

# Hertfordshire Volleyball Association

## Competition Rules

(Text Amended May 2009)

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

1. This programme requires your full co-operation and goodwill.
2. The HVA will be firm in its dealings with offenders of the rules.
3. Make sure you read the rules. Failure to do so may result in fines/disciplinary action as ignorance is no defence.
4. Clubs are responsible for the conduct of their members at all Hertfordshire competitions. Club members are expected to behave both on and off court in an exemplary manner that promotes the spirit of the game of volleyball.

### **B. REGISTRATION and AFFILIATION**

1. All clubs must be affiliated to the EVA.
2. All players must be registered with the HVA
3. Clubs failing to comply with either or both B1 and B2 will be excluded from all HVA activities.
4. League and KO Cup entry fees are to be paid to the treasurer within 21 days of receipt of the invoice, or by the date of the next committee meeting, whichever is the sooner.
5. All clubs must forward a copy of their current constitutions to the HVA secretary.

### **C. CLUBS, TEAMS and PLAYERS**

1. Players are only allowed to play for the club with which they are registered, in any Competition organised by the HVA.
2. Players may transfer from one club to another, provided that the HVA is informed in writing.
3. The HVA reserves the right to refuse the registration of a player who has outstanding debt within the association.
4. Clubs must specify their teams and players(including any NVL/SVL Division 1 players male or female) in those teams to the HVA before 30th September.
5. Clubs are responsible for informing the Competition Secretary immediately in writing, by email or entered in the remarks on the scoresheet from when the changes take place, of any additions/changes to their team lists (see Section J, rule 11).

6. Where a club enters more than one team in HVA competitions players specified for a higher division team may not play for a lower team. The higher team must nominate 6 players. These players must play for the team before the end of January or another player should be nominated.
7. Two teams in the same division, from the same club, will play as separate teams; each team submits a team of players. Any player can play for the other team, up to a maximum of 2 separate occasions. The details must be entered in the remarks section of the score sheet as 'Match1' or 'Match2' .
8. Only one player from the EVA/SVA National League Division 1 can be on the score sheet for any team in the HVA. All Division 1 players have to be registered on the team sheet.
9. Women may play for men's teams.
10. Female players who play for a club that does not have a women's team in the Hertfordshire league competition may play in a women's team at a different club, provided this information is registered with the competition secretary before any match is played.
11. Boys aged under 16 on 1st September of the current season may play in the women's division.

#### **D. MATCH ARRANGEMENT**

1. Matches are to be played on a Home and Away basis.
2. The first named team on the match Schedule is the home team.
3. The home team is responsible for :
  - a) All match arrangements
  - b) Sending directions
  - c) Sending in the score sheet to the HVA Competitions Secretary immediately after the match.
  - d) Informing match officials in writing of match details.
  - e) Sending an offer of the match date and match information to the opposing team, in writing at least 21 days before the match date.
  - f) Informing the Competition Secretary, in writing or email of any changes to the match details from the published fixture list.
4. The away team is responsible for confirming/rejecting match information, in writing at least 14 days before the match date offered.
5. All leagues fixtures must be completed two weeks before the KO Cup final. Any games not completed after that deadline will be declared null and void. (see D6f)
6. Re-arranging matches
  - a) Matches will be played on the dates specified in the fixture list.

- b) Only under exceptional circumstances will changes to the fixture list be allowed. The Competition Secretary's approval must be obtained for any change.
- c) If the home team wish to re-arrange a match, they must offer (in writing or email) the away team suitable alternative dates. All this must be done not less than 21 days before the date set in the fixture list, and not less than 21 days before the proposed rearranged date(s).
- d) If the away team wish to re-arrange a match, they must request the home team to offer alternative dates. This must be done not less than 21 days before the match date in the fixture list.
- e) It is the home team's responsibility to notify the away team, Competition Secretary and match officials, in writing once any revised match arrangements have been confirmed.
- f) Any team requesting re-arrangement of a game, that in turn is not completed by the end of the season (D5) and has not abided by the re-arrangement rules (D6) will forfeit the match.

