

## **Amendments to the NVL Regulations for the 2023-24 season**

Volleyball England has made some further amendments to the NVL Regulations for the 2023-24 season in addition to those already published. The latest amendments are highlighted in Yellow. These latest amendments include changes to the NVL Transfer process, Playing Up (back to counting sets), and when the requirement to have Post Padding will come into effect.

The 2023-24 Regulations have changed as a result of a number of different key factors;

- i. NVL Regulations – Team Consultation
- ii. Recommendations from our Officials Transformation strategic planning
- iii. Super League developments
- iv. The implementation of our new digital platform the new VolleyZone, and
- v. Other changes including fee increases

### **NVL Teams were consulted on 5 proposed changes to the NVL Regulations;**

Change 1: Change the points system for Divisions 1-3 to the same as the Super League - 55% of respondents were in favour of the change. This change has now been reflected into the Regulations for 2023-24.

Change 2: To remove the requirement for home teams to provide hospitality after matches - 85% of respondents were in favour of the change. This change has now been reflected into the Regulations for 2023-24.

Change 3: An increased notice period for home teams to appoint officials if the officials group appointment committee are unable to do so - 82% of respondents were in favour of the change. This change has now been reflected into the Regulations for 2023-24.

Change 4: Increase the permitted shirt numbers to 1-99 - 58% of respondents were against this change. This change has not been made.

Change 5: Amalgam NVL teams are permitted in the Knockout Cup and Shield - 67% of respondents were in favour of this change. This change has now been reflected into the Regulations for 2023-24.

### **Recommendations from our Officials Transformation strategic planning;**

You can read more on the Officials Transformation work and the recommendations made [here](#). The recommendations come in the form of 10 Proposals, the first of which has resulted in a change to the NVL Regulations;

Proposal #1: Increase all NVL referee match fees by £10 per person, per match.

Objective: to make officiating a more attractive and rewarding proposition AND to better recognise the contribution that officials make to the sport.

The rationale: Match fees have not increased for six years and are not a fair reflection of the time and effort referees put into each match (and the expertise they bring). Encouraging younger officials into the sport is also challenging when match fees compare poorly to other sports.

Points for the project team to consider were whether £10 is the most appropriate amount; the rate at which referee fees for VE-hosted events would also need to increase; the

affordability of this from a VE perspective; and what possible measures (if any) could be put in place for clubs or players to offset the increased cost.

The removal of the requirement for home teams to provide hospitality after matches was felt to be a key way of offsetting the additional costs within the Regulations.

### **Super League developments;**

The introduction of a central venue opening weekend is seen as a great way to launch the new season, should provide a great playing experience, and opportunity for Media engagement, not to mention being a good way to launch the introduction of Hudl.

The re-introduction of Playoffs, back by popular demand is seen as the best way to end the top tier season. The opportunity for the top teams to face off in a winner takes all final weekend will be a fantastic edition to the Super League. The Clubs also have the opportunity to host, meaning that the Super League Playoffs could be coming to your home venue.

[The introduction of performance analysis platform Hudl](#), will enable Super League teams to analyse, track and share video and data to elevate their understanding of performance and to push the standard of the Super League to new levels.

### **The implementation of our new digital platform the new VolleyZone**

The new VolleyZone platform provided by SportLoMo will provide Volleyball England with a highly configurable and integrated sports management software, bringing together previously fragmented membership, ~~competitions~~competitions, and club management systems. As well as time efficiencies that are possible thanks to this integrated system, the user experience will improve, amongst other benefits.

The new VolleyZone will enable more functionality for NVL Teams, in a more streamlined way than its predecessor. The new VolleyZone will not only manage registrations, team entries, team rosters, and matchday team sheets but also fixtures and referee appointments and enable Volleyball England to manage all of these functions in the same platform.

If the development of the new VolleyZone requires Volleyball England to update the NVL Regulations further, we will issue an update, as required.

### **Other Changes;**

Volleyball England has increased [Club affiliation and individual registrations by 10%](#). Competition Entry fees have increase at a lower rate of 5%, we have been able to keep this rate lower due to the increase in entries we have seen. National Transfer fees have been maintained at the same rate. VolleyZone will charge a service provider fee of 3.2% + 0.50p, we expect VolleyZone to provide many more opportunities for users in the long-term and expand what can be achieved, with regular, ongoing developments introduced as part of that and while members will have to pay that little bit more, we expect that, as time goes on, they will benefit from the service they are given in return.

There have been a number of other changes implemented in the Regulations.

The FIVB update to the Federation of Origin definition made in 2022 has been updated into the NVL Regulations.

Under the Rules of the Game Teams are required to provide Post Padding in FIVB, World and Official Competitions. Having discussed the requirement with the Super League Teams and consulted with our insurers, we have amended the Regulations to include the requirement to provide Post Padding to ensure that the right safety standards for the Sport are met. The requirement for Post Padding will be rolled out across all NVL Divisions over the next few seasons as detailed in Section N. Minimum Operating Standards.

