

AUSTRALIAN OPEN VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Competition Regulations 2019

Gold Coast Sports & Leisure Centre – Carrara
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PRIMARY ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

1.1 VOLLEYBALL AUSTRALIA

Volleyball Australia (VA) is the sole owner of the event property called the Australian Open Volleyball Championships.

The aim of the Australian Open Volleyball Championships (AOVC) is to act as a supporting tier event to develop and maintain a player pool of athletes from across the country, that will support the Volleyball Super League as a pathway event, align with the Member State / Territory player development plans and align with the outcomes of the VA Strategic Plan.

VA, through its staff are responsible for the delivery and management of the competition.

1.2 COMPETITION & EVENTS MANAGER

The Volleyball Australia Event Delegate (VED) is responsible for delivering all facets of the competition including, but not limited to marketing, media, developing competition collateral, operations, competition logistics, delivery of the competition and general administration of the competition.

1.3 CONTROL COMMITTEE

The Control Committee (CC) is the highest authority throughout the competition delegated with the powers of VA. The Control Committee exists from **1 hour prior to** the commencement of the first match, until one hour following the conclusion of the final whistle of the final match of the **Final Series**. **The Control Committee's existence will be extended as necessary to resolve Grievance protests.** The Control Committee for each game consists of the VED, who shall be the Chairman, Volleyball Australia Board Member and the National Referee Delegate (NRD). Contact details of the Control Committee will be published by the host in each program for each round.

The Control Committee ensures all matches adhere to the AOVC Regulations and the FIVB Official Rules of the Game 2017 – 2020, , current FIVB Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions, and current FIVB Rules of the Game Volleyball Casebook. During the event, the Control Committee is responsible for hearing and resolution of Grievance protests, i.e. those disputes not eligible to be resolved by the On-the-Spot Protest resolution procedure – Appendix D.

1.4 VOLLEYBALL AUSTRALIA REFEREES COMMITTEE (VARC)

The Volleyball Australia Referee's Committee (VARC) is responsible for:

- appointing a National Referee Delegate (NRD) for the competition;
- providing guidance to the NRD regarding the training, selection and continuous improvement of the competition officials
- monitoring the performance of the NRD;

1.5 NATIONAL REFEREE DELEGATE

The NRD will be available for the duration of the competition on each day of the competition. The NRD shall:

- respond to pre-match questions and "on-the-spot" protests
- participate in competition Control Committee in resolving protests
- have the role of "Rules of the Game" member of the competition Control Committee.
- prepare the officials' roster;
- provide daily rosters and appointments and responsibilities;

- Provide feedback to officials on their performance; and
- Monitor the delivery of matches

1.6 MATCH OFFICIALS

The Match Officials will be accountable for conduct of the appointed match. The match officials will be appointed by the VARC and will be rostered by the NRD. VA will supply first and second referees for all matches as well as 1 scorer.

For Semi-final matches, VA will supply 2 lines judges in addition to the original 3 match officials. For all medal matches (bronze and gold), VA will supply an additional assistant scorer and a total of 4 lines judges per match. The match officials are responsible for officiating according to the Rules of the Game and Refereeing Guidelines and these regulations.

1.7 DUTY

Teams will be scheduled to perform duty for matches throughout the competition. Duty teams will be required to supply the following personnel:

Pool matches, quarter finals and play off matches – 1x assistant scorer, 2x lines judges

Semi-finals – 1x assistant scorer

Medal matches – nil

All duty personnel will be required to **uniformly dressed including enclosed shoes.**

TEAMS RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE

1.8 ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS

The competition is reserved for the teams (be club, or representative teams from Associations, Regions, Academies or Development programs) that have been approved to participate by Volleyball Australia and the respective State / Territory Volleyball Association. Multiple teams per gender may be entered by a State / Territory Volleyball Association.

1.9 NOMINATION OF TEAMS

Teams must be nominated via the State / Territory Volleyball Associations to VA by the due date as listed in **Appendix A**.

