VOLLEYBALL

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

2026-27

CLUB COMPETITION GUIDE

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1. Introduction and Guiding Framework

1.1 Purpose and Scope

The Volleyball PEI Club Competition Guide is the primary reference for the administration and operation of club volleyball in Prince Edward Island.

It establishes the standards, procedures, eligibility requirements, and competition regulations that apply to Volleyball PEI-sanctioned club programming.

The guide is intended to provide clear and consistent expectations for athletes, coaches, persons in authority, parents and guardians, club administrators, officials, volunteers, tournament hosts, and member clubs.

Volleyball PEI is committed to delivering a club system that is:

- athlete-centered;
- development-focused;
- safe and inclusive;
- accessible to clubs of different sizes and stages of development; and
- supported by meaningful and appropriately structured competition.

1.2 Authority and Application

This Guide has been developed by Volleyball PEI and approved by the Volleyball PEI Board of Directors.

The requirements contained within this Guide apply to Volleyball PEI-sanctioned club programming and competition unless otherwise communicated in writing by Volleyball PEI.

Volleyball PEI may interpret, amend, or supplement the Guide where necessary to:

- respond to changes in Volleyball Canada requirements;
- address participant safety or eligibility;
- improve competition delivery;

- respond to changes in the provincial club environment; or
- address circumstances not specifically contemplated within the Guide.

Significant changes will be communicated to member clubs through Volleyball PEI's official communication channels.

All participants are responsible for understanding the requirements applicable to their role. Clubs are responsible for communicating relevant information to their athletes, coaches, team personnel, families, volunteers, and administrators.

1.3 Relationship to Volleyball Canada

Volleyball PEI is the recognized Provincial Sport Organization for volleyball in Prince Edward Island and seeks to align its club programming with Volleyball Canada standards wherever practical and appropriate.

Volleyball Canada rules and national standards provide the foundation for club volleyball in Prince Edward Island. Volleyball PEI also recognizes that the province's size, geography, facilities, participation levels, and developing club systems may require provincial adaptations.

Where appropriate, Volleyball PEI may establish competition procedures or operating practices that reflect the needs of its membership while remaining consistent with the principles and requirements of Volleyball Canada.

Unless otherwise stated in this Guide, the applicable Volleyball Canada rules and regulations will apply.

1.4 Guiding Principles

Volleyball PEI's club system is guided by the following principles:

Athlete Development

Competition and training should support long-term athlete development, skill acquisition, enjoyment, appropriate recovery, and lifelong participation.

Safe Sport

All club programming must provide a safe, respectful, inclusive, and maltreatment-free environment consistent with Volleyball PEI and Volleyball Canada Safe Sport requirements.

Meaningful Competition

Competition structures should provide appropriate challenges, competitive balance, development opportunities, and positive athlete experiences.

Club Development

Volleyball PEI supports the growth of sustainable clubs and recognizes the importance of maintaining opportunities for smaller, rural, developing, and newly formed programs.

1.5 Interpretation and Order of Precedence

This Guide should be interpreted consistently with applicable legislation and the governing documents, policies, and regulations of Volleyball PEI and Volleyball Canada.

Where an inconsistency exists, the following order of precedence will normally apply:

- applicable federal or provincial legislation;
- Volleyball Canada mandatory rules and requirements;
- Volleyball PEI Constitution and Bylaws;
- Volleyball PEI policies;
- this Club Competition Guide; and
- event-specific regulations or communications issued by Volleyball PEI.
- Volleyball PEI will determine the appropriate interpretation where a matter is unclear or is not specifically addressed within this Guide.

2. Club Volleyball at a Glance

This section provides a quick-reference overview of the 2026–27 Volleyball PEI club season. It summarizes the major dates, responsibilities, and competition milestones for clubs, coaches, athletes, and team personnel.

Detailed requirements remain in the applicable sections of this Guide.

2.1 Season Calendar

Timing	Season Milestone	What Happens
September 1, 2026	Club Approval Opens	Clubs may begin the annual VPEI approval process and renew required memberships.
September–November 2026	Club Preparation	Clubs recruit coaches and volunteers, complete Person in Authority requirements, confirm programming, and prepare tryout information. Athletes acquire the appropriate VPEI membership.
Before first athlete-facing activity	PIA Requirements	All Persons in Authority must complete required membership, screening, Safe Sport, and other mandatory requirements before working with athletes.
November 16–29, 2026	Official Tryout Period	Clubs may conduct official athlete evaluations and tryouts.

November 30, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.	Official Offers May Begin	Clubs may begin issuing official offers to athletes.
December 2026	Team Formation	Athletes accept offers; teams are formed, and clubs begin submitting rosters.
January 31, 2027	Club Approval Deadline	Clubs must complete the annual VPEI Club Approval Process.
January 2027	Regular Club Season Begins	Teams begin regular practices, exhibition matches, sanctioned events, and club competitions.
February 15, 2027	16U/18U Provincial Decision	VPEI will confirm whether 16U and/or 18U Provincial Championships will proceed, subject to minimum registration.
March 15, 2027	Final Roster Lock	Final team rosters must be submitted. Athlete movement and roster additions are restricted after this date.
March 15, 2027	Coach Certification Deadline	Applicable role-specific coach education and certification requirements must be completed.
March 2027 — Date TBD	14U Seeding Event	Teams compete for Provincial Championship seeding. Participation is strongly encouraged but not mandatory.
March 1, 2027	Provincial Registration	Provincial Championship registration opens.
April 3rd, 2027	14U Provincial Championships	VPEI Provincial Championships.

2.2 Club Season Pathway

Club Approval → Tryouts → Team Formation → Regular Competition → Roster Lock → Seeding Event → Provincial Championships → Volleyball Canada Nationals

3. Club Approval and Responsibilities

Volleyball PEI member clubs play an essential role in the development and delivery of volleyball throughout Prince Edward Island. Annual club approval establishes a formal relationship between each club and Volleyball PEI and confirms that the club is prepared to operate in accordance with applicable membership, coaching, Safe Sport, competition, and administrative requirements.

Approval is not permanent. Every club must complete the Volleyball PEI Club Approval Process and renew its club membership for each membership year.

3.1 Becoming an Approved Club

All organizations intending to operate a youth volleyball club in Prince Edward Island must receive approval from Volleyball PEI before beginning club activities.

The annual Club Approval Application allows Volleyball PEI to:

- Verify the club's leadership and primary contacts;
- Confirm the club's operating location and intended programming;
- Identify coaches and other Persons in Authority;
- Confirm compliance with membership, screening, and Safe Sport requirements;
- Maintain accurate club and team records;
- Determine eligibility for sanctioning and applicable insurance coverage; and publish current club information through Volleyball PEI's official communication channels.

  A club is not considered approved until all required application information, memberships, fees, and supporting documentation have been received and accepted by Volleyball PEI.

Annual approval period

The Club Approval Process opens on September 1 and must be completed no later than January 31st

Clubs are strongly encouraged to complete the approval process before advertising tryouts, accepting registrations, beginning training, or conducting other club activities.

Approval must be renewed annually. Approval granted in a previous membership year does not automatically carry forward into the next season.

Youth Clubs webpage

Volleyball PEI will update its Youth Clubs webpage using the information submitted through the Club Approval Application.

Clubs that have not completed the application or satisfied the applicable approval requirements may not be listed until their approval is complete.

3.2 Club Approval Process

Volleyball PEI will provide the applicable SportLoMo registration links, instructional materials, deadlines, and annual fees before the Club Approval Process opens.

The precise appearance of SportLoMo may change from time to time; however, the approval process will generally include the following steps.

Step 1 — Prepare the required information

Before beginning the application, the Club President or authorized club representative should have the following information available:

- Official club name;
- Primary operating community or region;
- Club website and social-media information;

- Primary club contact;
- Names and contact information for club directors or administrators;
- Proposed age groups and teams;
- Anticipated coaches and team personnel;
- NCCP numbers of applicable Persons in Authority

Individuals who require an NCCP number must create an account through the Locker before completing the applicable registration process.

Step 2 — Purchase the appropriate membership

The Club President or authorized representative must create or access their SportLoMo account and purchase the membership category required by Volleyball PEI.

Step 3 — Complete Safe Sport requirements

- Club leaders and other Persons in Authority must hold an NCCP number and complete the Safe Sport education required by Volleyball PEI.
- The Coaching Association of Canada's current Safe Sport Training is available at no cost through the Locker and is listed as approximately 90 minutes in duration. It provides two NCCP professional development points.
- Completion may be verified through the individual's NCCP record and will be reflected through their respective Sideline account.
- All mandatory PIA requirements must be completed before the individual participates in athlete-facing activities.