The NVL Division Structure has been modified in line with the growth in NVL teams across the past two seasons. We have moved to 3 conferences in Division 2, which opens up more opportunities to gain promotion. We have also capped the number of teams in any one division to 10, this combined with the 3 conferences in Division 2 is aimed at reducing travel.

The requirement for Teams in the Super League (Recommended for Division 1 Teams) to produce Match Programmes has been removed, as we would prefer the Super League Teams focus their efforts on the Hudl requirements and having a presence online with Match Reports via social media.

We have also updated the various dates for this season, links, terminology, and references where required.

**An opportunity to remind you all of the following;**

We cannot stress enough the importance of the Team Secretary email address being correct at all times. This is the email address that VE use to communicate all important information. If your Team Secretary changes, make sure this is updated in VolleyZone immediately.

We have set clear standards that are required for photos on VolleyZone. These photos are used to identify players at the start of a match and too many of these photos make this job difficult and time consuming.

Teams are responsible for tracking playing up and making sure that playing up is monitored. We have introduced the requirement to ~~note this on the team sheet~~ inform the scorer, so this can be properly recorded on the scoresheet to prevent inadvertent playing of ineligible players and the subsequent defaulting of matches.

## Introduction to the Regulations

For [Under 14's](#), Under 15's, Under 16's, Under 18's, Inter Regional, Student Cup and Sitting indoor volleyball competitions, please refer to the Volleyball England website for current regulations.

### Section A. Administrative Matters.

**Regulation A 3.** Before competing in any Volleyball England competition, each team must;

- ii. Have its coach, players and authorised bench personnel appropriately registered with Volleyball England [on VolleyZone](#).

*The names of the qualifications in the Volleyball England Coaching Pathway have been updated, Level 1 is now the Assistant Coach Award, Level 2 is now the Coach Award. Qualifications gained before this name change maintain their original name, and are equivalent to the new awards, where applicable.*

- iv. Have a registered coach (minimum [Level 2 Coach Award or equivalent](#)) committed to supporting that Team. To be considered compliant with the rule, a team must have a coach registered as a learner on a [Level 2 Coach Award](#) coaching course, appearing on their team's Volleyball England page.

**Regulation A 4.** Conditions of Entry to the National K.O. Cup

- iii. [NVL clubs can enter "Amalgam" teams. If a club enters "Amalgam" team\(s\), they will be recognised in the K.O. Cup as the club's highest-level team\(s\). NVL players may not play for another NVL team in any Cup competition other than the one they are registered for.](#) Refer to Section J Regulation 1 Volleyball England K.O. Cup for further clarification.
- iii iv. NVL players may not play for another NVL ~~Team~~ [Club](#) in any Cup competition other than the one they are registered for.
- ~~iv.~~ v. NVL teams may contain non-NVL registered players if they can demonstrate an affinity with the NVL team they represent.

**Regulation A 5.** Conditions for a New Entrant into the National Volleyball League will normally include:

- v. The Regional / Area Association or Club should provide name(s) and letter(s) of support from evidence of referee development such that a minimum of one registered referee(s), [minimum Grade 3R](#), who are from there, not currently officiating in the National League, but are prepared to do so.

*The names of the qualifications in the Volleyball England Coaching Pathway have been updated, Level 1 is now the Assistant Coach Award, Level 2 is now the Coach Award. Qualifications gained before this name change maintain their original name, and are equivalent to the new awards, where applicable.*

- vii. A Team must have a registered coach (minimum [Level 2 Coach Award or equivalent](#)) committed to supporting the NVL team.

**Regulation A 9.** Club Structure

- vii. All NVL correspondence will be forwarded to the relevant [Club and Team Secretaries](#) named in VolleyZone. Any Club specific matters will be addressed to the Club Secretary / Chairperson, as detailed on VolleyZone.

## Section B. Organisation of Fixtures

### Regulation B 1. Pre-playing Season Fixture Arrangement

Teams will be provided with the draft fixtures well in advance. Volleyball England reserves the right to host, or have hosted, any fixtures centrally, and these will be advised at the time of the draft fixture publication. ~~At that time~~ On receipt of the draft fixtures, teams may enter mutual discussions and request agreed amendments to the proposed fixtures. Any such proposals must be formally agreed in writing by both teams and confirming the new date, time, and venue, in line with the NVL Timeline for the season. No fixture that is scheduled outside of those permitted will be accepted by VE unless accompanied ~~by explicit agreement in writing of that time~~ by the formal agreement of the opposition. Any such changes will need to be approved by the Competitions Working Group, who shall seek to ensure that teams do not gain a competitive advantage by delaying matches, delaying the start or conclusion of the playing season, or a team playing significantly more, or less, matches than other teams in the Division by key dates.

