

Media Kit



VOLLEYBALL
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Volleyball is Ace

Think fit bods on the beach, graceful leaps in the air and heroic dives and you have part of what makes Volleyball such a thrilling game to watch and play.

Imagine a game where players require speed, strength and agility, a quick wit and laser focus.

The atmosphere on court is intense and loud as players hustle to win points.

Picture extreme feats of athleticism as players soar through the air, blocking at the net and racing to pass the ball.

Volleyball **is** played by two teams, usually of six players on a side, in which the players use their hands to skilfully manoeuvre the ball back and forth over a high net, trying to make the ball touch the court within the opponents' playing area before it can be returned. In beach volleyball teams are reduced to just two players per court, the sand surface only increasing the difficulty and challenge.

A little like tennis competitors rally to win points. Athletes serve, set and spike their way through the game to become ultimate winners.

Volleyball is a world sport that can be played almost anywhere, on the beach, indoor, on a grass surface and even in a pool. Like all sport it is not only good for the body but also the mind. It is a game played by people of varying ages and genders, it builds self-confidence, team spirit and community.

Volleyball is a Game for All

About Volleyball WA

Volleyball WA is the official state administrative body for all volleyball disciplines and is sanctioned by the Australian Volleyball Federation and the Federation International de Volleyball.

Purpose: “To inspire healthy minds and bodies through volleyball.”

Mission: To support Western Australian communities to play the world sport of volleyball in an inclusive environment.

Values: Inclusivity & Accessibility, Health & Wellbeing, Community, Respect

Volleyball WA Fact File

- In 2022, **207,424** people played some version of volleyball in WA.
- Volleyball WA has over **20,000** individual members.
- Volleyball WA has **189** clubs and association members.
- In 2022, coach and referee accreditations grew by 18% and 23% respectively.
- Volleyball WA also had some extraordinary wins in relation to participation particularly within the CALD and disability sectors of community. Engaging a total of 9,204 caLD participants.
- Disabled participation increased by over 300 individuals and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander by 763 individuals.
- Growth of team entries into both WA Volleyball League and WA Junior Volleyball league included team entries increasing by 65 teams.

Key Messages

Volleyball is for everyone, regardless of ability, age or background.

Volleyball is accessible, inclusive, fun and dynamic.

It can be played for fitness, fun or in an elite competition environment.

Our players inspire and empower the next generation of athletes.

Volleyball has as a positive social impact on our community.

Discover Volleyball Your Way

Research suggests participation in sport is changing, that Australian's are looking for commitment free, flexible, social and fun opportunities for physical activity and recreation. The shift has in part been a consequence of COVID, periods of isolation, a changing work environment and attitudes to living well. In WA, the multicultural composition of our population and communities looking to play sports from their homeland to build familiarity and safety plays a role in our need as a sport to offer the game to meet the needs of individuals.

You can play for your school, a club or represent the State.

You can play in the backyard or the pool.

You can play in public parks and beaches.

You can play socially with your mates and your community.

You can play with work colleagues.

Kids, teens and seniors can all play.

How will you discover your volleyball game?

Discover Volleyball



Kids Volley – An introductory program aimed at primary school children, it teaches fundamental movement, skills and competitive play using modified equipment. Junior Volley is designed for teens and introduces them to the rules and can be a stepping stone to playing for a club or a school competitively. Most importantly both programs are fun and social.

School Volley – Learning sport at school with friends is important in the development of good habits for life. Teachers and parents love the low risk inclusive nature of the sport. School Volley incorporates Sporting Schools, Think Again School Clinics and Teacher PD courses. Schools are also able to compete in VWA High School Cup events.

Social Volley – A series of events and programs, social volley gives people the chance to play a more relaxed version of the game. Social Volley includes current events such as Country of Origin, Harmony, Rotto and Pride Cups.

Discover Volleyball



Backyard & Pool Volley – This centres around a fun and affordable product available for purchase through the Volleysshop. The kit includes a net, ball and some basic information on how to play and is designed for family and friends looking to have a casual hit in the backyard, pool or local park.

Urban Volley – Designed as a teamwork activity for businesses, the Urban Volley program is delivered in work hours at metro locations as a way to get employees active and stimulate mental well-being. Each year Volleyball WA hosts the Fortix Corporate Cup giving companies the opportunity to test their fitness and skill against others.

