

Amendments to the NVL Regulations for the 2016-2017 season
(All changes are highlighted in bold)

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

- v. **The Regional or Area Association must provide evidence of referee development such that two qualified referees from there not previously officiating in the National League are prepared to do so.**

Regulation B 2. During the Season

- iii. Only under very exceptional circumstances, fixtures may be rearranged with prior consent of the appropriate Commissioner and the opposition. **Any such proposals must be agreed in writing by both teams, and confirms the new date, time and venue.** Requests for rearrangement must be made to the Divisional Commissioner at least 21 days prior to the original fixture date. Requests with less than 21 days' notice will only be considered in the most extreme circumstances. The National Office **and the Referee Co-ordinator** must be kept informed of the changes. Teams must be aware that sourcing Referees for changed fixtures may well be problematic and must be prepared to source their own. *Requests to re-arrange a fixture due to holiday arrangements is not considered to be a very exceptional circumstance.*
- iv. Where a fixture is postponed due to exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the teams, then any additional costs incurred in restaging the fixture shall be equally shared between the teams i.e. Sports Hall Costs, Referees and actual Travel costs. **Travel costs are to be based on travelling from your closest home venue.**
- Viii. **Where a match is cancelled at short notice then the home team is responsible for ensuring the Officials are aware of the cancellation and communication has been received to acknowledge this. If the Referee travels to the match, then full remuneration shall be made as if the match took place**
- ix. Under no circumstances can fixtures be played after the end of season date of **23rd April 2017.**

Regulation D 1. The Home Team is responsible for:

- ii. Booking a minimum period of three hours for single matches and seven hours for triangular matches. If less is booked and time runs out, the home team will forfeit the last match in which they played. If, after the recommended hours booked the matches have not been completed, the teams concerned will rearrange the outstanding fixture at an agreed venue and date approved by the Divisional Commissioner as acceptable to the teams involved. The teams involved will share total costs (i.e. the cost of travel of the away team, **(from their closest Home Venue)**, the venue and Referees costs) of the new match equally. This ruling includes unfinished matches.
- iii. Start times for matches must be:
 - (1) Single matches on Saturdays between **12noon & 18:00hrs**
 - (2) Single matches on Sundays between **11:30 & 16:00hrs**
 - (3) Double matches on Saturdays between **12noon & 16:00hrs**

- (4) Double matches on Sundays between **11.30 & 14.00hrs**
- (5) **Triangulars between 11:30 & 12:30hrs**
 Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the opposition
- vii. Supplying a **competent Scorer and** at least two competent Lines Judges and a visual scoreboard in all cases. All Technical Officials should be competent in the performance of their duties. The Scorer must be the same person throughout the match and be present at least 30 minutes before the start of the match. Line Judges should be present at least 20 minutes prior to the start of the match. Failure to provide the Technical Officials will result in a **minimum of a £10 fine for the first offence, £20 for the second offence, £30 for the third offence, and £30 for every subsequent offence thereafter.**
- viii (9) Triangular matches will be played in the order set out on the **website** fixture list with the home team playing in the first and third matches unless mutually agreed in writing at least 10 days (according to the postmark or email delivery receipt) prior to the date of the match.
- (10) Where confirmation is sent by e-mail, it should be acknowledged **by the away team and the match officials.** If the home team secretary does not get the message acknowledged they should **chase the confirmation using all other contacts available.**

Regulation D 2. Playing kit

- iii. **Compression - Sleeves and shorts** - **must be the same as the corresponding part of the uniform, for example red shirt, red compression sleeves, black shorts, black cycling shorts.**
- iv. Numbers - correctly positioned, contrasting colour to shirts (front & back) as per FIVB ruling. All shirt numbers must be numbered 1 – 20.
- v. Captain - identified by a stripe throughout the match (tape permissible)
- vi. Libero player - different coloured shirt, easily identifiable, numbered as part of team number sequence
- vii. All teams are required to be in full match kit prior to the official warm up at the net.

