



FORMAT

GIRLS DIVISION – FORMAT

Non-League Tournaments

- Non-League tournaments will be offered in the following age groups: 18, 16, 14, and 12. All teams are eligible to play in Non-League tournaments.
- The cost for these tournaments is \$75 each.
- The deadline to enter these tournaments will be 8:00 AM, 12 days prior to the event. You must register and pay online to be entered into the tournament.
- Unless a Non-League tournament is cancelled, there are no refunds. After the deadline, teams entering late may be added on a first-come, first-serve, space-available basis.
- Play will begin at 8:30 AM.
- Each match is the best two-out-of-three sets to 25 points in the first two sets and to 15 points in the third set, if necessary. All sets will use rally scoring with no cap.
- After pool play, all teams will advance to playoff brackets. If bracket play cannot be completed by 6:00 PM, the tournament director can change the scoring method from a best two-out-of-three sets to one set to 25 points. Teams will switch sides when one team scores 13 points. The decision will be based on leaving the site by 6:00 PM
- Each team will have the option to play as close to home as possible or to travel; typical travel time is 90 minutes. However, sites and travel times are subject to change.
- Points will not be given for Non-League tournaments. Tournament formats may change from tournament to tournament due to the number of entries received.

Area League Tournaments

- Area League tournaments will be offered in the following age groups: 18, 16, 14, and 12. All teams who do not participate in the Power League are eligible to play in an Area League tournament.
- The cost for these tournaments is \$95 per tournament, \$250 for the Region Championship or \$595 per team for the entire league which includes the Regional Championships.
- The Area League consists of a one-day Qualifier, four League dates, and a two-day Region Championship. To enter this league the paperwork & payment is **DUE @ 8:00 AM on Friday, January 18, 2008.**
- A team must play in at least two Area League tournaments to be eligible to play in the Region Championships.
- All teams participating in the Area League will receive points. The Area League point structure will be used to seed teams into the Region Championships.
- Each team will have the option to play as close to home as possible or to travel; typical travel time is 90 minutes. However, sites and travel times are subject to change.
- The deadline to enter these tournaments will be 8:00 AM 12 days prior to the event. You must register and pay online to be entered into the league or individual tournaments.
- Play will begin at 8:30 AM.
- Each match is the best two-out-of-three sets to 25 points in the first two sets and to 15 points in the third set, if necessary. All sets will use rally scoring with no cap.
- After pool play, teams will advance to playoff brackets. If bracket play cannot be completed by 6:00 PM, the tournament director can change the scoring method from a best two-out-of-three sets to one set to 25 points. Teams will switch sides when one team scores 13 points. The decision will be based on leaving the site by 6:00 PM.

Power League Tournaments

Power League tournaments will be offered in the following age groups: 18/17, 16/15, 14/13, and 12.

- Play will begin at 8:30 AM for all Power League tournaments.
- Points will be awarded to all teams participating in the Power League.
- The deadline to enter the **Power League is 8:00 AM, December 21, 2007**. There are no refunds. Payment must accompany league entries, and entries must be completed online.
- The format consists of a Championship Section and a Challenger Section.
- In order to accurately seed teams for the beginning of the season, the Power League begins with a 2-day League Qualifier. Following the Qualifier, there will be three League tournaments followed by a 2-Day Region Championship.
- All tournaments of the Power League are mandatory, which means that teams entering the Power League will play 7 mandatory days.
- The cost for playing in the Junior Girls Power League is \$875 per team, **DUE @ 8:00 AM on December 21, 2007**. Payment is required at the time of entry, and entries must be completed online.
- After entering the Power League, teams will be automatically entered into all League dates, including the 2-day Qualifier and the 2-day Region Championship. **ALL TEAMS MUST BE PREPARED TO TRAVEL TO THEIR MANDATORY SITES.**
- Each match is the best two-out-of-three sets to 25 points in the first two sets and to 15 points in the third set, if necessary. All sets will use rally scoring with no cap.
- All teams will be divided into pools for partial round-robin play. After pool play, all teams will advance to a playoff bracket(s).
- All teams will be ranked and given points according to their finishes.

