



VICTORIAN VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

BYLAW

Version 2
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PREAMBLE

1 APPLICATION

- 1.1 In accordance with Rule 33.1 of the Volleyball Victoria Constitution, this Bylaw is adopted by the Volleyball Victoria Board.
- 1.2 This bylaw sets out the rules that apply to the conduct and administration of the Victorian Volleyball League under the auspices of Volleyball Victoria and shall be known as the Victorian Volleyball League Bylaw.

2 DEFINITIONS

Bylaw:	The Victorian Volleyball League Bylaw
Club:	A club that competes in the VVL and is financially responsible for all Teams that they enter into the VVL competition.
Eligible Player/ Coach / Staff :	An eligible player/ coach/ club has successfully met the requirements outlined in this Bylaw
Finals Series	The finals series of the VVL competition.
Financial Clearance:	A declaration by a Club that a Player of that Club has no outstanding financial obligations to that Club.
FIVB:	Fédération Internationale De Volleyball
FIVB Rules:	The current <i>Official Volleyball Rules</i> as published by the FIVB from time to time, currently the <i>2013-2016 New Edition</i> .
Junior VVL:	The Junior Victorian Volleyball League limited to players of the under 17 (U17) age group
Ladder	A ladder ranking all Teams within their division and gender of the VVL under Bylaw 6.1.
Match	An officially sanctioned VVL match between Teams, either in the Regular Season or Finals Series.
Promoted	Where a Team in a division is promoted to play in the immediately higher division in the following VVL season in accordance with this Bylaw.
Registered Member of VV:	A player and/ or coach that has completed the correct category of VV's online registration and paid the required payment. VV shall retain the right to withdraw and/or reinstate registration status according to its policies.
Regular Season	The regular season of the VVL competition (not being the Finals Series).
Team:	An eligible team that represents a Club and competes in the VVL
VA	Volleyball Australia
VV:	Volleyball Victoria
VVL:	Victorian Volleyball League
VVL Inter-Club Transfer:	The transfer of a Player from one Club to another Club within a VVL season or between consecutive VVL seasons. A VVL Inter-Club Transfer also requires a Financial Clearance.
VVRC:	Victorian Volleyball Referees Commission

SECTION I

COMPETITION STRUCTURE

3 FIVB RULES

- 3.1 The VVL shall be played in accordance with the current FIVB Rules unless otherwise stated in this Bylaw.
- 3.2 Any changes to the FIVB Rules will be adopted by the VVL from the date they are enacted by the FIVB unless otherwise stated by VV. VV shall notify Clubs of the adoption or delayed adoption of any amended FIVB Rules by displaying the changes on the VV website and by emailing each Club.
- 3.3 With the exception of Bylaw 3.4 all FIVB Rules specifically written and highlighted in "bold" for FIVB, World and Official Competitions do not apply to the VVL.
- 3.4 The following FIVB Rules specifically written and highlighted in "bold" for FIVB, World and Official Competitions apply to the VVL:
- The attack line is extended by the addition of broken lines from the side lines, with five 15 cm short lines 5 cm wide, drawn 20 cm from each other to a total length of 1.75m.
 - During all time-outs, the players in play must go to the free zone near their bench.
 - The re-designated libero should, if possible, wear the same style and colour of jersey as the original libero, but should keep his/her own number.

4 COMPOSITION OF THE VVL

- 4.1 The VVL shall comprise the following divisions:
- Premier
 - Reserves
 - Division 2
- 4.2 VV in its sole discretion has the right to establish further divisions from time to time as it sees fit.
- 4.3 VV in its sole discretion has the right to determine whether individual Clubs and Club Teams are eligible to enter the VVL and has unlimited discretion to accept or reject entries.
- 4.4 Subject to Bylaw 4.5, the Premier and Reserves Divisions must comprise at least eight Teams. VV in its sole discretion has the right to allow for exemptions from Bylaw 4.4.
- 4.5 Clubs are prohibited from entering more than one team in each gender of the Premier and Reserves divisions, although may choose to enter a Team in only one gender in each division. For the avoidance of doubt, Clubs are permitted to nominate unlimited teams for entry in each gender of Division 2 subject to VV's sole discretion to determine entrants under Bylaw 4.6.
- 4.6 VV shall, at the beginning of each VVL season, determine the number of entrants to Division 2. In making such a determination, VV must take into consideration:
- any relevant entrants under Bylaw 4.6.1;
 - the best interests of the VVL; and
 - the development of Volleyball in Victoria in general, and may also have regard to any other factor, including but not limited to:
 - the number of eligible entries;
 - availability of court space; and
 - availability of court time.
- 4.6..1 The eight or more Clubs fielding Teams under Bylaw 4.4 have an exclusive right to enter a Team in Division 2 if they so choose, irrespective of the considerations contained in Bylaw 4.6.
- 4.7 Eligibility for entry to the VVL under Bylaw 4.3 is expressly subject to each Club:

- entering a Team in the Junior VVL; and/or
 - displaying to the satisfaction of VV that they are operating a sufficiently extensive junior program; and
 - satisfying any further criteria set out by VV in relevant policies or bylaws and as amended from time to time.
- 4.7..1 In addition to the requirements contained in Bylaw 4.7, entry to the Premier division is expressly subject to each Club:
- entering at least two additional Teams in the VVL (not including the Premier division Team), with one Team being entered in the Reserves division; and
 - entering at least one Team of each gender in the VVL (in any division).
- 4.8 Subject to Bylaw 4.11, the Team that wins the Finals Series (or is first on the Ladder at the end of the Regular Season if no Finals Series is held) in the Reserves division in any particular VVL season may be Promoted to the Premier division for the next VVL season if:
- that Team's Club satisfies the Premier division entry criteria outlined in Bylaw 4.7.1; and
 - the Club elects that the Team be Promoted, which for the avoidance of doubt is at the sole discretion of the Club.
- 4.9 Subject to Bylaw 4.12, the Team that wins the Finals Series (or is first on the Ladder at the end of the Regular Season if no Finals Series is held) in Division 2 in any particular VVL season may be Promoted to the Reserves division for the next VVL season if the Club elects that the Team be Promoted, which for the avoidance of doubt is at the sole discretion of the Club.
- 4.10 There will be no relegation in the VVL. Notwithstanding this, a Team may be removed from the Premier division if the Team's Club fails to continue satisfying the entry criteria outlined in Bylaw 4.7.1.
- 4.11 Where a Team is eligible to be Promoted from the Reserves division in accordance with this Bylaw (**Eligible Team**) and the Club entering the Eligible Team also has a Team currently entered in the Premier division (**Premier Team**), in accordance with Bylaw 4.5 the Eligible Team shall not be Promoted to the Premier division unless the Premier Team is not entered in the following VVL season.
- 4.12 Where a Team is eligible to be Promoted from Division 2 in accordance with this Bylaw (**Eligible Division 2 Team**) and the Club entering the Eligible Division 2 Team also has a Team currently entered in the Reserves division (**Reserves Team**), in accordance with Bylaw 4.5 the Eligible Division 2 Team shall not be Promoted to the Reserves division unless:
- the Reserves Team is also Promoted to the Premier division under Bylaw 4.8; or
 - the Reserves Team is not entered in the following VVL season.

