



Volleyball ACT
By-Laws 2022

Foreword

Volleyball ACT Inc. (VACT) conducts its competitions and matches according to FIVB Rules except as detailed within this document.

The VACT Competition Rules use a numbering system that corresponds directly to the Official FIVB Rules and where the rules as numbered conflict, the VACT Rule applies.

The VACT By-Laws describe the procedures and conventions used to enforce the VACT Rules and provide direction and guidance where it is not provided by the VACT Rules. Both the VACT Rules and VACT By-Laws have been constructed based on previous rules and guidelines, as well as input from clubs and competition representatives.

Should a club or team wish to apply for an exemption or change to any of the rules and sanctions listed in this booklet then procedures are detailed within this by-law document.

Ultimately, the final decision to approve and/or deny requests shall be made by the VACT Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

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WHAT IS CVL?

- Capital Volleyball League
- The top competitive indoor volleyball competition conducted under the umbrella of Volleyball ACT
- The local domestic competition for elite level and developing volleyball players
- A product to be used to promote volleyball to the ACT business community
- Promotional vehicle to attract and increase participation in the sport of volleyball

CVL Competition Rules

Chapter 1 Facilities and Equipment

Notes on FIVB Rules 1 – 3

Volleyball ACT will endeavour to provide the best possible playing surface to all players, based on venue availability in the ACT. FIVB Rules 1 – 3 will be adhered to as closely as practicable within physical limitations of each venue.

Rule 2.1.1 Height of the Net

VACT Rule 2.1.1

Placed vertically above the centre line, the net is set at a height of:

- Men - 2.43m
- Women - 2.24m

VACT Rule 2.1.2

Net height is measured from the centre of the playing court. The net height (over the two side lines) must be exactly the same and must not exceed the official height by more than two (2) centimetres.

Rule 3.3 Three-Ball System

VACT Rule 3.3

The 3-Ball system is not used in VACT competitions.

One match ball will be allocated to each match court and must be used for all points played during the match, unless the ball is damaged or lost. If a ball is damaged or lost, the Court Supervisor will supply a replacement match ball.

Chapter 2 Participants

Rule 4.1 Team Composition

VACT Rule 4.1.3

Only the players recorded on the scoresheet team list, at the playing venue and in uniform ready to play, may enter the court.

The coach and captain of each team shall check and sign the team list before the match commences, at which point no further changes to the team list shall be allowed. At the completion of the first set, the scorer shall strike out the names of players not present at the playing venue and in uniform.

At the conclusion of the match, should the opposition team wish to submit a protest with the opposing team's composition, this should be noted on the scoresheet and investigated by the Referee Supervisor and Competition Manager.

VACT Rule 4.1.3.1

When a player who does not appear on the team list enters the court, the team at fault will lose all points scored from the moment the illegal player takes the court. Full details on dealing with illegal players on the court are provided in FIVB documentation.

Rule 4.3 Equipment

VACT Rule 4.3.1

The uniform requirements for Capital Volleyball League:

- The colour and the design for the jerseys must be uniform and in accordance with FIVB rules.
- Uniform Bottoms (shorts/pants) may differ in style and cut but must all be the same colour for all regular players (non-Libero).
- Logos on shorts/pants are allowed no larger than six (6) cms, makers brand/logo may vary.
- Players may have a number on their shorts as long as it matches their jersey number.

The Libero player(s) must wear a uniform (or jacket/bib for the redesignated Libero) which has a different dominant colour from any colour of the rest of the team. The uniform must clearly contrast with the rest of the team.

Undergarments may be worn (for warmth and injury prevention) but colour must be uniform across the team (excluding the Libero).

VACT Rule 4.3.3

Players' jerseys must be numbered from 1 to 99.

Numbers must be applied permanently, no taped on or temporary numbers are acceptable; all such situations shall be treated as illegal and will be considered out of uniform.

For emergency situations (e.g. uniform changes due to blood on shirt) a change of uniform will be allowed; but must be recorded on the match scoresheet. In such situations a change of playing number will be accepted, but the replacement jersey/short combination must meet team uniform requirements.

VACT Rule 4.3.4

Team captains do not require a permanent stripe under their playing number on the front chest. The team captain must be identified and recorded on the scoresheet.

VACT Rule 4.3.5

A player may not take the court out of uniform, enforcement of the Equipment Rule 4.3 will be dealt with by the Court Supervisor or in their absence the Referee Supervisor. Decisions or protests must be recorded on the scoresheet and the VACT Office will investigate as required.

Rule 4.4 Change of Equipment

VACT Rule 4.4.1

VACT has a "Duty of Care" to all participants, it is highly recommended players do not play bare footed. Incidents of players playing bare footed, must be noted on the score sheet for investigation by the Competition Manager.

Chapter 3 Playing Format

Rule 6.4 Default and Incomplete Team

VACT Rule 6.4.1

The first set starts at the time stated on the playing schedule. If the start time is delayed due to the previous match, the official start time will be specified by the Court Supervisor or in their absence the Referee Supervisor and/or first Referee and noted on the score sheet.

VACT Rule 6.4.2

A team that is not complete at the scheduled start time, less than six (6) players and cannot appear on court is declared incomplete for the first set with the result recorded as 0-25.

A team will then be given five minutes from the scheduled start time as stipulated by the first referee or listed on the competition schedule, to be complete and appear on court. Failure to do so will result in the team being declared incomplete for the second set with the result recorded as 0-25.

If after a further five (5) minutes, ten (10) minutes after the scheduled start time, the team is unable to be complete and appear on court it will be declared in DEFAULT, with the match result of 0-3; 0-25, 0-25, 0-25.

VACT Rule 6.4.3

A team that is declared INCOMPLETE due to injury or illness, loses the set or the match dependent upon the nature of injury or illness and the game situation at the time. The opposition team is given the points and/or sets required to win the set and/or match.

The incomplete team keeps its points and sets scored prior to becoming INCOMPLETE.

Rule 7.2 Warm-Up Session

FIVB Rules 7.2.2 and 7.2.3 do not apply, and are replaced as follows:

VACT Rule 7.2.1

The warm-up period commences fifteen (15) minutes prior to the competition schedule time, or prior to the new match start time as advised by the Referee Supervisor and/or first referee.

Players must be in uniform during official warm-up, with playing numbers visible.

