

2017 Volleyball Canada Indoor Competition Guide



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Canada 



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Eligibility & Registration

This section deals with the registration, certification, and eligibility requirements for all Volleyball Canada Indoor Nationals. These requirements are in place to ensure an equal competitive structure.

01

Team Registration

1.1 Team: A group of athletes and personnel that are registered members of a club.

1.2 Players: A team in any age category must have between a minimum of 8 players and a maximum of 15 players registered on their official roster. A maximum of 15 players can be in uniform, participate in the warm-up, and sit on the bench. However, only 12 players are allowed to be on the score sheet for any given match. These 12 players registered on the score sheet are the only ones eligible to participate in the match; the 12 players registered on the score sheet may vary from match to match. (see 4.1.1 of the Rulebook).

1.3 Team Personnel: These are the individuals responsible for the coaching and management of the team; all team personnel must have the appropriate Leader membership with Volleyball Canada. A team may register a maximum of six (6) team personnel, however only four (4) of these individuals are permitted to be on the score sheet and/or on the bench.

-The official roster submitted during the registration process for a VC Championship **MUST** have one (1) Head Coach and may have a maximum of three (3) Assistant Coaches. A team may also include a maximum of one (1) medical staff/trainer without exceeding the four (4) total permitted on the roster.

-Only those listed on the official roster are eligible to be on the score sheet and/or bench for any given match.

The following is a list of the athlete and team personnel roles that are recognized at VC National Championships:

- **Players:** In order to be eligible to participate in a VC Championship, each athlete on the official roster must be registered as a Youth Competitive Player with their respective PTA and with VC.
- **Head Coach:** The person who is primarily responsible for coaching the team. This individual must be NCCP certified in accordance to the VC requirements (See Section 3). Each team must have one (1) Head Coach listed on their official roster. Head Coaches can only appear on one roster for events occurring on the same weekend (i.e.: cannot be the Head Coach of 2 teams at 15U Boys National Championships in Waterloo; cannot be the Head Coach of a 17U and 18U Girls teams in Edmonton).
- **Assistant Coach:** The person(s) responsible for assisting in the coaching of the team. Please consult the Coach Certification Policy for recommendations on coach education for Assistant Coaches.
- **Medical Staff:** The person(s) responsible for assisting the team with any medical issues. Any person listed as Medical Staff must be a certified medical professional, for which proof may be requested. Each team can have a maximum of one (1) Medical Staff on their official roster, consisting of one (1) Team Therapist/Trainer or one (1) Medical Doctor.



- **Team Contact:** Any person responsible for ensuring communication between the team and their club, the tournament host, their PTA and/or VC. Each team must have a minimum of one (1) Team Contact listed on their official roster. This person can also have another role on the team (e.g.: Head Coach, Assistant Coach, etc.); however they must clearly be registered as both on the official roster.

1.4 Annual Membership: All participants (including athletes and team personnel) must complete their membership registration process of their respective PTA. By registering with their PTA, these participants will automatically become registered members with VC. Only individuals that are properly registered and in good standing are eligible to take part in competitions sanctioned or hosted by a PTA or VC.

1.5 Dual Registration: A team must purchase their annual membership within the province/territory in which they reside. No team is allowed to register with a PTA outside their region of residence without the prior approval of Volleyball Canada and the two (2) PTAs involved.

1.6 Official Roster: Each team must submit their official roster no later than the registration closing dates listed below in section 1.8, for their respective event(s). Rosters are submitted electronically using the GOALLINE registration system. After this date, **NO CHANGES** to the official roster will be allowed. The roster submitted for a VC Championship **MUST** be the same as the roster submitted for their PTA Championship.

For this reason, it is recommended that teams register more than the minimum number (8) of participants on their official roster since only those on this roster can participate at a VC Championship.

*Roster changes after the roster lock will only be considered under exceptional circumstances (injury). All changes must be submitted via the online request form.

1.7 Minimum Age: All athletes, coaches and team personnel members that are on the official roster for a VC Championship must be a minimum of 11 years of age.

1.8 Age Categories: The age category of a team is defined by the age category that they play in at their PTA Championship (See Section 4 for more on age category).

