

2020 Volleyball Canada Indoor Nationals Competition Guide



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Canada 



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2020 National Championships Overview

VC will host three 14U events in order to provide regional access to teams while the 15 – 18U categories will be held under one roof over 6 days.

Date	City	Age/Gender	Facility
April 30 – May 3 rd	Ottawa	14U girls & boys	Carleton University
May 7 th – 10 th	Abbotsford	14U girls & boys	Tradex Centre
May 15 th – 18 th	Halifax	14U girls & boys	Canada Games Centre
May 13 th – 16 th	Edmonton	15U & 17U	Edmonton Expo Centre
May 16 th – 19 th	Edmonton	16U & 18U	Edmonton Expo Centre

**Competition dates include coach check-in*

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 Players: A team in any age category must have 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 listed on the score sheet (excluding those crossed out for the match) are the only ones eligible to participate in the match; the 12 listed players on the score sheet may vary from match to match. (see 4.1.1 of the Rulebook).

1.2 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.

- The official roster for VC Nationals may include a maximum of four (4) individuals.
- 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 Nationals and who may be listed on the Official Roster:

- **Players:** In order to be eligible to participate in a VC Nationals, each athlete on the official roster must be registered as a Youth Competitive Player with their respective PTA and with VC.
Important Reminder! Players can only appear on one roster (one age category) per event. Please note that the Edmonton Nationals includes 2 tournaments within one event; therefore, a player cannot appear on a roster in tournament 1 (17U girls) and in tournament 2 (18U girls).



- **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.
Important Reminder! An individual is not permitted to be designated as Head Coach for two teams in the same tournament. Please note that the Edmonton Nationals includes 2 tournaments within one event; therefore, a coach cannot be the Head Coach of a 17U and a 15U team (both Tournament 1). However, a Head Coach can appear on the roster for a 17UG and a 16UB team (Tournament 1 and Tournament 2), or they may be listed as a Head Coach of a 17U girls and Assistant Coach for a 15U boys team (within the same tournament but in a different role).
- **Assistant Coach:** The person(s) responsible for assisting in the coaching of the team. The assistant coach may only act in the role of Head Coach in extenuating circumstances and with prior approval of Volleyball Canada. Each team may have a maximum of three (3) assistant coaches on their official roster.
- **Team Trainer:** The person(s) responsible for assisting the team with any medical issues.
- **Team Manager:** The person(s) responsible for pre-event and on-site administrative duties for the team and who acts as a liaison between the team and other parties (ex. VC, hotels, restaurants, etc).

1.3 Team Contact: Each team must list a team contact during the registration process. This person will be responsible for ensuring communication between the team, their club, and VC. The Team Contact will not be listed on the Official Roster nor will they be provided with an accreditation unless they have a dual role as a member of the team personnel and they are listed on the official roster.

1.4 Annual Membership: All participants (athletes and team personnel) must complete their membership registration process with 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 Province/Territory of Residence: A player/team must purchase their annual membership(s) within the province/territory in which they reside. No player/team is allowed to register with a PTA outside their province of residence without the prior approval of Volleyball Canada and the two (2) PTAs involved. In addition, no player/team is permitted to register with more than one PTA at the same time; players who wish to change PTAs mid-season must receive approval from Volleyball Canada and the PTAs involved.

1.6 Official Roster: All players and team staff participating at VC Nationals Championships MUST be the same as those listed on the roster for their PTA Championship.

All team rosters will be provided directly to VC via the PTA following the PTA Championships therefore teams will not be required to upload their roster into the Volleyball Registration System (VRS). Any players or team personnel not participating at the VC National Championships must be removed from the roster at check-in.

New for 2020! The roster lock date for teams from New Brunswick who are attending Nationals will be April 9th 2020 (registration closing date).