Warm-up period comprises the following:

- Fifteen (15) minutes total broken down as;
 - five (5) minutes court time to stretch and use volleyballs (unofficial warm-up), excluding use of the net followed by;
 - eight (8) minutes of attack warm-up (official warm-up);
 - four (4) minutes in position 4,
 - four (4) minutes from position 2; and
 - one (1) minute of serving.
 - The final minute remaining allows teams to have a brief team chat and to enter the court before the scheduled start time of the match elapses.

Rule 7.3 Team Starting Line-Up

VACT Rule 7.3.1

The team must field a minimum of six (6) players to commence a match.

Chapter 4 Playing Actions

Rule 9 Playing the Ball

FIVB Rule 9

Each team must play within its own playing area and space (except FIVB Rule 10.1.2). The ball may, however, be retrieved from beyond its own free zone.

Note: VACT has a “Duty of Care” to all participants and due to the close proximity of the courts at the Lyneham Hockey Centre (LHC) Stadium, the free zone stops at the side line of the next court.

When a game is in progress on the next court, the ball **may not** be retrieved from beyond this free zone and will be signalled out when it crosses the vertical plane of the next court’s side line.

Chapter 5

Interruptions, Delays and Intervals

Rule 15.6 Limitation of Substitutions

VACT Rule 15.6.1

The Volleyball Australia Twelve (12) Substitution Rule applies.

- A maximum of twelve (12) substitutions permitted per set
- A player may enter the court only three (3) times per set, starting on the court counts as a first entry.
- Once a player has started in, or is substituted into, a rotational position that player may only play in that position for the duration of the set (excl. exceptional substitutions).
- The Libero player assignment may be redesignated prior to the beginning of each set

Rule 15.7 Exceptional Substitution

VACT Rule 15.7.1

A Libero player may be redesignated to a normal player in the situation where a team may be incomplete due to injury or illness only.

Rule 18.1 Intervals

VACT Rule 18.1.1

The interval period between sets shall be three (3) minutes, teams must be recalled to the court no later than two minutes and thirty seconds (2'30") of the interval. This allows the match to recommence when three minutes elapses.

During this interval period teams shall:

- change ends of the court, (subject to COVID restrictions);
- provide new line-up registrations to the second referee or scorer;
- remain close to the team bench; or
- warm-up with volleyballs in the free zone at the baseline or on the court (excluding use of the net); and
- return to the playing court in readiness for the next set to commence.

CVL Competition By-Laws

A. Duty Requirements

A.1 Duty Personnel

By-Law A.1.1

All teams will be scheduled to perform duty from time to time during a VACT Competition.

Duty teams must provide a minimum of five duty personnel to cover the following roles:

- First (1st) Referee
- Second (2nd) Referee
- Scorer
- Minimum of two (2) Line Judges.

It is a condition of play in the VACT Capital Volleyball League competition that at least one member of each participating team holds a Volleyball Australia referee accreditation, at least level 2 to complete 1st refereeing duties if required. VACT will schedule Referee Courses prior to and during each season to enable clubs to develop qualified officials.

Once a 1st and 2nd Referee are nominated by the duty team, those team members must remain in that duty role for the duration of the match.

Duty personnel should be in club attire whilst undertaking their duty role; including wearing enclosed shoes for the safety of all participants.

By-Law A.1.1.1

Where a scheduled duty team fails to provide the specified requirements, the 1st or 2nd referee is to record the situation on the score sheet and the following actions shall apply:

- Insufficient duty personnel, reported to Referee Supervisor and Competition Manager, 1st occurrence in a season
 - VACT will issue a first and final formal warning reminding the club of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.
- Insufficient duty personnel, reported to Referee Supervisor and Competition Manager, 2nd and subsequent occurrences in a season:
 - Through negotiation with the clubs, VACT will issue one (1) of the following penalties:
 - deduction of one competition point, or
 - removal of a match win.
- Duty personnel using mobile phones, audio devices, or any other distraction or consuming alcohol, 1st occurrence in a season:
 - VACT will issue a first and final formal warning reminding the club of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.

- Duty personnel using mobile phones, audio devices, incorrectly attired or consuming alcohol, 2nd and subsequent occurrence in a season
 - Through negotiation with the clubs, VACT will issue one (1) of the following penalties:
 - deduction of one competition point, or
 - removal of a match win.
- Duty personnel fails to adequately perform (as per Chapter 8 of the FIVB Rulebook) the requirements of their position, 1st occurrence in a season
 - VACT will issue a first and final formal warning reminding the club of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.
- Duty personnel fails to adequately perform the requirements of their position, 2nd and subsequent occurrence in a season
 - Through negotiation with the clubs, VACT will issue one (1) of the following penalties:
 - deduction of one competition point, or
 - removal of a match win.
- Duty team unable to provide a suitably qualified 1st Referee, 1st occurrence in a season
 - VACT will issue a first and final formal warning reminding the club of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.
- Duty team unable to provide a suitably qualified 1st Referee 2nd and subsequent occurrence in a season
 - Through negotiation with the clubs, VACT will issue one (1) of the following penalties:
 - deduction of one competition point, or
 - removal of a match win.

B. Forfeits

B.1 Match Forfeits

By-Law B.1.1

When a team is declared in DEFAULT of a match, the following actions should be taken:

- Referee Supervisor and Competition Manager must be notified immediately
- Match result shall be recorded with the result of 0:3; 0-25, 0-25, 0-25
- VACT will issue a penalty and formally remind the team of their commitments to the competition
- 1st occurrence in a season, deduct three (3) competition points and formal reminder to the club of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.
- 2nd occurrence in a season, VACT will issue the following penalties:
 - deduction of one (1) competition match win, and
 - deduction of three (3) competition points.
- 3rd and any subsequent occurrences in a season, VACT will meet with club administration to determine whether the continuation of the team in the competition is viable. VACT will issue the following penalties:

- deduction of one (1) competition match win, and
- deduction of three (3) competition points.

By-Law B.1.2

When a team is discovered to have used an unregistered player, the following action should be taken:

- VACT will notify the club of the registration issue
- If the club and/or individual cannot provide evidence of registration, then the team will be declared in DEFAULT, and the match result will be recorded as 3:0; 0-25, 0-25, 0-25.
- The player shall not be allowed to participate in any further matches until their registration is completed.

By-Law B.1.3

Clubs must field a Premier team – they cannot forfeit a Premier match and then field a Reserve team. The intent in CVL must be to field the Premier team at all times, this is part of the clubs commitment to the competition.

Example: If a club enters the Premier competition, a team must be fielded in this competition at all times. Where a Premier team is incomplete, it must be filled by Reserve grade players.

