



# **VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND**

---

**RULES AND  
REGULATIONS  
2024/25 SEASON  
JUNIOR  
GRAND PRIX**



## Contents

A.	Competition Philosophy.....	4
B.	Definitions: .....	4
C.	Eligibility: .....	5
D.	Junior Competitions Calendar 2024-25: .....	5
E.	Entry costs excluding hosting fees* .....	5
F.	Multiple Entries .....	6
G.	Recommended Format for Grand Prix Events .....	6
H.	Hosting Grand Prix series events .....	6
I.	Venue Rules.....	6
J.	Players.....	7
K.	Player Age: .....	7
L.	Coaching Staff .....	7
M.	Libero Players .....	7
N.	Team Kit.....	7
O.	Balls and First Aid Kit: .....	7
P.	Rules of Play .....	7
Q.	Net Heights.....	8
R.	Warm Up Time Allocation.....	8
S.	Match Points.....	8
T.	Late arrival of teams.....	8
U.	Non-arrival of teams .....	8
V.	Adverse (Weather, etc.) Conditions .....	8
W.	Withdrawal of Teams .....	8
X.	Discipline & Code of Conduct .....	9
Y.	Expectations and conduct of spectators. ....	9
Z.	Non-payment of fines .....	9
AA.	Disputes .....	9
BB.	Specific Regulations for the U18 Junior Grand Prix Series.....	10
CC.	How pools are decided .....	10
DD.	Pool Points .....	10
EE.	Grand Prix Series National Rankings .....	11
FF.	How pools are tiered and weighted in the U18 Grand Prix Series .....	11
GG.	How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix #2-#4.....	11
HH.	Grand Prix #5.....	11
II.	Last 8's .....	11
JJ.	Cup Finals Weekend .....	12
KK.	Specific Regulations for the U16 Tier 1 Junior Grand Prix Series .....	13
LL.	How pools are decided .....	13
MM.	Pool Points .....	13
NN.	Grand Prix Series National Rankings .....	13
OO.	How pools are tiered and weighted in U16 Grand Prix #1.....	13
PP.	How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix #2.....	13
QQ.	Grand Prix #3 (Tier 1 teams ranked 9 onwards).....	13

RR.	Last 8's.....	14
SS.	Cup Finals Weekend.....	14
TT.	Specific Regulations for the U15 Tier 1 Junior Grand Prix Series .....	15
UU.	How pools are decided .....	15
VV.	Pool Points .....	15
WW.	Grand Prix Series National Rankings .....	15
XX.	How pools are tiered and weighted in U16 & U18 Grand Prix #1. ....	15
YY.	How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix #2 .....	15
ZZ.	Grand Prix #3 (Tier 1 teams ranked 9 onwards) .....	15
AAA.	Last 8's.....	16
BBB.	Cup Finals Weekend.....	16
CCC.	Specific Regulations for the Tier 2 U14, U15, & U16.....	17
DDD.	How pools are decided .....	17
EEE.	U14 & U15 Tier 2 adaptations.....	17
	Specific Regulations for the Inter Regional Championships U15 and U17 Boy's and Girl's .....	17
FFF.	Players .....	18
GGG.	Format.....	18
HHH.	Changeover between competitions .....	18
	Appendix A – Basic Volleyball Rules .....	18
	Appendix B - Age Group Criteria .....	19
	Appendix C – VolleyZone .....	19

## A. Competition Philosophy

Volleyball England has an inclusive competition pathway for juniors aged 7 to 18 years.

The nature of competition is passionate, committed and, on occasions, controversial however an environment of respect, responsibility and reflection must be created and maintained by all involved in every aspect of competition. The interaction between players, coaches, officials, organisers, volunteers, and spectators, both on and off court, must always be:

**Respectful:** in the language used, support given, actions taken and the care towards the facilities and the surroundings

**Responsible:** in the care of everyone to ensure a safe environment and a positive experience for all

**Role Model:** in a calm, constructive and progressive manner for the young people in our care, the people watching volleyball in the venue and on the live stream.

We ask that all hosts, clubs, schools, and organisations make every effort to ensure all those associated with them are made aware of and comply with the competition's philosophy

This document refers to National Junior Competitions (NJC). The FIVB Rules of the Game will apply unless modified by the Regulations below. Please also note that the [Volleyball England NVL regulations](#) also apply to junior competitions except where modified below.

Teams in NJC are to be entered via VolleyZone (VZ), details of which will be sent to all interested teams. Organisations are responsible for ensuring they fulfil their administrative requirements on VZ. Support is available via FAQ's, training videos and support through [volleyzone@volleyballengland.org](mailto:volleyzone@volleyballengland.org) Organisations repeatedly failing to fulfil this duty, maybe asked by the CWG to leave the competition or league.

The Regulations are designed to ensure child welfare, integrity, fairness and give the maximum competitive playing opportunities for junior players.

## B. Definitions:

1. "Organisation" means School, Academy, College, Club, or Region. The constituted organisation to which teams belong.
2. "Lead" means, the individual named by the Competitions Working Group as overseeing the event at any location. It could be the organiser of a round, a deputy for the Competition Lead or the Competition Lead him/herself.
3. NVC – National Volleyball Centre
4. CWG – Competitions Working Group
5. VE – Volleyball England
6. The Hub – Volleyball England Hub, [competitions@volleyballengland.org](mailto:competitions@volleyballengland.org)
7. VEN – Volleyball England Number
8. NVL – National Volleyball League
9. FIVB – International Volleyball Federation
10. "Grand Prix Series" means several individual Grand Prix's joined together to create a series of events.
11. "Grand Prix" means one individual event consisting of 3/4/5 teams.
12. "Super Series" means the top 8 teams based on National Rankings in the U18 Grand Prix Series.
13. "Tier 1" is a National Grand Prix Series which gives National Rankings accumulating in a National Cup Final.
14. "Tier 2" is a developmental single Grand Prix which is based regionally.
15. "Inter Regionals" means the regional championships competition for U15 and U17 Boys and girls.
16. Grand Prix event – A round robin competition where every team will play each other once. Each age group can compete in up to three, four or five Grand Prix events across the series depending on age groups.
17. Pool points – The points earned during a Grand Prix event which contribute to the team's position in the Grand Prix.
18. Grand Prix points – The points assigned to each team at the end of each Grand Prix event based on their final position.
19. National Rankings – The overall National Ranking of teams based on their number of accumulated Grand Prix Points
20. U18 Grand Prix Series – The 1<sup>st</sup> round pools will be seeded from the previous year's final rankings.
21. Super Series – At the start of the U18 competition the top 8 teams from the previous season will compete in the Super Series for GP#1
22. Preliminary Round – Pools will be seeded from the previous year's final rankings.
23. Super Series/Platinum/Gold/Silver/Bronze Pools – After Grand Prix #1 teams will be assigned into Nationally ranked tiers based on their Grand Prix Series standings. Super Series / Platinum being the top tier, Gold being the 2<sup>nd</sup> tier, Silver 3<sup>rd</sup> tier and Bronze 4<sup>th</sup> tier. NB more Pools maybe created if entries warrant it.
24. Last 8's (L8) will play to compete for the Golden Ticket to the Cup Finals. Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup will conclude with a Gold and Bronze medal match.
25. Weightings – The multiplication of Grand Prix points to reward teams competing in higher ranked pools as they will be playing stronger opponents.

