



## 2010 PVL By-Laws

### **1. COMPETITION FORMAT**

- 1.1 The Premier Volleyball League will consist of one (1) annual season.
- 1.2 There will be four (4) divisions offered: A-Grade Men and Women, Reserve Grade Men and Women.
- 1.3 Fixtures will generally be played weekly, either Friday Nights or Sunday Afternoons. There will be five (5) byes in the competition due to Dragons Flaming Chalice, State Team Bash, Australian Junior Championships (x 2 weeks), and Senior Schools Cup.
- 1.4 The intention will be for all divisions to play their final round matches in the same week leading into the finals; if required, extra Bye weeks for all teams within the division will be added into the draw in order to facilitate this outcome.
- 1.5 Teams who have not paid their match fees by the scheduled date will not receive competition points until the amount is paid. If fees are not paid within one (1) month of the scheduled date, each team playing for the club/association will lose all competition points in addition to having money deducted from their bond. Teams may also be excluded from the competition due to outstanding debts to VQ. Payment plans may be considered in exceptional circumstance prior to the 1st due date and need to be submitted in writing to Volleyball Queensland's General Manager on [gm@qva.org.au](mailto:gm@qva.org.au).

### **2. TEAMS**

- 2.1 Clubs/associations must enter one (1) team in each division. Volleyball Queensland reserves the right to vary these conditions in exceptional circumstances.
- 2.2 Entry is restricted to teams from Clubs/Associations who have submitted and paid their affiliation to Volleyball Queensland for the year of competition.
- 2.3 Each team's grading is determined by results from the previous year.
- 2.4 A maximum number of teams allowed to enter will be restricted depending on venue and time availability. The basis of priority for teams entering will be as follows:
  - (a) First priority will be given to associations fielding teams in all four (4) divisions.
  - (b) Second priority will be given to associations fielding teams in three (3) divisions and so on
  - (c) If associations enter the same number of teams, priority will be given to the highest placed team from the previous year's results.
- 2.5 VQ reserves the right to refuse entry to any team.
- 2.6 VQ reserves the right to admit teams or vary entries in divisions (Law 2.2) to ensure that a division remains viable.

### **3. PLAYERS**

#### **3.1 ELIGIBILITY**

- 3.1.1. For players to be eligible, they must be a current registered member of VQ, and the association they represent.
- 3.1.2. All players must be properly registered prior to playing in the competition. Transfers during the season are subject to a two (2) working day clearance period.
- 3.1.3. Men/boys are not eligible to play in womens/girls competition matches and women/girls may not play in mens/boys matches.
- 3.1.4. All players must be 15 years of age or older.
- 3.1.5. Any team fielding an unregistered player or one listed under a false name will forfeit that match.
- 3.1.6. Players not listed on the scoresheet at the start of the match will not be permitted to take the court.
- 3.1.7. Any team fielding a player not named on the scoresheet will forfeit that match.
- 3.1.8. Only those players named on the score sheet at the start of the match, and having entered the court during the match will be regarded as having played.
- 3.1.9. Teams must clearly designate their libero on the last available line on the score sheet for each match by putting an "L" next to their playing number.
- 3.1.10. In the event of a forfeit due to incomplete team numbers, those listed on the score sheet and present at the scheduled start time, will be recorded as playing.

#### **3.2 A-GRADE ELIGIBILITY**

- 3.2.1 A-Grade teams may use Reserve Grade players.

#### **3.3 RESERVE GRADE ELIGIBILITY - New System in 2009**

- 3.3.1 The "Top Six" (6) players in A-Grade for each club/association are determined solely by cumulative court time throughout the PVL season.
- 3.3.2 The Top Six players will be established after Round 5 and will then be reviewed and updated weekly.
- 3.3.3 Libero's can play in either division unless they are identified as a Top Six player for their club/association.
- 3.3.4 Any player not in their club/association's Top Six is eligible to play Reserve Grade matches.
- 3.3.5 If a "Top Six" (6) players is found to be playing in a Reserve Grade match by the Competition Manager, the Reserve Grade team will forfeit the set/s in which the ineligible player takes part in illegally. The ineligible player will be excluded from further participation in the game.