B.2 Duty Forfeits

By-Law B.2.1

If a team seeks to defer a match or defaults a match, they continue to have responsibility to complete any duty assignments for that round. As this is a club-based competition the expectation is that the duty assignment will be completed by the club.

Should the duty assignment not be fulfilled then the normal processes and penalties (see A.1.1.1 above) shall be applied.

B.3 Double Forfeits

By-Law B.3.1

If a situation arises where both teams are declared in DEFAULT of a match, the match result shall be null with no competition sets or points recorded. Both teams will be penalised according to B.1.1 above.

C. Participation in VACT Competitions

C.1 VACT Registration

By-Law C.1.1

All participants in the CVL competition are required to be registered and hold a current Volleyball Australia National ID number, the VACT yearly registration runs from 01st April though to 31st March each calendar year.

By-Law C.1.2

If an unregistered player appears during a match, then the process of B.1.2 above shall apply.

C.2 Participation in the VACT Capital Volleyball League

By-Law C.2.1

Only VACT affiliated clubs and associates may enter teams in the Capital Volleyball League, as per the VACT Affiliation Information document

C.3 Movement between VACT Leagues

By-Law C.3.1

Players may participate in the Capital Volleyball League, Open League and Recreational Leagues, with no restriction on player movement between the three leagues.

C.4 Movement within VACT Leagues

By-Law C.4.1

A club may have up to three (3) players appear on both the Premier and Reserve scoresheets during the same round. In extraordinary circumstances clubs may apply to the VACT Competition Manager one (1) week in advance for an exemption. The club request must be received no later than 12:00pm on the Monday before the scheduled match.

If a club uses the “extraordinary exemptions” more than two (2) times during a season they will be requested to meet with VACT to discuss if the team is viable to continue for the season.

If a club has multiple teams in Premier and Reserve divisions, they must determine and advise VACT at the commencement of the season which teams and players will be aligned (e.g. Premier A aligned with Reserve A).

Three players up/down will allow movement of three players only between divisions within these two teams. When a club has multiple teams in both divisions, a player who moves to a team is then aligned with that team for the duration of the season and must not participate with another team in the same Division level.

When a club has one team in one division and multiple teams in another division (ie 1 x Premier and 2/3 x Reserve or 2/3 x Premier and 1 x Reserve) a combined total of three players only may move between divisions.

C.5 Movement within Divisions

By-Law C.5.1

Where a player requests and receives a transfer from one club to another during the season:

- the player is declared to be a member of the new club upon approval of transfer the number of matches completed for that player will be reset to zero, only matches with the new club to be counted.
- Player transfer applications will not be accepted when there are outstanding financial obligations to the originating club.

By-Law C.5.2

A player that owes a debt to a VACT affiliated club will not be approved to participate in any VACT competition until payment of the outstanding debts are finalised with the affected club.

By-Law C.5.3

If a player competes for more than one team within a division of a League:

- they must complete a team transfer process prior to playing in the second team
- if they participate in a second team without a completed team transfer process, then that second team match will result in the team being declared in default.
- To clarify; once a player competes for a team in a division, they must either complete a team transfer process or only play for the team with which they start the season.

The team transfer process within clubs requires an email to the VACT Office, detailing the player or players involved, the original team and the gaining team. This type of transfer can only occur once for each player and only be undertaken within the first 3 playing weeks of the season.

C.6 Membership with a VACT Affiliated Club

By-Law C.6.1

A player may be a member of only one VACT Affiliated Club.

If a player wishes to transfer their membership from one club to another within the CVL competition, they must complete the Club Transfer process and gain approval from the Executive of both clubs involved. This process can be in the form of an email including the two clubs involved, the player and the VACT Office. The VACT office will have final say on any transfer application, once approved, the transfer is effective immediately.

C.7 Finals Qualification

By-Law C.7.1

To qualify to appear in a final, a player must have participated in:

Premier Division

- A minimum of thirty percent of the scheduled regular season matches in Premier division, or
- A minimum of thirty percent of the scheduled number of season rounds across both Premier and Reserve divisions.

Note: Two (2) matches played over one round (i.e. on the same day) will only count as one for the purpose of qualification.

Reserve Division

- A minimum of thirty percent of the scheduled regular season matches in that division.

A record of the number of matches played by individuals shall be maintained by VACT Competitions Manager and shall be available upon request.

By-Law C.7.2

If a player who is unqualified appears for a team during any finals' series, that team shall be declared in default for that match.

A team that utilises an unqualified player in a final series match shall be removed from the final series completely.

C.8 Team Composition

By-Law C.8.1

Males cannot participate in Women's competitions.

Females cannot participate in Men's competitions.

By-Law C.8.2

If a male player appears in a team during a match in a Women's Competition, the team shall be declared in default.

By-Law C.8.3

If a female player appears in a team during a match in a Men's Competition, the team shall be declared in default.

D. Competition Scoring

D.1 Team Rankings

By-Law D.1.1

Competition Points shall be awarded on the following basis:

- Win a match 3:0 or 3:1, three (3) competition points will be awarded
- Win a match 3:2, two (2) competition points will be awarded
- Lose a match 2:3, one (1) competition point will be awarded
- Lose a match 0:3 or 1:3, zero (0) competition points will be awarded
- DEFAULT match, minus three (-3) competition points (points are deducted)
- DEFAULT a second or subsequent match, minus three (-3) competition points (points are deducted) and one (1) match win removed from teams total wins (one season match win deducted)

The placement of teams on the competition table shall be determined as follows:

1. Matches won
2. Competition points
3. Set percentage (%) (calculated by total sets won divided by total sets played)
4. Point percentage (%) (calculated by total points won divided by total sets played)

If at the end of the regular season teams are drawn according to the placement criteria above, then the following criteria will be used to rank the equal teams:

1. Matches Won (head-to-head), if still equal in ranking then,
2. Most recent head-to-head match between these teams.

E. Match Scheduling

E.1 Rescheduled Matches (Appendix 1)

By-Law E.1.1

Where a team realises, they will not be able to field a team for a scheduled match, they may request that the match be rescheduled.