**C. Eligibility:**

1. All Organisations must be affiliated to Volleyball England and comply with all relevant policies and procedures.

**D. Junior Competitions Calendar 2024-25:**

2024-25 Proposed Calendar	October	November	December	January	February	March	April
U14 Boys/Open					08/02/2025	29/03/2025	
U14 Girls					08/02/2025	29/03/2025	
U15 Boys/Open T2		02/11/2024	30/11/2024				
U15 Girls T2		03/11/2024	01/12/2024				
U15 Boys/Open T1				11/01/2025	15/02/2025	22/03/25 – L8	CUP FINAL
U15 Girls T1				12/01/2025	16/02/2025	23/03/2025	CUP FINAL
U16 Boys/Open		16/11/2024	14/12/2024	18/01/2025		08/03/2025	CUP FINAL
U16 Girls		17/11/2024	15/12/2024	19/01/2025		09/03/2025 - L8	CUP FINAL
U18 Super Series	06/10/2024	10/11/2024	08/12/2024		02/02/2025	15/03/2025 - L8	CUP FINAL
U18 Boys/Open	05/10/2024	09/11/2024	07/12/2024		01/02/2025	15/03/2025	CUP FINAL
U18 Girls	06/10/2024	10/11/2024	08/12/2024		02/02/2025	16/03/2025	CUP FINAL
Game Days	3	7	7	4	7	9	2

**E. Entry costs excluding hosting fees\*.**

	Tier 1		Tier 2
	Preliminary Round & Grand Prix #1 #2, #3	Last 8's	All Grand Prix
Under 14			£17
Under 15	£105	£105	£17
Under 16	£140	£105	£17
Under 18	£175	£105	£35*

\*This applies to single entries to U18 Grand Prix Series there is no Tier 2 competition this season.

All Prices have been increased by Volleyball England's Competitions inflation rate of 5%. All payments will also incur 3.2% and 50p VolleyZone service provider fee.

1. The Junior Competitions Entry Window will open early July.
2. U18 Tier 1 will enter before Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 24 and be committed to play all 5 Grand Prix's.
3. U16 Tier 1 will enter before Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 24 and be committed to play all 4 Grand Prix's
4. U15 Tier 1 will enter before Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 24 and be committed to play all 3 Grand Prix's
5. If teams enter Tier 1 before the 31<sup>st</sup> July, they can receive a discount of £10 per team entry.
6. Tier 2 entries for the U16 & U15's will be £17 for each Grand Prix and can be entered throughout the year.
7. U18 T2 will be £35 per Grand Prix
8. The U15 T2 Grand Prix #1 entries will close on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 24.
9. The Competitions Lead shall nominate an organisation to host each pool group on behalf of the Competitions Working Group.
10. Tier 1 competitions shall not commence before 10.30 and Tier 2 competitions shall not commence before 10am without the written consent of all participating teams.
11. Officials, Linespersons and Scorers shall be organised by the competition host selected from the teams in the pool.
12. Ideally, courts in these rounds should conform to Volleyball England specifications as in the Official Rule Book. Because of cost implications, however, a good gymnasium may be used.

## F. Multiple Entries

1. Each Grand Prix is part of a series of events for Tier and Age Group (this is inclusive of Last 8's competitions).
2. An Organisation may enter more than one team in the same Grand Prix.
3. Teams will be named 'A', 'B' in order of strength.
4. No player may play for more than one team in the same age group in any one round / weekend of a Grand Prix from the same age group.
5. Matches between teams from the same Organisation in the pool are played first.

## G. Recommended Format for Grand Prix Events

Teams in Pool	Matches	Recommended Minimum Time
3	3 set matches	5 hours
4	3 set matches	6 hours
5	3 set matches reduced to 21 points	7 hours
6 (2 pools of 3)	3 set matches	5 hours
6 (2 pools of 3) with crossover	3 set matches	7 hours

1. Competitions Leads may deviate from the above only with the prior permission of the relevant Volleyball England Competitions Lead. The most important factor, however, is that all matches are completed within the available time.

## H. Hosting Grand Prix series events

1. If you are interested in hosting a Grand Prix, please download and fill in the [Hosting Junior Competitions form](#) then send the completed form to [competitions@volleyballengland.org](mailto:competitions@volleyballengland.org).
2. Teams entering the Junior Grand Prix Series are asked to voluntarily determine which of the fixed competition dates that they can host.
3. All Grand Prix series event except Tier 1 Super Series and the Last 8's will be hosted by organisations. The Super Series and the Last 8's events will be held at a venue provided by Volleyball England.
  - a. Tier 1 - The costs of hosting will be supported by visiting teams. **The host will choose one of the following options which will be the cheapest for the travelling teams.**
  - b. **Option 1** - The host can ask for an equal percentage up to the maximum of £50 per team e.g. the hall costs are £175 for a 4-team pool, the hosts will ask each team to pay 25% of the total - £43.75
  - c. **Option 2** - The hosts can ask for a set amount to cover the hall costs up to a maximum of £50 e.g. the hall costs £250 for a 4-team pool, each team pays a maximum of £50 the host will cover the shortfall.
  - d. Tier 2 - U14's / U15's the sports hall cost will be split as the lower of, £25 or equal percentage for all teams competing.
4. The visiting teams are required to pay the hosting fee directly to the host in accordance with the hosts confirmation.
5. Tier 1 the U18 Super Series and the age groups Last 8's will be hosted by Volleyball England. The hosting fee for these events are:

Super Series	£105 per team per GP
Last 8's	£105 per team

This includes, 3 members of the VE Hub, hall hire, referees, medical support, safeguarding provision, live streaming of games and an account with Hudl\* statistical analysis software (\*only at Super Series events).