1.7 Roster Exemption Requests: Changes made to the official PTA Championship roster will only be considered under exceptional circumstances. All changes must be submitted via the online exemption form (available on the event website) and will be subject to the following fees:

- \$50 for team personnel change
- \$100 for player change



All team personnel changes must fall within the guidelines listed in the Coach Certification Policy in Section 3.0. Player changes should fall within the following guidelines:

- Teams must have 7 or fewer players remaining for their Nationals roster
- Incoming player(s) must have played the current season with the same club
- Incoming player(s) could not have played on a team who was declared at an older age category during the current season (16U player who played on a 17U team during the same season)

1.8 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.

1.9 Age Categories: The age category of a team is defined by the age category that the team declares with their PTA at the start of the season (See Section 4 for more information on age categories).

1.10 Registration Dates:

Age Category	City	Registration Date	Registration Time
17U	Edmonton	January 8 th	12:00pm EST (noon)
15U	Edmonton	January 9 th	12:00pm EST (noon)
18U	Edmonton	January 14 th	12:00pm EST (noon)
16U	Edmonton	January 15 th	12:00pm EST (noon)
14U	Ottawa, Halifax, Abbotsford	January 22 nd	12:00pm EST (noon)

Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. The registration closing date is April 9th 2020 at 11:59pm EST. Registration is limited therefore teams are encouraged to register early.

1.11 Registration for teams playing up:

A team “playing up” is defined as a team who is registering to play in an age group that is older than the one they declared for with their PTA during the club season. For example, a team who declares as a 15UB team with their PTA who wants to play in the 16U Boys Nationals.

Teams who wish to play up an age group at nationals will be permitted to register beginning Wednesday January 29th, 2020 at 12pm (noon) EST pending available space in the event. If an event is full, the team will be permitted to add their team to the waitlist as of this date. Any teams playing up who register before this date will be removed from the event.

1.12 Waitlist: If an age/gender category for a VC Nationals 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.



1.13 Withdrawal Policy:

Teams who withdraw from Nationals will be eligible for a refund as per the following timelines:

Date	Refund
Prior to registration closing date	Registration fee less \$350 admin fee
Post registration closing date – team is replaced by a waitlisted team	Registration fee less \$350 admin fee
Post registration closing date – team is NOT replaced by a waitlisted team	No refund
Within 2 weeks of check-in	No refund

1.14 Participation Restrictions: For VC Nationals, only club teams are permitted to register. Provincial/territorial teams or foreign teams must be approved by the National Indoor Committee in order to participate.

1.15 Unsanctioned Events: **New for 2020!** Any teams who participate in an unsanctioned event outside of Canada could be deemed ineligible to compete at Nationals.

2.0

Foreign Participation

2.1 Participation Restrictions: A foreign team that wants to participate in VC Nationals 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 Nationals 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 Nationals.



3.0

Coach Certification Policy

All PERSONS IN AUTHORITY (PIA) listed on the roster must complete the following in order to participate in any Volleyball Canada National Championships:

- **Background screening - Volleyball Canada requires all PIA to complete the following:**
 - Enhanced Police Information Check/Criminal Record Check – completed within the last 3 years
 - Vulnerable Sector Check, if requested
 - *Provincial & Territorial Associations (PTA) will verify all PIA for National Championships Roster*
- Read and adhere to [Volleyball Canada's Code of Conduct](#) and [Abuse Policy](#)
- Review and adhere to the [Responsible Coaching Movement's Rule of Two](#)
 - Any one-on-one interaction between a PIA and an individual athlete must take place within earshot and view of a second PIA. If possible one of the PIAs should be the same gender as the athlete. If a PIA is not available, another screened volunteer, parent or adult can be recruited. An exception is made for medical emergencies.
- Contact the Canadian Sport Helpline at 1-888-83-SPORT (77678) to report harassment, abuse and discrimination concerns.

All HEAD COACHES on the roster must complete the following in order to participate in any Volleyball Canada sanctioned event:

- [Foundations of Volleyball eLearning](#)
- [Make Ethical Decisions \(MED\) Online Evaluation](#)
- [Making Head Way \(Generic\) eLearning](#)

Deadline is set by your PTA. In a situation where a head coach must be replaced at Nationals, the replacement, as a minimum standard, must complete the PIA requirements as well as MED Online and Making Head Way.

