



VOLLEYBALL WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN VOLLEYBALL JUNIOR LEAGUE Competitions and Regulations Handbook

Date of Issue	March 2021
Last Reviewed	March 2021
Controlling Body	Indoor Committee (WAVL), VWA Junior Committee Reporting to VWA Board

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1. DEFINITIONS

In the WAVL Junior League Competitions and Regulations Handbook the following words and phrases have the following definitions:

- a) **Affiliate** means a member Association, Club or School of VWA.
- b) **Affiliation** means a formal written agreement between two parties. Examples of affiliation in relation to the WAVJL Competitions and Regulations Handbook include a club or school affiliate to VWA and a school affiliation with a VWA Club.
- c) **Club (s)** means those VWA affiliated Clubs and Associations that fulfill the requirements as described in the VWA Constitution and the VWA Club / Association Affiliation Package.
- d) **FIVB** means the Federation Internationale de Volleyball, which is the international governing body for volleyball.
- e) **GEST** means Guaranteed Earliest Start Time.
- f) **Infringement** means a breach of one of the VWA WAVL Junior League Rules and Regulation and / or the FIVB Rules of the game.
- g) **Junior Player** means a player under 19 at the 31 December each calendar year.
- h) **In Charge** means being in control of the behavior and conduct of the individual players within a Club team during the Junior league seasons.
- i) **Sanction** means the outcome of an infringement defined as being either rude, offensive or aggressive in nature as noted within the FIVB Rules of the game.
- j) **Schools** means an education institution registered with the Western Australian Education department. Schools may affiliate directly with **VWA** when there is not a **VWA** affiliated **Club** that is able to provide them the support required to be a 'school affiliated to a **VWA Club**'.
- k) **VA** means the Volleyball Australia which is the FIVB recognised body for the administration, control and management of the sport of volleyball in Australia.
- l) **Volleyball WA or VWA** means Volleyball Western Australia, the entity recognised under the VA Constitution to administer the sport of volleyball in Western Australia.
- m) **VWA Codes of Conduct** means the requirements of every individual and organisation (affiliate Club or School) to be bound by the VWA Member Protection Policy Codes of Conduct.
- n) **VWA Member Protection Policy** means the policy which aims to ensure that the core values, good reputation and positive behaviours and attitudes are maintained within the volleyball community in Western Australia. This Policy also includes the Complaint Management procedure for VWA and its affiliates.
- o) **WAVL** means the Western Australian Volleyball League.
- p) **WAVJL Technical Committee** consists of the VWA State Teams and Events Coordinator, the VWA Competition & Events Coordinator and the Chairperson of the VWA Junior Committee.
- q) **WAVJL** means Western Australian Volleyball Junior League.

2. CLUB AND SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to play in **WAVJL**, **clubs** and **schools** must be affiliated with **VWA**. **Clubs** are required to be VWA Platinum Affiliates and **schools** are required to be at least VWA Silver Affiliates.

The following conditions must be met by **clubs** and **schools** nominating to play;

- **Clubs** and **schools** can enter teams in any Division (s).
- All players must be registered members of **VWA** prior to playing their first **WAVJL** game. Fines for non-members will apply from round #2.
- Players who are 'unfinancial' (Person of Interest) with either / and **VWA** and a **Club** (s) will not be eligible to play.
- Teams must be entered for participation in every round scheduled for the Division in which they compete to be eligible to play in any Finals games of that Division.
- **Clubs** and **schools** must have a minimum of one accredited coach or a qualified teacher (**schools** only).
- Each **club** / **school** team must have an individual over 18 years old '**in charge**' of the team. This person must not be a player rostered on the team. This includes from the commencement of the warm-up period, to the completion of the game. The person "**in charge**" does not have to be the team coach.
- All **clubs** / **schools** and their nominated teams and their participants are expected to adhere to the **VWA Member Protection Policy Codes of Conduct**.

3. NOMINATION AND GAME FEES

All **Clubs** and **schools** will be required to nominate via the **VWA** Club Portal or **VWA** online form respectively. Late nominations will be only accepted if it benefits the league.

Each Club / School can nominate several teams in each division available in WAVJL:

- Spikezone Year 5 and 6 (Mixed division)
- Year 7 and 8 (Boys and Girls divisions)
- Year 9 and 10 (Boys and Girls divisions)
- Year 11 and 12 (Boys and Girls divisions)

All team nomination fees and team game fees (including finals) for all **club** / **school** teams will be invoiced to the **club** / **school**. All fees will be expected to be paid by return invoice unless otherwise arranged with **VWA**. Penalties will apply if payments are not made on time, this could include fines and forfeiture of games.

