



Volleyball New Brunswick
Age-Class Competition Guide
September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025



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Introduction

Volleyball New Brunswick exists to provide athletes, coaches, referees, and volunteers with opportunities and support for participation, development, and advancement within the sport of volleyball.

This document is a guide containing information regarding the 2024-2025 indoor club season including all necessary registration information. All standard rules and regulations are from the Volleyball Canada Rule Book which you can access [here](#). If you have any questions regarding the upcoming season or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Volleyball New Brunswick's (VNB) office at (506) 451-1346 or email operationsdirector@volleyballnb.org.

Be sure to visit VNB's website at volleyballnb.org. The website is updated regularly for your convenience to keep you informed on upcoming events, schedules, clinics, and programs for both indoor and beach volleyball.

Contact Information

Administration

The VNB Administrative Office is located at the Sport New Brunswick office at 900 Hanwell Road, Suite 31, in Fredericton. Its Executive and Board of Directors are from various regions of the province. VNB has three full-time professional staff members. Office hours are 8:30am-4:00pm, Monday to Friday.

Title	Name	Email	Phone Number
Executive Director	Christian Christie	executivedirector@volleyballnb.org	(506) 451-1346
Director of Operations	Darcy McKillop	operationsdirector@volleyballnb.org	(506) 451-1346
Events and Social Media Coordinator	Katie Lockhart	events@volleyballnb.org	(506) 451-1346
Age Class Chair	Nick Boucher		



Types of Competition

This Guide covers three types of competition:

Club Tournament - A Club Tournament is a VNB-sanctioned tournament organized by a club and is officiated by VC Certified & Registered officials. Hosts will be required to apply and meet minimum hosting standards to be designated a sanctioned event, which includes being posted on the VNB website. Registration for club tournaments is through the Sportlomo Events page and VNB does create the schedule for these tournaments. These tournaments are used to determine rankings for VNB Age-Class Championships. All tournaments that occur during the VNB club competitive season are considered Club Tournaments.

Open Tournament – An Open Tournament is a VNB-sanctioned tournament organized by a club and is officiated by VC Certified & Registered officials. Hosts will be required to apply and meet minimum hosting standards to be designated a sanctioned event, which includes being posted on the VNB website. Clubs may choose to handle the tournament registration themselves or they may use the Sportlomo Events page. These tournaments fall outside the normal competitive club season (September 1 to December 31). VNB does not create the schedule for these tournaments.

VNB Age-Class Championships - The VNB Age-Class Championships is the culmination of the competition year held during the fall months. This event determines each team's final placement in the province and is used for seeding at the VC National Championships.

Membership and Registration

Club Membership

Clubs must submit an online Club Application each season. This is to be completed in Sportlomo by the Club President. (Only the Club President membership can access the form.)

The Club Application must be completed prior to hosting tryouts, and prior to registering club members (team staff, athletes, etc.) into the VNB database. Clubs will not be covered by VNB's insurance until after their club application is approved. Clubs that are Not In Good Standing will not be approved until their status returns to Good Standing. The application form will be available in early August.

Club Applications deadline: September 15, 2024



There is no annual fee for clubs to register with VNB. Volleyball NB must be notified, in writing, if there is a change of club contact. Any NB team competing in a VNB event must be fully registered as a club team and may only utilize eligible and registered VNB members from that club.

Individual Membership

Volleyball New Brunswick (VNB) requires all players, coaches, referees, and club personnel to become members prior to acting within the scope of their duties on behalf of their affiliated clubs. An active membership is required to register for any of our programs and events. All members must have a valid email address. The one exception to this rule is players are not required to purchase a membership to attend a tryout.

All members must be residents of New Brunswick, unless approved by VNB. Out-of-province residents must not be members of any other provincial or state volleyball association.

Membership fees include a VNB and a Volleyball Canada (VC) component. All membership fees are non-refundable. If a participant upgrades to another membership category, the new fee is discounted by the costs of the previously paid membership fees.

All memberships are purchased through Sportlomo on an individual basis; there will no longer be an option for Group Registration. Club players and personnel will purchase their memberships through their club portal ([Link](#)). All referees and adult players will purchase memberships through the VNB portal ([link](#)).

All members (coaches, team staff, club directors, board members, athletes, and parents/guardians) are required to sign the Volleyball NB waiver form and to agree to abide by the Volleyball NB Code of Conduct and associated policies as seen in Appendix 1. The waiver form and Code of Conduct and policies will be collected electronically for each member through Sportlomo at the time of registration.

All Persons In Authority, including all coaches, managers, team staff, volunteers, club directors, and board members must complete all criteria outlined in the Persons In Authority Checklist.

1. Criminal Record Check (CRC)
 - a. All CRCs may be completed through MyBackCheck (Sterling Solutions) when purchasing a membership. Please make sure to select Volleyball New Brunswick as the Federation.