Regulation D 3. Expenses for Match Officials

Single match	Super 8s	£20
	Div 1	£17
	Div 2	£17
	Div 3	£15
Matches 1 & 3 of a triangular	Div 2	£40
Matches 1 & 3 of a triangular	Div 3	£36
All three matches of a triangular (exceptional circumstances only)	Div 2	£59
All three matches of a triangular(exceptional circumstances only)	Div 3	£55
Cup	Rounds	£17
	Semis	£20
All Competitions Finals (except where Tournament fees apply)	Finals	£25

Regulation D 4. Referees

- vii. Where the NVL appointments Sub-Committee of the Referee Commission has not appointed Referees for the match, the home team is responsible for appointing them, and should start this process after the season's fixtures and Referee appointments have been published. **The Referee Commission Appointment committee will continue to actively try and appoint Referees up to 3 weeks before the fixture is played; after that the Home Team is solely responsible for sourcing Officials.** Where a Team appoints its own Referee it must notify the NVL Referee Commissioner that the appointment has been made. If the visiting team objects to the Referee appointments made by the home team, then this should be referred to the Referee Appointment Committee.
- ix. Details of Referee appointments are available from www.WhosTheRef.com (WTR). **Club Secretaries must apply for a log on and use the system when sending out appointment confirmations. Club Secretaries are also responsible for ensuring that the details held on WTR (and the VE website) are correct and inform the NVL Referee Commissioner or VE Office as appropriate of any inaccuracies.**
- x. In case of difficulty finding Referees the secretary should contact the Regional Referee Administrator **and the NVL Referee Commissioner** with details of efforts made so far for advice and information. Evidence of the home teams' efforts to obtain referees must be made available to the Divisional Commissioner and the NVL Referee Commissioner in case of a complaint.

Regulation D 5. Cup Fixtures

- ii. The home team in Cup and Shield fixtures must inform both the Cup Commissioner and the NVL Referee Commissioner of the date, venue and warm-up time of the fixture, within 4 days of completing the previous round. Matches are to be played on the date published in the fixtures list. **Failure to do so will result in a £25 fine being levied.**

Regulation E 1. Regulations of play

- ii. Technical timeouts will be used in all Super 8 and Division 1 NVL matches. In Divisions 2 and 3 they are optional. **They will be used by default unless both teams request they are not used.**

Note. Referees who hold referee qualifications from other countries may become 'Volleyball England recognised' after applying to the **President** of the Volleyball England Referee Commission.

Regulation E 5. Late arrival

Note: If a team arrives (ready to play) 19 minutes after the official match start time they are still entitled to play the first set, **but they forgo their warm up, if however, the team arrives (ready to play) 20 minutes or later, after the official match time that team loses the first set 25-0.** The late team could use the **remaining minutes** as warm-up before starting the second set as long as play commences within the 40 minutes of the **scheduled** match start time.

Regulation E 6. The Players

- v. NVL Player registration details accompanied by a **Volleyball England** NVL Team Sheet 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 must be presented for every match.**

Regulation F 1. Scoresheet and Match day protocol

- i. **Notifying by email the Referee Co-ordinator and the Divisional / Cup Commissioner if the match did not take place or that the match was unfinished.**
- iii. **Detailed Super 8s match reports to be submitted to the Volleyball England Marketing Team by 12pm on the first Monday post-match. This is to ensure an accurate and balanced report can be circulated through the relevant communications channels, including the Volleyball England website, social media and the wider press.**

Section G. Penalties, Protests and Appeals

Following the decision of the relevant Commissioner all parties have a right to appeal the decision. See G 6.

