



ATHLETES  
HANDBOOK  
2026

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## Introduction

Welcome to the 2026 Volleyball Alberta Beach Programs.

I would like to welcome returning athletes and introduce the Volleyball Alberta Beach Program to our new members! We are pleased to present Volleyball Alberta members with another exciting summer with our Youth and Adult Tournaments & Beach Leagues. Our Tournaments are held in venues across Alberta in Edmonton, Calgary, Sylvan Lake, Grande Prairie and Lethbridge, while our Beach Leagues take place at John Fry Park in Edmonton. In 2026 we will also continue to offer Provincial Team programming for youth in the 16U and 18U age divisions.

### Volleyball Alberta Directory

Volleyball Alberta North Office  
11759 Groat Road  
Edmonton, Alberta.  
T5M 3K6

Volleyball Alberta South Office  
Unit #8 135 Commercial Drive  
Calgary, AB  
T3Z 2A7

### Beach Tournament Manager

Brook Ure – Tel (780) 415 – 1703 ext. 14 Email: [eventscoordinator@volleyballalberta.ca](mailto:eventscoordinator@volleyballalberta.ca)

### Beach Leagues Manager

Dione Kristel – Tel (780) 415 – 1703 ext. 10 Email [eventsmanager@volleyballalberta.ca](mailto:eventsmanager@volleyballalberta.ca)

### Beach Tournament Coordinator

TBD – [Tel:780-415-1703](tel:780-415-1703) ext. 203 Email: [beach@volleyballalberta.ca](mailto:beach@volleyballalberta.ca)

## Volleyball Alberta Beach Tournament Venues

### Calgary Beach Volleyball Association Courts, Calgary

Valleyview Regional Park  
30th Ave and 28th St S.E.  
Free parking available on site

### John Fry Park, Edmonton

92nd St. and 28th Ave.  
Free parking available on site

### South Bear Creek Beach Volleyball Court, Grande Prairie

100 St, Grande Prairie

### Softball Valley, Lethbridge

Peenaquim Park  
49°43'04.1"N 112°51'06.6"W

### Sylvan Lake Provincial Park, Sylvan Lake

Pier at 50th St and Lakeshore Dr.  
Pay Parking enforced

## Age Divisions

### 2026 Volleyball Alberta Age Divisions

Birth Month	17U & 18U	16U	15U	14U	13U	12U
Jan - Dec	2009, 2008	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sept - Dec	2008, 2007	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013

### Youth Tournament Divisions

Teams must play in the same age class at Provincials and National Championships.

**Athletes may play up a maximum of two age classes without an exemption from Volleyball Alberta.** (For example: A 14U athlete can play in a 15U or 16U age class but not 18U.) For an exemption request please contact [beach@volleyballalberta.ca](mailto:beach@volleyballalberta.ca)

### Adult Tournament Division

All Adult teams will be placed into one division. After pool play teams may be split into tiers based on registration numbers. This will be done at the discretion of the tournament director.

## Beach Teams Composition

Each beach team is comprised of two (2) athletes (12U is the exception where teams will be comprised of 3 athletes) who meet the eligibility requirements of their age division. No substitutions are allowed in any of the Beach Tournament events. Throughout the regular season, you may change partners as often as you wish. To seed the teams appropriately, the Beach Committee will consider each athlete's individual points. If a partner change is required after registration has closed, you must submit a written request to Volleyball Alberta via email to [beach@volleyballalberta.ca](mailto:beach@volleyballalberta.ca) by Wednesday (by 12:00 PM MST) before the tournament (NOTE: the new partner must be a current Volleyball Alberta beach member):

If a team arrives at the tournament with a different partner, a doctor's note must be received the following week to count the "new" team's results from the event. Also, the "new" team may be seeded with no points (last) in their division at the discretion of Tournament Coordinator.