1.10 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS AND TEAM OFFICIALS

All Players and Team Officials participating in the competition must be current registered members of their state to the highest possible level. International transfers will be subject to VA approval prior to registration (refer to Clause 1.10). Registration information must be listed on the competition O-2 Form.

1.11 COMPOSITION OF PLAYING TEAM

A maximum of fourteen (14) players are to appear on the O-2 Bis Form. A maximum of five (5) team officials may be seated on the team bench. These staff members must be listed on the score sheet, and be registered on the O-2 & O-2 Bis Forms for the competition. No player or official may appear on the scoresheet, if they are not listed on the O-2 Bis Form.

The 20 player squad must be submitted using the O-2 Form and the 14 player competing team must be submitted using the O-2 Bis Form by the date listed in **Appendix A**. The form template will be sent as an email attachment.

Note that as this event is to develop players and to support the Volleyball Super League there must be at least 2 players whose age is Under 21 years listed on the O-2 Bis Form.

1.11.1 LIBERO PLAYER

The Coach can choose to change the Libero(s) between each match only.

Record on the scoresheet and on the bench: a maximum of 14 players

Score sheet Team list: 14 players – 12 regular + 2 Liberos

Score sheet Team list: 13 players – 11 regular + 2 Liberos

Score sheet Team list: 12 players – 12 regular + 0 Liberos

Score sheet Team list: 12 players – 11 regular + 1 Libero

Score sheet Team list: 12 players – 10 regular + 2 Liberos

Note: only one Libero can be on court at any one time.

1.12 INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS

Teams must mark international players requiring clearance on their O-2 Form. An “international player” is defined as a player who does not have Australia as their Federation of Origin (FoO).

The FoO is defined by the following:

The Federation which is first to:

- register the player in its national team for an FIVB, World or Official Competition through the final FIVB O-2 Bis Form, with the player’s presence being certified by the Control Committee; or
- issue a national licence for the player or otherwise register the player within the federation;

The above defines an International Player regardless of the players nationality or passport.

Any international player who has not fully completed the FIVB transfer process is ineligible to be listed on the teams O-2 form unless they have received written approval from VA. Furthermore, the listing of an ineligible international player on the scoresheet will cause the offending team to forfeit that match.

Teams will be required to process any/all international players through the *International Player Transfer Procedure* to be eligible for participation. Each team is responsible for meeting applicable FIVB and FoO transfer fees and processing the international transfer procedure through the FIVB Volleyball Information System (VIS). See

https://www.fivb.org/EN/Volleyball/Documents/FIVB_Transfer_Manual-ITC_2018-2019.pdf

FIVB International transfer fees are set at **CHF1500** for the 2019 Competition. FoO transfer fees must be directly negotiated each year with each FoO. It is the responsibility of each team to pay the appropriate fees and transfer conditions as negotiated with the FoO

If teams do not comply with the International Transfer Procedure they will be liable for any fines incurred by FIVB, AVC and/or FoO.

1.13 PERMIT PLAYERS

Any person wishing to play for a different team than previously registered, **within their membership year**, must first obtain a **Certificate of Permit (Appendix B)** from the team in which they were previously registered. Clearances must be processed before being eligible to compete as a member of another team. For example, a player registered with the WA Steel must obtain a **Certificate of Permit** from the WA Steel before being eligible to compete for Canberra Heat.

Any team receiving an application for a “**Certificate of Permit**” must immediately confirm receipt to the applicant, then consider the application and inform the applicant in writing of the outcome within fourteen (14) days of receipt. If a decision is not made within the 14 day period, the application will be deemed approved. The team from which a clearance is sought must not unreasonably refuse a request for clearance. Debts owed to a team are considered reasonable grounds for denial of a clearance. All players must be financially cleared as a minimum requirement.

One transfer can be granted per player per season.