1.9 Registration Dates: Please note the date that registration opens for each team's respective age category:

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 14U Atlantic (Halifax) | Tuesday, January 10 th , 2017 at 12:00PM EST |
| 14U East (Ottawa) | Tuesday, January 10 th , 2017 at 12:00PM EST |
| 14U West (Abbotsford) | Tuesday, January 10 th , 2017 at 12:00PM EST |
| 15U East (Waterloo) | Thursday, January 12 th , 2017 at 12:00PM EST |
| 15U West (Regina) | Thursday, January 12 th , 2017 at 12:00PM EST |
| 16U East (Waterloo) | Tuesday, January 17 th , 2017 at 12:00PM EST |
| 16U West (Calgary) | Tuesday, January 17 th , 2017 at 12:00PM EST |
| 17/18U Girls (Edmonton) | Tuesday, January 24 th , 2017 at 12:00PM EST |
| 17/18U Boys (Saskatoon) | Thursday, January 26 th , 2017 at 12:00PM EST |

Please note that registration is on a first come, first serve basis.

Waitlists may be activated if the maximum event registration capacities have been reached.



Registration closing dates and roster lock dates will be as follows:

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017 at 11:59PM EST

14U East (Ottawa)
16U East (Waterloo)
17/18U Girls (Edmonton)

Tuesday, April 4th, 2017 at 11:59PM EST

14U Atlantic (Halifax)
14U West (Abbotsford)
15U East (Waterloo)
17/18U Boys (Saskatoon)

Tuesday, April 11th, 2017 at 11:59PM EST

15U West (Regina)
16U West (Calgary)

1.10 Waitlist: If an age/gender category for a VC Championship is full at the time of registration, it is strongly encouraged that you register your team onto the waitlist. If additional spots become available in that age/gender category or if a team cancels, waitlisted teams will be notified based on their position on the waitlist. Only those on the waitlist will have an opportunity to participate in the event.

There is no cost to register onto the waitlist for an event. You will only be charged once you accept your invitation to join the event.

1.11 Withdrawal Policy: If a team withdraws from the event prior to the registration deadline they will be refunded the registration fee less a \$350 administration fee. If a team withdraws after this date they will not receive a refund.

1.12 Participation Restrictions: For VC National Championships, only club teams are permitted to register. Provincial/territorial teams or foreign teams are not permitted to register, unless approved by the National Indoor Committee.

2.0

Foreign Participation

2.1 Participation Restrictions: A foreign team that wants to participate in a VC Championship must receive approval from their National Federation in order to participate. Each foreign team must provide Volleyball Canada with an official letter from their National Federation that states that the team is registered and in good standing. Each Foreign Team's participants must purchase health and travel insurance and comply with Volleyball Canada's registration protocols.

2.2. Registration: Foreign teams will be required to register for the event in which they wish to participate via the Volleyball Canada website. The registration process will only be complete once Volleyball Canada provides final confirmation of the foreign team's acceptance into the event. Confirmation will be provided in writing within thirty (30) days of registration.

*Volleyball Canada reserves the right to deny the registration of a foreign team based on the registration capacity of the competition.



For further information regarding provincial registration for foreign teams please consult the [Foreign Team and Foreign Player guide](#).

2.3 Seeding: All foreign teams are encouraged to play in a Provincial or Territorial event the same year that they plan to participate in a VC Championship in order to assist with the seeding process. Final results will be used to seed the foreign team in order to ensure meaningful matches for all teams participating in the VC Championship.

Foreign teams will not be placed in Division 1 unless the age class is only offering one division for competition.

3.0

Coach Certification Policy

Beginning in the 2016-17 season, all PTAs, excluding NB, NL, and PEI, adopted the 2017 Coach Certification Policy. Coach certification verification checks will be completed by each PTA, please check with your PTA for required timelines to achieve certification. Head coaches from the Atlantic Provinces will have their certification reviewed by VC, requirements must be met by 11:59pm March 30 2017.

Head Coaches of 16U, 15U, 14U Teams

| Appearance | Requirements | Fine |
|--|---|---------------------|
| 1st year coaching at a Provincial Championship in this age group beginning in the 2016-17 season | Volleyball eLearning Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation (Comp-Int version) Making Head Way (Generic) | \$300 |
| 2nd year coaching at a Provincial Championship in this age group beginning in the 2016-17 season | All items above Multi Sport Modules: Planning a Practice, Nutrition, or Theory 1 Development Coach Volleyball Workshop or Technical 1 | \$300 |
| 3rd year coaching at Provincial Championship in this age group beginning in the 2016-17 season and any appearance thereafter | All items above Development Coach Evaluation or Practical 1 | May not participate |