## I. Venue Rules

1. All participants should respect the rules of hosts / venues in use for events. These rules can include:
  - a. The wearing of footwear with non-marking soles.
  - b. Taking food into the arena.
  - c. Use of drinks containers.
  - d. All venues should be left in the same tidy state as found.
  - e. The use of items that may make excessive noise. For example, drums and airhorns.



## **J. Players**

1. For each age group there will be 2 competitions: Boys and Girls. Please refer to the [Transgender Policy](#) for eligibility into the Girls competition.
2. The Boys competition is open to all players of a specific age group.
3. Teams can list up to 12 players in a single match. They are permitted to bring a larger squad to a Grand Prix. If the squad size exceeds 12 the team must submit an individual team sheet for every match.
4. All players must be individually registered for the 2024-25 season and aligned to the team on VolleyZone. The cost of registration is £10 per player. All payments will also incur a VolleyZone 3.2% and 50p service provider fee.
5. At the start of each Grand Prix, every team is required to submit a team sheet that includes the following details for each player:
  - a. Player Names
  - b. Date of Birth
  - c. VE (Volleyball England) Registration Number
6. Players may play in more than one age group.
7. In Tier 2 – Players can play in different Grand Prix for different Teams/Clubs/Organisations.
8. In Tier 1 – Players may not play in different Grand Prix for different Clubs/Organisations\*.
9. In Tier 1 – Before the Last 8's, players may play for any other team within the same club.
10. Only players who have been on a validated team sheet in any previous Grand Prix for that team may play in the Last 8's or Final.
11. A Tier 2 Player may play in Tier 1 – If 2 rounds are played in Tier 1, the player may not return to Tier 2 within the same age group.
12. A Tier 1 Player may only play in Tier 2, if only 1 round has been played as Tier 1 with in the same age group.
13. It is the organisations responsibility to ensure the eligibility of their players competing in the Junior Grand Prix Series. If a team is found to have played an ineligible player in a match that match will be defaulted 25-0, 25-0. It is the responsibility of the team to keep records of all players competing until the next competition season.
14. If a player is not in attendance at any specific Grand Prix, they must have their name deleted from the team list at the end of the Grand Prix.

**\* Except in exceptional circumstances which must be submitted in writing at least 14 days in advance of the next Grand Prix. This would be decided by the Competition's Working Group.**

## **K. Player Age:**

1. U14 on 31<sup>st</sup> August etc.

## **L. Coaching Staff**

1. All individual schools, academies, and colleges that enter the Age Group competitions must either be coached by a member of staff from that school, academy, or college or by a qualified coach who is registered with Volleyball England.
2. Any coach responsible for juniors aged 18 and under should have a Volleyball England Coach Award (L2) or equivalent and be registered with Volleyball England
3. Coaches must include their name and Volleyball England number (VEN) when handing in their team list at the start of each Grand Prix.
4. All coaches and bench personnel should have a valid DBS check ideally through Volleyball England.
5. For Tier 2 Grand Prix events the team must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

## **M. Libero Players**

1. In 6v6 competition, teams may list multiple Liberos, and these can be changed between matches. However, only 2 can be used in any given match.

## **N. Team Kit**

1. Tier 1, shirts recommended numbers 1-99 (numbered front & back) and shorts should be uniform.
2. Tier 2, ideally as above, however, players not in uniform shorts and numbered shirts will be allowed to play.

## **O. Balls and First Aid Kit:**

1. Teams should bring their own warm-up balls. Unless stated otherwise in Grand Prix confirmation by the host.
2. If a match ball is not provided, the teams playing should provide a match ball.
3. For U15 Tier 2 competitions reduced weight balls are permitted (see U15 Tier 2 adaptations).
4. Tier 1 Match balls must comply with the NVL Match ball regulations ([NVL Accepted Balls](#)).
5. Each team should bring a first aid kit to all Grand Prix.

## **P. Rules of Play**

1. The games will be played under [FIVB Rules](#) except where modified by the Volleyball England Regulations of Competition, or the regulations of individual Competitions as indicated below.

#### **Q. Net Heights**

	Girls	Boys
<b>U14</b>	2.17 metres	2.24 metres
<b>U15</b>	2.24 metres	2.35 metres
<b>U16</b>	2.24 metres	2.35 metres
<b>U17</b>	2.24 metres	2.43 metres
<b>U18</b>	2.24 metres	2.43 metres

#### **R. Warm Up Time Allocation**

1. Teams playing their 1<sup>st</sup> game in the pool will be allowed a 10-minute warm up consisting of ball handling, over the net and serve.
2. Teams playing their 2<sup>nd</sup> game will be allowed a 5-minute warm up of ball handling, if both teams agree they can go over the net.

#### **S. Match Points**

1. Tier 1 must be played to best of 3 sets.
2. Starting point best of 3 sets, 25, 25, 15.
3. For Tier 2 U16 - Competition leads can vary depending on pool size, hall booking and other factors but best of 3 sets is preferred. For Tier 2 U15 - Competition leads can vary depending on pool size, hall booking, and other factors timed sets of 6-8 minutes is preferred.
4. In all pool matches, match points will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Win 2 points.
  - b. Lose 0 points.
  - c. Draw (Where appropriate) 1 point.

#### **T. Late arrival of teams**

1. If a team is likely to be late, they must notify the Host and Competition Lead at the earliest possible opportunity.
2. Where possible the Host or Competition Lead will adapt the order of play to compensate for late arrivals.
3. Teams arriving less than 20 minutes late for their first pool match will forfeit the right to time outs in the first set.
4. Teams arriving more than 20 minutes late for their first pool match will forfeit the first set to nil. If the team is not ready within a further 20 minutes, then they will forfeit the match to nil.

#### **U. Non-arrival of teams**

1. On the day: the coach should contact the Lead for the Competition by phone as soon as possible if they are unable to attend the event.
2. If a team fails to arrive at a Grand Prix #1, #2, #3 or #4 or Last 8's event, it will finish bottom of the pool with all matches conceded 25-20, 25-20.
3. If a team fails to arrive at the Last 8's, Cup Final or Inter Regionals, it will be eliminated.