Should any team refuse to grant a **Certificate of Permit**, the applicant or their team, will have the right of appeal to VA. VA is empowered to ratify or veto the decisions of teams in regard to all inter-team transfers, but will not overrule a team decision where financial clearance is required and has not been paid.

Approved clearances must be emailed to the VED along with the completed O-2 Form by the due date set out in **Appendix A**.

Failure to comply with the Inter Team Transfer Regulations will result in the team forfeiting all matches in which the player appeared on the scoresheet and incurring any penalties as outlined in Clause 1.13 of these Regulations.

1.14 FORFEIT

Teams who play in the competition are required to comply with these Regulations. Failure to do so may result in the forfeiture of a match, loss of one (1) competition point and may also incur a fine of up to \$1000 payable to VA per offence.

Conduct that may lead to forfeiture of matches, includes but is not limited to, the following reasons:

- Playing an ineligible player (not listed on the O-2 Bis Form)
- Playing an ineligible player (listed on the O-2 Bis Form but has been banned, suspended, lacking relevant transfer approvals or not registered to play)
- Match truancy – unable to fulfil playing commitment, less than six (6) players at the stated match start time.
- Non-compliance of competition fees and;
- Non-compliance with advertised competition deadlines

1.15 COACHING REQUIREMENTS

All Coaches appointed to the competition must be accredited to a minimum of a Volleyball Australia Level 2 Coach. It is highly recommended that all Coaches hold Elite Level 3 Volleyball Coaching Accreditation.

Coaches must “sign off” on their compliance to the VA Codes of Conduct, Integrity Policy and if required a current “Working with Children” check.

Coaches who are not accredited will not be able to participate in the match.

TEAM RANKING SYSTEM DURING THE COMPETITION

1.16 RANKING BY POINTS OBTAINED

The ranking of teams is determined firstly by the number of matches won.

The final ranking of all teams at the conclusion of the pool rounds will determine the match schedule for the Finals.

1.17 IN THE CASE OF EQUAL MATCHES WON

In case of teams finishing with an equal number of matches won, positions will be determined by the competition points as follows:

Match won 3-0; 3-1	3 points
Match won 3-2	2 points
Match lost 2-3	1 point
Match lost 0-3; 1-3	0 points
Match forfeited	-1 point

1.18 IN THE CASE OF EQUAL COMPETITION POINTS

Set Quotient

In the case of teams finishing with equal wins and equal points, they will be classified in descending order by the quotient resulting from the division of the number of all sets won by the number of all sets played.

Points Quotient

If the tie persists according to the set quotient, the teams will then be classified in descending order by the quotient resulting from the division of all points scored by the total of points played.

Last Match & New Classification

If the tie continues as per the point quotient between two teams, the priority will be given to the team that won the last match between these teams.

When the tie in point quotient is between three or more teams shall be generated, only considering matches won, set quotient and points quotient taking into consideration only the matches in which they played each other.

MATCH CONDITIONS

1.19 MATCH RULES

All matches will be played according to **FIVB Official Volleyball Rules of the Game 2017-2020**.

Any new rules or interpretations will be clarified by VARC as required.

Pre match protocol is outlined in Appendix C.

1.20 PROTEST RESOLUTION

Protests will be resolved according to the Protest Resolution Procedure outlined in the Appendix D.

Any **Grievance** that requires consideration by the Control Committee for the Rounds or Finals must be submitted in writing within one (1) hour of the completion of the match with a \$300 administration fee. Protests will be considered and resolved before the commencement of the next Round. If the protest is upheld, the administration fee will be returned. Protest that are denied or withdrawn will result in the administration fee not being returned.

TEAM OBLIGATIONS

1.21 PLAYING COMMITMENT

A team will be regarded as being incomplete and will forfeit the match if the team cannot provide six (6) players in play for the commencement of and at any time during the match.

1.22 TEAM NAMES AND BRANDING

Team names must be submitted to the VED on the O-2 form by the date specified in **Appendix A**.