Head Coaches of 18U, 17U Teams

| Appearance | Requirements | Fine |
|--|---|---------------------|
| 1 st year coaching at a Provincial Championship in this age group beginning in the 2016-17 season | <u>Volleyball eLearning</u> <u>Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation (Comp-Int version)</u> <u>Making Head Way (Generic)</u> <u>Development Coach Volleyball Workshop</u> or Technical 1 | \$300 |
| 2 nd year coaching at a Provincial Championship in this age group beginning in the 2016-17 season | All items above Multi Sport Modules: <u>Planning a Practice, Nutrition, Design a Basic Sport Program, Basic Mental Skills, or Theory 2</u> <u>Advanced Development Volleyball Workshop</u> or Technical 2 | \$300 |
| 3 rd year coaching at Provincial Championship in this age group beginning in the 2016-17 season and any appearance thereafter | All items above <u>Advanced Development Coach Evaluation</u> or Practical 2 | May not participate |

Note: Coaches moving from 14/15/16U to 17/18U are considered a first year coach in that age group. Coaches moving from 17/18U to 14/15/16U are considered a first year coach in that age group.

It is strongly recommended that Assistant Coaches and Team Personnel complete: Volleyball eLearning, Make Ethical Decisions online evaluation (Com-Int version) and Making Head Way.

The payments of all applicable fines must be made online prior to coach check-in. The fees collected will be re-invested into coach education.

4.0

Age Categories for Nationals

Volleyball Canada recognizes the following age categories for competitions in the 2016-2017 season:

| | 18U | 17U | 16U | 15U | 14U |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Sept | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
| Oct | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
| Nov | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
| Dec | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
| Jan | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| Feb | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| Mar | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| Apr | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| May | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| June | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| July | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| Aug | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |



| | | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Sept | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| Oct | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| Nov | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| Dec | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |

Adult: OPEN

18U: Athletes born from September 1, 1998 to Dec 31 1999 (16 months)

17U: Athletes born from September 1, 1999 to Dec 31 2000 (16 months)

16U: Athletes born from September 1, 2000 to Dec 31 2001 (16 months)

15U: Athletes born from September 1, 2001 to Dec 31 2002 (16 months)

14U: Athletes born from September 1, 2002 to Dec 31 2003 (16 months)

*Athletes on a current CCAA or CIS volleyball roster, will not be permitted to play in the 17U age class regardless of birthdate.

Rationale and recommendations:

The expansion of age categories from 12 months to 16 is due to the research provided in the LTAD 2.0 document published by the Canadian Sport for Life group. The paper lists the 10 Key Factors influencing Long Term Athlete Development, of which "Developmental Age" is listed as point #3. Page 28-30 provides generic information about Developmental Age and demonstrates the flaws of lumping athletes into their birth year for participation in sports. In short, the large physical discrepancies that can occur between youth within the same birth year create significant disadvantages for late developing male athletes and to a lesser degree, early developing females. Therefore, increasing the range of months within a competitive division gives athletes greater flexibility to choose a level that best suits their needs.

Some athletes born from Sept-Dec will benefit from choosing a younger division, while other athletes who play at an advanced level would benefit from the challenge of playing up an age category. Athletes, parents and coaches should consider the short term and long term benefits of playing up or down an age category. If playing up provides the needed challenge for improvement, and there exists no significant social/emotional drawbacks in the older age category, the benefits of playing up far outweigh the drawbacks.

Age verification of youth athletes will be conducted at coach check-in one day prior to the start of competition. The players themselves are not required at check-in. Please see section 9 for more details.

For inquiries regarding the age category policy, please contact [James Sneddon](#).



Competition Regulations

This section deals with the rules and regulations to help govern events sanctioned and/or hosted by VC. The National Indoor Committee (NIC) is the primary body responsible for improving the consistency and quality of our competitive structures so that they reflect the needs of the participants.

5.0

Nationals Regulations

5.1 Eligibility: All teams must meet the following minimum criteria in order to be eligible to attend a VC Championship:

- Be a registered member, and in good standing, with their respective PTA and with Volleyball Canada.

Any foreign team looking to participate in an event must be registered and in good standing with their own National Federation (See Section 2).

- Participate in a Provincial/Territorial Championship of their respective PTA.
- Comply with the “Stay to Play” housing policy; all team hotel bookings must be completed through each event’s hotel provider(s) and not directly with the hotel.
- Meet all additional registration requirements of their PTA and Volleyball Canada.

5.2 For a national event (17/18U) to be recognized as a VC National Championships, Volleyball Canada requires the participation from a minimum of 3 PTAs and 8 teams.

5.3 For a regionalized event (East/West) to be recognized as a VC Championship, Volleyball Canada requires the participation from a minimum of 2 PTAs and 8 teams.

