## ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION (OVA)
### TRYOUT WINDOW REGULATIONS

<table>
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| Re-signing Period (returning athletes) | August 24th | September 11th | • Available to returning athletes  
• Must sign the OVA Individual Registration/Waiver Form  
• Club contract signed (strongly recommended)  
• Clubs may collect fees from resigned returning athletes  
• Online registration will be made available beginning September 1st for resigned returning athletes |
| Open House (all athletes)    | September 6th | September 11th | • Open to all athletes from any club  
• Information sessions only  
• No on court activities  
• No physical testing  
• No selection process |
| Tryout Window - Phase 1 (all athletes) | September 12th | September 17th | • Team selection takes place  
• Tryout fees may be charged  
• On court activities begin  
• Physical testing can begin  
• Athletes may be offered positions on teams via the OVA Offer Form only – can be sent via email to parents/guardian  
• No commitment required from athletes until signing period |
| Signing Period – Phase 1 (any unsigned athlete) | September 18<sup>th</sup> – September 20<sup>th</sup> | • Athletes who have accepted offers from clubs sign the OVA Individual Registration/Waiver Form  
• Club contract signed (strongly recommended)  
• Clubs may collect fees from signed athletes  
• Online registration will be made available beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>  
• Clubs who schedule tryouts and offer athletes positions (via the OVA Offer Form) over this weekend cannot officially sign athletes until the start of the Phase 2 signing period |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Tryout Window – Phase 2 | September 18<sup>th</sup> – September 24<sup>th</sup> | • Team selection takes place  
• Try out fees may be charged  
• On court activities can take place  
• Physical testing can take place  
• Athletes may be offered positions on teams via the OVA Offer Form only – can be sent via email to parents/guardian |
| Signing Periods – Phase 2 (any unsigned athlete) | September 25<sup>th</sup> – September 27<sup>th</sup> | • Athletes who have accepted offers from clubs sign the OVA Individual Registration/Waiver Form  
• Club contract signed (strongly recommended)  
• Clubs may collect fees from signed athletes  
• Online registration will be made available beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>  
• Clubs are still permitted to schedule tryouts and offer athletes positions during this period |

**NOTE:** Clubs are permitted to hold additional tryouts after the tryout window closes to fill any open spots on their rosters. Players can be added to rosters online until February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016
SEASON OF PLAY
The Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) Indoor Youth Competition season of play begins on the Saturday after Labour Day and ends on May 31st of each year. No tryouts may take place from February 1st – September 11th.

OPEN HOUSE DATES
Clubs may hold an open house from September 6th - September 11th. Open houses are for both current and new members and for information purposes only. No ball handling, skills clinics, physical testing or any type of tryout oriented or on court activities may take place during this period.

RE-SIGNING
Clubs have the option to sign athletes returning to their club from the previous year between August 24th and September 11th, the day before the tryout period begins. A returning athlete is defined as a registered OVA member with the club during the previous year. As of September 11th at 11:59pm, those athletes who did not re-sign with their same club are able to try out for another club team (and/or their old club). Clubs and athletes are not obligated to utilize the early signing period and may continue to use the tryout period to explore all options.

Clubs that have re-signed the athletes from the previous season are able to register the players through the OVA’s online registration system from September 1st until September 11th at 11:59pm. No online player registration can take place September 12th–17th.

TRYOUT WINDOW
Club tryouts may commence September 12th. A tryout is defined as an event where a club has on court activities for athletes involving team selection and/or physical testing.

Clubs may offer athletes a position on their team during this time via the OVA Offer Form only. Athletes are permitted to receive multiple offers from clubs. OVA Offer Forms can be distributed via email. Clubs must honour all offers until the noted expiry times.

SIGNING PERIODS
A signing period is defined as the time athletes and parents sign the OVA Individual Registration/Waiver Form. This is the binding agreement between the athlete and the club for the current season. It is strongly recommended that club contracts are signed as well. Club fees can be collected from signed athletes during the signing periods.

There are two signing periods associated with the current Tryout Window Policy:

- Phase 1: September 18th – September 20th – All offers expire September 20th at 11:59pm
- Phase 2: September 25th – September 27th – All offers expire September 27th at 11:59pm

*Note: If an athlete and/or parent (if under the age of 18) is given an OVA Offer Form during Phase 1 and does not commit to that club by September 20th at 11:59pm the offer will be considered null and void.