Team staff must also have the appropriate team branding on their tops when appearing on the team bench. Competition branding on team tracksuits and training shirts is optional, however, branding as per above is encouraged.

1.23 UNIFORMS

All teams are required to provide the VED with a digital photos of the front and backs of their captain's playing jerseys (all versions), the Libero playing jerseys (all versions) and the team shorts (both Men's and Women's versions) for assessment against the FIVB Rules of the Game requirements by the date set out in **Appendix A**.

Following inspection and assessment by the VED teams will receive approval (or rejection) of these uniforms. Any uniforms not approved must not be used until corrected, teams risk being ruled as a "uniform violation" and will be subject to the Out of Uniform penalties outlined below.

Compression garments are permitted to be worn by players for protection or support. These devices should be of the same colour as the corresponding part of the uniform where possible. No other clothing (other than compressions) may be visible outside of the playing uniform without prior written permission of the VED.

Uniform violations notified by the VED will result in a \$100 fine per violation to the offending team, payable to VA.

To promote the professionalism of the event, team management (i.e. coaching staff and officials seated on the team bench) are strongly encouraged to dress in a uniform manner, for example either team training suit and polo shirt, or jacket/shirt with slacks/shorts of the same colour and style.

1.24 TEAM EQUIPMENT

VA will provide warm-up balls and ball trolleys for the competition. Teams must return all provided equipment (warm-up balls and trolleys etc) and will be required to replace all that is lost. All other team equipment including water bottles, carriers and hand towels will be provided by individual teams.

If a team damages or loses the VA allocated equipment or property, they will be required to pay VA the cost of replacement or repair.

MATCH OFFICIALS

1.25 TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

The VARC will appoint officials for the scheduled matches.

During the competition only those officials identified and approved by VARC will be appointed to referee matches.

Referees are required to wear the current VA Referee uniform.

CODES OF BEHAVIOUR

The Board of Volleyball Australia have approved a set of codes of behaviour for its membership. These codes are published within the Member Protection Policy. VA retains the right to sanction any participant whom does not comply with these codes whilst participating in the competition. The respective codes (Players, Coaches and Officials) are listed on the [Volleyball Australia website](#).

COMPETITION POLICIES

The Competition will conform to all VA Policies which can be found at:
<http://www.volleyballaustralia.org.au/page/policies>

1.26 ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

Players, Coaches and Referees are not permitted to drink alcohol whilst inside the competition venue at any time.

1.27 DRUG POLICY

VA will not tolerate the taking of banned or illegal substances.

[VA Anti-Doping Policy](#) is applicable to the competition. A condition of eligibility to play in the competition is that all athletes accept this Anti-Doping Policy and random drug testing. The policy is available from the VA website.

1.28 BLOOD

VA endorses the Australian Sports Medicine Federation Infectious Diseases Policy.

Matches will not proceed if there is a bleeding player or blood evident on equipment or the playing area. Should a bleeding occur, the referee will delay the match, the player will be immediately removed from the court and will not be permitted to return to the match until there is no further evidence of bleeding or blood. The playing area must be cleaned (i.e. all evidence of blood removed) before the match can resume.

If the bleeding is not able to be stopped and cleaned within the allocated injury time, the bleeding player is removed from the match and replaced by any available substitute player on the bench (excl. Libero or Libero replacement player) and will be recorded on the scoresheet. This action **will not** count as one of the team substitutions. When the player is ready to return to the match, they will immediately replace the player that took their position, this is again recorded on the scoresheet.

1.29 PLAYER AND TEAM OFFICIAL CONDUCT

A person who receives 3 yellow cards, 2 red cards or 1 yellow & 1 red card collectively during the competition or is expelled or disqualified from a set/match at any time will be referred to the CC. At their sole discretion, the CC will assess the sanction and decide upon any further action, over and above the in-game repercussions, to be applied on a case-by-case basis.