#### **V. Adverse (Weather, etc.) Conditions**

1. In the event of a competition being cancelled or a team(s)/player's inability to attend a competition(s) due to circumstances beyond the control of Volleyball England, the Association will not be liable for any costs associated to the team(s) or individuals because of the cancellation or non-attendance (venue hire, hotel accommodation or transportation etc).
2. The Competition Lead will advise participants as soon as possible of any cancellations or amendments to competitions due to severe weather conditions, safety concerns or any other reason resulting in a competition being cancelled.
3. It is the club's responsibility to ensure that any concern over safety and the inability to attend a competition is notified immediately to the competition lead and Volleyball England. Should an event be cancelled, all affected persons must be notified immediately.
4. If unsure as to the course of action to take, please seek advice from the Volleyball England Competitions Team.

#### **W. Withdrawal of Teams**



1. Any Organisation wishing to withdraw from any competition it has already entered, at whatever stage of the competition, must give at least 14 days' prior notice, via email, to the relevant Competition Lead and the Volleyball England Hub. The refund will incur an administration fee of £10.
2. Failure to notify of withdrawal before the 14 days deadline will result in that Organisation being required to pay for their share of the hosting costs and no return of the entry fee.
3. Teams failing to arrive on the day of the competition will be fined £50.00 required to pay for their share of the hosting costs. Fines may be waived in exceptional circumstances.

#### **X. Discipline & Code of Conduct**

1. Any Player, Coach, Bench Personnel or Team Manager expelled or disqualified at any stage of any Junior Competition shall be automatically suspended for the next match in any of the competitions and the matter shall be referred to the Competitions Working Group.
2. Any Organisation or Organisation representative breaching these regulations may be subject to disciplinary action.
3. Please refer to NVL Regulations (Section G. Penalties, Protests and Appeals) for further information.

#### **Y. Expectations and conduct of spectators.**

1. All spectators are expected to follow the Competition Philosophy and the Volleyball Code of Conduct be a positive role model to the junior participants at all levels of competition.
2. All Organisations are responsible for the conduct of their spectators.
3. Any inappropriate behaviour or conduct by a spectator should be brought to the attention of the competition host, Volleyball England Event Lead, or the designated Safeguarding Officer at the earliest opportunity.
4. This designated person will listen to the concerns raised and make appropriate action in line with Volleyball England Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Policy.
5. If the incident requires intervention, then it will be recorded and processed in accordance with the code of conduct and safeguarding procedures, this will then be sent to the Volleyball England Competitions Lead and Safeguarding Officer.
6. Volleyball England will assess the scenario and take appropriate action and record the incident.
7. The Competition Host, Volleyball England Event Lead or designated Safeguarding Officer have the right to ask the spectator to leave the court/facility if the incident has breached the Code of Conduct or the Safeguarding Guidelines to protect the junior participants from further negative behaviours.

#### **Z. Non-payment of fines**

1. Not paying a fine may result in being denied entry to future Volleyball England competitions.

#### **AA. Disputes**

1. In Grand Prix competitions where more than one round is played on either the same day or weekend, to complete the day/weekend matches, the decision of the Competition Lead shall be final.
2. Teams seeking to dispute match results during any stage of a competition should immediately notify the Competition Lead when submitting their results. They should express their protest via email at that time.
3. The grounds for protest are limited to the player eligibility.
4. The decision of the Competition Lead will be final.

## BB. Specific Regulations for the U18 Junior Grand Prix Series

The U18 Grand Prix Series consists of 5 rounds of competition from October to March with the National Cup Finals in April. The top 8 teams based on National Rankings from the 23-24 season will start in the Super Series with the following teams ranked 9-32 starting in Gold, Silver and Bronze pools. Teams will accumulate Grand Prix points each round which will lead to the National Rankings, after each Grand Prix there will be promotion and relegation from each pool. The top 8 teams based on National Rankings after Grand Prix #4 will go forward to the Last 8's and 9-32 will play for the Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup.

## CC. How pools are decided

1. The national rankings from 2023-24 will be taken to create the pools for GP#1 in the U18 Grand Prix series 2024-25
2. The Top 8 teams from the Boys and Girl's national rankings from 2023-24 will create the first round of the Super Series
3. Teams 9-16<sup>th</sup> will be placed in the Gold Pools.
4. Teams 17-24<sup>th</sup> will be placed in the Silver pools.
5. Teams 25-32<sup>nd</sup> will be placed into the Bronze pools.
6. Teams 33 or below including new teams and Tier 2 teams from 2023-24 will be placed into a Preliminary round based on geographical location.
7. Grand Prix #1 U18 –Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on National Rankings from 2023-24.
8. Grand Prix #2 - #4–Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on Grand Prix positions from Grand Prix #1, e.g. Winners of the Gold Pools will be promoted to the Super Series, teams finishing 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in the Super Series will be relegated to the Gold Pools. Teams finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in the Gold pools will be relegated to the Silver pool and the winners of the Silver promoted to Gold.
9. Grand Prix #5– Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on accumulated Grand Prix points from the first 4 Grand Prix competitions.
10. Last 8's – The teams finishing in the top 8 positions in the National Rankings will progress to the Last 8's.
11. Teams will be allocated into pools of four where possible. If the entries result in a pool of three or five teams, they will be assigned to the lowest ranked pool.

## DD. Pool Points

1. U18 Grand Prix Points

Amount of Pools	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4
Position	Super Series	Gold Pool	Silver Pool	Bronze Pool	National 2	National 3	National 4	National 5	National 6
1 <sup>st</sup>	40 points	36 points	32 points	28 points	24 points	20 points	16 points	12 points	8 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	39 points	34 points	30 points	26 points	22 points	18 points	14 points	10 points	6 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	38 points	32 points	28 points	24 points	20 points	16 points	12 points	8 points	4 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	37 points	30 points	26 points	22 points	18 points	14 points	10 points	6 points	2 points
5 <sup>th</sup>	36 points								
6 <sup>th</sup>	35 points								
7 <sup>th</sup>	34 points								
8 <sup>th</sup>	33 points								

2. U18 Grand Prix #1 Preliminary Round Ranking Points for new or Tier 2 teams from 2023-24

Position	3 team pool	4 team pool	5 team pool
1 <sup>st</sup>	20 points	20 points	20 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	18 points	18 points	18 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	16 points	16 points	16 points
4 <sup>th</sup>			14 points
5 <sup>th</sup>			12 points

#### **EE. Grand Prix Series National Rankings**

1. Shall be decided on total Grand Prix points accumulated across the series.
2. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on sets difference per matches played.
3. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on points difference per sets played.
4. If teams are still tied, they will be ranked based on the result between the teams.
5. In 4 above the teams haven't played each other the order will be decided on a toss of a coin.

