

# Sussex Volleyball Association



## Members' Handbook 2021/2022 Season

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## President's Address

Welcome to the new season and good luck to all our local and national league teams for the coming year. Firstly, I want to remember our former SVA president Andy Lay and say what a great job he has done over many years and in many different roles on the SVA committee and for Worthing Volleyball Club. Thank you Andy - you will be missed in our volleyball family.



I have been around Sussex volleyball for many years and have seen participation decline from 3 men's divisions to struggling to continue with two and the women's leagues shrinking to a single league. In addition, we no longer have representation in the men's national volleyball league, only one club left representing the women and only a couple of clubs with active junior membership/programmes! The reasons are many, but we cannot continue to lose clubs and teams at the same rate, or we will continue to struggle to maintain volleyball in Sussex.

It is not all bad news though as Worthing Volleyball club, Dolphins and Arun are following East Grinstead's example and investing in developing junior volleyball. Another highlight has been welcoming Brighton Uni to the league, but we need to do everything we can to support the development of junior volleyball and welcome new clubs to Sussex volleyball.

So, my challenge to all clubs is to think about what you can do to expand your membership, get more juniors involved, to welcome and encourage new players, teams and hopefully clubs to Sussex volleyball. This is a shared problem that requires us to put aside team rivalries and work together to share what has and is working well and support each other in our common goal.

In return the SVA committee will do all we can to support you with knowledge, experience, and funding where appropriate.

Please do all you can to fulfil the original fixture list, enjoy the new season with very little COVID-19 restrictions (hopefully) and if you do need to change any fixtures then make sure you keep your division secretaries informed.

So good luck and look forward to another great season of volleyball.

Dr Zuzana Resetarova

President

# SVA Committee

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# League Entries – 2021/2022

For the 2021/22 season, a total of 20 teams have been registered with the SVA League as follows:

## Men's 1 division

1. Brighton - Jaguars
2. Brighton - Scorpions
3. Eastbourne - Phoenix
4. Worthing - Vipers
5. Worthing - Sharks

## Men's 2 division

1. Arun
2. Brighton Uni - Panthers
3. Dolphins - Men
4. Dolphins - Juniors
5. EG - Aces
6. Worthing - Cubs
7. Worthing - Jets

## Women's division

1. Brighton - Starlings
2. Dolphins - Ladies
3. EG - Queens
4. Eastbourne - Valkyries
5. Brighton Uni - Panthers
6. Worthing - Angels
7. Worthing - Demons
8. Worthing - Devils

## Notes

- All fixtures must be played as per official schedule, unless there are exceptional circumstances as laid out in this manual; some clubs do not have any dates to re-arrange a fixture to.
- Some fixtures will seem irregular to some teams. This is in order to accommodate venue, multiple teams, National League fixtures and non-availability requirements of some clubs.
- All League matches will consist of the best of 5 sets. In the case of league matches 3 points are awarded for a win, 1 point for losing a match, and no points for forfeiting a match.

## League structure

All teams will play each other once at home and once away, as laid out in the fixtures. Teams that play away from home, for their home fixtures are still responsible for emailing confirmation of the match two weeks before the fixture and bringing officials or ensuring the home team can provide them. The away team is responsible for ensuring the hall is booked.

# League results - 2019/2020 - Cancelled

Men's Division 1

Men's Division 2

Women's Division

# SVA 2019/20 end of Season Awards - Cancelled

# Junior volleyball in Sussex and the South East

There has been a surge in juniors wanting to play volleyball and Sussex clubs providing a junior offering through and since COVID-19.

Arun Volleyball Club this season, has started a training project for children from 8 years old (beginners, cadets and juniors), with the ambition that in the future they will move on to national and international volleyball competitions.

Dolphins brought some juniors to the advanced Worthing sessions and have now started their own juniors training with over 40 registered juniors and a junior's team entered into the league for the first time.

East Grinstead have a handful of juniors of varying ability, which they had separate sessions for over the summer and are now supporting them attend Dolphin junior sessions or incorporating into their own beginners adult training.

Worthing Volleyball Club with COVID-19 restrictions on indoor and adult volleyball started outdoor junior sessions on tennis courts. This developed as restrictions lifted to beach and then indoor volleyball. At points running an advanced junior session on a Friday as well as the juniors training. While there has been limited opportunities for matches, they have taken junior teams to play New Forest and hosted EG and with Volleyball England starting junior competitions again next season have got their first sponsor for junior's kit. This enthusiasm for volleyball has seen several of the juniors attending South East training and one make the England squad. The Sussex Volleyball Association supported with funding for additional balls in the junior training and softballs for sessions in a local junior school.

