



Rules of Scottish Volleyball Competitions

47th Edition, October 2018



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1. Title and Management

- 1.1 The Scottish Volleyball Association (SVA) organises each season a Scottish Volleyball League (SVL) and Cup competitions for men's and women's volleyball teams.
- 1.2 These Rules of National Competition are ratified by the SVA Board under the Articles of Association of the SVA and are the rules, unless otherwise stated, which govern all matters arising from the organisation, running and management of each National Competition, including Cup and Playoff Competitions.
- 1.3 The Senior & Junior National Competitions are supported by the Competitions Advisory Group (CAG), which is administered by the Competitions and Performance Officer and Club & Participation Development Officer respectively.
- 1.4 With respect to all the following Rules, contact with the organiser and CAG should be made in the first instance by e-mailing competitions@scottishvolleyball.org.
- 1.5 Any uncertainty arising from the Rules shall be exclusively open to interpretation by the CAG.

2. Competition Entry

- 2.1 Clubs registered with the SVA are entitled to enter teams into the National Competitions and must signify their wish to do so by completing the online registration and club nomination form together with the annual SVA membership and league entry fee. Fees and team details must be returned by the date set by the Competitions Organiser.
- 2.2 Late entries may only be accepted at the discretion of the CAG, which reserves the right to allocate a late entrant into the highest possible division which has spaces, regardless of the team's league status in the previous season. A club which is late with its entry will receive a Level 1 administration fee to cover administration costs. (See page 20 for list of administration fees.)
- 2.3 Club Administrators or Team Managers must be contactable each year from June until May. If this person is not contactable, they must inform the Competitions Organiser with a suitable replacement. The Club Administrator and Team Manager information will be provided to the opposition via the SVA Competitions Contact List.
- 2.4 All Club Administrators & Team Managers must be members of the SVA.
- 2.5 All teams entering the SVL must ensure that they have enough players, suitably qualified referees and coaches, for their level of play.
- 2.6 In entering a team into a National Competition, clubs agree to abide by the rules of the competitions and to abide by the decisions taken by the Competition Organiser.
- 2.7 Applicants to the competitions must ensure they meet all administrative tasks set by the Competitions Organiser. The Competitions Organiser has the right to request any club to change its club administrator or team secretaries if it is felt that they do not meet the obligations of the role. Failure to comply with this request will result in a Level 4 administration fee being imposed on the club or possible expulsion from the competition.
- 2.8 Clubs entering the SVL receive automatic entry to the corresponding Scottish Cup competition. If the club does not wish to take up this spot, it must inform the organiser by the deadline allocated for entry. Failure to do so will result in a Level 1 administration fee being imposed on the club

3. SVL Format

- 3.1 There shall be a Premier, One, Two (Senior Level), U18 and U16 (Junior Level) for males and females.
- 3.2 All leagues shall consist of a maximum of 11 teams and a minimum of 4 teams. The Competition Organiser has the right to restructure the leagues if deemed necessary.
- 3.3 All matches will be played to FIVB Rules unless stated otherwise with the agreement of the CAG.
- 3.4 The Format of the matches will be as follows:
- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| SVL Premier, SVL ONE & SVL TWO | - Best of five sets |
| Junior SVL | - Best of Three sets |
- 3.5 The arrangement of the matches will be as follows:
- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SVL Premier, SVL ONE, SVL Two | - Singular Matches* (see 3.5.1) |
| Junior SVL | - Triangular Matches |
- 3.5.1 All senior matches in SVL Premier, and SVL ONE must be arranged as Singular matches. Teams in the lowest division may request triangular fixtures. These requests will be given priority over singular fixtures in the lowest division only.
- 3.5.2 With the prior written agreement of the opponent team(s) and CAG, matches may be arranged as singular or triangular matches in other divisions.
- 3.6 League Tables shall be compiled as follows:

<u>Best of 5 Sets</u>		<u>Best of 3 Sets</u>	
<u>Score</u>	<u>Ranking Points</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Ranking Points</u>
Winner 3:0 or 3:1	3 Points	Winner 2:0	3 Points
Winner 3:2	2 Points	Winner 2:1	2 Points
Loser 2:3	1 Point	Loser 2:1	1 Point
Loser 1:3 or 0:3	0 Point	Loser 2:0	0 Point
Forfeit	-3 Points	Forfeit	-3 Points

League Table Criteria:

1. Ranking Points
2. Matches Won
3. Percent Sets Won
4. Percent Points Won
5. Matches won between the teams in their matches during the league
6. Sets won comparing the teams in their matches during the league
7. Points won comparing the teams in their matches during the league

- 3.7 The CAG has the discretion to amend forfeit points to -2, -1 or 0, given exceptional circumstances.
- 3.8 When a match is declared Null and Void, the CAG may award 0 point or 1 point to both sides. Decisions taken on this matter will be at the exclusive discretion of the CAG.
- 3.9 The team which is top of the league after all SVL matches have been completed, will be declared National Champions of that Division.
- 3.10 The teams winning the SVL Premier gain the title of “Scottish Champions” and are entitled to enter the CEV Cups of the succeeding season. Teams intending entering the CEV Cups and having earned the right to do so must inform the Competitions Organiser by no later than 30th April of this intention. Where neither of the Men’s or Women’s “Scottish Champions” elect to enter the CEV Cups, the eligibility for entry will be offered to the team finishing in 2nd place in the SVL Premier and then 3rd place. Teams winning the Scottish Cup will be offered a place in the CEV Challenge Cup automatically.
- 3.11 There will be one team promoted (1st place) and one team relegated (last place) directly from each division where applicable.
- 3.12 Teams finishing in 2nd place will playoff against teams finishing in 2nd last place of the division above. (See later for Playoff details)
- 3.13 No team can voluntarily demote itself/refuse promotion from any division. Any team wishing to voluntarily demote/refuse promotion for extenuating reasons, must do so in writing to CAG 14 days before the first match of the SVL Play-Offs. Any team which fails to meet this deadline and wishes to continue playing in the SVL in the succeeding season, must pay a Level 4 administration fee in order to gain entry.

4. Player and Coach Registration

- 4.1 Each team must have 6 players registered with the SVA 3 weeks prior to the first match of the competition. Failure to do so will result in a Level 2 administration fee.
- 4.2 Players, coaches and assistant coaches participating in the SVL must be members of and registered with the SVA, in accordance with SVA Byelaw 3.2 & 3.3.
- 4.3 It is the responsibility of the team captain & head coach to ensure the shirt numbers, team member names and registration numbers are correctly recorded on the scoresheet, prior to signing it. Failure to check and sign the scoresheet will result in a Level 1 administration fee being levied against the club in breach of this rule. Match results may be altered retrospectively by the CAG if a player takes part in a match without being properly recorded on the scoresheet or properly registered as a player with the SVA (see Rule 4.7).
- 4.4 It is the responsibility of the 1st referee to enter any discrepancies in the team licence into the remarks box of the scoresheet. A team or individual failing to provide a valid **signed** collective licence with which they have been issued prior to the match shall be liable to a Level 4 administration fee.
- 4.5 For teams competing in the Junior SVL, no SVL player may register for two clubs in any one season unless they are officially transferred (see Rule 5).
- 4.6 Players registered out with the Senior SVL, and not subject to a transfer, may play for a Senior SVL team. Such a player may play in a maximum of 2 matches, after which they must upgrade to a Senior SVL player.