Sanctions: Head Coaches who have not completed the above requirements by their PTA deadline will be ineligible to participate in Volleyball Canada Nationals until the requirements have been completed.

All HEAD COACHES listed on a roster must be certified in their respective age category requirements within three seasons of participating in Volleyball Canada National Championships. Individuals in their third season or later as a Head Coach in 2020 must complete their certification by the deadline set by their provincial association.

Age category requirements:

- 14U-16U Development Coach – Certified
- 17-18U Advanced Development Coach – Certified

Sanctions: A Head Coach who does not meet the certification requirements after their third season, will not be permitted to be listed as the Head Coach on a roster at national championships, until certification requirements have been completed. **See note below



** Note: Coaches will be required to meet the Coaching Requirements of their PTA to be eligible for their next season of play and/or Provincial Championships. Please see [Policies](#) section of the VC website for further details regarding certification timeline recommendations.

4.0

Age Categories for Nationals

Volleyball Canada recognizes the following age categories for competitions in the 2019-2020 season:

	18U	17U	16U	15U	14U
Sept	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Oct	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Nov	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Dec	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Jan	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Feb	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Mar	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Apr	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
May	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
June	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
July	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Aug	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Sept	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Oct	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Nov	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Dec	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006

Rationale and recommendations:

Long Term Athlete Development research 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, providing a range of months (16) 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. Volleyball Canada recommends that if playing up provides the needed challenge for improvement, and there exists no significant social/emotional drawbacks in the older age category, athletes should play up.



Competition Regulations

This section outlines the rules and regulations which govern VC National Championships. The National Indoor Committee (NIC) is the primary body responsible for maintaining 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 Nationals:

- 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.
- 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. [Please review the Stay to Play Policy for more details.](#)
- Meet all additional registration requirements of their PTA and Volleyball Canada.

5.2 For an event to be recognized as a VC Nationals, Volleyball Canada requires the participation from a minimum of 8 teams from 3 PTAs for 15U – 18U events and 8 teams from 2 PTAs for 14U events.

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

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

5.5 15U – 18U will be officiated by two referees. 14U will be officiated by 1 referee.

Rules of the Game

Please consult the [2019-2020 Indoor Rulebook](#) for a complete list of rules or the 2019-2020 Indoor Rules & Policies Updates document for a list of [this year’s major rule changes/updates](#).

Warm-Up Protocol: **New for 2020!**

a) Team warm-ups will be conducted using the 2-4-4 format, which is as follows:

- 2 minutes for players to warm-up on their respective side of the court,



- 4 minutes to use the full court (traditionally used for spiking and serving practice), and
- 4 minutes for on or off the court preparations (use the space behind the opposite baseline, retrieve balls for the hitting team, etc). See item 'c' below for warm up recommendations.

b) In an effort to reduce the incidence of injuries and concussions during match play, Volleyball Canada has developed the following warm-up protocol. This protocol is now **required** and must be followed by all teams during the hitting portion of the team warm-up:

(article 7.2.4 of the Indoor Rulebook)

1. Athletes are not permitted to cross under the net and into the receiving court after completing their attack.
2. Athletes must remain on their side of the net immediately following an attack and only move to the opposite side of the net from outside of the court.
3. Balls being entered to the attacking side of the net from the receiving side of the court must be entered from outside of the court at a minimum distance of six meters from the net.
4. Retrieved balls must be returned along the sidelines of the court and not through the receiving court.

Teams who do not follow the protocol will be notified by the referee that they must follow the above stated regulation. Teams must adjust their warm-up accordingly or may choose not to continue their hitting warm-up. Time for the hitting warm-up will not stop during the notification and adjustment period. The referee will note on the scoresheet any teams who do not follow the warm-up protocol.

c) Warm Up recommendations:

- The team that is not participating in the hitting warm up are encouraged to act as ball retrievers for the hitting team.
- Hitting should be directed away from courts with active games and from spectator seating areas whenever possible.

