

2025/26 Club Volleyball Competition Guide

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Coaches & Persons in Authority Eligibility for Club Volleyball

All leaders on team rosters must meet the Mandatory Requirements. Please review the <u>Volleyball New Brunswick Coaching Requirements</u> for full details and deadlines.

- All clubs, coaches, and club staff must become members of Volleyball New Brunswick (VNB) prior to participating in club tryouts or training. VNB provides its membership with administrative, instructional and professional services to assist in the development of volleyball in New Brunswick. These services include but are not limited to indoor and beach athlete development from grassroots to high performance programs, leadership development of coaches, referees, and club leaders, governance, insurance, sport advocacy, and business development.
- <u>Person in Authority Checks</u> must be completed by club and team personnel prior to participating in their role. This is the club's responsibility to ensure that all PIA have the mandatory requirements prior to the individual being on court with athletes.
- Fines/Sanctions may be issued at any time if VNB finds out a PIA is working with athletes without the required credentials. All mandatory PIA requirements must be uploaded with the individuals SportLoMo account by **September 30**th, **2025** to avoid being fined/sanctioned which can include but is not limited to suspension until documentation is provided. At provincials, any coach who has not submitted their documentation for a valid Criminal Record Check WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON THE BENCH with a fine issued to the club immediately. If a coach or other PIA has a valid CRC but has not completed the other NCCP requirements, they will be fined on site and are not permitted on the bench to coach until their fine has been paid.
- Volleyball Canada Coaching Requirements for Youth National Championships are updated annually. Please review the requirements carefully if your team will be attending Nationals.
- All teams must have a designated head coach for the season who meets the mandatory head coach
 requirements. A head coach may not head coach more than one team in the same tournament
 weekend. The same individual may be designated as an assistant coach, manager, or trainer for
 additional teams in the same tournament weekend.
- A maximum of four team staff are permitted on the roster and allowed to sit on the bench. One of
 these team staff must be the head coach. A rostered team staff may act as the head coach in case of
 unexpected absence.
- 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. Club players and personnel will purchase their memberships through their <u>club portal</u>. All referees and adult players will purchase memberships through the VNB portal.
- 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 (https://volleyballnb.org/our-policies/). The waiver form and Code of Conduct and policies will be collected electronically for each member through SportLoMo at the time of registration.
- The minimum age for team staff on the roster is 11 years of age.

Coaches with Infants/Children

- Team personnel who are parents of an infant (under the age of 1) will be supported by VNB in having the infant on the bench during matches. The infant must be appropriately secured in a handsfree baby carrier or in a stroller directly behind the bench. The team must notify the tournament organizer/director prior to the event to ensure that competition staff are aware. The team may also be asked to complete a Risk Acknowledgement form as they are exposing the infant to a higher-risk environment.
- Team personnel who are the parent/caregiver to any young children may leave the bench to attend to them during the match provided the referee is notified before they leave. If the parent is the Head Coach, the Assistant Coach would be permitted to temporarily act as head coach during this time.

Team Composition

- A team must be composed of a minimum of 8 players up to a maximum of 15 players. A minimum of 6 players must be present, in uniform, during competition to be eligible to compete.
- For tripleball 14U age class teams, a maximum of 12 players can be on the scoresheet, in uniform, and participate in any given match. Teams may have a maximum of 15 players on the roster, participate in warmup, and sit on the bench.
- For 15U 18U age class teams, a maximum of 15 players can be on the scoresheet, participate in warmup, sit on the bench and participate in any given match.
- Teams may include up to 4 staff members but only 1 may be designated as Head Coach. No other staff will be allowed to sit on the bench.
- Teams should play in the most appropriate age class for their development level; however, teams can not play down in age class, they can only play up 1 level.



Teams can register for one age class category only at the provincial championship.

Athlete Eligibility

- Athletes need a Youth Competitive Player Membership to be added to a team roster.
- The minimum age for athletes on the roster is 10 years of age. It is the team's responsibility to verify the eligibility of athletes before adding them to the roster. (Age Categories).
- Athletes cannot play on more than one team in a club tournament unless the age categories are on different days. This does not apply to Age-Class Provincials.
- The last day to add a new athlete, coach, or manager to a team roster is November 15, 2025, 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.
- Athletes on a current ACAA or USports volleyball roster will not be permitted to play.
- Athletes can play up 1 age category without many challengers or limitations. However, thought and discussion should occur between the club, the athlete, and family to determine the best learning environment for the athlete. Playing up 2 or more age categories can lead to significant disparities amongst athletes. Clubs should review the Playing Up document prior to making a final decision.
- Volleyball Canada and Volleyball New Brunswick are committed to encouraging diversity, inclusion, equity and access in its administration, policies, programs, and activities as outlined in our <u>Diversity</u>, <u>Equity</u>, <u>and Inclusion policy</u>. We support the inclusion of transgender athletes and follow the <u>Volleyball Canada Trans Inclusion Policy</u>. As denoted on line 10 of the policy, individuals participating in development and recreational sport should be able to participate in the gender in which they identify. This applies to our club system.