## Uniforms

All athletes participating in a Volleyball Alberta beach tournament MUST wear appropriate athletic attire (examples of appropriate athletic wear: spandex, bikini tops and bottoms, athletic shorts, t-shirts, tank tops). Youth men must wear tops at all Volleyball Alberta tournaments. If you have any questions, please contact the tournament coordinator prior to the tournament.

## Registration

### **How to Register**

Teams must register for all tournaments via the Volleyball Registration System (VRS), a secure online registration system. Please go to Volleyball Alberta's [Beach Registration Guide](#).

### **Volleyball Alberta Memberships**

Volleyball Alberta membership fees are to be paid prior to registering in your first Volleyball Alberta Beach Tournament of the season. The summer beach membership is valid from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> for all Volleyball Alberta Beach events in the current calendar year. If you are registered as a member for indoor, you are **NOT** automatically registered as a beach member. However, if you are registered for the Youth Competitive Player membership (2025-2026), you will not be required to pay additional costs for the Youth Beach Competitive Player membership. Please see our [Beach Registration Guide](#)  
[Volleyball Alberta Membership Fees](#)

### **Wildcards**

All out-of-province teams must apply for Wildcard consideration. Wildcard applications can be submitted to [beach@volleyballalberta.ca](mailto:beach@volleyballalberta.ca) and will be due 21:59 MST (23:59 EST) three Wednesdays prior to the tournament.

Wildcard spots in the main draw for any age division will be granted to teams who will increase the level of competition or will be provided an opportunity for development. All applications will be reviewed by the Beach Committee. Volleyball Alberta reserves the right to decline a Wildcard. The Committee will base their decision on the following information:

- The team improves the quality of play at this event.
- The committee feels that the team can compete successfully in the event.

### **Beach Committee**

The Beach Committee is responsible for making final decisions in the event of a Wildcard application. This committee may be comprised of the Beach Manager, Volleyball Alberta Director of

Technical Pathways, Summer Beach Coordinator, and/or other Volleyball Alberta members (see Appendix I).

### **Registration Fees & Deadlines**

Please see the [2026 Beach Tournament Schedule](#) for registration information.

NOTE: Should there be an event in which there are not enough teams registered in a certain age division, the team(s) may be placed in the closest appropriate older age-class at the Tournament Coordinator's discretion. Prior to placing teams in a higher division, teams will be contacted by Volleyball Alberta.

### **Late Registration**

The Beach Tournament Coordinator will consider the impact of adding teams into the draw using factors such as facility space, timing of the request, and quality of the event. If a late entry is granted, a \$20 late fee will be charged in addition to the entry fee.

### **Withdrawals**

Please notify the beach volleyball coordinator at [beach@volleyballalberta.ca](mailto:beach@volleyballalberta.ca) for all withdrawal requests.

- Teams may withdraw from the tournament before the registration deadline and receive a full refund, less a \$35 administration fee.
- If you wish to withdraw from the tournament after the registration deadline, please note that no refund will be issued.
- Teams withdrawing after the Wednesday prior to the tournament at 4:00pm will be issued a \$50.00 withdrawal fee.
- If a team withdraws and there is no prior communication to Volleyball Alberta a withdrawal fee of \$100 will apply.

In the event that an injury occurs before the tournament and a doctor's note is provided, a refund will be issued, less a \$35 administration fee.

All Fees must be paid prior to competing in your next Volleyball Alberta event.

### **Forfeits**

A team is considered to have 'defaulted' on their commitment to play if they were entered into the draw and do not arrive on time for their first match. Teams are expected to begin their match 10 minutes after the completion of the previous match or at the scheduled match time. **For a best 2/3 match, if a team has not identified themselves 10 minutes after the game start time, the first set of the first game will be forfeited. After 20 minutes, the second set of the first game will be forfeited, resulting in the match being awarded to their opponent. If the match is a one set to 25 points, the match will be forfeited 10 minutes after the game start time.**

- Teams that default by notifying the beach coordinator will incur a \$25 forfeit penalty.
  - The beach coordinator may wave the forfeit penalty due to injury.
- Teams that default without notifying the onsite beach coordinator will incur a **\$50.00 forfeit penalty.**

All Fees must be paid prior to competing in your next Volleyball Alberta event. It is always the athletes responsibility to know the draw and when they play.