Step 4 — Complete the Club Approval Application

Once the required individual membership has been purchased and the account is active, the Club President or authorized representative must:

- Access the Volleyball PEI Club Approval Application;
- Sign in using the applicable SportLoMo account;
- Select the Club Approval Application;
- Enter the required club information;
- Identify the club's leadership and primary contacts;
- Provide the requested programming, team, and coach information;
- Review and accept all declarations; and
- Submit the completed application.

Submitting an application does not constitute automatic approval. Volleyball PEI may request clarification, corrections, additional documentation, or confirmation that outstanding requirements have been completed before granting approval.

Step 5 — Receive confirmation

Volleyball PEI will review the application and communicate one of the following outcomes:

- Approved;
- Conditionally approved, subject to identified requirements;
- Returned for additional information; or
- Not approved.

A club may not represent itself as a Volleyball PEI-approved or sanctioned club until written confirmation has been issued.

3.3 Minimum Club Requirements

To receive and maintain approval, a club must satisfy the requirements established by Volleyball PEI.

At minimum, every approved club must:

- Complete the annual Club Approval Application;
- Purchase the applicable club membership;
- Identify an authorized Club President, Club Director, or primary representative;
- Maintain accurate club and contact information;
- Comply with the Volleyball PEI Constitution and Bylaws, policies, and this guide;
- Comply with applicable Volleyball Canada rules and requirements;
- Ensure that all participating athletes, coaches, managers, and other required personnel hold valid memberships;
- Ensure that all coaches and Persons in Authority meet the applicable PIA, screening, Safe Sport, and coach-education requirements;
- Submit team rosters through SportLoMo by the published deadlines;
- Ensure that athletes participate only on approved rosters;
- Use uniforms that comply with the applicable Volleyball Canada requirements;
- Provide a safe and suitable training and competition environment;
- Follow Volleyball PEI's tryout and athlete-recruitment requirements;
- Register teams for Volleyball PEI competitions by the applicable deadlines;
- Report significant incidents, injuries, disciplinary matters, or Safe Sport concerns as required; and
- Satisfy all outstanding fees, sanctions, or administrative requirements.

Volleyball PEI may establish additional approval conditions based on the nature, size, location, or programming of a club.

3.4 Maintaining Good Standing

- A club is considered in good standing when it has completed the annual Club Approval Process and continues to meet the requirements of this Guide and applicable VPEI policies.
- Club approval is generally completed once at the beginning of each club season. Clubs are not required to repeat the approval process during the season unless requested by VPEI or there is a significant change affecting the club's approval status.
- A club may lose good-standing status where it has outstanding financial obligations, significant registration or eligibility issues, unresolved compliance concerns, or is subject to a sanction affecting its status.
- Clubs are responsible for notifying VPEI of significant changes to club leadership, structure, or operations that may affect their approval or good standing.
- Loss of good standing may affect a club or team's eligibility to participate in VPEI-sanctioned programming or competition until the matter is resolved.

3.5 Membership, Sanctioning and Insurance

Insurance eligibility is connected to club approval, participant registration, activity sanctioning, and compliance with the terms and conditions of the applicable insurance policies.

Participant membership

All athletes, coaches, club leaders, managers, and other individuals required by Volleyball PEI must hold a valid membership appropriate to their role and level of participation.

Membership must be purchased before participation in activities for which registration is required. A person who is unregistered or holds an incorrect membership category may be ineligible to participate and may not be eligible for applicable insurance coverage.

Volleyball PEI membership benefits include liability and accident insurance coverage at sanctioned activities where applicable, subject to the terms, conditions, exclusions, and eligibility requirements of the governing insurance policies.

Volleyball PEI activities

Activities organized directly by Volleyball PEI—including approved leagues, seeding events, Provincial Championships, clinics, and other official programming—are recognized Volleyball PEI activities.

Participants must still meet the applicable membership, eligibility, and registration requirements.

Activities included under annual club sanctioning

Once a club has been approved and remains in good standing, its ordinary club operations may be recognized under its annual club sanctioning. These activities may include:

- Team evaluations and tryouts;
- Regular club practices and training sessions;
- Approved athlete-development activities;
- Team meetings and team-building activities;
- Exhibition matches between sanctioned clubs; and
- Participation in Volleyball PEI-sanctioned competitions.

Automatic recognition is conditional upon:

- The club being approved and in good standing;
- Participants holding valid memberships;
- Coaches and Persons in Authority meeting eligibility requirements;
- The activity complying with Volleyball PEI policies;
- The facility and equipment being safe and suitable; and
- The activity remaining within the normal scope of club operations.

Activities requiring additional sanctioning

Written approval may be required before a club:

- Hosts a tournament, league, festival, showcase, camp, or major competition;
- Hosts an event involving non-member organizations or unregistered participants;
- Conducts an activity outside the normal scope of club operations;
- Requests a Certificate of Insurance;
- Promotes an activity as an official Volleyball PEI event; or
- Uses Volleyball PEI's name or branding in connection with an event.

The current VPEI sanctioning draft requires additional approval for tournaments, leagues, major events, activities involving non-members, and events using Volleyball PEI's name or logo.

Clubs should never assume that an unusual, commercial, travel-based, or third-party activity is insured. Where uncertainty exists, the club must contact Volleyball PEI before advertising, registering participants, collecting fees, or delivering the activity.

Insurance notice: Sanctioning and membership provide eligibility for applicable coverage; they do not guarantee that every incident or activity will be covered. All coverage remains subject to the wording, conditions, limits, and exclusions of the applicable insurance policies.

3.6 Club Responsibilities

Approved clubs are responsible for the administration and delivery of their own programming.

Each club must:

Club operations

- Operate in a safe, ethical, transparent, and financially responsible manner;
- Designate a primary contact responsible for communication with Volleyball PEI;
- Maintain accurate participant, team, and financial records;
- Establish clear fees, payment expectations, and refund terms;
- Provide participants with appropriate registration and program information;
- Ensure that facilities and equipment are suitable for the activities offered; and
- Maintain appropriate emergency and incident-response procedures.

Tryouts and team selection

- Conduct tryouts during the official Volleyball PEI tryout period;
- Publish accurate tryout dates, locations, fees, and eligibility information;
- Use fair and transparent evaluation and selection practices;
- Comply with the rules governing athlete communication and official offers;
- Provide athletes with sufficient information to make an informed decision;
- Select team rosters in accordance with age and eligibility requirements; and
- Submit rosters by the applicable deadlines.

Coaches and team personnel

- Recruit and identify coaches early enough to complete all requirements;
- Verify that coaches and other PIAs hold valid memberships;
- Ensure that screening and Safe Sport requirements are complete before athlete-facing activity;
- Support coaches in completing applicable education and certification;
- Monitor coach eligibility throughout the season;
- Ensure appropriate supervision and observance of the Rule of Two; and
- Replace or remove any individual who becomes ineligible.

Athlete registration

- Ensure that all athletes hold the correct Volleyball PEI membership;
- Maintain accurate athlete information;
- Ensure that athletes appear on the appropriate team roster;
- Comply with athlete-movement, transfer, and roster-lock requirements; and
- Protect personal and medical information in accordance with applicable privacy requirements.

Competition opportunities

Clubs are expected to provide teams with developmentally appropriate competition opportunities in addition to Volleyball PEI's core competition offerings.

These opportunities may include:

- Sanctioned club tournaments;
- Exhibition matches;
- Interprovincial competitions;
- Development opportunities
- Volleyball PEI events; and
- Volleyball Canada Youth Nationals, where appropriate.

Competition plans should reflect the age, stage of development, competitive level, financial capacity, and best interests of the athletes.

3.7 Communication Expectations

- Each club must designate a primary contact responsible for communication with VPEI.
- Clubs are responsible for maintaining accurate contact information and monitoring official VPEI communications throughout the season.
- Official notices may include registration information, competition schedules, deadlines, policy updates, eligibility information, and other club-season requirements.
- Clubs are responsible for communicating relevant VPEI information to their coaches, athletes, parents/guardians, and other members.
- Clubs should notify VPEI promptly of changes to their primary contact or club leadership.

Approved clubs will be eligible to appear on Volleyball PEI's Youth Clubs webpage.

The listing is intended to:

- Help athletes and families locate appropriate club opportunities;
- Increase awareness of volleyball programming across the province;
- Support club recruitment and community engagement; and
- Provide the public with accurate and reliable contact information.