- 4.7 A team playing a player who has not been correctly registered before the start of the match, shall forfeit the match in question and shall be liable to a Level 4 administration fee.
- 4.8 Clubs may have more than one team in the SVL. The following rules apply to movement of players between teams within the same club:

Regular Season Matches

- 4.8.1 Where a club has two teams in the same division of the SVL, no movement of players between these teams will be allowed after initial registration of the players to the teams.
- 4.8.2 Where a club has teams in different divisions of the senior SVL, they shall be referred to as higher and lower teams according to the division they are in (e.g. SVL Premier – Higher Team, SVL1 – Lower Team). In such cases, players, may move freely from the lower team to appear on the scoresheet for the higher team for 4 of the scheduled matches. After 4 of the scheduled matches, the player shall be considered as being only a higher team player and may no longer play for the lower team. In order to move players from the higher team to the lower team, a special dispensation request must be made to the CAG stating the reasons why this player should be re-registered for the lower team. This process will not apply to playoff matches (see Rule 4.8.5).
- 4.8.3 Any player who is eligible to play in the SVL Junior League, may move freely without sanction.
- 4.8.4 No player may be recorded on the scoresheet for two teams on the same fixture date/week. For the purpose of this article, matches scheduled for the same date, as published in the SVA Fixture List, are regarded as being on the same fixture date, regardless of when the match is actually played. Where a player appears on the scoresheet of both fixtures, both teams shall incur a Level 4 administration fee and will forfeit both matches.

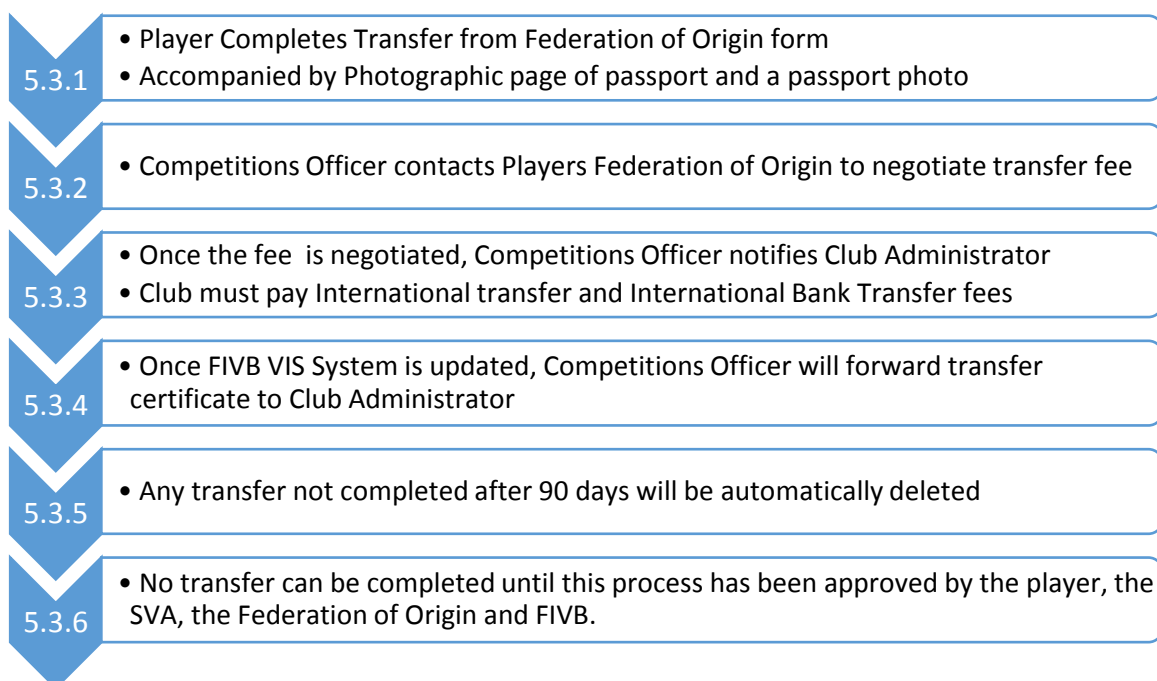
Playoff Matches:

- 4.8.5 After 4 of the scheduled matches, the player shall be considered as being only a higher team player and may no longer play for the lower team. Only players who have been registered to that team or who have appeared on the scoresheet during the regular season with the club may play in the playoffs, unless special dispensation is granted by CAG.
- 4.8.6 Any player who is eligible to play in the Junior SVL League, may only play for one team in the SVL Playoffs.
- 4.9 No player under the age of 13 years may play in a Senior SVL match, except with the express written approval of their Parent/Guardian.
- 4.10 A team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the match in question and shall be liable to a Level 4 administration fee.
- 4.11 A team using any bench personnel who are unregistered will receive a Level 4 administration fee.

5. Transfers

- 5.1 A player has the right to be released from a club of which they are a registered player and thereafter to transfer to another club within the transfer window. All confirmed transfers will be shown on the SVA website.
- 5.2 The following is the procedure for a player to transfer between clubs within Scotland only:
- 5.2.1 A player wishing to be released from the club of which they are a member must complete the transfer request on the SVA Database and giving the reasons they wish to be released. A player may only request this once in one transfer window
- 5.2.2 Once this has been completed, an automatic email is sent to the Club Administrator of the player's current club asking them to approve or decline this transfer.
- 5.2.3 If the club has not responded to the request within 7 days, the player will automatically be released from the club concerned and will be informed that they are free to transfer to and register for another club. Any transfer allowed under this rule is without prejudice to any remaining obligations to the previous club.
- 5.2.4 The Club Administrator must indicate at the time of notification of transfer that the club (i) approves the release of the player or (ii) refuses to release the player, stating the reasons for this on the transfer database.
- 5.2.5 If the club refuses to release the player, the reasons for this must be intimated. Clubs may refuse to release a player only on the grounds that:
- (i) the player owes the club money
 - (ii) the player owes the club goods (strip, tracksuit, balls etc.)
 - (iii) the player is subject to disciplinary action within the club. This disciplinary action should have been notified to the Competitions Organiser before the transfer request had been submitted by the player.
- 5.2.6 In such cases, the player's request to be released will be considered and a decision made by the CAG.
- 5.2.7 Should the player's request to be released be upheld, the club and the player will be informed. The player will then be free to transfer to, and register for, another club.
- 5.2.8 Should the decision to refuse to release the player be upheld, this will be communicated to the club and the player who will also be informed of the reasons why release from the club has been refused. The player will be free to transfer when their obligations to the club are fulfilled.
- 5.2.9 No request for a transfer made by a club or a player will be granted by the SVA if either club or player are, at the time of the transfer request, subject to any disciplinary proceedings by the SVA. The request will be suspended until such time as said disciplinary proceedings, and any appeal relative to said proceedings, have been completed. A request may be made to the disciplinary committee to allow discretion on this ruling.