OVA OFFER FORM
This form is intended to standardize how an offer (position on a team) is presented to an athlete during the tryout window. Athletes can collect multiple offer forms throughout the try out window. This form does not commit an athlete to a club – it simply informs the athlete that they have a spot on a clubs team. Once an offer form is presented to an athlete, it must be honoured until the noted expiry times in this policy.

This offer form can be hand delivered to an athlete or emailed to a parent/guardian.
OFFICIAL ATHLETE COMMITMENT
Athletes are free to try out for any team until they have officially signed with a club. Athletes are committed on a per season basis and are free to play with another club or team the following season. The athlete and parent/guardian must sign the OVA Individual Registration/Waiver Form to make an official commitment to the club. The athlete is committed to that club for a minimum of one season (signing date through May 31st). The OVA Individual Registration/Waiver Form will be available online.

Verbal commitments made at any time are strictly informal. Signing the OVA Individual Registration/Waiver Form is the only binding contract recognized by the OVA.

CLUB FEES
Clubs may only collect club fees once the OVA Registration/Waiver Form is signed and provided in the appropriate signing period. Instalment plans are permitted and it is strongly recommended that a club contract is signed.

CONCLUSION OF THE TRY OUT WINDOW
Clubs are permitted to hold additional tryouts after the tryout window closes to fill any open spots on their rosters. Players can be added to rosters online until February 1st. However, all athletes and team staff must be registered members of the OVA prior to participating in any OVA sanctioned events – this includes club practices – to ensure that members are covered by the OVA insurance policy.

ADHERENCE
The OVA reserves the right to investigate any possible tryout infractions regardless of how the OVA learns about the incident. This is a self-policing policy and all OVA members are obligated to report any infractions and cooperate fully with the investigation. If the OVA determines an offense has occurred, any one or a combination of the following sanctions will be taken, depending on the severity of the offense:

- Letter of reprimand
- Fine of up to $1000 per occurrence
- Suspension to the individual, team and/or club for up to one year from all OVA events, beginning from the date when the investigation concludes
- Indefinite suspension to the individual, team and/or club from OVA events, beginning from the date when the investigation concludes
- Individuals, teams, and/or clubs suspended for more than one year must apply in writing for reinstatement as a member in good standing. Approval for reinstatement will be contingent upon a full review of the application by the OVA
- An individual, team and/or club may appeal a sanction through the OVA Appeals Policy

When reporting a possible infraction please include the following information:

- Date of infraction
- Offending club
- Any type of non-subjective documentation that supports a violation to the policy, which include but not limited to:
  - Website links
  - Emails and or texts
  - Publications (newspaper ads, flyers etc)
  - Receipts
- Contact information for the person reporting the incident

All complaints can be forwarded to Carrie Campbell at ccampbell@ontariovolleyball.org
RATIONALE

Tryout Window Dates:

- An open house offers clubs a chance to promote their club and tryouts to new and current members
- An open house allows athletes to investigate clubs prior to attending a tryout
- Dates allow clubs to better coordinate tryouts
- The dates used in this policy were the most popular dates identified by the membership survey

Re-signing Period dates:

- Provided enough time for clubs to communicate with their potential returning players
- Provided clubs with time to consider each team’s needs with regards to returning players and to organize their tryouts accordingly

Multiple Signing Periods:

- Addresses a club’s need to begin the administration of the indoor season
- Allows the opportunity for athletes to commit to a club if they do not wish to attend multiple tryouts

OVA Offer Form

- Intended to standardize how an offer is presented to all athletes across the province
- Intended to help address the issues surrounding the pressure an athlete may receive while determining which offer to accept
OVA OFFER FORM

Date: ________________________________

Congratulations _______________________________________________________________ (name of athlete) on successfully completing our Club’s try out for the 2015-2016 season!

We would like to offer you a position with our club:

Club Name: _________________________________ (required)
Team Name: ________________________________ (optional)
Age Category: _______________________________ (optional)
Name of Coach: _____________________________ (optional)

You are under no obligation to accept this offer and you still have the ability to try out for other club teams if desired. The OVA Tryout Policy is in place to protect your best interests and allows you to have until September 18th–20th, 2015 to formally accept any offers presented to you. Please take this time to review all your options and make the decision that is best for you.

To formally commit to our Club, please complete the OVA Individual Registration Form and sign off on the Waiver of Liability. The Club cannot accept these documents until the first phase of the Tryout Window Signing period of September 18-20, 2015. This offer expires September 20 at 11:59pm.

Should you have any questions please contact:

Name: __________________________________________
Role within Club:_________________________________
Email address: ___________________________________
Signed:_________________________________________