3.8 Club Governance Expectations

Volleyball PEI recognizes that clubs vary in size, history, and organizational structure. However, every club should maintain a clear governance and accountability framework appropriate to the scope of its operations.

Minimum Governance Expectations

- identifiable club leadership;
- clear responsibility for club operations;
- appropriate financial oversight;
- compliance with VPEI policies;
- management of conflicts of interest;
- appropriate handling of participant information;
- ability to respond to VPEI compliance concerns.

Recommended Club Practices

VPEI encourages clubs to establish governance practices appropriate to their size and organizational structure. These may include:

- constitution/bylaws or operating procedures;
- annual budgets and financial reporting;
- conflict-of-interest procedures;
- refund and fee policies;
- travel policies;
- social media guidelines;
- Club, athlete and parent codes of conduct;
- privacy and record-management practices; and
- documented roles and responsibilities for club leadership.

Clubs are strongly encouraged to operate through a recognized legal structure, such as:

- An incorporated not-for-profit organization;
- A registered business;
- An established community organization; or
- Another structure approved by Volleyball PEI.

4. Coach and Person in Authority Eligibility

Volleyball PEI is committed to ensuring that athletes are supported by appropriately registered, screened and trained adults.
This section provides a summary of the requirements that apply to coaches and Persons in Authority (PIAs) participating in the VPEI club season. Complete role-specific requirements, certification pathways and verification procedures are contained in the Volleyball PEI Coach Eligibility and Certification Requirements.

Clubs are responsible for ensuring that all coaches and Persons in Authority meet the requirements applicable to their role.

4.1 Persons in Authority

A Person in Authority is an individual who holds a position of authority or trust, supervises or instructs athletes, or has regular interaction with athletes through club programming.

This may include:

- Head Coaches;
- Assistant Coaches;
- Team Managers;
- Club Directors and Administrators;
- Trainers and medical personnel;
- Chaperones;
- regular team volunteers; and
- other individuals designated by VPEI as Persons in Authority.

Coaches are considered Persons in Authority and must satisfy both the general PIA requirements and any coach-specific education or certification requirements applicable to their role.

4.2 Requirements Before Athlete Contact

All coaches and Persons in Authority must complete the mandatory requirements applicable to their role before participating in athlete-facing club activities.

These requirements include, where applicable:

- a valid Volleyball PEI membership;
- required waivers and declarations;
- Criminal Record Check;
- Vulnerable Sector Check;
- Safe Sport Training;
- required annual screening documentation; and
- any additional mandatory screening or documentation established by VPEI or Volleyball Canada.

These requirements apply before participating in tryouts, evaluations, practices, training sessions, team activities, competitions, team travel, camps, clinics, or other activities involving authority over or regular interaction with athletes.

There is no grace period for mandatory Person in Authority requirements.

Police screening must remain valid throughout the individual's participation in the club season. Clubs and individuals are responsible for monitoring expiry dates and completing updated screening where required under the VPEI Screening Policy.

4.3 Coach Education & Certification

In addition to the mandatory PIA requirements, coaches must meet the education and certification requirements applicable to their coaching role.

VPEI uses a progressive coach-development pathway that allows coaches to enter the club system while establishing clear expectations for continued education and development.

Head Coach Requirements

Coaching Role	Minimum VPEI Requirement
14U-and-Under Head Coach	Foundations of Volleyball + Make Ethical Decisions
15U-and-Older Head Coach – Year 1	Foundations of Volleyball + Make Ethical Decisions
15U-and-Older Head Coach – Year 2	Foundations of Volleyball or Development Coach Workshop + Make Ethical Decisions
15U-and-Older Head Coach – Year 3	Active Certified Development Coach status + Make Ethical Decisions

VPEI may recognize equivalent or higher-level NCCP education and certification where appropriate.

Complete pathway requirements, including the progression from Year 1 through Year 3, are outlined in the Volleyball PEI Coach Eligibility and Certification Requirements.

Assistant Coaches

- Assistant Coaches must meet all applicable Person in Authority requirements.
- Foundations of Volleyball, Make Ethical Decisions and Development Coach education are strongly encouraged for Assistant Coaches unless another VPEI program requirement, event regulation or Volleyball Canada requirement makes them mandatory.
- An Assistant Coach who assumes Head Coach responsibilities is subject to the requirements applicable to the Head Coach role.

4.4 Team Bench Eligibility

Only eligible individuals listed on the approved team roster may occupy the team bench or participate in an official team capacity during VPEI-sanctioned competition.

Approved bench personnel may include:

- Head Coach;
- Assistant Coaches;
- Team Manager;
- Trainer or approved medical professional; and
- other personnel permitted by VPEI or the applicable competition regulations.

All bench personnel must hold the appropriate VPEI membership and meet the screening, Safe Sport and eligibility requirements applicable to their role.

An individual may not occupy the team's bench solely because they are a parent, volunteer, photographer, club administrator or otherwise associated with the team.

VPEI may remove an individual from the bench where eligibility cannot be confirmed.

4.5 Club Responsibility & Verification

Clubs are responsible for ensuring that their coaches and Persons in Authority remain eligible throughout the club season.

Clubs must:

- identify all coaches and Persons in Authority;
- ensure individuals register under the appropriate VPEI membership category;
- confirm mandatory PIA requirements before athlete-facing activity begins;
- monitor screening expiry dates;
- support coaches in completing required education and certification;
- submit accurate coaching and bench personnel information; and
- remove or replace individuals who become ineligible.

Annual club approval does not replace the club’s responsibility to monitor the eligibility of its personnel throughout the season.

VPEI may verify eligibility using applicable membership, screening and coach-education records, including SportLoMo, Sideline, the NCCP Locker and supporting documentation provided by the individual or club.

4.6 Coach Eligibility Deadline

All applicable role-specific VPEI coach education and certification requirements for the 2026–27 club season must be completed by: **March 15, 2027**

This deadline applies to coach education and certification requirements and does not create a grace period for membership, screening, Safe Sport or other mandatory Person in Authority requirements, which must be completed before athlete-facing activity begins.

Coaches who do not meet the applicable requirements may be ineligible to participate in VPEI-sanctioned competition or occupy the team bench until the outstanding requirement has been completed and verified.

VPEI may consider a written transition plan in exceptional circumstances involving role-specific coach education. Transition plans will not be permitted for mandatory screening or Safe Sport requirements and cannot override Volleyball Canada requirements.

4.7 Volleyball Canada Youth Nationals

Teams attending Volleyball Canada Youth National Championships must meet both:

- Volleyball PEI coach eligibility requirements; and
- the current Volleyball Canada Youth National Championships Coach Eligibility Requirements.

Volleyball Canada establishes its Nationals requirements and deadlines annually and may require additional education, screening, certification or active NCCP status.

Clubs attending Nationals are responsible for reviewing the current Volleyball Canada requirements and confirming the eligibility of every coach and Person in Authority listed on their Nationals roster.

VPEI cannot waive, modify or override a Volleyball Canada Nationals requirement.

A VPEI exemption or transition plan does not constitute an exemption from Volleyball Canada requirements.

Where certified NCCP status is required, the coach must maintain active certification status in the NCCP Locker.

4.8 Non-Compliance

A coach or Person in Authority who does not meet an applicable requirement may be:

- withheld or removed from a team roster;
- prohibited from athlete-facing activities;
- denied access to the team bench;
- declared ineligible for VPEI competition; or
- subject to other measures permitted under VPEI policy.

A club may also be subject to sanction where it knowingly permits an ineligible individual to participate.

Specific sanctions, fines and disciplinary procedures are outlined in Section 16 – Sanctions, Fines & Fees and applicable VPEI policies.

For complete coach pathways, course requirements, screening procedures, equivalencies and verification information, refer to the Volleyball PEI Coach Eligibility and Certification Requirements.

5. Athlete Eligibility

5.1 Membership Requirements

All athletes participating in the VPEI Club Volleyball season must hold a current and valid Youth Competitive Player Membership before participating in sanctioned club competition.

Memberships for the 2026–27 season are available beginning September 1, 2026. Athletes are responsible for obtaining the membership category applicable to their participation.

Clubs are responsible for confirming that athletes hold a valid membership before adding them to an official team roster.

5.2 Athlete Eligibility

To participate in the Volleyball PEI Club Season, athletes must:

- Hold a valid Youth Competitive Player Membership.
- Be registered on an approved Volleyball PEI team roster.
- Meet the age eligibility requirements for their division.
- Be registered with only one Volleyball PEI affiliated club during the season.

5.3 Minimum Age

The minimum age for participation in VPEI Club Volleyball is 10 years old. Clubs are responsible for verifying athlete eligibility before adding an athlete to an official roster.