### Regulation B 2. During the Playing Season

- ix. Normally NVL fixtures cannot be played after the end of playing season date of **7th April 2024**. Any such requests will be under truly exceptional circumstances and will be decided by the competitions working group.

## Section C. Registration

### Regulation C 1. Players

- i. All teams should register a minimum of 8 players by the 1st September before the start of the playing season. A valid registration requires a player to register via VolleyZone for the appropriate NVL Player Registration. The player must also be aligned to their NVL ~~Team by completing the join team process~~ Club, and the Club's specific Team Roster on VolleyZone.
- iii. Clubs with more than one team may delay allocating their players to a specific Team Roster on VolleyZone until a week before their Club's first match. However, players must all be registered by 1st September. It is the club's responsibility to ensure that the players are correctly registered on the Club's specific Team Roster for the team that they will play for in the NVL on VolleyZone before they play. ~~Using the team leave / join requests players and clubs can move players between their NVL teams.~~
- vii. Teams can have up to 12 players and additionally up to 2 Liberos listed on their Team Sheet (there is no limit to the number of players registered on the Club's specific Team Roster on VolleyZone).
- ix. For the Super League, Player photos must be of the players wearing the same kit as the kit worn on the opening weekend. Photos must be high quality and zoomed in to show head, ~~shoulders~~shoulders, and team badge only, and must be produced on a white background.

### Regulation C 2. Technical Members of the team

*Regulation reordered to be more logical.*

- ii. All Bench Personnel (including Coaches) must register with Volleyball England in the Club's specific Team Roster on VolleyZone for that team.
- iii. Only a registered Coach with Volleyball England will be able to undertake the role of **Head** Coach during a match.
- iv. Should a registered Coach with Volleyball England not be available at the match then the team captain shall assume the role **Coach**, in this scenario

- the team captain must be selected as a Team Official on the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone). Any other authorised Bench Personnel may act only as an Assistant Coach, with the associated restrictions and limitations of duties.
- v. Technical and professional personnel from one club are permitted to form the authorised Bench Personnel of another club, providing they are registered as authorised Bench Personnel for the team/club they are to assist on their specific Team Roster on VolleyZone, so that they can be selected into the matchday Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone), which must then be presented to the Scorer. Any Bench Personnel that is assisting at another club must have the written permission of their original club. To be able to assist another club, please email [volleyzone@volleyballengland.org](mailto:volleyzone@volleyballengland.org) with the details, so that a dual membership for the other club can be applied to your account in VolleyZone.
  - vi. Registered players who wish to assist another team/club as Bench Personnel are required to hold a Bench Personnel registration for the team(s) they will be assisting on their specific Team Roster in VolleyZone, so that they can be selected into the matchday Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone), and this must be presented to the Scorer. To be able to assist another club, please email [volleyzone@volleyballengland.org](mailto:volleyzone@volleyballengland.org) with the details, so that a dual membership for the other club can be applied to your account in VolleyZone.

### Regulation C 3. Transfers

- i. Subject to the provisions below, players may transfer between clubs prior to 1st March each playing season. Only in exceptional circumstances will a player be allowed to transfer more than once during the NVL/K.O. Cup playing season. The NVL competition season shall run from 1st September to 31st August each year. Players who are playing up and reach 11 sets, 4 Matches (i.e., appearances on a Team Sheet produced in VolleyZone), or more, in a match are deemed to be automatically transferred to the higher team. It is the responsibility of the club to keep account of the number of sets matches each player plays up. This will also apply if this occurs after 1st March and will be an exception to the transfer deadline. Players having reached the maximum number of sets matches should be moved from one Team Roster to the other by the club in VolleyZone.
- ii. Where a club has more than two teams playing in the NVL the player will be automatically deemed to have transferred to the team for which they have played up most for. Players having reached the maximum number of sets matches should be moved from one Team Roster to the other by the club in VolleyZone.
- iv. Unless under contract, a player is deemed to become a free agent if they have not played in the NVL in the preceding two competition seasons and have no documented indebtedness to a previous NVL Club. Teams are strongly advised to consult the available player registration information available from the [Volleyball England website](http://Volleyball England website) to confirm the status of a player.
- v. International Transfers;
  - (1) Any player that has previously held a National License been registered (the player has been registered to play in a Volleyball competition (in either

form) for a club, team, ~~school~~ school, or other volleyball entity) with another Volleyball Federation above the age of 14 before being registered with Volleyball England will require an International Transfer. International Transfers are bound by the Regulations set out by the FIVB. International Transfers ~~are initiated~~ can be initiated by the Volleyball England Hub or the Receiving Club.

(2) Any Team found to play anyone who does not have the 'approved' ITC International Transfer certificate (ITC) for that team will forfeit any match 3-0 (25-0, 25-0, 25-0) and if applicable will lose ~~their~~ match points gained from the match and may be fined in line with fines for forfeiting the fixture.

(4) All Divisions within the NVL are bound by the ITC FIVB International Transfer Regulations.

