



LEAGUE POLICY 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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GAME PLAY

All players are to be familiar with the following expectations:

- All players are to show sportsmanship at all times (during warm-up and games)
- Under no circumstances are players on a opposing team allowed to distract players (stomping of feet, rude gestures or comments etc. are all forbidden)
- We play with double gyms and no divider, therefore, if a ball from one court moves into the other court it is all the players responsibility to yell "BALL" to ensure that play is stopped and no injuries occur (if a player is unaware of the ball and goes to hit they may land on the rolling ball causing them to roll their ankle). If "BALL" is called the referee will immediately blow their whistle and it will be declared a re-serve.
- See the DRV document regarding rules for further game play rules.

Warm-up & Net Set-Up

- There is specifically 15 minutes at the beginning of the night allotted for warm-up
- During the first session of the night, specific teams will be assigned to set up the nets
- All teams must be **ready to play at designated time** and the league coordinator for the evening will ensure the schedule is followed.
- Therefore, please show up right at the beginning of your session to **ensure proper warm-up to help prevent injury.**

Players on the Court

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. Week-day league each match(2-games is scheduled for 30-minutes, hence $30/2 = 15$ 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

Substitutions/Missing Player

Borrowing a player from another team:

Is allowed. However, that discussion has to take place between the two teams (the team in need and the team who is lending their player). And both teams must agree

If a player is borrowed, that **player MUST play with the team for the entire night.** That player is a substitute and is unable to play with their original team for the remainder of the evening (and must follow the substitute guidelines)

A player can only be borrowed at the beginning of the night, before the first match has been played.

If a team member is injured during a game and unable to play:

The team will have to play without the injured player as subs must be determined at the beginning of the night

If the team had 4 players (and now has 3 with 1 injured) they will be forced to forfeit the remainder of their games

If a team member is injured/quits and is unable to play the remainder of the league session:

The team with the help of the league coordinator will try to find their own replacement for that player and there will be no refunds to the player who has left the league. If you are the player injured or who has left the league please contact the league coordinator as soon as possible so we can work on finding a replacement.

GYM USE

Please note that we rent the gyms and have a permit. Please do not arrive any earlier than your designated play time, as it will be against our permit regulations. Upon arrival please ensure the following:

- NO outdoor shoes are to be in the gym
- Change your outdoor shoes PRIOR to entering the gym
- LEAVE your outdoor shoes OUTSIDE the gym in the hallway
- NO drinks or food are allowed in the gym, please keep in hallway
- Do not bring valuables as the league is not responsible for lost or stolen items

We must ensure that we as a league follow these rules and keep good care of the facility that we use. Please ensure that there is no garbage left behind in the gym (if there is please pick it up and throw it out).

EQUIPMENT

Volleyball equipment is expensive so please treat all equipment with respect. Please refrain from playing any additional sports with the volleyballs (ie. Basketball or soccer) while in warm-up as volleyballs are not designed for that type of play.

We ask that players assist in the net set up and take down each week; a specific team will be assigned each week in each gym. This helps ensure you start on time and within our designated permit time.

The standards used (the poles that hold up the nets) do not have any padding or coverings, therefore, please be aware of them during warm-up and game play. Please do not run into the poles and be very careful when jumping near them, if you land on them injury can occur. Instead, if a ball comes close to the pole please do not play it (it is only 1 point and not worth the risk of injury). If you are a player standing by please let your player know where they are in terms of the poles (and any other hazards).

PLAYER DISCIPLINE

If a player is found to be disobeying any of the policies or guidelines please contact the league coordinator. The league coordinator will then discuss the issues with the accused player, if necessary: a formal warning will be given. Players are allowed only 1 warning. If the same problem occurs again or it continues it may result in suspension or termination for the league with no refund.

NEW Team Discipline Implementation is as follows:

Unsportsmanlike Conduct Warning System

There has been a great deal of unsportsmanlike behaviour, you are not allowed:

- To confront the referee** as a team (this can only be done by the team captain thru a one-on-one conversation)
- To yell profanity as this may offend other players (please keep swearing to a minimum and if said please do not yell it)
- To “stomp” while other players are going up to hit (this is distracting and can be dangerous)
- To be rude, or disrespectful to the referees or other players at any time. (we are all human and make mistakes; we need to be respectful of that)

The new warning system is as follows:

- Referees** are not to handle a situation right then and there if they do not feel comfortable or if a situation is escalating, instead, they can report the issue to me following the end of the night.
- Players on other teams may also report issues they feel are warranted
- **1st Warning:** your team captain will be sent an email issuing the first warning regarding the issue
- **2nd Warning:** your team will be penalized 2 points for each game played the following week ie. (each game will begin with a score of 0-2)
- **3rd Warning:** your team will be penalized 2 games. Ie. You will be deducted 2 points off your overall team score. (ie. You won 7 games – 2 points = 5 game points)
- **4th Warning:** your team will be asked to sit out for a week and Amanda will talk with the team captain regarding the issues and plan of action for the remainder of the session. Your team will not receive any compensation or refund for time lost.