Please refer to the **VWA** Fee Structures – Competition Nomination and Game Fees for information in regards to the Team Nomination Fees, Team Game Fees and Team late Fees.

Team Nomination and Team Game fees will be due by;

INSTALLMENT	CATEGORY	DUE BY
TERM TWO & THREE	WAVJL TEAMS NOMINATION FEES & TEAMS GAME FEES	Round #3

3.1 Withdrawals

If a **club / school** withdraws a team prior to and including round three of the competition, the **Club** will forfeit the Nomination Fee and the Games Fees for the first three rounds.

If a **club / school** withdraws a team after round three of the competition, all nomination fees for that team are payable as well as any additional administration and game fees. This will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

4. MEMBERSHIP

All players are required to be registered as an Under 19 Platinum member of **VWA**. **VWA** Memberships are non-refundable and / or non-transferable. All **VWA** Memberships will be valid between the 1st April and the 31st March of the following calendar year.

It is the **Club's / School's** responsibility to ensure that all their players are members of VWA. All players must have paid for a VWA Platinum membership prior to taking the court for their first game.

Club players must purchase their Membership through the VWA Member Portal. **School** players can complete their membership through the VWA Member Portal or use an electronic Membership form created for the **school** only. It is the **Club's / School's** responsibility to ensure that electronic membership forms are completed and fees (upon invoice received) are submitted to VWA.

All Membership Fees are outlined in the **VWA** Fee Structures – Membership.

4.1 Membership Fines

Failure to comply with these rules will result in the following;

(a) A \$25 fine per infringement payable by the **Club / School**.

Schools / Clubs will be invoiced before the next round. Fines for non-members will apply from round #2 onwards.

5. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

For indoor volleyball, **junior** players can play both **WAVL** and **WAVJL**.

SCHOOL STUDENTS

All **school** students must represent their school / affiliated club team when playing in **WAVJL**.
The school students playing in **WAVJL** are permitted to play for another club team in **WAVL**.

SPIKEZONE YEARS 5/6

Boys and girls can play in the same team.

YEARS 7/8, 9/10, 11/12

Girls can join/play in a boys' team of the same school year or older.
Boys can only play in boys' teams.

WA ATHLETES REPRESENTING AUSTRALIA

VWA has adopted the **VA FTEM** pathway model (Fundamentals, Talent, and Elite & Mastery) and to this end are supportive of the ongoing pathway development for all Australian Volleyroo athletes. All Western Australian players representing Australia are eligible to play in **WAVJL** Junior League. Please refer to Section 5.2 for eligibility for finals.

5.1 Avoiding Forfeit – Eligibility to Play

To avoid a forfeit;

- **WAVJL** can be played with five players.
- A team / player from a lower age group division may play in a higher age group division.

5.2 Eligibility for Finals

Players must have played a minimum of three games. The following exceptions apply;

- WA athletes representing Australia not residential in Western Australia: to be eligible to play in the final series, a Western Australian player must have played at least two games.

In the event of having more than one team in any division, a player can only play in the final series in the division the team he / she has played the most games for.

Players cannot transfer to another **club / school*** during the season after playing one game for the **club / school***. If a player is unfinancial with a **club / school**, it is the responsibility of the **Club** President/ **School** Teacher to notify **VWA** of this status. The individual player will then be placed on the **VWA** 'Person of Interest' list.

*An Exemption applies if the student changes school.

6. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

All Divisions in **WAVJL** will have a minimum of four teams.

All Divisions in **WAVJL** will play on Friday nights.

There will be no duty requirements.

6.1 Match Format per Division

All matches will be timed, a 50 minute game, plus a ten minute warm up.

All matches will be the best of five sets, sets 1-4 to 25 points, point for rally (uncapped) with the 5th set being point for rally to 15 points (uncapped). All matches will be timed. The deciding set will only be counted if a team has reached a maximum of eight points with at least a two point advantage.

No time outs will be permitted in the last five minutes of the match.

Spikezone Year 5 / 6 only

Off a serve only, the 1st player to contact the ball has the OPTION of catching the ball. If the 1st player catches the ball, they MUST UNDERARM THROW (not set, dig or spike) to another team member before the ball is played over the net.

If the 1st player elects not to catch the ball, normal volleyball rules apply.