5.3 The following is the procedure for a player transfer from their Federation of Origin (Country which player was First Registered) to Scotland.



5.4 Date of Release – this is determined by one of the following:

- (i) The date of receipt by the SVA of the notification of transfer indicating that the player has been released.
- (ii) 7 days after the date on which the SVA received the request to be released from the player, should there be no reply from the club administrator.
- (iii) The date on which the player's request to be released is upheld by the CAG.
- (iv) The date on which the releasing club notifies the SVA that a disputed transfer has been resolved and the player is free to transfer.

5.5 Transfer Window

5.5.1 Players may only transfer between Scottish Volleyball clubs between 9 am on May 16th and 5 pm on December 15th inclusive (times for receipt of documentation). The transfer window does not prejudice any player wanting to register with the Scottish Volleyball Association for the first time.

5.5.2 Any player released out with these dates will not be allowed to transfer their registration to, and play for, another club except in exceptional circumstances and only then with written agreement from CAG.

5.6 Any player wishing to apply for exceptional circumstances must do so in writing together with a Level 2 administration fee. The request for exceptional circumstances will not be actioned until payment has been made.

5.7 The SVA Board reserves the right to refuse any transfer it considers may not be in the interest of the Association. In that event the relevant fees would be returned.

- 5.8 A club seeking to obtain the service of a player based in Scotland from their current club may initially approach either the player's current Club Administrator or the player themselves. If the player is willing to transfer, the procedure outlined in Rule [5.2](#) should be followed.
- 5.9 If a player is subjected to repeated unwelcome approaches by members or representatives of another club to join that club, the player, or their Parent/Guardian, should report the matter to their Club Administrator who shall seek clarification from the club concerned. If the Club Administrator is unable to resolve the situation, the matter should be referred to the SVA Board for deliberation and, if deemed appropriate under Byelaw 11, Disciplinary Action.

6. Fixture Procedures

- 6.1 The Competitions Organiser fixes the dates of all SVL and Cup matches.
- 6.2 Match Venues
- 6.2.1 All match venues must previously have been approved by the Competitions Organiser.
- 6.2.2 A list of approved venues is available from the [SVA website](#).
- 6.2.3 If a club competes at a venue that has not been approved by the CAG, a [Level 5](#) administration fee will be levied against the club.
- 6.3 A fixture list shall be forwarded by the Competitions Organiser to all Club Administrators at least 6 weeks prior to the first match of the season. Clubs will have 7 days to respond to the Competitions Organiser of any problems or issues in relation to the fixtures.
- 6.4 An [SVA Fixture Template](#) (see website for details) should be used for this purpose and an extra copy should be sent by email to the Competitions Administrator. All clubs must submit the venue and First Ball Served time 28 days prior to the match on the SVA Website. The club must also notify the opposition Team Secretary, Competitions Organiser and the Referee Appointment Manager. Once submitted, this information may not be altered without prior consent from the opponents and the CAG.
- 6.5 Failure to provide a fixture sheet within 28 days of the fixture will result in a [Level 1](#) administration fee being imposed.
- 6.6 The administration fee will increase to the next level for every 7 days of non-compliance.
- 6.7 Match Start Times
- 6.7.1 The home team must take into account the following when selecting a match time:
- 6.7.2 that, unless previously agreed, the visiting team should not be required to leave their home town before 8am at the weekends and 5pm during the week (for teams not subject to Rule [6.7.4](#)). For the purposes of the article, the 'home town' of a team shall be that in which their home match venue is declared on entry to the competitions.
- 6.7.3 that, unless previously agreed, the visiting team should be able to arrive back at their home town by 10pm for weekends and midnight for weekdays (for teams not subject to Rule [6.7.4](#)).

6.7.4 Rules 6.7.2 & 6.7.3 do not apply when the fixture involves a team from an island. The match will be given a weekend date to fulfil this fixture. The opposition must be willing to travel the day before the match is scheduled to be played in order to fulfil the fixture. If a team fails to travel to or from the island, a Level 5 administration fee, for each fixture forfeited, will be levied against the club.

6.8 Bringing Fixtures Forward

6.8.1 In certain circumstances, a team may be allowed to bring forward a fixture. In this case the team should request this in writing to the CAG 7 days prior to the date on and which it wishes to play, sending with their request a written agreement from the opposing team. This agreement must also be sent to the Referee Appointment Manager.

6.8.2 Requests received later than 7 days prior to a proposed new fixture date will not be considered unless there are extenuating circumstances.

6.9 Postponements

6.9.1 No team may apply in advance for the postponement of a scheduled fixture unless the request meets one of the following set of circumstances:

- Inclement weather preventing travel or making travel dangerous.
- Cancellation of the hall hire within 72 hours of the fixture (written confirmation from letting authority is required). If subsequent cancellations occur, the Competitions Organiser may enforce a change of home venue for the club.
- Where a player or coach is required for official SVA business, that is to say, European Cup Ties or any other SVA business determined by the CAG.
- The CAG reserves the right to allow for a postponement to take place if it deems the club has reasonable grounds for this request.

6.9.2 Arranging a new fixture date

Postponed matches must be played within 28 days of the original fixture date. For the purposes of these rules, the 28 days shall be 4 fixture weeks, or the final day of the season, whichever is sooner. Matches will be moved automatically to a designated re-arranged date if one is available.

6.9.3 Within five days of the postponement being granted, the home team must offer a minimum of three dates, at the same time, within the 4 fixture weeks in which to play the postponed match. At least one of these dates MUST be a weekend date which doesn't clash with any other SVA fixtures involving the away team.

6.9.4 The away team must, within 7 days of being offered the dates, accept one of them, and this arrangement must be communicated to the CAG. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a Level 2 administration fee, and may result in the match being declared forfeit.

6.9.5 CAG can use its discretion to shorten the time allowed to play the match if the re-arranged fixture will have a knock-on effect to important end of season matches (e.g. Playoffs and Cup/matches).

