

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA

15 YEARS AND UNDER VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Rules and Guidelines

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1. COMPETITION RULES

- 1.1. The Championships shall be played under the Official Rules of Volleyball as issued by the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) or adopted by the Australian Volleyball Federation except where herein stated.
- 1.2. The School Sport Australia Volleyball Championships shall be contested annually by teams representing the affiliated members of School Sport Australia.
- 1.3. Eligibility to compete in the Championships is as laid down by School Sport Australia By-Laws and Policies.
- 1.4. Team Nomination
 - 1.4.1. Each State/Territory may enter one team of girls that shall be a maximum of twelve (12) players and one team of boys that shall be a maximum of twelve (12) players subject to the stipulation of the Host State in view of the availability of billets. States can nominate up to 4 officials who will be sanctioned to be on bench for that team.
 - 1.4.2. Competing States/Territories shall be informed of the team's size for forthcoming Championships by the Host State Secretary six (6) months prior to the date of the Championships.
- 1.5. Age Limits
 - 1.5.1. The age shall be defined as Under 16 years on the 31 December of the year of competition.
- 1.6. Sport Participation Policy
 - 1.6.1. Age Dispensation may be granted to a State or Territory for these Championships as allowed through the School Sport Australia Sport Participation Policy.
- 1.7. Attendance
 - 1.7.1. All students who participate in the Championships must remain in the host state for the duration of the Championships and be bound by all Championship arrangements.

2. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- 2.1. Championship Dates, Duration and Roster
 - 2.1.1. The Championships shall be played on as many consecutive days as necessary using at least two (2) playing courts.
 - 2.1.2. Duration of competition shall be six (6) days.
 - 2.1.3. The date of the Championships shall occur during term three (3) of the school year.
 - 2.1.4. The host State / Territory shall provide, where possible, a training session in the competition venue on the day prior to the commencement of the Championships.
 - 2.1.5. The host State / Territory shall roster, where possible, at least one morning or afternoon for coach/referee seminars, educational excursion or conferences. This must not clash with any scheduled Championship match.
- 2.2. The twelve substitute rule shall be employed.

ie, 3 entries per player, 12 substitutes per set, multiple players allowed in one position.

2.3. The Libero

2.3.1. The libero rule shall allow 'libero per set'.

2.3.2. Replacement of an injured libero

2.3.2.1. With the prior approval of the first referee, the libero player can be replaced by any player who is not on the court at the moment of injury. The injured libero may not re-enter to play for the remainder of the match, as either an ordinary or libero player.

2.3.2.2. The player designated to replace an injured libero must remain the libero player for the duration of the set.

2.4. The minimum on court warm up time shall be twenty (20) minutes.

During warm up the players from both teams will be announced. Immediately prior to the start of each match the starting six players plus libero will be introduced onto the court.

2.5. Points shall be awarded in each match as follows:

Win - 3 Loss - 1 Forfeit – 0

2.5.1. After the conclusion of the round matches, where two or more teams are equal on competition points, the ladder shall decide by assessing sets.

$$\frac{\text{Sets Won}}{\text{Total Sets Played}} \times 100$$

2.5.2. If two teams are still drawn then percentage of points won and lost will decide the placings.

2.6. International score sheets to be used for all matches. Copies of the score sheets to be made available immediately after matches.

2.7. Match results to be posted daily.

2.8. Draw and Timetable

2.8.1. The most practical arrangement is to have the girls' and boys' sections played on separate courts.

2.8.2. Early and late games to be distributed evenly across all competing teams. Teams should play on each day of the championships.

2.8.3. Matches should not be blocked as one gender at a time. Rather, there should be a mix of boys and girls matches so that, where possible, teams from the same state are able to support each other.

2.8.4. Where possible, the draw should cater for:

2.8.4.1. Teams from the same state should not play in the same time slot;

2.8.4.2. All matches of one gender should not be played in the same time slot.

2.8.4.3. The Territory Shields should preferably be played no earlier than day three of the Championships.

This is to be permanently incorporated into the draw.

2.8.4.4. If possible, a night game may be included in the draw. The National Secretary to liaise with the host state regarding the mechanics of the draw.

2.8.5. Minimum time allowance for each match shall be 90 minutes. Warm up time and procedure shall be ratified at the Opening Conference.