- b. RCMP and/or Local Police checks will be accepted, however; it is the members responsibility to submit it to VNB for approval.
 - c. Exemptions are no longer permitted for occupations (teachers, first responders, etc.)
 - d. CRCs will remain valid for three years.
 - e. CRCs must be completed prior to participating in any Volleyball NB program, including team practices and training.
 - f. **Failure to provide a CRC and required screening documents could result in appropriate sanctions at the discretion of VNB including monetary fines to the club, and suspension of the coach(s) until all documents are submitted.**
2. Screening Disclosure Form (SDF)
- a. SDFs will be collected electronically each season, for every member, through Sportlomo at the time of registration.
 - b. SDFs will remain valid for the duration of the membership year in which it is completed.
 - c. A hard copy of an SDF may be needed if any convictions and/or pending or threatened charges exist.
 - d. A hard copy of the SDF can be obtained by emailing info@volleyballnb.org.
3. Completion of the Coaching Association of Canada (CAC) Safe Sport Module
- a. This is completed through The Locker on the CAC website. If you do not have an NCCP number, this can be obtained free of charge when you register on the CAC website.
 - b. The Safe Sport Module must be completed BEFORE you register with Volleyball NB. NCCP numbers (CAC) must be provided when completing the Volleyball NB registration form in SportLomo.

Clubs and Persons In Authority are not covered by Volleyball NB insurance until they have completed the screening checks outlined above.

- Persons In Authority screening requirements are mandatory, and no exceptions will be made.
- All screenings must be completed by club executive, board members, and key staff for the club to be considered In Good Standing and before the tryouts commence.
- All screening must be completed by COACHES, MANAGERS, AND TEAM STAFF before the first team practice session takes place.



- Volleyball NB will conduct checks throughout the season. Any Persons In Authority found without the appropriate screening checks completed could result in a fine levied on the Club, and individuals will be advised that they cannot train or be on court with their team until they have completed the screening.

Membership fees for all categories can be found [here](#).

Team Registration

All teams must be registered with Volleyball New Brunswick prior to playing in a VNB age-class club tournament.

Teams must declare which age-class championship in which they will compete by October 8th. Initial rosters must be submitted at this time.

Team Roster Lock will be November 13, 2024. No additions can be made after this date except under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Age-Class Chair, Executive Director, and Director of Operations. A fine of \$50 may be levied to the club for each team that has not submitted a roster by this date.

Team Eligibility

- A VNB representative in any capacity may request proof of registration of a club, team or individual.
- Any New Brunswick team competing in any VNB-sanctioned event must be fully registered and may utilize only registered VNB members.
- Teams are eligible to register for tournaments above, but not below, their age category. They must compete in the Provincial Championship of the age category they have declared for.
- Out of Province teams must be registered with their association and provide a letter of good standing to participate in VNB tournaments.
- If a team does not wish to take part in the VNB Provincial Championships but does wish to play in the VNB sanctioned events, they must register by the appropriate deadlines and pay the membership registration fee.
- A registered youth team, in any VNB tournament, including VNB Provincials, dresses up to fifteen players, but only twelve players may play in any single match. The twelve names must be listed on the scoresheet before each match. There can only be four (4) team staff listed on the scoresheet and on the bench during a match.
- A team may register up to fifteen (15) players on the registration list and must register a



minimum of eight (8) players.

- A minimum of six (6) players can compete at a VNB-sanctioned event.

Player Eligibility

- Participants must register as a competitive youth player before participating in any tournaments.
- Out-of-province participants registered with an approved VNB club team must not be registered members of any other provincial or state volleyball association.
- Players may compete at Age-Class Provincials in one category only.
- **The minimum age for players on a roster is 10 years of age.**

Age Class Fees

All individual competitive membership fees (tripleball -18U, team staff, coaches) are \$75.00 per person, which includes a \$36.00 Volleyball Canada membership fee. It does not include the credit card service fees. All fees must be paid using the VRS (Sportlomo). **Membership fees are 100% non-refundable.**

All athletes must be registered as a Youth Competitive Member prior to their participation in any VNB-sanctioned event. All team staff must be registered as a coach or manager prior to participation in any VNB-sanctioned event. The last day to add a new athlete, coach, or manager to a team roster is November 13, 2024, by 11:59 PM. Requests to new team members after this date will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

A player or coach can only register and participate with one club.

Any person sitting on the bench at a sanctioned VNB competition **MUST** be a registered member of VNB and have completed the screening process..

NOTE: *All athletes, coaches, and other team staff must be registered with VNB before they participate in VNB-sanctioned events (including team practices). Failure to do so will void any insurance coverage under the VNB insurance policy.*



Youth Competition Regulations

Divisions of Play (for 2024/25)

18U: Athletes born from September 1, 2006 to December 31, 2007 (16 months)

17U: Athletes born from September 1, 2007 to December 31, 2008 (16 months)

16U: Athletes born from September 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009 (16 months)

15U: Athletes born from September 1, 2009 to December 31, 2010 (16 months)

14U: Athletes born from September 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011 (16 months)

13U: Athletes born from September 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012 (16 months)

Tripleball (co-ed): Athletes born from September 1, 2011 to December 31, 2014

Athletes on a current ACAA or USports volleyball roster will not be permitted to play

All Divisions have a separate provincial championship for girls. For boys, club tournaments and the provincial championships will be held in combined divisions (18U, 16U, and 14U). The Tripleball provincial tournament will be a one-day tournament.

Rules

The rules listed in the current edition of the Volleyball Canada Rule Book are in effect unless otherwise stated.

Tournament Regulations

Teams may register on a first-come, first-served basis for the tournaments of the league that they are registered to play. Teams are not allowed to play down a category. Teams may register for a tournament in one classification above their age category of registration (15U can play 16U, 15U cannot play 17U), if there are registrations available. Please note, this applies to club tournaments only. 14U girls' teams will not be allowed to register in the new 15U girls seeding tournaments (see details later in the document for the seeding series).

