



VOLLEYBALL WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

(State League and Divisions)

Competition & Regulations Handbook

2024

Date of Issue March 2024
Last Reviewed March 2024
Controlling Body VWA Technical Committee
Reporting to VWA Board

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1. DEFINITIONS

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

- a) **Administrative Forfeit** (Section 8.9) means a forfeit from a breach of the VWA WAVL Competitions and Regulations Handbook and / or the FIVB Rules of the game, other than not fielding a team.
- b) **Affiliate** means a member Association, Club or School of VWA.
- c) **Affiliation** means a formal written agreement between two parties. Examples of affiliation in relation to the WAVL Competitions and Regulations Handbook include a club or school affiliate to VWA and a school affiliation with a VWA Club.
- d) **Club (s)** means those VWA affiliated Clubs and Associations that fulfil the requirements as described in the VWA Constitution and the VWA Club / Association Affiliation Package.
- e) **Development Player** means players selected by the Club whose individual development pathway will benefit from the opportunity to play in their **Nominated Team** and a higher Division during a regular season round of the WAVL competition.
- f) **DIDO** means Drive in Drive out.
- g) **FIFO** means Fly in Fly out.
- h) **FIVB** means the Federation Internationale de Volleyball, which is the international governing body for volleyball.
- i) **GEST** means Guaranteed Earliest Start Time.
- j) **Grading period** means the competition date set prior to the commencement of the WAVL competition.
- k) **Infringement** means a breach of one of the VWA WAVL Competitions and Regulations Handbook and / or the FIVB Rules of the game.
- l) **In Charge** means being in control of the behaviour and conduct of the individual players within a Club team during the WAVL / WAVJL season.
- m) **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.

- n) **State League** refers to both State League and State League Reserves unless stated otherwise.
- o) **VA** means Volleyball Australia, which is the FIVB recognised body for the administration, control and management of the sport of volleyball in Australia.
- p) **Volleyball WA or VWA** means Volleyball Western Australia, the entity recognised under the VA Constitution to administer the sport of volleyball in Western Australia.
- q) **WAVL Review Committee** consists of the Affiliated Club (including Associations – refer definition section 1c) Presidents, the Chairperson of the VWA Referee Committee, the VWA Chief Executive Officer and the VWA Competitions & Events Manager. The Executive Officer for the Committee will be the VWA Indoor Coordinator. This is the committee responsible for reviewing the WAVL competition annually.
- r) **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. All VWA policies are at www.volleyballwa.com.au.
- s) **WAVL** means the Western Australian Volleyball League.
- t) **WAVL Criteria** consists of information and criteria for those Clubs wishing to compete in WAVL. There are different criteria for State League / State League Reserves and the Divisions.
- u) **WAVL Technical Committee** consists of the **VWA** Competitions Manager, **VWA** Indoor Coordinator and **VWA** Chairperson of the Referee Committee. In instances where the **VWA** Indoor Coordinator and the **VWA** Chairperson of the Referee Committee have conflict of interest due to the clubs they are associated with, they will be replaced by the VWA Beach Coordinator and VWA Participation Manager respectively.
- v) **WAVJL** means Western Australian Volleyball Junior League.
- w) **Nominated Team** means the **Team List** that a player is a part of.

2. WAVL GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to play in **WAVL, Clubs** and schools* must be affiliated with **VWA**. The following conditions must be met by **Clubs** and schools nominating to play in **WAVL**:

- **Clubs** wishing to enter a team into the **State League** must comply with Section 4 – **State League** Requirements.
- **Clubs** and Schools wishing to enter a team into Divisions must comply with Section 5 – Division Requirements.
- All players must be registered Platinum members of **VWA** prior to playing their first game as part of the **WAVL** competition, including gradings.
- Players who are ‘unfinancial’ (Person of Interest) with either **VWA** and / or a **Club** (s) will not be eligible to play**
- **Clubs** and Schools must fulfil the minimum coaching accreditation requirements as detailed in the WAVL Criteria.
- **Clubs** and Schools must fulfil the minimum referee accreditation requirements as detailed in the WAVL Criteria.
- Each **Club** team must have an individual over 18 years old in charge of the team. This includes (from) the commencement of the warm-up period, the game and (as applicable) throughout the duty team duties. NB: the person **in charge** does not have to be the team coach.
- All **Clubs**, their **Nominated Teams** and their participants are expected to adhere to the **VWA Member Protection Policy Codes of Conduct**.

* 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**’.

** A breach of the requirements pertaining to unfinancial (Person of Interest) will result in the **Administrative Forfeit** of the game by the team that breaches this condition, including grading games.

3. MEMBERSHIP

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

It is the **Club’s** responsibility to ensure that all their players are members of **VWA**. All players must have completed the membership and paid for an individual membership prior to taking the court for their first game of **WAVL** and before participation in any **WAVL** related activities, including

grading days. It is the **Club's** responsibility to ensure that their players' memberships are completed prior to the player taking the court for the first time.

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

- (a) A \$50 fine per infringement payable by the **Club**.
- (b) An **Administrative Forfeit** of the game by the team that breaches this condition.

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

4. STATE LEAGUE REQUIREMENTS

For 2024, the **WAVL State League** format is as follows:

To be eligible to play in the **State League** of **WAVL**, **Clubs** must meet the **WAVL State League** Criteria as outlined in the 2024 WAVL Criteria document.