Players who choose to catch the serve have 3 seconds to UNDERARM THROW it to another of their team members. The player who catches the ball must PASS it to another team member and not straight over the net.

6.2 Games Times GEST (Guaranteed Earliest Start Time)

All matches will operate under the **GEST** system. Teams must be ready to start their match at this time.

6.3 Team List

A player arriving late may be added to the score-sheet providing the team has enough players to commence the match. Only players present and in uniform shall be listed on the score-sheet.

If a player is listed on the score-sheet but then does not take the court during the game, the referee is responsible to cross out this player's name off the score-sheet.

6.4 Substitutions

12 Substitutions per team per set will be allowed. The Year 5/6 and Year 7/8 Divisions are allowed to rotate on to serve.

6.5 Libero

Libero players may be used in all grades. If teams are using a Libero, the Libero must be indicated by playing in a contrasting top to the rest of the team. The Coach may nominate one player as the Libero player to play in each set. A different player can be used as Libero in each set, but during the same set only the one nominated player may play as the nominated Libero.

6.6 Match Protocol

10 MINUTE WARM UP – WAVJL

- T – 10min** Official Protocol commences (Players are peppering)
Coaches check and sign the score sheet.
- T – 8min** Coin Toss
Both captains need to sign the score sheet after the coin toss.
- T – 7min** Warm up at the net commences, from position 4. Teams need to be in their full playing uniform.
- T – 4min** Change hitting warm up to position 2
- T – 2min** Serve
- T – 1 min** Warm up at the net finishes. Teams clear the court
- T – 30sec** Referee calls on teams to enter the court.
- T – 00** First whistle to authorise serve

6.7 Awards

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER (MVP)

Most Valuable Player Awards will be presented in each division and will be voted upon by the referees of the grand final game at the end of the season.

Players are only eligible to receive the MVP award for the division that they qualify to play the finals.

6.8 Premiership Points

The premiership points schedule for all **WAVJL divisions** are;

RESULT	POINTS
WIN	3 points
DRAW	1 point
LOSS	0 points

FORFEIT	-1 point for an Administrative Forfeit -2 points for not fielding a team
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6.9 Team placings

Positions will be determined by premiership points average (rounded to four decimal places), then by sets won percentages (rounded to four decimal places), then by points won percentages (rounded to four decimal places). Premiership points average will be calculated by premiership points / games played. Percentages will be calculated by the following formula – Wins (Sets or Points) / Total Played Sets or Points).

6.10 Forfeit

PROCEDURE

After the referees have called the teams to line up for the start of a game, if six players are not present the following applies;

- The game can be played with five players.
- The game will be forfeited if there are not five players available to play.

FORFEIT FEES

Forfeiting teams shall pay a fine equivalent to the other team's game fee.

Teams that won games by the forfeit of the opposition will have their game fee refunded at the end of the season.

If there is a retrospective forfeit during the season (e.g.: the game has already been played) there will be no forfeit fees refunded to the opposing team.

6.11 Finals Format

Format	Round 1	Round 2
4 teams	G#1 - 1st vs 4th	GF - W G#1 vs W G#2
	G#2 - 2nd vs 3rd	

If a Division has more than one pool, then cross over finals format will apply.

If a Division has more than two pools, then the resolution of the finals format will be determined by the **WAVJL Technical Committee**.

7. REQUIREMENTS FOR REFEREES AND COACHES

7.1 Volleyball Rules

Referees will referee according to the current Official **FIVB / VA** Volleyball Rules.

All players are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner in accordance with the Volleyball Rules and abide by the **VWA Member Protection Policy Codes of Conduct**.

7.2 Referees

All referees are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner in accordance with the Volleyball Rules and abide by the **VWA Member Protection Policy Officials Code of Conduct**.

All referees will be appointed by **VWA**.

WAVJL will have one referee per game. The role of the referee includes completing the score-sheets.

Referees are expected to wear the following;

- Their **VWA** issued polo shirt or a plain black T-shirt / Polo shirt or blue referee shirt.
- Enclosed shoes at all times.

The following are not permitted whilst performing their duties;

- The wearing of caps / hats.
- The use of mobile phones or iPod like devices.
- To eat or drink or ice injuries.

REFEREES' PAYMENT

All referees will be paid as per the payment rates are included in the **VWA** Rates for Coordinators, Coaches and Referees.

The referee is required to be present on court for the start of the warm up. The referee is also responsible for ensuring that all bags etc. are placed under the chairs of at the back of the court, they must also ensure bench areas are clean and tidy at the completion of the game.

