



VOLLEYBALL WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN VOLLEYBALL JUNIOR LEAGUE

Competition and Regulations Handbook

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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 Regulations and/or the FIVB Rules of the Game.
- g) **Junior Player** means a player under 19 at 31 December of 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 Volleyball Australia which is the FIVB recognized 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 recognized 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 organization (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 behaviors 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 Youth Pathways Coordinator, the VWA Competitions Coordinator and the Chairperson of the VWA Junior Committee.
- q) **WAVJL** means Western Australian Volleyball Junior League.

2. AFFILIATE REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to compete 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 Affiliates nominating to play:

- **Clubs** and **schools** can enter teams in any Division
- All players must be full financial members of **VWA** prior to playing their first **WAVJL** game. Fines for non-members will apply from Round 2.
- Players who are 'unfinancial' with either **VWA** and/or a **Club** will not be eligible to play.
- Teams must be entered for participation in every round scheduled for their respective Division in order to be eligible to play in the Finals series of that Division.
- **Clubs** and **schools** must have a minimum of one coach and/or teacher with a minimum of a Level 1 Coaching accreditation per team.
- All teams entered must be supervised by either a coach or adult supervisor; if a coach is under 18 years old, an adult supervisor is required.
- All **Affiliates** and their nominated teams and their participants are expected to adhere to the **VWA Codes of Conduct, and the Member Protection Policy Codes of Conduct**.

3. NOMINATION AND GAME FEES

All **Clubs** will be required to nominate via the VWA Club Portal and all **schools** will be required to nominate via an online form by the nomination closing date as determined by **VWA**. Late nominations will only be accepted if it benefits the league/division.

Affiliates can nominate multiple teams* in each division available in WAVJL:

- Year 7
- Year 8
- Year 9
- Year 10
- Year 11/12

*VWA has the discretion to rearrange nominations based on the ability to facilitate the draw.

All team nomination fees and team game fees (including finals) for all **club/school** teams will be invoiced to the **Affiliate**. All fees will be expected to be paid by return invoice by the specified date 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 with regards to the Team Nomination Fees and Team Game 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 #2

3.1 Withdrawals

If a **club/school** withdraws a team prior to and including Round 2 of the competition, the **Club** will forfeit the Nomination Fee and the Game Fees for the first two rounds only.

If a **club/school** withdraws a team **after** Round 2 of the competition, **all** nomination fees for that team are payable as well as an administration fee and any remaining game fees. This will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the Youth Pathways Coordinator.

4. MEMBERSHIP

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

It is the **Club's/School's** responsibility to ensure that all their players are current financial members of VWA. All players must have paid for the correct VWA membership **prior** to taking the court for their first game or fines will apply after Round 2 as per subclause 4.1.

All players must purchase their Membership through the VWA Member Portal. It is the **Affiliates'** responsibility to ensure that memberships 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 round played as a non-member, payable by the **Affiliate**.

Affiliates will be invoiced prior to the next round. Fines for non-members will apply from Round #2 onwards.

5. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

For indoor volleyball, **youth** players can play both **WAVL** and **WAVJL**. To compete in WAVL, players must have a Platinum membership.

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**.

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**. Please refer to Section 5.2 for eligibility for finals.

5.1 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 finals 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 finals series in the division and the team he/she has played the most games for.

Players cannot transfer to another **club/school** team during the season after playing one game for the **club/school** team*. 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** 'Unfinancial' 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 Dates & Times

All match schedules, including dates, times, teams, court number and venue will be available on Bracketpal throughout the season.

All Divisions will be played on Friday nights, across 5:45pm, 6:45pm, 7:45pm and 8:45pm (Year 11/12 Division only) timeslots.

6.2 Match Format per Division

All matches will be timed at 50-minute games, plus a 10-minute warm up.

All matches will be three compulsory sets, with each set to 25 points, point for rally (uncapped in the first two sets only).

The deciding set (third set if both teams have won one set) will be awarded to whichever team has more points at the end of the set. Teams can win by 1 point. If teams are even at the end of the game, the next point wins. There are no draws.