- viii. A club having 2 or more teams competing in the NVL shall be entitled to transfer player(s) between teams. Players transferred to the lower team within a club after the start of the competition season cannot use the playing up regulation. Transferring would be achieved by the club transferring the player from one Team Roster to another and paying the required Transfer fee (in VolleyZone).

## Section D. Preparation for Matches

**Regulation D 1.** The Home Team is responsible for:

- iii. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the opposition, start times for matches must be:
- (1) Single matches on Saturdays and Sundays
    - b. For Division 2, 3 or K.O. Cup / Shield between 11:30 & 16:30hrs
- v. Facilities  
*Numbers adjusted as required*  
~~(9) Sanctions box — 1m x1m with seat on the scorer's side of the court, outside of the free zone and beyond the end line.~~
- vi. Equipment  
(5) Post Pads – correctly applied to posts (refer to Section N – Minimum Operating Standards).  
*Subsequent numbers adjusted as required.*  
(9) Scoresheet – Volleyball England approved scoresheet ~~in triplicate.~~
- viii. Confirming in writing to the Secretary of the visiting team, the match Referees, the Volleyball England HubHub, and the Divisional Lead at least 14 days, and not more than 21 days (according to the email delivery receipt) prior to the date of the match, in the same email  
*The requirement to provide Post Match Refreshments has been removed in full.*  
~~(7) The availability of post match hospitality~~  
*Subsequent numbers adjusted as required.*

**Regulation D 3.** Expenses for Match Officials:

Match Officials Expenses have been updated in line with the

Per match	Super League	<del>£20</del> £30
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	Div 1	£17 £27
	Div 2	£17 £27
	Div 3	£15 £25
Matches 1 & 3 of a triangular	Div 2	£40 £60
Matches 1 & 3 of a triangular	Div 3	£36 £56
Cup	Rounds	£17 £27
	Semis	£20 £30
All Competitions Finals (except where Tournament fees apply)	Finals	£25 £35
Volleyball England Tournament	Day Rate	£50

#### Regulation D 4. Referees

- vii. Where the NVL appointments Sub-Committee of the Officials Group has not appointed Referees for the match, the home team is responsible for appointing them, and should start this process after the playing season's fixtures and Referee appointments have been published. The Officials Group Appointment committee will continue to actively try and appoint Referees up to ~~3~~ 4 weeks before the fixture is played; after ~~that~~~~that~~, the Home Team is solely responsible for sourcing Officials, except in cases where the match is only confirmed within that ~~3~~ 4-week window (e.g., re-arrangements or Cup and Shield Fixtures). Where a Team appoints its own Referee, it must notify the NVL Officials Group Member that the appointment has been made. **The Referee must sign up for a VolleyZone account as a non-panel Referee to enable them to be assigned to the match. They must then undertake the responsibilities assigned to a Referee.** If the visiting team objects to the Referee appointments made by the home team, then this should be referred to the NVL Officials Group Member.
- ix. Details of Referee appointments are available from <http://www.whostheref.com/> (~~WTR~~) VolleyZone. Club / Team Secretaries must use the system when sending out appointment confirmations. Club / Team Secretaries are also responsible for ensuring that the details held on ~~WTR (and the VE website)~~ VolleyZone are correct and inform the NVL Officials Group Member or Volleyball England Hub as appropriate of any inaccuracies.
- xii. If a home team has not been able to source two registered match officials, then they should notify their opponents, Divisional Lead and NVL Officials Group Member. Whilst it is always preferable to have registered officials it is recognised that there is insufficient referee availability on occasions. The home team should look to source a qualified referee to fulfil the fixture with someone who is not on the NVL Panel this competition season but may be officiating regularly in local leagues. Failing that the home team should source the most competent, ~~experienced~~~~experienced~~, and suitable person e.g., player or coach, to act as second official, again advising opposition and Divisional Lead. **The Referee must sign up for a VolleyZone account as a non-panel Referee to enable them to be assigned to the match. They must then undertake the responsibilities assigned to a Referee.**

Note. Referees who hold referee qualifications from other countries may become 'Volleyball England recognised' after applying to the Officials Working Group Lead. [For Overseas equivalency enquiries, please follow the information on the Volleyball England website.](#)

#### **Regulation D 5. Cup Fixtures**

- iii. If a home team has not been able to source two registered match officials, then they should notify their opponents, Divisional Lead and NVL Officials Group Member. Whilst it is always preferable to have registered officials it is recognised that there is insufficient referee availability on occasions. The home team should look to source a qualified referee to fulfil the fixture, someone who is not on the NVL Panel this competition season but may be officiating regularly in local leagues. Failing that the home team should source the most competent, ~~experienced~~experienced, and suitable person e.g., player or coach, to act as second official. Again, advising opposition and relevant Competitions Lead. [The Referee must sign up for a VolleyZone account as a non-panel Referee to enable them to be assigned to the match. They must then undertake the responsibilities assigned to a Referee.](#)

### **Section E. Arrangements at Matches**

#### **Regulation E 1. Regulations of play**

- ~~ii. Super League teams are encouraged to produce programmes for all home matches.~~
- ~~iii. Trans Gender For details refer to Volleyball England's Policy.~~  
*The Transgender Policy link has been moved to Regulation E 6. Players. Subsequent numbers adjusted as required.*

#### **Regulation E 3. The Schedule**

- i. The times listed on the Volleyball England website specify ~~the start of the official warm-up period, and~~ the match start time. The official warm-up period shall be 30 minutes before the match start time. The scoresheet shall record the actual start time of the match i.e., the first service.