#### **FF. How pools are tiered and weighted in the U18 Grand Prix Series**

1. The number of entries will determine the composition of each competition.
2. Grand Prix #1 U18 – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on National Rankings from 2023-24.
3. Grand Prix #2 - #4 – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on Grand Prix positions from Grand Prix #1, e.g. Winners of the Gold Pools will be promoted to the Super Series, teams finishing 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in the Super Series will be demoted to the Gold Pools. Teams finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in the Gold pools will be relegated to the Silver pool and the winners of the Silver promoted to Gold.
4. Grand Prix #5 – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on accumulated Grand Prix points from the first 4 Grand Prix competitions.
5. Last 8's – The teams finishing in the top 8 positions in the National Rankings will progress to the Last 8's.

#### **GG. How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix #2-#4**

1. Teams finishing 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> in the Super Series GP#1 will remain for the following GP. Teams finishing 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> will be relegated to the Gold Pools.
2. Winners of the 2 Gold pools will be promoted to the Super Series, the team finishing 4<sup>th</sup> will be relegated to the Silver Pools for the next GP.
3. Winners of the Silver pools will be promoted to the Gold pools, the team finishing 4<sup>th</sup> will be relegated to the Bronze pools for the next GP.
4. Winners of the Bronze pools will be promoted to the Silver pools, the team finishing 4<sup>th</sup> will be relegated to the National 2 pools for the next GP.
5. The results from the Preliminary round of new and Tier 2 teams from 2023-24 will form National 2-6 pools but will be tailored towards geographical location as well as National Ranking points.
6. Winners of National 2 in GP#2 will be promoted to the Bronze pools and the 4<sup>th</sup> placed teams in the Bronze pools relegated to National 2.
7. This will continue through National 3-6
8. If a club/team wishes to stay in the National 2-6 format and not be promoted to the Bronze pools, then they can request to do so.

#### **HH. Grand Prix #5**

1. After Grand Prix #4 there will be no promotion or relegation, GP #5 will be based on National Rankings after GP#4 results.
2. The top 8 nationally ranked teams after Grand Prix #4 will qualify for the Last 8's.
3. The teams ranked 9<sup>th</sup> onwards will qualify to compete for the Gold, Silver or Bronze Cup.
4. Each cup will consist of 8 teams and will be hosted at a two-court venue.
5. 9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Gold Cup.
6. 17<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Silver Cup.
7. 25<sup>th</sup> – 32<sup>nd</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Bronze Cup.
8. Any lower ranked pools will be a pool of 4 and will be hosted by one of the teams involved in the pool.
9. Grand Prix points will be awarded.

#### **II. Last 8's**

1. The top 8 nationally ranked teams after Grand Prix #4 will qualify for the Last 8's.
2. The event will be hosted by Volleyball England.
3. No Pool shall commence before 10.00am without the written consent of all participating teams.
4. The Last 8's will be split into 2 pools based on Grand Prix ranking position.
  - a. Pool A – 1st, 4th, 5th and 8th
  - b. Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th
5. All teams in the Pool shall play each other in a round robin format.
6. All matches shall be played to the best of three sets.
7. Super Series Grand Prix points will be awarded.
8. On the completion of the pools, crossover semi-finals will take place: 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B. 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A. The winners will progress to the National Final.
9. Volleyball England will provide qualified 1<sup>st</sup> officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide competent 2<sup>nd</sup> officials, live stream scorers, scorers (to complete a 3 set NVL scoresheet) and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.

## JJ. Cup Finals Weekend

1. The Finals shall be the best of 5 sets as per FIVB Rules.
2. Volleyball England will provide all Officials after consultation with the Officials Working Group.
3. The "3 or 5 ball system" will normally be used.
4. The venue shall be decided annually by the Competitions Working Group.
5. A Team trophy shall be awarded to the Champions.
6. 17 medals will be awarded to 14 players and 3 bench personnel

This is the schedule format of the Super Series GP#1 – GP#4

		Game	Round 1			Officials
Court 1	Round 1	1	Rank #1	vs	Rank #5-8	Rank 5-8 G3
Court 2	Round 1	2	Rank #2	vs	Rank #5-8	Rank 5-8 G4
Court 1	Round 1	3	Rank #3	vs	Rank #5-8	Winner G1
Court 2	Round 1	4	Rank #4	vs	Rank #5-8	Winner G2
		Game	Round 2			Officials
Court 1	5th - 8th	5	Loser 1	vs	Loser 3	Winner G3
Court 2	5th - 8th	6	Loser 2	vs	Loser 4	Winner G4
Court 1	S Finals	7	Winner 1	vs	Winner 3	Loser G1
Court 2	S Finals	8	Winner 2	vs	Winner 4	Loser G2
		Game	Round 3			Officials
Court 1	5th - 6th	9	Winner 5	vs	Winner 6	Loser G7
Court 2	7th - 8th	10	Loser 5	vs	Loser 6	Loser G8
Court 1	1st - 2nd	11	Winner 7	vs	Winner 8	TBC
Court 2	3rd - 4th	12	Loser 7	vs	Loser 8	TBC

Round 1 – Teams ranked #5-#8 will be drawn to see which of the #1-#4 seeds they will play in Round 1.

The officials for the final 2 games will be the team that are the closest travel distance to the venue from game 9 & 10.

Schedule for the Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup. Top three placings will receive medals and the winners a trophy.

		Game	Round 1			Officials
Court 1	Q Final	1	Rank #1	vs	Rank #8	Rank #6 G3
Court 2	Q Final	2	Rank #2	vs	Rank #7	Rank #5 G4
Court 1	Q Final	3	Rank #3	vs	Rank #6	Winner G1
Court 2	Q Final	4	Rank #4	vs	Rank #5	Winner G2
		Game	Round 2			Officials
Court 1	5th - 8th	5	Loser 1	vs	Loser 4	Winner G3
Court 2	5th - 8th	6	Loser 2	vs	Loser 3	Winner G4
Court 1	S Finals	7	Winner 1	vs	Winner 4	Loser G1
Court 2	S Finals	8	Winner 2	vs	Winner 3	Loser G2
		Game	Round 3			Officials
Court 1	5th - 6th	9	Winner 5	vs	Winner 6	Loser G7
Court 2	7th - 8th	10	Loser 5	vs	Loser 6	Loser G8
Court 1	GOLD	11	Winner 7	vs	Winner 8	TBC
Court 2	BRONZE	12	Loser 7	vs	Loser 8	TBC

## KK. Specific Regulations for the U16 Tier 1 Junior Grand Prix Series

The U16 Grand Prix Series consists of 4 rounds of competition from November to March with the National Cup Finals in April. The semi-finalists from the previous year's National Rankings will have a bye in the preliminary round and will be placed in the Gold pool for GP #1. The teams in the Preliminary round will be seeded in regional pools. Grand Prix #1 and #2 will be tiered. Teams will accumulate grand prix points each round which will lead to the National Rankings, after each Grand Prix there will be promotion and relegation. The top 8 teams based on the National Rankings after Grand Prix #2 will go forward to the Last 8's and 9-32 will play for the Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup.

