

# Nationals FAQ

## Participation

1. What is Volleyball Canada doing to ensure that top teams can attend Nationals?

*Volleyball Canada offers a pre-registration opportunity which guarantees registration for the Championship Tier medalists of the previous year Nationals and the Provincial/Territorial champions of the previous year.*

2. Will Volleyball Canada offer priority for competitive teams?

*Volleyball Canada will focus on offering pre-registration for competitive teams. No priority will be offered during the general registration period.*

3. Is there a minimum or maximum number of spots reserved for each province or territory in the registration draw

*No, Volleyball Canada has not preassigned a guaranteed minimum or maximum number of spots for Nationals this year. However, to provide more opportunities for teams to participate, we will be capping large clubs at 3 for any individual 14U event, allowing clubs with fewer than 3 teams to register their first team before a club can register their fourth or more.*

4. Will Volleyball Canada prioritize spots for large clubs?

*As with previous years, no priority will be offered during the general registration period.*

5. How many teams will be invited to attend 2026 Nationals?

*Volleyball Canada has space for approximately 1562 teams to attend 15U-18U 2026 Nationals in Calgary and Mississauga and another 408 teams to attend 14U events in Ottawa, Edmonton, Mississauga, and Moncton.*

6. How do those numbers compare to 2025 participation?

*2025 had a combined total of 1680 teams attending Nationals. The total for 2026 is approximately 1970 teams.*

7. How do those numbers compare to 2024 participation?

*2024 had a combined total of 1536 teams attending Nationals.*

## Expression of Interest

8. Who can submit an Expression of Interest (EOI)?

*Anyone representing a team can submit an Expression of Interest. We ask that each team only submit one (1) EOI and thus recommend it is done by the Club Administrator, Head Coach or Team Manager. A SportLoMo account is required to complete an EOI/Register for the Event.*

9. Will teams who submit a late Expression of Interest be invited to register?

*Teams who submit a late Expression of Interest will be invited to register if the tournament has not reached capacity after all teams from the regular Expression of Interest window have been invited. If a tournament is at capacity, they may be invited if there is additional space or if teams withdraw.*

10. What happens if there is more space available than there are teams who express interest/are invited to register?

*If an age/gender category has not reached capacity Volleyball Canada may create a waitlist to ensure there are sufficient teams to expand the tournament while maintaining a competitive draw.*

11. Can I change/ adjust the team name during registration from what was previously stated in the Expression of Interest?

*Yes, the team name can change from the EOI to the registration. Please note that the team name submitted on the EOI will be used on the waitlist.*

12. What should I do if I want to express interest for multiple 14U events, to make sure we get in?

*The Expression of Interest will have the opportunity to list a 2nd event should the team be willing to attend an alternate event. Teams will be automatically invited to the alternate event should they be waitlisted for their preferred event. Reminder that each team is to only fill out 1 EOI.*

13. If I submit an Expression of Interest on January 10<sup>th</sup>, will I have a better chance of being selected than if I submit an Expression of Interest on December 18<sup>th</sup>?

*All teams who submit their Expression of Interest during the window of December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and January 11<sup>th</sup> @ Midnight EST, have the same chance of being selected.*

14. Will my Expression of Interest deposit be deducted from my registration fee?

*Deposits will be deducted from the registration fee.*

## Waitlist

15. Why do teams get placed on the waitlist?

*Volleyball Canada aims to invite all interested teams to attend Nationals, however facility capacity may limit Volleyball Canada's ability to invite all interested teams to attend.*

16. How is the waitlist established?

*The waitlist is made up of the remaining teams who were not initially invited from the EOI window after the event has reached capacity. The first team of those remaining will be the first team on the waitlist. Teams who fill out a Late Expression of Interest Form will be added to the waitlist in the order they express interest, after the Expression of Interest (Dec 18<sup>th</sup>-Jan 11<sup>th</sup>) waitlist teams.*

17. When will the waitlist be confirmed?

*The waitlist will be confirmed once teams are drawn. Teams will be invited until capacity has been reached. Volleyball Canada will aim to have waitlists posted as of January 14<sup>th</sup> with updates posted weekly.*

## Completing Registration

18. What is the proper format for the team name?

*Please include your Club and Team name without additional age and gender identifiers. Ex. Scarborough Falcons Nova.*

19. How much time do I have to complete my registration for Nationals once I receive an invite?

*Invites will be sent out with approximately a 60-hour window to accept before they expire. Invites are sent out around 12pm EST.*

20. What happens if I miss my invitation to register and it has expired?

*Volleyball Canada recommends teams check their junk mail for invites as expired invitations are viewed as rejected invitations. Teams who miss their invitation are encouraged to contact Volleyball Canada ASAP, as Volleyball Canada will forward invitations to the next available team immediately following the invitation time frame. In the event that a team's invite expires, and contacts Volleyball Canada before the new invite is sent out, teams can receive a FINAL invitation.*

