



Qld State Championships Competition By-Laws



Preamble

The Qld State Championships will be offered annually with multiple divisions available including Championship, Division 1, **Division 2** and junior age groups (U18 & U16). These By-Laws address arrangements associated with the eligibility of players, requirements of participant teams, and conduct of the competition. Each tournament's date of occurrence, location, divisions offered and entry process will be available through the Volleyball Queensland website: www.vq.org.au

1. Team Eligibility

- 1.1. Division 1, **Division 2** and the junior divisions will be open to all associations/clubs.
- 1.2. Championship Division will be only open to VQ **"Affiliate" and "Associate" member associations/clubs**, with the exception of By-Law 1.3 and 1.4.
- 1.3. International teams will be allowed to participate in the Championship Division at the Volleyball Queensland State Championships, with approval of the VQ Board, and shall compete on an equal basis with all other teams in the competition with the exception that international teams do not accumulate points towards the Presidents Shield.
- 1.4. The VQ Board may accept teams to the Tournament as invitational teams.

2. Team Nominations and payments

- 2.1. **Team nominations must be entered online through the entry portal provided on the tournament website: <https://www.vq.org.au/competitions/tournaments/qld-state-championships/>**
- 2.2. **Teams will be sent an invoice with all the associated payment details and due dates**
- 2.3. **Teams withdrawals after invoices are sent will incur the following financial penalties:**
 - 2.3.1 **Withdrawal up to invoice payment date – full refund/cancellation of invoice**
 - 2.3.2 **Withdrawal after invoice payment date but before draw publishing date – 50% refund**
 - 2.3.3 **Withdrawal after the draw publishing date – full entry fee payable**

3. Player Eligibility

- 3.1. For players to be eligible, they must be:
 - a) **a current financial member of VQ** (by **11.59pm** Wednesday prior to the tournament)
 - b) athletes playing for an affiliated club should be a registered member of the affiliated club they are representing. If they are registered with another affiliated club, and wish to be released to play with a different affiliated club, then the athlete must lodge a completed Player Clearance Form with VQ (by **11.59pm** on the Wednesday prior to the tournament).
- 3.2. All players must be properly registered prior to playing in the competition.
- 3.3. Male registered players cannot play in the women's competition matches. Female registered players cannot play in the men's competition matches.
- 3.4. Players in the junior divisions must be under the stated age for the full calendar year of the competition.
- 3.5. Any team fielding an illegal or ineligible player (e.g. unregistered, not properly transferred, under a false name, or not under the correct age for age limited divisions) will forfeit that match.
- 3.6. Players may be added to the team list during the tournament upon request and with the approval of the Competition Manager.



Qld State Championships

Competition By-Laws



- 3.7. Only those players named on the score sheet at the end of the match and **having entered the court** during the match will be registered as having played.
- 3.8. Teams must clearly designate their libero on the last available line on the score sheet for each match by putting an "L" next to their playing number. **Only one libero** may be used per match (Championship division) or **per** set (all other divisions).
- 3.9. In the event of a forfeit due to incomplete team numbers, those listed on the score sheet and present at the scheduled start time will be recorded as playing.
- 3.10. Players may only appear on one (1) team list for the duration of the tournament and may not play multiple divisions. Team lists for all teams are to be lodged with VQ by 11.59pm on the Wednesday prior to the tournament via the Affiliate On-Line **(AOL) password-protected system**. **New clubs should email it@vq.org.au to receive an initial log-in ID and password**. Only in extreme circumstances may the Competition Manager grant an exemption, **which must be done before the nominee enters any match**.

4. Finals Format and Eligibility

- 4.1. To be eligible to play in the finals, a player must have entered the court in at least two (2) preliminary round matches for their team.
- 4.2. Teams fielding 'ineligible players' in finals matches will automatically forfeit all sets in which that player took the court.
- 4.3. In case of a forfeit during the finals, the offending team will be eliminated from the final series. Only teams that have fulfilled their final commitments, including duty, will be eligible for any medals or awards.

5. Match Regulations

5.1. Format

- 5.1.1 Unless otherwise stated, all matches will be conducted under the current FIVB International Rules of Volleyball.
- 5.1.2 **All Championship pool matches will be played using the "Best of Five (5) Sets Untimed" format, with rally point scoring system.**
- 5.1.3 All other division's matches, including all finals, will be played **using the "Best of Three (3) Sets Untimed" format**. The third set will be scored to 15 points (with a 2 point advantage).
- 5.1.4 The 12 Substitution Rule will be used in all grades. Teams may use a Libero as well during a match, but only one player designated per match (Championship Division) or **per** set (all other divisions) is allowed.
- 5.1.5 The games will be played under the GEST (Guaranteed Earliest Starting Time) system. This means that
 - 5.1.5.1 All matches (first serve whistle) will commence at the time advised in the official draw or ten (10) minutes after the completion of the previous match on that court, whichever is the later. This time includes the warm-up protocol.



Qld State Championships

Competition By-Laws



5.1.5.2 If a team due to play has performed duty on the previous match, both teams will receive an additional five (5) minutes changeover time, resulting in 15 minutes from “last whistle to first whistle” between games. This time includes the warm-up protocol.