Before the registration deadline, a team of a lower league may be bumped out of a league tournament if there is a team within the registered category of the tournament on a waiting list. All registered teams of the same membership category have the rights and privileges of that category regardless of their age. VNB strongly recommends that tournament organizers have 4, 8, 12, and 16 team draws.



Registration Deadline

The deadline to register for all VNB tournaments, except for Provincial Championships, is 7 days or the Sunday prior to the event. This will give VNB the chance to better prepare the schedule. The schedule should be sent to teams three (3) days prior to the event. Registration for sanctioned tournaments can be done on the Volleyball Registration System (Sportlomo).

Official Game Ball

- Official Game Ball for **Tripleball**: Mikasa MVA Lite or the Mikasa VUL500.
- Official Game Ball for **13U, 14U, 15U, and 16U**: Mikasa VQ200W at all VNB events
- Official Game Ball for **17U, 18U**: Mikasa V200W at all VNB events

Note: the Mikasa VUL500 will be used at the Tripleball Provincial Championships and will be the only official ball for tripleball beginning in the 2025/2026 season.

Uniform Rule

The uniform rule will be in effect at all VNB events. Each registered team shall be appropriately dressed for competition as follows:

- The colour for the jerseys and shorts must be uniform for the team (except the libero). The length, style, design or fit of the shorts are irrelevant and of no consequence. The uniforms must be clean.
- Compression wear can be any single solid colour. The single solid colour does not need to be the same for each player.
- Players' jerseys must be numbered from **1 to 99** inclusive.
- The number must be placed on the jersey at the center of the front and of the back.
- The colour and brightness of the numbers must contrast with the colour and brightness of the jerseys.
- The number must be a minimum of 10cm in height on the chest and a minimum of 15cm high on the back. The line forming the numbers must be 2cm in width.
- The Team Captain must have on their jersey a stripe of 8x2cm underlining the number on the chest.
- It is forbidden to wear uniforms of a colour different from that of the other players (except for the Libero), and with/or without official numbers.
- Refer to the Volleyball Canada Rule Book for the complete definition of the uniform for the Libero
- Teams with ineligible uniforms may be subject to a sanction.



Coach and Team Staff Attire

All coaches and staff should follow the dress guidelines during all their matches:

- Must be dressed to represent their team in a professional manner.
- Secure shoes are required.
- Hats are not permitted.

Team Withdrawal Procedure

- Any team withdrawing from a sanctioned tournament must do so prior to the event, by the registration deadline. VNB will retain 10% of the registration fee to cover some administrative costs. The registration fee is non-refundable for teams who withdraw after the registration deadline.
- A team that doesn't show up is a "no-show" and will not have their tournament registration refunded; they will also be given a warning.
- After the second occurrence, the team will be eliminated from participation in the VNB Provincial Championships.
- This sanction may be appealed in writing.
- If local weather or other circumstances prevent a team from traveling to an event, the team contact must notify the tournament host an hour prior to the start of the tournament. If a team is unable to attend due to weather or mitigating circumstances, the team will not be asked to forfeit their tournament entry fee.

Warm Up Protocol

Team Warm-ups will be conducted using the 5-5 format (time permitting), which is as follows:

5 minutes for players to warm up on their respective side of the court, 5 minutes to use the full court (traditionally used for spiking and serving practice).

Warm-up Protocol 7.2.4 Volleyball Canada – In an effort to reduce the incidence of injuries and concussions during warm-up, Volleyball Canada has developed the following warm-up protocol. This protocol is to be followed by all teams during the designated-on court warm-up time:

1. Athletes must remain on their side of the net immediately following an attack and only move to the opposite side of the net from outside of the court. Athletes are not permitted into the receiving court.
2. Any ball from the receiving side of the court, entered to the attacking side, must be entered from outside of the court.



3. Retrieved balls must be returned along the sidelines of the court and not through the receiving court.
4. If the team is using both sides of the court, i.e., full-court game type activity – only one ball can be in play at any given time.
5. Opposing teams are not permitted to use volleyballs in the free zone during the other team's allocated court time. It is recommended for the opposing team to support the retrieval of volleyballs for the team on the court.

For teams that do not follow the warm-up protocol, the referees will note on the score sheet the non-compliance of the warm-up protocol. The league, PTA, or Volleyball Canada will determine the appropriate sanction.

At the end of the match, teams must vacate the court (playing area and bench area) within one minute of the completion of their match to allow for the next teams playing full access to the court.

Schedule Times

The tournament director has the authority (in consultation with coaches and the Head Official) to move matches ahead and/or move matches to a different court than scheduled in order to avoid delays and shorten the length of the tournament day. Finals will be scheduled no later than 6pm unless otherwise stated by VNB and Age-Class Committee.

- Each round robin match (2 sets) will be given a 50–60-minute time slot.
- Each 2 of 3 match will be given a 1 hour and 15 minutes time slot.
- The tournament director will be identified on the tournament schedule along with contact information.

Tournament Schedules and Results

VNB will make all schedules and results available on ISET Sports (iset.net). All hosts must provide one person to enter the results after each round of play. The ISET scoring system will determine the standings and apply the Volleyball Canada tie-breaking formula if necessary.

Schedules will be available by the Wednesday preceding the tournament.