#### **Regulation E 4. Arrival of teams**

- iii. Where a team is delayed by factors that are wholly out of a team's control (e.g., public transport breakdown on the day) and can be backed up by professional and independent reports of confirmation (e.g., Public transport company, Police, Motoring organisation, [MET Office](#)) indicating driving conditions and advice, this can be considered by the Divisional Lead as an extenuating circumstance.

#### **Regulation E 6. The Players**

- i. Only players who are correctly registered with Volleyball England via VolleyZone may play in competitions.  
[Guidance on gender eligibility in Volleyball England competitions can be found in Volleyball England's Transgender Policy.](#)

- iii. Teams may register players on the day of the game via VolleyZone, providing that NVL Transfer and International Transfer regulations are adhered to. Players must be added to the Club's specific Team Roster for that team (or to another NVL Team within the Club, if Playing up) to be available to be selected on a Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone).
- iv. NVL Player and Bench Personnel registration details (~~as shown on the Volleyball England website~~) accompanied by a Volleyball England as confirmed in the matchday NVL Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone) and ~~Bench personnel registration details~~ are to be presented to the Scorer at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the match. Referees must check identity and validity of Player and Bench Personnel registration details and note all irregularities on the scoresheet. A new Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone) must be presented for every match.
- vii. Playing Up
  - (1) A club, having two or more teams competing in the NVL, once having nominated players to its Team Rosters identifying which team ~~the team to which~~ each player belongs, shall be entitled to play a lower team player in that club's higher team for up to (and including) 11 sets 4 matches during the current competition season (i.e. an appearance in that set whether for 1 point or the whole set and if a Libero player, whether they enter the court or not on a Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone) shall count as 1 match) without the necessity of transfer. It is the Club's responsibility to notify both Referees and Scorer before the start of the match as to which players are involved. If a player is found to have played for the lower team after automatically being transferred up passing the 11-set 4-match threshold, then that player will be considered an unlawful ineligible player and the team will forfeit the game. During the current competition season, any player playing up who reaches 11 sets 4 matches, or more, during a match will automatically be deemed to be transferred to the higher team. This will also apply to matches after 1st March.
  - (2) There is no restriction on the number of sets matches a junior player may play up (A player is deemed a junior if they are under the age of 18 on September 1st of the current competition season).
  - (3) Note: 'Playing up' does not constitute a transfer, until 11 sets 4 matches are reached. Cup tie provisions apply in all K.O. Cups.
  - (4) A club having more than one team in the same division cannot use the playing up regulation. To change teams will require an office National transfer. This transfer will require the Club to move the player from on Team Roster to another and for the National Transfer Fee to be paid.
  - (5) When a player is automatically deemed to be transferred by the playing up regulation, they may no longer play up again for the remainder of the competition season.
  - (6) Teams must record on their matchday Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone) inform the Referees and Scorer of both the fact a player is playing up and the number of sets matches that have already been played up (unless a junior).
  - (7) The Scorers must record the playing up details on the Scoresheet.

(8) The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee must record the playing up details in VolleyZone following the match.

#### **Regulation E 7. Other team Officials**

- i. At all Volleyball England matches, a team shall nominate a Coach for the match. This can be either a Coach, who must be registered with Volleyball England as a Coach, or a playing member (of that team). They must be added to the Club's specific Team Roster, and then selected as a Team Official on the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone). Their name and registration number shall appear legibly on the scoresheet. Only a registered Coach with Volleyball England shall be recorded as Coach on the scoresheet and must present their Bench Personnel details.
- ii. In the absence of a registered Coach then the Team Captain shall assume the role. In this instance, the Team Captain must be added as a Team Official on the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone). Any other authorised Bench Personnel will only be able to act as Assistant Coach, with the associated restrictions and limitations.
- iii. A Coach from another team who wishes to act as Coach for another team must be as registered as a Bench Personnel for that team by being added to that Club's specific Team Roster, and then be selected as a Team Official on the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone). To be able to assist another club, please email [volleyzone@volleyballengland.org](mailto:volleyzone@volleyballengland.org) with the details, so that a dual membership for the other club can be applied to your account in VolleyZone.
- iv. Only team players and authorised Bench Personnel who are presented on the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone) may sit on the team bench during the match.
- vi. The nominated Coach must produce their coach registration details at all matches and sign the team list.