## **E. MATCHES OFFICIATION**

1. All matches are to be played as per FIVB "Rules of the Game".
2. All HVA Division 1 matches are to be played in sports halls, the size of which will be in accordance with EVA rules.
3. If local conditions require rule changes, this must be declared on the league entry form. HVA approval for such changes is required.
4. All shirts to be numbered as per FIVB "Rules of the Game"
5. The home team is to supply the match ball.
6. Net aerials are compulsory for all matches.
7. There must be a minimum of two hours available for play.
8. Players not recorded on the score sheet at the start of the match may not take part. Players recorded on the score sheet, but who arrive late, may not play in the set in progress, but may play in subsequent set(s).
9. At least 15 minutes warm-up time should be allowed after the confirmed start time.
10. Any team who is not ready to start 30 minutes after the confirmed start time is in default by being incomplete and forfeits the match by 0 sets to 3, and 0-25 for each set.
11. Any team who is not ready to start at any time between 15 and 30 minutes after the confirmed start time is in default and forfeits the right to a complete game. The match should be played in the usual way but if there is sufficient time to complete the match the defaulting team loses the remaining points and sets to concede the match.

12. If time runs out before the completion of a match where no team is in default ( i.e. the minimum two hours were available and the match started on time) both teams retain the sets already won and the away team is awarded the game, plus any incomplete sets.
13. Where applicable, teams offended under Section E, rules 7 to 12 will be awarded: League points 6-0, Sets 3-0, Set points 25-0 25-0
14. All matches are to be recorded on official EVA score sheets.
15. The score sheet should be marked clearly with the type of match, including division and the correct match number as per the published fixture list.
16. The home team is responsible for sending the score sheet to the Competition Secretary as soon as possible after each match, and no later than 5 days after the match.

## **F. OFFICIALS**

1. These shall be neutral and qualified where possible.
2. Line officials are required for all matches, where possible and practicable.
3. All clubs playing in Division 1 are required to provide two officials (1<sup>str</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> referee) for other clubs as set out in the fixtures list. For all other divisions the minimum number of officials is one (1<sup>st</sup> referee), and where possible two (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> referees), although these can be members of the home club.
4. In the event of the non-appearance of an official, the captains of the two teams concerned shall agree to the appointment of an available official. This must be recorded on the score sheet.

## **G. LEAGUE**

1. League points will be awarded as follows:
  - 1 point for playing the match +
  - 1 point for every set won +
  - 3 points for winning the match
2. If two or more teams tie on league points, their position will be decided on:
  - Sets for *then*
  - Sets against *then*
  - The result of the matches played between the teams in the league.

3. Generally, promotion and relegation is on the basis of 2 up, 2 down for divisions 1 and 2 although in practice an assessment is made at the beginning of each new season. Women's/Mixed divisions - there will be no automatic promotion. Any team from these divisions may apply to enter Division 2. The HVA executive will consider their application.

## **H. DISPUTES**

1. The HVA executive will adjudicate all disputes and their decision is final.
2. Disputants must submit the request for a hearing in writing.
3. All parties in the dispute will be asked for a written statement and may be required to attend the executive meeting considering their dispute.

## **I. KO CUP**

1. All rules A – H apply except that no male players will be allowed to play in the Women's KO Cup competition.
2. Players registering with a club after 1<sup>st</sup> February will not be eligible to play for that club in that season's KO Cup.
3. All KO Cup players registered before 1<sup>st</sup> February must have played at least one game (league or Cup).
4. Players already having played for a team in the KO Cup may not (even if transferred) play for another team in the KO Cup of that season.
5. The KO Cup competition is only open to those clubs who play in one of the HVA leagues.
6. All HVA KO Cup matches are to be played in sports halls as per HVA Division 1 regulations.
7. Officials for all KO Cup matches must be neutral and qualified and shall be organised by the home side, as noted in the cup draw. Opposing teams will share the cost of referees.
8. Two teams from the same club in the Cup play as separate teams. These can be different to the teams registered in the league.
9. For the Cup finals, each team must supply 2 line judges and a scorer to officiate at the other match.
10. For KO Cup matches, opposing teams will share the cost of the hall hire.