### **Coaching**

All coaches must register with the team in the registration system and fulfill Mandatory Head Coach Requirements and complete [Person In Authority Checks](#).

During registration, select “Volleyball Alberta (Headquarters)” as your location if you’re not affiliated with a club. Refer to the [Beach Registration Guide](#) for full more information.

### ***Coach Responsibilities***

Coaching is defined as advice, instruction, or external assistance of any kind to a team/player.

18U and younger: Coaching during breaks in play is permissible (timeouts, between sets).

Coaching is **NOT** allowed in the Adult Division. Coaches caught giving athletes an unfair advantage in any division may face disciplinary action from a certified official or from the tournament referee supervisor.

At all Volleyball Alberta tournaments coaches must identify themselves to the participating teams, officials, and scorekeepers prior to each match, as well as include the coaches name on the scoresheet. This includes parents who choose to assume coaching duties during tournaments.

Coaches must abide by the following rules:

- Coaches cannot call timeouts for the athletes nor instruct them to do so.
- Coaching is only permitted at the request of the athletes within the designated coaching area (outside of the 3m free zone at the baseline of the court).
  - Each venue in Alberta has space at one end of the court for coaches during matches
- Coaches are only allowed to coach athletes prior to the match, during timeouts, and between sets.

### ***Head Coach Mandatory Requirements***

#### **1. Person In Authority (PIA) Requirements**

- a. CRC: [Criminal Record Check](#)
- b. SST: [Safe Sport Training](#) (through [the Locker](#))
- c. SDF: Screening Disclosure Form, answered at the time of the annual membership registration

#### **2. Education Requirements**

- a. MHS: [Making Head Way in Sport eLearning](#)
- b. MED: Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation (through [the Locker](#))  
Coaches may challenge the NCCP Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation, which means they do not need to take the NCCP Make Ethical Decisions Training ([Calendar](#)). However, the NCCP Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation is only free for those who complete the training and have it listed on their NCCP transcript. A fee of \$85 will apply for coaches who have not taken the training and choose to go directly to the evaluation. You will need a Locker account and NCCP number to access this module.
- c. FOV: [Foundations of Volleyball eLearning](#)

### **Check-in**

#### ***Youth Team Check-in***

Check-in takes place prior to the first match and the time will be confirmed via email prior to the tournament day. Both athletes need to check in with VA tournament staff. A formstack link will be sent to the team main contact prior to the tournament, and a scannable QR code will be posted onsite to submit the team chaperone information. Chaperones are required to be on site and available in case of emergency throughout the tournament.

#### ***Adult Team Check-in***

Adult teams must check in with the tournament coordinator 30 minutes prior to their first match starting.

Teams playing the first match of the day are required to assist in setting up the lines on the court where their match will be played.

### ***Coaching Check-in***

All coaches will be required to check in the morning of the tournament and if they have met all the coaching requirements, they will be issued a Volleyball Alberta coaching identifier that must be worn throughout the tournament and returned at the end of the day.

### ***Mandatory Players Meeting***

The players meeting for Youth Tournaments begins prior to each age class or division beginning, after the check-in has closed. The time of the meeting will be communicated prior to the tournament. It is at this meeting where the tournament coordinator and tournament officials will brief the participants reading the tournament schedule with new and relevant information. Please see **Appendix II** for a sample of players meeting notes. Please be advised that it is the responsibility of all athletes to:

- Listen for any new and relevant information on the day of the event.
- Listen to what is said and to question anything that is not understood.
- Understand the sanctions that will be levied to teams who do not follow the format and the basic rules of the tournament.

