

MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Policy Statement

1. The purpose of this Policy is to contribute to the growth and development of volleyball for all Ontarians in a safe sporting environment by providing clubs and paying member categories with rules and requirements, including member obligations, fees, and the terms and conditions of membership.
2. This Policy strives to provide increased accountability to both members and the Ontario Volleyball Association (“Association” or “OVA”), and provides a mechanism for transparency, identification of governance issues, and an enhanced commitment to safe sport.
3. Membership is required to participate and/or compete at any OVA or Volleyball Canada competitions and/or events.

Membership Classes

4. As outlined in section 2.1 of the Association’s by-laws, the OVA has the following classes of membership:
 - a. *Non-Voting Member*, which includes:
 - i. Directors; or
 - ii. any individual registered with the Association as a non-competitive player, or in a “complimentary” membership role (as defined by the Association).
 - b. *Voting Member*, which includes an individual, other than those identified in 2.1(a), who:
 - i. is registered with the Association:
 1. as a competitive player;
 2. as a parent / guardian of one (1) or more competitive player(s), provided that such competitive player or at least one (1) of such competitive players is, or will be as of December 31st of the Association’s current fiscal year, under eighteen (18) years of age;
 3. as a coach;
 4. as a referee;
 5. as a club leader or such other role for club personnel (as defined by the Association);
 6. in another role or roles established by the Board; and
 - ii. is, or will be as of December 31st of the Association’s current fiscal year, at least eighteen (18) years of age.

Admission of Members

5. New Members – No individual or entity will be admitted as a Member of the OVA unless:
- a. The candidate Member has made an application for membership by completing the following requirements. (Appendix A outlines the different membership roles listed below.)
 - i. All Club Contacts
 1. Register via OVA's online registration system
 2. Pay club fee
 3. COMPLETE and submit the Club Information Form and MOU (see sections 9-11 below) as found on the Member Registration System
 4. Demonstrate the capacity and commitment to actively support the mission and objectives of the OVA
 5. Demonstrate evidence of financial viability
 6. Show evidence of developing and supporting athletes and coaches of all levels
 7. Ensure any outstanding financial liabilities to the OVA are paid in full
 - ii. New Club Contacts (those with no OVA affiliation in prior year) are also required to:
 1. Show evidence of incorporation
 2. Complete and submit a New Club Application Form, as found on the Member Registration System
 3. Participate in an interview with OVA management to verify club capacity

The New Club Application Form and information provided in the interview will be reviewed by OVA management. Approval / denial of the application will be confirmed within 30 days of the interview.

New clubs granted membership will be under probation for 12 months and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis throughout their initial year of operation.

- iii. All other member roles
 1. Register via OVA's online registration system
 2. Pay membership dues
 3. Complete all required fields noted as required in the OVA's online registration system (e.g. unique and verifiable email address, phone number, mailing address, emergency contact, date of birth), for the current season
 4. Sign the most current version of either the Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk Assessment or the Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Indemnity Agreement found on the Membership Registration System
 5. Agree to comply with Rowan's Law and the OVA Concussion Policy, including, but not limited to, signing the Concussion Code of Conduct and Review of Concussion Awareness Acknowledgement Form, acknowledging review of the Ministry-approved concussion awareness

- resources, and agreeing to follow the code of conduct for concussions
- 6. If applicable, comply with OVA Screening Policy and complete screening requirements, prior to participating and registering
- 7. If applicable, comply with the Coach, Club Leader and/or Referee Eligibility Policy prior to participating and registering
- 8. Agree to comply with all OVA procedures, policies, and Code of Conduct.

iv. Recreational League Contact

- 1. Complete sanctioning requirements
(<https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/sanctioned-events>)

- 6. Where a candidate Member is not admitted to membership, written reasons will be provided.
- 7. Renewals – An existing Member in Good Standing is eligible to renew its membership with the OVA, subject to section 17.

Membership Dues

- 8. The membership year of the Association will be September 1st - August 31st.
- 9. Annual dues for all membership roles will be determined by the Board of Directors. See Appendix A for membership rates by role.
- 10. A Member can maintain multiple membership roles within the OVA, and is only required to purchase the membership role with the highest applicable fee rate.

Club Information Form and Memo of Understanding (MOU)

- 11. The Club Information Form and MOU must be submitted by Clubs annually, and at a minimum include:
 - a. Club name, address, and website
 - b. Club Contact name, phone number, and email
 - c. Club incorporation #
 - d. Name, address, phone numbers, and emails of Board of Directors, and Club Staff
 - e. Name and NCCP certification levels of coaches
 - f. Declaration to adherence to OVA Screening Policy
 - g. Declaration to adherence to all OVA Policies and Procedures
 - h. Declaration that all OVA Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Indemnity Agreements and/or Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk Agreements are completed and on record
 - i. Declaration that all Rowan's Law requirements are met for concussion safety
 - j. Declaration Club has proof of age on record for registered athletes
 - k. Declaration that all individuals participating in OVA programs, club activities and performing club duties are properly registered and approved in OVA's membership registration system
- 12. OVA management will publish the required version of the Club Information Form and MOU annually and periodically update its requirements.

