

**A. Definitions**

1. In this document "Organisation" means School, College, Club, or Region - the constituted organisation to which teams belong.
2. Unless explicitly described otherwise, "Commissioner" means, the individual named by the Competitions Commission as being in charge of the event at any particular location. It could be the organiser of a round, a deputy for the Event Commissioner or the Commissioner him/herself.

**B. Ages** are as at 1st September in the season of the competition.

**C. Eligibility** All Organisations must be currently affiliated to Volleyball England, **except for teams in the Regional Round of the Under 15 Championships.**

**D. Withdrawal of Teams**

1. Any Organisation wishing to withdraw from any competition it has already entered, at whatever stage of the competition, should, if possible, give at least 14 days prior notice, in writing, to the relevant Competition Commissioner.
2. Failure to do so may result in that Organisation being required to pay a fine together with a surety for the following season's competitions.
3. Teams failing to arrive on the day of the competition may be fined and have any grant or financial assistance already awarded withdrawn, dependent on relevant circumstances.

**E. Coaching Staff**

1. All individual schools and colleges that enter the Age Group competitions must either be coached by a member of staff from that school or college, or by a qualified coach.  
It is strongly recommended that any member of staff who chooses to coach should obtain the full Volleyball England coaching qualification.
2. A qualified coach who is registered with Volleyball England should coach all club teams. It is recommended that the coach should hold at least a Level II qualification.<sup>1</sup>
3. ALL COACHES AND BENCH PERSONNEL WHETHER TEACHERS OR CLUB COACHES MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE CRB PROCESS THROUGH VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND.

**F. Players**

1. Separate competitions for Boys and Girls will be held in all age groups.
2. Girls may NOT play in Boys competitions (and vice versa).
3. All players must be bona fide members of their Organisation. (i.e. they must play/train regularly with that Organisation).
4. All players must be listed on the team sheet presented at the start of each round, with their date of birth clearly shown.
5. Schools/colleges shall have first call on players before club teams.
6. No player may play for more than one Organisation / Team in each competition
7. Players may play for different Organisations in different competitions (e.g. school 'X' in Under 16 & club 'Y' in the Under 18's)
8. If a player is not in attendance they must have their name deleted from the team list at the end of the round.
9. Players will become cup tied if their name appears on any team sheet, whether they actually play or not.
10. Only players who have been on a validated team sheet in a previous round or, have been registered as a named player for the Organisation since the start of the season, may play in the Final of any Competition.

**G. Libero Players**

1. Each team may register two Libero players for each match.
2. The Libero can be changed between points.

## **H. Team Dress**

1. Ideally, shirts (numbered front & back) and shorts should be uniform.
2. Number shall be as per FIVB rules.
3. In the earlier stages of competitions, players NOT in uniform shorts and numbered shirts may be allowed to play at the discretion of the Commissioner.

## **I. Multiple Entries**

1. An Organisation may enter more than one team in same competition.
2. Teams will be named 'A', 'B' in order of strength
3. Once a team has been knocked out, a player may play up, but may not play down.
4. No player may play for more than one team in any one round of a competition.
5. Matches between 'A' 'B' 'C' etc teams from the same Organisation in the same pool are played first.

**J. Rules of Play** The games will be played under FIVB rules except where modified by the Volleyball England Rules of Competition, or the rules of individual Competitions as recorded below.

**K. Final Pool Order** shall be decided as per the Under 15 Specific Rules of Competition.

## **L. Venue Rules**

1. All participants should respect the rules of venues in use for events.
2. These rules can include: •
  - The wearing of footwear with non marking soles.
  - Taking food into the arena.
  - Drinks should only be carried in non-spill containers.
  - All venues should be left in the same tidy state as found.

**M. Non payment of Fines** may lead to entry being refused from future competitions.

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

1. It is a condition of entry to all Junior Competitions that teams shall adhere to the Commission's Code of Conduct.
2. Players, Coaches and Managers of all competing teams shall behave in a manner that is not likely to bring the game of Volleyball into disrepute.
3. The Competitions Commission shall have the power to take appropriate action against any affiliated Organisation, Player, Coach or Manager within its jurisdiction.
4. Suspensions shall be valid throughout all competitions in England.
5. Any Player, Coach or 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 Commission.
6. Each Organisation that enters competitions is also responsible for the behaviour of its spectators.

## **O. Disputes**

1. In tournament or multi-round style competitions where more than one round is played on either the same day or weekend, in order to complete the day/weekend matches, the decision of the Commissioner shall be final.
2. Any team wishing to dispute the results of matches at any stage of any competition must bring it to the attention of the Commissioner at the time the result is handed in, and at that time make their protest in writing.
3. Any teams wishing retrospectively to dispute the results of matches (or other matters) at a Tournament, shall forward its complaint, in writing, to the President of the Competitions Commission within 7 days of the Tournament.  
A fee of £75.00 must accompany the letter. The fee will be refunded if the dispute is found in favour of the disputant, or if there are any other extenuating circumstances.

## **P. Appeals**

1. There shall be the right of appeal to the Competitions Commission against the ruling of the Commissioner.
2. The final right of appeal against the decision of the Competitions Commission shall be to the Volleyball England Judicial Panel under paragraph 13.3 of the VE Constitution whose decision shall be final.