6.10 Withdrawing from a fixture

- 6.10.1 Where a team withdraws from a fixture for any reason, unless granted a postponement, the match shall be declared forfeit against them and a Level 5 administration fee will be levied.
- 6.10.2 A full statement of reasons for withdrawing from the fixture must be submitted to the Competitions Organiser by email on the day of withdrawal.
- 6.10.3 Failure to contact the Competition Organiser and the referee will result in a Level 2 administration fee. Any team withdrawing from a fixture will result in the team being deducted 3 points and they will lose each set 0-25 required to win the match. Their opposition will be awarded 3 league points and they will win each set 0-25 required to win the match.
- 6.10.4 Where a team cancels* or fails to appear without notifying the opposing team and the CAG a Level 5 administration fee will be applied. A proportion of this will be paid to the opposing team to cover any unavoidable cost incurred. The team which cancels or fails to appear must also pay any referee match fee and travel costs incurred because of this failure to notify. This rule will also be in addition to Rule 6.10.1.
- 6.11 * In cases where a match has been rearranged/ cancelled, the Referee Administrator/ Competitions Manager must be informed and the SVA website must be updated immediately to avoid referees travelling for no reason.
- 6.12 A team withdrawing (at whatever notice) without good reason from three matches in the same season will be relegated, regardless of their league position.

7. Match Procedures

7.1 Equipment

- 7.1.1 All match equipment (net, antennae, referee's stand, score sheet, balls, etc.) must meet the criteria and quality as stated in Chapter 1 of the FIVB Rules of the Game. The official match ball of Scottish Volleyball competitions is the Mikasa MVA 200.
- 7.1.2 It shall be the responsibility of the home team to provide the visiting team with a minimum of six match balls for warm up. A team failing to do this shall be liable to a Level 2 administration fee.
- 7.1.3 In cases of doubt, the 1st referee's decision as to whether the equipment and venue is suitable for play shall be final. If equipment and venue are not suitable then the referee must record in the remarks box on the scoresheet the reasons why the above were not suitable.
- 7.1.4 Failure to comply with this rule will result in an administration fee at the CAG's discretion.

7.2 Player Uniforms

- 7.2.1 A player's uniform consists of jersey and shorts.

SVL Premier

Numbered jersey, plus shorts of the same colour, style and make for the entire team, and socks of the same colour for all team members.

SVL ONE & SVL TWO

Numbered jersey and shorts of the same colour and style for the entire team.

JUNIOR SVL

Numbered jersey and shorts of the same colour for the entire team.

- 7.2.2 Match referees, and only match officials, are required to record the details of any discrepancies in the remarks box. Teams failing to comply with the above will be subject to a Level 1 administration fee.
- 7.3 The match shall be deemed to commence at the start of the warm up over which the 1st referee has control. See Appendix B for the full pre-match protocol.
- 7.4 Clubs should allow for the following minimum hall lets (unless reduced at the agreement of both teams):
- 30 minutes warm-up plus:
 - o 2.5hrs for a best of 5 set match
 - o 1.5hrs for a best of 3 set match
- The minimum hall let requirement for a triangular series is 6.5 hours (4.5 hours for 3 set matches).
- 7.5 A home team must ensure that matches start as close to the scheduled start time as possible. If, however, the start of the match is delayed due to a prior match, the away team should wait until the preceding match has been completed (or terminated at the discretion of the home team).
- 7.6 Where possible, every effort must be made by both teams to then play the subsequent matches in the remaining hall booking for those matches.
- 7.7 In the event that the hall booking expires without the match being completed, the home team must contact CAG detailing the reasons on the day of the match for the delay, who will then make a ruling on the result of the match.
- 7.8 Where both teams are ready to start play at the scheduled starting time, and the stated time required for the match (as per Rule 7.4) has elapsed since the start of play, and the hall booking for that game has expired without the match being completed, then the match shall be completely replayed at the same venue, with all costs of the replayed match being equally divided between the two teams. The same ruling applies if the hall let time is reduced due to circumstances out with the control of the home team and the match is not completed as a result.
- 7.9 Where both teams are ready to start play at the scheduled starting time and the hall booking expires before the stated time required for the match (as per Rule 7.4) has passed, then the match shall be awarded to the visiting team. The home team shall retain any points and sets already won. The away team shall retain the sets already won and be awarded 25 points (or more, if necessary, to gain a 2 point advantage necessary to win an incomplete set) in all remaining sets, whether incomplete or as yet un-played.
- 7.10 Teams within a triangular series may alter the schedule of the matches. Any change to the allocated schedule must have the written agreement of all three teams.
- 7.11 Failure to Appear
- 7.11.1 Where a team without good reason, fails to appear on court ready to play 15 minutes or more after the agreed (scheduled) start of play, the match may be forfeit and a Level 5 administration fee will be imposed.

- 7.11.2 The team which is not ready to play must inform the CAG of the reasons on the day following the match at the latest.
- 7.11.3 Where possible, every effort should be made by both teams to play the match in the remaining hall booking for that game.
- 7.11.4 If the match is not completed and the hall booking expires 2 hours after the scheduled first ball served time then the team that was not ready shall forfeit the match.
- 7.12 A team reduced to less than six players after play begins, due to injury or to a player or players being disqualified (i.e. the team is declared incomplete), shall lose the match but shall retain any points and sets already won.
- 7.13 Scoresheets
- The Team Secretary must send a picture or scanned copy of the scoresheet and email it to: roddy@finalwhistlemedia.co.uk and results@scottishvolleyball.org by 20.00 hours or at the completion of the match. The club can also send the full scoresheet to the designated club WhatsApp Group if they wish to do so. To set this up, they must confirm in writing to the Competitions Officer prior to the commencement of the season.
- 7.13.1 If the quality of the file is deemed not to be sufficient, the Team Secretary will be required to post the scoresheet to the SVA by registered post on the next working day.
- 7.13.2 A home team failing to make contact as required on the scheduled day shall be liable to a Level 2 administration fee unless a suitable reason is provided; additionally, they may forfeit the match.
- 7.13.3 All parties involved in the match must retain their copies of the scoresheets.
- 7.14 All SVL & Cup matches shall be open to the general public, media personnel, photographers and any person using a video recorder, subject to the following:
- 7.14.1 Any person not directly involved with the match shall at no time be on the court area.
- 7.14.2 No person should be behind the service zone unless there is a structured seating area available.
- 7.14.3 No person or equipment should be positioned and/or used in such a way that they present risk of injury or obstruction to players or officials.
- 7.14.4 Any photographs or film must comply with the SVA Child Protection Policy
- 7.14.5 All material can be used for Scottish Volleyball promotional Purposes.
- 7.14.6 The home team has the right to ask any spectator to leave the hall, should this be deemed necessary.

8. Match Officials

- 8.1 For all SVA matches the status of the match officials must conform to the minimum standards below:

Division	1st Official	2nd Official
SVL Premier Men	Grade 2	Grade 3
SVL Premier Women	Grade 3	Grade 3
SVL ONE Men	Grade 3	Grade 4
SVL ONE Women	Grade 4	Grade 4
SVL TWO Men	Grade 4	Grade 4
SVL TWO Women	Grade 4	Grade 4
Scottish Cup Rounds 1 -3	Grade 4	Grade 4
Scottish Plate Rounds 1-QF	Grade 4	Grade 4
Scottish Cup Rounds 4 - QF	Grade 3	Grade 4
John Syer Grand Prix	Grade 3	Grade 3
Junior SVL	Junior	Junior

The home team is responsible for ensuring that officials are of the correct grade.