As per the rules, penalties can be applied to a player, coach or team official.

In the case of a Suspension, the offender cannot be a member of the team or be present within the Competition Area, in any capacity for the duration of the applicable match.

1.30 CHILD PROTECTION

Where teams comprise members under the age of 18 years, it is the responsibility of each team to fully comply with the applicable State/Territory Child Protection Legislation, both in their home State and the one in which they are visiting.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

1.31 COMPETITION COSTS

The entry fee for the Competition is set at **\$2500.00 (GST exclusive)** per team.

Due dates for payment is found in **Appendix A**.

Entry Fee Inclusions

The following will be included as part of the entry fee into the competition:

- Provision of NRD support,
- Match officials (as listed above)
- Competition preparation, promotion and delivery including venue hire, provision of first aid, match officials photography;
- Medals (Gold, Silver and Bronze).

Exclusions

The following is **not** included as part of the entry fees:

- Team transport to and from competition;
- Team accommodation and meals during the competition;
- Team laundry costs
- Team incidental costs

COMPETITION FORMAT

1.32 CONSTRUCTING THE DRAW

The draw and match schedule will be prepared having consideration to national and international volleyball events, State Leagues, hosting requests, other national sporting activities around Australia. Each team will have a minimum of 4 matches within the competition.

1.33 COMPETITION SEEDING

Seeding is calculated based on the results from the previous year's competition. Final placings 1-4 from the finals will be positioned in seed 1-4. If there is no data to seed beyond the final four placings then a ballot will be conducted to seed all remaining teams.

Once teams are seeded they will be allocated to pools as follows using a standard serpentine system.

POOL A	POOL B	POOL C	POOL D
1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5
9	10	11	12

The VEM in consultation with the Competition Director, will determine the number of Pools required to ensure a quality competition that is value for money. The number of Pools will be dependent upon the number of team entries.

SANCTIONS

1.34 PENALTY FOR LATE PAYMENT OF FEES & DOCUMENT DEADLINES

A penalty of \$300 will apply where teams do not adhere to the payment and documentation deadlines; this includes entry fee, O-2 form, player transfers etc. Applications for extensions must be received a minimum of three (3) days prior to the schedule deadline.

APPENDIX A – Critical Dates

CRITICAL DATES

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	DUE DATE
Team Nominations Due	All teams	26 th October 2019
Team entry fee invoice distributed	VA	1 st November 2019
Draft Draw Released	VA	5 th November 2019
Team entry fee payable	All teams	9 th November 2019
Final Draw Released	VA	9 th November 2019
Sample uniforms to be submitted to VA	All Teams	25 th November 2019
O-2 Forms submitted to VA	All teams	29 th November 2019
O-2 Bis Forms submitted to VA	All Teams	3 rd December 2019
Official Competition Starting Date	VA	5 th December 2019
Medal Matches	VA	7 th December 2019



APPENDIX B – Player Permit Form

I, _____ (Print Player Full Name)
hereby apply for a PERMIT to play for another club, team, Association or Volleyball Member State / Territory (herein known as the Organisation), within my financial membership year.

Permit from (Organisation of Origin):

_____ team, _____ Assoc. _____ State

Permit To (Receiving Organisation):

_____ team, _____ Assoc. _____ State

For the following Activity:

Name of Activity _____

Commencing (D/M/Y) _____ Ending (D/M/Y) _____

Signature of Player or Guardian (if under 18 years of age) _____

Date _____

1. Any mutually agreed conditions relating to this Permit must be outlined below.
2. Any Organisation receiving an application for a "Permit" must immediately confirm receipt of the application to the Organisation and the Applicant.
3. Any Organisation receiving an application for a "Permit" must consider the application and inform the applicant in writing of the outcome within fourteen (14) days of receiving the application. If a decision is not made within the 14 day period, the application will be deemed approved.
4. All Certificates of Permit **MUST** be completed before a player can play for the new Organisation.