5 VVL DRAW

- 5.1 VV in its sole discretion shall determine:
- the number of Matches scheduled for each division of the VVL; and
 - the length of the scheduled season of each division of the VVL.
- 5.2 VV shall, prior to the commencement of each VVL season, provide all Clubs with a detailed draw containing all scheduled Matches for each division.
- 5.2..1 Where it is not possible to determine the scheduling of any given Match, VV shall provide notice to the affected VVL Clubs and details as to how the Match will be scheduled and incorporated into the draw.
- 5.3 All Matches shall be played on such days and times as VV determines is of benefit to the VVL.

6 VVL LADDER

- 6.1 VV shall establish and keep updated a Ladder for the male and female gender of each division. VV shall publish the updated Ladder on the VVL website at the completion of each round of the Regular Season.
- 6.2 Teams will be ranked on the Ladder in accordance with the total of each Team's championship points at any given time.
- If there is a tie between two or more Teams, the higher sets won/lost percentage will determine the higher ranked team.

- if there is still a tie between two or more Teams, the higher points won/lost percentage will determine the higher ranked team.
- If there is still a tie between two or more Teams, the winner of the greater number of Matches played between the two or more equal teams will determine the higher ranked team.
- If there is still a tie between two or more teams, VV shall determine an appropriate method to determine the higher ranked team.

7 CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

- 7.1 Championship points shall be awarded as follows for each Match:
- four points to the winning team;
 - zero points to the losing team;
 - zero points to a team forfeiting under this VVL Bylaw; and
 - zero points to a team disqualified under this VVL Bylaw.
- 7.2 If a team forfeits or is disqualified from a Match, the winning team shall be awarded 3 sets and the forfeiting or disqualified team 0 sets. The set score for each set in the Match shall be 25-0 in favour of the winning team.
- 7.3 Where both teams in a Match must forfeit or are disqualified under this Bylaw, there is no winning team and the results for both teams will be recorded as 0-3 (and 0-25, 0-25, 0-25)
- 7.4 If a team must forfeit or is disqualified they will be penalised the Forfeit Penalty as outlined in Appendix A. These championship point penalties are mandatory and details of the team penalties are to be published on the ladder.

8 PLAYING VENUES

- 8.1 VV shall nominate on the Draw provided under Bylaw 5.2 the venues for all Regular Season and Final Series Matches.
- 8.2 The nominated venue must meet the standard volleyball requirements as designated by VV from time to time.
- 8.3 VV may in its sole discretion nominate country or regional venues for any Match.
- 8.4 All Matches, regardless of venue, must comply with the competition structure and rules of competition in accordance with Section 1.

9 BALLS

- 9.1 VV shall, at its sole discretion, nominate suitable balls to be used in the VVL. VV shall provide 1 ball per Match.
- 9.2 A 1-ball system shall be used unless otherwise advised in this Bylaw.
- 9.3 The referee delegate will have spare ball(s) to be made available for a Match should they be required.

10 FINALS SERIES

- 10.1 The following Teams shall qualify for the Finals Series in a division that is not split into pools:
- In a division with 8 to 10 Teams (inclusive) entered, the highest four ranking Teams on the Ladder at the conclusion of the Regular Season; and
 - In a division with 12 or more Teams entered, the highest six ranking Teams on the Ladder at the conclusion of the Regular Season.
- 10.2 The following Teams shall qualify for the Finals Series in a division that is split into pools:
- In a pool of 4 to 7 Teams (inclusive) entered, the highest three ranking Teams on the Ladder from that pool at the conclusion of the Regular Season; and

- In a pool of 8 or more Teams entered, the highest four ranking Teams on the Ladder from that pool at the conclusion of the Regular Season.
- 10.3 The Finals Series shall be held in a three week schedule to be determined by VV at the time the full fixture is released. VV in its sole discretion may:
- amend;
 - alter; or
 - restructure,
- the Finals Series where circumstances require, subject to complying with this VVL Bylaw. VV will endeavour to provide as much notice as possible to all Clubs where this occurs.
- 10.4 Prizes for each division, including but not limited to trophies, medallions and/or prize money shall be awarded at the discretion of VV.
- 10.5 To be eligible for finals, players must have participated in at least four (4) matches during the season.
- 10.5..1 Full Time Members of the Volleyball Team Australia squads (**Australian Players**) who play four (4) or more VVL matches in a season may be eligible to play in the finals. Clubs wishing to select Australian Players in one or more Teams for the Finals Series must apply in writing to VV before said Australian Players are eligible to participate in the Finals Series.
- 10.5..2 A decision on the eligibility of Australian Players to participate in the Finals Series shall be made in VV's sole discretion on a case by case basis. Any decision of VV under this Bylaw 10.5 is final and not subject to appeal.
- 10.6 VV, must appoint the following officials for all grand final Matches:
- one 1st referee;
 - one 2nd referee;
 - two lines judges; and
 - one scorer.
- Where possible, VV will appoint the above mentioned officials for all Finals Series Matches. For the avoidance of doubt, a Finals Series Match other than a grand final shall not be void if all the above mentioned officials are not appointed.
- 10.7 Where all duties for a Finals Series Match (excluding a grand final) are not performed by VV-appointed officials under Bylaw 10.6, they must be performed by the Club (or Clubs) with the lowest-ranked Team (or Teams) participating in that round of Finals Series Matches (ie if 2 semi-finals are 1 vs 4 and 2 v 3, the Clubs entering the Teams ranked 4 and 3 would perform the duties in the other match).

