

## Club & Team Program Sanctioning

Volleyball Alberta developed the [VA Premier Leagues](#) for the 2020-21 competitive season to temporarily replace our Premier Tournament Series due to COVID-19. The league structure has been developed to align with the Government of Alberta's guidance documents for [Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation](#) so volleyball can be under the safest possible conditions.

Some teams may choose not to participate in the Volleyball Alberta Premier League, for a variety of reasons. If teams want to continue to train or compete outside the VA Premier League, they will need to ensure they are appropriately registered. These teams may fall into one of two categories:

1. **Youth Recreation Teams**
  - Teams that focus on training and **will only TRAIN or compete against teams within their club** (Intraclub).
2. **Youth Competitive Team**
  - Teams that will **train or compete against teams outside their own club** (Interclub).

### What is covered under VA insurance?

- Recreational Members are covered while participating in training and competition activities within their own club (Intraclub activities only).
- Competitive Members are covered while participating in training and competition activities within their own club, **sanctioned or approved events outside their club (Interclub activities)**, in addition to Provincial and National events.

### Sanctioning Request

Due to the current pandemic status, the sanctioning process is in place to ensure PARTICIPANT SAFETY, and compliance with Government recommendations. All interclub training/scrimmaging/competitions require sanctioning. We need to actively limit the risk to our members and do our part to prevent the spread of the virus. The recent rise in active cases in Alberta bring this matter to the forefront. More than ever, we need to ensure safety and compliance with COVID-19 guidelines.

- Only Sanctioned teams and leagues will be assigned Volleyball Alberta referees for competition.
- Athletes competing in Volleyball Alberta sanctioned events will be considered for Team Alberta High Performance programs. Exemptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### Considerations for Sanctioning:

1. VA Premier Leagues provide competitive opportunities for teams/clubs in the Edmonton & Calgary surrounding area to compete. Exceptional requests for sanctioning outside the VA Premier Leagues for teams located in these regions may be considered, but not guaranteed. **Priority would be given for groups of two teams or less.**
2. Programs/events that are being offered in areas that Volleyball Alberta does not provide a direct competitive opportunity for will be prioritized. Volleyball Alberta will work with organizers to determine who is most appropriate to run the program/league.
3. Regional based programs/event will receive higher priority – we want to limit the risks associated with travel as much as possible (greater risk with carpooling, hotels & increased number of contacts).

### Process for Requesting Sanctioning:

1. Submit a request outlining the details of the event (Application Form - TBA). Required information includes the proposed league format, schedule and on-site competition plan for approval. Volleyball Alberta's [COVID Competition Regulations](#) can be utilized to develop the plan.
2. All members will need to be appropriately registered with VA. Note: Matches/training versus post-secondary teams may be sanctioned if we have confirmed approval from the member institution.
3. Pay the sanctioning fee:
  - a. Youth Recreational Team: \$50 per competition day
  - b. Youth Competitive Team: \$20/team per competition day.
4. Sanctioning may be revoked if government guidelines change.

**Request must be received at least 14 days in advance of the program/event to Jim Plakas: [jplakas@volleyballalberta.ca](mailto:jplakas@volleyballalberta.ca).**

## **Youth Recreation Team**

Teams that focus on training and **will only TRAIN or compete against teams within their club** (Intraclub).

### Registration Process:

1. The team or club's organizer must [register as a Club President](#) and complete the [Club Approval Process](#).
2. The players and coaches register themselves with a Volleyball Alberta Recreational Player & Coach Recreation Role, \$15.50.

3. The team will add the registered players and coaches to the 2021 [Youth Recreational Winter Program](#) form in Goalline.
4. The team/club organizer must confirm all the registered athletes & coaches have signed the [Membership Consent Package](#).
5. All coaches and staff must complete a police check in [Sterling myBackCheck](#) (valid for three years), and the [Screening Disclosure](#) and [Screening Renewal](#) forms.
6. As of April 1, 2020, coaches within a Sport Canada-funded organization must be trained on conduct to prevent and address maltreatment. All coaches and club administrative staff must complete [Safe Sport Training](#).