*** Certificate of PERMIT ***

Organisation of Origin (Approved / Not approved*) *delete as appropriate*

Signature of President: _____ Date: _____

Receiving Organisation (Approved / Not approved*) *delete as appropriate*

Signature of President: _____ Date: _____

EXTRA CONDITIONS APPLY TO THIS PERMIT

Yes/No (If yes, please give details)

.....
.....
.....

Approved Permits must accompany team registration forms

APPENDIX C – Match Playing Protocol

Note: This match protocol will apply to all matches.

COUNTDOWN TO FIRST SERVE (mins)	ACTIVITY IN HALL	NOTES
-21:00	Net Check	Referees check the net
-20:30	Coin Toss	
-19:00	Start of unofficial warm-up (no net)	Teams warm-up with balls in the official playing area. Team must be in playing uniform.
-12:00	Start of official warm up (at the net)	Teams start official warm-up. Teams that fail to warm-up together according to the principals of good sportsmanship will cause an immediate suspension of warm-up. Referees will separate the warm-up and allocate the remaining time evenly between the teams
-12:00	Team line-up forms (R5) submitted to second referee	Coach provides team line-up to second referee
-02:00	End of warm up	All players move to the side of the court close to the team bench.
-02:00		Referees move onto the middle of the court, facing the scorer's table and are introduced, shake hands and then move to position. 2 nd referee distributes game balls to ball keepers
	Team Introductions	The announcer introduces the starting 6 and Libero. Players to enter court after their name is called.
	Team Positions	Starting players take their positions; 2 nd referee and scorer checks player positions; Match ball is passed to the server.
-00:00	First serve	1st referee whistles for service.
MATCH	MATCH	
AFTER MATCH	AFTER MATCH	
+00:30 (after match)	Teams shake hands at net	If there is a subsequent match, teams are to clear the benches quickly to allow for the court to be prepared for the next match

APPENDIX D – Protest Resolution Procedure

There are two (2) different procedures for protest;

- A protest regarding the AVL structural breaches can be submitted as a “Grievance” following a match: and
- An “On the spot” protest regarding the decisions and duties of match officials.

1. PROCEDURE FOR A “GRIEVANCE” PROTEST

A Grievance must be submitted pursuant to AVL Regulation 1.21 and this Appendix.

Grievances may only pertain to AVL structural breaches (i.e. situations that fall outside the scope of the protest procedure outlined in the Rules of the Game in FIVB Rule 5.1.2.1), for example an illegal player participating in a match.

The Control Committee holds official event authority to resolve and make determinations on issues and protests regarding AVL structural breaches.

During the Match

- 1.1. The Team captain must inform the referees immediately when an issue is identified (i.e. teams should not wait to raise an issue).
- 1.2. The scorer will briefly record in the “Remarks” section of the scoresheet: the issue as reported, the team raising the issue (A/B), set and score at the time of the issue being raised.
- 1.3. The match will then continue.

Following the Match

- 1.4. After the match, the 1st Referee will ask the Captain to confirm that the team wishes to continue with the Grievance process.
- 1.5. If proceeding with the Grievance the Captain will initial the “Remarks” section before signing the scoresheet. Only the scorer and 1st Referee are permitted to write further comments in the “Remarks” section.
- 1.6. The team making the Grievance must submit its protest and reasons in writing to the NRD and the Host Committee Chairperson within 1 hour of completion of the match. The written report will be separate, and in addition, to the summary provided by referees in the Remarks section of the scoresheet.
- 1.7. Grievances must be accompanied by a \$300 administration fee. If the Grievance is upheld, the administration fee will be returned.
- 1.8. The Host Committee Chairperson must pass the protest on to the NRD with a written report within 30 minutes of the written Grievance being lodged by the team.
- 1.9. The Control Committee may contact participants in the match to provide information about the Grievance situation prior to finalizing a decision.