5.4 University & College Athletes

Athletes currently listed on an active U SPORTS or ACAA indoor volleyball roster are not eligible to participate in Volleyball PEI Club Volleyball.

5.5 Age Categories

2026–27 Club Season Age Categories

AGE CLASSES

Volleyball PEI club volleyball follows Volleyball Canada age categories.
For the 2026–27 season, an athlete's age category is determined
by their year and, in some cases, month of birth.

AGE CATEGORY	SEPT.–DEC. BIRTH	JAN.–AUG. BIRTH
18U	2008	2009
17U	2009	2010
16U	2010	2011
15U	2011	2012
14U	2012	2013

Guiding Principles

- Volleyball PEI follows Volleyball Canada's official age classifications.
- Age categories are based on birth month and year.
- The 16-month eligibility window supports Long-Term Development by allowing athletes to compete at the level most appropriate for their development.
- Clubs should consider both the athlete's current development and long-term progression when determining an appropriate age category.

5.6 Athlete Releases

Once an athlete has accepted an official club offer, they are considered committed to that club for the remainder of the club season.

An athlete wishing to leave their club and register with another VPEI-affiliated club must receive written approval from:

- the releasing club;

- the receiving club; and
- Volleyball PEI.

VPEI reserves final authority over all athlete release requests. Approval of a release does not automatically permit a roster change after the Roster Lock deadline. Post-lock roster changes remain subject to Section 6.5 – Exceptional Roster Requests.

5.7 Residency

Volleyball PEI does not impose residency restrictions on athlete participation.

Athletes from Prince Edward Island, other Canadian provinces or territories, and international jurisdictions are eligible to participate with a Volleyball PEI affiliated club, provided they:

- Hold a current and valid Volleyball PEI membership;
- Meet all applicable Volleyball PEI and Volleyball Canada eligibility requirements; and
- Are properly registered with a Volleyball PEI affiliated club.

Athletes may register with any Volleyball PEI affiliated club, regardless of their place of residence.

6. Team Registration & Rosters

6.1 Team Composition

Athlete Roster

Each team must register:

- Minimum: 8 athletes
- Maximum: 15 athletes

Bench Personnel

Each team may register:

- Maximum of 2 Head Coaches
- Maximum of 5 Bench personnel
- Minimum of 1 Head Coach

Please note that Volleyball Canada's roster regulations for National Championships may differ from Volleyball PEI requirements.

6.2 Team Registration

Teams must be registered through Sportlomo before participating in sanctioned competitions.

Official team rosters must include:

- athletes;
- jersey numbers;
- coaching staff; and
- other bench personnel.

Athletes and team personnel are not eligible to participate until they have been added to the approved team roster.

Clubs are encouraged to submit team rosters as soon as possible following team selection and may continue to update their rosters until the Roster Lock deadline.

6.3 Roster Changes

Roster additions, athlete removals, coaching staff changes, and jersey number changes are permitted until the roster lock deadline.

All roster changes must be completed through the Volleyball PEI registration system (Sportlomo). Athlete movement between clubs or teams is subject to the policies outlined in Section 5 – Athlete Eligibility.

6.4 Roster Lock

The official roster lock date for the 2026–27 Club Season is: **March 15, 2027**

Following the roster lock:

- No athletes may be added to a roster.
- No coaches or bench personnel may be added.
- Jersey numbers may not be changed.

6.5 Exceptional Roster Requests

Roster additions after **March 15** will only be considered under exceptional circumstances.

Requests must:

- Be submitted in writing to Volleyball PEI.
- Clearly outline the circumstances requiring the request.

- Be reviewed by the Executive Director, Director of Operations, and Age-Class Chair (or designate).

Exceptions will only be considered where circumstances are exceptional and where approval would not create an unreasonable competitive advantage or undermine the integrity of the roster-lock process.

6.6 Provincial Championship Roster Verification

Prior to participating in the Volleyball PEI Age-Class Provincial Championships:

- A team representative must verify the official roster during tournament check-in.
- Athletes or bench personnel may be removed from the roster.
- No additions will be permitted following roster verification.

Only athletes and bench personnel appearing on the official roster and meeting all eligibility requirements may participate.

6.7 Failure to Submit a Roster

Teams are expected to have an approved roster on file before participating in sanctioned competition. Failure to submit or maintain an accurate roster may result in an administrative fee or other sanction.

All roster deficiencies and outstanding fines must be resolved before Provincial Championships.

All outstanding fines must be paid prior to participation in the Volleyball PEI Age-Class Provincial Championships.

6.8 Out-of-Province Competition Eligibility

Teams wishing to participate in sanctioned competitions outside Prince Edward Island, including Volleyball Nova Scotia and Volleyball New Brunswick events, must be registered with Volleyball PEI and in good standing.

To be eligible for out-of-province competition, teams must:

- Be affiliated with a VPEI-approved club.
- Have a current and approved team roster.
- Ensure all participating athletes and bench personnel hold valid VPEI memberships.
- Meet all applicable VPEI registration, roster, and eligibility requirements.
- Be in good standing with VPEI, including payment of any outstanding fees or fines.

Teams do not require individual VPEI approval for each out-of-province competition. Once a team has met the above requirements, it may participate in out-of-province competition throughout the club season, provided it remains in good standing.

Clubs and teams are responsible for meeting any additional registration, roster, eligibility, or competition requirements established by the host organization or Provincial/Territorial Association.

VPEI reserves the right to restrict a club or team's eligibility for out-of-province competition where the requirements of this Guide have not been met.

7. Tryouts & Athlete Recruitment

7.1 Tryout Window

The official Volleyball PEI tryout period for the 2026–27 Club Season will run from:
Nov 16th – Nov 29th, 2026

Clubs may not extend official offers to athletes before November 30th, 2026 at 12pm.

During the tryout period, clubs are encouraged to provide athletes with multiple opportunities to attend evaluations.

7.2 Athlete Communication

Prior to the Official Tryout Period, clubs may promote their programs, communicate general club information, respond to athlete or parent inquiries, advertise tryout opportunities and provide information regarding anticipated teams, fees, schedules and programming.

Clubs, coaches and Persons in Authority may communicate directly with an athlete regarding team selection and recruitment once the athlete has attended one of the club's official tryouts. However, an official roster offer may not be issued before the designated offer period.

Recruitment practices must not interfere with an athlete's existing club or other volleyball commitments and must be consistent with VPEI Safe Sport and conduct expectations.

Before they attend your tryout: no direct recruitment.
Once they attend your tryout: communicate freely about the team, their fit, intentions, potential role, etc.
Official offer: cannot happen until November 30 at noon.

7.3 Open Gyms & Off-Season Programming

Volleyball PEI recognizes the value of athlete development opportunities outside of the club season.

Between June 1 and Nov 16th, clubs may offer:

Open Activities

- Open gyms
- Camps
- Clinics
- Skill development sessions

To ensure a fair recruitment environment:

- All programming must be publicly advertised and open to all eligible athletes.
- Clubs may not privately invite or selectively recruit athletes to exclusive training sessions.
- Open gyms are intended for participation and development only.
- Athlete evaluations or team selection may not occur prior to the official tryout window.

Clubs found using off-season programming as an unofficial tryout or recruitment activity may be subject to disciplinary action by Volleyball PEI.

Closed Team Activities

Clubs may also host closed team activities for athletes who were registered members of the club during the previous season. These activities may include training sessions and competition opportunities.

Beginning September 1, all participating athletes must hold a current and valid Volleyball PEI membership.

For any competition taking place between September 1 and Nov 16th the club must:

- Obtain sanctioning approval from Volleyball PEI at least 2 weeks in advance.
- Upload a fall roster through Sportlomo; and
- Ensure all participating athletes and team personnel meet Volleyball PEI membership and eligibility requirements.

For additional information or to request sanctioning approval, contact executivedirector@volleyballpei.com.

7.4 Official Offers

Volleyball PEI strongly encourages clubs to issue written offer letters to athletes following the completion of the official tryout period. Official offers may not be distributed prior to November 30th, 2026. Once an athlete has accepted and signed an official offer, they are considered committed to that club for the 2026–27 season.

VPEI Official Offer Letter: VPEI Official Offer Letter.docx

7.5 Offer Acceptance Period

Athletes must be provided with a minimum of 48 hours to accept or decline an official offer.

During this period:

- Clubs may not withdraw or rescind an offer.
- Athletes may consider other opportunities before making a decision.

Once the 48-hour period has expired, clubs may withdraw the offer if it has not been accepted.

7.6 Recruitment Ethics

Volleyball PEI is committed to maintaining a respectful and ethical club environment.

