



SUNRAYSIA
VOLLEYBALL INC.

Competition By-Laws

Version 7
September 2022

Playing conditions:

- Rules of Play for all local divisions
- Duty team and main referee responsibilities
- Explanation of penalties

ABN 3684281895
P.O. Box 422, Mildura, 3502
president@sunraysiavolleyball.com.au

Table of Contents

Playing Conditions (Rules)	4
Section 1: Administration & responsibilities	4
1.1 Roles and responsibilities	4
1.1.1 Competition Manager	4
1.1.2 Treasurer	4
1.1.3 Chief Referee	4
1.2 Duty Team Responsibilities	5
1.2.1 Minimum Duty team numbers	5
1.2.2 Score sheet responsibilities	5
1.2.3 Duty team - other responsibilities	5
1.2.4 Penalties	5
Section 2: Player eligibility and registration	6
2.1 Registration and Competition Fees	6
2.1.1 Volleyball Victoria registration and fee	6
2.1.2 Sunraysia Volleyball registration	6
2.1.3 Sunraysia Volleyball fees	6
2.1.4 Fee due dates	6
2.2 Player Eligibility	6
2.2.1 Preliminary season – Player eligibility	6
2.2.2 Preliminary season – Team eligibility	6
2.2.3 Playing in multiple teams/divisions	7
2.2.4 Eligibility for finals	7
2.2.5 Women’s division	7
2.2.6 Eligibility penalties	7
2.2.7 Representative teams	7
2.3 Movement of Players between Divisions	7
2.3.1 Playing in higher divisions	7
2.4 Movement of Players between Teams	8
2.4.1 Transferring between teams within a division during a season	8
2.4.2 Changing teams between seasons	8
2.4.3 Applying for a clearance	8
2.5 Team withdrawal	8
2.6 Season Length	8
Section 3: The playing space	9
3.1 The Playing Space	9
3.2 Net Heights	9
3.2.1 A grade: 2.43m	9
3.2.2 A reserve: 2.37m	9
3.2.3 B grade: 2.35m	9
3.2.4 C grade: 2.35m	9
3.2.5 Social division: 2.24m	9
3.2.6 Women’s division: 2.24m	9
3.3 Uniforms	9
3.3.1 All divisions	9
3.3.2 All Grades other than Social	9
3.3.3 Social	9
3.3.4 Libero	9

3.3.5 Out of Uniform Penalties	9
3.4 Match Duration	9
3.4.1 Preliminary season match duration	9
3.5 Intervals Between Sets	10
3.6 Time Outs	10
3.7 Forfeits and teams not ready at start time	10
3.7.1 Scheduled Start Time	10
3.7.2 Actual Start Time	10
3.7.3 One team not ready at Actual Start Time	10
3.7.4 Both teams not ready at Actual Start Time	10
3.7.5 Referee and/or duty personnel not ready at the Scheduled Start Time:	10
3.8 Minimum Numbers	11
3.8.1 Minimum player numbers to play	11
3.8.2 Injuries	11
3.8.3 Players expelled for Disciplinary Reasons	11
3.9 Substitutions	11
3.9.1 A Grade substitution rules	11
3.9.2 All Other Division substitution rules	11
3.10 Scoring and Results	12
3.10.1 Preliminary season scoring and results	12
3.10.2 Preliminary Season Results	12
3.11 Ladder Position Method	12
3.12 Disputes and Protest Resolution	13
3.12.1 Chief Referee	13
3.12.2 Failed resolution	13
3.13 Player and Team Sanctions	13
3.14 Finals	13
Section 4: Special roles	14
4.1 Rookies	14
4.2 Coaches	14
4.2.1 Non-playing Coaches	14
4.2.2 Playing Coaches	14
4.3 Fill-in Players	15
4.3.1 Unregistered fill-ins	15
4.3.2 Registered fill ins	15
Section 5: Feedback and complaints	15
5.1 Compliments, questions, and complaints	15

Playing Conditions (Rules)

The Playing Conditions outline the **rules** for the conduct of competition specific to Sunraysia Volleyball Incorporated and augment rules as set out by the FIVB.