The process will be as follows:

1. VACT works with clubs prior to the season commencing to minimise the potential of rescheduling matches
2. Club Presidents agree and sign-off on the competition schedule at least one week prior to the season commencing
3. A club identifies a round where they will not be able to field a team as scheduled:
 - a. 14-days (calendar) notice is required to reschedule a match
 - b. If outside the 14 days, VACT and opposition club are notified of the request to reschedule
 - c. VACT acknowledge the request, seek availability from opposition club to play the match with fourteen (14) days of the schedule
 - d. Opposition club provide up to three (3) options

- e. Rescheduling club organises the match utilising one of the options provided
 - f. If rescheduling club cannot organise for one of the options provided, they will be required to field a team according to the original match schedule. Otherwise they will be declared in default.
 - g. If inside the fourteen (14) days, VACT advise the requesting club that the window for reschedule has closed and the club must field a team according to the original match schedule. If the club fails to field a team, they will be declared in default.
- 4. The requesting club is responsible for organising an alternative venue, qualified officials and duty personnel. Ensuring all match equipment is available for the match and returned accordingly to VACT post-match. The VACT Office will provide assistance as required.
 - 5. Rescheduled match results are to be emailed (photo/scan) to the VACT Office within forty-eight (48) hours and the signed scoresheet is to be provided to VACT within seven (7) days of the match being completed.

F. General Conduct

F.1 Alcohol

By-Law F.1.1

Alcohol may not be consumed by players, team administrators or individuals associated with a team within the playing venue.

By-Law F.1.2

Any players, team administrators or individuals associated with a team found to be in possession or under the influence of alcohol in the playing venue may face disciplinary action under the VACT Disciplinary Procedures (Annex A).

Note that sanctions applying in this situation may be applied to the club.



WHAT ARE OPEN AND RECREATION LEAGUES?

- Open League - A competitive option with restricted timing
- Recreation League – A mixed gender competition for social groups or individuals' teams.
- All leagues are played to time restrictions during scheduled match regular rounds.
- A vehicle to promote competitive opportunities with set time limits, and regular time schedule

Open & Recreational Competition Rules

Chapter 1 Facilities and Equipment

Notes on FIVB Rules 1 – 3

Volleyball ACT will endeavour to provide the best possible playing surface to all players, based on venue availability in the ACT. FIVB Rules 1 – 3 will be adhered to as closely as practicable within physical limitations of each venue.

2.1.1 Height of the Net

VACT Rule 2.1.1

Placed vertically above the centre line, the net is set at the following height:

- Men's Divisions 1, 2, & 3 – 2.43m
- Men's Division 4 & U16 Boys - 2.34m
- Recreational - 2.34m
- Women's Divisions 1, 2, & 3 - 2.24m
- Youth Boys Division U14 & U15 – 2.24m
- Youth Women Division U14, U15, & U16 – 2.15m

Rule 3.3 Three-Ball System

VACT Rule 3.3

The 3-Ball system is not used in VACT competitions.

One match ball will be allocated to each match court and must be used for all points played during the match, unless the ball is damaged or lost. If a ball is damaged or lost, the Court Supervisor will supply a replacement match ball.

Chapter 2 Participants

Rule 4.1 Team Composition

VACT Rule 4.1.3

Only the players recorded on the scoresheet may enter the court and play in the match. The recorded players can be changed up to the conclusion of the first set, at which point the scorer should strike-out the names of any player not at the playing venue and in uniform ready to play.

The coach and captain of each team shall check and sign the player list at the conclusion of the match. Should a team have a concern with the opposing team list, this must be raised

with the 1st Referee, Court Supervisor, or Competition Manager before signing the scoresheet.

VACT Rule 4.1.3.1

Where a player who does not appear on the team list, or a player who is on the team list but was not present at the venue at the beginning of set 2 enters the court. The team at fault will lose all points scored from the moment the illegal player takes the court. Full details on dealing with illegal players on the court are provided in FIVB documentation.

Rule 4.3 Equipment

VACT Rule 4.3.1

The uniform requirements for VACT Leagues are:

- For Open League Divisions 1 & 2, the colour and design for the jerseys must be uniform for the team (except for the Libero).
- For Open League Divisions 1 & 2, it is encouraged that Uniform Bottoms (shorts/pants) be similar in colour and style.
- For Open League Divisions 3, 4 & Youth, it is encouraged that the colour and design for the jerseys be uniform for the team (except for the Libero).
- For Recreational Leagues, uniform consists of the same colour or themed shirts e.g. all wearing black t-shirts, Hawaiian shirts, etc.

All leagues, undergarments may be worn (for warmth and injury prevention).

VACT Rule 4.3.3

For Open League Divisions 1 & 2, players' jerseys must be numbered from 1 to 99.

Numbers must be permanent on the front and back of the jersey – taped or temporary numbers are illegal and shall be considered out of uniform.

Emergency situations e.g. changes due to blood on shirt, changes of numbers and or blank uniform can be allowed by VACT staff.

Numbers are not required for Open League Divisions 3, 4, 5, Youth and Recreational Leagues.

VACT Rule 4.3.4

There is no requirement for the team captain to be identified by a stripe under their playing number on the chest. The team captain is to be identified on the scoresheet prior to the match commencing.

VACT Rule 4.3.5.1

In Divisions 1 & 2 a player may not take the court out of uniform as per VACT Rule 4.3.1 & 4.3.3, fluoro bibs are available from the Court Supervisor for the players without a team jersey and number to ensure uniformity is maintained.

Rule 4.4 Change of Equipment

VACT Rule 4.4.1

VACT has a “Duty of Care” to all participants, it is highly recommended players do not play bare footed. Incidents of players playing bare footed, must be noted on the score sheet for investigation by the Competition Supervisor.

Chapter 3 Playing Format

Rule 6.2 To Win A Set

VACT Rule 6.2.1

A set is declared complete when time expires or achieves the score required by the FIVB Rules of the Game.

VACT Rule 6.2.2

During timed matches, a team shall be declared the winner of a set when:

- The score required by the rules of the game is achieved (i.e. 25 with a two (2) point lead),
- Time expires and one team has reached a minimum of 13 points (8 points in the deciding set), and
- The team has a two-point lead.

If the above conditions are not met, then the set will be scored as a draw.

Rule 6.3 To Win the Match

VACT Rule 6.3.1

A match is declared complete when time expires, or a team achieves the score required by the FIVB Rules of the Game.

VACT Rule 6.3.2

All Open and Recreational games are best of five sets timed, the winner is the team that has won three (3) sets, or the greatest number of sets when time expires.

VACT Rule 6.3.3

Where both teams have won the same number of sets when time expires, the match is declared drawn.

Rule 6.4 Default and Incomplete Team

VACT Rule 6.4.1

The warm-up period commences at the time on the schedule draw.

