

Leicestershire Volleyball Association

League Rules

Entry and Fees

1. Clubs wishing to play in the mixed/men's/women's league must complete an application form and provide a goodwill deposit which will be retained until the following season. If a club indicates they no longer wish to participate in the league, their deposit will be returned minus any fines have been taken from it.
2. Clubs must pay an entry fee each year, dependent on the number of teams and leagues they wish to play in. Fees will be determined by the Committee at the AGM.
3. Where a club has incurred fines, these must be paid up in full before the season starts. Failure to pay may result in being barred from the League.
4. Where a club has more than one team in any division, that club must indicate in writing to the LVA Competition Secretary, which players will represent each team. The teams should be identified in a manner which indicates seniority, e.g. "A" or "B". Players will then be allowed to "play up" on a maximum of 3 occasions during the season. They are not permitted to "play down". Players may represent a club in different divisions, e.g. Men's and Mixed.
5. Any player wishing to play for another club may transfer on notification to the LVA Competition Secretary, but may not play for, or transfer back, to their original club for the remainder of the season.
6. No team shall purport to be representative of the city or county except the county team.
7. In all leagues, teams may only have 2 registered National League players on court at any time. Teams not complying with this rule shall forfeit the match (see Rule 18).

Fixtures

8. Matches should be played on the date agreed by the two teams at the League Meeting. Matches may only be rearranged if there are exceptional circumstances, and the rearrangement must be notified to the LVA Competition Secretary before the new date.
9. The home team must confirm a fixture to the away team, at least 14 days in advance of the fixture and must provide competent match officials of at least referee (qualified for Men's division) and scorer. The confirmation must also state the venue, the time it is available from, and the match start time.
10. The away team must confirm their intention to honour, or not, a fixture to the home team at least 10 days in advance of the fixture.

Match Rules

11. All matches must be played under Volleyball England rules and regulations (unless covered by these rules) and volleyball etiquette should be observed at all times. If any dispute arises between teams over rules or the behaviour of players, the procedure in Rule 16 shall apply. The Committee shall have the power to suspend individual players from playing in the league if it considers that their continued participation will be of serious detriment to the enjoyment of others.
12. All matches will be 3 sets even where one team wins both the first 2 sets.

13. A 15 minutes warm-up period must be available before the match start time, and it is up to both teams to take advantage of this. If a match exceeds the time available and both teams were on court at the agreed start time, the home team forfeits the game unless there are exceptional circumstances, in which case the match will be void. If either team were late on court, by 15 minutes or more from the official match start time, the match may be claimed by the non-offending side. Even in the event of a late arrival, every attempt should be made to play and complete the match. Any dispute may then follow the proper procedure.

14. Match results should be recorded on an official score sheet, signed by the captains of both teams and the referee. Each team captain should retain a copy of the score sheet in case there is a dispute.

15. Teams are required to enter their match results on the website. It is expected that winning teams will ensure that results are submitted via the website within seven days of completing the fixture. Any club which fails to notify the outcome of a particular week's fixture within seven days of its completion or postponement, whether by submitting scores on the website or by informing the Competition Secretary that the match has been postponed, may at the discretion of the Executive Committee be subject to a fine or penalty.

16. Teams in dispute or who wish to claim points shall inform their opponents that they intend to put their case to the LVA General Secretary. Both teams and the relevant officials should then submit a report in writing to the LVA General Secretary within 21 days of the fixture. The LVA Committee's decision will be final.

17. If a team fails to turn up for a confirmed fixture; it will forfeit the game and half of their goodwill deposit to the opposing team. Any team that defaults in this way more than once will be disqualified from the league and any prior results deleted.

18. A team will forfeit a match if it has less than 6 players or, in the mixed division, does not have at least 1 man or has more than 3 men on court at any one time.

19. One point is awarded per set won plus an additional point to the winning side. In a forfeited match, the claiming team will be deemed to win 25-0, 25-0, 25-0. The defaulting team will have 2 points deducted if they have failed to appear for a confirmed fixture.

20. If there is a tie at the end of the season, league positions will be decided on by:

- (a) sets difference
- (b) points difference

21. Promotion/relegation will be decided at the Fixture Meetings and agreed by all parties and will be dependent on the number of teams in a given league.

General

22. Final decisions on all league matters rest with the Committee.

23. All clubs must be affiliated to Volleyball England.

24. All clubs must send a representative to the LVA AGM. Clubs will be fined £10 for failing to send a representative.

25. All clubs must send a representative to the Fixtures Meeting which takes place at the start of each season where the fixtures for the season can be arranged with other clubs.

26. All clubs must provide contact details for all communication with the league. Contact details to include a telephone number and an e-mail address. It is the responsibility of that representative to ensure all communication with the LVA is passed to other members of their club.