Playing Conditions are determined by the Committee according to the courts available, time available and the number of teams entered into each division. These conditions may vary between divisions and may include adjustments to all facets of the game including, but not limited to the time allowed for a match, scoring system, time out regulations, equipment used, and methods of substitution allowed. The Committee reserves the right to adjust playing conditions at any time via a majority vote of current members.

At the start of each season, a copy of the By-Laws shall be distributed to each team and made available on the SVI website.

Section 1: Administration & responsibilities

1.1 Roles and responsibilities

1.1.1 Competition Manager

The Competition Manager's responsibilities shall include:

- Developing community awareness of the sport of volleyball using media outlets.
- Ensuring matches are conducted efficiently and in accordance with the rules of volleyball and the local By-Laws and constitution.
- Ensuring courts are set up prior to and packed up all SVI equipment after competition.
- Maintaining equipment.
- Defining roles of duty teams and assisting with their understanding of their duties.
- Ensuring all score sheets are correctly completed in accordance with the rules and By-Laws.
- Attend Committee meetings.
- Provide written/verbal reports to the Committee on the progress of the competition and any matters that require special attention.
- Collate match results weekly and calculate and update ladders weekly.
- Post results and updated ladders on all SVI platforms and via media outlets.
- Formulate draws for each division and season of competition.
- Ensure that players are registered for both their SVI team and VVI membership.
- Maintain a record of registered players (both SVI and VVI) and game record for each season.
- Organise trophies and awards for the end of each season for each division.
- Coordinate SVI events (tournaments, training camps, grand final nights, etc.)

1.1.2 Treasurer

The Treasurer has the responsibility of collecting all SVI team fees.

1.1.3 Chief Referee

The Committee may appoint a Chief Referee for the competition. The Chief Referee's role is to resolve any on-the-spot disputes regarding the By-Laws. They liaise with the Competition Manager to ensure the competition is run as per the By-Laws.

1.2 Duty Team Responsibilities

1.2.1 Minimum Duty team numbers

All teams in all divisions will be required to do duty for other matches. They will be required to supply a **minimum of three** players, including:

- 1 x Main referee
- 1 x Net referee
- 1 x **Scorer** (for the score sheet and the digital screen/flip cards)

Failure to supply the minimum number of people will result in a financial penalty. See [1.2.4](#).

1.2.2 Score sheet responsibilities

a) Ensure the Score sheets are completed correctly, including:

- Making sure that team member names are provided in full (i.e. given names and surnames. No nicknames) by the Scheduled Start Time.
- Keeping and tallying correct scores throughout the game.
- Accurately record Substitutions and liaise with Net referee (where relevant).
- Complete 'Game Summary' section (adding point totals up, time outs, etc.)
- Getting captains and match officials to sign before and after the game where applicable.
- Assigning MVP votes in conjunction with the referees.

b) Check uniforms at the beginning of the match (as per [3.3](#)) and advise Committee of any infractions by way of score sheet comment field.

c) Check the names on the score sheet match with the players present and participating at the start of the match, including identified Fill in players, and playing coaches.

1.2.3 Duty team - other responsibilities

As well as officiating for the duration of the match, the Duty Personnel must also:

- a) Arrive at least 5 minutes prior to the **Scheduled Start Time** of the match to perform score sheet responsibilities as per [1.2.2](#).
- b) Not be distracted by mobile phones, other technologies or other people while scoring.

1.2.4 Penalties

Duty teams failing to meet the requirements from [1.2.1 – 1.2.3](#) will incur a financial penalty of **\$100.00** which must be paid before that team can take the court for future matches. Until the penalty is paid, they will forfeit all matches as per [3.7.3](#).

This fee must be paid to Sunraysia Volleyball (a receipt will be provided upon payment).

Section 2: Player eligibility and registration

2.1 Registration and Competition Fees

2.1.1 Volleyball Victoria registration and fee

All players, coaches and officials must be registered with Volleyball Victoria (VVI) prior to participating in the local Sunraysia Volleyball Competition.