*In the event the new invite has been sent out, the team with the expired invitation will be placed at the bottom of the waitlist.*

21. What happens if my team is invited to register, but they decide they do not wish to participate?

*Teams who decline their invitation to register will receive a refund on their deposit, minus service fees.*

22. What happens to my deposit if my team is waitlisted after the Expression of Interest period?

*Waitlisted teams will receive a refund on their deposit beginning in February. They will remain on the waitlist unless they request to be removed.*

23. Am I able to pay for my registration with my Credit Card?

*Yes, SportLoMo accepts all major Credit Cards. There are no taxes on your registration fees, but some service fees will apply at checkout.*

## **Roster Information**

24. Do I need to have my roster finalized in order to register for Nationals?

*No, you are able to edit your roster after you have completed your registration. If you are having issues with your roster, we suggest that you complete your registration first, then return to edit your roster at a later date. A coach will need to be added at the time of registration.*

25. How do I submit my roster?

### **Volleyball Canada Portal - ON, QC, SK, NWT**

*Teams using the Volleyball Canada Portal are required to manually build their roster in SportLoMo. For details, please consult the Volleyball Canada Portal registration guide.*

### **Club Portal - AB, NB, MB, NS, BC, NL, PEI, YK**

*Teams using the Club Portal will register for Nationals via a roster sheet that already exists from their club season in SportLoMo. The system will submit the roster, and update until the roster lock date for that province or territory.*

26. What happens if I cannot add a player/coach to my roster?

***Volleyball Canada Portal - ON, QC, SK, NWT***

*Teams using the Volleyball Canada Portal should confirm the information they are entering for the individual being added to the roster is correct (name, email, DOB). If the information you are using is correct and you still cannot add the individual, please contact [nationals@volleyball.ca](mailto:nationals@volleyball.ca)*

***Club Portal - AB, NB, MB, NS, BC, NL, PEI, YK***

*Teams using the Club Portal will need to contact their PTA for assistance with rostering.*

27. When do I need to submit my roster by?

*The roster lock date is March 25th, 2026. After this date, teams will no longer be able to edit their roster in SportLoMo.*

28. How can I verify that my submitted roster is correct?

*Volleyball Canada will post all submitted rosters online following the roster lock date. Teams are encouraged to verify that the posted information is correct and contact [nationals@volleyball.ca](mailto:nationals@volleyball.ca) if there is missing or incorrect information on your roster. Please note that Volleyball Canada does not review rosters on SportLoMo after the roster lock date (March 25th, 2026). Changes made to roster information after the roster lock date will not be reflected on your roster for Nationals.*

29. What happens if I need to make a change to my roster after March 25th, 2026?

*An exemption form must be submitted if you wish to make a change to your provincial championship roster for Volleyball Canada Nationals. Please note that exemptions will only be granted under exceptional circumstances. All team personnel changes must fall within the guidelines listed in the Coach Certification Policy. Player changes should fall within the guidelines listed on the Nationals website.*

*If there are changes to your roster for your Provincial/Territorial Championships after March 25th, 2026, you will need to provide a copy of your roster with the approved changes at coach check-in on site at Nationals (a hard copy or digital copy is acceptable).*

## **Additional Questions:**

30. How will I know if my team will be invited to register after the Expression of Interest period?

*Volleyball Canada will post a list of all teams who will receive an invitation on each event's webpage, as well as contact the teams via email. These teams can expect to receive an invitation via email from SportLoMo.*

*Teams being invited after the initial invite window will not be updated on the initial invite list but will receive an invitation via email from SportLoMo.*

31. What is the Large Club limit for 14U events?

*For 14U events, once a club has 3 teams invited, each subsequent team from that club will be moved to the bottom of the list of invitees. Ex. Club A has 4 teams that have expressed interest in Ottawa, the first 3 14U teams will receive an invitation to register. The 4<sup>th</sup> team will be moved to the bottom of the draw list. They will remain in their draw order should there be multiple large club teams.*

32. If I'm a playing up team, where do I fall in priority of getting into Nationals?

*Of Age teams will be given priority and invited ahead of playing up teams when invites are initially sent out. After the initial round of invites, of age teams that express interest late, will not be prioritized over playing up teams that submitted their expression of interest on time.*

33. Is the 12U/13U Nationals held in Calgary in May 2026 a Volleyball Canada event?

*No, the 12U/13U National Championships are hosted by the United Canadian Volleyball Association (UCVA). This organization is operated privately and is not registered with Volleyball Canada or Volleyball Alberta. This means that these events are not sanctioned by Volleyball Canada or Volleyball Alberta, and as a result, participating teams wouldn't be governed/supported by the same policies, insurance coverage and/or safety measures that a sanctioned event would offer.*

*For additional questions, please reach out to [nationals@volleyball.ca](mailto:nationals@volleyball.ca).*