



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

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NLVA Club Policies and Regulations

Registered Club Definition:

Any team; or group of teams, where;

- Club has is business or not for profit status, and/or
- Athletes pay a membership or club fee to participate, and/or
- Athletes are from multiple regions
 - eg. (A school team that picks up a player(s) out of region for VC nationals, must register as a club prior to the deadline)

Other Club Definitions:

- School based Club Team - Athletes from the same school or feeder school, but operate outside the school's umbrella
- Regional Based Club team- Athletes from the same region, but different schools.
 - (eg. Own insurance, different team name, etc)

School based club teams" and "Regional based club teams" do not need to adhere to this document and deadlines. These teams needs to refer to the NLVA Registration Booklet for important dates, deadlines, and procedures pertaining to VC nationals.

Club Eligibility:

All clubs must be registered and in good standing with the NLVA each season. The club registration deadline each year is September 30th. In order to be an eligible club, prior to the deadline the club must have:

- Club lead/president/contact must be a member in good standing with the NLVA, with a competitive membership.
- All coaches and board members and persons in authority (PIA) associated with the club must also be registered competitive members.
- Filled out the club application form, and completed the club registration payment.
- All Persons in Authority (Board members, Club officials, Referees, coaches, managers, etc) must have completed all requirements under the PIA checklist
 - Background check (Sterling or RCMP must be uploaded via Sportlomo account)
 - Safe Sport Module
 - Screening policy
- The Safe Sport module is completed through [The Locker](#) on the CAC website. If you do not have a NCCP number, this can be obtained free of charge when you register on the CAC website.
- The Safe Sport Module must be completed BEFORE you register with the NLVA. NCCP numbers (CAC) must be provided when completing the registration form in SportLomo.
- As per Volleyball Canada Club Policies , clubs who are a registered not for profit must have current Constitution, AGM and financial information available for viewing as well as a clear complaints process with a 3rd party liaison.

Important notes

- Any club lead/president/contact change, must be submitted in writing to the NLVA to be approved, prior to change.
- Club registration fees are
 - \$250 for new clubs
 - \$200 for returning clubs
- Failure to meet any of the above requirements will result in a \$100 penalty per occurrence. This fee is charged to the club, and not the individual coach.

Athlete and Coach eligibility:

All athletes and coaches must be registered competitive members of the NLVA and in good standing. As well;

- Coaches must meet the NLVA's coach certification policy prior to the tryout window start date. Exceptions can be made for Assistant Coaches only, provided minimum requirements above are met.
- Coaches and athletes must provide all relevant personal information which is up to date. Any changes to personal information must immediately be updated with the club
- Coaches and athletes must have read, and signed the NLVA's participant's code of conduct

Important

No club will be covered under NLVA insurance unless all of the above requirements have been completed by all necessary individuals.

Club recruiting and windows

Each year there are blackout dates in which clubs are not permitted to operate, recruit, or advertise. The team activity blackout window will be from July 31st to October 1st (15u and younger) and November 1st (16u-18u) of each year (This applies only to team activities and training).

Clubs can advertise tryout dates, times and locations from athletes from October 1st (15U and younger) and Nov 1st (16u-18U) onward, but cannot operate tryouts until the tryout window begins.

The Re-signing windows, which allow athletes to reach out their respective clubs from the previous season and express an interest in staying with that club, will take place:

- For 15U and younger athletes – October 1st-14th
- For 16u-18U athletes – November 1st – 14th
 - These dates will align with the advertising window annually. Clubs should publish coaches of teams, so athletes can make a more informed decision on re-signing.
- **Important:** Athletes must reach out to clubs during this window if they wish to re-sign. Clubs have the option to not re-sign the athlete, or request that the athlete attend the clubs tryouts.
 - *Clubs are permitted to communicate club policy information directly to athletes once the re-signing window begins. No communication is permitted prior to the window. Communication that has information that is determined to be recruiting, are subject to penalties.*
- Clubs must respond to the athlete within 48 hours
- Re-signed athletes are not permitted to attend **any** tryouts for other clubs. Once re- signed the athlete has made a commitment to participate with the club.
- The **tryout window** for High School athletes begins 1 day following the gender specific, SSNL event. For 15U and younger Athletes, **the tryout window** begins 1 day following the last Volley (Fest, West, Central) of each year. The tryout window will close 14 days following the last Volley Event, and respective SSNL event. This will typically be a Sunday start (provided SSNL finishes on Saturday). If the SSNL

event is postponed, or delayed, the tryout window will shift based on the completion of the event.

- ***It is important to note, an athlete's attendance at a tryout, is not a commitment to participate with that club.***

- ***Clubs are permitted additional tryouts if needed, to allow clubs to fill rosters, if invited athletes decline their invitation.***

Club Activity

- The “Club Season” will run from Jan 1st to May 31st. During this time, all team activities are permitted.
- May 31st** - July 31st is a time allotted for **optional** on court and off court activity. Athlete attendance at these sessions cannot be mandatory (this start can vary based on the dates of VC Nationals. This optional attendance will start the day following the finish of the teams respective age category)
- From July 31-October 1st / November 1st (15U/18U) clubs cannot advertise, recruit, or display any information relating to club team training.
- October 1st(16U and younger)/ November 1st (15u/18u) teams can begin to advertise or display any information relating to club teams. Clubs are urged to publicize the coaching staff of each team during this period, as well as tryout dates, times and locations.
- From October 1st/ November 1st onward please see the “recruiting and windows” section above.
- Once the signing window has ended (this date will fluctuate with “Volley” events and SSNL provincial) clubs are permitted to offer **optional** on court or off court activities. The only exception would be a coach/parents/athlete meeting, which are permitted at any time.
 - For meetings, clubs can have a maximum of two mandatory meetings (in person or virtual), all other meetings must be optional.
- Optional attendance will extend until January 1st of each year. On this date, clubs can commence normal operations until the end of the teams respective VC Nationals age category

The Tryout and signing windows

- For 16u-18u, the tryout window will commence the day following the respective gender SSNL 4a event, and will remain open until Dece 31st each year
 - Eg The final of the 4A event is on Saturday at 9pm, the tryout window starts Sunday at 12:01 am.
- For 15u and younger, the tryout window begins 1 day, following the last “Volley” event (Volleyfest, VolleyWest, Volley Central)
- Once the signing window ends, clubs can offer any unfilled positions to any athlete. If an athlete does not accept an offer prior to the signing window closing, the club may fill that position once the window ends.

****Injured athlete tryout***

- For athletes who are injured during the tryout window there are 2 options:
 1. Attend a clubs tryout, but not participate in on court activity.
 - This allows the athlete to view the club and make a determination on if they would like to sign with that club. This reflects the same goals of the athletes who participate on court.
 - Wait until the signing window ends, and reach out to clubs to be signed at that time.
 2. For Clubs:
 - Injured athletes must make the club aware that they are injured before the tryout.

- The tryout fee must be paid
 - Clubs can choose to sign the athlete, decline the athlete, or to request an on court tryout with the club when the athlete is cleared to play (this should not come at an additional cost to the athlete)
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- Clubs can begin to offer athletes a position within a club once the athlete has attended a tryout session, however athletes cannot commit until the signing window has started.
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- All (13u-18u) Athletes cannot accept a position until 5 days after the tryout window **begins**.
 - This will be referred to as the “Signing window”. This is to provide athletes with an opportunity to attend the tryouts of multiple clubs, worry free of any repercussions.
 - Eg. Tryout window begins Sunday 12:01am- Athletes can accept offers Friday at 12:01am
 - **It is important to note, clubs cannot demand when, during the signing window athletes accept a position.** However, once the 5 day period has passed, clubs can place restrictions on response times, however a minimum of 48 hours must be given to allow athletes to respond.
 - Athletes who accept a position with a club are not permitted to attend further tryouts.
 - Once the signing window has closed, all offers given during the tryout window are no longer guaranteed and clubs are permitted to offer those positions to any athletes and place time restrictions on offers.
 - The “Signing window” exists to provide athletes with an opportunity to attend the tryouts of multiple clubs, worry free of any repercussions, or pressure to sign quickly.
 - ***Please note*** The athlete acceptance period begins 5 days after the tryout window begins. Tryouts are still permitted to take place, after the signing window has started, and athletes must still abide by the signing window dates.
 - Eg – An 15u athlete attends a tryout on November 21st at 7-9pm, and is presented with an offer at the end of the tryout. Because this is the final day of the signing window, if the athlete does not accept before 11:59pm, clubs can place a restriction of 48 hours for a response and they can then offer the position to other athletes.