Tournament Cancellation Policy

- No tournament will be held if there are less than 4 teams. 3 team tournaments may be approved under exceptional circumstances (i.e., new age-classes that need time to develop)
- If a tournament host wishes to cancel due to weather or other mitigating circumstances, they must do so by 2 pm the Friday prior to their event. If a tournament is canceled, teams will be refunded their tournament entry fee and will be awarded one point that will count towards their



Provincial Championship eligibility.

Protests

At all VNB-sanctioned events, protests must be settled immediately at the time of the incident, on-site by the Protest Committee, NOT after the match. Only the captain may legally protest an error in applying a rule or rule interpretation.

1. The captain must lodge the protest immediately to the first referee who will then indicate to the scorekeeper that a protest has been lodged.
2. The captain must then describe the incident on the score sheet. This record includes game number, score, ball possession and player position on floor at time of protest.
3. The protest is then referred to the Protest Committee (i.e. Tournament Director, Head Official, and VNB Representative) for deliberation of acceptance or refusal.

The Referee’s decisions regarding ball handling faults are not open to protest.

Note: The protest protocol at VNB Age-Class Championships is described later in this document and supersedes the above policy.

Net Heights

Age Category	Girls	Boys
Tripleball	2.15m	
13U	2.15m	-
14U	2.15m	2.20m
15U	2.20m	2.35m
16U	2.24m	2.35m
17U	2.24m	2.43m
18U	2.24m	2.43m

Age Specific Rules

No Libero Rule

The use of a Libero is not permitted in the 13U/14U/15U boys and girls age categories.

Substitution Rules

The 12 LIMITED substitution rule will be applied to all categories where the use of a Libero is not permitted.



- 12-sub limited (one entry & one exit per player) in age categories with NO Libero.
- 6-sub limited (one entry & one exit per player) in age categories WITH a Libero.

Fair Play Rule

- The fair play rule will be applied to the tripleball, 13U, and 14U age categories for both boys and girls.
- All players listed on the score sheet must start the first or second set.
- Substitutions are not permitted in the first or second set. In the case of injury, an Exceptional Substitution may be made. The injured/ill player may not return to the same set but may return to play in subsequent sets. Any lineup can be used at the start of the third set. In the third set 12 'limited' substitutions are permitted.
- Any lineup can be used at the start of the third set. Teams are strongly encouraged to distribute playing time among all players on the team. For Tripleball, substitution requests can only occur between a three-ball sequence.
- Teams switch sides in the third set once a team reaches 8 points. For Tripleball, if this occurs during a three-ball sequence, then the switch will be made after the sequence is complete.

Serve Receive Rule

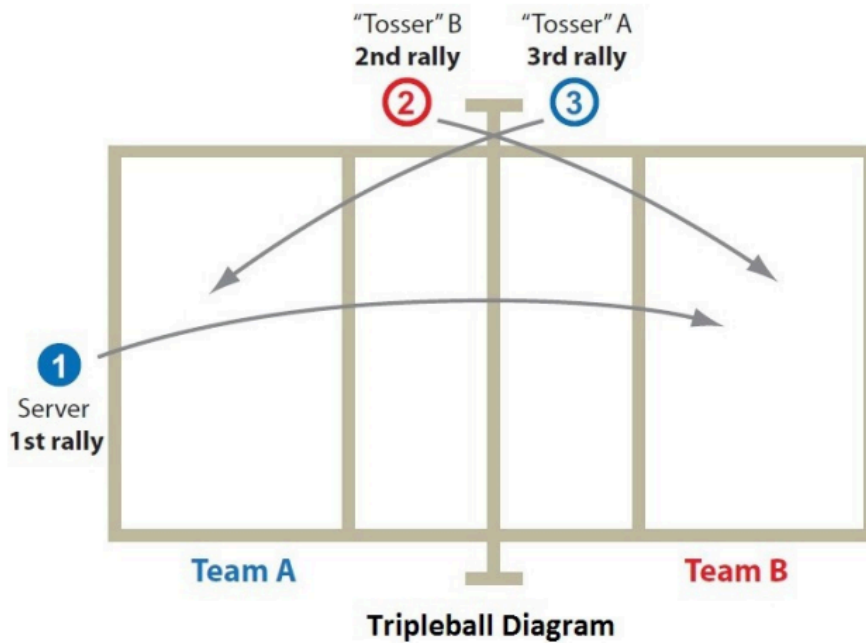
In age groups 14U and below, receiving a serve overhand with the fingers (volley) is illegal. The referee, regardless of the quality of the contact, will call any such attempt.

TRIPLEBALL

The goal of Tripleball is to promote better skill development through more rallies, increase participation, and encourage meaningful competition and fun.

Overview of the Tripleball Sequence:

- a) The game follows a sequence of three rallies (service, tossed ball 1, tossed ball 2).
 - 1st rally – introduced by the server
 - 2nd rally – tossed ball given to the receiving team
 - 3rd rally – tossed ball given to the serving team
- b) The service rotates between teams after each three-ball sequence.
- c) A team must rotate and introduce a new server when it is their turn to serve.
- d) Every ball introduced is worth one point.