### **4. FINALS**

#### **4.1 FINAL'S ROUNDS - A-GRADE**

- 4.1.1 Each club/association has four (4) weeks from the start of the season to submit a list of elite players whom they wish to be eligible for A-Grade finals only (subject to 3.1). These elite players are considered to be AIS-based or overseas players that are unable to compete at PVL due to these commitments.
- 4.1.2 In the event that elite players are added to either the indoor or beach national program after the PVL season has commenced, players may be added to or withdrawn from the elite player list subject to suitable documentary evidence being presented to the PVL Control Committee. This must be done within four (4) weeks of the players commencing their involvement with the national program. Amendments cannot be made within six (6) weeks of the end of the preliminary rounds.
- 4.1.3 Elite players listed for the finals (under 4.1.1) must have gained eligibility for finals with their listing club/association in the previous season of the Premier League, to be eligible for the finals. Previous seasons will only be considered if continuity of registration is evident with the club/association, up to the current season (ie/ registered each year, and no transfers intra or interstate).
- 4.1.4 By-law 4.1.3 does not apply to Elite Junior Players (U21 National Indoor or Beach players) in their first season of PVL competition; however they must still be registered on the Elite Player List by their club.

## **4.2 FINAL'S ROUND - ALL GRADES**

- 4.2.1 To be eligible to play in the finals, a player must have played at least five (5) PVL preliminary round matches for their club/association. These matches may be accrued from any grade.
- 4.2.2 BYES will not be counted towards games played when determining eligibility for finals
- 4.2.3 Elite players (National Indoor or Beach player) may only be eligible to play in A-Grade.
- 4.2.4 Reserve Grade players are allowed to play in their A-Grade team finals series.
- 4.2.5 If an athlete has not competed in 5 games, a Club may apply for an exemption for the athlete to participate in Reserve grade only. Written exemptions will be treated on its merits. Exemptions must be submitted to the VQ Event Coordinator, [om@qva.org.au](mailto:om@qva.org.au) three working days before the final series begins.

## **4.3 FINAL'S FORMAT**

- 4.3.1 All games for all divisions in the finals series will be played as untimed limited matches.
- 4.3.2 Teams fielding 'ineligible players' in finals matches will automatically forfeit all sets in which that player took the court
- 4.3.3 In case of a forfeit during the finals, the offending team will be eliminated from the finals series. Only teams that have fulfilled their final commitments, including duty, will be eligible for any medals or awards.

## **5. MATCH REGULATIONS**

### **5.1 FORMAT**

- 5.1.1 Unless otherwise stated, all matches will be conducted under the current FIVB 2009-12 International Rules of Volleyball.
- 5.1.2 All matches will be played as best of five (5) sets, with a rally point scoring system. The first 4 sets will be played to 25 points with a 2 point advantage. The fifth set will be scored to 15 points (with a 2 point advantage). No cap is applied to any set.
- 5.1.3 The 12 Substitution Rule will be used in all grades. Teams may use a Libero as well during a match, but only one player designated per match is allowed.
- 5.1.4 The games will be played under the GEST (Guaranteed Earliest Starting Time) system. This means that if games run over the scheduled finishing time, the next match does not start till 15 minutes after the previous match. If the game finishes more than 15 minutes before the next scheduled match, that match will not commence until the scheduled starting time.
- 5.1.5 The 2010 PVL match ball is the Mikasa "MVA 200" 8-panel volleyball.