- 8.2 It is permitted to officiate as 1st or 2nd referee in a higher league than is stated above, provided that it is during assessment by an SVA approved assessor, who must sign the scoresheet in the Remarks Box.
- 8.3 All referees & scorers taking charge at any match under the auspices of the SVA must hold a valid SVA licence. The membership card confirms the official's qualifications for the current season.
- 8.4 The card number of both referees must be recorded on the scoresheet prior to the match. Failure by the home team to record the licence numbers of referees on the scoresheet will result in a Level 1 administration fee being levied.
- 8.5 No referee can register on the day of the match.
- 8.6 The home team shall pay (prior to the match) to a qualified referee the following expenses:

SVL Premier, John Syer Grand Prix, and Scottish Cup

Appointed Official / FIVB Referee

£25 per match* plus travel expenses

Travel Expenses - the official rate shall be 25p per mile travelled. The cost of public transport shall be fully reimbursed.

** The £25 payment made under this system is liable to tax deducted at source (the term "at source" refers to the responsibility of the club to declare to HMRC the payment excluding expenses).*

- 8.7 SVA-Organised Events (Including Finals and Special Events not covered by 8.6). The Competitions Organiser may change the values dependent on the budget available. All officials will be notified of this before the event to the appointed referee in lieu of expenses incurred.

Appointed Referee/ FIVB Referee

£35 per match is payable to the appointed referee in lieu of expenses incurred

Scorer - £10 per match plus Travel Expenses - the official rate shall be 25p per mile travelled. The cost of public transport shall be fully reimbursed.

Linejudge - £5 per match plus Travel Expenses - the official rate shall be 25p per mile travelled. The cost of public transport shall be fully reimbursed.

- 8.8 The Referees Commission will appoint referees to all SVL Premier, Men's SVL One & Scottish Cup Quarter Final matches subject to availability.
- 8.9 A home team (or named refereeing team in triangular fixtures) which, without good reason, fails to provide a 1st and/or 2nd referee in accordance with the requirements of Rule 8.1 and/or a competent scorer, will be subject to a Level 2 administration fee per official and may, upon the discretion of the CAG, forfeit the match.
- 8.10 A team failing to provide appropriately qualified officials must notify the CAG in writing on the day of the match, explaining their failure to fulfil the requirements of Rule 8.1. Failure to contact the CAG will result in a Level 1 administration fee.
- 8.11 A home team (or named refereeing team in triangular fixtures) failing to provide a minimum of two competent line judges and a scorer shall be liable to a Level 2 administration fee.
- 8.12 A player who is listed on the scoresheet as part of a team cannot line judge the same match. A team using such a line judge will receive a Level 2 administration fee.
- 8.13 The remarks box on the scoresheet is to be used by the officials for an immediate and specific protest about the referee's interpretation of a rule. It must not be used for the latter situation when the team captain has not at the time of the incident expressed his/her protest and the intention to have it recorded in the remarks box at the end of the match.
- 8.14 Scoresheet
- 8.14.1 The scorer must ensure that the players' names, shirt numbers and registration numbers are recorded on the scoresheet, as per the example below:

No.	Name	
3	SMITH, J	1234

An example of a fully completed scoresheet can be found [here](#).

- 8.14.2 Failure to comply will result in a Level 1 administration fee being issued and, in accordance with the FIVB's Official Volleyball Rules, may lead to the match result being altered retrospectively by the CAG.

- 8.14.3 The scoresheet must be correctly headed (e.g. match number, first/second team, men/women, Premier/SVL ONE/SVL TWO, etc.) and completed (e.g. all registration numbers, shirt numbers and substitutions shown).
- 8.14.4 Failure to ensure the scoresheet is completed correctly will result in a Level 1 administration fee being levied against the club.
- 8.14.5 The scoresheet must be an SVA Scoresheet and no other, however similar. A home team failing to provide and use an SVA Scoresheet shall be liable to a Level 2 administration fee.
- 8.14.6 Scoresheets can be ordered from the SVA by contacting the SVA office.
- 8.15 The SVL Pre-Match Protocol detailed in Appendix B must be followed for all SVL & Cup matches.

9. Scottish Cup and Scottish Plate Competition

- 9.1 The Scottish Cup Competition includes the Scottish Plate Competition and all references to “Scottish Cup Competitions” in the preceding and following articles should be interpreted accordingly.
- 9.2 The competition shall consist of a number of rounds. The first three rounds of the cup will be played in pools. Thereafter, teams compete on a knockout basis. All fixtures shall be single matches and all matches shall be played to FIVB rules.
- 9.3 The teams participating in the John Syer Grand Prix shall be exempt from participating in the rounds 1-3 of the cup and shall join the competition in the 4th Round.
- 9.4 Teams participating in Rounds 1 to 3, with agreement from the opposition teams & CAG, may play their preliminary round fixtures in a triangular format.
- 9.5 After the completion of Rounds 1-3 of the Scottish Cup, eliminated teams shall participate thereafter in the Scottish Plate.
- 9.6 All draws will be overseen by the Competition Organiser.
- 9.7 It is possible for a club to have more than one team in the Scottish Cup, but a player may only play for one team in the Scottish Cup Competition.
- 9.8 A player is deemed to be ‘cup-tied’ to a particular team once they have appeared on the scoresheet for the first time.
- 9.9 In all matches prior to the semi-finals of the Cup and Plate, the first-named side shall be the home team.
- 9.10 No player may participate in any finals unless they have been registered with the club before the semi-final stage.
- 9.11 Each team is required to provide the minimum number of officials stipulated by the Competitions Organiser in line with the playing/officiating schedule provided prior to the Semi-Finals and Finals. Failure to provide suitable officials will result in a Level 3 Administration Fee being levied on the club for each individual offence.

10. Junior Scottish Cup Competition

- 10.1 There shall be an Under 16 and an Under 18 Scottish Cup for boys and girls, aligned to the age criteria for Junior SVL.

- 10.2 The competition shall comprise an Open Championship which will take place over a single day. The top two ranked teams at the end of this tournament will qualify for the Junior Scottish Cup Final, which will be contested as part of the SVA's Finals Weekend.
- 10.3 The format of the competition will be dependent upon the number of entries and is at the discretion of the organiser.
- 10.4 Seedings for the tournament will be according to the final positions in the Junior SVL. Clubs who did not compete in the Junior SVL will be seeded last and be ordered by the sign up date/time to the competition, if applicable.
- 10.5 All rules of the Junior SVL are applicable to the Junior Scottish Cup with the exception of the following:
 - 10.5.1 Players may transfer between teams within a junior club for the purposes of the Junior Super Cup.
 - 10.5.2 Players registered on the scoresheet for a team at the Open Championship will be cup-tied, to that team, should they qualify for the final.
 - 10.5.3 All players who compete in the Junior Scottish Cup Final must have been registered with their respective club before the Open Championship, unless given special dispensation from CAG.