Championship Section

- The Championship Section will consist of 36 teams divided into three divisions (Gold, Silver, and Bronze).
- Each division will have 12 teams playing on three (sometimes four) courts. The top three finishing teams in each League tournament (Leagues #1, #2, and #3) will move up one division and the three lowest finishing teams will move down one division.

Challenger Section

- The Challenger Section will consist of as many divisions as necessary to accommodate all teams that have entered. Each division will consist of at least eight teams, with the last division consisting of a random number. The NCVA reserves the right to change the number of teams in a division to better accommodate the number of teams entered in any age group, and to allow the use of more two-court facilities.
- Each division will be designated alphabetically by a color (Aqua, Blue, Copper, Dusk, etc.) with the higher levels corresponding to the beginning of the alphabet.
- Each division will play on two, three, or four courts.
- The top three finishing teams in each League tournament will move up one division and the three lowest finishing teams will move down one division. For example, a Bronze division team that finishes tenth, eleventh, or twelfth in a League tournament will move to the Aqua division for its next tournament. Likewise, a team finishing first, second, or third in the Aqua division will move to the Bronze division.

Power League Divisions

The following is the list of divisions, in their proper order, for the Championship and Challenger sections:

Championship Section: Gold 12 Teams
Silver 12 Teams
Bronze 12 Teams

Challenger Section: Aqua Evergreen Indigo Maroon
Blue Fuchsia Jade Navajo
Copper Green Kale Orange
Dusk Hyacinth Lavender Purple, etc.

The last few divisions of a Challenger Section age group will have a random number of teams.

NEW! – 11 & Under Developmental Youth Group

This age group is a brand new expansion to the NCVA. This will provide young players an introduction to volleyball so they can improve their skills to play competitive volleyball in the future. The purpose is to allow girls to begin their volleyball experience at a younger age, to be able to develop and be taught the skills of volleyball in a structured and supportive setting.

- You must be 11 years old & under
- You cannot play on a 12 & under team in Power, Area, Non-League or Special Tournaments (This includes National Qualifiers)
- This is a practice only team
- The 11 & under Membership fee is \$20 for the year. You must play on an 11 & under developmental team.
- A player can move up to a 12 & under team during the season. However you must pay an additional \$50 for a full-membership. There are no upgrades.

How to register in the 11 & under division

- You will need to fill out a membership & medical form and send both forms with payments into the NCVA Office.
- You DO NOT need to register online, the NCVA office will take care of your registration for you.

Note: The official ball used in the 2007 U12 U.S. Junior Olympic Volleyball Championship will be the Molten Volleyleite. The NCVA has elected to use the same ball for all of its U12 tournaments.

The U12 Power League will use the lite ball and players are not allowed to step into the court when serving.

The U12 Area League and U12 Non-League tournaments will use the lite ball and players are not allowed to step into the court when serving. Only teams that do NOT have 12-year olds—players who are 11 years old and under—are allowed to use the lite ball AND step into the court when serving.

Officiating

Teams are required to provide a first referee, second referee, two line judges, and two scorekeepers. It is recommended that a team coach be the first referee for each match. If a coach is not the first referee, a coach **MUST** be present at the court to assist the first referee.

Switching Leagues

A team may choose to play in the Power League and in Non-League tournaments, or in the Area League and in Non-League tournaments. A team may not play in both Power League tournaments and Area League tournaments concurrently in the same season. However, a team may switch Leagues once during the season according to the regulations below.

Switching from Area League to Power League (Team)

- If a team plays in an Area League tournament and decides it would rather play in the Power League, the team will be allowed to enter the Power League at the lowest level and only on a space-available basis.
- The cost of entry will be \$875, paid in full before the next scheduled Power League event.
- A team that switches from the Area League to the Power League may not switch back to the Area League.
- Points earned by the team while participating in the Area League will not be transferred to the Power League.

Switching from Power League to Area League (Team)

- If a team plays in the Power League Qualifier and decides it would rather play in the Area League, the team will be allowed to enter the Area League at that time following the Qualifier.
- The team will not receive a refund for the Power League, but will not have to pay an additional fee for the Area League.
- A team that switches from the Power League to the Area League may not switch back to the Power League.
- Points earned by the team while participating in the Power League will not be transferred to the Area League.