### LL. How pools are decided

1. Semi Finalists from the U16 competitions in 2023-24 will be given a bye in the Preliminary Round and placed into the Gold pool for Grand Prix #1.
2. Preliminary Round – U16 Teams will be seeded into pools based on last year's final rankings.
3. Grand Prix #1 U16 – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on Grand Prix Rankings from Preliminary Round. The Semi Finalists from 2023-24 will be seeded into the Grand Prix Rankings from Preliminary Round in positions 1-4.
4. Grand Prix #2 – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #1
5. Grand Prix #3 / Last 8's – Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on accumulated Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #1 and Grand Prix #2.
6. Teams will be allocated into pools of four where possible. If the entries result in a pool of three or five teams, they will be assigned to the lowest ranked pool.

### MM. Pool Points

1. U16 Preliminary Round Ranking Points

Position	3 team pool	4 team pool	5 team pool
1 <sup>st</sup>	5 points	5 points	5 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	4 points	4 points	4 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3 points	3 points	3 points
4 <sup>th</sup>		2 points	2 points
5 <sup>th</sup>			1 point

2. Grand Prix #1, #2 and #3

Position	Bronze Pool	Silver Pool	Gold Pool	Platinum Pool
1 <sup>st</sup>	8 points	12 points	16 points	20 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6 points	10 points	14 points	18 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 points	8 points	12 points	16 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	2 points	6 points	10 points	14 points

### NN. Grand Prix Series National Rankings

1. Shall be decided on total Grand Prix points accumulated across the series.
2. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on sets difference per matches played.
3. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on points difference per sets played.
4. If teams are still tied, they will be ranked based on the result between the teams.
5. In 4 above the teams haven't played each other the order will be decided on a toss of a coin.

### OO. How pools are tiered and weighted in U16 Grand Prix #1.

1. The number of entries will determine the composition of each competition.
2. The 4 teams awarded byes and the teams with the highest Preliminary round ranking points will be allocated into the Gold pools.
3. Subsequent teams based on Preliminary round ranking points will be allocated into the Silver and Bronze pools in sequence.

### PP. How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix #2

1. All U16 teams based on Grand Prix Points from GP#1 will be allocated into Gold, Silver, and Bronze pools in sequence.

### QQ. Grand Prix #3 (Tier 1 teams ranked 9 onwards)

1. The teams ranked 9<sup>th</sup> onwards after Grand Prix #2 will qualify to compete for the Gold, Silver or Bronze Cup.
2. Each cup will consist of 8 teams and will be hosted at a two-court venue.
3. 9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Gold Cup.
4. 17<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Silver Cup.
5. 25<sup>th</sup> – 32<sup>nd</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Bronze Cup.

6. Any lower ranked pools will be a pool of 4 and will be hosted by one of the teams involved in the pool.
7. Grand Prix points will be awarded.

This is the format of the Gold, Silver, and Bronze Cups, top three placings will receive medals and the winner a trophy.

		Game	Round 1			Officials
Court 1	Q Final	1	Rank #1	vs	Rank #8	Rank #6 G3
Court 2	Q Final	2	Rank #2	vs	Rank #7	Rank #5 G4
Court 1	Q Final	3	Rank #3	vs	Rank #6	Winner G1
Court 2	Q Final	4	Rank #4	vs	Rank #5	Winner G2

		Game	Round 2			Officials
Court 1	5th - 8th	5	Loser 1	vs	Loser 4	Winner G3
Court 2	5th - 8th	6	Loser 2	vs	Loser 3	Winner G4
Court 1	S Finals	7	Winner 1	vs	Winner 4	Loser G1
Court 2	S Finals	8	Winner 2	vs	Winner 3	Loser G2

		Game	Round 3			Officials
Court 1	5th - 6th	9	Winner 5	vs	Winner 6	Loser G7
Court 2	7th - 8th	10	Loser 5	vs	Loser 6	Loser G8
Court 1	<b>GOLD</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Winner 7</b>	<b>vs</b>	<b>Winner 8</b>	<b>TBC</b>
Court 2	<b>BRONZE</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Loser 7</b>	<b>vs</b>	<b>Loser 8</b>	<b>TBC</b>

#### RR. Last 8's

1. The top 8 ranked teams after Grand Prix #2 will qualify for the Last 8's.
2. The event will be hosted by Volleyball England.
3. No Pool shall commence before 10.00am without the written consent of all participating teams.
4. The Last 8's will be split into 2 pools based on Grand Prix ranking position.
  - c. Pool A – 1st, 4th, 5th and 8th
  - d. Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th
5. All teams in the Pool shall play each other in a round robin format.
6. All matches shall be played to the best of three sets.
7. On the completion of the pools, crossover semi-finals will take place: 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B. 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A. The winners will progress to the National Final.
8. Volleyball England will provide qualified 1<sup>st</sup> officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide competent 2<sup>nd</sup> officials, live stream scorers, scorers (to complete a NVL scoresheet) and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.
9. Platinum pool Grand Prix points will be awarded as follows:

Position	Platinum
<b>Cup Finalists</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Semi Finalists</b>	<b>18 points</b>
<b>3rd in Pool</b>	<b>16 points</b>
<b>4th in Pool</b>	<b>14 points</b>

#### SS. Cup Finals Weekend

1. The Finals shall be the best of 5 sets as per FIVB Rules.
2. Volleyball England will provide all Officials after consultation with the Officials Working Group.
3. The "3 or 5 ball system" will normally be used.
4. The venue shall be decided annually by the Competitions Working Group.
5. A Team trophy shall be awarded to the Champions.
6. 17 medals will be awarded to 14 players and 3 bench personnel

#### **TT. Specific Regulations for the U15 Tier 1 Junior Grand Prix Series**

The U15 Grand Prix Series consists of 3 rounds of competition from January to March with the National Cup Finals in April. Grand Prix #1 will be a regional round with the teams then placed into a Gold, Silver and Bronze pool for Grand Prix #2. Teams will accumulate Grand Prix points each round which will lead to the National Rankings, after each Grand Prix there will be promotion and relegation. The top 8 teams based on National Rankings after Grand Prix #2 will go forward to the Last 8's and 9-32 will play for the Gold Cup, Silver Cup and Bronze Cup.

