

1. GENERAL

Teams representing their registered school shall contest the Volleyball Queensland Schools Cup, consisting of the Senior Schools Cup (August) and the Junior Schools Cup (October). The tournament shall be run in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of Volleyball Queensland (VQ). These By-Laws have been developed to provide an event that is professionally delivered and fair to all who participate and should be read in conjunction with the Schools Cup Nomination Information Kit and other information as issued in relation to these events.

Regrettably penalties for non-compliance become necessary, but are set at reasonable levels considering the impact on the event, the event staff and other teams.

There will be 36 divisions available in 5 age groups with the Honours divisions where necessary being the qualifier for the Australian Schools' Volleyball Cup.

2. ELIGIBILITY OF INDIVIDUALS

2.1 Player Eligibility

- 2.1.1 To be eligible to represent a school, a player must be enrolled at that school during the school term of that competition.
- 2.1.2 Each player must be a current financial registered member of VQ
- 2.1.3 Each player must conform to the age and gender requirements of the team for which they have nominated, except where applications have been approved by VQ.
- 2.1.4 Each player must be enrolled as a full-time student at the school for which they are nominated (the School Principal must sign all Team Lists to verify this).
- 2.1.5 A player may play for no team other than the team they have nominated with throughout the tournament. Under exceptional circumstances (injury or illness) a team may make a written application to the Tournament Director requesting a player to move from a team in a lower division to a team in a higher division. Once a player has moved they can no longer play for their original team.
- 2.1.6 Players must play at least one (1) game for a team throughout the tournament for that person to be eligible to play in a final.

2. ELIGIBILITY OF INDIVIDUALS

Player Eligibility

- 2.1.7 Males are not eligible to play in female competition matches and females are not allowed to play in men's matches.
- 2.1.8 Only those players taking the court during play and named on the scoresheet at the start of the match will be regarded as having played in that match. However, in the event of a forfeit, the starting line-up of the winning team will be regarded as having played in that match.

2.2 Teams

- 2.2.1 A school may only enter one honours team per division except if the honours division is the only division offered for that age group.
- 2.2.2 A school may enter more than one team in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd divisions.
- 2.2.3 Up to 12 players can be nominated per team.
- 2.2.4 A minimum of six (6) players must be nominated per team and available to take the court for each match. If at any time a team cannot field six (6) players on court, they will forfeit that match.

2.2.5 Age Limit

- 2.2.6 Volleyball Queensland School's Cup – any player eligible under paragraph 2.1 can participate in the tournament.
- 2.2.7 Players participating in the Youth division must turn 13 years old this year or younger (born 1997 or later).
- 2.2.8 Players participating in the Junior division must turn 14 years old this year or younger (born 1996 or later).
- 2.2.9 Players participating in the Intermediate division must turn 15 years old this year or younger (born 1995 or later).
- 2.2.10 Players participating in the Senior division must turn 16 years old this year or younger (born 1994 or later).
- 2.2.11 Players participating in the Open division must turn 19 years old this year or younger (born 1991 or later).

3. PARTICIPATION

- 3.1 All nominations must be forwarded to the VQ Brisbane office by the prescribed date on the nomination form unless previous written arrangements have been made with VQ.
- 3.2 All teams must supply a team list with the player's full names and date of births by the prescribed date.
- 3.3 The school principal's (or their nominated delegate) signature and school stamp are required to validate the entry of the team(s) as officially from that school and confirm that all players who take part are students currently enrolled in the school nominating and comply with the age requirements relevant to their division of entry.
- 3.4 Students playing representative school sport must represent the school considered to be the base school at which the student is enrolled .
- 3.5 All players need to be registered players with VQ, at a VQ Full Junior Member Level. Students WILL NOT be allowed to take the court if they have not paid their registration fee. Teams will forfeit any sets/games that unregistered players participated in.

4. TOURNAMENT ORGANISATION

Volleyball Queensland shall be responsible for all aspects of the tournament organisation, other than those specified, in liaison with the Queensland Secondary School's Volleyball Committee, and shall carry full financial responsibility.

4.1 General Tournament Organisation

- 4.1.1 Tournament Director - To be nominated by VQ no later than one (1) month prior to the championship. Whenever possible, the Tournament Director should be a member of the organising committee.
- 4.1.2 Equipment - All equipment is to be of international standard unless otherwise allowed by VQ and will include the following equipment (if available):
Playing Courts, Spectator Seating, Public Address System, Scorer's Tables, Substitution Benches, Floor Markings, Nets and net supports, Scoreboards, Measuring Tape, Floor Cleaning Tools, Match Ball Containers, Antennae, Court Dividers, Referees Room, Coaches Room, Referee Stands, Presentation Area and Tournament Office.
- 4.1.3 Any costs associated with damage to equipment or premises at competition venues will be forwarded to the identified School for payment.
- 4.1.4 Volleyballs - Only the official match volleyball will be used. The official match ball of the VQSC is Mikasa MVA 200.