For players who play in solely the local competition/s (Social, C, B, A Reserve, Women's or A grade), the 'Social' option should be selected when completing VVI registration and fees.

For those will also be playing in Tournament events, they will need to pay the upgraded fee.

VVI membership registration process only needs to be completed once per calendar year.

VVI registration fees are in addition to the Sunraysia Volleyball Team Fees.

2.1.2 Sunraysia Volleyball registration

The process for registering to play in a Sunraysia Volleyball competition is:

1. Team Captain registers the team with SVI ([using link on website](#)). Captain will receive a team code.
2. All players register themselves as individuals to the team using the team code.

2.1.3 Sunraysia Volleyball fees

Sunraysia Volleyball Team Fees will be set at the start of each season by the Committee and visible on the SVI website. These fees are to be paid in one payment via the 'Payments' portal on the SVI website <http://www.sunraysiavolleyball.com.au/payments>.

2.1.4 Fee due dates

All applicable VVI registration fees ([2.1.1](#)) and SVI fees ([2.1.3](#)) must be paid on or before week 4 of competition of any given season. Players who are unregistered on or before the fourth week of competition will be deemed "ineligible to play" and not be allowed to take the court until these fees have been paid. Playing of an ineligible player will result in the offending team forfeiting that match as per rule [2.2.6](#).

2.2 Player Eligibility

It is the responsibility of individual players and their teams to ensure that all players are eligible to play in the Sunraysia Volleyball Competition.

2.2.1 Preliminary season – Player eligibility

To be eligible to compete in the local Sunraysia Volleyball competitions a player must have:

- a) registered with Volleyball Victoria (VVI) and paid the appropriate fees. This only has to be done once annually).
- b) completed an online Sunraysia Volleyball (SVI) registration form for any respective teams they are playing in regularly.

2.2.2 Preliminary season – Team eligibility

To be eligible to compete in the Sunraysia Volleyball competitions, a team must:

- a) only include players that have met all criteria in [2.2.1](#).

b) have paid the SVI team fees as set out in [2.1.4](#) by week 4 of the competition in any given season.

2.2.3 Playing in multiple teams/divisions

A registered player can only play regularly with one team in any one division during a given season, unless as a fill-in player (see [4.3](#)).

2.2.4 Eligibility for finals

To be eligible to compete in a finals match for a team in any division in a particular season, a player must:

a) SVI & VVI Registration

Players must comply with Rules in [2.1](#) and [2.2](#).

b) Number of games played

Have played at least 50% of games, or 5 games (whichever is less) for that team in that division, in that season.

c) Finals in multiple divisions

Players can only play finals matches for one team per season. Players cannot play in finals matches across multiple divisions. Rookies and Playing Coaches are exempted (see rule 1.2 and 1.24 respectively).

2.2.5 Women's division

A Female player that is registered to play in the women's division can also register to play in one other team in the mixed divisions.

2.2.6 Eligibility penalties

If a player, who does not comply with Rules 1.1.1 through to 1.1.5 but takes the court for a team in a Sunraysia Volleyball competition preliminary match or final, the offending team will forfeit that match.

2.2.7 Representative teams

To be eligible for a Representative Team a player must have:

a) VVI Registration

Registered with VVI and paid the appropriate fee ("Events")

b) SVI Competition currency

Representative team players must be playing in a current SVI local competition (as per [2.1](#) and [2.2](#)), or

c) Invited players

Where insufficient current SVI players are available, a past SVI player ('Invited Player') may be invited to represent SVI – as approved by the Committee.

2.3 Movement of Players between Divisions

2.3.1 Playing in higher divisions

Once a player has played 5 games in a higher division, they are no longer eligible to play for a lower division during the remainder of that season (excluding Rookies [see rule [4.1](#)] and Playing Coaches [see rule [4.2.2](#)]).

2.4 Movement of Players between Teams

2.4.1 Transferring between teams within a division during a season

A player will require a clearance from the Committee ([2.4.3](#)) if they wish to move from one team to another within the same division in any current season of competition.

