

(Under 15 Commissioner: Brian Kendall – 07713 600549 / 0151 638 3350 / brian.b.kendall @ntlworld.com)

These rules are specifically for 2016-17, and should be read in conjunction with the General Rules as applied to the Under 15 Competition (2016-17)  
 As the Under 15 Competition is in a period of change, the Competitions Commission would welcome any comments / suggestions for improvement in future years.

**A. In National Under 15 Competitions:**

- |    |                              |  |
|----|------------------------------|--|
| 1. | <b><u>Age:</u></b>           | Under 15 on 1 <sup>st</sup> September in the season of the competition.  |
| 2. | <b><u>Size of Teams:</u></b> | Teams shall be 6-a-Side (within squads of 15, any 12 of which must be nominated to play in individual matches in a pool.)              |
| 3. | <b><u>Size of Court:</u></b> | Court is full size (18 x 9 metres).  |
| 4. | <b><u>Use of Feet:</u></b>   | In Volleyball England Junior 6-a-Side Competitions, playing the ball with any part of the body (including the feet) <b>is</b> allowed. |
| 5. | <b><u>Net Heights:</u></b>   | U. 15 Girls - 2.17 metres            U. 15 Boys - 2.24 metres  |
| 6. | <b><u>Liberos:</u></b>       | Teams may use up to 2 Libero Players   |

**B. Late Arrival of Teams**

1. Teams arriving less than 15 minutes late for a pool match will forfeit the right to a warm-up and time outs in the first set which will be started immediately.
2. Teams arriving more than 15 minutes late for a pool match will forfeit the match 2 -0 (25-0; 25-0)
3. The Event Commissioner can re-organise the order of the Pool to accommodate the late arriving team, provided at least 50% of the teams present agree.

**C. Non-Arrival of Teams because of Bad Weather**

1. In advance of the day: If a coach believes that the weather forecast predicts that it is likely to be dangerous to travel, the coach should contact the Event Organiser & the Under 15 Commissioner (above) by phone for a decision.
2. On the day: If the weather makes travel impossible, the coach should contact the Event Organiser & the Under 15 Commissioner (above) by phone as soon as possible.
3. Appeal: There is a Right to Appeal any decision, as outlined in the General Rules as applied to the Under 15 Competition (Section "P")

**D. Match Ball and First Aid Kit:**

1. Teams should bring their own Match Ball and First Aid Kit to all Rounds.

**E. 2 Set Pool Matches (in all Rounds):**

1. Matches will ideally be best of 2 sets to 25-24.
2. One Match Point is awarded for each set won.
3. If teams are equal on Match Points at the end of their pool, then the winner shall be decided by;
  - a. Sets Difference over all matches in the Pool.
  - b. Playing points difference over all matches in the Pool.
  - c. Winner of the match between the teams (if only 2 tie)
  - d. Short Play-off (dependent on time available) as decided by Commissioner.

**F. 3 Set Pool Matches (in all Rounds):**

1. Matches will ideally be best of 3 sets to 25 with 2 clear points (but to 15 with 2 clear points in Set 3.)
2. If a team wins 2 sets to nil, the 3<sup>rd</sup> set will not be played.
3. Two Match Points are awarded for a win (Whether by 2-0 or 2-1.)
4. If teams are equal on Match Points at the end of their pool, then the winner shall be decided by;
  - a. Sets Difference over all matches in the Pool.
  - b. Playing points difference over all matches in the Pool.
  - c. Winner of the match between the teams (if only 2 tie)
  - d. Short Play-off (dependent on time available) as decided by Commissioner.

## **G** Regional Round:

1. The format of the Regional Round will be formulated by the Event Organiser, taking into account the court space available and the budget set.
2. The Event Organiser shall send details of the round to all teams entered in advance.
3. The team lists must be handed in prior to the start of the first match. No amendments may be made to the team sheet after submission.
4. These team lists should be sent, with the results, to the National Office.
5. The top 2 teams in the Regional Round will advance to the Divisional Round.
6. If one of these teams is unable to play in the Divisional Round, the Coach / Secretary should inform the Under 15 Commissioner (details above) as soon as possible.
7. The third placed team (calculated as per Sections "E" or "F" above) will normally be invited to replace the withdrawn team, unless there are any other extenuating circumstances.
8. Should there be only one team entered in a Region, that team will usually travel to a neighbouring region to compete in their competition.
9. The number of Divisional Qualification Places will also be adjusted accordingly, if this happens.

## **H** Divisional Round:

1. The team lists must be handed in prior to the start of the first match. No amendments may be made to the team sheet after submission.
2. These team lists should be sent, with the results, to the National Office.
3. 2 Courts will be available for each of the Boys' & Girls' Divisional Rounds.
4. The top 2 teams in the Divisional Round will advance to the Final (Last Sixes) Round.
5. If one of these teams is unable to play at the Final Round, the Coach / Secretary should inform the Under 15 Commissioner (details above) as soon as possible.
6. The better third placed team (calculated as per Sections "E" or "F") will normally be invited to replace the withdrawn team, unless there are any other extenuating circumstances.
7. Teams will be divided into 2 Pools of 3, playing 3 set matches (as in Section "F" above.)
8. Should insufficient court time be available, pool matches will be best of 2 (as in "E" above)
9. These will be followed by cross-over Semi Finals & a Final (Played simultaneously with the 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> Place Play Off)
10. There will be no 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Play off match.

## **I.** Finals Day ("Last Sixes"):

1. The team lists must be handed in prior to the start of the first match. No amendments may be made to the team sheet after submission.
2. Shirts (numbered front & back) and shorts shall be uniform at the Last Sixes.
3. Teams will be divided into 2 Pools of 3, playing 3 set matches (as in Section "F" above.)
4. These will be followed by cross-over Semi Finals & a Final (Played simultaneously with the 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> Place Play Off)
5. There will be no 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Play Off Match. These teams will finish equal 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **J.** Extra Eligibility for the Under 15 Championships:

1. All competitions are open to school, college, academy & club teams.
2. All players must be bona fide members of their school, college, academy or club. (i.e. they must play/train regularly with that school/college or academy/club).
3. Schools & colleges shall have first call on players before club and academy teams. Where academy players are from different schools, colleges or clubs, those constituent schools, colleges or clubs will have first call on players.
4. No player may play for more than one team in the Under 15 competition, except as in Rule K1 below.
5. Players may play for different teams in different competitions (e.g. school "X" in Under 15 & club "Y" in the Under 16's).
6. A player who is registered for a National Volleyball League team, however, may play only for their school or college, Local League Club or NVL Club but not for any other club.
7. Players will become cup tied if their name appears on any team sheet, whether they actually play or not.

**K. Eligibility – Later Stages of Competitions:**

1. Schools, colleges & clubs which enter more than 1 team in the Regional or Divisional Round of the Championships may use up to a total of 3 players from their “B”, “C”, (etc.) team(s) (if these teams are eliminated in the Regional or Divisional Round) in the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals & Final.
2. Schools, colleges & clubs may use eligible players (who did not play for them in the Regional or Divisional Round of the Championships) in the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals & Final.
3. Schools, colleges & clubs may not use players (who played for other Clubs in the Regional or Divisional Round of the Championships) in the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals & Final.
4. Schools, colleges & clubs may not use players (who did not play for them in either the Regional or Divisional Round or the Quarter Finals) in the Semi Finals & Final

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