Lead Volley – Developed to engage young people aged 16-24 this is Volleyball WA's youth leadership program aimed at supporting the personal and professional development of the next generation of sports administrators, officials and players.

VolleyMates

- Launched in 2022, VolleyMates was developed to activate our public volleyball courts and increase spontaneous play.
- An initial trial has been funded by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Innovation Challenge Grant Fund.
- For visitors to our beaches and parks easy access to equipment will encourage increased use of the courts.
- For our player community it provides guaranteed access to training facilities.
- People simply download an APP, create a profile, book a court and get set to play.
- Once at the location a code provides access to the equipment to play inside a locker.
- Trial locations include City and Scarborough Beaches, Novelli Reserve in Piara Waters, Royal Park in West Perth and Cockburn Community Recreation Centre.
- Following a successful trial Volleyball WA plans to engage with more Local Government Authorities and stakeholders to increase the locations.



Perth Steel

Perth Steel players are Volleyball WA's top representative players for indoor Volleyball. Athletes trial each year for a place and the team train for and compete in the Australia Volleyball League.

In 2023, the Australian Volleyball League will be reimagined to become the Australian Volleyball Super League, the competition format adjusted by Volleyball Australia for national broadcast in August and September.

Team Achievements:

Men & Women win Gold in the inaugural Australian Volleyball Super League. They also win the Champion Club Trophy

2022 Silver Medal Women's & Bronze Medal Men's AVL Championships

AVL cancelled in 2020 & 21

2018 Bronze Medal Men's AVL Champions

2017 Silver Medal Men's & Women's AVL Champions

State Teams

State Team players are Volleyball WA's top players aged 15-23 and have the opportunity to represent the state in Volleyball or Beach Volley in several major national competitions.

The Australian Junior Beach Volleyball Championships is the premier national event for high school aged beach Volleyball players. The Championships see the state's teens compete against each other for national titles in multiple divisions.

The Australian Junior Volleyball Championships is the premier national event for U23's and the Australian Youth Volleyball Championships for high school aged indoor Volleyball players. The Championships see the state's best teens compete against each other for national titles in multiple divisions.

Healthway Ambassador – Elysse Hislop

Age: 24

Gender: Female

Game Played: Indoor

Team, Club or Affiliation: Chequers

Major Wins/Highlights:

- Gold Medal AVSL 2023
- Silver medal U19's
- Gold medal WAVL State League 2021
- Silver medal AVL 2017 and 2022
- 8th consecutive year playing AVL
- Silver medal WAVL State League 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022

Future Plans: Continue playing for Chequers and Perth Steel and bring home a second gold medal for ASVL in 2024.



Healthway Ambassador – Jed Walker

Age: 19

Gender: Male

Game Played: Indoor and beach volleyball

Team, Club or Affiliation: Northern Stars and Perth Steel

Major Wins/Highlights:

- Winning Gold in the 2023 AVSL
- Winning gold in rounds seven and eight of the Alcohol.Think Again Beach Tour Men's Elite Division 2022.
- Winning the bronze medal at the 2022 Australian Volleyball League as part of the WA Steel Men's Team.

Future Plans: Aspiring to one day represent Australia in Beach Volleyball at the Olympics.



Healthway Ambassador – Samantha Shillington

Age: 19

Gender: Female

Game Played: Indoor and beach volleyball

Team, Club or Affiliation: Rossmoyne Raptors

Major Wins/Highlights:

- Gold at the WA High Schools Cup event three years in a row, 2019-2021
- Silver at U17 Australian Volleyball Championship, 2019
- Selected for women's U23 team, 2023
- Being selected to coach at Wesley College and Raptors VC, 2022/2023
- Being selected to coach U15/U18 boys and girl state beach volleyball teams, 2023
- Being selected to assistant coach the U16 boys state indoor team, 2023
- Being selected to go to the Gold Coast for AVSC in 2022 as a referee supervisor
- Winning Gold at AVSL 2023

Future Plans: I hope to continue playing volleyball at both a high level and socially for as long as possible. I also aspire to teach others to coach and referee, in order to further grow the sport within Western Australia.