Sport Court Rule:

New for 2020! Each team must play within its own playing area. The area beyond the edge of the sport court is designated as a non-playing zone. Therefore, the last point of contact prior to contact with the ball must be on the sport court and the player must always play the ball on the sport court.

Examples:

- One foot on the sport court, one foot on the cement while playing the ball = play is whistled dead;
- Play the ball on the sport court, momentum of athlete carries them off the court = play continues;
- Jump in the air off the sport court, play the ball, and land fully off the sport court = play is whistled dead;
- 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.

Fair Play

The Fair Play rules will be applicable for all teams competing in the 14U age category. Please see article 15.1 of the Rulebook for full regulation details.



Cameras and Tripods

Teams are permitted to record matches throughout the Nationals tournament however please note:

- Tripods are not permitted on the sport court
- Cameras on tripods cannot be left unattended
- VC is not responsible for any damage to the camera or related equipment
- VC reserves the right to restrict/deny the filming of any matches for safety and/or other reasons

6.0

Equipment & Materials

6.1 Official Game Ball

The official supplier for the Nationals game ball is Mikasa. Please note that two separate balls will be used for Nationals in 2020.

New for 2020!

- 16U – 18U will use the Mikasa MVA 200
- 14U & 15U will use the Mikasa VQ200w-CAN.

*A full review on Mikasa balls will be made in 2020 and a new ball may be selected for 2021 Nationals.

6.2 Net Heights

Girls/Women

14U: 2.15m
15: 2.20m
16, 17, 18U, Senior: 2.24m

Boys/Men

14U: 2.20m
15 and 16U: 2.35m
17, 18U, Senior: 2.43m

6.3 Athlete Uniforms

- 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.
- For more information on athlete uniforms please review section 4.3 and 19.2 of the Indoor Rulebook and the Uniform Guidelines.

New for 2020! **ALL teams** must have their uniforms approved prior January 31st 2020. This is to ensure that teams do not encounter any uniform issues upon arrival at Nationals. Please send a photo of both the player



and libero jersey to rbunyan@volleyball.ca for approval. If your team has multiple uniforms, please send photos for each uniform.

6.4 Coaches and Team Staff Attire

All coaches and team staff should follow the dress guideline below during all of their matches:

- Must be dressed in coaching attire as to represent their team in a professional manner.
- Secure shoes are required.
- Hats are not permitted.

These guidelines are strongly recommended for anyone acting as a line judge or score keeper during VC Nationals.

7.0

Divisional Play & Seeding

7.1 Division Size:

- 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 no later than two weeks prior to event check-in. 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 2020 VC Nationals will be based on the results at provincial and territorial championships. A draft of the seeding will be shared with team contacts where teams may provide feedback. After this time, the final seeding will be posted on the national's website. Please see the 2020 VC Nationals Divisional Play and Seeding document for full details regarding seeding for each age category.

8.0

Draw & Schedule Principles

8.1 Draw

Each VC Nationals 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.

VC strives to provide a minimum of 7 matches at VC National Championships. Due to unforeseen circumstances, VC may not always be able to provide 7 matches per team.

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



8.2 Wave Times

Each National Championship schedule is broken into two waves per day:

- A morning wave which runs from approximately 7:30am to 2:15pm
- An afternoon wave which runs from approximately 2:30pm to 8:30pm

Each team will only play in one wave per day. Wave times are posted approximately 1-2 months prior to the competition.

*VC reserves the right to not schedule an event with waves

8.3 Schedule

VC strives to release the draft schedule one month prior to the event start date. Final schedules are posted on iset.net once all teams have checked-in the evening prior to the competition start date. Please note that draft schedules are subject to change and teams are required to verify the final schedule to ensure they are on time for matches.