### **5.2 FORFEITS AND LATE STARTS**

- 5.2.1 All matches will commence at the time advised in the official draw or fifteen (15) minutes after the completion of the previous match on that court, whichever is the later. This time includes the 6 minutes combined spiking and serving warm up.
- 5.2.2 If a team due to play has performed duty on the previous match, that team will be given 20 minutes warm up after the conclusion of the previous match instead of 15 minutes. This includes the 6 minutes combined spiking and serving warm up.
- 5.2.3 If a team is not ready to start at the advised time, it forfeits the first set. If, after ten (10) minutes, the team is still not ready to commence, it forfeits the second set. Once a further ten (10) minutes has elapsed, a match forfeit will be recorded. Teams will incur fines for the sets forfeited.
- 5.2.4 When neither team is ready to commence at the advised starting time, both teams forfeit the first set. If neither team is ready to start after ten (10) minutes, both forfeit the second set and a double match forfeit will be recorded once a further twenty (20) minutes has elapsed.
- 5.2.5 When neither team is ready to commence at the advised starting time, both teams forfeit the first set. If after a further 10 minutes, both teams are ready to start, the match will commence starting at the second set.
- 5.2.6 The Competition Manager reserves the right to permit games to commence late without penalty, due to unforeseen problems eg. Traffic accidents, major events.

### **5.3 UNIFORMS**

5.3.1 All players must wear a uniform, complete in the following details:

- a) The shirt must have - permanently fixed to the front and back - a number between 1 and 99. Numbers on the front right hand side of the shorts are also encouraged.
- b) The colour and design of the shirt must be consistent throughout the team, but players may wear either short or long sleeves.
- c) Male players must wear shorts consistent in colour, shade and style. Bike pants under shorts are permitted but they must be the same colour as the shorts.
- d) Women's teams are allowed to wear shorts, sports briefs or bike pants, providing the uniform is consistent throughout the team in terms of colour and style.
- e) The manufactures brand / logo must not exceed 10 x 10cm unless the marking is consistent across the team, including stripes on shorts.
- f) Sponsors logo must be consistent across the team.

### **5.4 OFFICIALS**

5.4.1 First referees will be rostered where possible.

5.4.2 Duty teams must provide two (2) standing or four (4) sitting lines-persons, one (1) scorer and a second referee. The duty team is also responsible for providing a first referee if there is none appointed or the one scheduled is unavailable. The first referee provided by the club/association must be an NCAS accredited Regional referee or higher.

5.4.3 Duty teams without a minimum of 4 players reporting for duty at the coin toss (6 minutes from the start of the game) will be fined \$22 for each player missing. Once the match commences, any duty team shortfall will see this fine doubled to \$44 for each player missing.

5.4.4 Duty teams must ensure that the score sheet is completed in accordance with the 'checklist' contained in the scoring folders. The 'checklist' is also available from the Competition Manager.

### **5.5 PLAYER / COACH BEHAVIOUR**

5.5.1 Any athlete or coach, who is sanctioned with disqualification in a match, will be cited to appear before the VQ Judiciary.

5.5.2 Any athlete or coach who receives two yellow cards within a 5 week period, will be;

- a) suspended immediately at the end of the game in which they incurred their second yellow card
- b) suspended from being involved in the same team's next match, which does not include "byes"
- c) cannot be involved in any other matches or divisions until after Part b) above is completed

5.5.3 Any athlete or coach who receives a red card will be;

- a) suspended immediately at the end of the game in which they incurred the red card
- b) suspended from being involved in the same team's next match, which does not include "byes"
- c) cannot be involved in any other matches or divisions until after Part b) above is completed

5.5.4 Players or Coaches, who receive red card offences, may be cited to appear before the VQ Judiciary Committee at the discretion of the Competition Manager and Chief Referee.

## **6. COMPETITION STANDING AND PENALTIES**

### **6.1 PREMIERSHIP POINTS**

6.1.1 Premiership points will be awarded as follows:

- a) 10 points for a win
- b) 6 points for a loss
- c) 0 points for a bye
- d) 0 points for a forfeit
- e) -2 points for a incorrectly competed score sheet by the duty team only

### **6.2 PENALTY BOND**

6.2.1 All club/association will be required to pay a \$220 penalties bond per team, which will be refunded at season end, minus any fines accrued (plus any funds received from forfeits).