VACT Rule 6.4.2

A team that is not complete (as per VACT Rule 7.3.1) at the conclusion of the warm-up period and cannot appear on court is declared incomplete for the first set with the result recorded as 0-25.

A team will then be given five minutes from the end of the warm-up period or as stipulated by the first referee, to be complete and appear on court. Failure to do so will result in the team being declared incomplete for the second set with the result recorded as 0-25.

If after a further five (5) minutes, ten (10) minutes after the end of the warm-up period, the team is unable to be complete and appear on court it will be declared in DEFAULT, with the match result of 0-3; 0-25, 0-25, 0-25.

VACT Rule 6.4.3

A team that is declared INCOMPLETE due to injury or illness only for the set or for the match, loses the set or the match. The opposition team is given the points, or the points and sets needed to win the set or the match.

The incomplete team keeps its points and sets from any sets completed prior to becoming incomplete.

Rule 7.2 Warm-Up Session

FIVB Rules 7.2.2 and 7.2.3 do not apply, and are replaced as follows:

VACT Rule 7.2.1

The warm-up period comprises of the following recommended break down:

- For Open Leagues - Ten minutes total:
 - four minutes peppering without use of the net;
 - two minutes hitting from position 4;
 - two minutes hitting from position 2;
 - one-minute serving, and
 - one minute to finalise preparations and take the court.
 - Must finish on time to allow the match to commence according to the scheduled draw.
- For Recreational League: Ten minutes total;
 - four minutes peppering without use of the net;
 - four minutes hitting from position 4;
 - one-minute serving, and
 - one minute to finalise preparations and take the court.
 - Structure of the warm-up can be decided by team captains in consultation with the match referee.
 - Must finish on time to allow the match to commence according to the scheduled draw.

Rule 7.3 Team Starting Line-Up

VACT Rule 7.3.1

A team must field the following minimum numbers to commence a match:

- For Open League: Five players
 - if less than seven players, no Libero is allowed.
- For Recreational League: Four players
 - four or five players, then minimum one player of each gender required

VACT Rule 7.3.2

In Open League Divisions 1 and 2 competitions, a complete team that has less than six players in play

- will rotate as usual, with one position in the line-up declared as vacant
- when the vacant position rotates into the serving position (position 1) the team will automatically default that service and one point will be awarded to the opposing team.

VACT Rule 7.3.3

In Open League Divisions 3, 4, 5, Youth and Recreational League competitions, a complete team that has less than six players in play will rotate in the usual manner, with no penalty for absent players.

Chapter 4 Playing Actions

Rule 9 Playing the Ball

FIVB Rule 9

Each team must play within its own playing area and space (except FIVB Rule 10.1.2). The ball may, however, be retrieved from beyond its own free zone.

Note: VACT has a “Duty of Care” to all participants and due to the close proximity of the courts at the Lyneham Hockey Centre (LHC) Stadium, the free zone stops at the side line of the next court.

When a game is in progress on the next court, the ball **may not** be retrieved from beyond this free zone and will be signalled out when it crosses the vertical plane of the next court sideline.

Rule 12 Service

VACT 12.4.3 Execution of the Service

For Open and Recreational League divisions 1, 2 & 3:

- at the moment of service hit or take-off for a jump service, the server must not touch the court (the end line included) or the floor outside the service zone.

For Open Division 4, 5, Youth (Boys and Girls) Leagues:

- to assist players at this level of ability, the service rule is relaxed and players are able to serve between the end line and the attack line (within the back zone). This rule is to be monitored by the first referee and team coaches to ensure an unfair advantage is not obtained by either team.

For Open Youth (Boys and Girls) Leagues:

- If one server wins three consecutive points on serve, then the serving team rotates to bring another player into the serving position (this prevents one player from dominating the game with a strong serve).

Chapter 5

Interruptions, Delays and Intervals

Rule 15.4 Time-Outs and Technical Time-Outs

VACT Rule 15.4.3

For Open and Recreational League matches:

- no time-outs may be requested during the last five minutes of the match.

Rule 15.6 Limitation of Substitutions

VACT Rule 15.6.1

For Open League Divisions 1 and 2 the Volleyball Australia (VA) twelve (12) substitution rule shall be used:

- A maximum of 12 substitutions permitted per set
- A player may enter the court up to three (3) times per set
(Note: starting on the court counts as a first (1st) entry)
- Once a player has started in, or substituted into, a specific rotational position, that player may only play in that position for the duration of the set (excl. exceptional substitution).
- The Libero player assignment may change each set, following advice to the referees and scorer between sets
- Substitutions are allowed during the last five minutes of a time limit match.

For Open League Divisions 3, 4, Youth and Recreational Leagues an unlimited substitution rule shall be used:

- The 1st referee is to ensure this rule is not abused by teams to gain an advantage. Eg: Players subbing off when entering the back court and subbing back on immediately in the front court.

Rule 15.7 Exceptional Substitution

VACT Rule 15.7.1

A Libero player may be redesignated to a normal player in the situation where a team may be incomplete due to injury or illness only.

Rule 18.1 Intervals

VACT Rule 18.1.1

The interval period between sets shall be as follows:

- For Open League, one minute.
- For Recreational League, one minute.

During this interval, the teams:

- change ends of the court, (subject to COVID restrictions);
- divisions 1 and 2 must submit line-up sheet of the team for the next set;
- teams return to the playing court in readiness for the next set;
- second (2nd) referee checks the team line-ups.

Open & Recreational Competition By-Laws

A. Duty Requirements

A.1 Duty Personnel

By-Law A.1.1

When a team is scheduled to perform duty for a match during a VACT Competition, that team must provide:

- Open League - Division 1, a minimum of four duty personnel
 - 2nd Referee
 - Scorer
 - Two (2) Line Judges
- Open League - Division 2, a minimum of two duty personnel
 - 2nd Referee
 - Scorer
- Open Leagues - Division 3 and/or 4 and Youth, there are no duty team requirements.
- Recreational Leagues - There are no duty team requirements.

It is recommended for teams competing in the Open Division 1 & 2 leagues that at least one member of each participating team hold a Volleyball Australia referee accreditation. VACT will schedule Referee Courses prior to and during each season to enable teams to develop sufficient numbers of qualified officials.

Once referees are nominated by the duty team, those team members must remain in that duty role for the duration of the match.

Duty personnel should be in neat attire whilst undertaking their duty role; including wearing enclosed shoes for the safety of all participants.