2.4.2 Changing teams between seasons

A player does not require a clearance to move from one team to another between one season and another.

2.4.3 Applying for a clearance

A clearance request must be lodged with the Competition Manager via email to competition.manager@sunraysiavolleyball.com.au.

2.5 Team withdrawal

In the event of a team withdrawing during the season or being expelled from the competition:

- a) If the team withdraws at such a time as the draw has reached a full cycle (that is, each team has played each other team an equal number of times), then the set points earned from playing the withdrawing team will remain thus.
- b) If the draw has not completed a full cycle at the time of the team withdrawing, then all sets and points earned from the withdrawing team shall be declared void and removed from the ladder.
- c) If the team withdrawing results in an unfair advantage to any other team in that division, the ladder will be readjusted.
- d) The draw may need to be readjusted to allow for any Byes that have been created by the withdrawing team.

2.6 Season Length

Season length will be determined by the Committee at the start of each season and will be communicated with players.

Section 3: The playing space

3.1 The Playing Space

All matches will be played on a full-size volleyball court where possible. When this is not possible, priority use of any full-sized court will be allocated first to A Grade, then second to A Reserve, and so on.

3.2 Net Heights

3.2.1 A grade: 2.43m

3.2.2 A reserve: 2.37m

3.2.3 B grade: 2.35m

3.2.4 C grade: 2.35m

3.2.5 Social division: 2.24m

3.2.6 Women's division: 2.24m

3.3 Uniforms

3.3.1 All divisions

It is a requirement that teams be in full uniform as per the below points by the third week of competition in any season. An exemption to this Rule may be granted to teams awaiting the delivery of new uniforms by liaising with the Competition Manager. Failure to notify the committee prior to the game will result in the team being classed as out of uniform and subject to the uniform penalty.

3.3.2 All Grades other than Social

Teams must have shirts consistent in style and/or color. Tops are required to be numbered clearly on the front and back.

3.3.3 Social

Social team tops are not required to be consistent in colour or style but must be numbered clearly on the front and back.

3.3.4 Libero

A Libero player must have a top that is of contrasting color to that of the rest of the team.

Social teams cannot play a Libero Player.

3.3.5 Out of Uniform Penalties

Players not in correct uniform as specified*, incur a penalty of 2 points for their team in each set that they take the court after the fourth week of competition. The 2 points will be added to the oppositions score as soon as the player enters the court for the set.

*Players out of uniform may be used as a Libero without incurring a penalty provided their top is consistent with Rule [3.3.2](#) or [3.3.4](#).

3.4 Match Duration

3.4.1 Preliminary season match duration

Match duration for each division will be communicated by the Committee at the commencement of each season.

3.5 Intervals Between Sets

In all Preliminary and Finals matches, the interval between sets will be restricted to 2 minutes as timed by the Main Referee or duty team.

3.6 Time Outs

During all Preliminary and Final Matches:

- a) A Time Out will last for 30 seconds as timed by the Main Referee or duty team.
- b) In all matches, teams will be allowed 2 Time Outs per set.
- c) A Time Out cannot be taken during the last 2 minutes of the match or in overtime.

3.7 Forfeits and teams not ready at start time

3.7.1 Scheduled Start Time

Scheduled Start Times for matches will be the time that is published on the draw for each game and division.

3.7.2 Actual Start Time

The **Actual Start Time** for a match will be when the duty personnel are in position and the main referee begins the game. The **Actual Start Time** must be written on the score sheets as the start time.

3.7.3 One team not ready at Actual Start Time

During preliminary season matches, if one team is not ready at the **Actual Start Time**:

- a) They will immediately forfeit the first set (points score 0 - 25).
- b) If, after 10 minutes they are still not ready, they forfeit the second set (points score 0 – 25) and the match.

If the match is forfeited, the score will be 0 – 3 sets (0 – 25, 0 – 25, 0 – 25 points).