9.0

Coach Check-In

9.1. The Coach Check-In process will take place the day before the matches are scheduled to start.

Coach Check-In Date	Competition Date	City	Age/Gender
April 30 th	May 1 st – 3 rd	Ottawa	14U girls and boys
May 7 th	May 8 th – 10 th	Abbotsford	14U girls and boys
May 13 th	May 14 th – 16 th	Edmonton	15U & 17U girls and boys
May 15 th	May 16 th – 18 th	Halifax	14U girls and boys
May 16 th	May 18 th – 20 th	Edmonton	16U & 18U girls and boys

9.2 All teams must check-in during the above listed time. Late check-in should be requested no later than one week prior to the check-in date of the event and a fee of \$50 is to be paid in cash on-site or via the late check-in request form.

9.3 Only individuals on the official team roster can check-in their team (Example: Head Coach, Assistant Coach, 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 The Head Coach/Team representative completing check-in will be required to perform the following duties at check-in:

- Show proof of age of all athletes at check-in, via government issued ID (birth certificate, driver's license, health card, passport, etc). Originals are not required, copies are recommended.
- Provide the Head Coach's NCCP Card or NCCP Number
- Remove all team personnel and players from the official roster who are not participating in the event.



- Sign off on the roster confirming its accuracy for the duration of the competition.
- Provide written acknowledgement that the team understands and must compete at Nationals as per the following:
 - 2020 VC Indoor Competition Guide
 - 2019-2020 VC Rule Book
 - VC Code of Conduct
 - VC Concussion Guidelines
 - VC Nationals warm-up protocol

9.5 The Head Coach/Team representative will receive an approved roster upon the completion of check-in. The Head Coach must carry this at all times for verification by tournament officials. **New for 2020!** If the coach loses the roster sheet, a new roster sheet will be provided at a cost of \$5.00.

10.0

Sanctions

10.1 A team or an individual may be sanctioned, including fines, if any of the following infractions occur while the team is participating at a VC Nationals:

- 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 2019 - 2020 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 the team's responsibility to notify a VC representative as soon as possible.
- If a team does not abide by the Stay to Play policy
- Any other infraction that the National Indoor Committee deems to be detrimental to the event and/or its participants.

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

- \$50.00 for Late Check-In (must be requested by no later than 1 week before check-in)
- \$350.00 for Withdrawal prior to the registration deadline, see section 1.13 for a full list of withdrawal fees;
- \$100.00 cash for assembling the Competition Jury to assess an official protest
- Roster change request fee of \$50 for team personnel and \$100 for players
- \$5.00 for a new roster sheet

10.3 A team or club that is sanctioned in any way because of an infraction related to a VC Nationals 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 removed or 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 Nationals 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 Development 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 VC Nationals 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](#).



In the event of a protest, the following will occur:

- The referee will notify both teams that there is a protest
- The coach of the protesting team will be asked to provide the \$100 cash protest fee and to record the protest.
- Both teams will be asked to stay in the gym until the final decision is rendered.
- The chairperson of jury will convene the jury.
- The jury will interview the coach of the protesting team.
- The jury will interview all involved parties, as they see fit (e.g.: opposing coach, officials, captains, athletes, etc.)
- The jury will deliberate and render a decision.
- The chairperson of the jury will inform all parties involved of the decision made.

12.0

Scouting & Recruiting

Volleyball Canada requires that recruiters attending VC Nationals purchase an event at the on-site ticketing booth. It is important to note that Volleyball Canada does not police recruiters onsite and that it is expected that recruiters will abide by the regulations set out by [USport](#), CCAA, or any other University or Collegiate organization. Volleyball Canada bears the right to ask a recruiter to leave the facility if the recruiting policies are not respected.

13.0

Code of Conduct & Discipline

The [2019-2020 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's Discipline and Complaints Policy](#).

14.0

Safe Sport

Volleyball Canada strives to offer a safe and enjoyable environment for all Nationals participants and spectators. If any players, team staff members, staff, referees or spectators feel unsafe or have witnessed a behavior that may be inappropriate, they are strongly encouraged to approach a VC Rep or Competition Director, or they may contact the Canadian Sport Helpline.

The Sport Helpline is an anonymous, confidential, independent, and bilingual service which allows individuals to share and validate their concerns, obtain guidance on required next steps, and be referred to other appropriate resources for follow up.