2.8.6. All participating teams shall be entitled to a rest period of at least 90 minutes between matches.

The 90 minutes to be from the end of the previous match to the commencement of the team's next match.

2.8.7. Teams will not be obliged to play any more than two matches on any one day.

2.8.8. The Host State / Territory shall conduct a draw for the Championships using the following draw format and by considering the rules outlined in 2.8.12, 2.8.13 and 2.8.14. Once the draw has been completed it will be approved by the National Secretary prior to publication.

2.8.9. Host State / Territory has the flexibility to schedule host teams around the Opening Ceremony.

2.8.10. Gold medal playoffs are to be rotated each year, i.e boys final game in one year, girls the final game the next year.

2.8.11. The draw shall be published to all States / Territories two (2) months prior to the Championships.

2.8.12. 7 and 8 team format:

A single round robin will be played with a final series. The final series at the conclusion of the round robin matches will be as follows:

FINAL	ROUND MATCHES	FINALS
1st v 2nd (match A)	Loser A v Winner B (match X)	Winner A v Winner X
3rd v 4th (match B)	Loser B v Winner C (match Y)	Loser X v Winner Y
5th v 6th (match C)	Loser C v Winner D (match Z)	Loser Y v Winner Z
7th v 8th (match D)	Loser Z v Loser D	

2.8.13. 6 and 4 team format:

A double round robin with a normal finals format i.e. 1st v 2nd for the gold playoff etc.

2.8.14. 5 team format:

A double round robin with semi-finals. The 1st team advancing to the grand final to play the winner of 2nd v 3rd semi-final. The loser to play the winner of 4th v 5th match for bronze.

3. FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

3.1. The Championship venue shall comply with the dimensions as set out in the National Secretary Organisation Manual. The National Secretary is to be advised by host State / Territory of venue dimensions.

3.1.1. If a player in the action of playing the ball touches an object outside of the free zone before, during or after playing the ball, the ball will be deemed out. A diagram will be drawn for each venue to clarify the free zone.

3.2. The net heights shall be in accordance with the current standards set by the AVF, that is:

Girls: 2.15m

Boys: 2.35m

3.3. All match balls shall be provided by the Host Association, on advice from the National Secretary. Currently six match balls are supplied by Volleyball Australia.

4. GAME OFFICIALS

4.1. Chief Referee - The Chief Referee shall be appointed by the AVF where possible.

4.2. Referees - The Host association shall invite or request visiting referees at least two (2) months prior to the Championships.

4.3. Student Referees - Each participating team shall include, where possible, a suitably qualified student referee in addition to its registered players.

4.3.1. The best-performed student referee will be offered the appropriate final regardless of their state affiliation and the teams participating in the final.