When both an East and West event are offered in the same age division, teams are free to attend the event(s) of their choice.

5.4 If an event does not meet the format event criteria listed above, Volleyball Canada reserves the right to cancel the event.

5.5 The official team roster submitted for a VC Championship MUST be the same as the one submitted for the Provincial/Territorial Championship.

5.6. Each team will be required to provide two (2) volunteers per match to act in the role of line judge and score keeper. These roles can be filled by any team representative. Each team will be provided with one additional accreditation at coach check-in to support this requirement.



Rules of the Game

Please consult the [2016-2017 Indoor Rulebook](#) for a complete list of rules or the [2016-2017 Indoor Rules & Policies Updates](#) document for a list of this year's major rule changes/updates.

Sport Court Rule:

a) Venues where the sport court has been laid to have a temporary court:

During a rally, the last point of contact prior to playing the ball must be the Sport Court.

Example:

- one foot on sport court, one foot on the cement...play is whistled dead
- jump in the air and play the ball prior to coming in contact with the cement.....play continues
- leave the playing surface and step on a chair and play the ball....play is whistled dead

Any service action must be initiated with at least one foot in contact with the Sport Court.

b) Venues where the sport court is permanent and connected:

A no play zone will be defined by the referees at the event.

6.0

Equipment & Materials

6.1 Official Game Ball

The Tachikara SIX.VC will be the competition ball for all age categories at VC National Championships.

6.2 Net Heights

| Girls/Women | Boys/Men |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 14U: 2.15m | 14U: 2.20m |
| 15 and 16U: 2.20m | 15 and 16U: 2.35m |
| 17 and 18U: 2.24m | 17 and 18U: 2.43m |
| Senior: 2.24m | Senior: 2.43m |

6.3 Athlete Uniforms

(section 4.3 and 19.2 of the Indoor Rulebook)

- A player's equipment consists of a jersey and shorts.
- The colour and the design for the jerseys and shorts must be uniform for the team (except for the Libero). The Libero player(s) must wear a uniform which clearly contrast with the rest of the team. (Please refer to the [Uniform Guidelines](#)).
- All jerseys must be uniquely numbered (1 to 99).
- The captain must have a stripe of 8 x 2 cm underlining the number on the chest of the jersey.
- Shoes must be non-marking.



- Teams are encouraged to email Volleyball Canada (nationals@volleyball.ca) for verification if they are unsure as to whether or not they meet the above mentioned regulations.

6.4 Coaches and Team Staff Attire

All coaches and team staff should follow the dress guideline below during all of their matches. These guidelines must also be followed by anyone acting as a line judge or scorekeeper during VC National Championships.

- Must be dressed in coaching attire as to represent their team and club in a professional manner.
- Must wear appropriate footwear. Only closed toe shoes allowed.
- Hats are not permitted.

7.0

Divisional Play & Seeding

7.1 Division Size:

- The preferred size for a division is 32 teams.
- The minimum size for a division is 8 teams.
- The maximum size for a division is 48 teams.
- Division Requests: Teams may request to be placed in a lower division than their determined seeding, in which case, VC will make a final decision on whether the request will be allowed. Requests must be made prior to April 21th. In this situation, it may be necessary to move additional teams up one division to accommodate the request.

7.2 Seeding

The seeding for the 2017 VC National Championships will be based on the results at provincial and territorial championships.

Please see the [2017 VC National Championships Divisional Play and Seeding document](#) for full details regarding seeding for each age category

8.0

Draw Principles

Each VC Championship varies based on location, age category, venues, and number of courts. These variables may affect how the tournament will be organized. Volleyball Canada has developed a set of principles for governing how the draws will be structured.

All teams are guaranteed a minimum of 7 matches at any VC Nationals (3-day event).

- All matches are best-of-three.
- Maximum number of four matches per day.
- Maximum of two back-to-back matches.



9.0

Coach Check-In

9.1 The Coach Check-In process generally takes place the day before the matches are scheduled to start (*Example: if the matches are from Friday to Sunday, Coach Check-In will take place on Thursday*).

9.2 All teams must check-in during this time. Late Check-in will only be permitted if requested prior to **April 28th** and fine of \$50 is paid by cash on-site or paid online.

9.3 Only individuals on the official team roster can check-in their team (Example: Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Contact, Club Contact, etc). The players themselves are not required at check-in. If a member of team staff is not able to attend Coach Check-In, another team representative may do so in their place however they must provide written consent from the team's coaching staff.