All referee payments will be processed fortnightly. All **VWA** payment information forms need to be completed prior to payments being made (they are available from the **VWA** Competitions and Events Coordinator).

REFEREE ASSESSMENTS

Any individual who wishes to be assessed must follow the guidelines and requirements as set by **VWA**.

7.3 Coaches

All teams are required to have qualified and accredited coaches. School teams directly affiliated to VWA (pending section 2 - Club Requirements) may have a qualified teacher.

All coaches are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner in accordance with the Volleyball Rules and abide by the **VWA Member Protection Policy Coaches Code of Conduct**.

A qualified coach / teacher must be **'in charge'** of the team for the duration of the game.

Each **Club / School** team must have an individual over 18 years old **'in charge'** of the team. This person must not be a player rostered on the team. This includes from the commencement of the warm-up period to the completion of the game. (Section 2 - **Club** requirements)

Coaches are encouraged to wear the following;

- Their **clubs / schools** playing / team uniform / polo / tracksuit.
- Enclosed shoes at all times.

8. UNIFORMS

Uniforms in approved **Club / School** colours and in accordance with **FIVB** Rules of the game shall be worn by all players during matches. Hats are not permitted. The uniforms must be presentable and have no obvious flaws such as fading and / or tears. The captain is not required to have a bar underneath their playing number.

WAVJL exemption: Players may wear tape numbers on their playing shirts. **School** teams may have uniforms without their numbers on their playing tops.

Any changes to current **Club** uniforms (or completely new designs) have to be submitted to **VWA** Competitions & Events Coordinator no later than eight weeks prior to the commencement of the season. The request needs to contain the proposed design / change to the design for players including the design for the Libero shirt.

Playing uniforms must be worn from the hitting warm up onwards.

VWA recognises that in circumstances where religious and cultural beliefs conflict with the Volleyball standard dress code, that modification to the standard uniform may be required.

This may include, but is not restricted to:

- The wearing of traditional head coverings
- The wearing of leggings or tracksuits under the uniform to cover legs
- The wearing of long sleeve top under the uniform to cover arms

VWA requires that head coverings can be tied but are not to be fastened with any pins or sharp objects. Colours of head coverings or other garments must be in accordance with, or resemble the official colours of your team. View the VWA Multicultural Female Uniform Guide here: <http://bit.ly/MulticulturalUniformGuide>.

The Referee (or **WAVJL** Tournament Director) will have the final decision in any disputes relating to uniform.

8.1 Libero – WAVJL only

Libero players must play in a playing top that is in accordance with **FIVB** Rules of the game.

8.2 School Teams

School teams will be allowed to play in a school uniform (i.e. they do not need to wear a **Club** uniform) as long as that uniform is worn by all team members.

School teams may have uniforms without their numbers on their playing tops.

Should a **school** team nominated player be filling in with a team that is wearing the **Club** uniform it is Club's responsibility to ensure that the player is wearing a **Club** uniform.

8.3 Uniform Infringements

Players out of uniform cannot take the court. If the game has already started the player will be told to leave the court by the Referee. A team can perform one of the following:

- (a) Call a time out and change the player's uniform (30 seconds)
- (b) Make a substitution (a regular not exceptional substitution).

If the team cannot perform one of the above options, then the first set is forfeited, and the team then has a further three (3) minutes to remedy the player's uniform situation, within compliance of all relevant By Laws.

Uniform regulations shall be enforced by the match Referees and/or **WAVJL** Tournament Director.

9. SPONSORSHIP – PLAYING UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

All information in regards to the approval of **Club / School** sponsors is as per the **VWA Clubs / Association Affiliation** Package.

Sponsorship logos are permissible on the playing uniforms, these include;

- On the shorts not exceeding 72mm x 72mm;
- On the shirt not exceeding 72mm x 72mm; and
- The logos must not obscure the player's number of the **club / school** name or logo.

The request to display a sponsorship logo on the player's uniforms during the season must be approved in writing by **VWA** prior to wearing a playing uniform with a sponsorship logo displayed.

10. SANCTIONS

Sanctions that are received by a player or coach throughout the season are recorded and the consequence (to the individual) of receiving multiple sanctions throughout the season are noted below;

Sanction	Occurrence	Consequence
Penalty (Red Card)	First	Recorded but no action taken
	Second	One game suspension
	Subsequent	One game suspension
Expulsion	Any	Two game suspension
Disqualification	Any	Four game suspension

If necessary suspensions will be passed into the following **WAVJL** season.