- The **WAVL State League** will have a maximum of six teams per gender. The **WAVL State League Reserves** will have a maximum of ten teams per gender.
- Each team roster per match may have up to twelve players including **Development Players**.
- **Clubs** must comply with **Development Player** regulations in regulation 7.2.
- **Clubs** must comply with the coaching requirements outlined in regulation 9.4.
- **Clubs** must comply with the duty requirements in regulation 9.2.
- **Clubs** must comply with the refereeing requirements in regulation 9.3.
- **State League** Teams must comply with the Home Game requirements in regulation 8.5.
- **State League** teams must comply with the **FIVB** International Transfer Process in regulation 15.

5. DIVISIONS REQUIREMENTS

For 2024, the **WAVL** Divisions will be as follows:

- Division 1
- Division 1 Reserves
- Division 2
- Division 3
- Division 4
- Division 5
- Division 6

Additional Divisions will be added as required.

To be eligible to play in the Divisions of **WAVL**, **Clubs** must meet the **WAVL** Division's Criteria as outlined in the WAVL Criteria document.

- **WAVL** Divisions will have a maximum of ten teams per gender.

- **Clubs** can nominate as many teams as they like, capped at one per Division, per gender (unless **VWA** has places to fill).
- Each team roster per match may have up to twelve players including **Development Players** (Development Players permitted in Division 1, Division 1 Reserves, and Division 2 only).
- All **Clubs** must comply with the coaching requirements outlined in regulation 9.4.
- **Clubs** must comply with the duty requirements in regulation 9.2.
- **Clubs** must comply with the refereeing requirements in regulation 9.3.

If more than ten **Clubs** nominate a team for a particular division (Division 2 and below), the final selection of the teams will be based on results from a Grading Day*. Individual players who play on a Division Grading Day are required to play the first five games of the season in the same Division they graded in.

*If a team / **Club** gets graded out of the nominated division on Grading Day, that team / **Club** is automatically guaranteed a place in the division below. Noting that there can only be one team per **Club** per division (unless **VWA** has spots to fill), this would mean that if there is another team from the same **Club** in the division below, that team / **Club** would then automatically move down a division, and so on.

6. NOMINATION AND GAME FEES

All team nomination fees and team game fees (including finals) for all Clubs will be invoiced to the **Club**. All fees will be expected to be paid in one of the options below:

- Three instalments as outlined in the table below.
- Total fees paid up front, due by the date of the first instalment listed below.

Clubs must communicate their preferred option to the **VWA** Indoor Coordinator via email at indoor@volleyballwa.com.au. 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 regarding the Team Nomination Fees, Team Game Fees, and Team late Fees.

INSTALMENT	CATEGORY	AMOUNT	DUE BY
ONE	TEAMS NOMINATION FEES & TEAMS GAME FEES	Up to \$5,000.00**	Third Friday in May 17 th May
TWO	TEAMS GAME FEES	Up to \$5,000.00**	Third Friday in June 21 st June

THREE	TEAMS GAME FEES	BALANCE ***	Third Friday in July 19 th July
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****Clubs** that enter less than a total of five teams in State League/Reserves and Divisions combined will have their instalments adjusted to reflect the number of teams entered **WAVL**.

*******Each Divisions final series games will be divided across all teams competing within a division after round three and included for payment in instalment three.

6.1 Withdrawals

6.1.1. PROCEDURE - STATE LEAGUE AND STATE LEAGUE RESERVES DIVISION 1 AND DIVISION 1 RESERVES

If a **Club** withdraws a team prior to the Friday 6 weeks before Round 1 then the **Club** will be required to pay a forfeit fee of \$500.

If a **Club** withdraws a team after the fixtures have been released, they will forfeit all game and nomination fees and will thus be in breach of the **State League** and/or **State League Reserves** license and may have their **State League** and/or **State League Reserves** license revoked.

All matches already played by the withdrawing team will be retrospectively forfeited. All sanctions, forfeits, and **Administrative Forfeits** awarded during those matches will still apply.

6.1.2. PROCEDURE - DIVISIONS 2 AND BELOW

If a **Club** withdraws a team prior to the Friday 2 weeks before Round 1 then the **Club** will forfeit the team nomination fee.

If a **Club** withdraws a team prior to and including round three of the competition, the **Club** will forfeit nominations fee and game fee for the first three rounds.

If a **Club** withdraws a team after round three of the competition, all nominations fees and game fees for those matches played by the team are payable and the **Club** will pay a forfeit fee of \$600.

All matches already played by the withdrawing team will be retrospectively forfeited. All sanctions, forfeits, and **Administrative Forfeits** awarded during those matches will still apply.

7. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A member of a particular **Club** can only play one game for that **Club** on any given round of the **WAVL** fixtures. Junior players can play in both **WAVL** and **WAVJL** fixtures. A round is defined as the date the game was listed on the initial fixtures. If the date of a game is changed due to a reschedule or home round, that game will be attributed to the round of the initial date listed. For example, games listed on Friday by VWA are considered a different round from Sunday, but games rescheduled by **Clubs** from a Sunday to Saturday in the same weekend are attributed to the Sunday round.

If a player plays in a game that they are not eligible for, that will result in an **Administrative Forfeit**.

7.1 School Students

These athletes are then permitted to play for a different **Club** in **WAVL**.