3.7.4 Both teams not ready at Actual Start Time

During preliminary season matches if **both teams** are not ready at the **Actual Start Time**:

- a) The **Actual Start Time** will be adjusted to when the first of the two teams is ready to play. The second team will then forfeit sets or the match if the start is delayed, in accordance with rule [3.7.3](#).
- b) If neither team is ready to start play 20 minutes after the **Actual Start Time** determined by the referee, then the match is declared a double forfeit. This means that neither team is credited any sets or points for the match.

3.7.5 Referee and/or duty personnel not ready at the Scheduled Start Time:

If the Referee and/or duty personnel are not ready at the **Scheduled Start Time**:

- a) The **Actual Start Time** will begin when the Referee and Duty personnel are in place and ready to start.

- b) If the match is a preliminary season match, then the full game time will be played out beginning from when the referee begins the match.
- c) Duty team and/or Referee will incur penalties as deemed appropriate by the Committee.

3.8 Minimum Numbers

3.8.1 Minimum player numbers to play

The minimum number of eligible players per team that must be ready to take the court at the **Scheduled Start Time** ([3.7.1](#)) of the match is:

- All divisions - 5 players

Players must be fit to play as determined by the referee.

3.8.2 Injuries

Teams may continue a match if their player numbers drop below the minimum number ([3.7.1](#)) due to one of their players becoming **injured** during play or is forced off due to exceptional circumstances as agreed to by the referee.

However, if a team's players drop below the minimum number ([3.7.1](#)) due to player/s being expelled for **disciplinary reasons** (See Rule [3.8.3](#)), then the team will forfeit the remaining sets of the game.

3.8.3 Players expelled for Disciplinary Reasons

If a team is reduced to less than the minimum number of players ([3.7.1](#)) due to **disciplinary actions** taken by the referee, they will forfeit the remainder of the match. The match result will be sorted according to the following Rules:

- a) Scores of completed sets stand and contribute to the result.
- b) The score of any uncompleted set will be wiped and the set awarded 25 – 0 to the team who is complete.
- c) Any remaining un-started sets will be awarded to the complete team 25 – 0.

If both teams are reduced to five or less due to disciplinary actions taken by the referee, the match will be abandoned, all scores cancelled, and the result treated as a double forfeit.

3.9 Substitutions

3.9.1 A Grade substitution rules

The 12-Sub Rule will apply to all matches. This Rule means that:

- a) A team can only make a maximum of 12 substitutions per set.
- b) Each player is permitted to enter the court a maximum of 3 times per set (starting on the court at the beginning of a set counts as one entry), excluding Libero players.
- c) Players can only be substituted through the one rotational position (1-6).
- d) More than one player can be substituted through the one rotational position.

3.9.2 All Other Division substitution rules

Teams may adopt the Rotational Sub Rule (as below) or the 12 Sub rule (as [3.9.1](#)). These may be alternated between sets but not during a set.

- a) The Rotational Sub Rule means that as the team rotates to serve, they must substitute player/s off and new player/s on from the same court position/s. This must be done every rotation.
- b) Generally, this is executed through position 1 with a new player coming on to serve and the player from position 2 going off the court. However, it is possible to complete the substitution through another position if this remains the same during a set.

It is also possible to substitute 2 players during each rotation, with one substitution going through position 1 and the other through position 4.

3.10 Scoring and Results

3.10.1 Preliminary season scoring and results

When the allocated match time expires, the game ends immediately after the current rally.

All Division preliminary match sets are played to 25 points with no ceiling. This means a team must have at least 25 points **and** be two points in front to win the set. A set is not awarded until a team gains a two-point advantage.

When time runs out, if a team has 15 or more points **and** is two points or more in front, they are awarded that set. If not, no set is awarded to either team. In either case, the points won in the final set are added to each team's total points.

3.10.2 Preliminary Season Results

The winner of a match will be the team with the most completed sets won.

In the situation of both teams having been awarded an even number of sets, the match will be considered a draw. Both teams will have their set/s and points added to their ladder total.

3.11 Ladder Position Method

The ladder will always be determined in order by:

1. Set Percentage
2. Point Percentage
3. Cumulative head-to-head countback through the regular season (first by Set percentage, and then Point percentage)

3.12 Disputes and Protest Resolution

3.12.1 Chief Referee

Disputes arising during matches involving the Rules of Play (either in accordance with the FIVB Rules or those contained within this document) will be resolved on the spot by the Chief Referee (or if there is no one in this role/they are involved in the match, another Committee member or suitable person identified by the Committee).