Clubs, coaches, and representatives shall not:

- Recruit athletes who have already committed to another club.
- Contact athletes registered with another club for the purpose of recruitment.
- Encourage athletes to leave another club after they have accepted an official offer.
- Use off-season programming as a means of conducting unofficial tryouts.

Athletes are free to attend multiple club tryouts during the official tryout window.

A club may communicate with an athlete regarding recruitment only after that athlete has attended one of the club's official tryouts. Violations of these recruitment policies may result in disciplinary action, including fines or other sanctions determined by Volleyball PEI.

7.7 Tryout Fees

The only fees that may be collected during the official tryout period are tryout fees.

No club registration deposits or season fees may be collected until an athlete has accepted an official offer.

7.8 Athlete Commitments

Athletes who have accepted an official offer are committed to that club for the duration of the 2026–27 club season. Athletes may not transfer to another club except under the Athlete Release provisions outlined in Section 5 – Athlete Eligibility.

7.9 National Championships

Clubs intending to participate in Volleyball Canada National Championships must use the roster submitted for the Volleyball PEI Age-Class Provincial Championships.

Additional tryouts may not be conducted following Provincial Championships for the purpose of creating a “Nationals team”.

If roster additions are required due to exceptional circumstances, clubs must apply directly to Volleyball Canada for approval. Any exemptions granted by Volleyball Canada will supersede this policy.

7.10 Off-Season Training & Athlete Wellness

VPEI recognizes that many club athletes participate in school volleyball and other sports during the club off-season. Clubs are encouraged to be mindful of an athlete’s total training and competition load, including school practices, matches, tournaments, other sports and physical activity.

During the school volleyball season, school volleyball should be considered the athlete’s primary volleyball commitment. Club programming during this period should complement, rather than compete with, the athlete’s school season.

To support appropriate recovery and reduce the risk of overtraining, fatigue and overuse injuries, VPEI recommends that clubs limit organized volleyball training to no more than one session per week during the off-season.

Off-season club programming should focus on development and preparation rather than intensive team training or competition. Clubs and coaches are encouraged to:

- prioritize athlete recovery and overall well-being;
- consider an athlete’s total weekly training load;
- avoid creating expectations that athletes choose club activities over school volleyball;
- encourage participation in other sports and activities; and
- provide athletes with appropriate opportunities for rest.

Athletes should not be penalized or disadvantaged in future club selection because they prioritize their school volleyball commitments during the off-season.

7.11 Complaint Process

Concerns regarding recruitment practices should be submitted in writing to Volleyball PEI. Volleyball PEI reserves the right to investigate any alleged violation of this policy and issue sanctions where appropriate.

8. Competition Structure

Volleyball PEI is committed to providing a structured, accessible and developmentally appropriate club competition pathway for athletes and clubs across Prince Edward Island.

The competition structure is intended to provide meaningful competition while maintaining enough flexibility for smaller, developing, and newly formed clubs to participate.

Unless otherwise stated in these Competition Guidelines, the current Volleyball Canada Rule Book will apply.

VPEI reserves the right to adjust tournament formats, divisions, schedules, court assignments and competition procedures where required due to registration numbers, facility availability, weather, withdrawals or other circumstances.

8.1 Club Season Overview

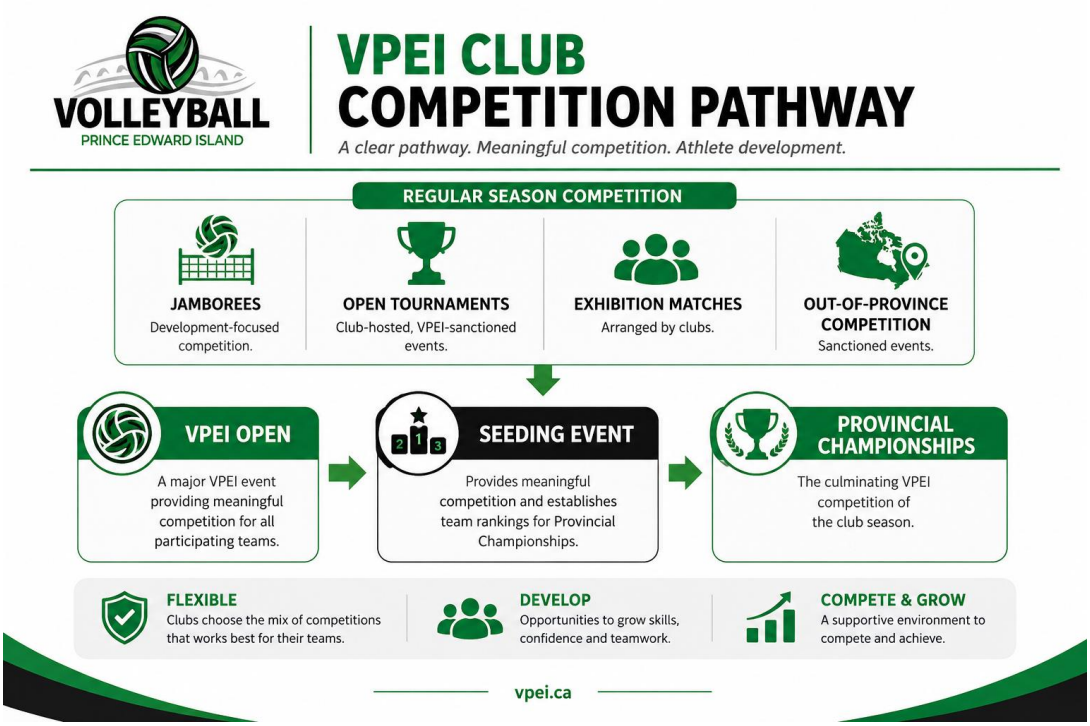
Once clubs and teams have completed the applicable VPEI registration requirements, teams are eligible to participate in local and off-Island competitions.

Competition opportunities may include:

- VPEI Age-Class Jamborees;
- VPEI Seeding Events;
- VPEI Red Dirt Classic;
- VPEI Provincial Championships;
- sanctioned Open Tournaments; and
- exhibition matches.

VPEI encourages clubs to participate in local competitions whenever possible.

8.2 Competition Pathway



Philosophy: VPEI's club competition structure is designed to provide teams with regular opportunities for meaningful competition while remaining flexible enough to support clubs of different sizes, locations and stages of development.

8.3 VPEI Events

Volleyball PEI will host a variety of events throughout the club season to provide athletes and teams with meaningful competition and development opportunities.

- **Age-Class Jamborees** – Development-focused events organized and hosted by VPEI. Jamborees provide teams with additional competition opportunities in a flexible format and do not contribute to Provincial Championship seeding.
- **VPEI Red Dirt Classic** – A major VPEI event designed to provide high-quality competition and attract teams from across Prince Edward Island and Atlantic Canada.
- **Seeding Event** – A major VPEI event used to establish team rankings and seeding for the Provincial Championships.
- **Provincial Championships** – The culminating event of the VPEI club season and a celebration of club volleyball across Prince Edward Island.

8.4 Open Tournaments

An Open Tournament is a VPEI-sanctioned event organized and hosted by a registered VPEI club.

Open Tournaments provide clubs with the opportunity to create additional local competition outside the VPEI-operated event schedule.

Specific sanctioning and hosting requirements are outlined in Section 9.

8.5 Exhibition Competitions

Clubs are encouraged to arrange exhibition matches with other registered teams. Exhibition matches provide additional development and competition opportunities but do not affect Provincial Championship seeding.

8.6 Age-Class Structure

VPEI encourages clubs to offer teams in the 14U, 16U and 18U age categories where athlete numbers permit. Clubs may offer teams throughout the 12U to 18U age classifications.

For VPEI provincial competition:

- 13U/14U may operate as a two-year 14U cohort
- 15U/16U may operate as a two-year 16U cohort;
- 17U/18U may operate as a two-year 18U cohort.

VPEI may adjust age-class offerings based on registration numbers and development needs.

8.7 Competition Tiers

VPEI will use the terminology of Tier 1 and Tier 2 where an event is divided into multiple competitive levels.

Tier structures will be created based on the number of registered teams, available courts and the competitive needs of the age class.

VPEI will generally aim for:

- operate events with a minimum of four (4) teams;
- establish Tier 1 where at least eight (8) teams are available;
- maintain Tier 1 divisions of no more than twelve (12) teams where practical; and
- Create balanced Tier 1 and Tier 2 divisions where registration supports multiple tiers.

