

Northern Beaches Volleyball Association

Players Code of Conduct 2008/2009



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1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to specify the Code of Conduct to apply to and be binding upon all Players, Coaches and Officials participating in any event of, or activity associated with, the Northern Beaches Volleyball Association (NBVA) Manly.

2 GENERAL

- 2.1 Every Player shall, during all matches and at all times whilst within the tournament "precinct", conduct himself / herself in a professional manner, in accordance with the provisions as outlined in this Code of Conduct.
- 2.2 For the purpose of this document, the tournament "precinct" shall be defined as all sections of the beach / venue which are under the formal control of NBVA Event Management.
- 2.3 The provisions hereinafter set forth shall apply to every Player's conduct whilst within such "precincts".

3 PUNCTUALITY

- 3.1 Registration opens according to the times announced and published on the NBVA website (<http://www.nbva.org.au/>). These times may vary and can be changed on discretion of NBVA.
- 3.2 It is the Players responsibility to inform himself / herself about the time registration opens on the day of the event. Failure to register on time will lead to sanctions as outlined in 3.2 to 3.7.
- 3.3 Matches shall follow each other without delay in accordance with the advertised order of play or as amended by the NBVA Tournament Director.
- 3.4 Teams will be permitted an allocated period to be used on court for warm-up (5 minutes unless otherwise advised by Tournament Officials).
- 3.5 The order of play for all divisions will be displayed in a highly visible place - so all Players should ensure they check on this regularly.
- 3.6 All teams are required to commence play at the instruction of the Referee
- 3.6.1 *Either team not ready to commence play at the allocated match start time shall:*
- a) Donate 1 point to their opponent for every minute, or part thereof, that they are late after the official match starting time
 - b) If, after 5 minutes the team is not ready to play they shall be declared in default of that set.
 - c) The same process as outlined in a) & b) shall be repeated for the second set (if the playing format allows for multiple sets).

- 3.7 The Tournament Director, after due consideration of all relevant circumstances, may elect under extraordinary circumstances not to declare a default (loss of set). Such decision will be made immediately.

4 ATTIRE

- 4.1 Players shall dress and present themselves in a professional manner.

4.2 Acceptable Attire

4.2.1 Acceptable attire shall be defined as clothing that is clean, meets the standards of common decency and is appropriate for competition.

4.2.2 Players will compete wearing the official NBVA or competition uniforms as supplied.

4.2.3 Official NBVA or competition uniforms must not be modified in any way.

4.3 Visible Identification

4.3.1 Players are not permitted to promote, use or advertise, during the course of an event, any sponsors conflicting with the NBVA / event sponsor or any tobacco company whilst within the tournament "precinct".

4.4 Accessories

4.4.1 Players are free to wear / use headwear, arm and wristbands, socks, shorts, swimwear bottoms, drink bottles, towels, bags, transferable tattoo's, etc to display their own personal sponsorship at their own discretion – always subject to paragraph 4.2 and 4.3.1 above.

4.4.2 Players' personal accessories should not be placed or positioned as to cover any branding or signage of NBVA / event sponsors.

5 LEAVING THE COURT

- 5.1 A Player shall not leave the immediate playing area during a match without the permission of the Referee or other Tournament Officials.

6 REFEREEING

- 6.1 A team that has to act as a Referee as outlined in the tournament schedule has to ensure to be aware of their duty and be one time for the game they have to ref.

- 6.2 A team that has to act as a Referee shall not leave the "precinct" without the permission of the Tournament Officials.

7 BEST EFFORTS

- 7.1 A Player must use his / her best efforts to win a match.

- 7.2 If, in the opinion of the NBVA Tournament Director, a player has failed to do so, he / she must show cause to the NBVA Beach Commission as to why he / she should be permitted to continue their participation in that or any subsequent NBVA event.

8 FAILURE TO COMPLETE A MATCH

- 8.1 A Player must complete a match in progress unless he / she is reasonably unable to do so.
- 8.2 Violation shall subject a team to automatically forfeit the match.
- 8.3 A forfeit will be recorded as a loss of match.

