



Stay to Play Policy - FAQ

The following Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) addresses indoor National Championships.

General Information

01 What is Stay to Play?

Stay to Play is the Volleyball Canada (VC) accommodations policy for youth Indoor National Championships. Participating travelling teams are required to book hotel rooms through their event's accommodation provider in order to be accepted into the tournament.

02 Why is Volleyball Canada using a Stay to Play policy?

The Stay to Play policy ensures that all teams looking for accommodation for National Championships will be able to find suitable accommodation. In addition, the Stay to Play policy also ensures that:

- A competitive rate is provided to participating teams
- The Stay to Play Policy supports overall competition costs. By being able to prove the high economic impact that our competitions have on a host city, the greater the opportunity for VC to receive grants from host cities
- Hotels are able to service youth sports teams

03 Who determines the rules for Stay to Play?

VC determines the guidelines and procedures for the VC National Championships Stay to Play policy. The AMP then implements the policy for their respective event on behalf of VC.

04 How does Stay to Play help my team?

Benefits for teams from Stay to Play include:

Fixed group room rates for the Tournament dates

1. Stay to Play leverage allows VC, through the AMP, to negotiate fixed room rates for blocks. Without Stay to Play, a significant number of hotels in the best locations would be available at significantly higher rates than they are via the Stay to Play program
2. Stay to Play allows us to hold hotels to "Rate Integrity," teams are guaranteed one price for their booking. Prices cannot increase closer to the tournament dates or vary by night.
3. The AMP and the hotels make every effort to block each team together in the hotel.
 - We can negotiate prices based on four (4) person per room occupancy.

05 Are friends and family required to stay in hotels identified by the AMP?

No, friends and family are not required to stay in the hotels identified by the AMP but are welcome to book as a part of the team reservation.

Booking Accommodation

06 How do I book rooms for my team?

Teams will book rooms via the Accommodations Management Provider's (AMP) booking portal. A complete step-by-step guide of the booking process is available on the Nationals website.



We recommend that teams review the guides annually, as changes to the booking process may occur from year to year.

07 Who are the Accommodations Management Providers (AMP)?

AMPs are hired by VC to manage the accommodation needs for all of the teams participating in the event. They are private businesses with established connections in the hotel industry with the ability to negotiate the best rates and to accept large volume room bookings.

08 When can our team book accommodations?

Please refer to your event's webpage for the date and time your event's booking portal opens. Each event will have its own opening date, so please review this carefully. All booking portals will open after the event's registration opening date.

09 Will a list of approved hotels be released prior to the Accommodation portal opening date?

VC will post the hotel preview links for each National Championship approximately one (1) month prior the opening of the accommodation and registration portals. This will provide teams the ability to review the available hotels prior to booking.

We recommend each team pick five (5) suitable hotel options prior to the portal opening date as top hotels options may be sold out quickly. Teams using the HTG platform will be required to select their top five (5) choices during the booking process.

10 Why isn't the hotel I want on the Approved List?

The AMP considers proposals from any hotel that wants to be included on the list of approved host hotels. It is the sole discretion of each hotel to offer a room block for an event. In addition:

- Hotels must be members of their local tourism program to be considered as host hotels.
- Sometimes hotels have other business booked and they do not have sufficient inventory to provide a block.
- Some hotels are not suitable for youth sports teams or prefer not to do business with sports teams.

11 My team has already booked rooms directly with the hotel. Can we still use these?

No. Teams who book a hotel room outside of our Stay to Play policy will be required to cancel their hotel bookings and rebook through the designated AMP's booking portal.

12 How does my team access the AMP booking portal?

The live booking link will be posted on the event website approximately one (1) week prior to the hotel booking opening. If your team is taking part in the Large Club Booking Process (must have three teams or more registered for one tournament) a booking link will be sent to the Team Contact via email.

13 Why do I have to wait to book my hotel room until after I have registered my team?

This is done to ensure that teams have successfully registered before confirming accommodations. Some hotels require a non-refundable deposit which cannot be returned if the team doesn't get accepted into the tournament.



14 Do I need the Team Code in order to book my team's hotel?

In certain circumstances, teams will not require the team code to complete their booking. Please refer to your event's AMP Booking Guide for full details on when team codes are required.

Team Codes will be provided to teams in the event registration confirmation email.

*VC recommends that all teams keep their team codes on file and accessible to those responsible for booking accommodations.

15 Will the AMP contact us about Stay to Play?

In their role of managing hotel reservations for National Championships, the AMP may contact teams directly.

16 I can get a better price for one of the approved hotels using an online discount website. Can I book via this alternate site?

Teams are not permitted to book their hotels outside of the accommodation's portal, even for approved hotels. When booking outside of the AMP, VC is not able to track your booking, therefore your team will not be compliant with the Stay to Play policy and may not be accepted into the tournament.

Exemptions

17 I live within the event specific distance from the competition venue, does the Stay to Play policy apply?

No, local teams who reside within the proximity distance for their event (posted on the event website) are not bound by the Stay to Play policy. Teams can view a list of pre-approved local clubs on the event website. Any team affiliated with these clubs is automatically exempt and no further action is required.

18 My club is local but is not on the Pre-Approved Local List?

If your club is located within the event proximity distance, but is not listed on the pre-approved list, please have a Club Administrator complete the *S2P Exemption Request Form* found on the event website. VC will review submissions with the applicable PTA for inclusion on the list.

19 Are there exemptions from the Stay to Play policy?

Volleyball Canada will consider requests under the following two (2) categories:

1. Proximity Exemption:

- a) Your team is based within the specified driving distance from the competition venue and did not receive the automatic exemption from VC; **OR**
- b) You reside within the specified driving distance from the competition; **OR**
- c) You are planning on staying with family or friends that reside within the specified driving distance from the competition venue.



- 2. Special Exemption:** For exemption requests that do not fall under the proximity exemption category.

Exemption forms will be made available on the event website. Please note, previous booking exemptions will not be considered.