

# Hertfordshire Volleyball Association

## Competition Rules (Updated 2017)

### **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 Super 8 / 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 6 named players. Any player not named, may play for the other team, up to a maximum of 2 separate occasions (i.e. the 3rd match played for either team, ties the

player to that team). The details must be entered in the remarks section of the score sheet as "Match1" or "Match2".

8. Only one player from the NVL Super 8/SVA National League Division 1 can be on the score sheet for any team in the HVA. All NVL Super 8/SVA Division 1 players have to be identified on the team sheet.
9. Women may play for men's teams, in the league competition.
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. Junior Players
  - 11.1. Any player, male or female, under the age of 16 on 1st September of the current season will be considered to be a "Junior" player.
  - 11.2. A "Junior" player registered with a club, may play in any of the club's teams, without the playing up or playing across rule being applied.
12. All players registered with a club are eligible to play in the Mixed Division.
  - 12.1. No playing up or playing across rules apply.
  - 12.2. Each team shall have a minimum of three (3) ladies/juniors on court at any time.

#### **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 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 match information, in writing at least 14 days before the scheduled match date.
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.

## **F. OFFICIALS**

- 1. These shall be qualified for all Division 1 matches.
- 1.1. These shall be neutral and qualified where possible, for all other divisions.
- 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 (1st & 2nd referee) for other clubs as set out in the fixtures list.

- 3.1. For all other divisions two officials are required ((1st and 2nd referees), although these can be members of the home club.
- 3.2. The home team is required to provide a competent scorer for all matches.
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.
5. If the match runs over scheduled court time, the referee should allow the match to finish as much as possible.
  - 5.1. Based on information available to the referee, he/she should call time on the match when it can continue no more.
  - 5.2. An incomplete match would be given to the team with the most sets won (as long as the game has started on time - if not the home team forfeits).
  - 5.3. For this purpose, an incomplete set is counted as a win for the team with a lead of 2 or more points, otherwise a tie. If set scores are tied, the winner is the team with a 'points total' of at least two more than their opponent's.
  - 5.4. If teams are still tied, then the two teams each get 1 league point.
6. 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.
7. 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 25-0
8. All matches are to be recorded on official EVA score sheets.
9. 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.
10. 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.

## **G. LEAGUE**

1. League points will be awarded as follows:
  - 1 point for playing the match +
  - 1 point for every set won +
  - 2 points for winning the match.

Where a team loses a game as a result of a forfeit, no points will be awarded to the team.

2. If two or more teams tie on league points, their position will be decided on:
  - Most matches won then
  - Least matches lost then
  - Most sets for then
  - Least 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:
  - 1.1. No male players, regardless of age, will be allowed to play in the Women's KO Cup competition
  - 1.2. No female players, regardless of age, will be allowed to play in the Men's KO Cup competition.
2. Players registering with a club after 1st February will not be eligible to play for that club in that season's KO Cup.
3. All KO Cup players registered before 1st 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.
  - 8.1. ALL players from each team must be registered for this purpose.
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 point deducted
2	Late arrival to a match	See section E.10
3	a) Failure to send completed score sheet	Loss of match
	b) Sending score sheet late (E.16)	£5.00
	c) Incorrectly completed score sheet	£5.00
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) (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 end September 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.

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## HISTORY OF AMENDMENTS

### **AGM2017** (agreed at 2017 Fixtures meeting)

#### Reformatted

#### Update

F1. Old: These shall be neutral and qualified for all Division 1 matches.

F1 New: These shall be qualified for all Division 1 matches.

F5 Old: 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.

F5 New: If the match runs over scheduled court time, the referee should allow the match to finish as much as possible.

1. Based on information available to the referee, he/she should call time on the match when it can continue no more.
2. An incomplete match would be given to the team with the most sets won (as long as the game has started on time - if not the home team forfeits).
3. For this purpose, an incomplete set is counted as a win for the team with a lead of 2 or more points, otherwise a tie. If set scores are tied, the winner is the team with a 'points total' of at least two more than their opponent's.
4. If teams are still tied, then the two teams each get 1 league point.

### **AGM2011**

#### Update

C4. Clubs must specify their teams and players (including any NVL Super 8 / SVL Division 1 players - male or female) in those teams to the HVA before 30th September.

C7. Two teams in the same division, from the same club, will play as separate teams; each team submits a team of 6 named players. Any player not named, may play for the other team, up to a maximum of 2 separate occasions (i.e. the 3rd match played for either team, ties the player to that team). The details must be entered in the remarks section of the score sheet as „Match1“ or “Match2”.

C8. Only one player from the NVL Super 8/SVA National League Division 1 can be on the score sheet for any team in the HVA. All NVL Super 8/SVA Division 1 players have to be identified on the team sheet.

C9. Women may play for men’s teams, in the league competition.

#### C11 Junior Players

C11.1 Any player, male or female, under the age of 16 on 1st September of the current season will be considered to be a “Junior” player.

C11.2 A “Junior” player registered with a club, may play in any of the club’s teams, without the playing up or playing across rule being applied.

D3.e) Sending match information to the opposing team, in writing at least 21 days before the match date.

D4. The away team is responsible for confirming match information, in writing at least 14 days before the scheduled match date.

F1. These shall be neutral and qualified for all Division 1 matches.

F1.1 These shall be neutral and qualified where possible, for all other divisions.

F3. All clubs playing in Division 1 are required to provide two officials (1st & 2nd referee) for other clubs as set out in the fixtures list.

F3.1 For all other divisions two officials are required (1st and 2nd referees), although these can be members of the home club.

G1. League points will be awarded as follows:

- 1 point for playing the match +
- 1 point for every set won +
- 2 points for winning the match

Where a team loses a game as a result of a forfeit, no points will be awarded to the team.

G2. If two or more teams tie on league points, their position will be decided on:

- Most matches won then
- Least matches lost then
- Most sets for then
- Least sets against then
- The result of the matches played between the teams in the league.

I1. All rules A – H apply except that:

1.1. No male players, regardless of age, will be allowed to play in the Women's KO Cup competition

I8. Two teams from the same club in the Cup play as separate teams. These can be different to the teams registered in the league.

J11. Failure to send in team lists to Competition Secretary by end September in current season.

New

C12. All players registered with a club are eligible to play in the Mixed Division.

C12.1 No playing up rules apply.

C12.2 Each team shall have a minimum of three (3) ladies on court at any time.

F3.2 The home team is required to provide a competent score for all matches.

I8.1 ALL players from each team must be registered for this purpose.

I1-1.2. No female player, regardless of age, will be allowed to play in the Men's KO Cup competition

## **AGM2010**

Correction/clarification

New

Update

## **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 1st 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 (1st & 2nd referee) for other clubs as set out in the fixtures list. For all other divisions the minimum number of officials is one (1st referee), and where possible two (1st and 2nd 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: 18

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

*Proposed by AB Seconded GD*