11 CHANGE OF TIME/VENUE/DATE

- 11.1 No Match shall be transferred from its scheduled, time, venue or date without the prior approval of VV.
- 11.2 A Club may apply in writing to change the time, venue or date of one of its scheduled Regular Season Matches no later than 30 days prior to the original scheduled date. The application must include the following:
- reason/s for the Team requesting a reschedule; and
 - the proposed date, time and venue for the Match.
- 11.2..1 The proposed rescheduled date for the Match must be no later than 30 days after the original scheduled date for the Match.
- 11.2..2 The Match must only be rescheduled to a date prior to the Finals Series.
- 11.3 Within 3 business days of receiving any request to change a Regular Season Match, VV shall contact the Club in writing, notifying them of its decision to either:
- approve the reschedule at the proposed new date, time and/or venue;
 - reject the reschedule at the proposed new date, time and/or venue; or
 - reject the reschedule request outright.
- 11.3..1 Should VV reject the reschedule at the proposed new date, time and/or venue, the Club requesting the reschedule shall provide VV with an alternate date, time and/or venue.

- 11.3.2 If no mutually acceptable reschedule between the Club requesting the reschedule and VV is arrived at, the Club that has requested the reschedule shall either:
- accept any reschedule date, time and/or venue provided by VV; or
 - withdraw the reschedule request and play the Match in accordance with the original schedule.
- 11.3.3 If the Club requesting the reschedule chooses to accept VV's reschedule, it shall do so notwithstanding any inconvenience to themselves, including but not limited to:
- scheduling the match at the opposition's venue; or
 - scheduling the match at a non-optimal time.
- 11.3.4 If VV rejects the reschedule request outright, the Match shall be played in accordance with the original schedule. The Club requesting the reschedule shall have no right of appeal against this decision.
- 11.3.5 Should a Match be rescheduled under this Bylaw 11, VV shall notify the other Club playing in the Match within 3 business days of accepting any reschedule request.
- 11.4 If VV approves the request, the Club requesting the reschedule must pay to VV the prescribed change fee, as outlined in Appendix A.
- 11.5 VV has the right to compel a Club to accept the rescheduling of a Regular Season Match where it believes that doing so is in the best interests of the players, the VVL or the sport. If the opposition Club refuses to play its rescheduled Match at the new time, venue and date that Team shall forfeit the match and be penalised the Forfeit Penalty.
- 11.6 For all rescheduled Matches, VV will attempt to provide a 1st referee where sufficient notice is given. Any failure by VV to provide a 1st referee for the rescheduled Match shall not in any way invalidate the result.
- 11.7 The Club that requested the reschedule shall be required to fulfil any duty requirements of the rescheduled Match that either they, or the opposition Club had, in the original fixture unless an adjustment to the VVL draw has been made by VV.
- 11.8 The Club that reschedules a Match shall be responsible for any costs associated with the reschedule.

12 MEETINGS

- 12.1 DELEGATE MEETING: VV must hold a minimum of 3 meetings of Club Delegates to discuss various aspects of Victorian volleyball, including the VVL, each calendar year.
- 12.2 TECHNICAL MEETING: VV may hold a technical meeting(s) before or during each VVL season if necessary. VV and VVRC shall discuss, at that meeting, rules, bylaws and protocols that shall apply for that or the next VVL season. Each Team must send 1 representative (preferably the Coach) to that meeting. Where the changes between seasons don't necessitate a technical meeting, VV may choose another form of communication to provide information for the season to the Clubs.

SECTION II PARTICIPANTS

13 CLUB AND TEAM ENTRIES

- 13.1 Clubs must be affiliated with VV prior to entering their Teams in the VVL.
- 13.1.1 A Club shall only be considered affiliated with VV once VV has received its Affiliation Fee.
- 13.1.2 Clubs must pay their fees according to the deadlines set down by VV from time to time.
- 13.2 Clubs seeking to enter Team/s in the VVL must complete the 'VVL Entry Form' and pay the Team Entry Fee as determined each year by VV. The Team Entry Fee is non-refundable if the Team is withdrawn by the Club.
- 13.2.1 If VV does not accept entry of a Team in the VVL, the Club shall only be eligible for a refund of the Team Entry Fee.
- 13.2.2 If a Team withdraws from the VVL the relevant Club shall pay to VV the Withdrawal Fee as determined by VV and outlined in Appendix A.

- 13.2.3 Clubs failing to pay entry fees and other levies by the final deadline date, or as prescribed by VV, shall be penalised the Late Payment Penalty each week as outlined in Appendix A until the payment is made in accordance with VV's payment rules. Failure to pay the required amount after a time specified by VV (including any Late Payment Penalty fines) may result in suspension from the VVL or disqualification from VV until such time the payments are made and cleared.
- 13.2.4 Any team suspended from the VVL under Bylaw 13.2.3 shall forfeit any matches they are scheduled to play during that time.
- 13.3 A Club shall be held liable for any fees owed by one of its Teams entered in the VVL.
- 13.4 All profits from VVL activities shall be used for the development and promotion of Victorian volleyball, at VV's sole discretion.

14 PLAYER/ TEAM STAFF REGISTRATION

- 14.1 VV shall, prior to the beginning of each VVL season, nominate at its discretion the procedures for:
- Player and Staff registration including deadlines for registration;
 - fees for registration; and
 - which Players and Staff are registered.
- 14.2 Upon registering for the VVL, Players and Staff acknowledge and agree that they are bound by the rules, regulations and decisions of VV including this Bylaw.
- 14.3 To be eligible for any Match, Players and Staff must strictly prior to taking the court, be:
- registered with VV as a Full Adult or Full U/19 Member; and
 - registered as a member of the Club they are representing.
- 14.3.1 Players and Staff may register with VV at any time.
- 14.4 If a Team has one or more unregistered Players or Staff participating in a Match the Team shall automatically forfeit the Match and receive an Unregistered Player/ Team Staff Penalty.
- 14.4.1 A Team forfeiting a match under this Bylaw 14.4 shall have no right of appeal.
- 14.5 VV may, at its discretion and at any time, withdraw Players or Staff registration for non-payment of any debt to VV. The relevant player or staff shall be considered unregistered for the purpose of this Bylaw.
- 14.6 Any person disqualified under this Bylaw or the VV rules and regulations may be considered by VV to be disqualified from any VV activities (other than as a spectator), including but not limited to participation in:
- volleyball matches;
 - volleyball tournaments;
 - volleyball teams;
 - volleyball tours; and
 - volleyball functions,
- until otherwise advised.
- 14.6.1 Any disqualification from participation under Bylaw 14.6 is subject to the discretion of the disqualified person's relevant affiliated body.