Regulation G 1. Penalties

- i. Penalties **can** be applied to all breaches of the regulations. Where not actually stipulated in the regulations, the penalty will be determined by the Commissioner for the event.
- ii. In the Super 8s Divisions, breaches which result in a game not being played and/or forfeited **can** have a minimum fine of £500 and a review by the Competitions Commission as to the future of that Team within the League. The defaulting Team will also be deducted 3 league points.
In Divisions 1, 2 and 3 breaches which result in the fixture not being played and/or forfeited **can** have a minimum fine of £100 for a first offence, £200 for a second and any subsequent offence and a review by the Competition Commission as to future of that Team.
In Divisions 1, 2 and 3 where a Team fails to play either of its last two fixtures of the season the fine can be £200, (A set of triangular matches equals one fixture).

Regulation G 3. Technical Disputes

- iii. **All disputes must be referred in writing to the Volleyball England National Office as soon as possible prior to the scheduled match date, or within five days after the match took place. Disputes beyond this period shall not be entertained.**
- iv. **A party to a match wishing to make a protest to the Volleyball England National Office must also copy their protest to their opponents and the referees, within five working days of the match, so that they may give their account.**
- v. **Following the submission of these documents a decision on the dispute will be made by the Commissioner responsible.**
- vi. **Any party that disagrees with the decision of the Commissioner has the right to Appeal the decision.**

Regulation G 5. Protests

- iii. **Following the submission of these documents a decision on the dispute will be made by the Commissioner responsible.**
- iv. Only disputes regarding the technical application of **the Regulations and Rules** will be considered. This does not cover the award of Red Cards.
- v. **Any party that disagrees with the decision of the Commissioner has the right to Appeal the decision.**

Regulation I 4. Promotion and Relegation

This regulation covers all NVL Divisions, Men and Women. Promotion and relegation is as follows:

v. Men's and Women's Super 8s

- (1) The winners of the Division will win the League Title.
- (2) The team finishing 7th in the Super 8s will playoff against the 2nd placed team in Division 1. The winner will play in the Super 8s in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 1. This match will be played at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.
- (3) The team finishing 8th will be relegated to Division 1 for 2017-18.

vi. Men's Division 1

- (1) The winners of the Division will be promoted to the Super 8s for 2017-18.
- (2) The team finishing 2nd will play off against the 7th placed team in the Super 8s. The winner will play in the Super 8s in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 1. This match will be played at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.
- (3) The team finishing 8th in Division 1 will playoff in a triangular against the two 2nd placed teams in Division 2. The winner will play in Division 1 in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 2. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.

vii. Women's Division 1

- (1) The winners of the Division will be promoted to the Super 8s for 2017-18.
- (2) The team finishing 2nd will play off against the 7th placed team in the Super 8s. The winner will play in the Super 8s in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 1. This match will be played at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.
- (3) The team finishing 8th in Division 1 will playoff in a triangular against the two 2nd placed teams in Division 2. The winner will play in Division 1 in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 2. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.

viii. Men's and Women's Division 2 North

- (1) The winners of each Division will be promoted to Division 1 for 2017-18.
- (2) The 2nd place team in the Divisions will playoff in a triangular against the 8th place in Division 1 and the 2nd place team in Division 2 South. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared. The winner will play in Division 1 in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 2.
- (3) **The team finishing 8th in Division 2 North will playoff in a triangular against the 2nd placed teams in Division 3 North and Division 3 Central. The winner and 2nd placed team from the triangular will play in Division 2 in 2017-18 and the 3rd placed team will play in Division 3. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.**
- (4) **The team finishing 9th will be relegated to Division 3 for 2017-18.**

ix. Men's Division 2 South

- (1) The winners of each Division will be promoted to Division 1 for 2017-18.
- (2) The 2nd place team in the Divisions will playoff in a triangular against the 8th place in Division 1 and the 2nd place team in Division 2 North. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared. **The winner will play in Division 1 in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 2.**