7.2 Development Players

A **Club** can only list a player as a **Development Player** if they fall into either of the following categories:

- The player is Under 23 years of age:
- The player is within their first three years of participating in WAVL (or an interstate/international WAVL equivalent)

Development Players can only be nominated in the following Divisions:

- State League Reserves
- Division 1
- Division 1 Reserves
- Division 2

Each **Club** can nominate up to two **Development Players** in the above divisions. **Clubs** are entitled to play a **Development Player** twice in any given round of the regular season fixtures (not the finals), and that player can only play in their nominated division, a higher division, or both. **Development Players** are not permitted to play below Division 2 unless they are acting as a regular player following the "Avoiding Forfeit" rule in 7.1.

Clubs can make two changes to each team's **Development Players** per year. If a **Club** wishes to change a Development Player, a written application must be supplied to the **VWA** Indoor Coordinator no later than four working days prior to the player taking the court for the **Club**

as a listed **Development Player**. This application should include justification of how the individual's development pathway will benefit from the opportunity to play in more than one Division during a regular season round of the **WAVL** competition. If a written application is supplied less than four working days prior to the player taking the court for the **Club**, the player will be treated as a regular player for that round.

The **WAVL** Technical Committee will decide on any exemptions related to injured players. Any requests for exemption due to injury must be accompanied with a Doctors / Specialist Certificate and / or letter.

Development Players are not permitted in finals. Please see Section 7.2 Eligibility for Finals for details about team rosters in finals.

7.3 FIFO and DIDO

FIFO and **DIDO** players will be eligible to play **WAVL**. Please refer to Section 7.6 for eligibility for **WAVL** finals.

7.4 WA Athletes Representing Australia

VWA has adopted the **VA FTEM** pathway model (Fundamentals, Talent, 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 **WAVL** and **WAVJL**. Please refer to Section 7.6 for eligibility for **WAVL** finals.

7.5 Avoiding Forfeit – Eligibility to Play

To avoid a forfeit one male player and one female player for every two male and two female teams respectively can play two games for your **Club** in any round (not including finals). The number of players will not exceed two males and two females per **Club** / School. Should additional eligible players arrive to the court, those playing to avoid a forfeit must not continue playing.

A **Development Player** is not permitted to play a third game to avoid a forfeit.

State League players may not play to avoid a forfeit after the **State League** regular season has ended.

7.6 Eligibility for Finals

Players must have played a minimum of five **WAVL** Division games for a **Club** on five different playing rounds to be eligible for finals. To qualify for **State League** finals, players must have played a minimum of five **WAVL State League** games for a **Club** on five different playing rounds.

The following exceptions apply:

- **FIFO** and **DIDO** players: for all the rounds a player is available (based on their work roster), he / she is permitted to miss only one game to be eligible to qualify for finals. **Clubs** are required to provide the **WAVL Technical Committee** with a copy of the relevant working roster for the player.
- WA athletes representing Australia not residing in Western Australia: to be eligible to play in the final series, a Western Australian player must have played at least four games during the season.
- Players injured during the season can apply to the **WAVL Technical Committee** for an exemption. Any requests for exemption due to injury must be accompanied with a Doctors / Specialist Certificate and / or letter.

Players can only play finals for the division in which they played most games, or a higher division. If a **Clubs'** team is eliminated from the finals, then these players are eligible to play in a higher division in the following rounds. Once a player begins competing in a division for finals, they are not permitted to play in a lower division. All players are permitted to play in only one match per round. A round is defined as the date the game was listed on the initial fixtures.

In the event of having more than one team in any division, a player can only play in the final series for the team they have played the most games for. If the number of games played is equal, the **Club** can choose which of the teams to play this player in finals.

7.7 State League End of Season Eligibility

At the end of the **State League** regular season (for 2024 this is July 7th) a player that has played a minimum of five **State League** games will not be eligible to play in another division. The only exclusion is for **Development Players**. These players are only eligible to continue playing in their division after the State League regular season if they have played the same number of games or more in their Nominated Team as they have played in **State League**.

7.8 Player Transfer

Players cannot transfer to another **WAVL Club** during the season after playing one regular season game for a **WAVL Club**. A breach of this process will result in the **Administrative Forfeit** of the game(s) that the player has played in.

If a player is unfinancial with a **Club**, it is the responsibility of the **Club** President or Treasurer to notify **VWA** of this status. The individual player will then be placed on the **VWA** 'Person of Interest' list.

8. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

All grades in **WAVL** will have a minimum of four teams. The number of rounds and games played will be determined based on the number of teams in the grade.

8.1 WAVL Match Formats

8.1.1. WAVL STATE LEAGUE AND STATE LEAGUE RESERVES

All matches will be 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). No time limit.

8.1.2. WAVL DIVISIONS

All regular season matches will be best of five sets. The first 4 sets will be played to 25 points (uncapped) and the 5th set will be played to 15 points (uncapped). Timeslots for games to be capped at two hours, including warm-up. Once the two-hour timeslot is up, if the match is in the fourth set, the winner of the match is the team that won two of the previous three sets. If the match is in the fifth set, the winner of the match is the team who is up by at least two points. If the two-hour timeslot is up and the fifth set is tied or one team is up by one point, the game will continue until one team is up by two points. No timeouts will be permitted in the last five minutes of the timed matches. All finals matches will be untimed.

8.2 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 or 20 minutes after the completion of the previous match for State League & State League Reserves, and 10 minutes after the completion of the previous match for Divisions.

For example, for a game listed at 10:00am, a division team must be ready to start their official warm up at 9:50am.

8.3 Rescheduling of Games & Fixture Request

No rescheduled matches will be allowed (not including home rounds), unless directly sanctioned by the WAVL Technical Committee.