As applicable suspensions may also be passed into the WAVL and VWA Beach Tour competitions.

Sanctions are cumulative to an individual regardless of the role undertaken when they were received (for instance player or coach) and will be applicable to their next regular playing or coaching role in all Volleyball WA sanctioned competitions (both Indoor and Beach volleyball).

11. DISPUTES, PROTESTS AND APPEALS

11.1 Disputes

In a case of a dispute between **Clubs / Schools** and / or members, and / or Competition and **Club / School** personnel and officials, one or both of the parties of the dispute may request the **VWA** Executive Director to commence proceedings as per the **VWA Member Protection Policy** Complaints Procedure.

11.2 Protests and Appeals

The following Protests can occur;

- Protest during the game - a protest can be lodged regarding an incorrect rule interpretation but not ball handling / opinion.
- Appeal post game – and appeal can be lodged in regard to a rejected protest.

11.3 Procedure for lodging a protest during the game

All protests will be resolved 'on-the-spot' by the Referee or the / **WAVJL** Tournament Coordinator.

The procedure to lodge a protest is as follows;

- (1) At the conclusion of the point either the Coach or the Team Captain may lodge a protest. The protest must be lodged immediately and cannot be lodged retrospectively.
- (2) The Referee will suspend play and call upon the **WAVJL** Tournament Coordinator.
- (3) All protests must be resolved immediately by the **WAVJL** Tournament Coordinator.
- (4) The result of the protest is final and the teams must recommence the match immediately.

If a team refuses to recommence the match, the team will forfeit the match and will be liable for the forfeit penalties.

Should the protest be rejected by the **WAVJL** Tournament Coordinator, the team coach / captain that lodged the protest will be sanctioned with a penalty.

Any decision made on the day by the **WAVJL** Tournament Coordinator is valid and a team / player in breach of a rule should accept this decision and play on.

11.4 Procedure for lodging an Appeal

If a team / player feels the interpretation of a rule resulting in a rejected protest was incorrect they are entitled to Appeal the decision.

The following procedure will apply;

- (1) The **Club** President / **School** Teacher must submit an appeal in writing (by email) to the **VWA** Competition & Events Coordinator (competitions@volleyballwa.com.au) by 5.00pm on the next working day following the **WAVJL** Round.
- (2) The appeal should note the following information:
 - a. Situation outlined in detail
 - b. The Referee and / or the **WAVJL** Tournament Coordinator's ruling
 - c. The **Club's** / **Schools** interpretation of the rule
- (3) The **WAVJL Technical Committee** will respond to the Club's letter within three business days.

If the **Club** President / **school** teacher wishes to protest the decision of the **WAVJL Technical Committee** the following procedure applies;

- a. The **Club** President / **school** teacher applies by written submission to the **VWA** Executive Director.

- b. The written submission must be within 24 hours of the decision reached by the **WAVJL** Technical Committee. The written submission is to be accompanied by an Appeal fee payment of \$150.00 (which will be returned to the **Club** if the Appeal is successful, if the Appeal is unsuccessful then the Appeal fee payment will be retained by **VWA**.)
- c. If applicable the **VWA** Executive Director will forward the protest information to the **VWA** Board of Management and / or consult any other person (s) that has the relevant expertise so as to ensure that an informed decision is made.
- d. The **VWA** Executive Directors / **VWA** Board (if applicable) decision is final.

12. WAVJL REVIEW

The **WAVJL** Competitions and Regulations Handbook is to be reviewed annually. All requested changes to the Competitions and Regulations Handbook are to be submitted in writing to the VWA Competitions and Events Coordinator.

13. VWA CLAUSE

Any questions relating to the interpretation of these rules must be made in writing to **VWA**.

VWA notes that anything not covered by the **FIVB** Rules of the game or the **Junior League** Competitions and Regulations Handbook and associated documentation can be decided by the **VWA** Executive Director and / or the **VWA** Board of Management as required.

14. CHILD SAFEGUARDING

VWA is a Child Safe Organisation which aims to safeguard the well-being of all children and young people who participate in our sport. All participants, officials and staff are required to comply with the [VWA Child Safeguarding Policy](#) and abide by the VWA Codes of Conduct.

Images of children VWA requests that no images of children are taken during the course of activities and events of the association. Where possible, an official photographer will be provided for state events.

15. NOMINATION FORMS

In 2021, nomination forms for WAVJL will be accepted online.