## **J. DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

|    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1  | Failure to provide officials (F3)   | £10 + 1 league points deducted   |
| 2  | Late arrival to a match   | See section E.10   |
| 3  | (a) Failure to send completed score sheet<br>(b) Sending score sheet late (E.16)<br>(c) Incorrectly completed score sheet   | Loss of match<br>£5<br>£5  |
| 4  | Failure to inform Competition Secretary of change in match date.  | Loss of match  |
| 5  | (a) Failure to arrive at a game without notification (the offended club must make a complaint in writing to the Competition Secretary)<br>(b) Late cancellation of match (B5) | (£10 fine (to HVA) plus the costs incurred by the offended club. (An invoice must be provided if Sports Hall costs are being claimed). |
| 6  | Players with no shirt numbers   | £5 per player, per match   |
| 7  | No net aerials (excluding those broken in a game)   | £5   |
| 8  | Failure to provide confirmation of affiliation to EVA for current season.   | £35 plus B3 although in practice HVA executive decision can be made, due to registration/affiliation problems at EVA.                  |
| 9  | Failure to register new players   | £5 per player, per match on score sheet  |
| 10 | Failure to forward a copy of the club constitution to the HVA   | £1   |
| 11 | Failure to send in team lists to Competition Secretary by 31 <sup>st</sup> October in current season.   | £20  |
| 12 | Failure to pay League/KO Cup fees by the date specified (B4)  | £20  |
| 13 | Any action considered by the HVA executive that brings the game of volleyball into disrepute  | HVA executive decision   |
| 14 | Failure to send a representative to HVA committee meeting.  | £10 , unless L2 applies.   |

### ***K. FINES***

1. All fines will be paid to the HVA, and sent to the Treasurer along with the payment slip.
2. All fines will be paid within 14 days of notification.
3. Failure to comply in respect of fines will result in suspension of the club from the HVA until fines are paid (all players and teams of the offending club).
4. Fines not paid by the notified date may be increased at the discretion of the HVA committee.

### ***L. HVA COMMITTEE MEETINGS***

1. Every club must send a representative to each Committee meeting, who must report back to their club all relevant information.
2. If an HVA committee meeting is scheduled for a night when an HVA league or cup match is scheduled, then the two teams involved need not send a representative, although apologies must be given to the chairman or secretary. No fines will be levied on those teams for non-attendance on that date.

## HISTORY OF AMENDMENTS

### AGM2009

Reformatted +

New

C3 The HVA reserves the right to refuse the registration of a player who has outstanding debt within the association.

I3 All KO Cup players registered before 1<sup>st</sup> February must have played at least one game (league or Cup).

Updated

C4 Clubs must specify their teams and players(including any NVL/SVL Division 1 players male or female) in those teams to the HVA before 30th September.

E1 All matches are to be played as per FIVB "Rules of the Game".

E4 All shirts to be numbered as per FIVB "Rules of the Game"

F3 All clubs playing in Division 1 are required to provide two officials (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> referee) for other clubs as set out in the fixtures list. For all other divisions the minimum number of officials is one (1<sup>st</sup> referee), and where possible two (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> referees), although these can be members of the home club.

J1 £10 + 1 league points deducted

Added to C6 - The higher team must nominate 6 players. These players must play for the team before the end of January or another player should be nominated.

### AGM 2008

Updated Rule: I6

*Old:* Officials for all KO Cup matches must be neutral and qualified and shall be supplied by a third club, as noted in the cup draw. The Competition Secretary will assign the club responsible for each match.

*New:* Officials for all KO Cup matches must be neutral and qualified and shall be organised by the home side, as noted in the cup draw. Opposing teams will share the cost of referees.

### AGM 2007

New Rule: B13

All leagues fixtures must be completed two weeks before the KO Cup final. Any games not completed after that deadline will be declared null and void. [votes: 9 for / 1 against]

New Rule: I9

For KO Cup matches, opposing teams will share the cost of the hall hire [votes: 10 for / 0 against]

### AGM 2006

Updated Rule: B8g:

*Old:* Clubs with two teams in the same division will play as separate teams. If a senior team is designated, then players will be allowed to play up a maximum of two times. When this situation of playing up arises, it must be stated clearly on the score sheet. (This rule does not apply to the KO Cup Competition).

*New:* Two teams in the same division from the same club play as separate teams each team submits a list of players. Any player can play for the other team up to maximum of 2 separate occasions. The details must be entered in the remarks section of the score sheet as Match 1 or Match 2.

Proposed by MP Seconded AB

New Rule: I7

Two teams from the same club in the Cup play as separate teams. These can be different to the teams registered in the league.

Proposed by AW Seconded TA

Updated Rule: B8h

Only one player from the EVA/SVA National League Division 1 can be on the score sheet for any team in the HVA. All Division 1 players have to be registered on the team sheet.

Proposed by NJ Seconded AW

New Rule: I8

For the cup finals each team must supply 2 line judges & a scorer to officiate at the other match.

Proposed by AB Seconded GD