15 COACH AND ASSISTANT COACH

- 15.1 Each Team's coach and any assistant coach(es) must hold as a minimum requirement a Level 1 NCAS Accreditation or international equivalent.
- 15.1.1 If a Team's coach and any assistant coach(es) do not hold as a minimum a Level 1 NCAS Accreditation, the Club must provide evidence that the relevant coach is attending the next available coaching course. Such evidence includes but is not limited to the Level 1 NCAS Coaches Course nomination form.
- 15.2 A Team shall be penalised the Unaccredited Coach Penalty for each individual coach and any assistant coach(es) that do not comply with Bylaw 15 during any given Match.
- 15.3 Where a Club's coach or assistant coach(es) hold overseas qualifications, the Club must contact VA to ensure that the coach is qualified to coach in Australia. VV must be informed of the VA decision by the Club as soon as practicable.

16 JUNIOR PLAYERS

- 16.1 A junior player is regarded as an athlete who is under the age of 17 for the complete duration of the calendar year.
- 16.2 Any junior player competing in the VVL must play for his or her Club's junior team (if any) should the player wish to compete in the Junior VVL.
- 16.2..1 If the junior player's VVL Club has not entered a Junior VVL team, the junior player may play Junior VVL for any other Club during that VVL season.
- 16.2..2 If a junior player is competing in the Junior VVL for a different Club than his or her VVL Club under Bylaw 16.1.1, a Financial Clearance shall be required prior to the junior player's first game in the Junior VVL.
- 16.3 No person under 15 years of age shall be permitted to participate in the VVL unless permission has been granted by VV. VV shall require the U15 Parental Waiver Form to be completed online, signed by the parent/guardian and submitted to VV before such a request will be considered. The online form is available on the VV and VVL websites.

17 TEAM LISTS

- 17.1 A Team may consist of up to 12 players (including the libero) plus 5 team staff for any Match. Of the Team staff:
 - 1 member must be a coach. Should the coach also be a player they must be listed with both the players and team staff on the scoresheet; and
 - up to 2 members can be assistant coaches but must be so identified on the scoresheet.
- 17.2 Each Club must provide complete team lists to VV at least 5 business days prior to the 1st scheduled Regular Season round of the VVL, for each of its entered Teams. A complete team list must include:
 - first and last names of each player (no numbers); and
 - first and last names of up to 5 team staff.
- 17.2..1 Team lists must be updated by the Club as required during the season.
- 17.3 On Match days, changes to the team lists can be made by the Club as required.
- 17.3..1 Where a Player needs to be added to the scoresheet and insufficient space remains, the comments section of the scoresheet may be used. Players who will not be participating in the Match should be deleted from the scoresheet. At the completion of the Match the 1st referee will delete players who were not present during the Match.

18 PLAYER MOVEMENT BETWEEN DIVISIONS

- 18.1 VVL Clubs may promote or relegate players between divisions at any time subject to this Bylaw 18.
- 18.2 Clubs are permitted to make the following maximum number of relegations and promotions in each round:

Division	
Premier	2 players can be relegated to the Reserves division 2 players can be promoted into Premier division from the Reserves division
Reserves	2 players can be relegated into Reserves from the Premier division 2 players can be promoted into Reserves from Division 2 2 players can be relegated from Reserves into Division 2
Division 2	2 players can be relegated into Division 2 from the Reserves division 2 players can be promoted into Reserves from Division 2

- 18.2..1 The maximum number of player relegations and promotions per round between divisions is irrespective of how many Teams a Club may have entered (i.e. if a Club has entered 2 Teams in Division 2 the maximum

- number of relegations and promotions between divisions does not multiply by the number of teams entered in that division).
- 18.2.2 No player may be promoted or relegated directly from the Premier division to Division 2 between VVL rounds or vice-versa.
- 18.2.3 VVL Clubs are permitted to move an unlimited number of players between their Teams competing in the same division at any time from Round 1 to Round 3 inclusive (but subject to Bylaw 18.2). From Round 4 onwards, no more than one player in each round is permitted to transfer between a Club's Teams within the same division.
- 18.2.4 Players must not move between their Club's Teams within the same division once the player has played more than six VVL Regular Season Matches for any one of the Teams in that same division.
- 18.2.5 Where a Club has two (or more) teams entered in the same division, a player must not participate in any Finals Series Matches for one Team if they have played more Matches (including Finals Series Matches) for another Team in that same VVL season.
- 18.2.6 Players must not be relegated into a lower division during the Final Series if the player has played in 7 or more VVL Regular Season Matches for their particular Club in a higher division.
- 18.3 Players may be promoted into a higher division during the final series provided they have met the Finals Series qualification requirements as set out in Bylaw 10.
- 18.4 A Club is only permitted to promote or relegate a player or players other than in accordance with this Bylaw 18 where VV provides its consent in writing. The Club must, no less than 72 hours prior to the scheduled start time of the Match in question:
- apply in writing to VV for approval; and
 - must not promote or relegate the player unless VV provides its consent, which may be withheld in VV's sole discretion.
- 18.5 Any Club in breach of this Bylaw 18 shall be subject to either the Forfeit Penalty or Extra Game Forfeit Penalty as set out in Appendix A.

19 TRANSFER / CLEARANCE OF PLAYERS

- 19.1 Any player wishing to compete in the VVL for any Club other than:
- the Club they are currently registered with; or
 - the last Club they competed in the VVL for (together, **Transfer**),
- requires either a Financial Clearance or a Financial Clearance and VVL Inter-Club Transfer as outlined in this Bylaw.
- 19.2 A Player wishing to Transfer shall require Financial Clearance where they have previously competed in the VVL for any other Club at any time. Any Player requiring Financial Clearance must request the Financial Clearance from VV as soon as practicable.
- 19.3 A player wishing to Transfer shall also require a VVL Inter-Club Transfer where they have played for any other Club at any time during the 2 immediately preceding VVL seasons.
- 19.3.1 A VVL Inter-Club Transfer requires the player to pay VV the VVL Inter-Club Transfer fee outlined in Appendix A.
- 19.3.2 A VVL Inter-Club Transfer shall not be finalised until VV receives the player's Financial Clearance and the VVL Inter-Club Transfer fee.
- 19.4 A player shall only Transfer during the transfer period, except that any player requiring only a Financial Clearance shall be entitled to Transfer at any time.
- 19.4.1 The transfer period shall:
- open on the date the VV office opens, according to the VV calendar; and
 - close midday AEST/AEDST on the Friday prior to round 7 of that VVL season.
- 19.4.2 Any player requesting a Transfer outside the transfer period must apply in writing to VV.
- 19.4.3 The General Manager of VV shall in his or her sole discretion on behalf of VV determine whether to allow a Transfer under Bylaw 19.4.2, having regard to any factors he or she (or VV) considers relevant.