Athlete responsibilities during the signing, and tryout windows

- Athletes must initiate the re-signing process by contacting the club from the previous season. Clubs must respond to the athlete within 48 hours.
 - **Clubs who contact athletes should be reported immediately! Clubs and athletes who accept positions which are not done as per the NLVA club policy, face sanctions and suspensions.**
- Once an athlete re-signs with a club, they are no longer permitted to attend another clubs tryouts.

In order for clubs to fill roster positions, clubs can offer any un-accepted positions directly to athletes until the NLVA Provincial Championship registration deadline, or until rosters have been filled. Clubs who offer athletes positions must allow a minimum of 48 hours for a response.

For any unsigned athletes, or athletes who did not participate in tryouts, they are permitted to contact clubs to inquire about roster positions or programs each year from December 30th onward.

Recruiting: There is a strict no recruiting policy for all clubs. Recruiting is defined as any Club personnel or representative who;

- Actively seeks out and contacts athletes for the purpose of inviting them directly to a club team.
- The promise or suggestion that the athlete will be successful at their club tryout
- The offer or promise of any financial incentives if the athlete joins the club
 - This includes any fundraising, pay for service opportunities that are not available to all members of the club.
- Placing value on pre-tryout sessions for an advantage of making the club team (Eg. If you attend 3 skills sessions, you will have a better chance to make the club team)

Advertising

- There is an advertising restriction for clubs from September 1st until
 - October 1st for 15U and younger teams
 - November 1st for Sr. High teams
- After these dates, clubs are permitted to advertise tryouts, team information, team coaches, etc.
- During the advertising restriction window, clubs are not permitted to advertise any team related information. General programming advertisements are permitted.

Athletes re-signing

Athletes who wish to return to their previous club, do not need to attend tryouts if they wish to re-sign. There will be a returning athlete signing period, which starts concurrently with the Advertising window and runs for 2 weeks in each year. During this time, athletes may reach out to a club, to request to resign. ***A club cannot initiate this contact, it must be initiated by the athlete and/or parents.***

- Clubs are not required to honor the request to re-sign an athlete. Clubs can request that the athlete attend tryouts.
- A maximum of 12 athletes per team are permitted to complete the resigning process.
- An athlete's agreement to re-sign is with the same club as the previous year. *(The intention is that the athlete enjoyed the circumstances (coaches, teammates, etc) of the previous season, and wishes to continue).*
- Once the athlete re-signing period has ended, clubs are asked to send total open roster positions to the NLVA for publication. If a team has no available positions, notification is not required, but can still be sent for publication.
 - Parents and athletes should consult the NLVA Club registry for total number of positions available
 - The registry can be found here : <https://nlvolleyball.net/information/club-tryout-registry/>

Club Selection and registration

Clubs must have final selections completed and rosters loaded into Sportlomo prior to the NLVA Provincial Championship registration deadline (typically mid-late January). New clubs need to contact Sportlomo after club approval to have a Club Portal opened, and gain access to the roster sheet

Club Championships

Roster sheets must reflect rosters at all NLVA and Volleyball Canada Events. Any roster changes after the NLVA Championship registration deadline are subject to the associated player add Fees.