## **Referees**

### ***Peer Refereeing***

Peer refereeing was implemented with great success and will continue to be used throughout this year's youth beach season. Teams will be required to referee as well as track the score of the match. Referee teams are required to pick up the score sheet prior to each match. During the match one member of the team **MUST** be standing to referee the match. The second member of the team may be seated while keeping score. Chairs and umbrellas are not permitted for the referees as these pose a safety hazard. Only the referee team may be sitting/standing at the court.

Teams failing to adhere to officiating duties will be sanctioned \$50/match missed. **PLEASE CHECK THE SCHEDULE AND KNOW WHEN YOUR TEAM HAS REFEREE DUTIES.**

Example: A1-A4 (A3) Teams A1 and A4 play while team A3 will referee the match.

Please let Volleyball Alberta Staff know immediately if a team is missing their referee assignment.

### ***Certified Referees***

Games are peer-officiated but there will be Volleyball Alberta certified referees on site that will answer any questions and address any concerns the players may have about rules, regulations, etc. They will supervise the courts throughout the day and will referee some matches throughout the tournament.

## **Volleyball Canada Beach Volleyball Youth Rules**

### **First Contact Rule (12U,13U,14U,15U)**

Receiving serve or first contact with an overhand motion using the fingers (volleying/setting) is not permitted, regardless of the quality of the contact.

The first referee will use the "double contact" signal to indicate this infraction. Exception: Hard driven ball.

### **Second Contact Rule (12U,13U,14U,15U)**

On a team's second hit, contacting the ball more than once with fingers (double contact) in a single attempt to play the ball is not a fault if the ball is next legally contacted by a teammate.

### **Serve Receive Rule: (12U, 13U,14U,15U)**

In sets 1 and 2 of a match, up until the technical timeout, the last player to serve for their team (at the moment of service hit by the opposing team) must be positioned closer to the right sideline than their teammate. These court positions must be maintained (for service reception) until the team regains the right to serve.

## **Competition Regulations**

See Appendix III for general competition information.

### **Competition Schedule**

The most current list of Volleyball Alberta Sanctioned Tournaments can be found on the [Volleyball Alberta Website](#)

### **2026 Seeding System**

1<sup>st</sup> Tournament: Total team points from 2025

2<sup>nd</sup> Tournament: Total team points from 2025 Tournament #1 or Total Team Points from 2025 divided by the number of events played in 2025 - total points will be calculated from within the same age class

3<sup>rd</sup> Tournament: Total Team Points from 2026

4<sup>th</sup> Tournament: Total Team Points from 2026

5<sup>th</sup> Tournament: Total Points from Best 3 finishes in 2026

6<sup>th</sup> Tournament: Total Points from Best 3 finishes in 2026

7<sup>th</sup> Tournament: Total Points from Best 3 finishes in 2026

Provincials: Total Points from Best 3 finishes in 2026 of the same age category

All final seeding is completed at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

Seeding consideration may be given to athletes involved in Volleyball Alberta High Performance Programs.

See Appendix IV for tournament points table.

### **Provincials Qualifications**

Athletes are required to participate in one Volleyball Tournament to be eligible for Provincials. If an athlete is unable to participate in one event they may request an exemption. There may be a fee associated with the exemption approval of up to \$50/team. Please email any exemption requests to [beach@volleyballalberta.ca](mailto:beach@volleyballalberta.ca)

### **National Qualifications**

To be eligible for the 2026 National Beach Championships, *each partner must participate in the 2026 Provincial Championships*. Teams must participate in the same age class at Provincials as Nationals.

If an athlete/team is unable to participate in Provincials, an exemption request must be submitted to the Volleyball Alberta Beach Committee. The deadline to appeal for exceptional access into Beach Nationals must be submitted before August 1st.

## Suspended Play

### **Weather**

If an event (tournament/high performance training) commences and 25% of matches are completed before cancellation no refunds will be issued. If less than 25% of matches are completed a 50% refund to participants will be issued.