6.2.2 Clubs/associations will be fined, as follows:

- a) \$11 for each player not in correct uniform (rule 5.3)
- b) \$22 for each duty team default (rule 5.4.2), subject to double fines outlined in rule 5.4.3
- c) \$88 in the case of a match forfeit (rule 5.2.3, 5.2.4 and 3.3.2.)
- d) \$22 for a one (1) set forfeit, \$44 for a two (2) set forfeit (rule 5.2.3 and 5.2.4)
- e) \$22 per day for delayed submission of score sheets from regional matches.

6.2.3 A fine notification will be placed in the Clubs pigeonhole, which will be located in the PVL competition office at Boondall. The fine notice will explain the details of the infringement.

All fine amounts include GST.

6.2.3 The money received from a match forfeit (\$88) will be divided between the non-offending team (\$77) and VQ (\$11).

### **6.3 PREMIERSHIP TABLE**

6.3.1 The position of teams on the premiership points table is determined by the following order:

- a) The most premiership points.
- b) The highest ratio of points won to points played (*five decimal places*)
- c) The highest ratio of sets won to sets played (*five decimal places*)
- d) Result of the last match between the two (2) teams.

The set/point quotient equation is as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Sets Won}}{\text{Sets Played}} \times 100$$

## **7. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

7.1 Associations must play a minimum of four (4) grades in the Premier League to qualify for the Premier League Volleyball Club Championship.

7.2 Club Championship points will be determined according to the following:

- ❖ Four (4) times total A-Grade premiership points.
- ❖ Three (3) times total Reserve Grade premiership points (only the highest placed Reserve Grade teams results are considered for each club).

7.3 Totals are calculated at the end of normal round matches, as no premiership points are awarded during the finals series.

7.4 If Associations are tied on Club Championship points, then they will be determined by the following sequential criteria:

- a) A Grade premiership points
- b) A Grade points ratio (*five decimal places*)
- c) A Grade set ratio (*five decimal places*)

## **8 AWARDS**

- 8.1 Each division will receive medals/trophies for finishing first, second or third. An annual trophy for each division's champion team will also be presented to the winners of each division. A perpetual trophy is presented and is given back to VQ prior to the start of the season.
- 8.2 A Most Valuable Player award will be distributed to a player in each division who has accumulated the most points during the season. Each Team coach/captain will vote for 1 player from the opposing team and the 1<sup>st</sup> referee will also vote for 1 player from either team. Each player will receive 1 point for every vote, which will be recorded on the score sheet by the Duty team. No points will be allocated to players during the final series.

## **9. MANAGEMENT OF THE COMPETITION**

- 9.1 The Competition Manager(s) is responsible for the efficient running of the PVL on a week to week basis, including the issuing of fines and penalties for any infringements as per rule 6.2.2
- 9.2 The VQ Event Coordinator is responsible for the recording and regularly updating of the draw, premiership points table, fines and penalties register and details of matches played by players to determine eligibility for finals, or ineligibility to play in another team/grade.
- 9.3 The Chief Referee is responsible for appointment of referees, and implementing the "on-the-spot Protest Resolution" procedure.
- 9.4 The Premier Volleyball League Control Committee comprises of the Competition Manager, Chief Referee and the VQ Event Coordinator. The Control Committee's role is to operate the Premier Volleyball League within the terms of these By-Laws, the VQ Constitution and the rules of the game. The Control Committee reports to the VQ General Manager.
- 9.5 All formal written complaints concerning management of the competition should be marked to the attention of the VQ General Manager and will be dealt with as quickly as possible.

## **10. PROTESTS, APPEALS & REFERRALS**

- 10.1 All match protests will be resolved using the "on the spot protest resolution" guidelines, as attached.
- 10.2 Matters concerning discipline (Section 5.5) will be referred to the VQ Judiciary Committee for action as outlined in VQ's "Complaints Handling Procedure".
- 10.3 Appeals against a decision of the PVL Control Committee must be lodged to VQ's General Manager in accordance with VQ's "Complaints Handling Procedure".