By-Law A.1.1.1

Where a scheduled duty team fails to provide the specified requirements, the 1st referee is to record the situation on the score sheet and the following actions shall apply:

- Insufficient duty personnel, situation reported to Court Supervisor and Competition Manager, 1st occurrence in a season
 - VACT will issue a first and final formal warning reminding the team of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.
- Insufficient duty personnel, situation reported to Court Supervisor and Competition Manager, 2nd and subsequent occurrences in a season

- Through negotiation with the team, VACT will issue one (1) of the following penalties:
 - deduction of four competition points, or
 - removal of a match win.
- Duty personnel using mobile phones, iPods (or similar device) or consuming alcohol, 1st occurrence in a season
 - VACT will issue a first and final formal warning reminding the team of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.
- Duty personnel using mobile phones, iPods (or similar device), incorrectly attired or consuming alcohol, 2nd occurrence and subsequent occurrences in a season
 - Through negotiation with the team, VACT will issue one (1) of the following penalties:
 - deduction of four competition points, or
 - removal of a match win.
- Duty personnel fails to adequately perform (as per Chapter 8 of the FIVB Rulebook) the requirements of their position, 1st occurrence in a season
 - VACT will issue a first and final formal warning reminding the team of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.
- Duty personnel fails to adequately perform (as per Chapter 8 of the FIVB Rulebook) the requirements of their position, 2nd occurrence and subsequent occurrences in a season
 - Through negotiation with the team, VACT will issue one (1) of the following penalties:
 - deduction of four competition points, or
 - removal of a match win.
- Duty team unable to provide a suitably qualified 1st Referee, 1st occurrence in a season
 - VACT will issue a first and final formal warning reminding the team of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.
- Duty team unable to provide a suitably qualified 1st Referee, 2nd occurrence and subsequent occurrences in a season
 - VACT will issue one (1) of the following penalties:
 - deduction of four competition points, or
 - removal of a match win.

B. Forfeits

B.1 Match Forfeits

By-Law B.1.1 Competition S

When a team is declared in DEFAULT of a match, the following actions should be taken:

- Court Supervisor and Competition Manager must be notified immediately
- Match result shall be recorded with the result of 0:3; 0-25, 0-25, 0-25
- VACT will issue a penalty and formally remind the team of their commitments to the competition

- 1st occurrence in a season, a formal reminder to the team of the need to meet their commitments to the competition.
- 2nd occurrence in a season, VACT will issue the following penalty:
 - deduction of four (4) competition points.
- 3rd and any subsequent occurrences in a season, VACT will meet with team representatives to determine whether the continuation of the team in the competition is viable. VACT will issue the following penalties:
 - deduction of one (1) competition match win, and
 - deduction of four (4) competition points.

By-Law B.1.2

When a team is discovered to have used an unregistered player, the following action shall be taken:

- VACT will notify the team representative of the registration issue.
- If the club and/or individual cannot provide evidence of registration, then the team will be declared in DEFAULT, and the match result will be recorded as 0:3; 0-25, 0-25, 0-25.
- The player shall not be allowed to participate in any further matches until their registration is completed and confirmed by VACT.

B.2 Duty Forfeits

By-Law B.2.1

If a team seeks to defer a match or defaults a match, they continue to have responsibility to complete any duty assignments for that round.

Should the duty assignment not be fulfilled then the normal processes and penalties shall be applied.

B.3 Double Forfeits

By-Law B.3.1

If a situation arises where both teams are declared in DEFAULT of a match, the match result shall be null with no competition sets or points recorded. Both teams will be penalised.

C. Participation in VACT Competitions

C.1 VACT Registration

By-Law C.1.1

All participants in VACT competitions are required to be registered and hold a current National ID number, the VACT yearly registration runs from 01st April though to 31st March each calendar year.

By-Law C.1.2

If an unregistered player appears during a match, then the process of B.1.2 above shall apply.

C.2 Movement between VACT Leagues

By-Law C.2.1

Players may participate in the Open Leagues and Recreational Leagues, with no restriction on player movement between the respective leagues.

C.3 Movement within VACT Leagues

By-Law C.3.1

Players may move freely across VACT divisions of the Open and Recreational Leagues.

By-Law C.3.2

Players may only play for one (1) team within a given division of Open and Recreational Leagues.

By-Law C.3.3

When a club/school/group has multiple teams in a division, a player may only participate in one (1) of the multiple teams. The player is aligned with that team for the duration of the season and must not participate with another team in the same Division level.

C.4 Movement within Divisions

By-Law C.4.1

Where a player requests and receives a transfer from one team or affiliated club to another during the season:

- the player is declared to be a member of the new team upon approval of transfer
- the number of matches completed for that player will be reset to zero, only matches with the new team to be counted.

Player transfer applications will not be accepted when there are outstanding financial obligations to the originating team or affiliated club.

By-Law C.5.2

A player that owes a debt to a VACT team or affiliated club will not be approved to participate in any VACT competition until payment of the outstanding debts are finalised with the originating team/club.

By-Law C.5.3

If a player competes for more than one team within a division of a League:

- they must complete a team transfer process prior to playing in the second team
- if they participate in a second team without a completed transfer process, then that second team match will result in the team being declared in default.
- Once a player transfers to a different team in a division, they must either complete a team transfer process or only play for the team with which they start the season.

The team transfer process within clubs requires an email to the VACT Office, detailing the player or players involved, the original team and the gaining team. This type of transfer can only occur once for each player and only be undertaken within the first 3 playing weeks of the season.

C.6 Membership with a VACT Affiliated Club

By-Law C.6.1

A player may be a member of only one VACT Affiliated Club or Affiliated Associate, as per the VACT Affiliation Information document.

If a player wishes to transfer their membership from one club to another, they must complete the Club Transfer process, for Open Leagues the club transfer process requires approval from the Executive of both clubs involved. This process can be in the form of an email including the two clubs involved, the player and the VACT Office. The VACT office will have final say on any transfer application. Once approved, the transfer is effective immediately.

C.7 Finals Qualification

By-Law C.7.1

To qualify to appear in a final, a player must have participated in:

- A minimum of thirty percent of the scheduled regular season matches in the respective division.

A record of the number of matches played by individuals shall be maintained by VACT Competitions Manager and shall be available upon request.

By-Law C.7.2

If a player who is unqualified appears for a team during any finals' series, that team shall be declared in default for that match.

A team that utilises an unqualified player in a final series match shall be removed from the final series completely.

C.8 Team Composition

When registering to become a Volleyball ACT Member, individuals are prompted to best describe their current Gender Identity and identify which gender-based competition they would like to participate within.