No fixture request will be accepted by **VWA**.

8.4 Home Games – State Leagues and Divisions

- **WAVL State League Clubs** must host a **minimum** of four Home Games.
- **WAVL State League Reserve Clubs** must host a minimum of two Home Games.
- Division 1 and Division 1 Reserve Teams have the option to host home games if they choose.
- Division 2 and below do not have the option to select home games. They must either request all home rounds or none.

The first named team on the fixtures will be entitled to host that game as a Home Round.

Selection of Home games is exclusive to State League, State League Reserves, Division 1, and Division 1 Reserves teams.

Home games will be played on the day of the programmed fixture unless the hosting **Club** designates a different time / day than the fixtured time / day.

If home round requests are within the standard home round times (outlined below) and within the same weekend (Friday – Sunday) of the scheduled game, no confirmation will be needed from visiting Clubs (excluding weekends with a double header). **Clubs** are required to submit an email to indoor@volleyballwa.com.au within the deadlines on the distributed Key Dates, requesting the matches they would like to host as home rounds. Once the home round is submitted to VWA and the fixtures are released, if the hosting **Club** wants to make a change to the fixture, then they must first receive approval from visiting Club and both **Clubs** must confirm the change in writing to VWA. The information that needs to be provided includes:

- The **Clubs** participating in the Round.
- The Divisions participating in the Round.
- Date
- Venue (NB: the venues hired by VWA can also be utilised for homes games if necessary).
- Proposed Duty Team
- Game Time Slots
 - If only two games are requested for one day. Clubs may schedule 90-minute time slots for State League and State League Reserves matches only as a Guaranteed Earliest Start Time (GEST). All timed Division games must remain in the two-hour time slot.

8.4.1. TIMES FOR HOME ROUND TIMES

The following times are the standard home round times:

- Friday between 6pm and 10pm (latest GEST 8:00pm)
- Saturday between 4pm and 10pm (latest GEST 8:00pm)
- *Sunday between 8am and 6pm (latest GEST 4:00pm)

*If a club is hosting a home round, the following fixturing is required:

- State League and State League Reserves between 12pm and 6pm (latest GEST 4:00pm)
- Travelling regional clubs between 12pm and 6pm (latest GEST 4:00pm)

8.4.2. REQUIREMENTS TO HOST A HOME GAME ROUND

To host a Home Game the following is required:

- Provision of a Club Venue/Home Game Coordinator for management of games as per the rules and regulations.
- The Venue / Home Game Coordinator must be approved by the **WAVL Technical Committee**.
- Provision of post padding.
- Provision of a suitable net.
- Provision of a padded referee stand.
- A court(s) that adhere to VWA's Facility Guidelines

VWA will assist with promoting the event and will supply the following if needed:

- Score-sheet and pens.
- Rotations slips.
- Score Board.
- 1 x match ball.
- Lines flags.
- Post padding and antennas (if required).
- Upon request, assistance can be provided in the rostering of a First Referee.

The **Clubs** are responsible for the following costs:

- Any fundraising / promotional activities.

VWA will make the following payments for Home Games* (as per **WAVL** Criteria)

- SL & SLR = \$181.00
- Divisions = \$145.00

There will be no home game payments provided to **Clubs** if they choose to run their home rounds within Volleyball WA's fixtures / venues.

8.4.3. HOME GAME DUTY REQUIREMENTS

To maintain the integrity of the competition, the following additional restrictions to Home Game Duty Teams applies:

- Teams may duty any match in their division or below.
- Teams may duty one division above their division provided they are the same gender.

- First Referees for WAVL State League division matches will be appointed by the **VWA** Chief Referee or the VWA Referee Committee Chair. When a referee cannot be sourced by **VWA**, the duty team must then provide a competent, accredited, and approved referee to referee the relevant game.

Home Game scoresheets must be submitted electronically to the, VWA Indoor Coordinator within 24 hours of the game, and the original hard copy must be supplied to **VWA** by 5.00pm on the Monday following the Home Game. Regional **Clubs** must supply original hard copies to VWA at the time of their next metro match. None or late submission of the scoresheet will result in the host **Club** forfeiting the Home Game venue contribution.

No Home Games are to be played on Indoor Beach Volleyball Federation Super League rounds (27-28 April, 8th June, 13th July, 10th August, 7th September) without written confirmation from both **Club** Presidents that no players within the teams are involved with the indoor beach rounds. No home games or regional rounds are to be played on Australian Volleyball Super League rounds, or on the weekend of the WAVL State League Grand Final (26th, 27th, and 28th of July, 2024).

VWA will make payment for all accredited first referees for **WAVL** games (as per Section 9.3 Referees) upon provision of the Home Game scoresheet. No payment will be made by **VWA** for late provision of the scoresheet.

8.5 Team Composition

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

The **Coach** is required to be listed on the scoresheet before the Coin Toss. Other team staff arriving late may be added to the scoresheet. There may be no more than five team staff on the bench, including the **Club President**.

If a player is listed on the scoresheet but then does not take the court during the game, the Duty personnel are responsible to cross out this player's name off the scoresheet. If a player does not take the court, it will not count towards the number of games that player has played.

8.6 Substitutions

Twelve substitutions per team per set will be allowed (i.e. each player may only enter the court three times, the starting line up being the first entry).

8.7 Libero

A Libero player is allowed in all grades of **WAVL** under the following conditions:

- Use of a Libero player is optional.