Grievance Protest Decision

- 1.10. Grievances will be resolved by the Control Committee prior to the next round of matches.
- 1.11. If the Grievance is successful, the Control Committee will advise all parties on the resultant penalties and actions.
- 1.12. The Control Committee will communicate the decision to the interested parties immediately. A written response will also be provided within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the Grievance.
- 1.13. The Control Committee decision is final.

2. PROCEDURE FOR “ON THE SPOT” PROTEST

The On the Spot protest procedure amends the protest procedure in the Rules of the Game (FIVB Rule 5.1.2.1) to ensure an efficient and effective means of resolving a match situation, particularly when there is no scope to reschedule / replay matches over the competition weekend.

On the Spot protests may only be made where match officials have either incorrectly applied a rule or incorrectly interpreted a rule under the Rules of the Game that will affect the outcome of the match. Such cases are:

- a) An improper decision by the Referee who did not apply the rules or did not assume the consequences of his/her decisions; and / or
- b) An improper decision of the scorer who made a mistake on the rotational order or on the score.

The Local Referee Supervisor (LRS) holds official event authority to resolve and make determinations on issues and protests involving the Rules of the Game **during Round matches**.

The National Referee Delegate (NRD) holds official event authority to resolve and make determinations on issues and protests involving the Rules of the Game **during Finals**.

During the Match

- 2.1. On the Spot protests must be made pursuant to AVL Regulation 1.21 and this Appendix.
- 2.2. The game captain may seek clarification of a decision, application or interpretation of the Rules of the Game from the 1st Referee. If the game captain or Coach does not agree with the explanation provided, they may choose to protest **immediately** by informing the 1st Referee of the team's intention to protest (while the ball is out of play).
- 2.3. The game captain/Coach **cannot** reserve the right to make a protest of this nature after match, it must be made On the Spot.
- 2.4. If an On the Spot protest is made the 1st Referee will stop the game and authorise the teams to leave the playing court and go to the bench. Teams are not allowed to leave the playing area during this period but may use balls in the free zone.
- 2.5. The 1st Referee will step down from the stand and immediately consult the onsite LRS/NRD.
- 2.6. The LRS/NRD enters the court to resolve the protest.
- 2.7. At this moment the game is interrupted and the scorer will record the following details in the “Remarks” section of the scoresheet: team protesting (A/B), time of interruption, set and point score.

Rejection of Improper Cases

- 2.8. A protest about a Referee's decision which sanctions a playing action or misconduct, will be considered an improper case and will be immediately dismissed by the LRS/NRD.
- 2.9. The coach/captain who submits an improper case (i.e. does not fit the criteria of a legal protest) will be sanctioned by a personal sanction “penalty” (Red card).
- 2.10. The scorer will record in the “Remarks” section of the scoresheet that the protest was considered “improper” and will record the sanction and its consequences in the relevant sections of the scoresheet.
- 2.11. In case of repetition of an improper protest, the coach will be disqualified from the match and will have to leave the playing area. Penalties for disqualification are outlined in AVL Regulation 1.35.

2.12. The game will resume following the consequences of the sanction being recorded and applied.

Proper Cases

2.13. If the criteria for a Protest is legal the protest will be accepted and ruled upon by the LRS/NRD.

2.14. There will be no penalty to the team from this point.

2.15. In the case of a protest concerning a referee's decision, the LRS/NRD will seek testimony of the 1st Referee, who makes a report on their reasons for the decision and application of the rules.

2.16. The LRS/NRD may also seek testimony of other match officials and participants.

2.17. Based on the information received, the LRS/NRD applies the Rules of the Game and decides to either reject the protest and allow the 1st Referee's original decision to prevail, **or** accept the protest and change the 1st Referee's decision.

2.18. If the case is not covered within the Rules of the Game (including associated documents), the LRS/NRD will assess all the available information before them prior to arriving at a final decision.

Resumption of the Match

2.19. The decision is communicated by the LRS/NRD to the referees, scorers, coaches, captains, and to the court announcer who will inform the spectators.