9.4 Coaches will be required to show proof of age of all athletes via a government issued ID (birth certificate, driver's license, health card, passport, etc). Originals are not required, copies are recommended.

9.5 All head coaches will be required to provide their NCCP Card or NCCP Number.

9.6 Although the official roster allows for a maximum of six (6) team personnel, only four (4) of these individuals are allowed to be on the score sheet and/or on the bench. These four (4) individuals will need to be identified during the Coach Check-In process and will be the only individuals who receive team personnel accreditation. The remaining two individuals will not be permitted on the scoresheet or bench.

10.0

Sanctions

10.1 A team may be sanctioned, including fines, if any of the following infractions occur while the team is participating at a VC National Championship:

- The accommodation facilities or tournament facilities are deliberately damaged by a member of their team.
- The tournament equipment is deliberately damaged by any member of their team.
- The [Volleyball Canada Code of Conduct](#) is violated in any way.
- The [2016-2017 Volleyball Canada Indoor Rulebook](#) is violated in any way.
- A team does not fulfill its competitive obligations to an event.

If for some reason your team is unable to attend an event that they have registered for or is unable to attend a game that they are scheduled for, it is your responsibility to notify a VC representative as soon as possible.

10.2 Any other infraction that the NIC deem to be detrimental to the event and/or its participants.

10.3 In addition to performance bond related sanctions listed above, Volleyball Canada also has the following sanctions/payments in place for all VC National Championships:

- \$50.00 for Late Check-In (must be requested by April 28th)
- \$350.00 for Withdrawal prior to Roster Lock Date; no refund after Roster Lock Date
- \$300.00 for Coaching Certification Policy (See Section 3)



- \$100.00 cash for assembling the Competition Jury to assess an official protests

10.4 A team or club that is sanctioned in any way because of an infraction related to a VC Championship will be placed in bad standing with VC and their respective PTA. The team or club will remain in bad standing until the sanction has been paid in full to Volleyball Canada. While a team or club is in bad standing they will not be able to register for any events sanctioned by their PTA or VC.

11.0

Protest & Appeal Process

11.1 Any protest or appeal at a VC Championship will be overseen by a Competition Jury, composed of the following:

- A member of the NIC or an approved designate.
- A representative of the Host Committee.
- A member of the Referee Management Team or approved designate.
- A Competition Jury member or an approved designate will be present at all venues.

11.2 The Competition Jury has the highest level of authority at a VC Championship and its decisions take precedence and cannot be appealed. They are in place to evaluate complaints and render decisions regarding issues that arise about the event organization and all technical matters. The Competition Jury may be called upon to make decisions on, but not limited to, any of the following matters:

- Competition Protests
- Player Eligibility
- Uniforms
- Spectators
- Playing surface/area
- Schedules and Draws

11.3 The following types of issues can be protested or appealed:

- An improper decision by the referee who did not apply the rules or regulations.
- An improper decision of the scorer who made a mistake on the rotational order or on the score.
- Please note that judgement calls cannot be protested. A referee's decision regarding a playing action (ie. ball handling or misconduct) cannot be protested.
- The protest will be accepted or rejected prior to the resumption of play by the tournament jury.

11.4 To officially protest or appeal a decision, the captain must launch the protest immediately to the first referee who will then indicate to the scorekeeper that a protest has been lodged.

A fee of \$100 must be provided in cash immediately in order to assemble the Competition Jury to assess the protest. The funds will be returned if the protest is upheld; however, if it is overturned, the funds will go towards referee development.



11.5 In case of an incident during a match, the protest has to be requested at the moment the incident occurs, before play resumes. Please remember that NO match will be replayed, as protests have to be placed at the moment of the incident. For further explanation, please refer to Protest Procedures in Section IV of the [Indoor Rulebook](#).

- Notify both teams that there is a protest
- Ask both teams to stay in the gym until the final decision is rendered.
- The chairperson of jury convenes the jury.
- The jury interviews the coach of the protesting team.
- The jury interviews all involved parties, as they see fit (e.g.: opposing coach, officials, captains, athletes, etc.)
- The jury deliberates and renders a decision.
- The chairperson of jury informs all parties involved of the decision made.

12.0

Code of Conduct & Discipline

The [2016-17 Volleyball Canada Indoor Rulebook](#) details the Code of Ethics for Referees, the Code of Conduct for all participants, Anti-Doping Policy and Disciplinary Action. Any breach of these policies are subject to fines and/or sanctions as outlined on in the [Volleyball Canada Code of Conduct](#).