



## What's New 2021-2022

### Early Contact Initiative

- The Early Contact Initiative commences this 2021-2022 season with the introduction of the following divisions for athletes born 2007 & Under:
  - 4v4 Rallyball
  - 6v6 Rallyball
  - Traditional Non-Specialized
- Summary of the specifics of the age division please click here:
  - <https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/indoor-competitions>
- Resources for coaches will be coming soon:
  - <https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/coaches-resources>

### Regular Season Ranking Process

- Teams will be split and seeded using their end of season ranking from 2019-2020. Age groups will start off in larger tiers to account for no results over the last 1.5 seasons.
  - 4v4 Rallyball
    - Trillium for all events
  - 6v6 Rallyball Girls
    - Trillium for all events
  - 6v6 Rallyball Boys
    - Trillium for all events
  - TNS Girls
    - Provincial – Challenge Cups: Trillium
    - McGregor – Bugarski Cups: Trillium, Championship, Premier
  - TNS Boys
    - Provincial – Challenge Cups: Trillium
    - McGregor – Bugarski Cups: Trillium, Championship, Premier
  - 15U Boys
    - Provincial Cup: Trillium
    - Challenge – Bugarski Cups: Trillium, Championship, Premier
  - 15U Girls
    - Provincial Cup – Trillium White, Championship
    - Challenge – Bugarski Cups: Trillium Green, Trillium White, Championship, Select, Premier
  - 16U Boys
    - Provincial Cup: Trillium
    - Challenge – Bugarski Cups: Trillium, Championship, Premier
  - 16U Girls
    - Provincial Cup – Trillium White, Championship
    - Challenge – Bugarski Cups: Trillium Green, Trillium White, Championship, Select, Premier

- 17U Boys
  - Provincial Cup: Trillium
  - Challenge – Bugarski Cups: Trillium, Championship, Premier
- 17U Girls
  - Provincial Cup – Trillium, Championship
  - Challenge – Bugarski Cups: Trillium, Championship, Select, Premier
- 18U Boys
  - Provincial Cup: Trillium
  - Challenge – Bugarski Cups: Trillium, Premier
- 18U Girls
  - Provincial Cup: Trillium, Championship, Select
  - Challenge – Bugarski Cups: Trillium, Championship, Select, Premier

### Playing Rules and Regulations

- 19U Eligibility: Athletes born in 2003 are eligible to compete in 18U OVA tournaments including the Ontario Championships provided they are not a part of any OCAA, OUA, USports, CCAA team for the 2021-2022 season.
  - Volleyball Canada’s National Championships eligibility may differ. Please click here for information on Volleyball Canada’s Nationals Information.  
<https://volleyball.ca/en/competitions/>
- For OVA competition ONLY, the ball will be permitted to touch the ceiling during rally play. Exact rule will be added to the OVA Youth Competitions Manual:
  - A ball, other than a served ball, shall remain in play if it contacts the ceiling or other overhead objects 4.6 m (15’) or more above the playing area. If benches, bleachers, low-hanging baskets or other floor obstructions are less than 2 m (6’6 3/4”) from the court and interfere with play of the ball, the ball becomes out of play and a replay may be directed at the 1st referee’s discretion.
  - The ball is out of play when:
    - Rule 10.1.2 is not in effect, and the ball makes contact with the ceiling or obstruction above the opponent’s playing area.
    - Rule 10.1.2 is in effect, and a ball that cannot be legally retrieved from the opponent’s free zone contacts the ceiling or obstruction over the opponent’s playing area.
    - The ball contacts the ceiling or obstruction above the team’s playing area and crosses the plane of the net into the opponent’s court.  
\*\*NOTE RULE 10.1.2: The ball that has crossed the net plane to the opponent’s free zone totally or partly through the external space, may be played back within the team hits, provided that:  
10.1.2.1 the opponent’s court is not touched by the player;  
10.1.2.2 the ball, when played back, crosses the net plane again totally or partly through the external space on the same side of the court.  
The opponent team may not prevent such action.

### Ontario Championships Dates and Hotel Booking Process

- There will be a delay in release of the dates and age divisions for the Ontario Championships as age division assignments and scheduling will depend on COVID—19 regulations.