- 19.5 A player must not compete in the VVL for a new Club unless and until the Transfer has been finalised. A Transfer shall not be finalised until all of the following are completed:
- the player's Financial Clearance is received by VV;
 - the VVL Inter-Club Transfer is finalised, including VV receiving the transfer fee (if applicable);
 - VV provides clearance for the Transfer; and
 - VV notifies all relevant parties under Bylaw 19.6 of clearance to the Transfer.
- 19.6 VV shall notify the following parties, as soon as practicable in writing, once it has provided clearance to a Transfer:
- the player completing the Transfer;
 - the Club the player is transferring to; and
 - the Club the player is transferring from.
- 19.7 Where a player competes in a Match for their new Club before their Transfer has been finalised under Bylaw 19.5, the new Club shall receive the Abuse of Transfer Penalty.
- 19.8 Any dispute arising from a Transfer shall be dealt with by the General Manager of VV in his or her sole discretion.
- 19.9 A Club must not receive more than 2 transferred players per division per gender in each VVL season.
- 19.10 A Club must not play or list more than 2 transferred players on the scoresheet of any given match.
- 19.11 A Transfer during the VVL season is prohibited subject only to circumstances arising under this Bylaw 19.10. Where a player's Club ceases entering a Team in the VVL division that the player was competing in, the player shall only be required to complete a Financial Clearance when undertaking a Transfer under this Bylaw 19.10, subject to:
- if the Transfer is during a VVL season, the player had that season played the majority of his or her Matches in the division that the Club is ceasing to enter a team in, as at the time of submitting the Financial Clearance to VV; or
 - if the Transfer is between VVL seasons, the player had in the immediately preceding season played a majority of his or her Matches in the division that the Club is ceasing to enter a team in.
- Where the player has not played a majority of his or her games in the division from which that player's Club ceases to participate in, the Player shall require a Financial Clearance and VVL Inter-Club Transfer in accordance with Bylaw 19.3.
- 19.12 For the avoidance of doubt, a person that has never competed in the VVL is not subject to Bylaw 19 and may register with a Club at any time.

20 PLAYER PARTICIPATION

- 20.1 A player must not compete in more than one Match in each VVL round except where permitted under this Bylaw.
- 20.1..1 Where a Team is scheduled to play more than one Match in the same VVL round, each player in that Team is permitted to play in each scheduled Match.
- 20.1..2 A Club is entitled to select up to 2 junior players from each gender in each Regular Season round who shall be permitted to play in a maximum of 2 Matches in that round. The 2 Matches cannot be within the same division.
- 20.2 Any Team that registers a player or players on the scoresheet of a Match who have played in more than one Match in that VVL round, unless subject to the exceptions provided in Bylaw 20.1.1 and 20.1.2, shall receive the Extra Game Forfeit Penalty outlined in Appendix A.
- 20.3 Each team must have a minimum of 7 players present and be ready to play at the scheduled start time of each Match.

21 SIGNIFICANT EVENT(S)

- 21.1 Significant Event(s) are non-VVL scheduled matches, events, tournaments or commitments officially recognised by VV. Significant Events recognised by VV include but are not limited to:

- the Australian Junior Volleyball Championships;
- Australian Volleyball League Matches;
- Australia Volleyball Team Women commitments; and
- Australia Volleyball Team Men commitments.

- 21.2 Where a Team (or Teams) cannot fulfil the requirements of Bylaw 20.3 due to a Significant Event, the relevant Club may apply to VV in writing, no less than 3 days prior to the scheduled Match, for a player or players registered with the Club to compete in more than 1 Match that round. The application must nominate:
- the Significant Event in question; and
 - the full name of the player or players who will compete in no more than 2 Matches during that VVL round to enable the Team to comply with Bylaw 20.3.
- 21.3 Any player or players competing in a second Match during a VVL round due to a Significant Event under Bylaw 21 shall not be counted as a Player Movement under Bylaw 18.

22 UNIFORMS

- 22.1 VV has the authority to approve and permit all Team uniforms for use in the VVL. VV approval is required where a Club intends to change its Team/s uniform between or during VVL seasons.
- 22.2 All Club uniforms must be registered with VV. Clubs may have more than one type of uniform colour combination. The uniform includes player's jerseys, shorts, socks and advertising material.
- 22.3 Items classified as advertising materials are:
- VVL Club Logo; and
 - sponsor's logos.
- 22.4 VV may, at its sole discretion, direct all Teams to wear certain forms of advertising material on their uniforms, in a specified manner. A player must not enter the court if they fail to wear specified sponsor identification as directed by VV.
- 22.5 During a Match, all players must wear their Club's uniform which is registered with VV.
- 22.6 During a Match, all players from each Team must wear identical playing jerseys (except the libero), shorts (except the libero), socks and advertising material.
- Identical shorts are defined as having the same style, material and colour.
 - Identical socks are defined as having the same predominant colour.
 - Identical advertising material is as defined by Bylaw 22.3.
- 22.6.1 In Division 2, players must wear shorts that appear similar in colour. Variations in style and logos are also permitted.
- 22.7 Players are entitled to play with compression garments under their playing uniform.
- 22.8 Player jerseys must be numbered between 1 and 29 inclusive for Premier Division Matches. Player jerseys for all other division Matches must be numbered between 1 and 100 inclusive.
- 22.9 Player names on the back of the Team jersey are optional. A Team may play with a mixture of Team jerseys with and without player names on the back. Player names on the back of Team jerseys do not have to match the players' actual names.
- 22.10 Clubs, Teams and players must not make temporary modifications to uniform/s. Temporary modifications include the use of tape or similar materials. Any temporary modification for the sole purpose of the Team captain wearing a captain's bars shall be permitted.
- 22.11 The first referee shall advise the Coach or Team captain of any uniform infringements during warm-up to enable teams an opportunity to rectify the infringement. The player or players must not participate in the match until the uniform infringement is rectified to the satisfaction of the first referee.
- 22.12 When both teams begin their 10min warm up together at the net, all Players participating in the Match must be in full playing uniform.

23 CAPTAIN'S BAR

- 23.1 Team captains in all divisions must wear a captain's bars during all Matches.
- 23.2 A Team captain is entitled to use tape to represent the captain's bar and underline his or her playing number so that they may be identified by the referees.

