



# LEAGUE FORMAT GUIDE

By registering, Durham Region Volleyball League(DRV) members are agreeing to the following document and will abide by the league format at all times. It is the responsibility of the DRV member to read the document in its entirety.

This document outlines the league format regarding the following:

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## **DRV REGISTRATION**

The first step is to register for the league through the online form. Registration can be done as a team or an individual. All registrations are on a first come, first serve basis.

All re-occurring teams will begin the season in the division they finished in the previous session. New Teams can only start as high as a Semi-Competitive Team and must maintain or earn a higher ranking by winning their games. Please be aware that you are not guaranteed to play in your requested division. We will judge as to what division the player should ultimately be placed in for the duration of the league.

Please note that when you register that the information you provide will be kept confidential and will not be provided to any outside parties. As well, it is the responsibility of team members to exchange contact information because information obtained through registration will not be shared with team members *under any circumstances*.

You are allowed to register as a team or as an individual (see more about registering as team below under 'creating a team'). Please state your preference in the registration form. You may request to play with certain players (even if you do not have a full team), however, all players must be at the required skill level of the requested division. We do give a higher priority to placing teams first who register – individual players will then be placed to complete teams if required. Individual play is better suited for the Week-day playing at the Abilities Centre

## **DIVISION PLACEMENT**

You will be placed in a division according to your final standing at the previous session and new teams will be placed no higher than Semi-Competitive. It is important that the players within a division are all of the same or similar skill level to ensure quality of play. You will need to request the division of your choice on your registration form.

It is important for players to be honest with themselves about what skill level they can play at. Everyone enjoys playing with a high skill level, however, please do not base a decision on the level you would like to play with, rather decide based on your actual skill level and knowledge of the game. With experience and practice you can always move up divisions in the following sessions but you must first build your skills to the appropriate level.

Please see the website for a description on what is expected in each division.

## **CREATING TEAMS**

If you register a full team:

- Elite, Competitive and Semi-Competitive must have a minimum of 6-players (maximum of 8-players) Intermediate and Recreation must have a minimum of 7-players (maximum of 8-players)
- must have at least 2 females as you will need to fulfill:
- **If you have 3 players or less:** your team will forfeit game 1, you then have 17.5 minutes for enough players to show up. If this does not occur you will forfeit game 2. And so on and so on...each match (2 games) is scheduled for 35 minutes, hence  $35/2 = 17.5$  mins.
- **If you have 4 players:** 1 player (minimum) must be a female
- (if you have 4 males and 0 females this counts as a forfeit – this is a co-ed league and therefore, there can never be only one sex represented on the court)
- **If you have 5 players:** 2 players (minimum) must be a female
- (if you have 4 males and 1 female, then one male must sit out and you will play with only 4 (3 males and 1 female)).
- **If you have 6 or more players:** 2 players (minimum) must be female
- you must have a team captain who will complete registration and payments
- everyone on the team must pay the captain and the captain is to pay league fees

- all team members must be at the required skill level for the requested division

If you register as an individual, the league coordinator will place you on a team. Teams that are created of individuals:

- will have a minimum of 8-players and more players will be added as needed (teams can have a maximum of up to 9 players)
- will have a minimum of 2 females (preferably 3, but this will be based on registration numbers)\*\*
- everyone on the team must register individually & pay individually
- once the team has been formed, contact information will be exchanged to decide on a team captain who will then be in charge of attending meetings and communicating with the team and finding replacement players if necessary.
- teams will be designed according to the information provided on the registration form
- the league coordinator will try to ensure that each team has a setter and players of various other positions.

**Note:** Teams that are composed of individuals are made to ensure teams are as balanced as possible according to the information players have provided and what has been viewed from tryouts. Please be aware though that even though teams are balanced on paper this may not necessarily reflect on the court. It is up to the team to work together and create their own team dynamics.

### **TEAM NAME**

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Every team after meeting each other on week 1 must submit a team name before the start of week 2. Please keep team names appropriate but you can have fun and be creative! Your team will be called by its name for the remainder of the sessions. Please look for your team name when reviewing standings and new schedules.

