the responsibility of the relevant club.
- (b) In Division 1, a club should nominate only one (1) team in each gender.
- (c) In other divisions, a club should nominate a maximum of one (1) more team than that club has entered in the division immediately below. Note: Division make-up is at the discretion of the Competitions Officer.
- (d) All teams wishing to enter a competition must nominate by the due date, via their club, see www.volleyballtasmania.com.au (Contact Us).
- (e) Rules 1(a-d) do not apply to teams entered under the banner 'Tasmanian Volleyball Academy'. Such teams will be treated as autonomous.
- (f) For each nominated team, a complete list of players must be submitted at least two (2) weeks prior to the commencement of each season. A nomination fee may also be required, as determined by the Committee.
- (g) Team lists must be unique (i.e. players may not be listed twice). New players may be added to team lists prior to, or during, the season; however, must comply with sections 2 (Registration) and 3 (Transfers and Clearances).
- (h) Withdrawal of a team after the payment due date will result in forfeit of nomination and match fees in respect of that team. Should this also result in the club's inability to comply with rule 1(a), the remaining team shall continue to compete in the competition for the remainder of the season.

2. REGISTRATION:

- (a) All players listed per 1(f) and who pay the specified membership fee will be registered from the start date of the season during which they joined.
- (b) It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that all players are properly registered by the due date, accompanied by all due membership fees, as determined by the Committee.
- (c) After the third week of the season, unregistered players may be prohibited from taking the court. Any offending team may lose premiership points.
- (d) Any player(s) starting after the due date, specifically those not aligned to another volleyball club, should be registered prior to taking the court. Payment of appropriate membership fee/s is then required within the following three weeks.

3. TRANSFERS AND CLEARANCES:

- (a) This section does not apply to players from teams entered under the banner 'Tasmanian Volleyball Academy'.
- (b) It is the intention of these procedures that all players are properly cleared by any former club before transferring to a new club. Once a player has been nominated in a team by a club (refer 1(e)) that player is considered to be a member of that club and may only transfer as set out below.
- (c) If a player wishes to transfer between clubs, he/she must obtain clearance from the old club before playing their first match for the new club. A club release form or letter (example can be downloaded from <http://www.volleyballtasmania.com.au/learning/volleyball-resources.php>), signed by both clubs, may be submitted to Volleyball Tasmania by either club. Clearance is not required if the player has not been a member of any Volleyball Tasmania club.
- (d) No club can refuse such a transfer without reasonable grounds.
- (e) Transfers after completion of more than half the roster matches are allowable only by specific clearance by the Competitions Officer.
- (f) If a player plays for a new club without obtaining the required clearance, any such match will be deemed a forfeit.

4. MATCH FEES:

- (a) Clubs must pay match fees for all nominated teams up front before the due date specified (normally by round 4).
- (b) The Association will endeavour to provide a means of accepting cash/cheques at the competition venue. If nobody is available to accept payment in person, the team must contact the Treasurer.
- (c) Failure to pay all required match fees by the due date may result in prohibition and forfeits (see rule 7).

5. TEAM LISTS:

- (a) Players' names and numbers must be listed and confirmed (signed off) on the score sheet prior to the scheduled starting time of the match. If not done correctly, the First Referee will apply a forfeit (rule 7).
- (b) Subject to the conditions set out in rule 7, the minimum number of eligible players required to constitute a team is four (4).
- (c) Males cannot play in female teams, but one (1) female can play in a male team.

- (d) Maximum of one (1) player may play in a division lower than that in which he/she was nominated (non-finals match only).
- (e) Any player who arrives late may take part in the match only if he/she was listed on the score sheet prior to the commencement of the match.
- (f) The name of any listed player who does not take the court shall be crossed off the score sheet by the First Referee prior to completion of official duties.

6. EQUIPMENT LOCATION:

Nets, antennae, volleyballs, score sheets and other equipment are stored at Moonah Sports Centre by each court or in the Volleyball Tasmania equipment cupboard (Hall 2). Please ask a committee member if unsure.