#### **UU. How pools are decided**

1. Grand Prix #1 (U15) - Teams will be seeded on the previous U15 National Rankings from 2023-24 and organised into geographical pools to reduce travel times.
2. Grand Prix #2 - Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #1
3. Grand Prix #3 / Last 8's - Teams will be allocated into ranked pools based on accumulated Grand Prix points from Grand Prix #1 and Grand Prix #2.
4. Teams will be allocated into pools of four where possible. If the entries result in a pool of three or five teams, they will be assigned to the lowest ranked pool.

#### **VV. Pool Points**

1. U15 Grand Prix #1 Series Points

Position	3 team pool	4 team pool	5 team pool
1 <sup>st</sup>	8 points	8 points	8 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6 points	6 points	6 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 points	4 points	4 points
4 <sup>th</sup>		2 points	2 points
5 <sup>th</sup>			1 point

2. U15 Grand Prix #2 and #3

Position	Bronze Pool	Silver Pool	Gold Pool	Platinum Pool
1 <sup>st</sup>	8 points	12 points	16 points	20 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6 points	10 points	14 points	18 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 points	8 points	12 points	16 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	2 points	6 points	10 points	14 points

#### **WW. Grand Prix Series National Rankings**

1. Shall be decided on total Grand Prix points accumulated across the series.
2. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on sets difference per matches played.
3. If teams are tied, they will be ranked based on points difference per sets played.
4. If teams are still tied, they will be ranked based on the result between the teams.
5. In 4 above the teams haven't played each other the order will be decided on a toss of a coin.

#### **XX. How pools are tiered and weighted in U16 & U18 Grand Prix #1.**

1. The number of entries will determine the composition of each competition.
2. Grand Prix #1 U15 - Teams will be seeded on the previous U15 rankings from 2023-24 and organised into geographical pools to reduce travel times.

#### **YY. How pools are tiered and weighted in Grand Prix #2**

1. All U15 teams based on Grand Prix Points will be allocated into Gold, Silver, and Bronze pools in sequence.

#### **ZZ. Grand Prix #3 (Tier 1 teams ranked 9 onwards)**



1. The teams ranked 9<sup>th</sup> onwards after Grand Prix #2 will qualify to compete for the Gold, Silver or Bronze Cups.
2. Each cup will consist of 8 teams and will be hosted at a two-court venue.
3. 9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Gold Cup.
4. 17<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Silver Cup.
5. 25<sup>th</sup> – 32<sup>nd</sup> ranked teams based on Grand Prix points will be allocated into the Bronze Cup.
6. Any lower ranked pools will be a pool of 4 and will be hosted by one of the teams involved in the pool.
7. Grand Prix points will be awarded.

This is the format of the Gold, Silver, and Bronze Cups, top three placings will receive medals and the winner a trophy.

		Game	Round 1			Officials
Court 1	Q Final	1	Rank #1	vs	Rank #8	Rank #6 G3
Court 2	Q Final	2	Rank #2	vs	Rank #7	Rank #5 G4
Court 1	Q Final	3	Rank #3	vs	Rank #6	Winner G1
Court 2	Q Final	4	Rank #4	vs	Rank #5	Winner G2

		Game	Round 2			Officials
Court 1	5th - 8th	5	Loser 1	vs	Loser 4	Winner G3
Court 2	5th - 8th	6	Loser 2	vs	Loser 3	Winner G4
Court 1	S Finals	7	Winner 1	vs	Winner 4	Loser G1
Court 2	S Finals	8	Winner 2	vs	Winner 3	Loser G2

		Game	Round 3			Officials
Court 1	5th - 6th	9	Winner 5	vs	Winner 6	Loser G7
Court 2	7th - 8th	10	Loser 5	vs	Loser 6	Loser G8
Court 1	<b>GOLD</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Winner 7</b>	<b>vs</b>	<b>Winner 8</b>	<b>TBC</b>
Court 2	<b>BRONZE</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Loser 7</b>	<b>vs</b>	<b>Loser 8</b>	<b>TBC</b>

### AAA. Last 8's

10. The top 8 ranked teams after Grand Prix #2 will qualify for the Last 8's.
11. The event will be hosted by Volleyball England.
12. No Pool shall commence before 10.00am without the written consent of all participating teams.
13. The Last 8's will be split into 2 pools based on Grand Prix ranking position.
  - e. Pool A – 1st, 4th, 5th and 8th
  - f. Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th
14. All teams in the Pool shall play each other in a round robin format.
15. All matches shall be played to the best of three sets.
16. Grand Prix points will be awarded.
17. On the completion of the pools, crossover semi-finals will take place: 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B. 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A. The winners will progress to the National Final.
18. Volleyball England will provide qualified 1<sup>st</sup> officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide competent 2<sup>nd</sup> officials, live stream scorers, scorers (to complete a NVL scoresheet) and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.
19. Platinum pool Grand Prix points will be awarded as follows:

Position	Platinum
<b>Cup Finalists</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Semi Finalists</b>	<b>18 points</b>
<b>3rd in Pool</b>	<b>16 points</b>
<b>4th in Pool</b>	<b>14 points</b>

### BBB. Cup Finals Weekend

1. The Finals shall be the best of 5 sets as per FIVB Rules.
2. Volleyball England will provide all Officials after consultation with the Officials Working Group.
3. The "3 or 5 ball system" will normally be used.
4. The venue shall be decided annually by the Competitions Working Group.
5. A Team trophy shall be awarded to the Champions.
6. 17 medals will be awarded to 14 players and 3 bench personnel

### **CCC. Specific Regulations for the Tier 2 U14, U15, & U16**

#### **DDD. How pools are decided**

1. Teams will be seeded into pools based on:
  - a. The geographical location of teams – aiming for the least combined travel time.
  - b. The availability of hosts to accommodate the pool.
2. Teams will be allocated into pools of four where possible, however in some circumstances it may only be possible to be a pool of 3 or 5.
3. For Grand Prix #3 U16 to Grand Prix #3 (U15) teams may have the option to be allocated into pools covering a larger distance to enable them to compete against different teams. If you wish to do this, please contact the Competitions Team.
4. The U15 Tier 2 will have 3 Grand Prix events starting in October and finishing in December.
5. The U14 Tier 2 will be two Regional Grand Prix.