11. John Syer Grand Prix

- 11.1 A player will not be cup-tied for the Scottish Cup Competitions if they participate in the John Syer Grand Prix. A player may only participate for one team in this competition as per Rule 4.8.
- 11.2 As per Rule 4.8.4, no player may be registered on a scoresheet on the same fixture date for 2 teams.
- 11.3 The Competition Organiser may amend the layout of the competition from time to time to meet the needs of the SVL Competitions Calendar.
- 11.4 Each team is required to provide the minimum number of officials stipulated by the Competitions Organiser in line with the playing/officiating schedule provided prior to the Semi-Finals and Finals. Failure to provide suitable officials will result in a Level 3 Administration Fee being levied on the club for each individual offence.

12. SVL Junior Addenda

Junior SVL will be played to the Rules of the Competition with the exception of below:

- 12.1 League Format and Rules
 - 12.1.1 The Junior SVL U18 will run from September to December, The Junior SVL U16 will run from December to March.
 - 12.1.2 The number of times each team shall play the others will be dependent upon the number of team entries.
 - 12.1.3 Barring exceptional circumstances, on each fixture date, teams will play no less than two and no more than three matches.
 - 12.1.4 The Organiser reserves the right to restructure the leagues if deemed necessary.

12.2 Registrations

- 12.2.1 Players who are eligible for Junior SVL U16 may also play in the Junior SVL U18, under one junior registration. These players must still be shown on the team licence.
- 12.2.2 No Junior SVL player may play for two Junior SVL clubs in one age group during the course of the season.
- 12.2.3 Where a club has two teams in the same age group of the Junior SVL, a maximum of one player from a lower team may appear on the scoresheet for an upper team on a fixture date, in order to fulfil a fixture. (i.e. only 6 players on scoresheet for higher team)
- 12.2.4 Once a player has appeared on the scoresheet for an upper team on a fixture date, they may no longer do so for the remainder of the season.

12.3 Eligibility

- 12.3.1 Players should conform to the following criteria:
- 12.3.2 For Junior SVL U18, all players must be under the age of 18 on the first fixture date or in full time secondary school education to be eligible in the season of competition.
- 12.3.3 For Junior SVL U16, all players must be under the age of 16 on the first fixture date or in full time secondary school education in years S1-S4 to be eligible in the season of competition.
- 12.3.4 Coaches
Team coaches should possess a minimum coaching qualification of SVA Level 1 (or equivalent) and be a SVA member. Failure to comply will result in a Level 2 administration fee and the team may forfeit the match.
- 12.3.5 Persons wishing to coach in Junior SVL but who do not hold this qualification should ascertain their eligibility to coach by consulting the organiser.

12.4 Match Procedures

- 12.4.1 Teams hosting Junior SVL fixtures must conform to the order of play and dates provided by the organiser. Any change to the schedule must have the agreement of all teams; this must then be communicated to the organiser.
- 12.4.2 Teams should play the 3rd set regardless of the previous set results, i.e. even if match has finished 2-0. This should be recorded on the scoresheet; however, the 3rd set in this instance will not be applied to the League Table.

12.5 Variances from FIVB rules of the game:

- 12.5.1 Net heights will be as follows:

U18 Male:	2.43m	U16 Male:	2.24m
U18 Female:	2.24m	U16 Female:	2.18m

13. SVL Playoffs

13.1 The SVL Playoff will be a One off fixture played at the Home venue of the lower division side.

13.2 The Referee's Commission will appoint an official to this match, if available.

13.3 If the Referee Commission do not appoint a referee to this match, the Home team will be responsible for ensuring the correct level of official is available as per Rule 8.1.

14. Competition Awards

- 14.1 Trophies and medals shall be presented to the winners of each competition. SVA will attempt to present these trophies at the last SVL League match of the season, dependent on other SVA activities and availability.
- 14.2 Runners-up medals will be presented for Senior and Junior Scottish Cups and Scottish Plate.
- 14.3 The trophies must be returned to the SVA office by 31st January of the following season. Teams who fail to return the trophy by this date will be liable to a Level 2 administration fee.
- 14.4 Scottish Volleyball will engrave all trophies.
- 14.5 Should a trophy be damaged or lost whilst under the care of a club, the club will be required to meet the cost of repair or replacement.

15. Administration Fees

- 15.1 The CAG is empowered to impose the penalties and administration fees set out in the preceding and following articles.
- 15.2 All administration fees will be increased to the next level immediately upon failure to pay within 28 days from the date of notice.
- 15.3 Any team who fails to satisfy an administration fee imposed on them after 56 days will be suspended from competition until that administration fee has been paid in full or at the discretion of the CAG. Subsequent administration fees, e.g. failure to complete match, shall accumulate from the date of suspension.
- 15.4 The CAG will exclude, from the following season's Competitions, any club failing to pay outstanding administration fees from the previous season.
- 15.5 A team withdrawing from the SVL after the season's fixtures have been released shall be liable to a Level 4 administration fee.
- 15.6 All matches involving a team eliminated or withdrawing from the SVL shall be null and void. That team shall be liable for any expenses unavoidably incurred by other teams in their division in preparation for games now not being played.
- 15.7 A player registered for a team eliminated or withdrawing from the SVL may not play for another SVL team in the same season until the administration fees under Rules 15.5 and 15.6, and monies due to another member club of the Association have been paid and permission is given by the CAG. If such permission is given, the player must re-register and pay the normal registration fee.

15.8 Administration Fee Levels:

Level	SVL Senior, Scottish Cups & JSGP	SVL Junior
Level 1	£10	£5
Level 2	£20	£10
Level 3	£50	£30
Level 4	£80 (can include forfeit)	Cost of Hall Let (proof of cost required)
Level 5	£150 (can include forfeit)	

16. Disciplinary Action

A player who both plays and coaches, shall be regarded as a player with respect to the following rules.

16.1 Disqualification

16.1.1 A player or coach being DISQUALIFIED (i.e. sent from the court for the remainder of a SVL or Cup match) must leave the playing area (hall) and shall be suspended from all SVL and Cup activity (playing, coaching, and refereeing) for a minimum of two matches.

16.1.2 The match 1st referee shall submit to the CAG, a signed statement giving details of the disqualification, either along with the scoresheet or separately by first class post or by e-mail on the day following the match at the latest.

