

## MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS AND RULES

These rules have been established and distributed to all players, coaches, and officials to:

- Advise all members of their existence and conditions of membership;
- Acknowledge that they have read, accepted and will make a genuine effort to adhere to these rules;
- Acknowledge that possible penalties will apply for non-compliance.
- Support all members in pursuing and achieving their goals in their chosen sport of volleyball in an inclusive and welcoming environment.
- Promote team harmony based on the application of consistent values, behaviours and attitude to achieve a common goal;
- Alleviate the coach and conscientious players from having to make judgements on player behaviour contradictory to the team/squad and club's goals.

As an Affiliate member of Volleyball Victoria (and by extension, Volleyball Australia), the following rules are additional to the Policies guidelines developed and implemented by the Sport's governing bodies, to which we are bound to uphold. Follow the links below to view these policies and guidelines:

- <https://volleyballvictoria.org.au/corporate-documents/policies/>
- <https://volleyball.org.au/integrity/policies/>

### **General**

- Joining the club means commitment and support to achieving club objectives. This philosophy will deliver personal satisfaction as long as you engage with all that the club has to offer.
- **No Pay - No Play.** All players must make every reasonable effort to pay their fees as and when requested or scheduled by the Club. Cases of financial hardship to extend payment timeframes will be considered by the committee, which must be raised at the earliest possible opportunity.  
***Penalty: The Club Committee will instruct all coaches to prevent players from training and playing games if fees continue to remain unpaid.***
- Make a concerted effort to support other club teams during all competitions and tournaments in which they participate.
- Make every effort to attend club social events. Socialising with club members, team/squad mates have a positive influence in improving club culture and court 'bonding'.
- Wear official club apparel at all tournaments, games and clinics at which members represents the club.
- All fines and/or penalties imposed relating to any code/rule infringement will be payable or served by the individual/team responsible for that infringement.
- When representing the club at social functions, tournaments, games, etc, all members must behave in socially responsible way that does not place the Club or the sport in disrepute.
- It is a requirement that all members assist in team operations by attending the required Coaching and Referee courses as applicable.
- Given the coaching situation from year to year, it is a club requirement that all members assist in senior and junior coaching, and junior development clinics as requested. The club will do its very best to provide some level of remuneration.

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- It is an operational requirement that all teams/coach select a Team Manager (TM) and Senior Leadership Group (SLG) to support your coach as required, and to represent your team at club committee level.
- The team's SLG is to be utilised by all players as the first means by which players can discuss issues of concern before discussing them with the coach, Coaching Director or raising with the Committee.

### **Training**

- **Commitment to training will directly affect your court time, and team selection.**
- **Training attendance:** If you are likely to be absent from or may be late to training, you must make every effort to notify the team through pre-established communication channels or the coach directly. Players are to utilise all available means to notify their intended absence or late arrival. If running late players must make every effort to get to training as soon as practicable and ready to train on arrival.
- **The late arrivals must perform a complete warm up as directed by the coach, there are no short-cuts to preparing for training.**
- It is expected that a "late" notification be advised **by 5:30pm on the night of training:**
  - *Failing to notify of a training absence will result in:*  
**Penalty: missing the first set of the next scheduled game. The coach will have final discretion based on any extenuating circumstances, and/or other penalties may apply.**
  - *Failing to notify of late attendance to training will result in:*  
**Penalty: As determined by team SLG/coach on the night.**
    - **Frequent infringements will result in discussion between the SLG and coach, to determine best course of action, or where additional penalties may apply.**
- Where a player knows in advance that they will be absent or late for the next training session, they must notify the entire team/coach as soon as possible prior to that next session time.
- **Training punctuality:** All players must arrive to training 15 minutes prior to the official start time. Players should be ready to train, i.e., already, strapped and dressed for training. The actual session start time will be governed by the coach on the night.  
**Penalty: As determined by the SLG for those that are not ready to start training on coach's decision to start.**
- There will be no ball use/play until all nets are set up. All team members are expected to set up and pack away equipment. Those that set up the equipment should not be those that pack it away.  
**Penalty: As determined by the SLG/coach for the offending players.**
- Training time will cease 15 minutes prior to the session's official end time to allow for the:
  - Storing and securing of all equipment used during the session.
  - Distribution of club administrative information;
  - Team to warm down as a group (including stretching);
  - Team Manager/Coach to ensure storerooms are left in a neat and tidy state, and with door securely closed.  
**Penalty: The SLG to enforce compliance or restricted use of club equipment.**
- Team to exit the venue before closing time.