Preferred tournament sizes are generally 4, 6, 8, 12, 16 and 24 teams. VPEI reserves the right to adjust division and tier sizes to provide the most appropriate competitive format.

9. Tournament Operations

9.1 Tournament Sanctioning

All club-hosted Open Tournaments must be sanctioned by VPEI. There is no VPEI sanctioning fee.

VPEI may decline to sanction an Open Tournament that conflicts with a Major VPEI Event identified in Section 8.

Sanctioning confirms that the event has been approved as a VPEI-sanctioned competition but does not transfer responsibility for the operation of the event from the host club to VPEI.

9.2 Hosting Applications

Clubs must submit an Open Tournament sanctioning application at least two weeks before the proposed event.
Applications should include:

- event name;
- date;
- venue;
- age category;
- expected number of teams;
- tournament contact;
- proposed competition format; and
- referee plan.
- registration fee, if applicable;
- confirmation that the proposed facility is appropriate for the event.

Approval must be received before the tournament is promoted as a VPEI-sanctioned event.

9.3 Registration

Tournament hosts may administer their own registration process. Teams registered in an event's designated age class will receive priority over teams seeking to play up. Playing-up eligibility will be governed by Section 5 – Athlete Eligibility.

9.4 Scheduling

Tournament schedules should be created to support athlete safety, reasonable rest, and competitive fairness.

Where possible:

- teams should not play more than twice in a row;
- host teams may be scheduled in the first time slot;

- teams travelling the greatest distance should not be scheduled first;
- adequate transition time should be provided between matches.

Major VPEI Events will normally use ISET for scheduling and results. The use of ISET for jamborees and other single-day events will be determined on an event-by-event basis.

Match time-slot length

- 2-set match = approximately 60 minutes
- best-of-three = approximately 75 minutes

Schedules should normally be distributed at least three days before the event.

9.5 Results

Major VPEI Event results will be maintained through ISET or another VPEI-approved competition platform. Open Tournament hosts are not required to submit results unless requested by VPEI.

9.6 Weather Procedures

Teams are expected to use reasonable judgments when traveling during poor weather. Where weather prevents safe travel, the team's contact should notify the Tournament Director and/or VPEI as soon as possible and, where practical, at least one hour before the event. VPEI will determine whether circumstances are considered mitigating.

A team's decision not to travel does not automatically result in cancellation of the event.

9.7 Tournament Cancellations

- No tournament will normally proceed with fewer than four teams.
- Three-team tournaments may be approved in exceptional circumstances, particularly where an age category is new or developing.
- Where possible, a club cancelling an Open Tournament because of weather or another mitigating circumstance should make the decision by 2:00 p.m. on the Friday before the event.
- VPEI may cancel or modify an event where weather, facility availability, safety concerns, registration numbers or other circumstances require it.

9.8 Refunds

- Teams withdrawing before the registration deadline will receive a refund of 75% of the event registration fee. No refund will normally be provided for withdrawals after the registration deadline.
- Where VPEI determines that weather or another mitigating circumstance prevents a team from safely attending, VPEI may approve a full or partial refund.
- Where VPEI cancels an event, 100% of the VPEI event registration fee will be refunded.
- Third-party processing and service fees are non-refundable.
- Provincial Championship refunds are governed by Section 12.

9.9 Host Responsibilities

Open Tournament hosts are responsible for:

- providing a safe and appropriate facility;
- securing Volleyball Canada Certified and Registered referees by coordinating with a VPEI assignor.
- paying officials;
- creating and distributing the schedule;
- providing appropriate nets, antennas, score tables, referee stand and competition equipment;
- ensuring courts are safely prepared;
- identifying a Tournament Director;
- communicating event information to teams;
- maintaining appropriate spectator and team areas; and
- ensuring general cleanliness of the facility.
- ensure participating teams meet applicable VPEI eligibility requirements;
- provide a basic process for recording match results;
- ensure facility rules and emergency information are communicated where necessary.

VPEI may assist with the facilitation or recruitment of officials where practical.

9.10 Medical & Emergency Planning

Tournament hosts are not required to provide dedicated medical personnel.

Hosts must, however:

- have access to basic first-aid supplies;
- know the facility's emergency procedures;
- know the location of an AED where one is available;
- ensure emergency access routes remain clear; and
- identify an individual responsible for coordinating emergency response if required.

Injury, concussion and return-to-play procedures will follow applicable VPEI and Volleyball Canada policies.

9.11 Tournament Director

Each sanctioned tournament must identify a Tournament Director responsible for the overall administration of the event.

The Tournament Director may make reasonable operational adjustments to schedules, court assignments and match timing where required due to delays, facility issues, withdrawals or other circumstances.

Competition-rule decisions remain the responsibility of the match officials in accordance with the Volleyball Canada Rule Book.

10. Competition Rules

10.1 Volleyball Canada Rules

The current Volleyball Canada Rule Book will apply unless otherwise modified by these Competition Guidelines.

VPEI aims to provide a safe, developmentally appropriate and welcoming club competition environment. Where appropriate, VPEI may modify or simplify event procedures while maintaining the integrity of competition.

10.2 Match Formats

Major VPEI Events
Matches will be played best two-of-three sets with no point cap. VPEI will endeavor to provide each team with a minimum of four matches.

Age-Class Jamborees
Matches will generally consist of two sets regardless of result. VPEI will aim to schedule each team for a minimum of six sets.

10.3 Official Balls

Age Category	Official Ball
Tripleball	Mikasa VUL500
13U–16U	Mikasa VQ200W
17U–18U	Mikasa V200W

Equivalent competition balls may be approved by VPEI where required.

10.4 Net Heights

Age Category	Girls	Boys
Tripleball	2.15 m	2.15 m

13U	2.15 m	—
14U	2.15 m	2.20 m
15U	2.20 m	2.35 m
16U	2.24 m	2.35 m
17U	2.24 m	2.43 m
18U	2.24 m	2.43 m

10.5 Uniform Requirements

Teams competing during the VPEI club season should strive to meet the minimum uniform standards established by Volleyball Canada.

At a minimum:

- Athletes on the same team must wear matching team jerseys.
- Each athlete must have a unique and clearly visible jersey number.

VPEI recognizes that clubs may be at different stages of development and will prioritize athlete participation while encouraging clubs to work toward full Volleyball Canada uniform standards.

10.6 Libero Rules

The applicable Volleyball Canada libero rules will apply.

- no libero is permitted at 15U;
- one libero is permitted at 16U and 17U;
- 18U may use two liberos in accordance with Volleyball Canada rules.

10.7 Fair Play

- VPEI's 14U competition structure is designed to balance meaningful competition with long-term athlete development.
- The Volleyball Canada Fair Play Rule will apply to all VPEI 14U competition.
- 14U teams may carry up to 15 athletes on their roster, with a maximum of 12 athletes listed on the game sheet.
- Teams are encouraged to develop multiple setters and avoid unnecessary early specialization.

10.8 Warm-Up Procedures

The official warm-up format will normally follow a 2–4–4 model:

- two minutes shared court time;
- four minutes at the net for the serving team;
- four minutes at the net for the receiving team.

Teams must not use volleyballs in the free zone during the opposing team's allocated net warm-up. Teams must always follow volleyball Canada concussion protocols during the warmup (Appendix C)

10.9 Match Protocols

- Teams will change sides following each set.
- Only eligible rostered team personnel may occupy the team bench.
- Additional match procedures will follow the Volleyball Canada Rule Book unless otherwise stated.

10.10 Late Teams and Forfeits

- A team not ready to play within 10 minutes of the scheduled start time will lose the first set 25–0.
- If the team is still unavailable 20 minutes after the scheduled start time, the match will be forfeited and recorded as 25–0, 25–0.
- VPEI may waive these rules where delays result from weather, facility issues, tournament delays or other mitigating circumstances.

10.11 Equipment Standards

- Courts must use safe, properly installed volleyball equipment appropriate to the age category.
- Nets, standards, padding and antennas must be installed in a manner consistent with Volleyball Canada rules and reasonable facility safety standards.
- Match balls must meet the applicable standards outlined in Section 10.3.

11. Rankings & Seeding

11.1 Ranking Philosophy

VPEI will use ranking and seeding primarily to create balanced competition and appropriate Provincial Championship pools. The ranking system is not intended to create unnecessary barriers to participation.

11.2 Seeding Event Rankings

Teams participating in the designated VPEI Seeding Event will receive an initial ranking based on previous-season results and other relevant competitive information, where available.

VPEI may consider factors including:

- previous Provincial Championship results;

- previous VPEI competition results;
- the progression of returning athletes and teams between age classes; and
- other relevant competitive information available to VPEI.