4. TOURNAMENT ORGANISATION

4.1 General Tournament Organisation

- 4.1.5 Duration - All tournaments will be scheduled over a three (3) day weekend commencing on Friday morning and concluding on Sunday evening.
- 4.1.6 Draw - The draw will be delegated to a member of the Tournament Control Committee (or delegate) who will do all main draw preparations.
- 4.1.7 Tournament Report - A tournament report containing all aspects of the tournament must be completed and handed in to VQ no longer than 30 days after the completion of the tournament.
- 4.1.8 Non Queensland Teams
 - 4.1.8.1 Should nominations for the QVSC exceed the event's capabilities, preference will be given to Queensland teams
 - 4.1.8.2 Should applications for positions in the Honors Divisions exceed the Honors Cap, preference will be given to Queensland teams for acceptance into Honors Division
 - 4.1.8.3 Any teams outside of Queensland may be eligible to participate in finals.
 - 4.1.8.4 Non Queensland teams are not able to qualify for the Australian Schools Cup through this tournament.
 - 4.1.8.5 Non Queensland teams' final placings will not be used for calculating the Champion Schools Trophy.
 - 4.1.8.6 Non Queensland teams will not receive a medal at the presentations if they finish in the top three placings in their division but their placing will be announced. Medals shall be sent to the school after the tournament. This means that only Queensland teams will receive medals at the tournament and be classified first, second and third for Champion School.

4.1 Specific Tournament Organisation

4.2.1 Format

4.2.1.1 The tournament format for Honours Divisions in all age groups (Open, Seniors, Intermediate, Junior & Youth) will consist of matches being best of five sets with the point-a-rally fast scoring format being used. In set I – IV, teams must reach 25 points, with a 2 point advantage to win the set. There is no cap. In the fifth set, teams must reach 15 points with a 2 point advantage. Again, there is no cap. From such time as matches do not count towards a medal winning result, they will revert to best of three sets, unless otherwise approved by the Board of Management.

4.2.1.2 The tournament format for Division 1 in all age groups will consist of matches being best of three sets with the point-a-rally fast scoring format being used. In sets I and II teams must reach 25 points, with a 2 point advantage to win the set. There is no cap. In the third set, teams must reach 15 points with a 2 point advantage. Again, there is no cap.

4.2.1.3 The tournament format for Division 2 in all age groups will consist of matches being best of three sets with the point-a-rally fast scoring format being used. In sets I and II teams must reach 25 points, with a 2 point advantage to win the set. There is no cap. In the third set, teams must reach 15 points with a 2 point advantage. Again, there is no cap.

4.2.1.4 The tournament format for Division 3 in all age groups will consist of matches being best of three sets with the point-a-rally fast scoring format being used. In sets I and II teams must reach 25 points, with a 2 point advantage to win the set. There is no cap. In the third set, teams must reach 15 points with a 2 point advantage. Again, there is no cap. There is no Division 3 in the Senior and Youth Divisions.

4.2.2 Uniforms

4.2.2.1 All players are expected to play in matching team uniforms. This uniform shall include numbered tops and uniform shorts/runners. Numbers on the jersey sleeves are not compulsory, however, are encouraged. Singlets are acceptable, however shirts are preferable.

4.2.2.2 The Libero must be clearly identifiable in a contrasting playing top (also numbered)

4.2.3 Duty Requirements

4.2.3.1 All participating teams will be rostered for duty at times as close as possible to their scheduled playing times

4.2.3.2 Teams MAY be rostered for duty in divisions other than their own

4.2.3.3 Duty teams are required to provide a first referee, second referee, two scorers and two linespeople. Duty teams must be present at the start of the official warm-up prior to the match.

4.2.3.4 Honours teams must supply a District badged or higher referee

4.2.3.5 Duty teams must ensure that scoresheet is correctly and fully completed before the teams leave the competition court

4.2.3.6 Failure to provide duty personnel will result in a team forfeiting their next match. Should a team's playing commitments be completed, non fulfilment of duty will result in a financial penalty (up to \$20 per person) or non-acceptance into the relevant Honours Division in the following year.

4.2.3.7 Should a team fail to fulfil 2 or more rostered duties, this will also result in a financial penalty (up to \$20 per person) or non-acceptance into the relevant Honours Division in the following year.