### **Volleyball Alberta Weather Protocols**

Tournament staff will arrive on site in the morning at the scheduled time and begin the set up to prepare for the tournament. If extreme weather occurs at the time of the players meeting the tournament will be cancelled or the start time delayed. Teams are expected to arrive with the intention of playing until otherwise notified by Volleyball Alberta.

### **Safety**

Safety concerns and play suspension are at the discretion of the Tournament Coordinator.

### **Suspended Play Policy**

1. Play shall be suspended if the Tournament Coordinator foresees:
  - Inclement weather - lightning
  - Safety concerns
  - Other discretionary reason to clear the venue (i.e. darkness).

An air horn will be used to notify participants of play being suspended

2. Upon notification of suspended play due to lightning:
  - All athletes must immediately evacuate the beach and go to cars or indoor facilities and NOT UNDER TREES.
  - Athletes PLAYING are responsible for recording the score and taking note of the court they are playing at.
  - Officiating teams are responsible for returning the clipboard and ball to the Tournament Coordinator.
3. Notification to resume play will be given by the Tournament Coordinator:
  - Athletes are responsible for being at the courts to resume play.
  - Following a 10-minute warm-up, officials and athletes will finish the game.
  - Modified play may ensue at the discretion of the Tournament Coordinator

### **Medical Services**

Please report all injuries to the Tournament Coordinator and Athletic Therapist as soon as they occur. If an athlete becomes injured or ill during the tournament and as a result cannot continue to compete, no refund will be issued. If the injury or illness occurs before the tournament withdrawal date, and the Beach Coordinator is notified, you will be eligible for a refund of the tournament fee if a doctor's note is provided. An athletic therapist will be on site 30 minutes prior to the first scheduled match of the day.

### **Protests**

A player may ONLY protest an error in applying a rule or rule interpretation.

THE REFEREE'S DECISIONS REGARDING BALLHANDLING FAULTS ARE NOT OPEN TO PROTEST.

- The player must lodge the protest immediately to the referee officiating the match (if applicable).
- The protest is referred to the Referee Supervisor for a decision.
- Any valid protest will be adjudicated by a jury comprised of the Referee Supervisor, Tournament Coordinator, and another Volleyball Alberta representative.

## Red Cards

If a player is issued a red card during a Volleyball Alberta tournament, they will be subject to a \$50 fine. This amount must be paid before entering any future Volleyball Alberta event.

## Volleyball Alberta Zero Tolerance Policy

Effective February 11, 2022, the Zero Tolerance Policy will be in place at Volleyball Alberta Events. It acts to maintain a safe and positive environment that is appropriate for youth sport.

[Zero Tolerance Policy Document](#)

## Safe Sport

Volleyball Alberta is dedicated to creating a safe and welcoming sport environment and recognizes a systemic culture shift is required to eliminate maltreatment, including sexual, emotional, physical abuse, neglect, harassment, bullying, exploitation and discrimination. Volleyball Alberta believes the welfare and safety of everyone involved in the sport is a critical focus and the responsibility of each individual, member, club and provider in the volleyball community. Volleyball Alberta has zero tolerance for any type of harassment or abuse. Athletes, officials, coaches, administrators, and parents are encouraged to report any instances of harassment and abuse in a way they feel safe.

Creating a culture where everyone can thrive is a shared responsibility. Whether you have direct contact with athletes or work in the background, Safe Sport Training promotes physical, psychological, and social health, and meets Sport Canada requirements for Safe Sport education. The safe sport module is a FREE, 90- minute eLearning module that gives all participants the tools to recognize, address, and prevent maltreatment in sport.

Please note that a current [Respect in Sport Group's Activity Leader](#) certificate is a recognized equivalent and meets the Safe Sport training requirements should you already have it.

## **New for 2026:** Changes to Safe Sport Reporting



As part of our ongoing efforts to improve our safe sport protocols, we'd like to inform you of some important updates: effective immediately, the Canadian Sport Helpline and the Abuse-Free Sport Helpline are no longer available. However, Volleyball Alberta is proud to announce that we've partnered with ALIAS Solutions Inc. to offer an independent safe sport reporting service.