2.20. If the protest has been rejected, the game is resumed after having applied the 1st Referee's original decision, or with the same positions and same score.

2.21. If the protest is accepted, the decision of the 1st Referee is nullified, and the game is resumed according to the decision of the LRS/NRD, or from the stage immediately before the error occurred.

2.22. The scorer records the protest decision (e.g. protest upheld **or** protest rejected) and the protest end time in the "Remarks" section, and records the consequences of the protest decision in the appropriate section of the scoresheet.

2.23. The LRS/NRD protest decision is final and the issue cannot be retried as a Grievance.

APPENDIX E – Player Code of Behaviour

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow participants, coaches, officials and spectators.
- Refrain from conduct which could be regarded as sexual or other harassment towards fellow participants and coaches.
- Respect the talent, potential and development of fellow team members and competitors.
- Care and respect the equipment provided to you as part of your program.
- Be frank and honest with your coach concerning illness and injury and your ability to train fully within the program requirements.
- Conduct yourself in a professional manner relating to language, temper and punctuality.
- Maintain high personal behaviour standards at all times.
- Abide by the rules and respect the decision of the adjudicator.
- Be honest in your attitude and preparation to training. Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
- Cooperate with coaches and staff in development of programs to adequately prepare you for competition at the highest level.

APPENDIX F – Coach Code of Behaviour

Safety and Health of Participants

- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Be aware of and support the sport's injury management plans and return to play guidelines.

Coaching excellence

- Help each person (athlete, official, etc) to reach their potential. Respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each person and encourage them with positive and constructive feedback.
- Encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills.
- Support opportunities for participation in all aspects of the sport.
- Treat each participant as an individual.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up-to-date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of participants.

Honour the sport

- Act within the rules and spirit of your sport.
- Promote fair play over winning at any cost.
- Respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators.
- Show respect and courtesy to all involved with the sport.
- Display responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs.

Integrity

- Act with integrity and objectivity, and accept responsibility for your decisions and actions.
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment-free environment.
- Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance exists) with people under the age of 18.
- Ensure that any physical contact with another person is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development.
- Be honest and do not allow your qualifications or coaching experience to be misrepresented.
- Never advocate or condone the use of illicit drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances or methods.
- Never participate in or advocate practices that involve match fixing.

Respect

- Respect the rights and worth of every person, regardless of their age, race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion.
- Do not tolerate abusive, bullying or threatening behaviour.

APPENDIX G – Officials Code of Behaviour

- Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport, promoting fair play over winning at any cost
- Encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviors and skills
- Support opportunities for participation in all aspects of the sport
- Treat each person as an individual
- Display control and courtesy to all involved with the sport
- Respect the rights and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators in the conduct of the sport
- Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance will exist) with people under the age of 18 years
- Adopt appropriate and responsible behaviour in all interactions
- Adopt responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs
- Act with integrity and objectivity, and accept responsibility for your decisions and actions
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a safe environment
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment free environment
- Do not tolerate harmful or abusive behaviours
- Place the safety and welfare of the athletes above all else
- Help each person (athlete, official etc) reach their potential - respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each person and compliment and encourage with positive and supportive feedback
- Any physical contact with a person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development
- Be honest and do not allow your qualifications to be misrepresented.
- Place the safety and welfare of the athletes above all else
- Be consistent and impartial when making decisions.
- Address unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all people

APPENDIX H – Schedule of Fees

All fees listed are GST Exclusive and are payable to VA or otherwise stated.

- Forfeit of match Up to \$1,000 to VA
Up to \$5,000 to Host team
- Uniform violation \$100 per violation
- Non-compliance to meeting deadlines as published \$300

Further fees and penalties may arise during the season which will be decided upon on a case by case basis, in conjunction with teams and Key Stakeholders (VED, VARC, VA etc.)