4.3.2. The award of Student Referee of the Championships shall be determined on the following criteria:

4.3.2.1. Technical Knowledge: Knowledge of and application of the rules of the game:

Service, Player positions

Ball contact/control

Play at net

Appearance & personality

Game Management

Organisation

4.3.2.2. Ability to work as part of a team of referees and tournament officials.

4.3.2.3. Willingness to learn

4.3.2.4. Improvement throughout the tournament.

4.3.3. The Student Referee of the Championship award shall be confirmed at the Post-event meeting

- 4.3.4. That the Student Referee will receive a trophy and the name to be added to the perpetual trophy and returned at the Opening Ceremony.
- 4.4. A technical meeting shall be held immediately prior to the Championship beginning to discuss rules and interpretations. All referees should be present at this meeting.
- 4.5. The Host State / Territory shall endeavour to provide the following personnel for officiating duties in all round matches:
- 4.5.1. experienced scorers
- 4.5.2. competent linespeople - senior students properly attired and experienced in the game of volleyball should be used.
- 4.5.3. scoreboard operators
- 4.5.4. Players may be rostered to do scoring and linesperson duties during the preliminary rounds of the tournament. Suitably experienced students should be used during the finals series if available otherwise this shall be undertaken by the referees panel attending the Championships.
- Where possible, players should not be rostered on a match immediately preceding a match in which they are playing.
- 4.5.5. any other duty personnel deemed necessary
- 4.6. The referees should be recognised at the opening and closing ceremonies.
- 4.7. Special Referees Committee
- 4.7.1. The Chief Referee for each Championship shall chair a committee of two (2) persons, appointed by the Chief Referee.
- 4.7.2. The Special Referees Committee shall inspect courts and equipment to ensure compliance with proper standards and shall prepare rosters for referee for all matches.
- 4.8. Jury
- 4.8.1. The Jury shall be the highest disciplinary authority and shall be constituted only for the duration of the Championships. Its verdict shall be final during the Championships; however, appeals can be directed to the School Sport Australia Board.
- 4.8.2. The Jury shall consist of the National Secretary (Chairperson), Chief Referee and Championship Convener.
- 4.8.3. At least one (1) member of the Jury shall be present at each match.
- 4.8.4. The Jury shall deal with all complaints and protests on organisational and disciplinary matters as well as dealing with matters referred to by the Special Referees Committee for the Championships.
- 4.8.5. The Jury shall have the power to resolve complaints and protests and take disciplinary action against players for any infringements of the Codes of Conduct by AVF and School Sport Australia. The Jury shall, if it deems necessary, report any misconduct by Officials to their State/Territory sports association.

4.8.6. All protests arising from matches (coach only) shall be resolved on court, by one member of the jury, after consultation with match and team officials. Players shall be permitted to continue ball work whilst the protest is being resolved. An unsuccessful protest the team will be sanctioned with a red card with the consequent loss of a point.

4.8.7. Adopt the Australian Schools Cup rules for teams arriving late to games with consideration from the judiciary if prior contact has been made.

5. **ALL AUSTRALIAN TEAM** (formally the Honorary Australian Team)

5.1. Selection Committees for each boys' and girls' sections to consist of coaches from the competing States / Territories and chaired by the National Secretary and/or by his/her nominees.

5.2. The National Secretary shall schedule and chair the selection committee meetings and participate in discussion, but shall not vote on selections.

5.3. After day one (1) of competition, all State / Territory coaches may nominate to the chairperson, up to a maximum of six (6) players from their teams for selection consideration.

5.4. After day three (3) of competition State / Territory coaches may add and/or delete players from the selection list, provided that the total number nominated from that state/territory does not exceed six (6) players.

5.5. A selection meeting shall be held on the evening preceding the finals.

5.6. Where possible, selections are to be derived by consensus. If such a consensus cannot be achieved, a ballot shall be held to determine the remaining positions.

5.7. The selection of the All Australian Team will be limited to those players who are 15 years of age and under.

5.8. The Selection Committee shall name twelve (12) girls and twelve (12) boys with each being the All Australian Team. If the team is to tour, players are to be selected on the basis of a balanced playing unit. If not touring the twelve (12) best players from each section shall be selected and referred to as the All Australian Team

5.9. The composition of a touring or competing team shall be selected in accordance with the specified age requirement, and the coach shall outline the criteria for the composition of the team prior to the Championships.

5.10. When the All Australian Team is not touring or competing all players at the championship will be eligible for selection and will be selected in terms of their effectiveness in the following areas:

5.10.1. individual skills

5.10.2. team skills

5.10.3. coachability

5.10.4. ability to act as a role model to peers

5.10.5. players may be considered if they are a front or back court specialist, only when such players demonstrate exceptional skill and knowledge in this facet of the game.

5.11. An award shall be made to the best-performed student referee.

6. TROPHIES AND AWARDS

- 6.1. A perpetual "Territories Trophy" (between ACT and NT) for boys and girls shall be awarded to the winning Territory after their first inter-Territory game. These trophies are to be returned at the next Opening Ceremony.
- 6.2. All members of the All Australian Volleyball Teams will receive a School Sport Australia plaque supplied by the School Sport Australia office. The cost of the plaque needs to be included in the budget..
- 6.3. Engraving of all trophies and awards shall bear the following inscription:

'Volleyball' and 'Venue' and
the 'Year' of competition

7. LINKS BETWEEN SSA, AVF AND STATE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATIONS

- 7.1. The National Secretary is a member of the Events Commission for the Australian Volleyball Schools Cup.

8. MEETINGS

- 8.1. There will be selection meetings for the Australian Merit teams at the end of day 1 and day 3 of competition, plus a final selection meeting on the day preceding the last day of competition.
- 8.2. A Professional Development session for team officials should be scheduled during the Championships, if there is time within the schedule.