There will also be the usual program of South East Training, check the SEVA website below for dates.

SEVA: <http://www.southeastvolleyball.co.uk/>

## Team codes

The following codes are to be used on the score sheets at league matches as per FIVB rules.

For the 2021/22 season, a total of 20 teams have been registered with the SVA League as follows:

### Men's 1 division

Brighton - Jaguars **BM1**  
Brighton - Scorpions **BM2**  
Eastbourne - Phoenix **EM1**  
Worthing - Sharks **WM2**  
Worthing - Vipers **WM1**

### Men's 2 division

Arun **AM1**  
Dolphins - Juniors **DM2**  
Dolphins - Men **DM1**  
EG - Aces **GM1**  
Brighton Uni - Panthers **UM1**  
Worthing - Cubs **WM4**  
Worthing - Jets **WM3**

### Women's division

Brighton - Starlings **BW1**  
Dolphin - Ladies **DW1**  
Eastbourne - Valkyries **EW1**  
EG - Queens **GW1**  
Brighton Uni - Panthers **UW1**  
Worthing - Angels **WW1**  
Worthing - Demons **WW2**  
Worthing - Devils **WW3**

# SVA competition rules

## Club/Team administration

EVA rules will apply to the conduct of SVA matches where not varied by local rules.

- 1.** The Sussex Volleyball Association has a zero tolerance policy against poor behaviour on court and specifically any bad behaviour directed at the match officials or across the net to the opposing team. This applies to players, substitutes, coaches and anyone associated with your club. Penalty points will be applied for any "Penalty, Expulsion or Disqualifications" given by the referee in accordance with Rule 30 of the SVA handbook.
- 2.** All clubs will maintain a financial goodwill deposit of £35.00 with the SVA. This is intended as an additional token of commitment and will enable the SVA Committee (SVAC) to levy appropriate fines against teams which infringe any of these rules.

In the event that all or any of the deposit is forfeited, the deposit must be made up in full within 14 days of despatch of the fine notice.

Fines not paid...

Within 14 days loss of all points during the unpaid period

Within 4 weeks expulsion of team from League and Cup

- 2.1** All league entry fees and goodwill deposits must be paid by the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (usually by AGM) and until such money is paid in full any matches played by the teams concerned shall be deemed to have been lost 3 - 0 by the offending team.
- 3.** Each team must register with the SVA the names of all players in that team by completing the player registration form. Enrolment fee is £10.00 per player. Player registrations must be completed before the start of the team's first game. Further registrations may be made on the day of a match as long as an email is sent to the division secretary and SVA treasurer with the player's details and evidence payment has been made by bank transfer. Players who are registered EVA coaches and can show their current EVA coaching card are exempt from the enrolment fee.
- 3.1.** After the end of January, there will be no transfers between teams or clubs unless an exemption is made by SVAC.

## Fixture arrangements

4. All matches are automatically confirmed on publication of the definitive fixture programme on the SVA website/League Republic.
5. All disputes shall first be considered by the League Managers and when necessary referred to the SVAC.
6. No matches shall be played after the final scheduled fixture shown in the handbook unless agreed under rule 8.1.
7. All League matches will consist of the best of 5 sets. In the case of league matches 3 points are awarded for a win, 1 point for losing a match, and no points for forfeiting a match.  
League positions are decided on points won. In the event of teams being equal on points the final league positions will be decided on sets difference, then sets for, then sets against and if this doesn't give a clear placing with respect to promotion/demotion to have a playoff at a neutral venue.
8. The fixture list is published in draft form for consultation in October/November (usually July/August). Fixtures may only be re-arranged at short notice during the season in the following circumstances, or with the agreement of the league manager:
  - a. The venue is unavailable due to unforeseen circumstances. The home team must inform the designated club contact of the visiting team at least 3 days before the fixture date.
  - b. Difficult weather conditions on the day of the match...and in both cases the League Manager and Fixtures Secretary **MUST** be informed.
- 8.1 Fixtures may be re-arranged for other reasons with the agreement of both teams. All re-arrangements are subject to the following rules:

A date for the postponed match must be agreed within 28 days of the date the game was postponed. The team postponing the game is primarily responsible for rearranging the game and will be liable for the penalty points under rule 32 if adequate arrangements are not made. If a suitable date cannot be found the team who did not initiate the postponement can claim the game. All games must be played by the end of the season (9<sup>th</sup> May 2022) prior to the AGM.
9. Failure of teams to attend matches (except as under Rules 8. and 8.1) will be dealt with as shown in the penalty point table rule 32.