### **TEAM CAPTAIN**

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A team captain is MANDATORY. The captain would be responsible for:

- completing registration, collecting OVA waivers & completing payment
- approaching the referee (if present) in a game situation if a problem arises
- if a team member is going to be absent then they can contact the captain
- the captain can have a list of possible subs who could be called to replace and absent or injured player
- communicate any problems or concerns of the team with the league coordinator
- sign the score sheet
- checking the website for updated standings and ensures that scores have been entered in correctly and points tallied properly

### **ABSENCES**

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It is a 12 week season and we hope that you are able to make every night, however, things do come up. As soon as you know you are going to be absent you are to contact a member of your team (the team captain) to ensure they are aware of you absence.

On week 1 each team should decide how they will deal with team members being absent and the process in which they want to follow as a team.

Please try and contact your team as soon as possible and give them notice to your absence so a sub can be called if necessary.

Ensure that you exchange team information on Week #1 as the league is unable to provide any contact information under any circumstances.

## **SUBSTITUTIONS**

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If someone is going to be absent you are allowed to find a substitution for them, following the guidelines below:

- the substitute must be of equal or less caliber than the player absent
- all team members must be made aware of the substitute attending
- the substitute must be the same sex as the player absent
  - o ie. Female absent, female sub must be used

It is the job of the team to find subs and not the job of the league or the league coordinator. All subs are to check-in with the site coordinator prior to game start.

## **PLAYER CONDUCT**

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At all times DRV members are expected to act in a mature and appropriate manner. DRV members are to show sportsmanship and a positive attitude while on and off the court.

No rude comments or gestures are allowed to be made at any time (before, during or after game play). For no reason is anyone allowed to deliberately try to distract another player in any way (this includes the stomping of feet when someone goes to hit the ball at the net).

If problems arise please handle them in a calm manner and speak with the league coordinator if necessary to help resolve the issue.

If a player is found participating in any of the above then the player will be given 1 warning. If it continues it could result in a suspension or termination from the league with no refund.

See League Policy Guide for a more detailed explanation of the DRV Warning System.

## **SCHEDULE**

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- We still use a ladder system (which is calculated every 2 weeks)
- Each team will play 2-games against the other 3-teams in their division each week. Games are to 25-points, cap at 25 (no win by 2) Week-day League games are to 21-points, cap at 21 (no win by 2)
- Schedule is as follows:
  - First 15 minutes → warm-up
  - Next 35 minutes → first two games
  - Next 35 minutes → second two games
  - Next 35 minutes → third two games
- Games are played to 25 points, however, there is a 'time cap.' Teams are required to finish their two games within the 35 minutes, if not, the 2<sup>nd</sup> game will end at the 35 minute mark in order to stay on schedule.
- Every game counts, each win = 1 point, each lose = 0 points
- After two weeks the winner (with the most points) moves up a division and the loser (with the least amount of points) moves down a division

## **STANDINGS**

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Standings will be updated on the website on a weekly basis. The team captains are in charge of recording the scores after each game and submitting them to the site coordinator. Standings should be updated on the website by mid-week.

Please be aware that mistakes can happen in the recording / submitting process so please be sure to sign the score sheet before you leave for the evening. As well, you can print off your own score keeping sheet (see website) so your team captain or a player can record the scores to ensure they have been uploaded onto the website correctly.

If any errors or discrepancies occur please contact the league coordinator so they can be resolved as soon as possible. Please note that all scores must be recorded before the end of the night – once the Site Coordinator leaves whatever is recorded is final – if you did not mark down your scores then it will be recorded as “0”. We will not chase after you to find out the score – it is the team captains responsibility to ensure that this is done after each game.

## **WEBSITE**

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The website is the main communication tool for the league. Emails will only be sent out to give important announcements. Emails will no longer be sent out to announce weekly standings. **It is the player’s responsibility to check the website on a weekly basis for important announcements and to see the weekly standings.**

The website will be updated on a weekly basis and is subject to change at anytime.

We are looking into new technology to better communicate timely information to the teams – this may include sending out text message reminders. Make sure the DRV has your cell phone number so we can keep you informed in a timely manner.

### Note:

Starting and Ending Teams are required to assist with the set-up or take-down of the nets and poles. This is too much work for the site coordinator to handle on their own. Teams who refrain from assisting may be penalized 5-points and given a warning. 3-warnings and you risk having your team suspended or terminated from the league for the rest of the season without a refund.

We appreciate everyone picking up any garbage left behind as well on their way out. The league always appreciates the help as it helps to save time and assists our site coordinator(s) to ensure we remain on schedule.