SECTION III

COMPETITION FORMAT

24 MATCH CONTROL

- 24.1 The scheduled time for a Match on any particular court is the "Official Start Time". The referee must make the Official Start Time clear to both teams.
- 24.1.1 If the time between the previously concluded Match (if any) and the subsequent Match on any given court is less than 20 minutes, a new Official Start Time for the next Match must be scheduled. The new Official Start Time shall be 20 minutes from the time when the preceding teams have completely cleared the court.
- 24.2 Both Teams shall be allowed access to the Match court before the Official Start Time.
- 24.3 Each Team shall be ready to take the court and ready to commence the Match at the time specified in the draw. The Official Start Time of a Match shall be either the time specified on the draw, or the new Official Start Time as determined in accordance with Bylaw 24.1.1 A Team is deemed to be ready if all players are in correct uniform and the players taking to the court are eligible to play the Match under this Bylaw.
- 24.4 If one or both Teams are deemed incomplete at the Official Start Time, the Match will be declared a late start. A Team is considered incomplete if they fail to meet the minimum player requirements under Bylaw 20.3. As soon as one Team is considered complete:
- If one or both Teams are ready to take to the court within 15 minutes of the Official Start Time, the Match must commence immediately and any Team (or Teams) not taking the court shall receive a Late Start Penalty. The referee shall inform the Team (or Teams) receiving the penalty as well as note the penalty on the scoresheet and Match report.
 - If one or both Teams are not ready to take the court within 15 minutes of the Official Start Time, the offending Team(s) shall be deemed to have forfeited that Match and will be penalised a Forfeit Penalty with the results applied to the Teams in accordance with Bylaw 7.1.

25 BLOOD

- 25.1 Matches must not continue if there is:
- a bleeding player;
 - blood on the ball/s;
 - blood on any equipment;
 - blood on the court; or
 - blood on any clothing.
- 25.2 Should bleeding occur, the player(s) must be removed from the Match and must not return to the court until there is no evidence of blood or bleeding.
- 25.3 Matches must be halted until such time as all blood has been removed from the ball/s, playing equipment, court and/or players' uniforms to the satisfaction of the first referee.

26 LIBERO

- 26.1 If a team chooses to list 7 regular players and 1 Libero on the scoresheet and through injury to a regular player the Libero replaces the regular player he/she forfeits the right to return as a Libero player for the

remainder of the match. If the Libero is on court at the time of an injury, they must leave the court and be replaced by the original player they replaced before they replace the injured regular player.

26.2 If a team chooses to list 7 regular players and two liberos on the scoresheet and through injury to a regular player, either of the liberos may become a regular player. When the Libero replaces the regular player he/she forfeits the right to return as a Libero player for the remainder of the match. Should a subsequent player other than the remaining libero be injured Bylaw 26.1 shall apply.

SECTION IV SUBSTITUTIONS

27 THE TWELVE SUBSTITUTION RULE

27.1 All Teams in the VVL shall be entitled to a maximum of twelve (12) substitutions per set.

27.2 Any number of players may substitute into the same rotational position on court within the following limitations:

- A player may only enter the court three times per set (i.e. when a player's number has been recorded on the scoresheet for the third time during a set)
- Once that player has entered the court for the third time he/she may be substituted off but may not return to enter the court again for the remainder of the set.
- The third entry to the court by a player is identified on the scoresheet by the scorer as the player's third entry is circled (This is shown below.)
- When a player starts on the court at the beginning of a set, this counts as the players first entry to the court.
- Different players may substitute into the one rotational position, except that once substituted for a particular position they are "locked" into that rotational position with other players who have substituted into that position and may not substitute into another rotational position until a new set commences.

Rotational position	I		II		III		IV		V		VI	
Starting line up, player's #	10		4		11		2		1		7	
Substitution boxes	8	3					5					
	10	⑨					2					
	9						5					
	8						②					
	⑩											
	9											

- The starting line-up is 10, 4, 11, 2, 1 and 7. By starting on the court these players are deemed to have entered the court for the first time. The coach has seen fit to substitute into rotational position "I" players #9, 8 and 3. Players #10, 9 and 2 have entered the court three times and have thus reached the limits set out in this Bylaw 27.2. Their third entry has been indicated by circling the player's last entry to the court.

- Players #10, 9, 8 and 3, are locked into rotational position “I” for this set only and can not substitute into another rotational position for the rest of this set. Player #8 has entered the court twice so far and can enter the court again but only in position I provided the team has not exceeded the number of allowed substitutions per set. Shown above all twelve substitutions have been used by the team.
- When recording the substitutions go DOWN THE LEFT side column for each position and when the left is full go DOWN THE RIGHT side column.
- There is no requirement to record the score at the time of each substitution.

SECTION V DISPUTES AND PROTESTS

28 DISPUTES

- 28.1 All disputes related to the VVL shall be handled in accordance with the “VVL Dispute and Procedures Flow Chart”.

29 PROTESTS

- 29.1 All protests during a Match shall be resolved using the "On the Spot Protest Resolution Procedure".
- 29.2 Only the on-court captain may register a protest with the first referee whilst the ball is out of play.
- 29.3 The resolved outcome of the protest is final.
- 29.4 If the protest procedure takes longer than 10 minutes, a 5-minute warm-up may be requested by either captain and must be granted if requested.

SECTION VI MATCH OFFICIALS

30 1ST & 2ND REFEREE

- 30.1 VV shall supply, where possible, a qualified 1st and 2nd referee for all scheduled Matches.
- 30.2 A qualified 1st or 2nd referee shall be of at least district level recognised by VV under the NOAS program.

31 REFEREE DELEGATE

- 31.1 VV shall nominate a referee delegate for each VVL Regular Season and Finals Series round who will ensure that all scheduled VVL Matches are conducted according to the FIVB Official Volleyball Rules and this Bylaw.
- 31.2 The referee delegate shall resolve any protests or disputes which require his or her intervention during the VVL rounds and make decisions in situations not covered by the Official Volleyball Rules or this Bylaw.

