
Arizona Gay Volleyball Association

Substitution Policy

(Proposed Rule – Effective Spring 2026 Season)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to maintain competitive balance, protect division integrity, and ensure fair participation across all formats and skill levels.

Substitute participation is permitted only in accordance with the eligibility rules outlined below.

2. Sub Roster Requirement

- All substitute players **must sign the official Sub Roster** prior to participating in any match.
 - The Sub Roster must include:
 - Player name
 - Date
 - Team substituted for
 - Division and format
 - Failure to sign the Sub Roster may result in:
 - Match forfeiture
 - Player ineligibility for that match
 - Disciplinary action as determined by the League
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3. Core Eligibility Rules

Substitute players may:

- Substitute in their **same skill division or a higher skill division**
- Substitute in any format (6, 4, or 2)

Substitute players may **not**:

- Substitute in any **lower skill division**

- Substitute for another team in the **same division and same format** in which they are rostered
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4. Division & Format Structure

Skill Division Hierarchy (highest to lowest):

- **A – Highly Skilled**
- **B – Intermediate**
- **C – Beginner**

Formats:

- **6-Person**
- **4-Person**
- **2-Person**

Formats do **not** restrict substitution unless the player is attempting to substitute in the **same division and same format**.

5. Restriction on Same Division / Same Format

A player **may not substitute for another team in the same skill division and same format** in which they are currently rostered.

This applies regardless of:

- Team standing
 - Opponent
 - Availability
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6. Examples (Official Clarifications)

These examples should be used by captains, coaches, and board members to determine eligibility.

Example 1 — Player rostered on 6B (Intermediate, 6-person)

-  May NOT sub for another **6B** team
 -  May NOT sub for any **C division** team
 -  May sub for:
 - **4B**
 - **2B**
 - **6A**
 - **4A**
 - **2A**
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Example 2 — Player rostered on 4B (Intermediate, 4-person)

-  May NOT sub for another **4B** team
-  May NOT sub for any **C division** team
-  May sub for:
 - **6B**
 - **2B**
 - **6A**
 - **4A**
 - **2A**

(This matches your intent exactly.)

Example 3 — Player rostered on 2B (Intermediate, 2-person)

-  May NOT sub for another **2B** team
 -  May NOT sub for any **C division** team
 -  May sub for:
 - **6B**
 - **4B**
 - **6A**
 - **4A**
 - **2A**
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Example 4 — Player rostered on C Division (Beginner)

-  May NOT sub for another **C team in the same format**
-  May sub for:
 - **B Division** (any format)
 - **A Division** (any format)

Example 5 — Player rostered on A Division (Highly Skilled)

-  May NOT sub for another **A team in the same format**
 -  May NOT sub for any **B or C team**
 -  May only sub for:
 - Other A teams in a different format
 - Higher-level special divisions (if applicable)
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7. Multiple Team Rosters

If a player is rostered on multiple teams:

- The **highest skill division** in which the player is rostered shall determine substitution eligibility.
 - A player may not substitute in any division lower than their highest rostered division.
 - Same division / same format restriction still applies.
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8. Player Eligibility & Good Standing

All substitute players must be:

- Registered AZGV members
- In good standing with the league
- Not suspended or restricted

The league reserves the right to:

- Limit the number of substitute appearances per season
 - Restrict substitute participation in playoff or postseason matches
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9. Enforcement & Penalties

Violations of this policy may result in:

- Forfeit of the affected match
- Removal of the ineligible substitute
- Suspension of substitute privileges
- Additional disciplinary action as determined by the Commissioner or Board

Responsibility for compliance rests with:

- Team captains
 - Coaches
 - Substitute players
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