Tryouts and Signing Athletes

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

- Official Tryout Period (August 25th to September 12th)
- In-person tryouts may not begin before August 25th. Clubs may host open gyms before August 25th, but they must be advertised as so, and no evaluation may take place at this time. Clubs who are found to be using open gyms to evaluate athletes may be fined by VNB. Clubs are strongly



encouraged to refer to athlete development principles and be very deliberate about offering any indoor programming during the summer months.

- Offers may be communicated in writing or via email beginning September 13th at 12 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 office before the timeframe has expired, and they must allow the athlete 48 hours to respond. (Official Offer Letter Template)
- 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 until August 31, 2026. Only under exceptional circumstances will Volleyball NB entertain a request to do so.
- Clubs planning on attending Volleyball Canada Nationals must use the roster that was used at VNB Age-Class Provincials. New tryouts may not be held after Provincials to create teams for Nationals. If a team needs to add players for Nationals, they must apply directly to Volleyball Canada for an exemption. Volleyball Canada may allow up to 2 additions to the roster, and they must be athletes currently registered with your club.

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. Clubs may also incur fines if team staff do mot meet the requirements. **Athletes do not need to be registered members to attend a tryout.**

Roster Management

- Teams will be required to submit a roster for each club tournament. This roster must be sent to VNB 2 days prior to the start of the tournament. Failure to submit rosters may be subject to fines.
- Vertical Movement within a Club If 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.
- Teams must register for Age-Class Provincials by October 25, 2025. Any requests to register after this will be charged a \$250 late fee.
- Team Roster Lock will be November 15, 2025. A fine of \$50 may be levied to the club for each team that has not submitted a roster by this date.
- No roster additions can be made after this date except under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Age-Class Chair, Executive Director, and Director of Operations. All requests must be submitted via email to operationsdirector@volleyballnb.org no later than Noon on the Monday prior to Age-Class Provincials and are subject to a \$25 fee.
- A team staff member MUST verify the roster at check-in for Age-Class Provincials. Athletes or staff may be removed at this time; no additions can be made. Only athletes and staff who appear on the roster and meet all eligibility requirements will be allowed to participate.

VNB Competitions

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. VNB charges a 12% administration fee as well as pays the officials with monies from registration for these tournaments. Payment is then made after officials expenses and the administration fee is deducted from the registration fees.
- 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 typically does not create the schedule for these



tournaments. These tournaments are subject to a sanctioning fee to be paid at the time of application unless the club opts to have VNB handle the registration and scheduling, the tournament administration fee of 12% of registration is applied. VNB would also pay the officials with monies from the registration fees.

- 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.
- Any tournament that falls outside these definitions will not be able to use VNB registered officials.

Tournament Regulations

- The rules listed in the current edition of the Volleyball Canada Rule Book are in effect unless otherwise stated.
- Teams may register on a first-come, first-served basis for the tournaments of the age-class in which they are registered to play. Teams from a different age class may register but their spot is not guaranteed until registration closes.
- 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.
- 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.
- Teams from lower age-classes will not be allowed to register in a Seeding Series tournament of a higher age-class.
- 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.
- The registration deadline for all club tournaments is the Sunday before the tournament (7 to 8 days).
- Schedules will be sent to all participating teams a minimum of 3 days prior to the event.
- 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 age-class
 provincial championships and a fine will be issued to the club. 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 and VNB 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.

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.

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 to avoid delays and shorten the length of the tournament day. The tournament director will be identified on the tournament schedule along with contact information.
- 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 60-minute time slot.
- Each 2 of 3 match will be given a 1 hour and 15 minutes time slot.

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 it will count towards their Provincial Championship eligibility.



Protests

- At all VNB-sanctioned events, protests must be settled immediately at the time of the incident, onsite 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. A \$100 (cash) bond must be submitted at this time.
 - 3. 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.
 - 4. The protest is then referred to the Protest Committee (i.e. Tournament Director, Head Official, and VNB Representative) for deliberation of acceptance or refusal.
 - 5. If the protest is not valid or not upheld, the entire bond is forfeited, and the match will resume.
- 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.