9 AWARDS PRESENTATION

- 9.1 A Player participating in Semi Finals or a Final of an event (AA or A Tournament) must attend and participate in the Awards Presentation after the match unless he / she is reasonably unable to do so.
- 9.2 In the event of a player being unable to attend the Awards Presentation, notification and reason must be given to the Tournament Director prior to the Player's nonattendance.
- 9.3 When accepting awards / prize money / prizes players are required to thank the NBVA Season Sponsor and Presenting Sponsor (and thank the Manly council as the Host Venue).

10 INTERRUPTIONS TO PLAY

10.1 Unreasonable Delays

10.1.1 Players must commence play upon the order of the Referee.

10.1.2 Thereafter, except for allowed periods of time-out and change-of-ends, play shall be continuous and a player shall not unreasonably delay a match for any cause.

10.2 Start of Rally

10.2.1 Where possible the minimum amount of time shall elapse from the moment the Referee blows the whistle to end the rally to the moment the whistle is blown to commence the next rally.

10.2.2 Any unreasonable delay will subject the offending team to a penalty as outlined in the official FIVB Misconduct Scale.

10.3 Change Of Ends

10.3.1 For all matches play shall be continuous upon the change-of-ends.

10.3.2 Failure by any team to meet this requirement shall result in the awarding of 1 point (and service) to the opponent.

11 MISCONDUCT

- 11.1 During competition the following misconduct categories, sanctions and sanction scale shall apply (see 12. Sanctions).

11.1.1 Unsportsmanlike conduct – argumentation, intimidation, etc.

11.1.2 *Rude conduct – acting contrary to good manners or moral principals, expressing contempt.*

11.1.3 *Offensive conduct – defamatory or insulting words or gestures.*

11.1.4 *Aggression – physical attack or intended aggression.*

11.1.5 *Theft – Taking something that is not yours.*

11.2 Audible Obscenity

11.2.1 *Players shall not use an audible obscenity within the tournament “precinct”.*

11.2.2 *For the purpose of this rule, “audible obscenity” shall be defined as the use of language commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard by the Referee, opponents or spectators.*

11.3 Visible Obscenity

11.3.1 *Players shall not make obscene gestures of any kind within the tournament “precinct”.*

11.3.2 *For the purpose of this rule, “visible obscenity” shall be defined as any actions or gestures by a player that commonly have an obscene meaning, understood by a reasonable person, or of an inappropriate nature.*

11.4 Abuse of the Ball

11.4.1 *Players shall not violently, dangerously, in frustration or anger, throw or kick the ball except in the reasonable pursuit of a rally.*

11.4.2 *For the purpose of this rule, “abuse of the ball” shall be defined as intentionally striking, kicking or throwing a ball out of the immediate area of the playing court, striking a ball dangerously or recklessly, or striking a ball with negligent disregard of the consequences.*

11.5 Abuse of the Net or Court Fixtures

11.5.1 *Players shall not violently, dangerously, recklessly, in frustration or anger, hit or pull on the net, other court fixtures, signage or other facilities.*

11.6 Theft of NBVA / Tournament Equipment

11.6.1 *The NBVA Beach Commission & Tournament Officials shall be imposing a ZERO TOLERANCE on violation of this Code of Conduct item. Any players found to be in breach of this item shall face automatic suspension and shall be afforded no recourse in overturning such sanction.*

11.7 Verbal Abuse

11.7.1 *Players shall not at any time abuse the match officials, teammates, opponents, spectators or Tournament Officials.*

11.7.2 *For the purpose of this rule, “verbal abuse” shall be defined as statement/s that imply dishonesty, negligence or are derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive.*

11.8 Physical Abuse

11.8.1 Players shall not at any time physically abuse or intend physical harm to any match official, teammate, opponents, spectators or Tournament Official.

11.9 Unsportsmanlike Conduct

11.9.1 Players shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner, giving due regard to the authority of all Tournament Officials and the rights of teammates, opponents and spectators.

11.9.2 For the purpose of this rule, "unsportsmanlike conduct" shall be defined as any conduct by a player that is clearly abusive, detrimental to the success of the tournament or the sport.

11.9.3 This shall include "sledding" by players both on and off the court area and any attempts to influence the referee's decisions or interfere with an opponent's play.