This new platform will allow individuals to report improper conduct confidentially via both the web and phone, ensuring that all safe sport (maltreatment) reports are managed by ALIAS's independent third-party case management team.

This partnership strengthens our commitment to creating a safe, inclusive, and transparent environment for all Volleyball Alberta members.

Volleyball Alberta strives to offer a safe and enjoyable environment for all event participants and spectators. If any players, team staff members, staff, referees or spectators feel unsafe or have witnessed a behavior that may be inappropriate, they are strongly encouraged to approach a VA Representative that is on-site.

## **Safe Sport Complaint Process Overview**

ALIAS follows the framework of Volleyball Alberta's Discipline & Complaints Policy (located [here](#)). There are 2 ways to report a complaint:

- Visit: [ALIAS' "Report A Complaint" link](#)
- Call: 1-833-834-1029

Once an individual submits a report, the ALIAS' team receives the report and determines the steps to resolution based on Volleyball Alberta [Policies](#). ALIAS manages the case and involves external parties when needed. Cases are handled with the utmost confidentiality and compassion.

## Appendix I: Beach Volleyball Committee

Beach Committee Members:  
Volleyball Alberta Staff

Brook Ure (Coordinator, Age Class & Beach)

Jim Plakas (Director, Competitions & Operations)

Jen Telfer (Director, Pathways & Development)

TBD (Beach Tournament Coordinator)

## Appendix II: Players Meeting Notes

### Players Meeting Notes

1. **Sponsors** – We would like to recognize and thank our sponsors for their contributions to Volleyball Alberta.
2. **Warm-up** – Matches will start at the assigned start time. Warm up time will be dependent on the match start times. Please be aware of the court you will be playing on and warm up prior to the start time accordingly (this may require warming up off the court). Volleyball Alberta will provide 2 balls to each court for teams to use as warm up balls (please leave the balls at the court for the day to allow for other teams to use them).  
**NOTE:** All sanctions must be paid prior to playing in another Volleyball Alberta Beach Tournament.
3. **Know your Schedule** – It is the players' responsibility to know your team's schedule for both playing and refereeing. Please check your sheets for the pool play schedule and check the posted playoff schedule. It is also the player's responsibility to pay attention to any announcements made during the tournament.
4. **Forfeits** – Teams that default by notifying the beach coordinator will incur a \$25 forfeit penalty (the beach coordinator may wave the forfeit penalty due to injury). Teams that default without notifying the onsite beach coordinator will incur a \$50.00 forfeit penalty.
5. **Coaching** – Is only allowed in 18U and younger for coaches registered on the team roster wearing a Volleyball Alberta coaching badge, issued at team check in.
6. **Pool Play Formats** – It will vary depending on the number of teams in your pool. The number of points per game and games per match is written on your pool sheet. Please make sure you are paying attention when your divisions are being called out for the specific information.
7. **Score Sheets** – After each match the score sheet along with the clipboard must be returned to the Tournament Coordinator. Please complete the score sheet given to you on the clipboard fully and accurately. The winning team must report the final score to the tournament coordinator. If any errors are found after playoffs have begun, no changes will be made to the playoff draws.
8. **Balls** – Each court receives one game ball. This game ball must be brought back to the control tent with the clipboard at the end of the day.
9. **Provincials Eligibility** – Athletes must participate in one Volleyball Alberta beach tournament to be eligible to compete in provincials.
10. **Nationals Eligibility** – In order to be eligible for Nationals, each partner must play in Provincials. At Nationals, you do not have to play with the same partner you played with at Provincials. Under exceptional circumstances exemptions can be requested from Volleyball Alberta to attend nationals.
11. **Garbage** – Please pick up your garbage and put it in the garbage bins provided. Make sure the garbage goes into the garbage bin and is not left on the sand.
12. **Swearing** - Please watch your language and set a good example. (See: Volleyball Alberta Beach Code of Conduct)

