



# DDC Meeting Minutes

November 23, 2017  
14:30 - 16:00 EST

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**Attendance:** Jim Plakas, Monette Boudreau-Carroll, Keith Hansen, Ed Drakich, Brian Newman (chair), James Sneddon (staff)

**Regrets:** Glenn Hoag, Dawna Sales, Jonathan Chevrier

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## 1. Beach 2018

- a. MOTION: VC adopt the hand setting rule below:

*For 16U and younger (all Divisions) a player may have a double contact on their second contact when completing a set to their teammate using an overhand pass provided the ball has a trajectory perpendicular to the line of the player's hands, shoulders, and hips (i.e. the player is being "square") and the double contact involves only the hands.*

**Passed.** The DDC strongly recommends this rule be adopted in the 2018 season. Volleyball Canada will produce education video in French and English as well as a document clarifying the rule and the rationale for implementation.

- b. MOTION: VC to adopt a 20U division for Beach Nationals

**Passed**

Rationale: 1) alignment with the U21 FIVB age category, 2) alignment with the 20U Canada Games age category; 3) Aligns within the LTAD age range for an introductory high performance category for beach volleyball; 4) Opportunity to grow a Provincial Team category.

- c. MOTION: VC adopts single age categories for those beach divisions with enough participants.

**Passed**

Rationale: 1) creates greater opportunity for meaningful competition; 2) encourages larger participation numbers to enhance the quality and experience of the event.

2. MOTION: To modify the rules and regulations of Tripleball to allow coaches to designate their setter in position 1 as well as position 2 or 3.

**Passed.** The motion passed and will be in effect for the 2018-2019 season. A rewording of the rule will be reviewed by the DDC and the Indoor rule book will be updated.

Note: The DDC applied this rule modification with a caution, noting that the objective of Tripleball is to create more rallies and more opportunities to execute the pass, set, attack sequence. When adding difficulty to the setting position (setter movement and transition) this could create the opposite of the desired outcome of Tripleball. It was noted that the majority of 13U teams would not benefit from using the setter in position 1. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the DDC that only advanced 13U teams attempt using the setter in position 1.

### 3. 14U Fair Play Rule Review

- a. The DDC reviewed two separate member email communications regarding the current 14U Fair Play rule. In the section below the concerns and DDC perspectives are listed.

Concerns regarding the 14U Fair Play rule:

Cannot sub an athlete that is emotionally distraught

DDC Perspective:

These instances are very few in number, the coach can use 2 timeouts, can coach from the sideline, can change the serve reception formation to support a struggling player, players can benefit from staying in the game to work through the highs and lows, players can be coached during practices on how to emotionally manage failure.

Concern regarding the 14U Fair Play rule:

Cannot 'bench' a player who is not following team rules, they have to play.

DDC Perspective:

Player discipline can be managed in a variety of ways, such as speaking with the athlete and parents, communicating ahead of time with the athletes/parents that they may not participate in matches if the team expectations are not met, etc.

Concern regarding the 14U Fair Play rule:

Teams are reducing their rosters to 10 and this may reduce participation numbers for volleyball in general.

DDC Perspective:

The DDC reviewed team participation numbers from the last 4 years for Nationals and Provincials and found that participation increased as a whole. The DDC will continue to monitor these numbers and will re-evaluate the rule if it can be demonstrated there is a reduction in participation due to the rule.

Concern regarding the 14U Fair Play rule:

Teams are reducing their rosters to 9-10 and this creates a competitive advantage against teams with 12 players.

DDC Perspective:

The DDC encourages teams to carry rosters of 10, as this is a significant training and skill development advantage. In another example, the 12U game is played using 4 vs 4, and it is recommend teams carry a roster of 6. This allows for rest and recovery and maximum playing/practice time for all players, increasing both enjoyment and development. Since the total team participation numbers are not reducing but rather increasing, it appears players who are not selected to a club roster of 10 are forming other teams or other clubs. Therefore, it appears that some of the DDC's desired outcomes of increasing participation and improving skill development is being achieved. The DDC will continue to closely monitor participation numbers.

To increase parity between teams who carry 12 players and those who carry fewer than 12, the DDC is considering implementing the following rule:

*A team roster must hold a minimum of 9 players, and no player may play in all 3 sets. If a team of 9 has an injury, they may play with 8, however the opposing team may also play with 8 (same principle applies for 7 and 6).*

The DDC will solicit feedback from PTA's and members on this proposal prior to its next meeting and discuss this topic further.

In summary, the DDC agreed to continue to uphold the principle of the 14U Fair Play rule with the potential of modifying the rule to create greater parity between teams with varying roster sizes.

4. Beach tie-breaker rule
  - a. Volleyball Canada will adopt the FIVB tie-breaking procedure as per the 2017-2020 FIVB rulebook. The rule will be applied in the 2018 season.
  
5. NCCP Update
  - a. The Elementary Volleyball Leader eLearning module has been "soft-launched". Once initial feedback is compiled, a second revision will be made and the program will be officially launched with a media campaign.
  
6. Other
  - a. Volleyball Canada was approached by the Alexander First Nations, located outside of Morinville, AB, as a partner to apply for a grant referred to as New Paths for Education Program Proposal through Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada. VC received the grant to be applied in the 2017-18 fiscal year to the following activities:
    - target grade 9 students with a specific focus to offer an academy-like volleyball program
    - engage grade 11 students to offer more sport and physical activity infused in their curriculum with a strong focus on leadership, mentoring, and program support
    - provide clinics for elementary aged youth to engage the community to assist in the delivery of effective sport and recreation programming
    - coach and leader development through mentorship, certification, and curriculum development
  
7. 16U Boys Libero rule (tabled for next meeting)

Next meeting: Dec 4-6, 2017 in Ottawa