Healthway Ambassador – Oliver Oaten

Age: 20

Gender: Male

Game Played: Indoor and beach volleyball

Team, Club or Affiliation: Reds Volleyball Association

Major Wins/Highlights:

- U18 & U21 WA Beach Volleyball State Representative
- U23 WA Indoor Volleyball State Representative
- Won 2021 Beach Volleyball Team of the Year
- 2022 State League Reserve MVP Runner-Up
- Part of the 2022 State League Reserves men's winning team
- Won gold at the National Uni Games 2022 for beach volleyball

Future Plans: Find further success on the ATABT Tour, attend the ABVT tour, and play a part in a winning State League WAVL side.



Volleyball Facts

- Volleyball is one of the world's most popular sports played, second only to soccer.
- Volleyball was invented by William George Morgan, an American educator. Using a badminton net and a soccer ball bladder, he created volleyball. Named so because the ball was volleyed back and forth. Originally designed to be played indoor, this physical, non-contact sport also required no running.
- The very first exhibition game was played in 1896 at the International YMCA Training facility in Massachusetts, interestingly Volleyball WA was too started at the YMCA by John McKay in 1960.
- Beach Volleyball is believed to have begun on a beach in Waikiki, players from the Outrigger Canoe Club put up a net on the beach and began to play. However, the two-man team started a little later in 1930, when players failed to show for a game at the Athletic Club in Santa Monica, it was decided to play with just two per side.
- The first-time volleyball was played at the Olympics was in 1964. Nat Cook is the most decorated Australian volleyballer, she competed at five Olympic games and had been inducted into the Volleyball Hall of Fame.
- The first official ball was commissioned by A.G Spalding & Sons, it had three layers, the outside made of leather. Globally there is a size and weight standard, and indoor volleyballs are slightly smaller than beach volleyballs.



Volleyball Facts

- The longest marathon playing volleyball indoors is 101 hours and was achieved by SVU Volleyball (Netherlands) in Amstelveen, Netherlands, from January 2-6, 2017.
- Players are allowed only 8 seconds to serve. The fastest serve made clocked 83.3 mph and was delivered by Ivan Zaytsev of Italy in 2018. The greatest number of aces served is seven, made by Australia's Samuel Walker.
- The highest paid professional volleyballers in the world is China's Zhu Ting. She played for VakifBank Istanbul in Turkey where she reportedly earned \$1.68 million annually.
- The Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIBV) is the governing organisation of all forms of volleyball. The sport is represented nationally by Volleyball Australia and via state sporting organisations in the various states.
- Puerto Rica holds the most National Championships, Russia the most World Championship titles and the USA the most inductees in the Volleyball Hall of Fame.
- The sport has an estimated 900 million fans across the globe and the most professional leagues.



Funny Things Volleyballers Say

Pancake

What it normally means: A delicious breakfast treat. Best when stacked and served with butter and syrup.

What it means to volleyball players: A last-ditch effort to save a ball from hitting the floor that will get you oohs and aahs from everyone in the crowd.

Six Pack

What it normally means: A package of six beverages containing beer or soda; a set of killer abs.

What it means to volleyball players: Taking a hard-driven ball to the face. Yelling "Up!" after contact does little to save you embarrassment.

Pokey

What it normally means: A slang word for "jail"; Gumby's best friend.

What it means to volleyball players: Poking the ball with your hand to send it off on a harrowing journey over the net.

Kill

What it normally means: To take someone's life.

What it means to volleyball players: Scoring a point. Always followed by high-fives and a huddle.

Major Events Calendar

- **April 2023 - September 2023** WA Volleyball League (WAVL)
State league competition played on hard court surfaces at various centres with clubs entering teams across several divisions.
- **May 2023 – August 2023** WA Junior Volleyball League (WAJVL)
A state league competition for club and schools junior players aged up to 18.
- **May 2023 – Sept 2023** Indoor Beach Volley Volleyball Super League Summer Series
This is an interclub competition between the eight indoor volleyball centre.
- **October 2023 – March 2023** Alcohol.Think Again Beach Tour
The 8 round series is played at Perth and regional beaches over summer and includes the WA Open which is where WA's best beach volley players compete the ultimate bragging rights.
- **August 2023 – September 2023** Australian Volleyball Super League
This is a state V state national competition that is played in a home and away format in a new format modified to accommodate national broadcast and maximum spectator enjoyment.

For further information about Volleyball WA.

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