#### Important Details:

1. Follow Volleyball Alberta's COVID Safety Training Plan (To Be Provided).
2. If the club would like to plan **intraclub competition** that requires referees, a request for [Event Sanctioning](#) will be required for the event. Volleyball Alberta will review the club's COVID competition plan for approval. Volleyball Alberta's [COVID Competition Regulations](#), can be utilized. If sanctioning is approved, an Event Sanctioning fee of \$50/competition day will be required. Sanctioning may be revoked if government guidelines change.
3. Any activities involving more than one club competing outside our Volleyball Alberta Premier Leagues requires registration as a Youth Competitive Team.
4. Involvement of Clubs/Coaches in any unsanctioned programs will be subject to discipline in accordance with our [Discipline and Complaints policy](#).

## **Youth Competitive Team**

Teams that will **train or compete against teams outside their own club** (Interclub).

#### Registration Process:

1. The team or club's organizer must [register as a Club President](#) and complete the club approval process.
2. The players and coaches register themselves with a Volleyball Alberta Recreational Player & Coach Recreation Role, \$15.50.
3. The team will upgrade the player to a competitive player membership (\$94.00, less the \$15.50 recreational player fee) when adding them to the [2021 Youth Competitive Winter Program form](#).
4. The team/club organizer must confirm all the registered athletes & coaches have signed the [Membership Consent Package](#).

5. All coaches and staff must complete a police check in [Sterling myBackCheck](#) (valid for three years), and the [Screening Disclosure](#) and [Screening Renewal](#) forms.
6. As of April 1, 2020, coaches within a Sport Canada-funded organization must be administrative staff must complete [Safe Sport Training](#).

#### Important Details:

1. Follow Volleyball Alberta's COVID Safety Training Plan (To Be Provided).
2. Training and competing within a club is permitted. Note: Participants in VA Leagues/programs may be given preferred access to future VA events.
3. Any activities involving more than one club competing outside of a Volleyball Alberta operated league/program requires a request for [Event Sanctioning](#).
4. A COVID competition plan for any matches must be included with the sanctioning request. Volleyball Alberta's [COVID Competition Regulations](#) can be utilized to develop the plan.
5. Involvement of Clubs/Coaches in any unsanctioned programs will be subject to discipline in accordance with our [Discipline and Complaints policy](#).

## Club Approval Process

Step 1. Complete the Screening Process

Step 2. Complete this Club Registration form on Goalline

Step 3: Complete your [membership consent forms package](#) (waivers)

Step 4: As a registered Club President it is my responsibility to complete [Safe Sport Training](#)

Step 5: Volleyball Alberta Reviews Screening & Registration for Approval

Step 6: Approved Clubs will be added to the Volleyball Alberta website [Club Locator](#)

Step 7: Approved Clubs can request a Certificate of Insurance [[read more on Insurance](#)]

Club Presidents **must** complete the screening process prior to registering. Clubs will not be approved or added to the Volleyball Alberta website until they have completed Steps 1 - 4.

#### Screening Process:

- **SCENARIO 1:** New club presidents & Expiring Criminal Record Checks (Sept. 1, 2017 - Aug. 31, 2018). Complete: [Sterling MyBackCheck](#) & [Screening Disclosure Form](#), both of these are required every three years (3-years).

- **SCENARIO 2:** Club Presidents with Current Criminal Record Check (Sep. 1, 2018 - Now). Complete: [Screening Renewal Form](#), the screening renewal form is required every year (1-year).

## **Safe Sport Training:**

As of April 1, 2020, anyone associated with a Sport Canada-funded organization must be trained on conduct to prevent and address maltreatment. This includes ALL coaches, referees, and club administrative staff, and must be completed prior to participating in any club activity. 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.

To get started, log in to your [Locker Account](#) with the Coaching Association of Canada, click on the [eLearning tab](#) and select [Safe Sport Training](#). If you don't have a Locker account, it's EASY to register:

1. Go to [The Locker](#) and click "Don't have an NCCP#? Create one now!"
2. Review and agree to the terms and conditions and privacy policy.
3. Click the "I want to create a Locker account box, fill in the required fields and click "Register".
4. Follow the instructions in the verification email you receive.

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