Tripleball Rules:

- a) No player specialization
- b) each rotation will have a different setter
- c) The player in position #3 or #2 will be the designated setter for that rotation. The setting position will be noted on the score sheet by the coach prior to each set. Switching positions is NOT ALLOWED.
- d) Athletes must play the tossed ball with a forearm pass, otherwise a replay will occur. The ball remains live if played over the net with a forearm pass (not a replay).
- e) Fair Play rules apply
- f) Timeouts and substitution cannot occur during a 3-ball sequence. These requests must be made at the end of a sequence and before the introduction of a serve.
- g) No libero
- h) No overhand pass on the serve
- i) All other standard volleyball rules not listed continue to apply



Guidelines for Ball Tossers:

- The Head Coach, Assistant Coach, or a competent volunteer may be the Ball Tosser and introduce balls to their own team.
- Balls are tossed underhand with two hands, with little to no spin, and above the height of the antennae to allow athletes time to play the ball.
- The Ball Tosser can step into the court to introduce the ball but must immediately move a safe distance off of the court after the toss.
- The tossed ball must be introduced directly to the athlete in the center-back position (rotationally position six), otherwise, a replay will occur.
- The tossed ball will be introduced when the front row players are at the net and ready to transition; the Tosser verbally cues the athletes by calling "Free Ball".
- Ball Tossers must encourage a fast-paced transition between the end of a rally and the next toss.

Tournament Entry Fees

Club and Open Tournaments – Set by the tournament organizer

15U Girls Seeding tournaments - \$325

VNB Age-Class Provincials - \$350

All registrations and fees are payable online, through the VRS (Sportlomo).

Club Regulations

Team Selection

Communication: Please note that any exchange of information between a club and an athlete must include parents/guardians.

Official Tryout Period (September 1st to September 10th)

In-person tryouts may not begin before September 1st.

Clubs may not make official offers to players before September 10th.

Offers may be communicated in writing or via email beginning September 10th at 8 am. Offers are valid for 48 hours from the time they were sent to the athlete. Athletes and their parents/guardians must reply within that time frame to secure their spot on the team. Any official offer not responded to within



that time may expire at the club's discretion. A club may not rescind an official offer before the timeframe has expired and they must allow the athlete 48 hours to respond.

The only club fees allowed to be collected during the tryout period are tryout fees.

Teams may select players after the tryout period; however, they need to be aware that athletes may have signed with other teams. Once an athlete accepts a spot with another team, they will not be able to switch teams/clubs. Only under exceptional circumstances will Volleyball NB entertain a request to do so.

Vertical Movement within a Club

As long as no Volleyball Canada regulations are contravened (making a team ineligible for National Championships), youth teams may use lower age players from the same club in a VNB competition including Provincials. Players will only be allowed to compete with one team during a tournament or event, including the age-class provincial championship. Players cannot move after the roster lock date. The players must meet all eligibility requirements.

Lateral Movement within a Club

Clubs may laterally move up to three (3) athletes between teams in the same age class during regular season events. Lateral movement is defined as an athlete moving from roster A to roster B. All team rosters must be finalized and submitted by the VNB roster submission deadline. This rule applies to all age groups. Lateral movement is allowed up to the roster lock date. Any lateral movement after this date may happen under exceptional circumstances and teams must submit their request to the Director of Operations before registering for a tournament.

An athlete CANNOT participate for more than one (1) team during the same tournament OR event.

Player Transfers

- Unless different PTA regulations exist, all players are free agents at the end of the playing season.
- Once a player has completed the registration process with a specific team, a player may not transfer without consent from VNB.
- When a transfer consent is granted, the transfer date shall be no less than 7 days from the transfer request.

Transfer Procedure

- A player must provide a written request to VNB stating the reason for the transfer.
- A player must obtain a written release from the club or team the player wishes to leave. A release may not be held up unreasonably. If a club or team refuses to provide a



- written release, VNB will determine whether the transfer is allowed.
- The new club must submit a new registration form.

Risk Management and Safety

It is the policy of Volleyball New Brunswick to foster a spirit of competitiveness in the safest possible environment. It is the responsibility of every member, coach, referee, volunteer, and staff to practice Risk Management, Safety, and Abuse Free Sport practices on a continuous basis.

When a team applies to host a VNB event, it is their responsibility to provide a safe environment for players, coaches, referees, and spectators.

Canadian SafeSport Anonymous Hotline, 1-888-84-SPORT (77678): to report harassment, abuse, and discrimination concerns.

Eligibility Requirements for all Coaches and Persons in Authority (PIA)

All athletes have the right to a safe, inclusive, and responsible volleyball experience. As people in positions of authority, coaches have an important role to play in providing this type of environment. Coaches have the responsibility to:

- Complete the necessary training to provide an environment that is physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially safe for all athletes and participants.
- Complete the necessary training to provide a responsible learning environment that incorporates Volleyball Canada's teaching methodologies, technical guidelines, and long-term athlete development principles.
- Ensure that all their coach training is current to be able to provide a safe and responsible volleyball experience for all.

MANDATORY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR VNB COACHES and PIAs All individuals who sit on the bench at a VNB-sanctioned event or who are involved with youth athletes in a VNB club training environment must complete the following requirements prior to their registration as a VNB member:

- **Background Screening: Volleyball New Brunswick/ Volleyball Canada requires all PIA to complete the following:**
 - Enhanced Police Information Check (EPIC) – completed within the last 3 years.
 - VNB Screening Disclosure Form, completed annually with membership renewal.
 - Both must be submitted to VNB by **September 30th, 2023**.