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- Respect the coach's decision and discuss your queries **after** the session. If an acceptable outcome for a player's concern is not reached, then it may be raised with the Senior Leadership Group, Coaching Director/s or club committee for further review.
- Injured?: Unless prior arrangement has been made with the coach, players are expected to attend training to support the team and more importantly assist the coach. To be determined on case-by-case depending on the injury.
- All injuries must be coach/captain as they occur. Minor injuries **not** impacting range of movement must be discussed with the coach to determine next course of action. Major injuries, preventing normal range of movement must be assessed by a qualified medical professional and a written report by that professional either clearing the player to resume full training, or providing modified training plan will be supplied to the coach.

**Penalties: No playing or training until the coach receives written assessment from qualified medical professional.**

- The Club acknowledges that mobile phones are an essential form of communications, however, they should be not used/abused during the training sessions. If you are expecting an **urgent** call during the session, please advise your coach of the pending call, so you can be excused when it happens. Do not take it upon yourself to answer the phone without notifying your coach...it is unacceptable, disrespectful, and extremely unprofessional to all.

**Penalties: As determined by the SLG/coach for the offending player/s.**

- Wherever possible club training tops are to be worn at training. This presents a professional look, while acknowledging and supporting sponsors for their contribution to the club. Players must **not** wear their playing uniforms.
- All members will adhere to the club's alcohol and drugs rules detailed below.

### **State League Games**

- Respect the coach's decision and discuss your concerns **after** the game. If an acceptable outcome for a player's concern is not reached, then it may be raised with the Senior Leadership Group, Coaching Director/s or club committee for further review.
- All players must turn up to games 60 minutes before the scheduled start time unless the coach has requested a different time. The coach will have the final decision in applying the penalty if there are extenuating circumstances.

**Penalties: General penalty will be to miss the first set of the game.**

- All players scheduled for Duty must be at the duty court in accordance with the time set out in the V.V.L. Duty Protocols. Do not leave the playing area if you are scheduled to duty immediately after your game. Playing coaches are exempt from their own team's duty, unless there are insufficient numbers to avoid loss of championships points. Players coaching our other Club teams are also exempt from duty if it clashes with their coaching role.

**Penalties: Additional Duty for offending team member/s.**

- All members will adhere to the club's alcohol and drugs rules detailed below.
- MVP Voting must be taken seriously and completed immediately after the game. It is an important element of Club's reward and recognition program. Player's voting should be guided by the **influence the teammate has had on the game and shall not to vote for themselves.**
- All injuries must be coach/captain as they occur. Minor injuries **not** impacting range of movement must be discussed with the coach to determine next course of action. Major injuries, preventing normal

range of movement must be assessed by a qualified medical professional and a written report by that professional either clearing the player to resume full training, or providing modified training plan will be supplied to the coach.