Club Tournaments

This does not apply to seeding tournaments.

- Teams wishing to host a sanctioned league tournament are to contact the VNB Director of Operations after September 1st via the <u>Hosting Application Form</u>.
- 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 use as game balls at sanctioned events.
- Tournament organizers must try to accept all teams that register from their own age-class. VNB may award a tournament to another club for the same date if the number of teams available to play is greater than the first host can accommodate and/or the original tournament is at capacity.
- 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 own tournament.
- For 13U competitive and 14U boys and girls, all tournaments are required to have a referee supervisor on site which will be charged in addition to the host at a rate of \$225 per day.
- All tournaments will be enforcing the Volleyball Canada Zero Tolerance Approach



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

- o Each team will receive a minimum of 6 sets.
- o 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.
- o Host teams should play in the first time slot.
- o The furthest traveling teams should not play the first time slot.

Match Protocols

Official Game Ball

1. Tripleball: Mikasa VUL500.

2. 13U, 14U, 15U, and 16U: Mikasa VQ200W

3. 17U, 18U: Mikasa V200W

Net Heights

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



Uniform Rule

- The uniform rule will be in effect at all VNB events. Each registered team shall be appropriately dressed for competition as follows:
 - 1. 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.
 - 2. Compression wear can be any single solid colour. The single solid colour does not need to be the same for each player.
 - 3. Players' jerseys must be numbered from 1 to 99 inclusive.
 - 4. The number must be placed on the jersey at the center of the front and of the back.
 - 5. The colour and brightness of the numbers must contrast with the colour and brightness of the jerseys.
 - 6. 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.
 - 7. 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.
 - 8. 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
 - 1. Must be dressed to represent their team in a professional manner.
 - 2. Secure shoes are highly recommended.
 - 3. Hats are not permitted.

Warmup Procedure

- The timing of the official warm-up protocol will be a 2–4–4 model.
 - 1. 2 minutes of shared court time for ball warm-up (E.g., dig-set, setter warm-up, etc.).
 - 2. Note: Shared court time will start when the court is available to both teams
 - 3. 4 minutes official warm-up at the net Serving Team
 - 4. 4 minutes official warm-up at the net Receiving Team
- Be reminded that opposing teams are not permitted to use volleyballs in the free zone during the other teams allocated court time, this is an added component to help prevent concussions.



Restricted Activities

- Music may only be played for personal use with headphones during all events. Venues are family friendly, and the content of some music may be inappropriate or distracting.
- Running and warm up activities should be confines to the gym area. Running in stairwells, public hallways, and off-limit areas of a venue are prohibited.
- Teams are permitted to record matches; however please note:
 - O Tripods are not permitted in the playing area (this includes the warmup zone, serving zone, and on the sport court where applicable.
 - O Cameras and tripods may not be left unattended. VNB and/or event staff reserve the right to remove any tripods or cameras left unattended.
 - VNB reserves the right to restrict/deny the filming of any match for safety and/or other reasons.
 - o VNB is not responsible for any damage to the camera or related equipment
- Remote controlled devices are not allowed at any VNB sanctioned event.

Refuse and Responsibility Policy

All bottles, garbage, and personal items must be removed from the team bench after each match. It is the coach's responsibility to ensure this is completed. Repeat offenders may face sanctions

Appropriate disposal of bottles or garbage and general cleanliness is expected in all areas of a facility. Repeat offenders may be subject to fines.

Competition Structure

Tripleball

- The goal of Tripleball is to promote better skill development through more rallies, increase participation, and encourage meaningful competition and fun.
- Each team will need to ball tosser.
- Tripleball will use the Fair Play rule for all matches.
- Rosters may contain up to 15 players but only 12 may be listed on the game sheet.
- No substitutions are allowed in set 1 or 2. In the case of injury, an Exceptional Substitution may be made.
- If there is a third set, the 12 Limited substitution rule will apply.



- Provincials will be held over 2 days and seeding will be based on tournament play.
- The north/south rule does not apply

For a complete description of the tripleball gameplay, see the <u>Tripleball Gameplay document</u>.

13U Girls

- Designed to move girls' teams from tripleball to a more competitive form of traditional volleyball while focusing on skill development and having fun.
- The Fair Play rule is used for all matches
- Rosters may contain up to 15 players but only 12 may be listed on the game sheet.
- No substitutions are allowed in set 1 or 2. In the case of injury, an Exceptional Substitution may be made
- If there is a third set, the 12 Limited substitution rule will apply.
- Teams may not use any offensive system that utilizes only 1 setter at this level.
- Provincials will be held over 2 days and seeding will be based on tournament play.
- The north/south rule does apply. Teams must play in 1 tournament in the north and 1 tournament in the south to qualify for the Age-Class Provincial Championship.