For new teams, newly formed clubs, or teams without relevant previous-season results, VPEI will assign an initial ranking using the best information available. Where no meaningful competitive information exists, teams may be randomly placed within the remaining seeding positions.

Initial rankings are intended only to create balanced pools for the Seeding Event and do not constitute Provincial Championship rankings.

As the VPEI club competition system develops and additional competition data becomes available, VPEI may introduce a more formal season-long ranking process.

11.3 Provincial Championships Rankings

Results from the designated VPEI Seeding Event will establish the primary ranking order for Provincial Championships.

Participation in the Seeding Event is strongly encouraged but is not mandatory for Provincial Championship eligibility.

Teams participating in the Seeding Event will be ranked according to their results. Teams that do not participate will be ranked below all teams that receive a ranking through the Seeding Event.

Where multiple unseeded teams enter Provincials, those teams will be randomly ordered at the bottom of the rankings before Provincial Championship pools are created.

The serpentine method will normally be used to distribute ranked teams among Provincial Championship pools. VPEI may make reasonable adjustments where required by registration numbers, pool sizes, withdrawals, competition format, or other operational considerations.

11.4 Tie-Breaking

Where two or more teams are tied at the end of round-robin competition, the Volleyball Canada tie-breaking procedure will apply.

The criteria will be applied in the following order:

- best ratio of matches won to matches lost between the tied teams;
- best ratio of sets won to sets lost between the tied teams;
- best ratio of sets won to sets lost across all round-robin matches;
- best ratio of points for to points against between the tied teams;
- best ratio of points for to points against across all round-robin matches;

- coin toss.

Where Volleyball Canada modifies its official tie-breaking procedure, VPEI may adopt the current Volleyball Canada procedure.

12. Provincial Championships

12.1 Eligibility

To participate in a VPEI Provincial Championship:

- the team must belong to a registered VPEI club;
- all athletes must be registered VPEI members;
- the team roster must be submitted through SportLoMo;
- team personnel must meet applicable VPEI registration, screening and certification requirements;
- the team must register by the Provincial Championship registration deadline; and
- the team and club must be in good standing.

Participation in the Seeding Event is strongly encouraged but is not mandatory.

12.2 Roster Lock

- The 2026–27 VPEI Roster Lock will be March 15, 2027.
- Athletes may be added to or assigned between team rosters until the Roster Lock deadline.
- Following the Roster Lock, athletes may not be added to a team roster or transferred between team rosters unless approved by VPEI under exceptional circumstances.

12.3 Registration

- Provincial Championship registration will open on January 31, 2027.
- The final registration deadline will be communicated once competition dates and facilities are confirmed.
- Late registrations may be accepted at the discretion of VPEI and will be subject to a $250 Late Provincial Championship Registration Fee.
- Payment of the late fee does not guarantee acceptance.

12.4 Competition Format

Provincial Championships will normally use round-robin pool play followed by playoffs. VPEI may adjust the competition format based on the number of registered teams, facility availability, scheduling requirements, or other operational considerations.

Playoffs may include:

- Round of 16;
- Quarterfinals;
- Semifinals;
- Bronze Medal Match;
- Championship Final.

All matches will be best two-of-three.

VPEI will endeavor to provide a minimum of four matches per team.

12.5 Divisions

Tier 1 and Tier 2 divisions may be created based on registration numbers and competitive considerations. VPEI will generally aim for 8–12 teams in Tier 1 where practical. Where multiple tiers are offered, VPEI will determine division sizes based on registration numbers, competitive balance, facility capacity, and tournament format. Provincial Championships may accommodate up to 24 teams per age/gender category where capacity permits.

12.6 Awards

VPEI will recognize teams at VPEI Provincial Championships

- Tier 1 Championship teams will receive Provincial Championship T-shirts and medals.
- An All-Star Team will be selected for each Tier 1 boys' and girls' age class at the Provincial Championships.
- Additional medal placements may be awarded as communicated by VPEI for the applicable event.

12.7 14U Provincial Championships

The 2027 14U Provincial Championships are tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 3rd

12.8 16U and 18U Provincial Championships

VPEI may offer 16U and 18U Provincial Championships where sufficient registration exists.

A minimum of four registered teams within an age/gender category will normally be required.

VPEI will confirm whether these Championships will proceed no later than February 15.

12.9 Refund Policy

- Provincial Championship withdrawals received before the registration deadline will receive a refund of 50% of the event registration fee.

- No refund will be provided after the registration deadline.
- Where VPEI cancels Provincials, 100% of the VPEI event registration fee will be refunded.
- Third-party processing and service fees are non-refundable.
- VPEI may consider exceptions in extraordinary circumstances.

12.10 Protest Procedures

Match protests will be handled in accordance with the applicable Volleyball Canada protest procedure unless an event-specific procedure is communicated by VPEI.

13. Officials

This section establishes the general officiating framework for VPEI competition. The VPEI Referee Committee, in consultation with VPEI, may establish additional operating procedures, assignment standards, development requirements, and payment schedules consistent with this Guide.

13.1 Certification Requirements

Officials assigned to VPEI-sanctioned competition must meet the registration and certification requirements established by Volleyball Canada and VPEI for the applicable level of competition.

VPEI may establish different certification expectations based on:

- age category;
- competition level;
- playoff round;
- event type; and
- referee development needs.

13.2 Assignments

VPEI will coordinate referee assignments for VPEI-operated events.

Open Tournament organizers are responsible for appointing officials for their events. All requests for referees must go through VPEI's assignors Lindsay Corkum and Joe Ryan (Appendix C). Lindsay and Joe can be contacted at peirrc@gmail.com. Requests for tournaments should be made a minimum of 2-weeks in advance, while exhibition or single matches should be made a minimum of 1 week in advance. VPEI may assist with the facilitation of referee assignments where requested.

13.3 Payment

VPEI, in consultation with the Referee Committee, will establish payment rates for officials assigned to

VPEI-operated events. Rates may be reviewed annually.

Open Tournament organizers are responsible for paying officials assigned to their events in accordance with applicable VPEI requirements. All Payments for referees must go through VPEI, the assignor will invoice the club, the club then pays VPEI and then VPEI will forward payment to the referee.

Travel reimbursement and related payment procedures may be established by VPEI and the referee committee.

13.4 Responsibilities

Officials are responsible for:

- applying the applicable rules of play;
- managing the match in a fair and professional manner;
- supporting a safe competition environment and addressing safety concerns within the official's authority;
- addressing match-related conduct concerns;
- accurately managing match procedures; and
- communicating with teams and event personnel.

13.5 Scorekeepers

Unless otherwise communicated, each team is responsible for providing one scorekeeper per match.

VPEI may provide designated scorekeepers for championship matches or major events.

13.6 Referee Supervisors

VPEI may appoint a Referee Supervisor or Head Official for Major VPEI Events.

The Referee Supervisor may support:

- referee assignments;
- referee mentoring and development;
- rule interpretation;
- match-management concerns; and
- communication between officials and the Tournament Director.

13.7 Official Conduct

Officials are expected to follow all applicable VPEI and Volleyball Canada codes of conduct and Safe Sport requirements.

Officials must maintain professional, respectful, and impartial conduct while performing their duties.

13.8 Officiating Availability

Where sufficient officials are not available, VPEI may adjust referee assignments, match coverage, or officiating procedures as reasonably required to operate the competition. VPEI will endeavor to maintain appropriate officiating standards while considering participant safety, competition level, and referee availability.

14. Safe Sport & Conduct

VPEI's existing Safe Sport, Code of Conduct, and related policies remain in effect.
This section is intended as a reminder of expectations within the club competition environment and does not replace or modify existing VPEI policies.

14.1 Safe and Respectful Environment

All participants are expected to contribute to a safe, respectful, and positive environment.

This includes athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, spectators, and club representatives.

14.2 Rule of Two and Open & Observable Environments

Coaches and team personnel are expected to follow VPEI and Volleyball Canada requirements regarding the Rule of Two and Open and Observable environments.

Clubs should structure team activities, travel, and communication in ways that support these principles.

14.3 Spectator and Parent Behavior

Parents and spectators are expected to:

- support athletes positively;
- respect coaches and officials;
- avoid abusive, threatening or discriminatory conduct;
- avoid interfering with match administration; and
- follow facility and event instructions.

Spectators may be removed from an event where behavior compromises safety or the competition environment.

A spectator who is removed may be subject to additional restrictions or consequences under applicable VPEI policies.

14.4 Photography, Video and Social Media

Photography, video and social media use must comply with applicable VPEI Safe Sport, privacy and conduct policies.