16.2 Expulsion

16.2.1 A player or coach being EXPELLED (i.e. sent off for the remainder of one set of a SVL or Cup match) must remain seated in the penalty area for the remainder of that set and shall be suspended from all SVL and Cup activity (playing, coaching and refereeing) for a minimum of one match.

16.2.2 The match 1st referee shall submit to the CAG a signed statement giving details of the expulsion either along with the scoresheet or separately by first class post or by e-mail on the day following the match at the latest.

16.3 A player or coach receiving a third penalty in any one season shall be suspended from all SVL and Cup activity (playing, coaching and refereeing) for one match and shall also be suspended for one match for every other penalty subsequently received in that same season.

16.4 A penalty received by a player who is subsequently Disqualified or Expelled in the same match shall be disregarded for the purposes of this article i.e. it shall be subsumed within the later punishment.

16.5 Suspensions

16.5.1 In all cases, suspensions shall apply immediately to the next fixture date(s) as scheduled in the calendar i.e. SVLs and all Cup Competitions.

16.5.2 Warning letters and letters confirming suspensions shall be sent out by the CAG, but it is the duty of all teams to ensure that a player or coach does not participate while suspended and that their name does not appear on the scoresheet.

16.5.3 A team playing a suspended player or being coached by a suspended coach shall forfeit the match in question and shall be liable to a Level 3 administration fee.

- 16.6 A player or coach disqualified more than once or receiving more than 4 penalties in one season shall automatically be referred to the Disciplinary Commission. The duties of the Disciplinary Commission can be found in Byelaw 11 of the SVA.
- 16.7 The CAG can take retrospective action on any player, coach or official who is deemed to bring the game into disrepute.
- 16.8 Spectators
- 16.8.1 The home team/organisers are responsible for spectator control.
- 16.8.2 Any spectator, affiliated to the SVA or not, whose behaviour is, in the 1st referee's opinion, interfering with his/her control of the match, may be asked to leave the hall by the home team/organisers. The 1st referee has the power to suspend the match until the home team/organisers have restored order. The 1st referee shall be required to submit a report on the incident to the CAG by first class post or by e-mail on the day of the match.

17. Complaints Procedure

- 17.1 This section concerns official complaints made about matters falling within the scope of these rules.
- 17.2 All complaints must be sent using the Official Complaints Form on the SVA website to the Competitions Administrator of the CAG. Complaints made to anyone else will not be accepted.
- 17.3 Official complaints may be made by any member of the SVA.
- 17.4 Whenever possible, Official Complaint Forms about a particular match should accompany the scoresheet for that match.
- 17.5 Where a complaint relates to a match already played, official complaints received more than seven days after the match will NOT be considered.
- 17.6 Within 2 working days of the complaint being received, the CAG shall acknowledge receipt of the complaint and advise all other interested parties (e.g. the opponents and Referees Commission, plus members of any subsequently convened disciplinary or appeal committee). At the same time, the Group may request relevant information and responses from anyone they deem appropriate. Failure to respond to this request will result in a Level 2 administration fee being levied.
- 17.7 The CAG will report back to the interested parties within 10 working days from the date of acknowledging receipt of the complaint. The decision will be issued to the complainant and the Club Administrators of the clubs involved.
- 17.8 The CAG, when considering a complaint, shall attempt to provide a solution where possible within the terms of these rules. They may apply an administration fee if necessary within the terms of these rules.
- 17.9 If the CAG deems a matter out with the scope of these rules and/or the CAG remit, then the matter may be referred to the SVA Board as a disciplinary matter under Byelaw 11 of the SVA Byelaws

18. Referral to CAG

- 18.1 Where members are in dispute over the application of these rules, or the general organisation and running of the SVA Competitions, and are unable to resolve the dispute, then any member may make an application to the CAG for a ruling on the matter.
- 18.2 Such a request shall follow Rule 17 in terms of the method of advising the CAG of the matter and timescales involved.
- 18.3 Where a referral to the CAG under this Rule does not relate to a match already played then the referral must be made as soon as possible but only after the parties have attempted to resolve the matter between themselves.
- 18.4 Clubs should try and resolve issues amicably between themselves. They should never hesitate in bringing a matter to the CAG's attention to allow for an amicable conclusion to the problem.

19. Right of Appeal

- 19.1 Clubs have the right to appeal against decisions taken by the CAG.
- 19.2 The full schedule of the appeals process and procedure is contained in Byelaw 12 of the SVA Byelaws.

**This edition of the rules governing SVA National Competitions
supersedes all previous editions.**

20. Appendices

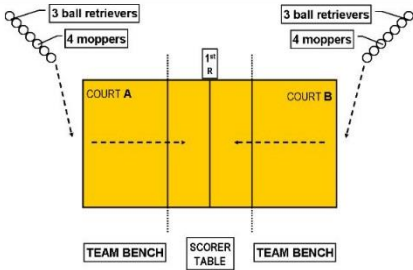
Appendix A: Scoresheet 3 Character Trigrams

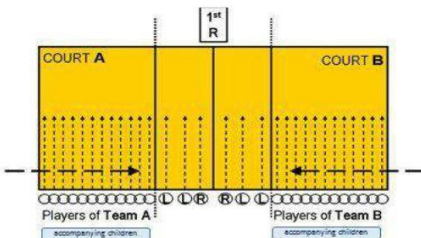
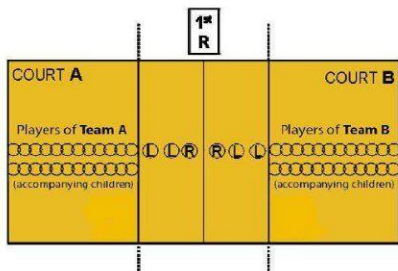
Team/Club	Code	Team/Club	Code
Caledonia West I	CA1	University of St Andrews I	USA
Cavalry Park NUVOC	CPN	University of St Andrews II	US2
City of Edinburgh	COE	University of Stirling	UOS
City of Edinburgh II	CE2	Heriot Watt University	HWU
City of Glasgow Ragazzi	SUR	Orkney	ORK
Dundee	DUN		
Edinburgh Jets	JET		
Edinburgh Jets II	JE2		
Glasgow International	GLI		
Glasgow Mets	MET		
Glasgow Mets II	ME2		
Kamikaze Seaton	KAM		
Lenzie	LEN		
Caledonia West II	CA2		
NUVOC	NUV		
NUVOC II	NU2		
Perth & Kinross	PAK		
Shetland	SHE		
South Ayrshire	SAY		
South Ayrshire II	SA2		
Su Ragazzi	SUR		
Su Ragazzi II / Forza Ragazzi	SU2		
University of Edinburgh	UOE		
University of Edinburgh II	UE2		
Volleyball Aberdeen (A)	VOA		
VA Thunder	VA2		
University of Dundee	UOD		