The club championships is held annually prior to nationals. This roster must exactly match your nationals roster. No players can be added past the roster lock deadline without process via volleyball Canada.

The Club championship is used to comply with VC specific rules, and therefore all stipulations listed in the VC Competitions guide must be followed.

https://volleyball.ca/uploads/Competitions/Nationals/2024/2024_VC_Indoor_Competition_Guide_EN_-_Final.pdf

It is the responsibility of each club (or team) competing at VC Nationals to ensure they have the appropriate club portal in Sport Lomo, and understand how to use and navigate the portal. Club portals are currently the only method to submit rosters for NLVA teams.

Athlete Transfers

Athletes who re-sign, or accept a club's offer are not permitted to participate with any other clubs.

1. This only pertains to club teams. Athletes are free to attend any skills sessions or other sessions that any club offers.

Clubs are not permitted to recruit any athletes during the club season.

2. The club season begins once the signing window ends.

If an athlete wishes to leave a club and join another, they must follow the procedure below:

1. The athlete (or parent/guardian) must contact the club they are currently participating with, and inform them about the transfer.
2. The Club contacts the NLVA with details of the transfer.
3. The NLVA will contact both the club and athlete for information.
4. The NLVA will contact the club the athlete wishes to participate with.
5. The new club will choose to accept or deny the transfer request.

Club Policy Sanctioning

Any violation of the above rules and guidelines will be penalized as follows:

Category 1 Offence (advertising prior to the applicable window, placing time requirements on offers before the signing window has ended, etc)

1. First offence \$250 fine to the club
2. Second offence \$500 fine to the club, and \$250 to the offending coach
3. All further offences are \$750 to the club, and \$500 to the coach
 - a. Further offences are also subject to a disciplinary review by the NLVA executive and may result in sanctions for both club and coach

Category 2 Offence (Clubs contacting athletes during tryout or signing windows, any form of recruiting, training during non-prohibited times, etc)

1. 1st offence- \$500 fine and suspension of the coach for the remaining duration of the season (this includes VC Nationals)
 2. 2nd Offence- \$1000 fine and suspension of club owner/president and offending coach.
 3. 3rd offence- To be determined by the Discipline and Complaints committee.
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Important Dates 2025-2026 season:

Advertising window start:

15U and younger- October 1st

16u-18U- November 1st

Advertising window end: December 31st

Athlete Re-signing window begins: (Athletes can reach out to clubs)

15U and younger- October 1st

16u-18U - November 1st

Athlete Re-Signing window ends (Clubs must have responded to athletes):

15U and younger- October 14th

16u-18U- November 14th

Athlete registration- Club advertising can begin on October 1st and November 1st respectively, however tryout registration cannot begin until 2 weeks after the advertising window has started.

For the following dates:

SSNL Provincials are scheduled for: December 4th -7th , Female Nov 27th -30th . The dates below are linked to the actual completion of the event (ie. If the event ends one day early, each tryout window will begin one day earlier than listed. The same will happen for any delays.)

Tryout window begins:

15U and younger –November 2nd

Sr High- Male – December 8th , Female - November 31st

Club offers to athletes:

15U and younger- Offer must come after they have attended your club tryout

16u-18U -Offer must come after they have attended your club tryout

Athlete Signing window Starts:

15U and younger- November 7th

16u-18U- Male – December 13th , Female – December 5th

Athlete Signing window Ends:

15U and younger- November 21st

16u-18U- Male – December 20th , Female – December 12th

Tryout window ends:

15U and younger- December 31st

Sr High- Male – December 31st , Female – December 31st

After the signing window ends, clubs are permitted to host tryouts, or invite any athlete to participate with their club. Clubs are also at this time permitted to place time constraints on offers extended to athletes, however clubs must allow a 48 hour response time after inviting, to give the athlete adequate time to respond.