32 DUTY TEAMS

- 32.1 All VVL club teams must fulfil their scheduled duty obligations to an acceptable standard as determined by the nominated referee delegate.
- 32.1..1 The minimum accepted standards for all Teams fulfilling their scheduled duty obligations shall include, but is not limited to the following:
- the duty team to be present at the side of the court prior to the Match Official Start Time to ensure they can perform the responsibilities their role requires as an official as outlined in the rules;
 - the duty team must not perform their duties barefoot;
 - the duty team must not use any electronic devices which prevents them from performing their role in an acceptable manner;

- the duty team must not consume food or beverages whilst performing duty; and
 - the 2nd referee and line judges must not perform their duties whilst using ice packs of any sort.
- 32.2 The Team scheduled to perform the duty for any Regular Season Match shall be responsible for providing:
- a qualified 2nd referee (unless supplied by VV);
 - a scorer; and
 - at least two line judges.
- 32.3 The scheduled duty Team nominated for any Regular Season Match must supply a qualified 1st or 2nd referee to officiate that match where VV cannot supply one. VV will endeavour to, wherever possible, notify affected duty Teams in advance.
- 32.4 Any Team failing to reasonably fulfil its duty requirements under this Bylaw shall be penalised the Inadequate Duty Penalty (including Inadequate Duty Fine) outlined in Appendix A by VV after the completion of the round.
- 32.5 A Club with a Team or Teams competing in Finals Series Matches must perform any duties required under Bylaw 10.7 from time to time. VV will endeavour to, wherever possible, notify affected Clubs in advance.

33 PRIOR TO THE START OF EACH MATCH

- 33.1 The 1st referee shall, prior to the start of each Match, inspect the court and all necessary equipment to determine its suitability for play.
- 33.1.1 Where match equipment is declared unsuitable, the referee delegate must immediately be informed. The referee delegate shall immediately take all appropriate action under the circumstances to remedy the problem.
- 33.2 The 1st referee shall verify which players are present for the commencement of the first set, and thus eligible to play. Any player arriving late is entitled to play without penalty when they arrive if their name is listed on the scoresheet at the commencement of the Match.

34 DURING THE MATCH

The second referee must report the 10th, 11th and 12th substitutions and the third court entry of a player to the first referee and the coach concerned.

35 AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MATCH

- 35.1 The 1st referee must, at the conclusion of the Match, strike any player or Players names from the scoresheet if they were not present, uniformed and otherwise eligible to play in the Match. The referee must inform the coach or captain that these player names are being removed.
- 35.2 The 1st referee must, at the conclusion of the Match, complete the reports listed below and submit them to the referee delegate as soon as possible once completed:
- Scoresheet
 - Referee checklist
 - Player votes

APPENDIX A SCHEDULE OF FEES AND PENALTIES

FEES / FINES

Description	Cost	Bylaw(s)		
Affiliation	\$350.00	14.1.1		
Change of Time/Venue/Date	\$60.00	11		
Team Entry	Proportion of overall team fees which are required to be paid at the time of entering as follows:			
	Division	Team Entry	13	
	Premier	\$350		\$2,700
	Reserves	\$250		\$2,180
	Div 2 / 3	\$200		\$1,770
Juniors	\$150	\$1,000		
Inadequate Duty	\$50.00	32.4		
Inter Club Transfer	\$30.00	19		
Team Withdrawal	\$100.00	13.2.2		

PENALTIES

Description	Championship points	Bylaw(s)
Abuse of Transfer	4 per Team per Match	19.7
Extra Game Forfeit	2 per Match per Team	18.5 20.2
Forfeit	2 per Match per Team	7.1.3 11.5 18.5 24.4
Inadequate Duty	1 per Match per Team + Inadequate Duty Fine	32.4
Late Payment	1 per week per Team	13.2.3
Late Start	1 per match per Team	24.4
Unaccredited Coach	1 per coach per Match per Team	15.2
Unregistered Player/ Team Staff	1 per player/ team staff per Match per Team	14.4

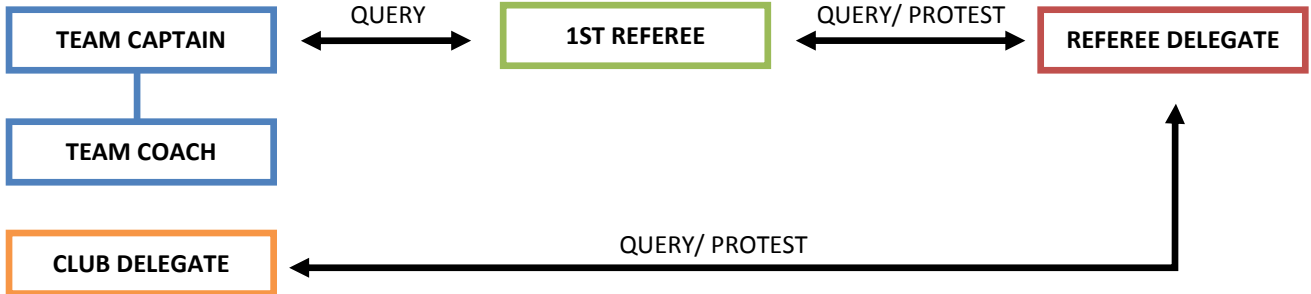
APPENDIX B
MATCH WARM UP 20 MINUTE PROTOCOL

TIME REMAINING BEFORE THE START OF THE MATCH (MIN)	TEAM WARM UP PROTOCOL
20	Teams have access to the court, general warm up commences. (Teams to warm up along the court, not across it). Coaches and captains to complete the team lists on the scoresheet. If scoresheet is pre-printed coaches and captains need only to verify the team lists and amend if necessary.
13	Team captain to attend coin toss
12	Players may commence warm up at the net together. Players must be in full playing uniform for rest of warm up. Coaches or captains to submit team's starting line-up.
7	Teams may choose to switch warm up positions along the net.
3	Teams have 1 minute of warm up remaining.
2	Teams conclude warm up at net together
1	Teams enter the court so that their starting line-up can be verified by the 2nd referee.
0	1st rally of the match is to commence.