- A different player is permitted to be nominated as Libero in each set and must remain as Libero for the remainder of that set.
- The Libero must be nominated (by the coach) on the rotation slip before the start of each set.
- The Libero player is designated by the wearing of a contrasting shirt. No number is required on the Libero shirt. *Note: When nominating a player as libero put the players playing shirt number down so we can keep track on how many games he/she plays during the season.*
- In the event of an injury during a set, the Libero may not become a regular player in that set.
- Should the Libero become unable to play during a set, a regular player may not be designated as a Libero in that set.

8.8 Match Protocol

8.8.1. 20 MINUTE WARM UP – STATE LEAGUES

All matches will follow the following protocol for their allocated 20-minute warm up time.

(T – 20min = Time of the game – 20 minutes. The games will commence at the completion of warm-up)

T - 20 min	Official Protocol commences (players are peppering) Coaches check and sign the score sheet, 2 nd referee distributes the Rotation slips to coaches
T - 14 min	Scorer should cross match warming up players with the score sheet, 1 st and 2 nd Referee check the net
T - 13 min	Coin Toss Both captains need to sign the score sheet after the coin toss
T - 12 min	Coaches to present starting rotation to officials Warm up at the net commences. <i>Recommended format:</i> T-12min – hit from position 4 T-7 min – change hitting warm up to position 2 T-3min – Serve Teams are required to be hitting in their full playing uniform, 1 st referee needs to monitor the spiking; 2 nd referee needs to collect line up sheets from coaches.
T - 2 min	Warm up at the net finishes Teams clear the court
T - 1 min	First Referee calls on teams to enter the court

T - 30 sec	Second Referee checks position of players and authorises Libero replacement if required
T - 00	First whistle to authorise the serve

8.8.2. MINUTE WARM UP – DIVISIONS ONLY

All matches will follow the following protocol for their allocated 10-minute warm up time.

(T – 10min = Time of the game – 10 minutes. The games will commence at the completion of warm-up)

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

8.9 Premiership Points

The premiership points schedule for all **WAVL** Divisions are:

RESULT	POINTS
WIN	3 points
LOSS	0 points
FORFEIT	-2 points for an Administrative Forfeit -3 points for not fielding a team

8.10 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). In the unlikely event there is still a meaningful tie at the end of the season, the **WAVL Technical Committee** will use other metrics to determine positions. 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).

8.11 MVP Voting Structure

At the end of each match, the first referee will discuss with both head coaches to decide the best 3 players of the match, assigning them a 3, 2 and 1 vote. The first referee will have the final decision.

At the end of the **State League** season, an All-Star Team will be named with the players who received the most votes for their respective position. The positions are as follows:

Outside Hitter x 2, Middle Blocker x 2, Setter x 1, Libero x 1 and Opposite x 1.

8.12 Forfeit

If a team refuses to take the court for any reason other than a player injury, court condition, or a protest at any stage of the match, the game will be forfeited by that team.

8.12.1. PROCEDURE - STATE LEAGUE AND STATE LEAGUE RESERVES

For State Leagues and State League Reserves, after the referees have called the teams to line up for the start of a game, unless six players are present and in uniform the following applies:

- The game will be forfeited by the team that does not have six players present and able to take the court.

8.12.2. PROCEDURE – DIVISIONS

For Divisions after the referees have called the teams to line up for the start of a game, unless six players are present and in uniform the following applies:

- The first set is forfeited. If 6 players are not present and in uniform 5 minutes after the GEST (Guaranteed Earliest Start Time), then;

- The game will be forfeited by the team that does not have six players present and able to take the court.

8.12.3. 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.

8.13 Finals Format

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

8.14 Match Delays

In the event a **Division** game is shortened due to catastrophic injury or due to extenuating circumstances, the following will apply:

For a game in the Finals series,

- If only one team has won 2 sets, then the result will be declared accordingly.
- If not, **VWA** will explore options for the game to be replayed the following week. VWA will advise the relevant Clubs of the outcome no later than two working days after the scheduled game.
- If the game in the Finals series cannot be rescheduled, the match will be determined by total points won. Should this be equal, then if one team holds a lead on sets, they will be declared the winner. Otherwise, the winner shall be the team that was leading (on total points) prior to the last rally that was conducted.

For a regular season game,

- If at least 60 minutes of play has been completed, a result will be declared for the game at the time of suspension based on the rules for Division games.
- If a winner cannot be declared, then the game will be declared a Draw, and premiership points will be split between the two teams.
- If less than 60 minutes of play has been completed, if only one team has won 2 sets, then the result will be declared accordingly.
- Otherwise, the game will be declared a Draw.

In the event a **State League** game is unable to be completed due to extenuating circumstances the following will apply:

- If only one team has won 2 sets, then the result will be declared accordingly. If not, then: **VWA** will reschedule the game to be replayed the following week.

9. REQUIREMENTS FOR DUTY TEAMS, REFEREES AND COACHES

9.1 Volleyball Rules

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

All participants 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**.

9.2 Duty Team

Clubs are expected to supply duty personnel as required to duty games. At least one person from the duty team (and the First Referee if not a part of the duty team) are to be present on court before the **GEST** of the game to start and control the warmup. The following applies:

- 20 minutes before the **GEST** for **State League** matches.
- 10 minutes before the **GEST** for **Division** matches.