#### **Regulation E 8. Match Officials**

- iv. The scorer must be available 30 minutes prior to the match start time and complete the whole match. The team lists on the scoresheet must be fully completed by the time the captains are called for the toss (at least 16 minutes before first service time). The scorer must complete the scoresheet before it is presented to officials for signature at the end of the match.

#### **~~Regulation E 10. Post Match Refreshments (NVL and Cup/Shield)~~**

~~The requirement to provide Post Match Refreshments has been removed in full.~~

#### ~~Regulation E.10 Post Match Refreshments (NVL and Cup/Shield)~~

~~Post-match hospitality is expected at all NVL matches including the Cup and Shield, unless agreed otherwise between the teams and officials. If post match hospitality is not provided where desired, a fine of £100 will be levied on the host team. It is the responsibility of the Away team to inform Home teams of any allergies and dietary requirements etc, and if the Home team cannot meet these then they should advise them in the Match Confirmation.~~

~~An example of what Competitions Working group would consider refreshments~~

- ~~1. Choice of drinks~~
- ~~2. Choice of sandwich including vegetarian option~~
- ~~3. Choice of crisps~~
- ~~4. Choice of fruit~~
- ~~5. Choice of cake/sweet treat~~

## **Section F. After the Match**

### **Regulation F 1. Scoresheet and Match Day protocol**

*The regulation has been largely rewritten.*

The 1st Referee will be required to;

- i. Notify by email the Volleyball England Hub via [competitions@volleyballengland.org](mailto:competitions@volleyballengland.org), Result Co-ordinator via [ve.resultsservice@btinternet.com](mailto:ve.resultsservice@btinternet.com), the Referee Co-ordinator and the Divisional / Cup Lead if the match did not take place or that the match was unfinished.
- ii. Take a photo of the scoresheet and upload it through the VolleyZone (SportLoMo) Game Official App, by 10pm.
- iii. Submit the match scores (including set scores), and provide information on sanctions, playing up and MVPs, by 10pm.

The home team will be required to;

- i. Keep the hard copy of the scoresheet until the start of the following competition season in case of any queries.

If the appointed match official does not turn up on the day, then the photo of the scoresheet should be emailed to Volleyball England Hub via [competitions@volleyballengland.org](mailto:competitions@volleyballengland.org), Result Co-ordinator via [ve.resultsservice@btinternet.com](mailto:ve.resultsservice@btinternet.com).

If there are any discrepancies with the results, please contact [competitions@volleyballengland.org](mailto:competitions@volleyballengland.org).

## **Section G. Penalties, Protests and Appeals**

### **Regulation G 1. Penalties**

- iii. In the Super League Divisions, breaches of safety conditions where the referee allows the game to take place will have a maximum fine of £500. In Divisions 1, 2 and 3, breaches of safety conditions where the referee allows the game to take place will have a maximum fine of £100.
- iv. In the Super League Divisions, breaches that bring the game into disrepute will have a minimum fine of £250. In Divisions 1, 2 and 3, breaches that bring the game into disrepute will have a minimum fine of £50.

- v. In the Super League Divisions, breaches which interfere with the running of the event will have a maximum fine of £250.  
In Divisions 1, 2 and 3, breaches which interfere with the running of the event will have a maximum fine of £50.
- vi. In the Super League Divisions, administrative failures will incur a fine of £100 for each offence.  
In Divisions 1, 2 and 3, administrative failures will incur a fine of £20 for each offence.  
Administrative fines will be notified by the Volleyball England Hub.

## Section H. Misconduct

### Regulation H 5. Illegal Approaches

- vi. If a player approaches a club seeking transfer, without a ~~player release certificate~~ having requested to leave their club, the club which the player seeks to join must notify the existing club of the player concerned in writing within 7 days. An infringement of this regulation would be referred to the Disciplinary Sub Committee as being liable to bring the game into disrepute.

## Section I. End of NVL Playing Season

### Regulation I 2. National League positions

- i. ~~In the Super Leagues~~ In all Divisions, three points will be awarded to the team winning a match should the score be 3-0 or 3-1. Two points will be awarded to the winning team and one point to the losing team should the score be 3-2.
- ~~ii. In all other Divisions; three points will be awarded to the team winning a match, one point to the losing team, no points for a null and void or forfeited match.~~
- ~~iii. In Divisions 1-3, any team forfeiting a match will be deducted 1 point and their opponents will be awarded 3 point and the match 3-0 25-0, 25-0, 25-0.~~
- iv ii. In the event of a tie at the end of the playing season in ~~the Super Leagues~~ any division, the teams will be classified in the order of:
  - (1) Set quotient; number of total sets won / number of total sets lost
  - (2) Point's quotient; number of total points scored / number of total points conceded (during all sets)
- ~~v. In the event of a tie at the end of the playing season in all other divisions, the teams will be classified in the order of the:~~
  - ~~(1) Number of matches won~~
  - ~~(2) Sets for less sets against~~
  - ~~(3) Points for less points against~~
- vi iii. If two teams are still tied, they will be classified in terms of the matches between the two teams.