## Appendix III: Competition Format Information

### Youth Competition Format

Pool Play followed by playoffs

Matches may consist of best 2/3, one set to 28, two sets to 21, two sets to 15 – all no cap

***This may vary tournament to tournament***

Minimum Number of Matches: 4

### Adult Competition Format

Pool Play followed by playoffs

All matches best 2/3 no cap

Minimum Number of Matches: 4

**Official Mikasa Ball:** Beach Pro BV550C

**Court Dimensions:** 16m x 8m

### Net Heights:

12U: 2.15m

13U/14U Girls: 2.15m

13U/14U Boys: 2.20m

15U Girls: 2.20m

16U Girls: 2.24m

15U & 16U Boys: 2.35m

17U/18U/Adult Women: 2.24m

17U/18U/Adult Men: 2.43m

## Appendix IV: Youth Beach Tournament Points



Finish	Individual Points	Team Points
1	250	500
2	240	480
3	230	460
4	220	440
5	210	420
6	200	400
7	190	380
8	180	360
9	150	300
10	145	290
11	140	280
12	135	270
13	130	260
14	125	250
15	120	240
16	115	230
17	110	220
18	105	210
19	100	200
20	95	190
21	90	180
22	85	170
23	80	160
24	75	150
25	70	140
26	65	130
27	60	120
28	55	110
29	50	100
30	45	90
31	40	80
32	35	70
33	30	60
34	25	50
35	22.5	45
36	20	40
37	17.5	35
38	15	30
39	12.5	25
40	10	20
*** Teams Finishing lower than 40th will be awarded 10 points each		

Points will be awarded to individual athletes and total points between partners will be used for initial tournament seeding **from within the same age class**. Seeding for provincials will be based on the top 3 individual finishes throughout the 2026 summer tournament season. Points will be tracked and posted online throughout the summer.

Youth Provincials will be double points

## Tie Breaking Procedures

- **Two-way Tie:**
  - “Head-to-Head”: The team who won the match played between the tied teams will be ranked higher.
- **Three-way (or more) Tie:**
  - The results from **ALL TEAMS INVOLVED** in the tie are used for the **ENTIRE** process until **ALL** rankings are determined.
    - If there is a tie among teams X, Y and Z and criteria “b” can determine X as first, Y as second and Z as third, then no further criteria are to be used. The tie is broken.
    - However, if criteria “b” determines the seeding/ranking of any of the tied teams, then the remaining teams, which are still tied, will use criteria “c” and so on to determine their seeding/ranking. Do not start at “a” again. Continue through the sequence of criteria using the results of teams X, Y and Z for criteria “d”.
  - Criteria
    - a. **Matches won/lost between the Tied Teams**: The team having the best **ratio**<sup>1</sup> of won/lost matches will be ranked higher;
    - b. **Sets won/lost between the Tied Teams**: The team having the best **ratio**<sup>1</sup> of won/lost sets will be ranked higher;
    - c. **Sets won/lost considering all matches played**: The team having the best **ratio**<sup>1</sup> of won/lost sets will be ranked higher;
    - d. **Points for/against between all the originally Tied Teams**: The team having the best **ratio**<sup>2</sup> of points for/against will be ranked higher;
    - e. **Points for/against considering all matches played**: The team having the best **ratio**<sup>2</sup> of points, for/against will be ranked higher;
    - f. As determined by the Organizing Committee (e.g., extra set, toss of coin, etc.).

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<sup>1</sup> A Ratio is calculated as follows: Team A is  $3/2 = 1.5$ , Team B is  $2/2 = 1.0$ . Therefore, Team A is ranked higher.

<sup>2</sup> A Ratio is calculated as follows: Team A is  $160/137 = 1.17$ , Team B is  $135/125 = 1.08$ . Therefore, Team A is ranked higher.

**Note:** A plus/minus is **NOT** equivalent to a Ratio and should not be used.

Pool Play with 3 Teams: If a match has ended due to a time limit, only completed sets will be used for tie breaking procedures.