Failure to provide the required duty personnel will result in the following:

- Not present at the commencement of warm-up - one premiership point will be deducted from the team.
- Not present at commencement of the game – one premiership point will be deducted for each of the missing duty personnel, this being up to a maximum of four premiership points.
 - Failure to provide the correct number of duty personnel at the commencement of the game will also result in a \$25 fine per infringement payable by the **Club**.
- Failure to provide the correct number of duty personnel during the finals series will result in a \$100 fine to the **Club**.

WAVL State League teams are required to provide the following for Duty Teams:

- First Referee
- Second Referee
- Scorer
- 2 x Lines people

WAVL Division teams are required to provide the following for Duty Teams:

- First Referee
- Second Referee
- Scorer

In addition, **WAVL** Division teams are required to provide 2 x Lines people for Duty Teams during finals.

9.2.1. DUTY PERSONNEL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Duty personnel are required to wear the following:

- Their Clubs playing / team uniform / jacket / polos. This must be clearly visible and not obscured.
- Enclosed shoes at all times. (including the scorer and assistant scorer)

The following are not permitted whilst performing their duties:

- The wearing of caps / hats.
- The use of headphones.
- The use of mobile phones or iPod like devices. (except when being used as timer)
- Eating, or drinking from a can, open-top coffee cup, or open-top bottle.
- Ice injuries.

Exceptions will be made upon approval by the Chief Referee. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the following:

- A \$50 fine per infringement payable by the **Club**

During the first three weeks of competition **Club** Presidents will receive a warning regarding duty personnel not being in the correct uniform. Thereafter, any future non-compliance will be penalised with the loss of one premiership point and a \$50 fine for the team concerned.

9.2.2. SCORE-SHEETS

All duty team scorers are required to complete the match scoresheet in full. It is the responsibility of the duty team to ensure that the names of officials are correct, and the responsibility of the playing teams to ensure that the names of players and coaches are correct.

A duty team member including false information on the scoresheet will result in the following:

- A \$50 fine per infringement payable by the **Club**
- A 3 Premiership Points Penalty

A player or coach including false information on the scoresheet will result in the following:

- A \$50 fine per infringement payable by the **Club**

- An Administrative Forfeit

Clubs are encouraged in the first instance to notify the offending party and politely ask it to be rectified. If it is not resolved, they may then bring it to the attention of the Chief Referee, VWA Indoor Coordinator, or Venue Coordinator on the day.

If this is not brought to the attention of **VWA** on the day, there will be no retrospective Premiership Points penalty.

Only the scorer is allowed to add remarks to the score sheet. Only the following types of remarks can be included on the score sheet:

- Game delay (s)
- Injury
- A risk hazard on court

Any remarks added by a player or coach will be sanctioned as rude misconduct.

This sanction will be communicated to the **Club's** President in writing by the Chief Referee/VWA Indoor Coordinator no later than Thursday after the weekend's round.

During the first three weeks of competition, **Club** Presidents will be provided warning of scoresheets that are not completed correctly. Thereafter, any future non-compliance will be penalised with a loss of one premiership point for the team concerned.

9.3 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**.

Referees are required to wear the following:

- Their **VA** issued uniform or their **Clubs** playing / team uniform / jacket / hoodie / polo. This must be visible and not obscured / clearly visible.
- Enclosed shoes at all times.

The following are not permitted whilst performing their duties:

- The wearing of caps / hats.
- The use of headphones.
- The use of mobile phones or iPod like devices.
- Eating, or drinking from a can, open-top coffee cup, or open-top bottle.
- Ice injuries.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in the following:

- A \$50 fine per infringement payable by the **Club**.

9.3.1. CHIEF REFEREE

The VWA Referee Committee will strive to appoint a person(s) for a paid position as a Chief Referee who will be available to be contacted at all times during the WAVL rounds. This position will be appointed if there are more than four games (exception Final series), being played at the same time.

9.3.2. REFEREES SUPPLIED BY CLUBS

Clubs are expected to supply competent and accredited referees for all grades / rounds.

First Referees for WAVL State League division matches will be appointed by the **VWA** Chief Referee or the **VWA** Referee Committee Chair. When a referee cannot be sourced by the **VWA** Chief Referee, the duty team must then provide a competent, accredited, and approved referee to referee the relevant game. **WAVL** State League Clubs are expected to supply a Level One (minimum accreditation) as a Second Referee.

WAVL State League Reserves Clubs are expected to supply a Level Two State Referee (minimum accreditation) as First Referee and a Level One (minimum accreditation) as a Second Referee.

For **WAVL** Divisions, **Clubs** are expected to supply a Level One (minimum accreditation) for First Referee and Second Referee.

An exemption applies when a Level Two Associate Referee is being assessed. Failure to comply with these rules will result in the following:

- A \$50 fine per infringement payable by the **Club**

9.3.3. REFEREES' PAYMENT

All currently accredited First Referees officiating games **for State League, State League Reserves** and **WAVL** Divisions will be paid according to their level of qualification. The payment rates are included in the **VWA** Rates for Coordinators, Coaches and Referees.

The First Referee is required to be present on court for the start of the warmup. He / she will be paid for officiating from the commencement of the game (the first whistle). The First Referee is also responsible for ensuring that all bags etc. are placed under the chairs or at the back of the court, and that only those listed on the scoresheet are sitting on the benches or in the warmup area. They must also ensure bench areas are clean

and tidy at the completion of the game. If these duties are incomplete the referee will only be paid for one hour.

It is the First Referee's responsibility to make sure they provide their name and the game they umpired to the **WAVL** Chief Referee. They need to do this by putting their **full name** on the scoresheet. The non-provision of names will result in no payment to the referee.