14U Girls and Boys

- The focus on this age group should still be skill development, having fun while playing in a competitive environment.
- The Fair Play rule is used for all matches
- Rosters may contain up to 15 players but only 12 may be listed on the game sheet.
- No substitutions are allowed in set 1 or 2. In the case of injury, an Exceptional Substitution may be made.
- If there is a third set, the 12 Limited substitution rule will apply.
- Teams are strongly encouraged to use offensive systems that utilize multiple setters (not 5-1 systems).
 5-1 systems limit the number of setters trained and we need to address this gap in our system.
- Provincials will be held over 2 days and seeding will be based on tournament play.
- The north/south rule does apply. Teams must play in 1 tournament in the north and 1 tournament in the south to qualify for the Age



15U to 18U Girls

- Girls' divisions are single year cohorts (15U, 16U, 17U, and 18U)
- All divisions will now use the seeding series system to seed teams for provincials. For a breakdown on the Seeding Series system, please refer to the <u>Seeding Series document</u>.
- Teams are free to host tournaments in all age classes on weekends not designated Seeding Series weekends.
- Rosters may contain up to 15 players and all may be included on the game sheet.
- At the 15U level, teams are strongly encouraged to use offensive systems that utilize multiple setters (not 5-1 systems). 5-1 systems limit the number of setters trained and we need to address this gap in our system.
- The use of a libero (1) is permitted.
- The 12 Limited Substitution rule will apply.
- Seeding for the age-class championships is based on the seeding series tournament weekends.

16U and 18U Boys

- Provincially, boys' division are two-year cohorts (15U/16U and 17U/18U).
- All teams must play in a minimum of 2 tournaments to qualify for provincials
- Seeding will be based on the two best tournament finishes.
- The north/south rule applies to all divisions.
- Rosters may contain up to 15 players and all may be included on the game sheet.
- At the 15U level, teams are strongly encouraged to use offensive systems that utilize multiple setters (not 5-1 systems). 5-1 systems limit the number of setters trained and we need to address this gap in our system.
- The use of a libero (1) is permitted.
- The 12 Limited Substitution rule will apply.



Ranking System

The following point chart applies to tournaments for the following age-classes:

- Tripleball
- 13U Girls
- 14U Girls
- 14U Boys
- 16U Boys
- 18U Boys

| 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 |

- 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.
- 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



VNB Age-Class Provincial Championships

Dates

December 11th through 14th, 2025 Moncton

Due to the growth we've experienced over the last number of years we are currently working on a new model for the age-class championship. We will not know the exact start times and days for each age-class until teams are confirmed. Teams will need to be registered for Provincials by October 25th, 2025.

There is a strong likelihood that play will start on the afternoon of December 11th, 2025 for some of the younger age-classes.

Seeding and Divisions

- All age-class schedules will be created using the serpentine method and will be based solely on the final rankings.
- For Tripleball, 13U girls, 14U girls, and all boys age-classes, the final rankings will be determined through the points ranking system. Depending on the number of teams within each age-class, divisions may be tiered for the beginning of the event. This will create a better competitive environment and provide a better overall experience for all participants.
- 15U to 18U girls age-classes will be seeded based on the seeding tournament system.

Eligibility for Provincials

- To be eligible for the VNB Age-Class Provincial Championship, teams must participate in two (2) sanctioned age class tournaments. These tournaments will be either seeding tournaments or regular club-hosted tournaments, dependent on the age-class.
- It is the team's responsibility to follow the north/south rule if applicable
- Teams must participate in the Provincial Championship for the category in which they are registered.
- Clubs and teams must declare their final roster by the Roster Lock (November 15th, 2024). Movement of players between teams is no longer allowed once the final roster is declared.
- Athletes must have played in one tournament to be eligible for age-class provincials, and they can play in only one age-class at the event.



Refund Policy

VNB will deduct 50% of administrative fee from all refund/cancellation requests for the VNB
Provincials cancelled 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 sent
via email to the VNB Operations Director. Any event cancelled by VNB will be (100%)
refunded.

Protests

- Age-class provincials protests are to be lodged according to the procedures listed in the Volleyball Canada Rule Book and/or as outlined in the tournament rules, for the tournament Protest Committee to handle.
- Inquiries and protests regarding procedures or regulations are to be addressed to the Age-Class Chair and Volleyball New Brunswick in writing.