#### **EEE. U14 & U15 Tier 2 adaptations**

1. The U14 & U15 Tier 2 competition will be played as a 4 v 4 format.
2. It is recommended that matches are played on badminton courts using the outside tramlines (approx. 13.4m x 6.1m)
3. Due to the number of matches being played at once (up to 4 matches in a standard sports hall) we advise the competitions to run using a timed format:
  - a. The timed format will be 3 sets, each of 8 minutes, teams win 3-0 or 2-1. Timing can be adjusted as required.
  - b. One time out is permitted per set when the first team reaches 8 points.
  - c. No substitutions are permitted in the last 3 minutes of the set.
  - d. When the whistle is blown to signify the end of the set, if the ball is in play the point shall be concluded and counted.
  - e. If the teams are tied at the end of the set, a final point will be played to decide the winner of that set.
4. Teams with more than 4 players in their squad can choose one of the below options for substitutions:
  - a. The traditional substitute rule i.e., Player A replaces B and then Player B can only go back on for A.
  - b. A rotation system where players rotate off and then rotate back on to serve.
5. If a player scores 3 successive serves the team will rotate but keep the serve.
6. If a team scores 6 successive serves they will pass the ball to the opposition, the score doesn't change.
7. Contact of the ball is allowed with any part of the body, the ball is allowed to strike the foot, but kicking is forbidden. A kick will result in a loss of a point.
8. Roles are not specialised to individual players.
9. The server is a backcourt player.
10. To provide a positive experience to the players we advise the use of reduced weight balls – Mikasa VS170W is recommended.

### **Specific Regulations for the Inter Regional Championships U15 and U17 Boy's and Girl's**

**FFF. Players**

1. The competition will be 6 v 6 players.
2. Players must have a connection to the Region they play for. This may be residence, attending a school, or be registered as a player with a club in the Region.
3. All representatives of each region that are included on the official team sheet and the team manager should always wear Regional representative clothing. Any representative involved in a game will not be permitted to participate in any games if they do not have the correct regional clothing.

**GGG. Format**

1. Each region can enter a maximum of one team per age category.
2. The competition format will depend on the number of Teams entered.
3. The competition will commence with teams playing in pools. Each team will play each other in a round robin format. The top 2 teams in each pool will progress to a knockout phase to determine overall winners.
4. The knockout phase may consist of cross over matches between groups as outlined in the match schedule.
5. Matches will immediately follow on from each other. If there is a walk over (due to a region not entering a team), the court will be unavailable for access for 30 minutes after which time the next two teams can use it for warm-up and the next match will begin at the time agreed by the Competition Organiser and the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee for the next match.
6. After each match, it will be the winning Captain's responsibility to get the score sheet to the Competition Organiser.
7. For each 20 minutes, a team is not ready to play, after the preceding match has finished, the team will forfeit the set 25-0. The one exception being if a team is playing or officiating on another court.
8. Volleyball England will provide qualified 1<sup>st</sup> officials if possible. Teams may be expected to provide competent 2<sup>nd</sup> officials, live stream scorers, scorers and at least 2 competent linespersons in neutral matches.
9. Teams will get 10 minutes to warm up on court. 5 minutes general and then 5 over the net. However, at the discretion of the Event Lead this may change considering the overall running of the tournament.
10. Team lists must be handed in during registration. Teams can list up to 14 players in a single match, including up to 2 Liberos. A new team list may be created for every match played.

**HHH. Changeover between competitions**

1. After the Finals on the Sunday there will be a medal presentation.
2. All coaches and players should respect this presentation and refrain from warming up on courts until this is completed.
3. All warm ups for the following competition will start after the presentation has commenced. Each game will have the opportunity to a 10-minute warm up in line with the competition format.

## Basic Volleyball Rules for Playing the Game (for tier 2 reference)

1. 6 players on court, 3 on the front row and 3 on the back row.
2. Maximum of three contacts per side (excluding the block).
3. A player may not hit the ball twice in succession (A block is not considered a hit).
4. The ball may be played off the net during a rally and on a serve.
5. A ball hitting a boundary line is "in".
6. A ball is "out" if it hits an antenna, the floor completely outside the court, any of the net or cables outside the antennae, the referee stand, the ceiling, or any object outside the court.
7. It is legal to contact the ball with any part of a player's body (except in U14/U15, see U14/U15 Tier 2 adaptations).
8. It is illegal to catch, hold, or throw the ball (refer to refereeing in Tier 2).
9. If two or more players contact the ball at the same time, it is considered one play and either player involved may make the next contact (provided the next contact isn't the teams 4th hit).
10. A player cannot block or attack a serve from on or inside the 3m line.
11. After the serve, front line players may switch positions at the net.
12. It is not a fault if the ball contacts the net during a serve.
13. A back court player cannot play an attacking shot whilst in the front court (3m line) when the ball is played above the height of the net.

## Refereeing for Tier 2

1. The first principle of refereeing is to enable the game to flow. As such the referee should set a level of handling that facilitates game play. The officials for each match will come from the teams competing in the pool and they will be able to pitch the level of refereeing to match the players development capabilities. This should ensure the game flows without too many interruptions whilst maintaining the critical aspects of the game.

## Appendix B - Age Group Criteria

The below table illustrates the age criteria for the competitions.

Age Group	Not born before	Up to school year
Under 14	01/09/2010	9
Under 15	01/09/2009	10
Under 16	01/09/2008	11
Under 17	01/09/2007	12
Under 18	01/09/2006	13

## Appendix C – VolleyZone

Please use the following VolleyZone URLs to login to the most appropriate area of VolleyZone for you;

The VolleyZone URL remains <https://www.volleyzone.co.uk>. However, if that fails for any reason, please try the URLs below;

**Player and Coach** – <https://volleyzone.sportsmanager.ie/VolleyZone/users/login>

**Administrator (including Club / Team and Referee Admin)** – <https://volleyzone.sportsmanager.ie/maint.php>

**Referee** – <https://volleyzone.sportsmanager.ie/referee/login.php>

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

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