### **Regulation I 3. Super League Playoffs**

- i. Dates of all playoff matches will be detailed in the Volleyball England calendar.
- ii. The hosts / venue for playoff matches will be selected by Volleyball England following an application process and submissions made by the Super League Teams. If a host is not found, Volleyball England reserves the right to host, amend the Playoffs, or cancel them, as required.
- iii. The top 4 teams in the Super League at the end of the Regular Season Division will take part in the Super League Playoffs.
- iv. Where a host Super League Team does not finish in the top 4 teams in the Regular Season Division, Volleyball England reserves the right to replace the 4th Placed Team from the Regular Season Division with the selected host Super League Team.
- v. The Playoffs will have the following format, Semi-Finals played on the Saturday (1st vs 4th and 2nd vs 3rd based on the Regular Season Division finishing positions), Medal matches played on the Sunday (Bronze medal (loser of SF1 vs loser SF2), and Gold medal (winner of SF1 vs winner of SF2)).
- vi. The order of matches will be confirmed by Volleyball England ahead of the event.
- vii. Matches will be played at the venue of the selected host with the costs shared between the teams in line with the agreement made with the selected host Super League team by Volleyball England.

### **Regulation I 4. Promotion and Relegation**

*Regulations have been updated to reflect the new NVL structure with 3 conferences in Division 2.*

## **Section J. Regulations for Specific Competitions**

### **Regulation J 1. Volleyball England K.O. Cup**

- iv. Clubs which have multiple teams in the NVL, can combine their NVL teams to compete in the Cup and Shield on the understanding that; If a club enters amalgam team(s), they will be recognised in the K.O. Cup as the club's highest-level team(s). This will impact the seeding of the team, and their ability to play in the shield in some cases;  
(1) If the club has won the shield in the previous season, none of the club's amalgam teams are permitted to compete in the shield that season.  
(2) Players who have competed in the Super League cannot participate in the shield competition for an amalgam team.
- v. NVL Clubs cannot form "Amalgam" team(s) with other Clubs.  
*Subsequent numbers adjusted as required.*
- vi. Players must be registered with their respective teams on [VolleyZone](#) in that Club's specific Team Roster for the Cup Team.
- vii. An NVL registered player may choose to play for a non NVL team in the Cup different from the club/team which holds his/her NVL registration, provided:

(3) That the player is listed in that Club's specific Team Roster on VolleyZone, to be selectable in the matchday Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone). This will likely require Dual Membership to both clubs.

*Subsequent numbers adjusted as required.*

(7) NVL teams may contain non-NVL registered players subject to that player having **an affinity with that team i.e., a player from the same Club membership of the club in VolleyZone.**

- viii. To take part in the semi-final or final, a player must either have taken part in a previous round for their team or have been registered with the **team Club (or in a Club's specific Team Roster (if the Club enter more than one team))**, from before the first NVL game of the season. Non NVL teams may register players up to, and including, the day of the Quarter Finals.

## Section K. Instructions to Referees

### Regulation K 1. Instructions to Referees

- vii. Referees should only allow players, coaches, or bench personnel, in possession of a valid, current registration for that team, **as confirmed by the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone)**, to sit on a team bench or otherwise participate in a match (Regulation E7. iii refers).
- x. Referees are to record on the scoresheet if an incorrect match ball is used **or any equipment required is not provided** (Regulation D1. vi (5)).
- xii. Referees are to submit a copy of the Scoresheet along with playing up information, **sanctions**, and MVPs via the VolleyZone (SportLoMo) App (Regulation F1. refers).

## Section N. Minimum Operating Standards

	Super League	Div1	Div2	Div3
Team <b>List Sheet (produced in VolleyZone)</b>	Y	Y	Y	Y
Subs Equip Paddles & Buzzer	Y	Y	Y	R
<b>Kit</b>				
Shirts 1-20	Y	Y	Y	R (1-99)
Shorts	Y	Y	Similar	Similar
Socks	Y	Y	R	R
Line Judges	Y	Y	Y	R
Live Stream	Y (with scores)	Y (no scores reqd)	R	N
<b>Match Programmes</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>N</b>
Match Reports	R	N	N	N
<b>Hudl Match Footage</b>	Y	N	N	N

Post Pads	Y	R - Required by 2024-25 Season	R - Required by 2024-25 Season	R - Required by 2025-26 Season, or new Teams on application.
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R = Recommended

### Video Capture of Match Footage

In the Super League the home team is required to capture the entire match footage and upload to the Hudl platform within 24 hours of the match start time. Further information will be provided to Super League Teams in a separate guidance document. Volleyball England will be able to use the footage for highlights on social media, and therefore we encourage all teams to upload the footage as soon as possible after matches. To avoid a single point of failure, the expectation is that both the home and away team record each match. Stats league tables will be produced and updated each game week, so it is in the interest of all teams to ensure that all matches are recorded and uploaded without fail.