- (3) **The team finishing 8th in Division 2 South will playoff in a triangular against the 2nd placed teams in Division 3 South East and Division 3 South West. The winner will play in Division 2 in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 3. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.**
 - (4) **The team finishing 9th and 10th will be relegated to Division 3 for 2017-18.**
- x. Women's Division 2 South**
- (1) The winners of each Division will be promoted to Division 1 for 2017-18.
 - (2) The 2nd place team in the Divisions will playoff in a triangular against the 8th place in Division 1 and the 2nd place team in Division 2 North. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared. The winner will play in Division 1 in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 2.
 - (3) **The team finishing 8th in Division 2 South will playoff in a triangular against the 2nd placed teams in Division 3 South East and Division 3 South West. The winner and 2nd placed team from the triangular will play in Division 2 in 2017-18 and the 3rd placed team will play in Division 3. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.**
 - (4) **The team finishing 9th and 10th will be relegated to Division 3 for 2017-18.**
- xi. Men's and Women's Division 3 North and Central**
- (1) The winners of the Division will be promoted to Division 2 for 2017-18.
 - (2) **The teams finishing 2th in Division 3 North and Division 3 Central will playoff in a triangular against the 8th placed team in Division 2 North. The winner and 2nd placed team from the triangular will play in Division 2 in 2017-18 and the 3rd placed team will play in Division 3. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.**
- xii. Men's Division 3 South East and South West**
- (1) The winners of the Division will be promoted to Division 2 for 2017-18.
 - (2) **The teams finishing 2th in Division 3 South East and Division 3 South West will playoff in a triangular against the 8th placed team in Division 2 South. The winner will play in Division 2 in 2017-18 and the losers in Division 3. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.**
- xiii. Women's Division 3 South East and South West**
- (1) The winners of the Division will be promoted to Division 2 for 2017-18.
 - (2) **The teams finishing 2th in Division 3 South East and Division 3 South West will playoff in a triangular against the 8th placed team in Division 2 South. The winner and 2nd placed team from the triangular will play in Division 2 in 2017-18 and the 3rd placed team will play in Division 3. The fixture will take place at a central venue organised by Volleyball England with the costs shared.**

Regulation J 1. Volleyball England K.O. Cup

- ii. **Clubs are to ensure that they keep the scheduled dates for the Cup and Shield free of local League fixtures; failure to do so will not be an acceptable reason for playing on a different date to that scheduled.**
- ix. Teams who are knocked out of the Volleyball England K.O. Cup at designated rounds shall be entered into the Volleyball England Shield as advertised by the Competitions Commission, **with the exception of Super 8s Teams who will not be entered into the Shield.**

Appendix B Pre Match Protocol

- d) **At -14 mins (iii) In Divisions 2/3 and Cup/Shield matches it is to be confirmed if TTOs are not to be used.**
The toss is taken in the presence of the two *team captains*. Each captain will be allocated a side of the coin **which should be caught and not allowed to hit the floor.**
- e) **At -13 mins** Both coaches check and sign the scoresheet. *If they have not already done so, all players change into full playing kit prior to the net warm-up.*

Appendix C Expectations for Volleyball England sanctioned matches

Note - Clubs are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents/carers of players, coaches, technical officials, volunteers and spectators.

No person/s attending a match shall:

- a. **Use offensive or obscene language to any player, coach, referee, technical official or other spectator or anyone else present;**
- b. **Enter the field of play during the course of a match without the prior approval of the court manager appointed by the home club and/or league;**
- c. **Dispute the decision of a match official either during or after a match;**
- d. **Assault or act with aggression to any person/s;**
- e. **Behave in a way contrary to the spirit of the game;**
- f. **Behave in a way which disturbs the enjoyment of the match by any other person/s, or brings discredit to the home club, away club and/or league and/or the game of volleyball;**
- g. **Act in such a way as to exhibit intolerance towards individuals or groups, due to their gender, age, race, disability, religion, faith, sexual orientation or**

- any other visible or non-visible difference, either by language or other conduct, to any other person/s;**
- h. Refuse to accept the reasonable direction of the court manager, official of the home club and/or league, or official of the team/club which that person/s is supporting.**