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

6.3 Net Height per Division

The following net heights will be used for each division in 2023.

Division	Net Height (m)
7 Female	2.10
7 Male	2.24
8 Female	2.10
8 Male	2.24
9 Female	2.15
9 Male	2.35
10 Female	2.15
10 Male	2.35
11/12 Female	2.24
11/12 Male	2.43

YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8 DIVISIONS ONLY

Due to venue constraints, Year 7 and 8 divisions may be allocated to some venues with shorter courts (not regulation size). As such, only the Year 7 and Year 8 divisions are permitted to compete on shorter courts.

Players competing in the Year 7 and 8 divisions are permitted to take one step maximum into court to serve if required, in order to facilitate gameplay. Players are not required to do so if they are able to serve from behind the baseline.

6.4 Game Times GEST (Guaranteed Earliest Start Time)

All matches will operate under the **GEST** system. Teams must be ready to start their match 10 minutes prior to the listed game time to allow for the allocated warm up period.

6.5 Team List

A player arriving late may be added to the scoresheet providing the team has enough players to commence the match (five players minimum). Only players present and in uniform shall be listed on the scoresheet.

If a player is listed on the scoresheet but then does not take the court during the game, the referee is responsible to cross out this player's name off the scoresheet. Only players that entered the court and were named on the scoresheet will be regarded as having played.

6.6 Substitutions

12 Substitutions per team per set will be allowed **or** teams are able to rotate on to serve. Either method must be used for the entirety of the set. At the beginning of a new set, teams can change their method of substitution. The referee must be made aware of a team's chosen substitution method.

6.7 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.

6.8 Match Protocol

10 MINUTE WARM UP – WAVJL

- T – 10min** Official Protocol commences (Players are peppering)
Coaches complete and sign the scoresheet
- T – 8min** Coin Toss
Both captains need to sign the scoresheet 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 authorize serve

6.9 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 in to play the finals.

6.10 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

6.11 Team Placings

Positions will be determined first 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 divided by games played. Percentages will be calculated by the following formula – Wins (Sets or Points) / Total Played (Sets or Points).

6.12 Forfeits

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.

To avoid a forfeit:

WAVJL can be played with five players. A player may 'fill in' for a team of the same Affiliate in the same age group or higher.

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.

6.13 Finals Format

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

If a Division has more than one pool, then a crossover 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**.

All teams in WAVJL will compete across the two finals dates, which will include the standard format outlined above, as well as additional playoff games.

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 scoresheets/flipping the scoreboard.

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, as well as ensuring bench areas are clean and tidy at the completion of the game.

Referees are expected to wear the following:

- A **VWA**-issued polo shirt or a plain black T-shirt/polo shirt or blue referee shirt; and
- 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 their own injuries.

REFEREES' PAYMENT

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

All **VWA** payment information forms need to be completed prior to payments being made (they are available from the **VWA** Youth Pathways 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 coaches as per Section 2 – Affiliate Requirements. A minimum of a Volleyball Australia Level 1 accreditation is required for all coaches.

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**.

If no coach is available, then 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 and/or teachers are encouraged to wear the following:

- Their **club's/school's** playing/team uniform/polo/tracksuit; and
- Enclosed shoes at all times.

8. UNIFORMS

Uniforms in approved **Club/School** colors 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) must be submitted to **VWA** Youth Pathways 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 recognizes 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 limited to:

- The wearing of traditional head coverings;
- The wearing of leggings or tracksuits under the uniform to cover legs; and
- The wearing of long-sleeved tops 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. Colors of head coverings or other garments must be in accordance with or resemble the official colors 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.

For any exemptions, please email youth@volleyballwa.com.au prior to the scheduled fixture.

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 the 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); or
- (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 with 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.

Where 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, excluding judgment calls or ball handling errors; and

- Appeal post- game: an appeal can be lodged with regards 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 Director.

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; and
- (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** Youth Pathways Coordinator (youth@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/School's** interpretation of the rule; and
- (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; and
 - 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 Youth Pathways 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 **Western Australian Volleyball 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 wellbeing 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.

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