3.12.2 Failed resolution

If the dispute is not resolved to the satisfaction of either team, they may lodge a protest on the score sheet in accordance with FIVB regulations. These protests will then be reviewed by the Committee to determine what action should follow.

3.13 Player and Team Sanctions

Any player, official or team may be reported for unsavory conduct whereby they have breached the Code of Conduct. The person making the report should do so in writing (including by email), lodging their complaint with the Committee. The committee will then respond to the report in accordance with Section 7 of the Model Rules of the Association.

3.14 Finals

Grand finals will be played to the best of five sets as per the FIVB rule.

All other final matches will be played to best of three sets with the third set going to 15 points with a two-point advantage.

All finals are played to a result, regardless of time.

Section 4: Special roles

4.1 Rookies

A Rookie is any player 16 years of age or under at the starting date of competition (first game).

A Rookie may play finals in more than one division if they are registered with and have played at least 30% of the matches for that team during the relevant season.

4.2 Coaches

All Coaches must be identified on the Score Sheets at the beginning of each match.

4.2.1 Non-playing Coaches

Teams in all divisions may have a Non-playing Coach who does not take the court but provides courtside advice and assistance during games and duty sessions.

4.2.2 Playing Coaches

Teams in all divisions (other than A Grade) may have an identified 'Playing Coach' who is also registered with and regularly plays with a team in a higher division.

For example, a person could be the Playing Coach in their C grade team, and also play in A grade.

- a) Playing Coaches are permitted to take the court and play in all preliminary games and finals for their respective team, providing they play in the '*Spirit of the Competition*' (see Player codes of conduct) and have completed separate registration forms and paid associated team fees for both teams.
- b) Playing Coaches must be registered as such via the online registration form prior to round 1 of the competition in each season.
- c) Playing Coaches will be monitored by the Committee and referees to ensure they are following these guidelines.
- d) Playing Coaches are not eligible to receive Most Valuable Player (MVP) votes in the division in which they are the Playing Coach. They are, however, eligible for MVP votes in the higher division that they play in.

4.3 Fill-in Players

4.3.1 Unregistered fill-ins

Unregistered means the person has not completed online registration with Volleyball Victoria or Sunraysia Volleyball as per [2.1](#) and have not paid any fees.

a) Maximum matches

Unregistered players may "Fill In" for a maximum of three (3) matches. Before the fourth occasion, they must register with VVI and complete an SVI Player Registration Form.

b) Noting Fill ins on the scoresheets

Unregistered "Fill In" players must be identified as such on the score sheet in each game they play.

c) Fill ins - Most Valuable Players

Unregistered "Fill in" players are not eligible to receive Most Valuable Player votes.

d) Fill ins – other requirements

Unregistered "Fill In" players must sign the "Code of Conduct Form" and "Photo Release Form" before they play their first game.

4.3.2 Registered fill ins

Registers means the person has completed online registration with Volleyball Victoria or Sunraysia Volleyball as per [2.1](#) and paid required fees.

a) Playing 'up'

A Registered Player may "Fill In" for a team in a higher division than their regular division only. For example, someone playing in B Grade cannot 'play down' as a fill in player for C grade. However, a C grade player may 'play up' and fill in for B Grade.

b) Maximum fill in games

Once a player plays 5 games in a higher division, the higher division will then be deemed as their new regular division, and they will then no longer be able to play in their original lower division during that season.

c) Maximum matches per division per round

A Registered "Fill In" player cannot play two matches in the same division in the same round.

d) Noting Fill ins on the scoresheets

Registered "Fill In" players must be identified as such on the score sheet in each game they play.

Section 5: Feedback and complaints

5.1 Compliments, questions, and complaints

Any compliments, questions, feedback, or complaints should be directed to the SVI Committee, via the email address president@sunraysivolleyball.com.au