12 DOPING

12.1 NBVA Tournament Officials shall be imposing a ZERO TOLERANCE on violation of the following Code of Conduct item. Any players found to be in breach of this item shall face automatic suspension.

12.2 Violation of the following provisions shall subject the team to automatic exclusion from a tournament.

12.3 Alcohol

12.3.1 Players shall at no time consume alcohol / cigarettes whilst involved in playing or officiating in a match.

12.3.2 Players shall at no time consume alcohol whilst remaining in the Tournament competition draw.

12.3.3 Players shall at no time consume alcohol whilst within the Tournament "precincts" unless in an area designated by the Tournament Director.

12.4 Illegal or Banned Substances

12.4.1 Players shall at no time use any illegal substances whilst within the tournament "precinct".

13 SANCTIONS

13.1 A match referee may impose a yellow card sanction on a player or team for a minor breach of the code of conduct. A referee may, for a second minor breach or an initial more serious breach, impose a red card. On the issuing of a red card play shall be suspended and the Tournament Official will be called to the match and may impose further sanctions in respect to the red card incident or refer the matter to the Tournament Director for further consideration.

13.2 The Tournament Director may impose sanctions on players, teams and coaches for breaches of the regulations set out in the Player Handbook and this Code of Conduct. The available sanctions include but are not limited to:

- Official Warning
- Loss of point
- Loss of set
- Loss of match
- Loss of four points
- Allocation of "duty"
- Exclusion from events / suspension

13.3 Any player/coach who has accrued 2 "red cards", as prescribed in the FIVB Misconduct Scale, during the course of a tournament shall automatically lose the match in which the third penalty occurs.

13.4 Any player/coach excluded from a tournament must show cause to the Tournament Committee as to why he / she should be allowed to continue their participation in the current NBVA season.

13.5 Any player/coach excluded from 2 tournaments throughout the course of the NBVA season shall be ineligible to compete in any remaining events of the season, including the NBVA Championship.

13.6 Appeals – Players or teams wishing to appeal the decision of any sanction handed down must lodge their appeal in writing with the NBVA office within fourteen (14) days of the decision being made.

14 DEFAULTS

14.1 Default is defined as a loss of match.

14.2 At the discretion of the Tournament Director, a player may also be excluded from the remainder of the tournament and, in such case, he or she shall receive no Ranking Points.

14.3 If in the opinion of the Tournament Director the reason for the default is of a serious nature, the incident shall be reported to the NBVA Beach Commission, which may decide to impose sanctions against the offending player/s.

15 ADMINISTRATION OF THE CODE

15.1 The Tournament Director and Tournament Officials are empowered to enforce the rules and any subsequent sanctions, as outline in this Code of Conduct, at any time during the course of an event.

15.2 Any sanctions imposed by the recognised governing bodies of other local, regional, national or international competitions / tours / series shall carry over to be included on the NBVA events.

16 OFFICIALS' CODE OF ETHICS

16.1 Paid officials, volunteer officials and competitors who take on official roles (e.g. refereeing duty) are subject to this Code of Ethics.

16.2 The duty of the sports official is to act as an impartial judge of sporting competition. This duty carries with it an obligation for the official to perform with accuracy, consistency, objectivity and the highest sense of integrity. In order to preserve and encourage confidence in the professionalism and integrity of officiating, officials must first foster ethical behaviour.

16.3 The overriding objectives for Officials are to:

- a) Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- b) Accept responsibility for all actions taken.
- c) Be impartial.
- d) Avoid any situation, which may lead to conflict of interest.
- e) Be courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction.
- f) Value the individual in sport.
- g) Seek continual self-improvement through study, performance appraisal and regular updating of competencies.
- h) Encourage inclusiveness and access to all areas of officiating.
- i) Be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance.
- j) Refrain from any form of personal abuse towards athletes.
- k) Refrain from any form of harassment towards athletes.
- l) Show caution and concern towards sick and injured athletes.

16.4 Officials have the right to expect that:

- a) Their health and safety are paramount.
- b) They are treated with respect and openness.
- c) They are appointed to a level of competition appropriate to their level of competence.
- d) They have access to self-improvement opportunities.