13. No teams are eligible to participate in OVA events until the Club has submitted the Club Information Form and MOU

Suspensions, Terminations, Refusals to Renew Membership

14. Events of Default – Subject to Section 13, the OVA may suspend, terminate, or refuse to renew a membership in the OVA in any of the following circumstances:

- a. a Member has failed to pay membership dues or any money owed to the OVA by the deadline date prescribed by the OVA;
- b. the representations made by a Member in a Club Information Form cease to be true during the Member's term or during a renewal of membership;
- c. a Member has been subject to a sanction in accordance with the Discipline and Complaints Policy ;
- d. where the Member is a Club Executive, the OVA, in its reasonable discretion, considers that a material change has occurred in the mission, intent, mandate or operating principles of the club represented by the Club Executive, and such material change is inconsistent with the intent, mandate, or operating principles of the OVA; or
- e. a Member commits any act that may tend to bring the OVA or its directors, officers, members or the sport of volleyball into public disrepute, or that materially impacts the image of the OVA or its directors, officers or members in a negative manner.

15. In the event that any of the circumstances defined in section 14 occur, the OVA will notify the Member that an Event of Default has occurred, and may

- a. require the Member to take corrective action to remedy the Event of Default within thirty (30) days, or within a time frame agreed upon by the Member and the OVA;
- b. give the Member at least fifteen (15) days' notice that a suspension or termination of membership may occur, or that the OVA may refuse to renew the membership, which notice shall: include reasons for the suspension, termination, or refusal to renew; and notify the Member that ten (10) days before the effective date of the suspension, termination, or refusal to renew, the Member may provide written submissions to the OVA regarding the matters addressed in the notice; or
- c. give the Member notice of an immediate suspension or termination of membership, which notice shall: include reasons for the immediate suspension or termination; and notify the Member that they have ten (10) days to provide written submissions to the OVA regarding the matters addressed in the notice, but that such suspension or termination remains effective until such time that it is determined that the circumstances leading the Event of Default are no longer present.

16. Where the OVA has required a Member to remedy an Event of Default in accordance with paragraph 13, and the Member has not done so within the agreed time frame, the OVA shall then provide the Member with the notice described in paragraph 15.
17. A Member who has previously committed an Event of Default, upon submission of the Club Information Form to renew its OVA membership,
 - a. may be renewed subject to conditions determined by the OVA; or
 - b. may be refused renewal at the OVA's sole discretion.

An existing Member whose renewal is subject to conditions or whose renewal is refused is to be notified at the time of the renewal decision that they have ten (10) days to provide written submissions to the OVA objecting to the renewal decision.

Good Standing

18. A Member of the OVA will be in Good Standing, provided that the Member:
 - a. has not ceased to be a Member;
 - b. has paid all membership dues for the current membership season;
 - c. has not been suspended or expelled from membership, or had other membership restrictions or sanctions imposed;
 - d. has completed and remitted all documents as required by the OVA;
 - e. has complied with the Constitution, by-laws, policies and rules of the OVA; and
 - f. is not subject to a disciplinary investigation or action by the OVA, or if subject to disciplinary action previously, has fulfilled all terms and conditions of such disciplinary action to the satisfaction of the Board.
19. Members who cease to be in Good Standing, as determined by the OVA, will not be entitled to vote at meetings of members or be entitled to the benefits and privileges of membership until such time as the Board is satisfied that the Member has met the definition of Good Standing as set out in section 18 above.
20. Where a Member who is subject to an OVA disciplinary investigation or action or is otherwise no longer in Good Standing resigns, or attempts to resign, that Member will nonetheless be subject to any sanctions or consequences resulting from the disciplinary investigation or action or failure to remain in Good Standing.

Effective Period

21. This policy is effective from September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2028 and will be revised before its expiration date.

Appendix A

Membership Fees for 2025-26 Season

Membership Categories	OVA Fee	HST	VC* Fee	Total Fee
Coach	57.00	7.41	37.00	101.41
Indoor Competitive Player	57.00	7.41	37.00	101.41
Beach Competitive Player	57.00	7.41	37.00	101.41
Club Contact	57.00	7.41	37.00	101.41
Team Contact/Staff	57.00	7.41	37.00	101.41
Recreational League Contact	57.00	7.41	37.00	101.41
Recreational Player	7.00	0.91	5.00	12.91
Club Executives/Leaders	57.00	7.41	37.00	101.41
OVA Committee Member	57.00	7.41	37.00	101.41
<i>Officials see chart below</i>				

OFFICIALS							
Badge Type	Resources	OVA Fee	HST	VC Fee*	VC* Surcharge	OVA Officials Development	Total Fee
Local Official	17.00	47.00	10.14	37.00	10.00	14.00	135.14
Provincial Official	17.00	47.00	10.79	37.00	20.00	19.00	150.79
Regional Official	17.00	47.00	12.35	37.00	30.00	31.00	174.35
National Official	17.00	47.00	12.74	37.00	40.00	34.00	187.74
International Official	17.00	47.00	13.13	37.00	50.00	37.00	201.13
Beach Local Official	-	47.00	7.93	37.00	10.00	14.00	115.93
Beach Provincial Official	-	47.00	8.58	37.00	20.00	19.00	131.58
Beach National Official	-	47.00	10.53	37.00	40.00	34.00	168.53
Beach International Official	-	47.00	10.92	37.00	50.00	37.00	181.92

*VC Fee and VC Surcharge is determined by Volleyball Canada, an additional 2.5% will be applied