4.2.3.8 The Bronze medallists will be rostered for duty on the Gold Medal match

4.2.3.9 All referees are required to provide their own whistle. Due to health regulations whistles will not be available for loan

4.2.3.10 Members of the duty team must not wear hats, bandannas, beanies or use electronic devices(Ipod, Mobile Phone etc) whilst on duty

4.2.3.11 Referee assessment and possible upgrade will be available during the tournament, however names of referees wanting to be assessed for upgrade MUST be submitted in writing to the Tournament Director by the due date of Team Lists

4.2.3.12 In a progressional tournament it is impossible to predict participants in later round matches. The Tournament Director or Venue Manager is authorised to re-assign duties in later matches Teams will be given reasonable notice of any such changes.

5. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

5.1 General Regulations

5.1.1 Unless stated elsewhere, the tournament will be played under the official rules of volleyball issued by the International Volleyball Federation and adopted by VQ.

5.1.2 Any team that fails for whatever reason to fulfil its playing commitments may be excluded from the tournament and the result of any matches already played shall be cancelled.

5.1.3 Points shall be allocated as follows:

WIN	10 Points
LOSS	6 Points
FORFEIT	0 Points

5.1.4 If at the end of the preliminary rounds two teams are tied on points, the order of ranking shall be determined by the highest set ratio (to 3 decimal points).

A = Set Ratio

B = Sets Won A = $\frac{B \times 100\%}{B + C}$

C = Sets Lost B + C

5.1.5 If the result is still a tie, the order shall be determined by the highest points ratio using the same formula as 5.1.4 (to 3 decimal points).

5.1.6 If sets and points ratios are equal, the order shall be determined by the team that won the match played between the two teams in that pool.

5.1.7 The 12 sub rule will be used in ALL divisions including Honours division.

5.1.8 Teams are allowed to use a Libero player. Coaches may declare a new Libero at the beginning of each set. The Libero must be clearly identifiable by wearing a different uniform to the rest of the team.

5.1.9 The tournament games will be played under the GEST (Guaranteed Earliest Starting Time) system. This means all games will start at the scheduled time unless the preceding match on that court runs over time. In the case of a delayed start time a 10 minute warm-up will commence as soon as the final whistle of the previous match is blown.

5.1.10 Any team not ready to begin play at the scheduled starting time of a game shall be deemed to have forfeited the first set and other sets at 10 minute intervals. The only exception to this rule is if a team is still playing on another court in the venue due to matches running late.

5.1.11 If matches are delayed for any reason the Tournament Director or Venue Manager has the right to relocate or reschedule such matches. Unless otherwise advised, teams should always be prepared to play at the schedule time on the scheduled court

5.1.12 The Tournament Director has the right to reschedule forfeited matches upon written application from a team if they can demonstrate they have been disadvantaged due to circumstances beyond their control. Matches will only be rescheduled should time and court space allow. Rescheduled matches shall not take place within two hours of another commitment of the team that was in attendance

5.1.13 Participating teams must act as duty teams when required. If a first referee has not been supplied, teams are required to supply one.

5.2 Net Heights:

Division	Age This Year	Division	Women	Men
Open – U/20	19 years or younger	Honours	224cm	243cm
		First	215cm	235cm
		Second	215cm	235cm
Senior – U/17	16 years or younger	Honours	215cm	235cm
		First	215cm	235cm
		Second	215cm	235cm
Intermediate – U/16	15 years or younger	Honours	215cm	235cm
		First	210cm	224cm
		Second	210cm	224cm
Junior – U/15	14 years or younger	Honours	210cm	224cm
		First	210cm	210cm
		Second	210cm	210cm
Youth – U/14	13 years or younger	Honours	210cm	210cm
		First	210cm	210cm
		Second	210cm	210cm

6. REFEREES

- 6.1 VQ will aim to appoint Venue & Referee Manager/s 4 weeks prior to the Tournament.
- 6.2 Participating teams must provide at least one non-playing referee or two playing referees to accompany EACH team. These are to be nominated to VQ prior to the tournament. Where possible, nominated referees will have completed a Volleyball Queensland Officiating Commission Referees Course.
- 6.3 VQ will provide First Referees for all medal matches
- 6.4 Whilst acting as a referee officials will be under the control of the Chief Referee and their assistants

7. CODE OF CONDUCT

The code of conduct applies individually or collectively to all players, coaches, managers and officials of teams who participate in tournaments sanctioned and controlled by VQ.