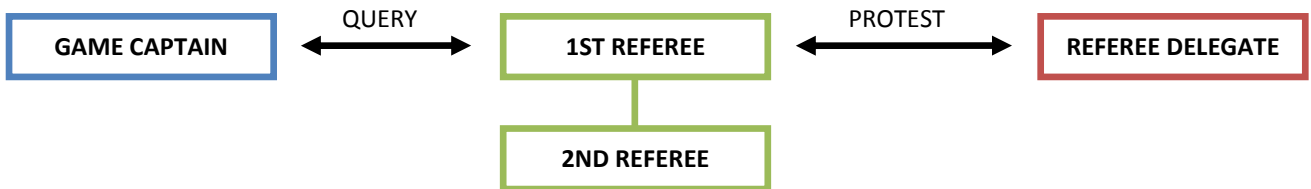
APPENDIX C VVL DISPUTES AND PROCEDURES FLOW CHART

COMPETITION DAY

PRIOR TO THE MATCH



DURING THE MATCH



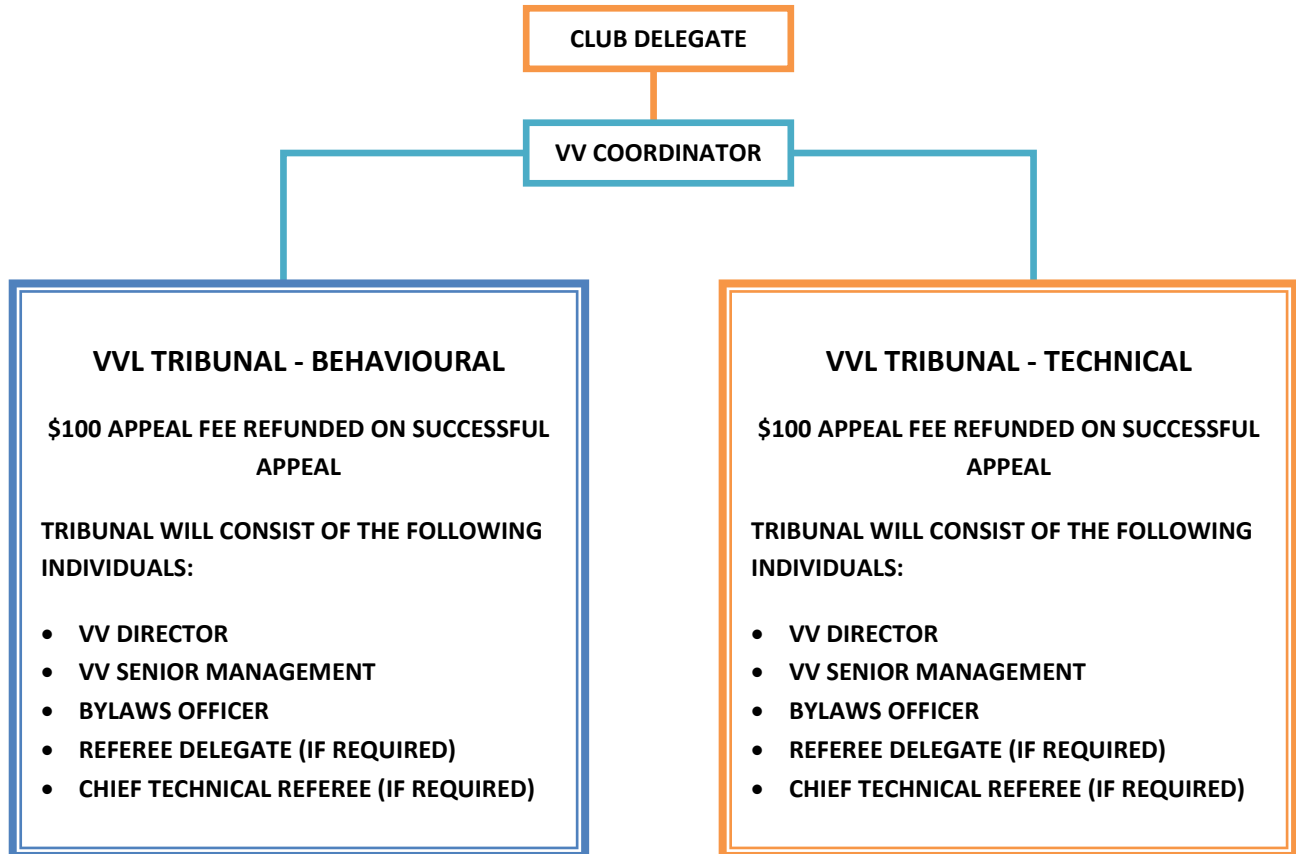
ADMINISTRATION (OUTSIDE OF COMPETITION DAY)



APPENDIX C

VVL DISPUTES AND PROCEDURES FLOW CHART

OUTSIDE OF COMPETITION DAY



APPENDIX D

“ON THE SPOT” PROTEST RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

The referee delegate has the authority to resolve problems and make determinations on formal protests occurring during the match in accordance with the FIVB Official Volleyball Rules and the VVL Bylaw.

 GROUNDS TO PROTEST

A formal protest may only be lodged by the game captain of the Team who believes that match officials have made an error under the FIVB Official Volleyball Rules guided by the VVL Bylaw and that this error will affect the outcome of the match. The game captain must have a proper case in order to successfully have the protest accepted. Such proper cases are:

- a) An improper decision by the referee who did not apply the regulations or did not assume the consequences of his/her decisions; and / or
- b) An improper decision of the scorer who made a mistake on the rotational order or on the score.

 IMPROPER GROUNDS TO PROTEST

Should the game captain have an improper case to protest a referee’s decision, that protest would be rejected. Such an improper case would be:

- a) A protest about a Referee's decision, which sanctions a playing action or misconduct

 PROTEST PROCESS

If the game captain wishes to lodge a formal protest they must immediately inform the 1st referee whilst the ball is out of play.

The 1st Referee will stop the match, step down from the stand and move to the scorer's table.

The referee delegate will arrive at the scorer's table and determine if the case for the protest is proper or improper.

The referee delegate shall determine if there is a proper case to protest, and will decide to either reject or accept the protest.

Upon resolving the protest the referee delegate will note the protest and its resolution on the scoresheet. Other officials or team members are not permitted to write in the comments section of the scoresheet.

If the referee delegate determines a protest requires further action he/she must complete a written report and submit to VV. VV will then assess and determine if further action is necessary.

 REJECTED PROTEST

If the protest is rejected the game captain shall be sanctioned with a penalty (red card) and the match immediately resumed. If the game captain during the match has already been given a misconduct sanction then he/she shall receive the next sanction level in accordance with the FIVB Official Volleyball Rules sanction scale.

 ACCEPTED PROTEST

Should a protest be accepted the referee delegate shall consult both the game captain and 1st referee and receive all other information at his/ her discretion believed to be required to solve the protest. Upon receiving the necessary information required the referee delegate will determine if the accepted protest is upheld or overturned.

APPENDIX D

“ON THE SPOT” PROTEST RESOLUTION PROCEDURE**PROTEST UPHELD**

If the protest is upheld the error is corrected and the match continues immediately.

PROTEST OVERTURNED

If the protest is overturned the game captain shall be sanctioned with a penalty (red card) and the match immediately resumed. If the game captain during the match has already been given a misconduct sanction then he/she shall receive the next sanction level in accordance with the FIVB Official Volleyball Rules sanction scale.