### Match Programmes

~~All Super League teams are encouraged to produce programmes for all home matches and a copy is to be sent to Volleyball England Hub along with the Scoresheet.~~

~~A template for these will be sent out to all NVL teams for use if required.~~

~~The programmes must contain the following:~~

- ~~- National League & Volleyball England Logo~~
- ~~- Match Number, Division, Date & Time, Team Names~~
- ~~- Venue~~
- ~~- Squad names & numbers~~

### Match Reports

Creating match reports is an important way of publicising your club's team and should be published across your social media platforms. A brief synopsis with available photos should be sent to [communications@volleyballengland.org](mailto:communications@volleyballengland.org) as soon as is possible after the match. The information will then be used as a round-up for the Super League on Monday or Tuesday following the match.

### Team Lists Sheets (produced in VolleyZone)

All divisions – Teams are to present the scorer with a Team List Sheet (produced in VolleyZone) specifying Players Name, Shirt No., ~~and any Libero Player(s)~~ Position, Captain, and Libero and the numerical part of the VE registration number ~~e.g., if the player registration is VEU123456 then enter 123456~~. Any Senior players that are playing up should be ~~noted along with the number of sets played up at the start of the match (number of sets for juniors is not required)~~ selectable through the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone).

## Section P. Appendices

### Appendix A – Procedure for Player Transfers

1. Player Transfers are required to be completed via VolleyZone using the ~~Team Leave / Team Join Start Transfer request~~ **NVL Transfer Event**

- process which includes paying the Transfer Fee. Players can access the NVL Transfer Event [here](#), click on “NVL Transfer Fee xxxx-xx Season”, and complete the process.
2. ~~On a Player request to leave old team, the old team~~ The old team are required to ~~approve the request Transfer on VolleyZone~~ provide evidence of approval for the Player to submit via the NVL Transfer Event process that they agree for the Transfer to go ahead.
  4. Failure to ~~approve the request and/or~~ provide evidence of approval to the player or failure to give proper notification of any objection to [competitions@volleyballengland.org](mailto:competitions@volleyballengland.org) will result in the Hub being able to approve a player being transferred irrespective of the lack of consent from the team.
  - ~~7. On a Player request to join new team, the new team~~ The new team are required to approve the request Transfer on VolleyZone to complete the process.
  8. There will be a £22.00 Transfer fee, applied at the time of joining the new Team you will need to buy this as a product on the Events page in VolleyZone.
  - 9-7. Once the Transfer fee has been paid and approvals have been gained, Volleyball England will then approve the Transfer.
  - 10.8. The deadline for Transfers ahead of a weekend fixture is ~~16:00 on Friday~~ 12:00 noon on Thursday.

#### NOTES:

Once approval has been ~~given evidenced~~ in VolleyZone ~~and the process~~ or in the absence of approval within specified timescales, ~~and the transfer fee has been paid~~, the transfer will be approved by the Hub. A current club refusing to release a player MUST provide proof of indebtedness or contract within 7 days of receipt of request to leave. In the event of dispute, the Divisional Lead will decide.

#### Appendix F – Emergency Player Registration Process – For Registrations after 1<sup>st</sup> March

For an emergency registration the following steps are required.

~~NB it is not possible to do an emergency registration if a player requires an International Transfer or a National Transfer from another club.~~

- 1) Get approval in writing from the appropriate Divisional Lead.
- 2) Create VolleyZone profile for the player (if not already created).
- 3) Use VolleyZone to purchase ~~an voucher for~~ NVL registration (this can be done by the player or relevant club official).
- ~~4) Send the player details and voucher code to [competitions@volleyballengland.org](mailto:competitions@volleyballengland.org)~~
- ~~5) The Hub will then apply the voucher code to complete the registration code. Vouchers need to have been received by the Hub by 16:00 on a Friday to be processed for that game week.~~
- 4) Add the player to the Club’s specific Team Roster for the team they will play for.
- 5) Select the player on the Team Sheet (produced in VolleyZone) as required for matches.

~~If steps 1-4 have been completed before the match takes place (and an International Transfer is not required) then the player is considered eligible.  
If step 5 has not been completed, then the player will not be shown on the VE team page.  
This should be noted on the scoresheet and the player maybe requested to provide photo id by the officials.~~

All steps are required to be completed before a player's registration is complete.

#### **Appendix H – VolleyZone**

Please use the following [VolleyZone URL](#) to login to the most appropriate area of [VolleyZone for you](#).

All Membership, Event Entry and National Transfer Fees are as per the prices listed on VolleyZone. The stated fees will have a Service Fee of 3.2% + 50p added per Transaction.

Refer to the [Volleyball England website](#) for more guidance on [VolleyZone](#).