Expenses **MUST** be claimed through the SVAC and not directly from the offending team. The final decision on the level of any expenses to be claimed will rest with the SVAC.
10. Where the team offended against is the home team a completed score sheet must be submitted to the League Manager. Where the team offended against is the away team a team list must be submitted to the League Manager.

## League match arrangements

- 11.** It is the Home teams responsibility to **email** the away team to confirm the fixture a minimum of **two** weeks prior to the match.
- 11.1.** The time published in the Handbook is the warm-up start time and except where varied by the home team entry in the handbook, the first ball is due to be served 30 minutes later.
- 11.2.** The first ball will not be served until both teams and officials are on court. Any team causing a delayed start will be penalised as follows:

<b>DELAY</b>	<b>PENALTY</b>
Team not available for match start time	Loss of first set
Over 15 minutes	Loss of second set
Over 30 minutes	Loss of third set

- 11.3.** It is the responsibility of the home team to start on time and provide enough court time to play the game. If the game then overruns the home team forfeits the match
- 12.** The minimum number of players for the Men's lowest Division and the Women's Division is five, in which case three shall be front court players. Serving penalties shall apply for teams playing with five. If a team is playing a libero and only have 7 players then if a player is injured the libero can substitute as a normal player for the injured player immediately. If a team playing with six suffers an injury and can only continue the match with 5 players - serving penalty will be applied.
- 13.** Clubs may field mixed teams in the Men's Divisions, but the net must remain at Men's height.
- 14.** The minimum roof height shall be 7 metres all matches. Teams can elect to play at home (by informing the Fixtures Secretary before the beginning of the season) if their opponent's hall does not meet this requirement.
- 15.** All teams must turn out in matching shirts with numbers attached. Only if the mismatching shirt is shown on the score sheet will the penalty points apply as in rule 32.
- 16.** The home team must arrange for the following officials at matches:-
- EVA Qualified Referee
  - Competent 2nd Official
  - preferably 2 lines persons but none will be acceptable
  - Scorer

When the SVA have assigned a referee two competent line judges must be supplied by the home team

The home team must provide a qualified 1st referee for **ALL** matches (Men's and Women's) or the game will be forfeited by the home side. If there is any doubt over the referee's qualifications, the game must be played on the night with any comments being put on the score sheet. A final decision on the match result will then be made by the SVAC.

The details of these officials must be entered on the score sheet and **must include the referees qualification and number.** Penalty points for non-compliance will be applied as per table in point 32.

**17.** If SVA arrange a referee they will be paid £20 per game.

The home team in any fixture must make available at least four good quality balls for the use of the visiting team if they require them.

**18.** The home team secretary must input all results or text results to League Republic within 24 hours and text or email the appropriate Division manager within 24 hours two photos of the score sheet.

1. Whole score sheet

2. Close up of the remarks, summary and players

a. Score sheets must be completed legibly with team names, set scores and the names of all players and officials. All matches must be recorded on EVA score sheets.

b. Score sheets are to be completed in triplicate and copies as follows:-

Top copy	Appropriate League Manager (held by home team until end of season unless requested)
Middle copy	Away Team
Bottom copy	Home Team

c. Only the 1st referee may complete the remarks box on the score sheet provided the correct FIVB protocol has been observed.

d. Home teams must have available team sheets for both home and away teams for the scorer. These can be viewed on electronic devices or printed from the SVA website. Coaches/captains must advise the Scorer of players playing up or down.

**19.** Teams consistently guilty of inadequate match organisation will be subject to penalties as laid out in Rule 30 and to review by the SVAC.

**20.** Promotion and relegation will in general operate on a "one up, one down" basis but may be subject to variation by the SVAC in order to administer variable entries at the start of the season.

