

Summer League 2023-24

Summer League is governed primarily by the 2023 “South Australian Volleyball League Regulations” however some changes have been made to meet the rationale of the competition.

Rationale and Spirit of Intent

The rationale of the Summer League is to provide an accessible, junior indoor volleyball option in the summer months. It should complement the SAVL Junior competition for clubs as well as encourage schools’ participation in competitive volleyball in the metropolitan area.

We will also be trialling an Under 15 four-a-side beach court competition at Brighton High this season for teams who might prefer playing on sand. For Under 17 and 19s wanting to compete on sand, the SAVBS series is more accessible and appropriate.

For Under 15 and upward, the competition will run for 12 weeks; six weeks either side of the December / January break. This avoids Australian Schools Cup and SA Schools Smash in December, and club trials and pre-season in March.

A nine-week tournament for Under 12s will be offered both prior and post the school holiday break. This is aimed at Junior Volley school teams and younger club teams as a bridge between Junior Volley and the SAVL U13 Junior competition in winter. Some additional rule modifications will also be in place to ease the transition (these variations are described here [Junior Volley Rules and Regs 2022.pdf \(volleyballsa.com.au\)](#)).

Membership Requirements

All players are required to be at least Recreational VSA Members. Full Junior or Full Spikezone memberships are also valid. All coaches or team managers are required to be registered as non-playing members (Associate) as a minimum.

Age Requirements

All players must be under the age of the nominated grade for the entire competition (ie: to mid-March 2024). For example, if Charlie is 14, but turns 15 in February 2024, then she/he is ineligible for under 15 grades.

For the under 12 tournaments, which are aimed at Primary level athletes, it is expected that schools would have different teams in 2023 and 2024. Clubs may need to follow suit.

If a player who is over or well under age wishes to participate in a given age grade, the club or school, on behalf of the player, can apply for and submit an exemption form directly to the competition manager.

Supervisor Requirements

Teams must have an adult coach or supervisor who is 18 years of age or older and is responsible for the team’s behaviour. They must be present for warm up, the match and team duty if scheduled. Coaches and full-time team managers should hold a current Working With Children Check clearance in accordance with state and federal legislation.

Divisions and Grading

Divisions will be set according to the Competition Manager. Teams will nominate into a relevant division at the start of the season. Teams will be assessed during the first 3 weeks of competition and may be regraded at the discretion of the Competition Manager. Girls may play in mixed or boys divisions, but boys are unable to play in girls only divisions. Please note that all-boy teams will only be separate from mixed teams if team numbers allow. With this in mind, mixed teams are encouraged.

Final divisions on offer will depend upon team numbers nominating into the various grades.

Divisions

	Boys/Mixed	Net	Girls	Net	Equivalence Guide
Competitive	U19	2.42m	U19	2.24m	South Australian Volleyball League U19 and upper U17 standard. Higher divisions of Schools Cup for years 11/12
	U17 U15	2.35m	U17 U15	2.15m	SAVL U19/U17 lower divisions. Advanced U15 SAVL or U15 state /academy standard. Middle divisions of Schools Cup for years 10/11/12
Social	U19	2.42m	U19	2.24m	Senior interschool competitions. Players who are relatively new to the sport.
	U15 U17	2.35m	U15 U17	2.15m	SAVL U15 and lower level U17. Lower divisions of Schools cup for years 8/9/10. Upper divisions of primary schools cup.
Beach	U15	2.24m	U15	2.15m	Semi-social 4-a-side. SAVL U15/U13. Lower divisions of Schools cup for years 8/9. Upper divisions of primary schools cup
Under 12 Tournament	U12	2m	U12	2m	Junior Volley and SAVL Juniors who are under 12.

Duty Requirements

Team duties will be required for the 2023-24 season. VSA will employ a referee supervisor who will be responsible for assisting and coaching teams in scoring and refereeing. This is to expose and prepare teams for more formal competition where duty will be required.

A team duty may occur before or after the teams' own match. They must be at the designated court for the task at the start of warm up for that match. An adult supervisor must also be present.

Scheduled duty team requirements are as per the table below.

Grade	Duty team composition
U12 tournaments	VSA provided
U15 social (including beach)	Top ref, scorer
U15 competitive	Top ref, scorer and second ref
U17 social	Top ref, scorer

U17 competitive	Top ref, scorer and second ref
U19 social	Top ref, scorer
U19 competitive	Top ref, scorer and second ref

Sanctions

Teams that do not provide a full duty crew in accordance with the above table will have their own match for that round revert to a forfeit loss. If this occurs more than once, that team may also be subject to further sanctions at the discretion of the Competition Manager.

Game duration and Warm-up

Matches are timed and are played to best of 5 sets. They will be played over a 50-minute period, and teams will have a 10-minute warm-up prior to the game commencing. For example, if a game is scheduled for 6:30pm, warm-up will start at 6:30pm and the match will commence at 6:40pm.