7. FORFEITS:

- (a) Teams are to be ready to play (i.e. warm-up and score sheet completed) by the scheduled starting time of the match. If they delay the starting time of the match they will lose one or more timeouts (first set) and if the delay is over 1 minute they will forfeit the first set. If the delay is over 10 minutes they shall forfeit the match.
- (b) Where a team has less than 6 eligible players, but complies with rule 5(b), an official match will be played but the offending team may be subject to rule 7(c). Both teams will pay their required match fee in full.
- (c) Where the international score sheet is used, and a team has less than 6 players on court, teams will retain correct rotation and lose service when there is no player to serve.
- (d) Where a team has less than 4 eligible players, or plays an ineligible player, there will be no official match. The forfeiting team receives no match points and their opponents win by 3 sets to nil, and 25-0 will be the points awarded for percentage calculation.
- (e) A forfeiting team may be required to pay their opposing team's match fee if no practice match takes place. A separate invoice may be issued.

8. TEAM RANKINGS:

Qualifications (in order of preference):

1. Premiership Points: BYE=3, WIN=2/3, LOSS=0/1, FORFEIT=(-2)
2. Point Percentage: Points Won / Points Lost
3. When a division has an uneven number of matches/byes, match points will be allocated pro rata to teams that have played fewer matches.

9. MULTIPLE GAMES:

- (a) A player may play in more than one division on any given night; however, they are not eligible for Best Player votes if playing in a lower division than that in which they were nominated.
- (b) A player may not play for multiple teams (same club) within the same division unless permission is expressly given by the Competitions Officer.
- (c) A player who is part of a team under the banner 'Tasmanian Volleyball Academy' may play one non-finals match per night for any other club/team in a division higher than that in which they were nominated (also refer rule 9(a)).

10. UNIFORM:

- (a) All teams must wear the correct uniform from the third playing week.
- (b) Correct uniform is: Playing tops of the same colour and design with clearly defined numbers on the back. Numbers must not be taped on. (Exception: libero players must simply wear a contrasting colour.)
- (c) For each player out of uniform, offending teams will be penalised two (2) points per set in which such players take the court.

11. FINALS ELIGIBILITY:

- (a) ***Eligible Player - definition***
A player is an eligible player and may play finals if they are correctly registered and have played in at least four (4) matches during the applicable season. Byes and forfeited matches (forfeiting team only) do not count towards games played.
- (b) ***Playing finals in their nominated (or higher) division***
A player may play finals in the division in which they were nominated, or any higher division, if the player is an Eligible Player.
- (c) ***Playing finals in a lower division than nominated***
Players may not play finals in a lower division than nominated unless specifically approved by the VTI Competitions Officer. Applications for this exemption should be made prior to the applicable match, in writing.
- (d) ***Maximum number of matches in a higher division than nominated***
If a player plays more matches in a higher division than played in their nominated division, they are not eligible to play finals in any lower division. Similarly, if a player plays more than 50% of the scheduled roster matches in a season from a higher division than nominated, they are not eligible to play finals in any lower division. TVA players are exempt.

12. REFEREES:

- (a) Referees are to be qualified in accordance with requirements set by the Committee and will be paid in accordance with qualification and match level.
- (b) Volleyball Tasmania will conduct seminars and tests from time to time but clubs are encouraged to investigate means of fostering their own referees, starting with second refereeing during duty matches.
- (c) Qualified first referees shall be eligible for payment. However, if score sheets have not been satisfactorily completed by the first referee (including valid best player voting) no payment shall be made.
- (d) For information regarding the referee payment scale, contact the Competitions Officer, Refereeing Officer or the Treasurer. Payment of any due fees should be arranged directly with the Treasurer upon conclusion of the applicable season.

13. DUTY:

- (a) When a team is scheduled for duty it must supply: First Referee (if none are provided), Second Referee and Scorer.
- (b) The standard of officiating (including keeping to schedule) will be checked from time to time and must meet minimum standards.
 - (i) The first duty team in each hall is to obtain and set up all equipment.
 - (ii) These and subsequent duty teams must be ready to commence their duty match at its scheduled starting time.
 - (iii) The duty team for the last match of the night is required to put away correctly ALL equipment from their hall.
 - (iv) At the conclusion of all matches, a committee member or other responsible person will ensure that all lights are turned off and all external doors are locked. This is a venue hirer's requirement.
- (c) The penalty is 2 premiership points (per incident) for:
 - (i) insufficient duty officials
 - (ii) score sheet/best player voting not adequately completed
 - (iii) equipment not set up/put away as required (if you are unsure where equipment is stored, ask a Committee Member)
- (d) ***Finals Duty***: Each team involved in playing finals will be required to supply at least 3 persons to officiate another match. All duty people must have set up or packed away courts (if required) and be ready to start their duty match on time. A fine per person may be charged to any club whose team fails to comply with this rule.

