



STATE CUP SERIES RULES

updated 09/03/2016

TEAM ENTRY CRITERIA

Equity in participation objectives of SVNSW and fairness in Champion Club Awards

Entries submitted to SVNSW will be ranked in the following order for entry into an Event:

1. Host Association: 1 team per division
2. SVNSW Affiliates: 1st team per division
3. SVNSW Affiliates: 2nd team per division
4. Non-Affiliates: 1 team per division
5. SVNSW Affiliates: 3rd team per division

A team will be confirmed in an event upon receipt of Team Lists, Player Registrations and Entry Fees. SVNSW will collate all team entries received in order.

Team Entry Deadlines

Team Entry Deadlines will be strictly enforced. This is necessary to provide organisers sufficient time to process entries, special requests and create an equitable draw, which then gives teams and officials adequate notice of their commitments starting on Day 1 of the event.

Participation by Division 2 and Developing Club Teams

SVNSW encourages participation by Division 2 teams and developing Club teams. Where space permits (particularly at the larger venues) a men's and women's Division 2 will be included as stand-alone divisions.

Merging Divisions

If insufficient entries are received to deliver a viable competition in any given division, Organisers will merge two Divisions and allocate teams equally across Pools

Throughout the State Cup Series, all teams will be monitored for consistency of performance which will assist with determining future entries and suitability for participation in a Division.

Organisers will liaise with Club contacts for any matters that may see a Division being merged, oversubscribed or players breaching Eligibility rules, before releasing event draws.

Movement of players between Teams

All team entries for the 1st ranked team must be accompanied by a team list. Those players named cannot play down in lower divisions, or across teams in the same division for their Club.

The exception to this rule is any athlete in a NSW Junior State Team competing at a State Cup event, will be encouraged to compete with their primary Club team also (may not play in multiple Club teams as well as a NSW State Team during a single event).

The SVNSW Competitions Subcommittee may request an explanation of any Club where it is seen to be fielding players with a recent history of high standard performance, into lower division teams, with multiple games played in a lower division team.

Minimum Game Numbers & Duty Allocations

SVNSW commits to a minimum of four (4) games, for every team competing in a two-day event. This two-day event will also include Duty allocations (minimum 2) scheduled equitably across the weekend. For any one-day events within the Series, a minimum of 3 matches plus duty allocations should be expected.

Submitting Scheduling Requests for Consideration

At the time of lodging entries, teams may submit one (1) request for the organisers to consider special circumstances when scheduling the event. Organisers will consider all requests and use all reasonable endeavours to accommodate these where possible.

However, it is expected that teams entering the tournament do so with the knowledge that their participation is across a weekend period, may start late, and finish early depending on their performance as the draw progresses.

Series Rules

All matches will be played under the current FIVB Official Volleyball Rules as amended by the competition rules outlined below. Please ensure you are familiar with these rules.

1. All round matches will be **best of five (5) sets**. Games will feature 10 minute warm up and 50 minute game time, where the limitations of the draw allow. In the event that a Division is not fully subscribed, the game time will be extended as much as possible subject to venue limitations.

Sets 1-4 are to 25 points, 5th set is to 15. All sets will be rally point with a 2-point advantage.

An unfinished set will be deemed complete if a team reaches 13 points (sets 1-4) or 8 points (set 5) with a 2 point advantage. Failure of teams to reach these points to complete a set, results in a draw where sets won are equal. The rally being played at the end of time limit will be allowed to finish and be counted.

The maximum set score is 3-0. All competitions points accumulate towards the determination of team rankings.