Power League Qualifier Seeding

The Power League Qualifier, not seeding, will determine placement into the 2008 Power League. Every team in the Power League Qualifier will have an opportunity to reach the Gold Division. Teams will be seeded based on their finishes in 2007. Teams without 2007 Power League history will initially be seeded after those with 2007 results. Any team that believes a seed is significantly incorrect may submit a written explanation to substantiate a seeding appeal. A meeting will be held to consider requests for re-seeding.

Initial Seeding

- Teams will be seeded based on their finishes in the 2007 Power League.
- Teams will be ranked according to the finishes in their previous age groups. For example, a U18 team will be seeded according to their finish as a U17 team.
- All teams who did not have a corresponding team in 2007 will be seeded at the bottom of the division.
- U12 teams will be seeded based on the 2007 finishes of their clubs' U12 teams.
- Odd-numbered age groups (U13, U15, and U17) will be mixed with even-numbered age groups based on how the odd-numbered teams finished in 2007. For example, in the 13/14 division, U13 teams finished in place numbers 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, etc. U13 teams in 2008 will be seeded into similar positions in the 13/14 division.

Appeals

- Teams who believe that they are significantly mis-seeded must submit a written appeal by Wednesday, January 16, 2008.
- Appeals should only be submitted when a team's seeding may be incorrect by at least 25% of the division's seedings. This percentage translates to these approximations:

Age Division	Approximate Number of Seeds Represented by 25%
13/14	20
15/16	35
17/18	15

- Examples of teams that have appropriate reasons to appeal:
 - a. A U18 team that had many high school juniors in 2007 and is thus better represented by their finish in the U18 division.
 - b. A team that is comprised of many players who played on a different club in 2007.
 - A written appeal must include specific documentation, including names of players.
 - Any attempt to criticize another team or suggest that a seed is too high will result in the appeal being disregarded.

Seeding Advisory Meeting

A meeting will be held to consider the appeals. ***The only teams considered for re-seeding will be those who submitted written appeals by the deadline.*** Each club may send ***one*** representative for each age division (12s, 14/13s, 16/15s, 18/17s). Representatives are there primarily to help evaluate all of the appeals, ***not*** to argue for their own appeal. The seeding advisory group will make a recommendation as to each of the appeals. **Seeds will not be determined by the seeding advisory group.** The NCVA will evaluate these recommendations and issue final seeding for the Power League Qualifier. In order to preserve the integrity of the seeding process, the NCVA may, at its sole discretion, re-seed teams that did not submit appeals.

The seeding advisory meeting has been scheduled for **Saturday, January 26, 2008** at the NCVA Office in San Francisco.

The schedule will be as follows: (please look for your age group so you know what time(s) you will need to attend)

12's Division:	10:00 AM to 11:00 AM
14/13 Division:	11:30 AM to 1:00 PM
18/17 Division:	1:30 PM to 3:00 PM
16/15 Division:	3:30 PM to 5 PM

If you are planning on attending, you must RSVP via email to vball@ncva.com by noon (12:00 pm) on **Friday, January 18, 2008.**

Area League Seeding

- Area League teams are seeded into each League tournament by their total season points at that time.
- The NCVA office will arrange the playing schedule so that each team receives the best variety of competition possible at a facility.
- Each League tournament will have the same designated point structure, which will seed the teams into the Area League Region Championships.

Seeding for Non-League Events

There is no seeding into Non-League events. Non-League tournaments are open to all teams.

Warm-Ups

- A 10-minute warm-up (includes ball handling, hitting, and serving) will be allowed ONLY before a team's first match of the day. A 5-minute shared warm-up (hitting only with no ball handling or serving) will be enforced throughout the remainder of pool play.
- During warm-ups, teams will be allowed to hit ONLY from their side of the court. This includes hitting out of the middle. The warm-up period will be stopped if a team is not complying with this policy. Any problems should be brought to the attention of the tournament director or referee. This procedure was adopted to avoid serious injury.
- Each team will be required to have at least two ball retrievers opposite their hitting line. The retrievers will stand on the side of the net opposite their hitting line. Due to insurance and liability reasons, retrievers must be NCVA-registered members ONLY.

Tie-Breaking Procedure

2-Way Ties

2-way ties, in match record, in a pool are broken by head-to-head competition results between the two tied teams.