14. KICKING VOLLEYBALLS:

Only when an official match is in progress may the ball be contacted with the feet. However, if the action is deemed by the First Referee to be dangerous to any person(s) a misconduct sanction (penalty) is to apply.

- (i) Any offender will receive a penalty (red card and loss of point/rally) from the referee.
- (ii) Any repetition(s) will result in expulsion for the remainder of the set (red/yellow cards jointly) or disqualification for the entire match (red/yellow cards separately).

15. WARM UP BALLS:

- (a) Teams must warm-up with their own volleyballs, not the match ball. Spare warm-up balls may be available on enquiry.
- (b) Playing with volleyballs while other matches are in progress is not permitted. This should be enforced by all First Referees.

16. FOOTWEAR:

Only recognised gym shoes or bare feet are allowed on court. Playing shoes should not be worn to the hall and must have clean soles.

17. PLAYING RULES:

- (a) It is the duty of all players to be familiar with the rules of volleyball. In all competitions conducted by Volleyball Tasmania, current international (F.I.V.B.) rules will apply, subject to special rules as determined by the Committee. Current F.I.V.B. International Rules will be made available upon enquiry; however this information can also be downloaded from the Internet at <http://www.fivb.org/>.
- (b) A different libero player is permitted in each set. The libero must wear a playing top of a different colour to the rest of the team. It is not a requirement that the top be numbered, although preferred. The score sheet and rotation cards (where applicable) must be clearly marked to identify the libero for each set.
- (c) The Australian '12 substitution' rule will be used instead of the standard international '6 substitution' rule.

18. TIME LIMITS:

- (a) If roster matches are time limited, no time outs will be allowed in the last five (5) minutes of the match.
- (b) If roster matches are not timed, they will consist of three (3) completed sets.
- (c) Finals matches are not timed and will be the best of five (5) sets.

19. SCORING SYSTEM:

- (a) Match results are determined by the number of sets won.
- (b) If, in a timed match, time expires and one team has scored the required minimum number of points and has an advantage of at least 2 points, the set will count towards the match result (i.e. the set will be won/lost accordingly).
- (c) The minimum number of points for each set is 8 points.

20. FINALS FORMAT:

No. of Teams	Semi Final	Preliminary Final	Grand Final
Less than 4	N/A	N/A	1 st v 2 nd
4 or 5	N/A	Game A: 2 nd v 3 rd	1 st v Winner (A)
6 or 7	Game A: 1 st v 2 nd Game B: 3 rd v 4 th	Game D: Loser (A) v Winner (B)	Game E: Winner (A) v Winner (D)

If the number of teams is more than 7, there may be additional matches played. Any variation may be approved by the Committee.

21. PRIZES & AWARDS:

- (a) Premiership medallions, premiership certificates and/or Best Player awards may be presented either after completion of the match or at the next official Volleyball Tasmania function.
- (b) Players affected by an uneven number of matches/byes in their division will be allocated their season average Best Player votes for that round.
- (c) Best Player prizes will only be awarded if votes are cast in more than 90% of official matches (excluding byes) in the relevant group/division.

22. NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE:

An e-Newsletter may be issued from time to time, containing all volleyball related information including competitions, courses and upcoming events.

Visit www.volleyballtasmania.com.au for all updates and results.

23. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Meetings are held regularly (normally monthly or bi-monthly) to discuss relevant issues and policies that relate to Volleyball Tasmania, including progress toward strategic goals of the Association.

- (i) All members are welcome to attend any meeting, but voting rights only belong to Committee Members unless it is a general meeting.
- (ii) Refer to the website for details and agenda items.
- (iii) Want to have your say by joining the Committee? – contact us!

24. ARBITRATION:

The Competitions Officer will adjudicate in the event of any dispute arising from the interpretation of these rules and his/her decision will be final.