Matches will strictly end at the completion of the time limit. If the ball is in play, it will stop when the siren or whistle sounds and the rally will not be counted. No timeouts will be permitted within the last five minutes of any timed matches. Timed matches also do not allow technical timeout.

Warm up protocol

Begins 10 minutes prior to the match start time. (See above)

Warm Up Protocol
10 Minutes remaining - Team Pepper (4 minutes)
7 Minutes remaining - Coin Toss (captains only)
6 Minutes remaining - Spiking (4 minutes)
2 Minutes remaining - Serving (1 minute)
1 Minute Remaining - Players to return to coaches (1 minute)
0 Minutes remaining - Players on court, whistle blown for serve and game to begin

Scoresheets

Team managers or coaches should complete the player names on the scoresheet before spiking warm up. They must ensure that all present players are recorded correctly and if any player has not arrived, or will not be playing that round, strike that name through on the scoresheet. The player list on the scoresheet should then be signed as accurate before the match begins.

Substitutions

Normal or rotational substitutions are allowed. No rotation records will be kept.

A Libero can be used in all grades except Under 12 but must be nominated on the score sheet before each set and have a contrasting top as described below.

Uniforms

Whilst official team uniforms are encouraged, they are not mandatory.

Teams are required to present in same coloured playing tops. Team shorts should be similar in colour and style. School PE uniforms are acceptable for school teams.

If a Libero athlete is nominated, they must have a contrasting top. Clothing for religious purposes is allowed.

If teams do not meet the standards as outlined above, the arena coordinator or referee supervisor will issue a warning in round 1, and then on any subsequent rounds, 3 points will be awarded per set to the opposing team if there is one or more players out of uniform.

Shoes are required. No hats, watches or jewellery are allowed to be worn during warm-up or matches.

Premiership Table and Scoring

All sets are to 25 points with the exception of the 5th set (played to 15) – a set is only deemed complete when a team has won by 2 points or more.

All games are played best of 5 sets, or to the allocated time limit, whichever comes first.

Teams will gain points on the Premiership Table according to the following table:

Result	Points
Win	3
Draw	2
Loss	1
Forfeit	0

The premiership table will be decided using the following method:

- (a) Premiership points (as above)
- (b) Set Percentage (sets won/ (sets won + sets lost))
- (c) Point Percentage (points won/ (points won + points lost))

A set is deemed complete at full time when one team has reached a minimum of 15 points with a 2-point advantage. If this score has not been reached, the winning team will be awarded on completed sets. If sets are equal, the team with the greater number of total points (combination of complete and incomplete sets) will win the game. If the total points are equal, the game would be deemed a tie.

Required Players

Teams will lose the first set of the game 25-0 if the team is unable to field four athletes at the scheduled match start time. The team will lose the second set 25-0 if the team is unable to field four athletes at the five minutes past the scheduled

start time of the relevant match. The team will lose the third set 25-0 *and the match* if the team is unable to field four athletes at ten minutes past the scheduled start time of the relevant match.

If a forfeit occurs or a team fails to meet the number of required players (as above) a scratch match will be organised and played wherever possible.

Should a player arrive late, the coach needs to notify the referee of their arrival time to the bench ready to play. The referee is to enter this time onto the score sheet, next to their name.

Hot weather policy

As the competition take place over the summer months, safety of players is paramount and if conditions are unsuitable games will be cancelled. The Competition Manager will assess in accordance with the VSA Extreme Weather Policy and communicate any game cancellations via email to team contacts and to all participants on the top of the VSA Summer Junior League page by 4pm on the day of competition.

Air-conditioned venues may still be fine to proceed on very hot days.

Venues

Summer League Central – Brighton High School gym and beach courts; Unley Sport for All (next to Unley High)

Summer League North – Tyndale Christian School, Salisbury East

Summer League South – Reynella East College

Season and Finals Fixtures

The 2023/24 season will be a 12-week season made up of 10 minor rounds plus two rounds of finals. The break will occur from early December to first week back to school in February, and the finals will occur in mid-March.

Fixtures will be made available on the VSA website via the competition management system. Fixtures are generated automatically. If divisions have uneven numbers a BYE will be scheduled.

Following round 10 Semi-Finals will be played between teams in the top four ladder positions (1v4 and 2v3). These teams will play for a spot in the Grand Finals the following week. Only grand final games (winners of previous week) are played in the final week.

For U12 competition, first position on the ladder plays second position for the medals in the final round, but all U12 teams play in that round.

Team Withdrawal

Any team withdrawal will result in a forfeit for the upcoming round and then the team will be removed from the fixture. Withdrawal attracts a final invoice amount equal to the total games played, plus the upcoming round at the time of notification.

Please note: As we are endeavouring to establish a great competition that meets the rationale outlined above, if you have any suggestions these will be welcomed by the Competition Manager.