### **REMINDERS FROM THE 2020-2021 SEASON**

- OVA Youth Competitions will begin using the following indoor balls for the 2021-2022 season to keep in line with Volleyball Canada.
  - 4 v 4 Rallyball | MVALITE
  - 6 v 6 Rallyball, Traditional Non-Specialized and 15U Club | Mikasa VQ200W-OVA\*
  - 16U-18U Club | Mikasa V200W
  - Team Ontario / High Performance | Mikasa V200
  - \*Please click here for a link to the OVA's announcement:  
[https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/news\\_article/show/1059959](https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/news_article/show/1059959)
  - \*To purchase the new volleyball's, please visit the OVA's partner CanuckStuff at:  
<https://www.canuckstuff.com/store/volleyball/volleyballs/16>
- Clarifications on warm-up policy
  - Coaches are permitted to toss balls over the net during their on-court warm-up time, however, must do so within the 3-metre line.
  - Teams who are off court during pregame hitting are encouraged to shag balls for the opposing team, otherwise they should be on their side of the court by their assigned bench.
- The Purple Card will be rolled out for all age divisions in OVA Indoor Competitions. The purpose and intent of the Purple Card Sanction Policy (<https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/referees-resources-development>) is to effectively address and sanction any inappropriate or prohibited behavior exhibited by any NON-PARTICIPANT (e.g. parents, spectators, members of other teams, etc.) attending and observing any OVA sanctioned volleyball match. This policy is further intended to preserve order and help to maintain the safety and protection of all OVA members and spectators.
  - As stated in the OVA's Youth Competition Manual all participants (teams, players, coaches, officials, managers, administrators and spectators) in OVA sanctioned events, have a duty to conduct themselves in a reasonable and acceptable manner. They must avoid all unsportsmanlike conduct, acts or practices which are, in the opinion of the OVA, detrimental to the sport. Whenever a penalty occurs, a fine or sanction may be given. For these reasons we will be tracking all cards received during the OVA indoor season
    - All cards will be recorded at the scorers at the time of incident and lists will be forwarded to the OVA after each event. Coaches will be receiving an email acknowledging that a card was received.
    - Multiple cards in one tournament will be addressed immediately and fines or sanctions maybe levied depending on the nature of the cards.
    - Disqualifications or expulsion will be addressed immediately and sanctioned as per the YCM.

- Uniform Reminder – Use of compression tights. As per the Volleyball Canada (point 4.5.3.) the use of compression wear is permitted provided it is any single solid colour. Members of the same team are permitted to wear different single solid colours.

### Administration

- The OVA launched an updated version of NRS for all registrations on September 1, 2020, called the Membership Registration System (MRS).
- **Starting September 1st, all Athletes, Coaches and Club personnel must register in the OVA Membership Registration System (MRS) prior to participating in any OVA or Club activity (including tryouts).** This is necessary to ensure compliance with provincial concussion legislation (Rowan’s Law) and to sign off on the online waivers of liability prior to participating in any OVA related activities
  - A Tryout Player role (\$0) has been added to the new MRS so that players are not required to pay for a membership prior to being selected to a team.
    - Players who are selected for the team will then have to upgrade to a paid membership prior to attending Club practices
  - Clubs must ensure that athletes and/or parents/guardians show proof of MRS registration on the first night of tryouts for a club via smartphone screen or paper print out.
  - The Early Re-signed and Re-signed athletes will be responsible for registration prior to attending Club practices.

### Volleyball Canada

- Safe Sport Training Modules will be mandatory for any participants attending Nationals in 2022.
  - Training is mandatory for anyone with direct or indirect contact with athletes
  - Training does require a Locker account. There is no cost for the account creation or to take the training modules
  - <https://safesport.coach.ca/>

### 2021 – 2022 Coach Eligibility Policy

All athletes have the right to a safe, inclusive and responsible volleyball experience. As people in positions of authority, coaches have an important role to play in providing this type of environment. Coaches have the responsibility to:

- Complete the necessary training in order to provide an environment that is physically, mentally, emotionally and socially safe for all athletes and participants
- Complete the necessary training in order to provide a responsible learning environment that incorporates Volleyball Canada’s teaching methodologies, technical guidelines and long-term athlete development principles
- Ensure that all of their coach training is current so as to be able to provide a safe and responsible volleyball experience for all

## MANDATORY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR OVA COACHES

**All individuals** involved with youth athletes must complete the following requirements prior to their registration as an OVA member in a **Coach or Club Technical Director role**. These requirements apply to **all individuals in those roles**, regardless of certification status, experience or years of involvement:

- Abide by the OVA Screening Policy
  - Submit a Vulnerable Sector Screen (completed within 3 years)
  - Submit a completed OVA Screening Disclosure Form annually
- Complete the following training
  - Making Head Way (Free) <https://thelocker.coach.ca/account/login?ReturnUrl=%2f>
  - Coaches Association of Canada Safe Sports Training (Free) <https://thelocker.coach.ca/account/login?ReturnUrl=%2f>

**All individuals registering in a Head Coach or Club Technical Director role** must also complete the following training prior to their registration as a member of the OVA.

- Foundations of Volleyball (\$89) <https://coach.volleyball.ca/>
- Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation (\$85 or free if course was completed) <https://thelocker.coach.ca/account/login?ReturnUrl=%2f>

It is the responsibility of OVA Clubs to verify the eligibility of their coaches prior to registering them as members. Clubs will confirm the eligibility of their coaches in their Club Information Form at the start of the season.

**Individuals who have not completed the above requirements are not eligible to be registered as an OVA member in the following roles: Assistant Coach, Head Coach and Club Technical Director.**

Please click here for a link to the Eligibility requirements on the OVA website:

<https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/coaches-certification>