- 7.1. All participants in these events have the duty to maintain and encourage the highest level of good sportsmanship. They are expected to set an example in conduct and are obliged to avoid all unsportsmanlike acts and practices that are detrimental to the sport.

Such acts during the course of a tournament include, but are not limited to the following:

- Swearing at a match official, opponent or spectator
- Using obscene language or gestures
- Showing persistent outward displays of temper
- Throwing, hitting or kicking a ball deliberately in the direction of an official, opponent or spectator
- Persistently challenging the decision of referees or tournament officials
- Inciting others to challenge the decision of referees or tournament officials
- Refusing to comply with reasonable requests from referees or tournament officials
- Behaving in a manner deemed detrimental to the sport

- 7.2. Any players, coaches, managers, officials or teams that are found not to comply with these By-Laws may lead the team or it's individual participant to be sanctioned. This may include an individual or team being withdrawn from the competition, or not allowed to participate in future VQSC.

8. DISPUTES AND PROTESTS

- 8.1 Under the rules of the sport a protest may be lodged if a team believes that match officials have made an error under the rules of the tournament, which will affect the outcome of the match.
- 8.2 Protests may not be lodged against technical or judgmental decisions made by match officials. Interpretations may be discussed with the Venue & Referee Manager of the venue.
- 8.3 Under the provisions of the rules, if a protest is upheld the match is replayed from the stage immediately before the error occurred. In the format of the Volleyball Queensland Schools Cup there is not scope for replaying matches at later times. Therefore a system of instant dispute resolution is used.
- 8.4 International rules (primarily written for world class adult international matches) provide for captains to lodge protests. At the Volleyball Queensland Schools Cup this is the responsibility of the coaches only.
- 8.5 If a coach wishes to lodge a protest he / she should immediately inform the second referee who must immediately inform the first referee. The first referee will stop the game and immediately call for the Venue Manager.
- 8.6 Team captains assume responsibility for maintaining their players as “warmed up, ready to resume playing” on the playing court on the side of the net their team occupied at the time of suspension of play. Players will be required to start the game immediately at the resolution of the protest, at whatever stage the Venue Manager decides. The Court Supervisor will have blank protest records. The protesting coach will be required to write the protest in the Notice of Protest section. The notice of protest should be limited to a statement of what rule(s) have been transgressed and who they believe has erred – NO EVIDENCE EXCLUDING THE SCORESHEET IS REQUIRED. The Venue & Referee Manager will record the Stage of Game Section.
- 8.7 The Venue Manager will hear evidence from the team coach of each team and the match officials ONLY. They will do so at a place remote from the court - the Tournament Directors office or Venue control point is suitable. No other persons are required to be present unless requested by the Venue Manager. Notes on the evidence should be recorded on the back of the protest record in the space provided. No more than ten minutes should be allocated to this task.

- 8.8 The Venue Manager will then attempt to resolve the protest according to the scheme provided.
- 8.9 The Venue Manager will announce their decision to both coaches and the match referee. The game will immediately resume at the point dictated by the Venue Manager, no further warm up will be allowed.
- 8.10 The Venue Manager will leave the protest record on the scorer's table, for attachment to the scoresheet.
- 8.11 The resolution from the Venue Manager will be immediate and the match will resume as directed. Should the Venue Manager decide that the protest was frivolous they shall instruct the referee to sanction the protesting team with a time delay penalty (red card). The match will not be replayed.

9. AWARDS AND PLACINGS

- 9.1 The men's and women's teams who win the Honours Division in their age group will be declared the Volleyball Queensland School Champions for that age group and will be recommended to the AVF to play Honours Division at Australian Schools Cup.
- 9.2 Members of Queensland teams, which gain first, second, and third placing in the tournament including managers, coaches and assistant coaches, shall receive the official gold, silver and bronze medallions supplied by VQ.
- 9.3 Members of non Queensland teams which gain first, second and third placings in the tournament including managers, coaches and assistant coaches, shall receive a gold, silver or bronze medallion supplied by VQ which will be sent to the school after the event. Their placing will be announced at presentations.
- 9.4 A Most Valuable Player award will be presented in each division to a player from the winning team. This person will be nominated by his / her coach as being the most valuable to their teams performance throughout the tournament.
- 9.5 The Champion School Trophy for the Volleyball Queensland Schools Cup will be determined by cumulative points gained by teams for that school (see scoring system in Cup Handbook) by teams participating ONLY in honours division. This trophy will be determined after the conclusion of the tournament.

The Aggregate School's trophy for Volleyball Queensland Schools Cup will be determined by cumulative points gained by teams for that school (see scoring system in Cup Handbook) for all divisions. This trophy will be determined after the conclusion of the tournament.