By-Law C.8.1

Males cannot participate in Women's competitions.

Females cannot participate in Men's competitions.

Note: Exemptions can be granted via application through the VACT CEO.

By-Law C.8.2

If a male player appears in a team during a match in a Women's Competition, the team shall be declared in default.

By-Law C.8.3

If a female player appears in a team during a match in a Men's Competition, the team shall be declared in default for that match.

D. Competition Scoring

D.1 Team Rankings

By-Law D.1.1

Competition Points shall be awarded on the following basis:

- Win a match, four (4) competition points will be awarded
- Drawn match 1:1 or 2:2, two (2) competition points will be awarded
- Lose a match, zero (0) competition points will be awarded
- DEFAULT match, minus four (-4) competition points (points are deducted)
- DEFAULT a second or subsequent match, minus four (-4) competition points (points are deducted) and one (1) match win removed from teams total wins (one season match win deducted)

The placement of teams on the competition table shall be determined as follows:

- Competition points
- Set percentage (%) (calculated by total sets won divided by total sets played)
- Point percentage (%) (calculated by total points won divided by total points played)

If at the end of the regular season teams are drawn according to the placement criteria above, then the following criteria will be used to rank the equal teams:

- Matches Won (Head to head), if still equal in ranking then,
- Most recent head to head match between these teams.

E. Match Scheduling

E.1 Rescheduled Matches (Appendix 2)

By-Law E.1.1

Where a team realises, they will not be able to field a team for a scheduled match, they may request that the match be rescheduled.

The process will be as follows:

1. A team identifies a round where they will not be able to field a team as scheduled:
 - a. 7-days' (calendar) notice is required to reschedule a match

- b. If outside the 7 days, VACT and opposition team are notified of the request to reschedule
 - c. VACT acknowledge the request, seek availability from opposition team to play the match with 14 days of the schedule
 - d. Opposition club provide up to three (3) options
 - e. Rescheduling team organises the match utilising one of the options provided
 - f. If rescheduling team cannot organise for one of the options provided, they will be required to field a team according to the original match schedule. Otherwise they will be declared in default.
 - g. If inside the 7 days, VACT advise the requesting team that the window for reschedule has closed. If the team fails to field a team, they will be declared in default.
2. When outside 7 days, the requesting club is responsible for organising an alternative venue, qualified officials and duty personnel. Ensuring all match equipment is available for the match and returned accordingly to VACT post-match. The VACT Office will provide assistance as required.
3. Rescheduled match results are to be emailed (photo/scan) to the VACT Office within forty-eight (48) hours and the signed scoresheet is to be provided to VACT within seven (7) days of the match being completed.

F. General Conduct

F.1 Alcohol

By-Law F.1.1

Alcohol may not be consumed by players, team administrators or individuals associated with a team within the playing venue.

By-Law F.1.2

Any players, team administrators or individuals associated with a team found to be in possession or under the influence of alcohol in the playing venue may face disciplinary action under the VACT Disciplinary Procedures (Annex A).

VACT Disciplinary Procedures

Disciplinary Sanctions

The disciplinary sanction scale is as follows and may be applied progressively or directly to a level should an offence warrant such action.

Warning

VACT will notify the individual/team indicating the breach that has been identified, the action being a formal warning and an indication that any further misconduct within six (6) calendar months will be dealt with through the VACT Disciplinary Committee process.

Probation

The identified individual/team is advised that any further incident occurring within the stated period, will result in an immediate suspension and Disciplinary Committee hearing. Further sanctions may result, or sanctions may be removed.

This sanction level can only be applied through a Disciplinary Committee hearing process.

Suspension

The offender cannot take part in any match for the stated period. This may or may not include playing, coaching, training or officiating.

This sanction level can only be applied through a Disciplinary Committee hearing process.

Life Suspension with opportunity for review

The offender is banned from participating in any Volleyball ACT events for life, with the possibility of a review after a determined period.

This sanction can only be applied through a Disciplinary Committee hearing.

Permanent Life Suspension

The offender is banned from participating in any Volleyball ACT events for life, with no possibility of review.

This sanction can only be applied through a Disciplinary Committee hearing and should only be applied in situations that endanger the lives of people present.

Automatic Competition Sanctions

All match sanctions awarded during competition shall be awarded in accordance with the FIVB Rules of the Game. The automatic competition sanctions that shall apply when a player is sanctioned during a match in the competition season are:

- Penalty - Yellow Card (2nd offence) or Penalty – Red Card (1st offence)
 - A warning will be issued in writing from VACT identifying the individual sanction and copied to the team involved.
- Expulsion (1st offence) (*includes 3rd Warning offence in same match; or 2nd Penalty offence in the same match*)
 - An automatic one round suspension will be applied in writing from VACT identifying the individual sanction and copied to the team involved.
- Expulsion (Subsequent offence) by another team member in the same match;
 - An automatic two (2) match competition suspension applies to the team, with a Disciplinary Committee hearing to convene to determine whether any other suspension and/or penalties should be applied.
- Disqualification – Any team member;
 - An automatic three (3) match competition suspension applies; with a Disciplinary Committee hearing to convene to determine whether the length of the suspension and/or other penalties should be applied.

Accumulated match sanctions

In the situation where an individual receives multiple match sanctions across multiple matches, the following competition sanctions will be applied:

- Four (4) warnings, yellow cards, one (1) match automatic competition suspension
- Two (2) penalties, red cards, one (1) match automatic competition suspension.

Match sanction counts will reset following a competition suspension applied in this manner.

Match sanction counts will reset at the conclusion of the competition scheduled rounds, therefore at the commencement of finals rounds the match sanction count per individual will be zero.

Appealing a Sanction

If a player elects to appeal any sanction, they must do so within 36 hours of the sanction being issued. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the VACT Competitions Manager, providing the basis for appeal.

An unsuccessful appeal may result in change to the sanction being applied.

Disciplinary Committee Procedures

Composition of the Disciplinary Committee

The composition of the Disciplinary Committee shall be determined for each individual hearing situation; but it shall consist of:

- A representative of the VACT Board, not involved in the incident
- Two (2) members; either appointed from the VACT Executive Committee or a team delegate from the same division not involved in the incident.

Convening a Disciplinary Committee Hearing

The Referee Supervisor or Court Supervisor is responsible for notifying the Competitions Manager, immediately an incident occurs particularly if any events occur that should warrant a Disciplinary Committee hearing being convened.