- Individuals who do not complete this by the deadline or are found to be participating in any capacity who have not satisfied these requirements will have a fine of \$500 levied against the club and a suspension of the coach(s) until all documents are submitted.
- Clubs found with coaches who have not completed these requirements may risk fines and being labeled as a club not in good standing until the situation is resolved. If a club is not in good standing their teams will not be allowed to compete in any event.
- **Complete and submit Safe Sport Training or Respect in Sport Certification**
- **Read and adhere to Volleyball Canada's Code of Conduct and Abuse Policy**
- **Review and adhere to the Responsible Coaching Movement's Rule of Two:**
 1. Any one-on-one interaction between PIA and an individual athlete must take place within earshot and view of a second PIA. If possible, one of the PIAs should be the same gender as the athlete. If a PIA is not available, another screened volunteer, parent, or adult can be recruited. An exception is made for medical emergencies.

All individuals acting as head coach during a VNB event must also complete the following training prior to their registration as a member of the VNB:

- Foundations of Volleyball (\$89)
- Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation (\$85 or free if course was completed)
- Making Head Way (free)

Anyone acting as an assistant coach is strongly encouraged to complete the same training.

*** Coaches attending Nationals should check Volleyball Canada's Coach Certification Policy to verify compliance. Volleyball Canada does have additional certification requirements. ***

*** Requirements are subject to change without notice. ***



Head Coach Requirements for VNB Age-Class Provincials

In addition to the mandatory eligibility requirements listed above, head coaches must meet the certification requirements below for the age category that they are coaching, relating to their number of years as Head Coach since 2024.

	For 2024-25 VNB Age-Class Championship
13U 14U 15U 16U	In addition to completing the Mandatory Requirements, all coaches participating as a Head Coach at a 13U/14U/15U/16U Provincials for the second time are required to have successfully completed the DEVELOPMENT COACH WORKSHOP. In addition to complete the Mandatory Requirements, all coaches participating as a Head Coach at a 13U/14U/15U/16U Provincials for the third time or more are required to have CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COACH status.
17U 18U	In addition to completing the Mandatory Requirements, all coaches participating as a Head Coach at a 17U/18U Provincials for the second time are required to have successfully completed an ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT COACH (INDOOR) WORKSHOP. In addition to completing the Mandatory Requirements, all coaches participating as a Head Coach at a 17U/18U Provincials for the 3rd time or more are required to have CERTIFIED ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT COACH status.
IMPORTANT NOTE	Head Coaches who have achieved Certified status in their appropriate context are still required to complete the mandatory requirements in Section A (above) and maintain Active status in the NCCP Locker. Coaches with an 'Inactive' status are not eligible. Please refer to Volleyball Canada's NCCP Certification Maintenance Guide on how to remain Active. A coach that has moved from 14U-15U-16U into the 17U-18U age group must have the appropriate requirements for the 17U-18U category. A coach who has the requirements for 17U-18U, is eligible for 14U-15U-16U, however is encouraged to obtain education for the appropriate context.
Fines	Coaches who do not complete the mandatory requirements by the deadlines can be sanctioned by VNB.



Certification Timeline Recommendations

Development Coach Certified (13U-16U): Recommended timelines for training tasks in the Development Coach pathway. Coaches are encouraged to complete tasks as soon as they are able and do not necessarily have to wait for the year indicated. Coaches should only register for the Development Coach Evaluation once all other tasks have been completed.

Year	Tasks	Time	Cost
1	Foundations of Volleyball eLearning	1.5 hours	\$89
	Safe Sport Training - Mandatory	1.5 hours	FREE
	Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation	45 minutes	\$85 or free
	Making Head Way eLearning	90 minutes	Free
2	Development Coach Workshop	In-person or online	\$125
	Analyzing Performance Evaluation (Basic Skills)	45 minutes	Free
3	Development Coach Evaluation	varies	\$120

Advanced Development Coach Certified (17U-18U): Recommended timelines for training tasks in the Development Coach pathway. Coaches are encouraged to complete tasks as soon as they are able and do not necessarily have to wait for the year indicated. Coaches should only register for the Development Coach Evaluation once all other tasks have been completed.



Year	Tasks	Time	Cost
1	Foundations of Volleyball eLearning	1.5 hours	\$89
	Safe Sport Training - Mandatory	1.5 hours	FREE
	Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation	45 minutes	\$85 or free
	Making Head Way eLearning	90 minutes	Free
	Development Coach Workshop	In-person or online	\$125
2	Nutrition eLearning (Optional)	Weekend (18 hours)	\$125
	Development Coach Evaluation	varies	\$120
	Design a Basic Sport Program	4 hours	\$25
	Analyzing Performance Evaluation (Basic Skills)	45 minutes	Free
3	Analyzing Performance (Intermediate Skills)	45 minutes	Free
	Advanced Development Coach Evaluation	4-6 hours	\$120

**Note all costs are subject to change*



League Tournaments

Hosting a League Tournament (not applicable to the 15U Girls seeding tournaments)

- Teams wishing to host a sanctioned league tournament are to contact the VNB Director of Operations after September 1st via the [Hosting Application Form](#).
- League tournament hosts will be determined by the VNB Director of Operations. Tournament organizers will abide by the guidelines set out in the VNB Tournament Host Package.
- Tournament organizers must have the updated VNB Official Balls for game balls at sanctioned events.
- Tournament organizers must try to accept all teams that register from their own division. If a host fails to do so for facility reasons, another host may run a tournament to another in this format and will not be penalized. If tournament spots are not filled the day prior to the registration deadline the host may decide to allow teams from another division to fill the empty spots.
- Tournament organizers must provide scorekeepers.
- It is strongly recommended that the tournament host provide some sort of prize (medals, plaque, certificate, etc.) to recognize the first-place team at your town tournament.