Complaints & Conflict Resolution at VNB Events

To address a rule-related complaint during a match, teams should initiate a protest. A captain may only lodge a protest in the following circumstances: an error in applying a rule or rule interpretation, an improper decision of the Scorer who made a mistake on the rotational order or on the score. (See the appropriate section on protests found earlier in this document.)

To file a Safe Sport concern of maltreatment, including sexual, emotional, physical abuse, neglect, harassment, bullying, exploitation or discrimination, call the Canadian Sport Helpline by phone or text at 1-888-83SPORT (77678), or email info@abuse-free-sport.ca.

Code of Conduct Concerns

In-match conflict involving teams, score keepers, or lines people must be handled by the referees officiating the match, with support of the Referee Supervisor as required/if available.

If a coach has a concern about the conduct of a participant at VNB events, whether that is another coach, athlete, spectator, referee, or other person, the following process will be used:

- 1. Coaches bring their concern to onsite Volleyball staff or the tournament director.
- 2. Volleyball NB staff determine if any immediate actions and/or sanctions need to take place.



- A Zero Tolerance Policy has been put in place at Volleyball New Brunswick Tournaments and Provincials. It acts to maintain a safe and positive environment that is appropriate for youth sport. For incidents which require immediate actions following the Zero Tolerance Approach, the Volleyball New Brunswick Executive Director or Operations Director will be consulted. If necessary, a jury, which may include the VNB onsite staff, the tournament director or representative, and/or a referee or referee supervisor, will be assembled to decide appropriate next steps.
- 3. VNB Staff may request that an incident report be filled out.

Volleyball New Brunswick full-time staff or Safe Sport chair may follow up on Code of Conduct concerns depending on the nature and severity of the incident.

Coaches and club officials who violate VNB policies and competition regulations may face fines and/or sanctions.



Volleyball New Brunswick Sanctions/Fines/Late Fees- 2025- 2026

| Violation | Details | Sanction/Fine |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Code of | Damage to facility | Cost of Damage Repair and up to a \$500 Fine |
| Conduct | | |
| Code of | Failure to abide by facility rules | Warning and up to a \$500 fine |
| Conduct | | |
| Code of | Red Card - 2nd Offence | Warning |
| Conduct | | |
| Code of | Red Card – 3 rd Offence | Warning and up to a \$50 fine |
| Conduct | | |
| Code of | Expulsion: Yellow & Red Card (together) - 1st | Warning and up to a \$100 fine |
| Conduct | Offence | |
| Code of | Expulsion: Yellow & Red Card (together) - 2 nd | Warning and up to a \$150 fine |
| Conduct | Offence | |
| Code of | Disqualification: Yellow & Red Card (separate) – | Removal from the roster for the next match and up |
| Conduct | 1st Offence | to a \$200 fine |
| Code of | Disqualification: Yellow & Red Card (separate) – | Removal from roster for the next match and up to a |
| Conduct | 2 nd Offence | \$500 fine and automatically subject to review under |
| Forfeit | Forfeit of match | VNB's Discipline and Complaints Policy |
| | | Warning and up to \$100 fine per match |
| Uniform Policy | Illegal Uniform | Warning |
| Tryout Period | Holding tryouts prior to the official start of the | \$100 |
| Tryout I criou | tryout period | \$100 |
| Tryout Period | Signing athletes prior to the start of the offer period | Review by VNB and up to a \$50 fine per athlete |
| Roster | Failure to submit tournament roster 2 day prior to a | Warning |
| | tournament – 1 st occurrence | |
| Roster | Failure to submit tournament roster 2 day prior to a | \$25 fine per tournament (must be paid before age- |
| | tournament – 2 nd and following occurrences | class provincials |
| Roster | Roster not submitted at Roster Lock | \$50 fine per team |
| Roster | Additions to the roster after the Roster Lock | \$25 fee per request |
| Coaching | Failure to meet mandatory PIA requirements | \$150 fine and coach cannot participate until |
| Requirements | | requirements are met |
| Coaching | Failure to meet VNB coach education requirements | \$150 fine (must be paid before age-class |
| Requirements | (NOTE – VC requirements for Nationals are dealt | provincials) |
| | with by Volleyball Canada) | |
| Tournament | Tournament no-show 1st offence | Forfeit registration fee and warning |
| Registration | | |
| Tournament | Tournament no-show 1st offence | Forfeit registration fee and disqualification from |
| Registration | | age-class provincials |
| Refuse and | Repeated violations of policy | \$50 fine per occurrence |
| Responsibility | | |

All fines are payable to Volleyball NB and must be paid before age-class provincials. Failure to do so may affect a team's ability to participate at provincials.