**Please note that referees are no longer provided by the DRV league, therefore, the rules above apply if a player has volunteered to referee. If any of the above incidents occur, players are asked to report such incidents to the league coordinator as soon as possible.

REFEREES

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DRV NO LONGER PROVIDES REFEREES. A SITE COORDINATOR WILL BE PRESENT EACH WEEK TO HELP ORGANIZE THE EVENING. PLAYERS ARE WELCOME TO VOLUNTEER TO REFEREE (OR IF YOU KNOW OF ANY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING, PLEASE CONTACT THE LEAGUE COODINATOR)

IF A REFEREE IS PRESENT:

Job Requirements

- Scorekeeping (if no volunteers or players are willing)
- Refereeing all games
- Making necessary announcements

- Calling out schedule
- Recording scores

Game Play

We all know that no referee is perfect, therefore, our referees are no different. They will make mistakes and they will make correct calls that you may disagree with. Please be aware that our referees do their best to make correct and accurate calls, but we do not have line judges and therefore, calls can be mistaken. Also please be aware that your position on the court may restrict you from being able to see the ball or play in the same way the referee can.

We ask that players let mistaken calls go and move on to the next point. If a referee is consistently making a wrong call or is not following an OVA rule then your team captain or an assigned member of your team may approach the referee during a time-out or following the game to try to resolve the issue.

Speaking To

When speaking to a referee it is expected that the players will do so in a respectful manner at all times. We understand that players can become competitive and a mistaken call can affect the overall atmosphere of the team or game, but this does not give any player the right to disrespect a referee or make rude comments. All matters to be dealt with the referee are to be done so at a game break when 1 player can speak to the referee one-on-one. Under no circumstances is more than 1 player to speak with the referee, an entire team is not allowed to argue a call against a referee.

Disrespectful behaviour (this includes inappropriate language) is taken very seriously and formal warnings can be given in such circumstances.

THE REFEREES HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK ANY PLAYER TO LEAVE THE GAME OR THE GYM FOR THE REST OF THE EVENING IF NECESSARY.

REFUNDS

Please be aware that under no circumstances are refunds provided. Once payment has been made you have made a full commitment to the league.

Under no circumstances are team fees refunded or adjusted.

For individual players:

The only way a refund will occur is if you find a suitable player (of equal level of play and same sex) to replace you. That refund would be take place between the players and in no way involve the league.

We hope that none of our players become injured in or out of the league, however, each player understands the risk of possible injury and unfortunately, whether injured during league play or outside of the league we are unable to provide any refunds or compensation. As mentioned above, if a suitable replacement is found, that transaction would have to occur between the players and would not involve the league.

Players will not be compensated for missed evenings.

WEATHER

Especially in the winter months we can experience inclement weather (snow storms, hail etc.) if this is the case all players should check their email and the website on the Sunday prior to leaving

as the night may be cancelled. It is also advised that players create a “phone tree” for their team so that once one player is made aware of the cancelled evening, all players can find out. The call will be made according to driving conditions and the weather forecast for the remainder of the evening. Our players’ safety is our number one priority. If a play night is cancelled due to inclement weather then the night will be rescheduled on the next available Sunday following week #12 and the schedule will be pushed back one week.

LOST ITEMS

Please be sure to collect all your belongings prior to leaving each night. The site coordinators are not always the last ones out of the gyms and therefore, will most likely not pick up any items left behind.

If you are the last player out and see remaining belongings and decide to take them home, please email the league coordinator so an email can be sent out saying the items have been picked up and arrange for them to be returned to their owner.

The league is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
DO NOT BRING ANY VALUABLES TO THE GYM!

GUESTS

- Guests are allowed to watch, however, please ensure that they realize that depending on the division, the balls may be hit extremely hard and they need to be alert at all times to ensure their safety
- All guests **must sit on the stage** and not at the back of the courts as this is the most dangerous place to sit due to stray balls, as well, this can be distracting for servers
- **Children are not allowed.** Only in rare circumstances or in an emergency are children allowed in the facility

Children

If you bring children:

- They are your 100% responsibility
- They must be sitting down at ALL times (even during warm-up)
- They must be **sitting on the stage only**, in the middle of the court (located behind the referee)
- They must be old enough to be alert and be able to watch the balls that may come in their direction to avoid injury
- They must be supervised by you at all times (if you leave the gym to go to the washroom/get a drink, then they must go with you)
- **Under no circumstances are infants or toddlers allowed at the games (children must be over the age of 4 to attend)**

Volunteers

Volunteers are always welcome to help score-keep or be a line judge. High school volunteers will receive community service hours for their help. The volunteers are to check in with the site coordinator each night they volunteer to ensure an accurate record is kept of their work. All volunteers must have a waiver signed by their parents so the league confirms that the parents are aware of their son’s/daughter’s involvement in the league.

Please contact the league coordinator if you know of a volunteer who is interested.