The Competitions Manager will organise a hearing, to be held at the Volleyball ACT office, within three (3) days of the incident. The Competitions Manager will provide written notification to the offender and clubs involved providing copies of all relevant materials; which are also passed to the Disciplinary Committee members.

All parties will be advised of the hearing start time and when they should arrive.

Conduct of the Hearing

The Disciplinary Committee hearing will operate as follows

1. The members of the Disciplinary Committee convene the hearing at the scheduled time
2. They will appoint a hearing spokesperson
3. They will identify and either resolve or hold on notice any areas requiring further information or deliberations
4. At fifteen (15) minutes past the hearing start the offender shall be called to
 - a. answer any questions the Committee may have
 - b. to provide any details that they believe may assist the Committee to make a fair judgement.
 - c. The accused is entitled to a witness or supporter at the hearing.
 - d. Where the individual is a minor, a parent or guardian is required.
5. Witnesses of the incident, including the sanctioner, shall be called next to answer any questions the Committee may have and to provide any further details they believe may assist the Committee to make their judgement. Any party to appear before the committee is entitled to be accompanied by a supporter. Where the individual is a minor, a carer is required.
6. The Committee shall make a judgement based on the information provided throughout the process; applying the VACT Competition Rules, By-Laws and Procedures
7. The Committee will arrive at a majority agreed penalty to be applied.

8. The Committee spokesperson is responsible for documenting the decisions of the hearing and notifying the VACT Competitions Manager of the majority agreed penalty.
9. The Competitions Manager shall notify the offender and clubs involved of the hearing outcomes in writing, within forty-eight (48) hours of the conclusion of the hearing.
10. The Competitions Manager shall be responsible for providing the hearing documentation, any written reports and the letter advising the offender of the penalty to all members of the VACT Board.

Appeals Process

The accused has the right of appeal, they must submit in writing the basis of the appeal to the VACT CEO within fourteen (14) days of the Disciplinary Committee hearing.

The Appeal Panel shall consist of the Volleyball ACT CEO and two (2) VACT Executive Board members who were not involved in the original Disciplinary Committee hearing or the incident itself.

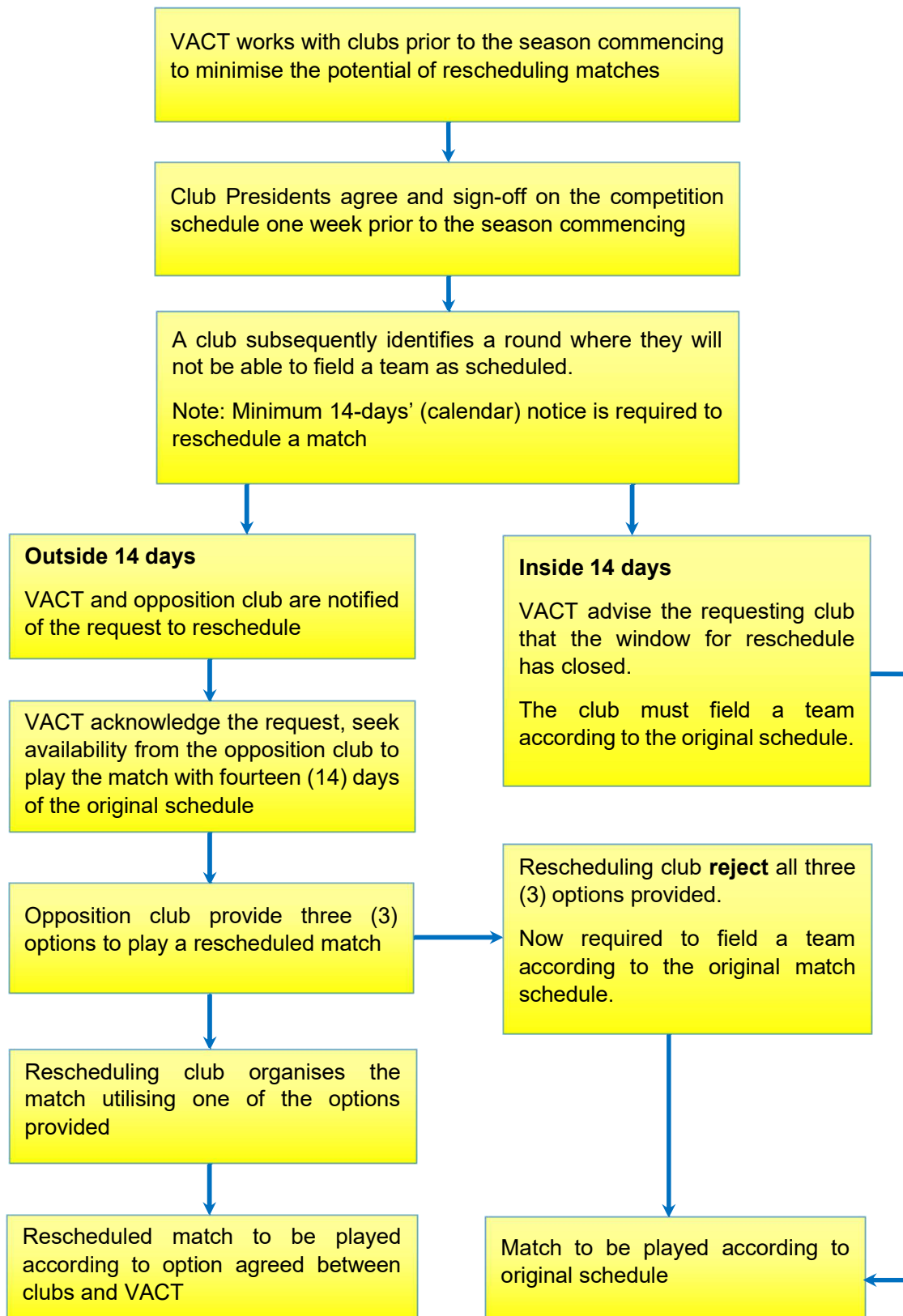
The VACT CEO shall be responsible for contacting all relevant parties and gathering all relevant information required to assess and review the appeal.

The VACT CEO shall be responsible for notifying, in writing, the appellant and clubs involved, and the Competitions Manager of the appeal process outcomes. The VACT CEO shall be responsible for providing copies of the results of the appeal to all other members of the VACT Executive Board.

No further appeal will be considered.

The Disciplinary Committee hearing penalty shall remain in place until the appeal process is finalised

Capital Volleyball League - Rescheduled Matches



Open & Recreational League - Rescheduled Matches