Tournament Scheduling

The serpentine method will be used for all tournaments. Teams will be seeded following each tournament and will be posted on the website. VNB will use these rankings to determine the scheduling of the tournaments. VNB reserves the right to change the ranking in certain circumstances (same club teams playing each other, too many traveling teams in a pool etc.)

Considerations

- Each team will receive a minimum of 6 sets.
- No team will play more than twice in a row. In situations where this is not possible, a 30-minute break will be added to the schedule.
- No team will sit more than twice in a row.
- Host teams should play in the first time slot.
- The furthest traveling teams should not play the first time slot.



Point System

The following point chart applies to all tournaments. To better represent tournaments of varying sizes, teams will also receive 1 point for each team in the tournament. For example, the winner of an 8-team tournament will receive 508 points, 2nd place 468 points and so on.

Rank	Points	Rank	Points
1	500	11	290
2	460	12	280
3	430	13	270
4	415	14	260
5	390	15	250
6	370	16	240
7	350	17	230
8	330	18	220
9	310	19	210
10	300	20	200

Determining Tournament Rank

To determine the rank of teams entering a sanctioned tournament the following process will be implemented:

1. Calculated the sum of the two highest point accumulations.
2. Divide the sum by 2.
3. In the case of a tie, the following procedure will be used to break the tie:
 - a. The result of matches played head-to-head in the most recent tournament.
 - b. The sum of the 3 highest points divided by 3 (if one of the tied teams has not played in a 3rd tournament, the tie break will go to the team that partook in the extra VNB-sanctioned tournament).
 - c. The team with the higher placed finish in the most recent tournament that both



- teams attended.
- d. The team with higher placed finishes in all tournaments attended.
- e. Coin toss

League Tournament Refunds

VNB will deduct a 10% administrative fee from all refund/cancellation requests for any VNB indoor tournament canceled prior to the registration deadline. For any cancellation done after the registration deadline, there will be no refund. All cancellation or refund requests must be done in writing to the VNB Director of Operations. Any event canceled by VNB will be 100% refunded.

15U Girls Seeding Series

This pilot will be used for the Fall 2024 club season in the 15U girls' division only. The purpose is to test a new method to better rank teams for age-class provincials and to ensure more meaningful competition.

VNB will operate two groups of seeding weekends for this age group and use those results to tier and seed teams for Age-Class Provincials.

***** If a team does not attend both seeding weekend tournaments, they will automatically be seeded at the bottom of the lowest division at Age-Class Provincials.*****

Preferred weekends

October 19th and 20th
November 16th and 17th

Other options

October 26th and 27th
November 23rd and 24th

These weekends should allow for clubs to have ample time to ensure their teams are ready and available to play.

VNB will invite interested clubs to submit applications to host a seeding tournament beginning August 1st and will close the application period on August 31st. This will be separate from the application process for club tournaments which will still begin on September 1st. Seeding tournaments may be part of the bigger



tournament operated by a club. VNB reserves the right to reach out to clubs at the discretion of PSO staff to ensure tournaments are adequately spread out across the province.

For weekend # 1, teams will be seeded based on the results of the 2023 14U Age-Class Provincials.

Each weekend would consist of up to 3 tournaments

Tier 1 - 8 teams

Tier 2 - 8 to 12 teams

Tier 3 - 8 to 12 teams

Clubs hosting a tier 1 tournament must be able to provide a gym with 2 courts. Clubs hosting tier 2 and tier 3 tournaments must have access to a minimum of 3 courts if there are more than 9 teams entered.

Clubs hosting the tournaments would receive all proceeds from registration after the VNB admin fee and the cost of officials is covered.

VNB would endeavour to make sure there is an equal split of tournament hosts throughout the province.

Seeding tournaments will be played out to determine final placement for each team.

Movement between tournaments - The bottom two teams in a tournament would move down for the second weekend and the top two would move up. Rankings after the second tournament weekend will be the rankings for Age-Class Provincials.

Age-Class Provincials will have two divisions to start with. The top 12 teams after the second seeding weekend will be in Division 1 while the remaining teams will be in Division 2. Teams will play a pool-based round-robin and will then be re-tiered (within their original tier) for the championship rounds. Provincials will determine the following:

Division 1, Tier 1 Gold, Silver and Bronze

Division 1, Tier 2 Gold, Silver and Bronze

Division 2, Tier 1 Gold, Silver and Bronze

Division 2, Tier 2 Gold, Silver and Bronze.

Depending on the number of teams, it could be possible to split the age-class provincials into 3 divisions.



VNB Provincials

Dates and Locations

All Divisions	Date	Location
Tripleball	December 6, 2024 (1 day) There is a possibility of moving this event to the following weekend if facilities are available	Moncton
13U – 18U	December 13 th - 15 th , 2024	Moncton

Format

Depending on the number of teams, Volleyball New Brunswick Provincial Championships may be a one- or two-day event. Playoffs may be tiered, but full positional playdowns will not necessarily be scheduled. The VNB Provincial Championship will be scheduled and formatted by the VNB Director of Operations in cooperation with the Age-Class Committee.

Seeding and Division

The serpentine method will be used in the year-end tournament ranking.