**Penalties: No playing or training until the coach receives written assessment from qualified medical professional.**

## **Tournaments**

- The club will nominate all “official” club tournaments at start of the year. These tournaments are used by coaches for a range of reasons and shall be considered as formal opportunities for selection.
- Where the club pays the team’s tournament entry fee, player commitment to the tournament must be made before the closing date of entries. Any prize money offered and won by the team shall go into the club account.
- Where a team has been entered into a tournament and the club has paid a non-refundable entry fee, the team will be liable to refund the club all entry fees should the team withdraw from the tournament.
- Where a team represents the Club, it is expected that before each tournament, coach and players will meet to discuss and agree on tournament rules and goals to avoid any misunderstandings on behaviour or purpose of the tournament.
- The rules must cover behavioural aspects expected by the club and coach, such as positive support through team bonding, dinners, and other social activities. Team objectives should cover areas such as ultimate purpose of attending the tournament, tournament protocols, i.e., warmups, game strategies, team meetings and match de-briefings.
- Once agreement on rules and goals has been reached, all members of the team are expected to abide by the agreement.
- Teams representing the club in “**non-official**” tournaments are also expected that their behaviour remain of high standards.
- All incidents/behaviours by a club member that adversely affects the club and University of Melbourne reputation, i.e., damage to accommodation facilities, playing venues and equipment, inappropriate social media posts, will be reported to the Club Committee for disciplinary action. At the very least, all costs of damages will be the responsibility of the member/s causing that damage. Other penalties may be imposed at the Club’s or Melbourne University Sport’s discretion.

## **Alcohol & Drugs**

- The Club does not condone the consumption of alcohol or the use of illegal drugs or substances while a member of the Club. Members shall not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs at training sessions, club and league matches, tournaments, and junior development clinics. Members are expected to perform to the standards set by the Club and coach.
- Absolute professionalism is demanded, and it’s everyone’s responsibility to refer any perceived or actual indiscretion of this nature to your coach, where they will take action.
- Where a player attends training under the influence, the following penalty will apply:

**Penalties: Player will remain at training until the end, but will not actively take part. The player will miss the next game, as the most immediate penalty. An incident report will be completed by the coach and forwarded to the Coaching Director for review and appropriate action, as required. The Club Committee will also be informed for further review and/or action.**

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- Where a player attends club and league matches under the influence, the following penalty will apply:  
**Penalties: If a member is deemed by the coach to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, the coach has the authority to deny that player the right to play. An incident report will be completed by the coach and forwarded to the Coaching Director as soon as practicable. Under these circumstances the Coaching Director will forward the report to the Club Committee for review and disciplinary action.**
- Where a player attends junior development clinics and other official events under the influence the following penalty will apply:  
**Penalties: If member is deemed to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, the most senior club member has the authority to immediately remove that member from all activities at that time. An incident report will be completed by the senior member and forwarded to the Club Committee for review and disciplinary action.**
- In the interests of health and wellbeing, comfort and safety, the Club only supports responsible service and consumption of alcohol.
- The Club supports and advises that all members are required to adhere to the National Anti-Doping policies as adopted by Volleyball Victoria Inc and Volleyball Australia Inc.

### **Smoking**

- The Club expects all members to refrain from smoking when wearing club apparel, it's not an image the club wants to promote, nor one with which it wants to be associated.
- The Club expects all coaches to apply the no-smoking rule inside any facility the Club hires for the purpose of training sessions or match play.
- The Club expects all coaches to prohibit smoking by any Club member in the presence of junior members, as well as junior members themselves.
- The Club expects that all coaches prohibit smoking by any Club member once they have entered the grounds of any indoor facility used by the Club.
- The Club supports and advises that all members are required to adhere to the Smoke-Free policies as adopted by Volleyball Victoria Inc and Volleyball Australia Inc.

### **Child Safety Policy**

- The club is committed to providing our junior participants a safe and enjoyable experience, free from all forms of abuse and discrimination. The club's zero-tolerance to all forms of misconduct applies to children of all abilities and from diverse cultural, ethnic, and indigenous backgrounds. The club proudly promotes and upholds high standards of behaviour towards its young members.
- The club is committed to upholding the Child Safety Policies as outlined by the University of Melbourne and the State Sporting Organisation, Volleyball Victoria and the National Sporting Organisation, Volleyball Australia.

**I have read and understand my expectations under these club conditions and team rules. I'm committed to upholding these rules throughout my time with the club. I'm clearly aware and accepting of the penalties should I breach these rules.**

**Signature:**

**Date:**