9. CEREMONIES

- 9.1. At the Opening Ceremony the captains of each state will be invited to provide a brief summary of their teams.

APPENDIX 1 – SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA AWARDS

SSA VOLLEYBALL LIFE MEMBERS

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Randell Robinson	QLD	1989
Dave Flatt	ACT	1990
Bill Glasson	VIC	1990
David Eldridge	SA	1993
Yvonne Davis	VIC	1994
Noel Drew	NSW	1996
Phil Muller	QLD	1997

SSA SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Carl Marshall	ACT	2000
John Tiver	SA	2000
Sue Greig	NSW	2001
Margaret Simpson	QLD	2002
Tim Wilson	QLD	2002
Tara Read	SA	2002
Wolfgang Woerner	NT	2002
Karin Moorehouse	VIC	2004
Stephen Doyle	WA	2006
Chris Lim	VIC	2006
Rohan Young	QLD	2007
Stuart Scott	SA	2008
Keiran Cranley	WA	2015
Janice Scott	SA	2016

APPENDIX 2 – FORMAT FOR 6 TEAM DRAW

The first round draw in a 6-team format shall be as follows:

One gender will be assigned 1 – 6 and the other gender 11 – 16.

The host state may choose the numbers for their teams and the remaining teams will be allocated by ballot.

The second round will be seeded and matches between the top seeds to be distributed evenly over the final round. The duty teams for the second round will be allocated to ensure an even number of duties. The National Secretary to liaise with the host state as to the final draw format.

DAY / TIME	CT 1	CT 2	CT 3
DAY 1			
9.00	1 v 6	13 v 14	2 v 5
10.30	3 v 4	11 v 16	
12.30	1 v 5	12 v 15	
14.00	6 v 4	16 v 14	
16.00	2 v 3	12 v 13	11 v 15
DAY 2			
9.00	11 v 14	6 v 2	15 v 13
10.30	16 v 12	1 v 4	
12.30	11 v 13	5 v 3	
14.00	14 v 12	4 v 2	
16.00	15 v 16	5 v 6	1 v 3
DAY 3			
9.00	3 v 6	1 v 2	4 v 5
10.30	11 v 12	14 v 12	13 v 16

APPENDIX 3 – SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA VOLLEYBALL MATCH PROTOCOL

Teams have a minimum of 20 minutes warm-up on court. If the previous match finishes early, this may be extended.

30 minutes before the game the scoresheet, line up sheets and match balls must be on the score bench. Referee checks net height, court conditions and equipment.

20 minutes before start time. Teams warm up with or without the ball - their choice. Spiking is not permitted until the toss is performed and the referee indicates the commencement of the spiking warm up. Captains and coaches are asked to sign the score sheet. If necessary, teams change ends according to the result of the toss.

14 minutes before start time. Referee calls captains for the toss. The winner of the toss may elect to serve, receive or choose an end. The loser of the toss may choose one of the other two options.

13 minutes before start time. Spiking warm up commences. The team that has the first serve spikes first, and has five minutes to use at their discretion. The other team then has the net and court for five minutes. Coaches may agree to spike together, in which case the combined time is 10 minutes. In such cases the timing will be 5 minutes spiking from position 4, 3 minutes from position 2, and 2 minutes serving. If there is no agreement to spike together, the default is 5 minutes separate.

3 minutes from start time. All warm up ceases and teams are cleared from the court. Referees check the net, antennae and balls, and that scorers are ready, scoresheets signed, line-up sheets in, rotations filled out etc.

2 minutes from start time. Teams line up on the baselines to come forward, shake hands and exchange gifts. (the gift exchange is usually the first round only)

1 minute from start time. Staring 6 and liberos are introduced onto the court.

2nd referee checks rotations. The liberos may then enter the court.

Start time. Referee whistles for first serve.

At the end of each set, players leave the court and proceed anti-clockwise to their bench at the other end, moving past the baseline-sideline corner of position 1 then crossing outside the posts. The bench players just cross over in front of the score bench.

At the end of the match all players shake hands at the net, both captains to check the scoresheet carefully, and then sign.

After the match, the completed scoresheet and match ball to be returned to the tournament office.