2. Lower place Playoffs and Semi-finals will be **best of 3 sets timed** (Sets 1-2 to 25, 3rd set to 15). For these matches where an absolute result is required to determine finishing positions:
 - a) if the second set is incomplete at the end of the allotted time (ie, less than 13 points) then regardless of the margin in the second set, the team that won the first set, wins the match;
 - b) if the deciding third set is incomplete at the end of the allotted time and the sets are equal, then:
 - if the total match points are unequal then the team with the most total match points wins, regardless of the margin;
 - otherwise where sets and total points are both equal then a "Golden Point" will be played.
 - Players are to remain on court in their current rotation at the end of the last point. Playing of a Golden Point does not entitle teams to leave the court or submit new line-ups for the serve or serve reception.
 - Captains will attend a coin toss immediately with the First Referee, for service/ends.
 - No substitutions may occur. The winner of the Golden Point wins the match.
3. Gold Medal matches for all Divisions will be the best of 3 sets untimed. Where possible, bronze medal finals will also be best of 3 sets untimed.
4. No substitutions or time outs permitted in the last 5 minutes of all games.
5. Teams must be ready to start games on time, if a team (6 players) is not ready to take the court at the designated start time (after the 10 minute warm up) they lose the first set (25-0), after a further 10 minutes they lose the match.
6. Duty teams must provide:-

1 st Referee	2 nd Referee	Scorer	2 x linespeople (minimum)
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NSWVRA qualified referees will be appointed to 1st Referee Gold Medal matches if personnel are available.

7. The 12-substitution rule will be used.
8. A Team's nominated libero (s) will wear a contrasting uniform and may change each set of a match. A team may redesignate libero(s) between sets.
9. Player Eligibility :
 - All players must be current Registered Members of SVNSW or of an Affiliated Club/Association. It is the responsibility of the Team organisers to ensure player registration and payment has been received by SVNSW prior to the commencement of the event, and where possible one (1) week prior to the event, particularly for players in 1st ranked teams in each division.
 - Player verification will occur by referencing the submitted Entry Forms against the SVNSW 2015 Member Register as at Wednesday prior to the tournament. Players not registered will not be permitted to take the court.
 - Teams entering from other Member States and Territories must verify their players are current registered members of that State or Territory.
 - A player may only play in one team per division.
 - A player may only play for the team they register with, or a team in a higher division (ie players entered in Division 1 cannot play in any Division 2 teams).
 - No player may compete in the semi-final or Medal match of any division without having played in at least one game for their team before the semi-final stage.

10. Competition points will be awarded as follows:

Win	3	Draw	2	Loss	1	Forfeit	-1
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At the conclusion of the round games, if teams are equal on competition points in the competition ladder then the following criteria will be used to decide final positions:

Points Ratio

The order of team ranking will be determined by Points Ratio. The team with the highest points ratio (to three decimal points) will be awarded the higher placing in the round robin:

$$\text{Points Ratio} = \text{Points WON} / \text{Points Won} + \text{Points Lost}$$

Set Ratio

If the tie still exists after the calculation of the Points Ratio, then ranking will be determined by Set Ratio, with the team with the highest set ratio (to three decimal points) will be awarded the higher placing in the round robin:

$$\text{Sets Ratio} = \text{Sets WON} / \text{Sets Won} + \text{Sets Lost}$$

If there is still no clear placing, then positions will be determined by the highest total game points scored during the round robin.

11. All protests shall be addressed to the nominated Chief Referee for determination, following an on-the-spot protest resolution procedure.
12. Medals will be awarded to a maximum of 12 individuals nominated on the Team Entry form. Medals are not issued to Coaches/Managers unless excess stock exists after distribution to the players.
13. The Competition Manager will have the ultimate right to make necessary changes to the draw and above rules dependent on any circumstances arising from the team entries or circumstances arising during the competition.
14. Competitors, Officials and spectators in the SVNSW State Cup Series are invited to familiarise themselves with the Code of Conduct for SVNSW Sanctioned Events.
www.nswvolleyball.com/images/members/SVNSW_Code_of_Conduct_Tournaments_060313.pdf

15. State Cup Series Champion Points are awarded as follows, based on Top 5 finishing positions at each event in the Series:

1st - 5 pts

2nd - 4 pts

3rd - 3 pts

4th - 2 pts

5th - 1 pt

Champion Points accumulate after each event, with the winning Club to be determined after the Final of State Cup #5 In Sydney, when Round Finalists and also Series Presentations will be made. A tie cannot occur in determining the Champion Club.

If a tie exists between two or more teams on Champion points at the end of the State Cup #5 Minto, then the winner will be determined by:

- **Highest Set ratio** achieved by all competing teams, across all five events
- **Highest Points Ratio** achieved by all competing teams, across all five events.