Appendix B: SVL Pre-Match Protocol to be followed for all SVL & Cup matches

Minutes Before First Ball Served	Action	Action of Referees	Action of Teams
-30:00 (Start of the warm up at which the 1 st referee has control)	Check of the Net height and tension, entrance of the teams	<p>Referee's check</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Height and tension of net • Position of antennae and side bands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both teams are requested to enter the playing area • Teams wear the official playing uniforms • Team documentation handed to the scorer's table
-14:00	Toss of the coin to choose service and court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The two referees' report to the area in front of the scorer's table • The 1st referee blows his/her whistle to call the Team Captains • The toss of the coin follows and the 1st referee informs the scorer of the result 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both team captains report to the area in front of the scorer's table <p>After the toss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team captains and coaches sign the scoresheet • Teams go to their respective benches and bring in any equipment, which they place behind the team benches
13:00	Start of the Official Warm-Up at the net	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 1st referee blows the whistle to signal the start of the Official Net Warm-Up (5 minutes minimum for each team or 10 minutes together). The referees: • Check the game balls, official playing uniforms, team documentation • Give any necessary instructions to Line Judges, ball retrievers, moppers and scorers. 	<p>The teams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start to warm-up at the net • Must wear their playing uniform for the official warm-up
9:00	Line-Up sheets for the first set	<p>The 2nd referee must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the coach or assistant coach submits the original signed line up sheet for the first set 	The coach or the assistant coach of each team gives the line-up sheet for the first set to the 2 nd referee/ scorer.
3:00	End of team warm up at the net	The 1 st referee blows the whistle to indicate the end of the warm-up of the teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the 1st referee's whistle, teams must stop warming up and immediately return to their own bench • If players need to change their jerseys, they must leave the playing court and return immediately with the approval of the 1st referee • All players must wear their match uniforms
1:00	Check court positions of the players matches the Line-up sheet	<p>The 2nd referee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checks the players' standing position, comparing them with those on their respective line-up sheet • Invites the Starting Libero to enter, replacing one of the players in the back zone • Asks the scorer if he/she has also finished checking and is ready to start (two handed OK from scorer) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives the ball to the server • Gives a two handed OK 	Both teams are ready to start the match
0:00	First Service	The 1 st referee blows the whistle authorising the first service, within the scheduled time.	

Appendix C: Finals Weekend Pre-Match Protocol

Minutes Before First Ball Served	Action	Action of Referees	Action of Teams
-35.00 before the 1 st service	Walk On	Referee 1 will stand in front of Team A and walk them out Referee 2 will stand in front of Team B and walk them out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams must be in playing uniform and leave all bags in the trolleys provided Team A will go to the side line closest to walk-on entrance Team B will walk past the post and stand on far side
-32.00 before the 1 st service	Time for entertainment	<p>Referee's check</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The game balls, substitution paddles (if used), electronic scoresheet All necessary equipment, i.e. buzzer, Libero jackets, etc including the referee equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams cannot enter the playing area before the start of the official protocol
-31.00 before the 1 st service	Official Photographs	Referees call the teams to the agreed position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams in playing uniform, follow the instruction of the 1st referee
-30.00 before the 1 st service	Check of the Net, entrance of the teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referees Check: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Height & Tension of the net Position of antennae and side markings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both teams are requested to enter the playing area. Teams wear the official playing uniforms
-16.00 before the 1 st service	Presentation of the ball retrievers and moppers to the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The moppers and ball retrievers for each court ENTER the respective court from the corners of A & B to line up in the longitudinal axe of the court in accordance with the announcement by court DJ. They present themselves by waving to their hands. Afterwards they return the way they entered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
-15.00 before the 1 st service	Toss of the coin to choose service and court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The two referees report to the area in front of the scorer's table. The first referee blows his whistle to call the Team Captains The toss of the coin follows and the first referee informs the scorer of the result 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both team captains report to the area in front of the scorer's table <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the toss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team captains and coaches sign the scoresheet Teams go to their respective benches and bring in any equipment, which they place behind the benches

Minutes Before First Ball Served	Action	Action of Referees	Action of Teams
-14:00	Start of the Official Warm-Up at the net	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 1st referee blows the whistle to signal the start of the Official Net Warm-Up (5 minutes minimum for each team or 10 minutes together). The referees: Check the game balls, official playing uniforms, team documentation Give any necessary instructions to Line Judges, ball retrievers, moppers and scorers. 	<p>The teams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start to warm-up at the net Must wear their playing uniform for the official warm-up
-12:00	Line-Up sheets for the first set	<p>The 2nd referee must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the coach or assistant coach submits the original signed line up sheet for the first set 	<p>The coach or the assistant coach of each team gives the SIGNED line-up sheet for the first set to the 2nd referee/ scorer.</p>
-04:00	End of team warm up at the net	<p>The 1st referee blows the whistle to indicate the end of the warm-up of the teams</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the 1st referee's whistle, teams must stop warming up and immediately return to their own bench If players need to change their jerseys, they must leave the playing court and return immediately with the approval of the 1st referee All players must wear their match uniforms
-03:30	Referee, linejudges and teams are ready to enter the court		
		<p>First referee whistles, the 12 players of each team together with the referees, and linejudges enter the court., lining up laterally in the middle of the court facing the spectators.</p> 	

Minutes Before First Ball Served	Action	Action of Referees	Action of Teams
-03:00	Announcement of the match	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the 1st referee's whistle, both referees and line judges go to the middle of the court, perpendicular and close to the net, facing the spectators. The speaker announces the match After the announcement of the match, the first referee whistles for the players of the two teams to shake hands. The referees return to the scorer's table 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the 1st referees whistle, the 12 players of each team enter the court, lining-up laterally in the middle of the court facing the main spectator stand The players of the two teams shake hands and return to their respective benches The coach, assistant coach, doctor, trainer, starting-six players and the 1st libero sit on the bench for the individual presentation while the reserve players can remain near their team bench or be in their warm up area
02:30	<p>Fanfare</p> <p>Presentation of match referees</p> <p>Followed by the presentation of the starting players, 1st libero & coaches</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both referees, accompanied by a fanfare, March to the middle of the court, close to the net, facing the spectators. After being introduced, the 1st referee goes to the referee's chair and the second referee stands in the area in front of the scorer's table The speaker announces the name and player's number of all starting players, Starting libero and coach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After a second fanfare, each starting player and the libero of team A (on left of the score table as seen by the scorer) enters the court, waving his/her hands at the announcement of their name, The coach stands up, raising his/her hands when his/her name is announced. Following this, team B (on the right of the score table) is announced in the same way The other team members will be presented during the match, when they enter as substitutes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The second referee distributes FOUR match balls to the ball retrievers in the corners of the court. The 2nd referee checks the players' starting position, comparing them to those on the line-up sheet He/she asks the scorer if he/she has also finished checking and is ready to start The second referee will then give the ball to the server. 	
0:00	First Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 1st referee blows the whistle authorising the first service, at the scheduled time. 	