Participants should use good judgment when recording, posting, or sharing content involving youth athletes.

14.5 Maltreatment Reporting

Concerns involving abuse, harassment, bullying, discrimination, neglect or other forms of maltreatment should be reported through the applicable VPEI Safe Sport or complaint process. Any person with a reporting obligation under VPEI policy must comply with that obligation.

Competition staff may take immediate action where required to protect participant safety.

14.6 In-Match Conduct

Rule-related concerns and in-match conflict should first be addressed by the match officials.

Broader conduct concerns should be brought to the Tournament Director or VPEI representative.

Immediate safety concerns may result in immediate intervention by VPEI.

Nothing in these Competition Guidelines replaces or supersedes VPEI's existing Code of Conduct, Safe Sport, Discipline and Complaints, or related policies.

15. Discipline, Complaints & Appeals

15.1 Competition Complaints

Operational complaints relating to tournament administration, scheduling, or event procedures should be directed to the Tournament Director or VPEI.

15.2 Safe Sport Complaints

Safe Sport concerns must be addressed through the applicable VPEI Safe Sport and complaint process.

15.3 Match Protests

Match protests will follow Volleyball Canada's applicable protest procedures. Protests must be made at the time that they occur during the match. A protest cannot occur after the match.

15.4 Appeals

Appeals of disciplinary or administrative decisions will be handled under the applicable VPEI appeals or discipline of policy.

15.5 Conflict Resolution

Where appropriate, VPEI may seek informal resolution of lower-level operational disputes before initiating a formal process.

Informal resolution will not replace the formal Safe Sport process where the nature of the complaint requires formal reporting or investigation.

15.6 Hearing Process

Where a formal hearing is required, the applicable VPEI Discipline and Complaints Policy will govern the process.

16. Sanctions, Fines & Fees

VPEI's preference is to resolve minor competition issues through education, communication, and progressive accountability.

Sanctions may be applied where violations affect athlete safety, fairness, event operations or compliance with VPEI policies.

The following framework provides general guidance. VPEI may apply a different response where warranted by the circumstances.

Violation	Typical First Response	Possible Subsequent Response
Unauthorized bench personnel	Removal from bench and club warning	Club sanction and/or fine
Unexcused tournament no-show	Formal warning	Possible loss of Provincial eligibility and/or club sanction
Late Provincial registration	$250 late registration fee	Registration may be refused
Roster violation	Review and corrective action	Athlete/team ineligibility and/or club sanction
Use of ineligible athlete	Match or event review	Forfeit, team sanction and/or loss of eligibility
Tournament hosting violation	Warning and corrective action	Loss of sanctioning privileges

Failure to provide required scorekeeper	Warning	Possible team or club sanction
Repeated facility cleanliness violations	Warning	Club sanction and/or fine
Coach registration or screening non-compliance	Removal from bench until compliant	Club or coach sanction
Conduct violation	Managed under applicable conduct policy	Additional discipline under VPEI policy
Failure to pay outstanding VPEI fees	Notice of outstanding balance	Loss of good standing and/or restriction from VPEI events

VPEI may consider:

- severity of the violation;
- whether the violation was intentional;
- participant safety;
- previous violations;
- cooperation with corrective action; and
- the impact on other teams or the event.

Sanctions may include:

- warning;
- removal from a match or event;
- loss of eligibility;
- match forfeiture;
- loss of Provincial Championship eligibility;
- loss of tournament sanctioning privileges;
- financial penalties;
- suspension; or
- other measures permitted by VPEI policy.

Any disciplinary matter falling under an existing VPEI policy will be handled through that policy rather than through this section alone.

VPEI may publish an annual schedule of specific fines and administrative fees where required.

Appendix A – 2026-27 Key Dates and Deadlines

Date / Timing	Item	What Clubs Need to Know
September 1, 2026	Club Approval Opens	Clubs may begin the annual approval process and renew required memberships.
November 16–29, 2026	Official Tryout Period	Clubs may conduct official evaluations and tryouts.
November 30,2026 at 12:00 p.m.	Official Offers May Begin	Clubs may begin issuing official offers.
January 31, 2027	Club Approval Deadline	Annual club approval must be complete.
January 31, 2027	Provincial Registration Opens	Provincial Championship registration opens.
February 15, 2027	16U/18U Provincial Decision	VPEI confirms whether those Championships will proceed.
March 15, 2027	Roster Lock	Athlete additions and transfers become restricted.
March 15, 2027	Coach Certification Deadline	Role-specific coach education/certification must be complete.
TBD	14U Seeding Event	Establishes Provincial Championship rankings.
March 6,7, 2027	VPEI Red Dirt Classic	Open club event (14U, 16U and 18U)
April 3, 2027	14U Provincials	Tentative dates; venue subject to confirmation.

Appendix B – Age Categories and Competition Requirements

B.1 Age Categories

Volleyball PEI follows Volleyball Canada's official age classifications. Age categories are based on an athlete's birth month and year, including the applicable 16-month eligibility window.

Age Category	September–December Birth	January–August Birth
14U	2012	2013
15U	2011	2012
16U	2010	2011
17U	2009	2010
18U	2008	2009

VPEI may operate Provincial competition using combined two-year cohorts, including 13U/14U as 14U, 15U/16U as 16U, and 17U/18U as 18U, depending on registration numbers and development needs.

The minimum age for participation in VPEI Club Volleyball is 10 years old.

B.2 Official Competition Balls

Age Category	Official Ball
Tripleball	Mikasa VUL500
13U–16U	Mikasa VQ200W
17U–18U	Mikasa V200W

Equivalent competition balls may be approved by VPEI where required.

B.3 Net Heights

Age Category	Girls	Boys
Tripleball	2.15 m	2.15 m
13U	2.15 m	—
14U	2.15 m	2.20 m
15U	2.20 m	2.35 m

16U	2.24 m	2.35 m
17U	2.24 m	2.43 m
18U	2.24 m	2.43 m

These are the net heights currently established in Section 10.4 of the Guide.

B.4 Libero Rules

The applicable Volleyball Canada libero rules will apply, subject to the following VPEI age-class provisions:

Age Category	Libero Use
15U	No libero permitted
16U	One libero permitted
17U	One libero permitted
18U	Up to two liberos in accordance with Volleyball Canada rules

B.5 14U Fair Play Requirements

The Volleyball Canada Fair Play Rule applies to all VPEI 14U competition.

For 14U competition:

- teams may carry up to 15 athletes on their official roster;
- a maximum of 12 athletes may be listed on the game sheet; and
- teams are encouraged to develop multiple setters and avoid unnecessary early specialization.

B.6 Team Roster Size

For VPEI club competition, each team must register:

Requirement	**Number**
Minimum athletes	8
Maximum athletes	15
Minimum Head Coaches	1
Maximum Head Coaches	2

Maximum bench personnel	5

Volleyball Canada roster requirements for National Championships may differ from VPEI requirements.

Appendix C – Contacts and Key Resources

The following resources support clubs, coaches, athletes, officials and families participating in VPEI Club Volleyball. Where an external policy or resource is referenced in this Competition Guide, the current version of that policy or resource will apply.

Topic	Contact / Resource
General Club Competition Questions	Volleyball PEI
Club Approval & Registration	Volleyball PEI / SportLoMo
Tournament Sanctioning	Volleyball PEI
Provincial Championships	Volleyball PEI
Tournament-Day Issues	Tournament Director or designated VPEI representative
Referee & Officiating Questions	VPEI Referee Committee – peirrc@gmail.com
Safe Sport Concerns	VPEI Safe Sport reporting process
Discipline & Complaints	VPEI Discipline and Complaints Policy
Appeals	Applicable VPEI Appeals Policy
Rules of Play	Current Volleyball Canada Rules of the Game
Match Protests	Current Volleyball Canada protest procedure
Coach Requirements	Volleyball PEI / Volleyball Canada Coach Education resources

Key Online Resources

- **Volleyball PEI Website**
- **SportLoMo Support**
- **VPEI Safe Sport & Policies**
- **VPEI Club Volleyball**
- **VPEI Club Volleyball Checklist**
- **Volleyball PEI Policy**
- **Volleyball Canada Rules & Regulations**
- **Volleyball Canada Coach Education**
- **Volleyball Canada Safe Sport**
- **Volleyball Canada Concussion Protocol**
- **Volleyball Canada Warm Up Protocol**

Coaching Resources

- **Coach Eligibility and Certification Requirements**
- **Volleyball Connect**
- **The Locker - NCCP**
- **Sideline**
- **Sport PEI - VIP Coach**

Updated – Oct 1st, 2026