5.2. Forfeits and Late Starts

- 5.2.1 All matches will commence at the time advised in the official draw or as required through clause 5.1.5. This time includes the warm-up protocol.
- 5.2.2 If a team is not ready to start at the advised time, that team forfeits the first set. If, after another ten (10) minutes, either team is still not ready to commence, that team forfeits the second set. Once a further ten (10) minutes has elapsed, a match forfeit will be recorded.
- 5.2.3 When neither team is ready to commence at the advised starting time, both teams forfeit the first set. If neither team is ready to start after ten (10) minutes, both forfeit the second set and a double match forfeit will be recorded.
- 5.2.4 The Competition Manager reserves the right to permit matches to commence late without penalty, due to unforeseen problems, e.g. traffic accidents or major events.

5.3. Uniforms

- 5.3.1 All players must wear a uniform.
- 5.3.2 The shirt must have - permanently fixed to the front and back - a number between 1 and 99. Numbers on the front right hand side of the shorts are also encouraged.
- 5.3.3 The colour and design of the shirt must be consistent throughout the team.

6. Officials

- 6.1. Duty teams must provide a first referee, a second referee, two (2) standing lines-persons and one (1) scorer. VQ will provide 1st Referees for all medal matches; duty teams will provide the other match officials as above.
- 6.2. Teams competing in the Championship Division must provide a **suitably experienced and currently accredited first referee** for their allocated duties. Teams competing in all other divisions must provide a competent first referee for their allocated duties.
- 6.3. All scorers and lines people are prohibited from using mobile phones and other electronic devices during the match.
- 6.4. A First and Second Referee will be provided for all medal matches in Championship Division.

7. Player/Coach Behaviour

- 7.1. Any athlete or coach, who is sanctioned with disqualification in a match, will be cited to appear before the VQ Judiciary.
- 7.2. Any athlete or coach who receives two (2) red cards during the tournament will be suspended from being involved in the same team’s next match.
- 7.3. Players or Coaches, who receive red card offences, may be cited to appear before the VQ Judiciary Committee at the discretion of the Competition Manager and Chief Referee.



Qld State Championships

Competition By-Laws



8. Competition Standings and Penalties

- 8.1. Competition points will be awarded as follows:
 - a) 3 points for a win
 - b) 1 point for a loss
 - c) 0 points for a forfeit
- 8.2. Competition Table. The position of teams on the competition points table is determined by the following order:
 - a) The most competition points
 - b) The highest percentage of sets won to sets played (five decimal places)
 - c) The highest percentage of points won to points played (five decimal places)
 - d) Result of the pool match between the two (2) teams.

9. Awards

- 9.1. Each division will receive medals for finishing 1st, 2nd or 3rd.
- 9.2. A perpetual trophy is presented to winning teams at the conclusion of the tournament. This perpetual trophy will remain with VQ and displayed prominently.
- 9.3. Winning teams in each division will subsequently receive a personalised "Recipient Perpetual Trophy" that will be produced and forwarded after the tournament.
- 9.4. Winners in all divisions will be published on VQ's website and in our Annual Report.

10. VQ President's Shield

- 10.1. The VQ President's Shield will be awarded to the 'best performing' club across all divisions and both genders. Points counting towards the VQ President's Shield will be allocated in two parts:
 - 10.1.1 Participation Points - a base level of points awarded for entering a club's first team in that division; and
 - 10.1.2 Placing Points - determined by the team's finishing position in that division.
- 10.2. Clubs with more than one team entered in a division will only receive "Placing Points" for their highest finishing club team in that division. The points corresponding with the second club team's position are "sterilised" and lower-placed teams do not move up the "Placing Points" table.
- 10.3. To be eligible for the VQ President's Shield, each club must compete in a minimum of four (4) divisions.



Qld State Championships Competition By-Laws



10.4. VQ President's Shield Points allocation

10.4.1 Participation Points

Division	Championship	Division 1	Division 2	Under 18	Under 16
Points	80	60	40	20	20

10.4.2 Placing Points

Place	Points
1 st	20
2 nd	15
3 rd	12
4 th	10
5 th	9
6 th	8
7 th	7
8 th	6
9 th	5
10 th	4
11 th	3
12 th	2

10.5. Totals are calculated at the end of all finals matches.

10.6. If Associations are tied on President's Shield points, then they will be determined by the following sequential criteria:

- Number of Gold Medals won across all divisions
- Number of Silver Medals won across all divisions
- Number of Bronze Medals won across all divisions
- Highest ranked club in Championship Division across both genders combined
- Result of head to head between the two clubs in Championship Division across both genders combined

11. Management of the Competition

11.1. The Competition Manager(s) is responsible for the efficient running of the tournament.

11.2. The Chief Referee is responsible for appointment of referees, and implementing the "on-the-spot Protest Resolution" procedure.

11.3. All formal written complaints concerning management of the competition should be marked to the attention of the VQ General Manager and will be dealt with as quickly as possible.



Qld State Championships Competition By-Laws



12. Protests, Appeals & Referrals

- 12.1. All match protests will be resolved using the “on-the-spot protest resolution” guidelines.
- 12.2. Matters concerning discipline will be referred to the VQ Judiciary Committee for action as outlined in VQ’s “Complaints Handling Procedure”.
- 12.3. Appeals against a decision of the Competition Manager must be lodged to VQ’s General Manager in accordance with VQ’s “Complaints Handling Procedure”.