3-Way Ties

3-way ties in a pool are broken by:

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 st Matches | Won/lost record. |
| 2 nd Sets | Won/lost percentage. Calculation: the team's total number of sets won divided by the team's total number of sets played equals the won/lost percentage. The highest percentage wins the pool. |
| 3 rd Point Differential | Determined among the tied teams. Calculation: the team's total points scored minus the team's total points allowed in ALL the matches of the pool. |

Note: If three teams have the same match record but a different set record, only the teams with identical set records are tied. If match record and set record are the same for all three teams, then point differential will be used to break the tie.

Protests

- ❑ A protest must be filed at the time of the incident. When the ball is out of play, the team captain may speak to the referees to request an explanation of the rules and also to submit to the appropriate referee any requests or questions from teammates. If the explanation is not satisfactory, the team captain must immediately indicate to the first referee the right to record the disagreement on the score sheet as an official protest. (For U14 competition, the coach may act instead of the captain.)
- ❑ *Notification of the protest must take place prior to the authorization of the next service.* If the disagreement involves the last point of the set, the official protest must be recorded within the first 60 seconds of the timed interval between sets. If the final point of the match is disputed, the protest must be recorded before the referees leave the playing area.
- ❑ The set should not continue until the protest is resolved by the tournament director or an NCVA-appointed Protest Committee. A protest cannot be filed after referees leave the playing area at the completion of the match.
- ❑ Protests to be considered include misinterpretation of a playing rule, failure of the first referee to apply the correct rule to a given situation, or failure to charge the correct penalty (sanction) for a given fault. The referee's judgment calls cannot be protested.
- ❑ The protest facts recorded on the score sheet should include:
 - a. The score of the set at the time of the protest.
 - b. Players and positions at the time of the protest.
 - c. Player substitutions and team substitutions that were recorded up to the time of the protest.
 - d. Team time-outs taken up to the time of the protest.
 - e. Description of the situation that caused the protest.
 - f. Signatures of the scorekeeper, captains, and first referee, indicating that the facts are correct.

NCVA Power League Point Structure

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Aqua	Blue	Copper	Dusk	Evergreen	Fuchsia	Green	Hyacinth	Indigo	Jade	Kale	Lavender
1	250	237	224	211	198	185	172	159	146	133	120	107	94	81	68
2	248	235	222	209	196	183	170	157	144	131	118	105	92	79	66
3	247	234	221	208	195	182	169	156	143	130	117	104	91	78	65
4	246	233	220	207	194	181	168	155	142	129	116	103	90	77	64
5	245	232	219	206	193	180	167	154	141	128	115	102	89	76	63
6	244	231	218	205	192	179	166	153	140	127	114	101	88	75	62
7	243	230	217	204	191	178	165	152	139	126	113	100	87	74	61
8	242	229	216	203	190	177	164	151	138	125	112	99	86	73	60
9	241	228	215	202	189	176	163	150	137	124	111	98	85	72	59
10	240	227	214	201	188	175	162	149	136	123	110	97	84	71	58
11	239	226	213	200	187	174	161	148	135	122	109	96	83	70	57
12	238	225	212	199	186	173	160	147	134	121	108	95	82	69	56

League #1	=	Points in grid
League #2	=	Points in grid x 1.5
League #3	=	Points in grid x 2
Regionals	=	Points in grid x 3

In a 12-team format, teams tied for 5th place will split 5th and 6th place points (for example, 244.5 points in Gold) and teams tied for 7th will split 7th and 8th place points (for example, 242.5 in Gold).

* No Shows, Late Cancellations & Forfeits will all receive Last Place in their division and Last Place Points

NCVA Area League Point Structure

Finish	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Points	100	97	95	93	92	91	90	89	88	87	86	85	84	83	82	81	80	79	78	77	76	75	74	73

* An Area League team must participate (without forfeiting) in the tournament to receive points.

- Team No Shows, Late Cancellations & Forfeits – Receive No Points.

Reviewing Points

The NCVA makes every attempt to post points 3-4 days after each event. Postings can be delayed due to computer malfunctions or when results are not submitted to the NCVA office in a timely manner.

To review league points:

1. Login to the NCVA home page at www.ncva.com.
2. Click on the girls' Power League link to display the Power League home page.
3. Click the Points link.
4. Click the appropriate age group link to view the points for that age group.