Team Roster

- Players within the same club are eligible to play on teams within their club in their own age category and/or any team within their club at a higher category in a season.
- Clubs and teams must declare their final roster by the Roster Lock (November 16th, 2023). Movement of players between teams is no longer allowed once the final roster is declared.

Refund Policy

VNB will deduct 50% of the administrative fee from all refund/cancellation requests for the VNB Provincials canceled prior to the registration deadline. For any cancellation done after the registration deadline, there will be no refund. All cancellation or refund requests must be done in writing to the VNB Program Coordinator. Any event canceled by VNB will be (100%) refunded.



Team Eligibility for Provincials

To be eligible for the VNB Provincial Championship, teams must participate in two (2) sanctioned age-class tournaments. Teams must participate in the Provincial Championships for the category in which they are registered.

13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 18U Male and Female North-South Rule: teams must participate in at least two (2) sanctioned tournaments to play in the Provincial Championships. One of these two tournaments must be played in the South and the other in the North to be eligible to play in Provincials. This rule does not apply to Tripleball or 15U Female due to the seeding series

Player Eligibility for Provincials

VNB requires that athletes participate in at least one (1) tournament before the Provincial Championships.

VNB CHAMPIONSHIPS PROTEST PROCESS

Any protest or appeal at a VNB Championship will be overseen by a Competition Jury, composed a combination of the following:

- The Tournament Director or approved designate.
- Two members from the Referee Management Team or approved designates.

The Competition Jury has the highest level of authority at a VNB Championship and its decisions take precedence and cannot be appealed. They are in place to evaluate complaints and render decisions regarding issues that arise about the event organization and all technical matters. The Competition Jury may be called upon to make decisions on, but not limited to, any of the following matters:

- Competition Protests
- Player Eligibility
- Uniforms
- Spectators
- Venues
- Schedules and Draws

The following types of issues can be protested or appealed:

- An improper decision by the referee who did not apply the rules or regulations.
- An improper decision of the scorer who made a mistake on the rotational order or on the score.



- Please note that judgment calls cannot be protested. A referee's decision regarding a playing action (ie. ball handling or misconduct) cannot be protested.
- The protest will be accepted or rejected prior to the resumption of play by the tournament jury.

To officially protest or appeal a decision, the captain must launch the protest immediately to the first referee who will then indicate to the scorekeeper that a protest has been lodged.

- A cash fee of \$100 must be provided in cash immediately in order to assemble the Competition Jury to assess the protest. The funds will be returned if the protest is upheld; however, if it is overturned, the funds will go towards referee development.

In case of an incident during a match, the protest must be requested at the moment the incident occurs, before play resumes. Please remember that NO match will be replayed, as protests must be placed at the moment of the incident. For further explanation, please refer to Protest Procedures of the Indoor Rulebook and Judges' Conference.

- Notify both teams that there is a protest.
- Ask both teams to stay in the gym until the final decision is rendered.
- The chairperson of the jury convenes the jury.
- The jury interviews the coach of the protesting team.
- The jury interviews all involved parties, as they see fit (e.g.: opposing coach, officials, captains, athletes, etc.)
- The jury deliberates and renders a decision.
- The chairperson of the jury informs all parties involved of the decision made.

National Championships

Registration Guidelines

- All participants in any capacity (players, coaches, managers, referee) must be registered with the Provincial/Territorial Association. By registering with their PTA, each participant is then a registered member with Volleyball Canada and eligible to participate in the following events.
- All participants in any capacity must meet their PTA registration requirements and deadlines in order to participate in National Championships.
- A team may only be entered under one age class, the lowest age category offered by Volleyball Canada. However, players do have the ability to move up an age class.



- A minimum of two registered players must meet the age criteria of the age class in which the team is registered and comply with registrations.
- All players can register with only one team and must be registered in the lowest age class offered by their club for which he/she is eligible to compete. However, a player can play with more than one team within the same club.
- NO individual may be registered with more than one PTA, with more than one National Federation or with more than one club or team at any given time, with the same season.

Team Requirements

All teams must meet the following minimum criteria to attend a National Championship.

- Be registered and in good standing within their own PTA and with Volleyball Canada.
- Participate in the Provincial Championship of their respective Provincial/ Territorial Association.
- Meet all additional registration requirements of their PTA and Volleyball Canada.
- A team must be registered in the appropriate category in order to compete in that category.



Appendices



Appendix A - Policies

Pan-Canadian Policies

- Abuse Policy
- Anti-Doping Policy
- Appeals Policy
- Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Discipline and Complaints Policy
- Dispute Resolution Policy
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy
- Investigations (Discrimination, Harassment and Maltreatment) Policy
- Reciprocity Policy
- Screening Policy

Volleyball NB Policies

- Athlete Protection Policy
- Safe Sport Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Membership Policy
- Language Policy
- Privacy Policy

Copies of these policies are available at <https://volleyballnb.org/our-policies/>



Appendix B - Fines and Sanctions

Violation	Sanction/Fine
Failure to provide necessary background checks and screening documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$500 fine to club ● Suspension of coach (s) until documentation is provided
Failure to meet roster lock deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$50 per team
Failure to appear at a tournament <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1st offense ● 2nd offense 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Written warning ● Ineligible for Age-Class Provincials
Failure to meet the requirements of the north/south rule (all categories except tripleball and 15U Girls)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Team will be seeded last at Age-Class Provincials
15U Girls - failure to play in both seeding tournaments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Team will be seeded last at Age-Class Provincials