## Eligibility of players

- 21.** No player may play for more than one club in the league. This rule also applies to Challenge Cup matches. Exceptions will only be made with the agreement of SVAC. Women may play in the men's division for another club if they do not play for the men's team within their women's team club. These women should be highlighted to the SVAC before the start of the season.
- 22.** Movement of Players within a Club. Where a club has more than one team within the leagues, they must register players for a single team within that club. However, one player per match may play up any number of times for a team within that club for which they are not registered as a player. However a player may only play down if the team would otherwise only have 5 players.
- 23.** When a club expands to have an additional men's or women's team for the first season they can play two players up at any point. They can also play two players down to make up a team of 6 players.

In the case of players under 18 as at 1st September, they are eligible to play for any team within the club therefore overriding any rule restricting only 1 player to be played up/down in a match. This rule does not apply to Cup matches.

If any club suspects an infringement of this rule the League Manager shall check the score sheets to assess the validity of the allegation.

- 24.** Players transferring between clubs during the season will have to wait one game from the date the relevant league secretary is notified in writing of the transfer request.
  - 24.1.** Players transferring between teams within the same club will be eligible to play for the new team from the date the relevant league secretary is notified in writing. If the same player wishes to transfer a second time they will have to miss one game from when the league secretary is notified in writing.

## Sussex Player of the Season award

- 25.** There will be one award for each division. After each match the team captains shall nominate a player of the match from the opposing team and the referee will confirm that he agrees with the selection. If necessary the referee may change the vote if he considers that either captain's vote is unsportsmanlike. The player with the most recommendations at the end of the season will be the winner.

The player of the match nomination shall be made at the end of the match, before the players leave the hall.

Players playing up or down should be noted on the score sheet and are ineligible to receive the player of the match award.

## EVA requirements

- 26.** U18 players in a team must be clearly identified on the player registration forms. The SVA remind all clubs with U18 players to ensure that they are aware of and follow the guidelines contained in the EVA Child Protection Policy. All clubs affiliated with the SVA should have received a copy of this policy from the EVA. If this is not the case please contact the EVA National Office on 01509 227722. Further any club with U18 players should also ensure that at least one member of their club possesses the appropriate CRB check and that person is in attendance where U18 players are either playing or training if a parent is not in attendance.
- 27.** All clubs must be affiliated to the EVA. (See Constitution Para. 10) This has personal indemnity implications and is an imperative. Affiliation applications and payment of fees must be made directly between the club and the EVA in August each year. No matches may be played by a club unless the SVAC has received confirmation that the club is affiliated. If during a season it is discovered that a club has not affiliated to the EVA all teams within the club will have all points won to that date deducted.
- 28.** Each club should have a qualified coach who is registered with the EVA and whose registration is up to date with the EVA.

## SVA administration

- 29.** It is compulsory for each club to be represented at every SVAC meeting (see Constitution Para. 4). Failure to attend SVAC meetings is a breach of SVA rules and will result in penalties as listed in the table under Rule 30.
- 30.** The SVAC reserves the right to vary the number of divisions depending upon the number of entries that are received for the league.
- 31.** Registered EVA coaches have free membership to the SVA if they submit a details of their registration number with the player registration form.

- 32.** Teams will receive penalty points for poor or inadequate organisation. For every 10 points accumulated by a team they will be deducted 1 league point. Any team accumulating 100 points will be immediately suspended for the remainder of the season from all SVA competitions.

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Points</b>
1	Any team whose player receives a red card*	10
3.2	Non-registered player (per player, per match). The match is also awarded to the other team	5
8	Failure to follow correct protocol for rescheduling a match	10
9.1	Failure to attend a match without notice	40
9.1	Failure to attend a match with less than 24 hrs notice	20
14	Mismatching shirt (per player, per match)	2
15e	No (qualified and registered) 1 <sup>st</sup> Referee	10
15e	No 2 <sup>nd</sup> Referee	5
15e	No Line Judge (if SVA referee assigned)	3
15e	No Scorer	10
17	Failure to email/text score sheet within 24 hours	3
17a	Incomplete Score Sheet	2
18	Failure to input result to League republic within 24 hours	3
26	1 <sup>st</sup> failure to send a representative to a SVAC meeting	5
26	Each subsequent failure to send a representative to a SVAC meeting	15

\* Any cards given by a referee must come with a report from the referee and both team captains and will be brought to the committee for discussion. This will be in accordance with the EVA sanctions stated as follows:

Warning - No Sanction Yellow Card

Penalty - Sanction Red Card

Expulsion - Sanction Red and Yellow Card jointly

Disqualification - Sanction Red and Yellow card separately

- 33.** Should there be any circumstances not covered by the preceding rules, the final decision will rest with the SVAC.