All Referee payments will be processed fortnightly. All **VWA** payment information forms need to be completed prior to payments being made (they are available on the **VWA** Referee Payment Form [VWA Member Portal](#) under Upcoming Events).

9.3.4. REFEREE ASSESSMENTS

For details about completing the log sheet and assessment for the Level 2 State Referee Accreditation, see the Level 2 Referee Course section on our website on the Education page: <https://volleyballwa.com.au/education/#Refereeing>

To request an assessment please use the following link:

[Referee Assessment Link](#)

9.4 Coaches

All **WAVL State League** teams are required to have qualified and accredited coaches with a minimum of a Level 2 State Accreditation. Level 2 Associate Coaches (people who attended the Level 2 Course) are eligible on the provision that by the completion of the WAVL season (end of round games) the minimum coaching accreditation requirement has been met. Breaches of this condition will result in retrospective fines.

WAVL Divisions are required to have a minimum of a Level 1 accreditation which can be completed online. More information here: <https://volleyballwa.com.au/coaching/>

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 (or candidate coach) must be on the bench or on the court for the duration of the game.

Coaches are required to wear the following:

- Their **Clubs** playing / team uniform / polo / hoodie / tracksuit / business attire.
- Enclosed shoes at all times.

The following are not permitted whilst performing their duties:

- Eating, or drinking from a can, open-top coffee cup, or open-top bottle.

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

- A \$50 fine per infringement payable by the Club.

In Divisions only, if the regular appointed coach is unable to be present at the game due to a **WAVL** game clash, and the **Club** is unable to find a qualified replacement, the **Club** can use an exemption to avoid a fine. **Clubs** will receive one exemption per the total number of Division teams the **Club** has competing in **WAVL**. **Clubs** must inform the Indoor Coordinator at indoor@volleyballwa.com.au of this exemption by Friday 5:00pm before the weekend of the clash for the exemption to be valid. This exemption does not remove the requirement of appointing someone over the age of 18 to be **in-charge** of the team for that game. In the exemption email, the **Club** must submit the name of this appointed person and the name of the coach they are replacing as part of the exemption, and the appointed person is the name that should be written on the scoresheet. If this process is not followed and a coach without an appropriate qualification is written on the scoresheet, the **Club** will receive the regular \$50 fine as above.

9.5 Assistant Coaches

All WAVL State League and Divisions games are permitted up to three Assistant Coaches per match. All Assistant Coaches must have a valid Technical, Gold, or Platinum membership.

Assistant 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.

Assistant Coaches are expected required to wear the following:

- Their Clubs playing / team uniform / polo / hoodie / tracksuit / business attire.
- Enclosed shoes at all times.

The following are not permitted whilst performing their duties:

- Eating, or drinking from a can, open-top coffee cup, or open-top bottle.

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

- A \$50 fine per infringement payable by the Club.

Assistant Coaches must remain seated on the team bench during sets and have no right to intervene in the match. Should the **Coach** have to leave his/her team for any reason including sanction, but excluding entering the court as a player, an **Assistant Coach** may assume the **Coach's** functions for the duration of the absence.

10 UNIFORMS

Uniforms in approved **Club** colours and in accordance with **FIVB Rules of the Game** shall be worn by all players including Liberos 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. Any changes to current **Club** uniforms (or completely

new designs) must be submitted to **VWA** Indoor Coordinator indoor@volleyballwa.com.au 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 and playing pants. The VWA Referee Committee will then assist with the approval process.

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 Muslim head scarf.
- 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 Headscarves can be tied but are not to be fastened with any pins or sharp objects. Colours of headscarves or other garments must resemble the predominant colour of the team uniform or be of a neutral colour. Black, white, brown, and beige all constitute a neutral colour.

The **WAVL** Chief Referee will have the final decision in any disputes relating to uniform.

10.1 State League and State League Reserves Uniform

In accordance with the **FIVB** Rules of the game, numbers must be between 1 and 99, and playing uniforms must be worn from the hitting warm up onwards. Tape is not permitted on uniforms for numbers, and Libero players are not permitted to wear their uniform inside out.

All players, athletes and team officials on the bench must be listed on the scoresheets and in their **Club** playing / team uniform, polo / tracksuit, or Business attire (coaches).

Development Players coming from a **WAVL Division** may be granted a one-time exemption, provided their uniform meets the **Divisions Uniform** requirements and is the same style.

10.2 Divisions Uniform

In divisions, all players may wear a combination of VWA approved **Club** pants of different lengths, but they must all be the same colour, including the libero. VWA State Team pants are not approved pants for any **Club**.

Tape is not permitted on uniforms, and Libero players are not permitted to wear their uniform inside out, and playing uniforms must be worn from the hitting warm up onwards.

All players, athletes and team officials on the bench must be listed on the scoresheet and in their **Club** playing / team uniform, polo / tracksuit or Business attire (coaches).

10.3 School Teams

School teams will be allowed to play **WAVL** 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 and has numbers clearly visible on both the front and back.

10.4 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 First 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 regular substitution (exceptional substitutions are not allowed for this purpose).

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 the **WAVL** Chief Referee.

11 SPONSORSHIP – PLAYING UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

All information regarding the approval of **Club** sponsors is as per the **VWA Clubs / Association Affiliation** Package.

For teams competing in the **WAVL** competition, sponsorship logos are permissible on the **WAVL** playing uniforms. VWA has decided to align its Sponsorship uniform requirement to the FIVB Rules and Regulation with one exception. Country Codes are not required on Uniforms, and this will be replaced by **Club** Logo. Please visit the FIVB Rules and Regulation for dimensions and contact VWA Indoor Coordinator should you need any clarification.

The logos must not obscure the player's number or the **Club** name or logo. The request to display a sponsorship logo on the player's uniforms during the **WAVL** season must be approved in writing by **VWA** prior to wearing a playing uniform with a sponsorship logo displayed.

12 SANCTIONS

Sanctions that are received by a player or coach are recorded and the consequence (to the individual) of receiving multiple sanctions in a 12-month period are noted below.

Sanction	Occurrence	Consequence
Warning (Yellow Card)	Any	Recorded but no action taken
Penalty (Red Card)	First	Recorded but no action taken
	Second	One round suspension
	Subsequent	One round suspension*
Expulsion	Any	Two round suspensions*
Disqualification	Any	Four round suspensions*

*Subject to review by the **WAVL Technical Committee**. The **WAVL Technical Committee** may reduce the duration of the suspension and reserves the right to write to the **VWA Board** to apply a greater sanction if deemed necessary.

Sanctions are cumulative to an individual regardless of the role undertaken when they were received (for instance player or coach) and will apply to both a **WAVL** round and a **WAVJL** round, unless otherwise stated by the **VWA Board**. If necessary, suspensions will be passed into the following **WAVL** season. Suspended individuals are not eligible to play to avoid a forfeit. In the case of rescheduled matches, the suspension will apply to the rescheduled match and its corresponding round. **VWA** will communicate a date to the **Club** and the individual for when they can return to volleyball.

13 DISPUTES, PROTESTS AND APPEALS

13.1 Disputes

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

13.2 Protests and Appeals

The following **WAVL** 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 – an appeal can be lodged regarding a rejected protest.

13.3 Procedure for lodging a WAVL protest during the game

All protests will be resolved 'on-the-spot' by the Chief Referee.

The procedure to lodge a protest is as follows:

- 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.
- The 1st Referee will suspend play and direct the team's protest to venue coordinator who will contact the Chief Referee.
- The result of the protest is final, and the teams must recommence the match immediately.
- If the protest pertains to a sanction (Section 12) and the sanction is deemed invalid, then this record will be removed.

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 Chief Referee, the team coach / captain that lodged the protest will be sanctioned with Rude Conduct in accordance with the FIVB sanction scale. Any decision made on the day by the Chief Referee is valid and a team / player in breach of a rule

should accept this decision and play on. Subsequent rejected protests in the same match by the same team will result in a **Disqualification** being awarded to the relevant team coach / captain.

13.4 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:

- The **Club** President must submit an appeal in writing (by email) to the **VWA** Competitions Manager (competitions@volleyballwa.com.au) by 5.00pm on the next working day following the **WAVL** Round.
- The appeal should note the following information:
 - Situation outlined in detail.
 - Chief Referee Chair's ruling.
 - The **Club's** interpretation of the rule.
- The **WAVL** Technical Committee will respond to the **Club's** letter within three business days to close the matter.

If the **Club** President wishes to protest the decision of the **WAVL** Technical Committee the following procedure applies:

- The **Club** President applies by written submission to the **VWA** Chief Executive Officer.
- The written submission must be within 24 hours of the decision reached by the **WAVL** 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**.)
- If applicable the **VWA** Chief Executive Officer will forward the protest information to the **VWA** Board of Management and / or consult any other person (s) that has the relevant expertise to ensure that an informed decision is made.
- The **VWA** Chief Executive Officers / **VWA** Board (if applicable) decision is final.

14 WAVL REVIEW

The WAVL Competition Rules and Regulations Handbook is to be reviewed annually by the **WAVL Review Committee**.

The **WAVL Review Committee** consists of the current **Club** President from each **WAVL Club** and can be completed electronically.

The role of the **WAVL Review Committee** is to:

- Review the Competitions Rules and Regulation Handbook and provide relevant advice to the **VWA** Indoor Coordinator and Competitions Manager.

- Review the license criteria for **Clubs** participating in State League, State League Reserves and Divisions and provide relevant feedback to the VWA Board.

The Competition Rules and Regulations Handbook will be reviewed annually with a mid-season checkpoint for minor operational matters. This will allow **VWA** to assess and review the current season.

For the end of season review, the **WAVL Review Committee** will review the following documents and provide advice and / or feedback regarding the:

- Competitions Rules and Regulations
- **State League** and State League Reserves License Criteria
- Survey results from Players/Club Administrators/Parents (As directed by the **WAVL Review Committee**)
- Report from **VWA WAVL Technical Committee**.

Any feedback outside of the review cycle should be communicated to **Club** presidents and passed on to the **WAVL Club** Representative.

15 FIVB INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER PROCESS

The **FIVB** requires that all **State League** players whose Federation of Origin is not Australia have an **FIVB** International Transfer Certificate (ITC). Failure to do required transfers can result in **Club** fines of up to 40,000CHF and athletes being banned from the sport. **VWA** will support **Clubs** with the ITC process. All players whose Federation of Origin is not Australia must complete a WAVL Eligibility Declaration form at least one month before the first round so they can be cleared to play.

Any **State League** team that lists an international athlete on their playing roster without a valid ITC document will receive an **Administrative Forfeit**.

16 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 **WAVL / WAVJL** Competitions and Regulations Handbook and associated documentation can be decided by the **VWA** Chief Executive Officer and / or the **VWA** Board of Management as required.