

## **RULES OF THE VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT 2025**

### **1 GENERAL**

- 1.1 Unless otherwise stated, the latest rules adopted by the Volleyball Association of Hong Kong shall apply.
- 1.2 The organising body of this Tournament is the Queen Elizabeth School Old Students' Association ("OSA").
- 1.3 The OSA reserves the right of final interpretation and modification of these rules without prior notice to the participants.
- 1.4 The OSA has the right to disqualify a participant who is seriously in breach of the rules of this Tournament.
- 1.5 OSA has the final decision in the event of any dispute arising in the Tournament.

### **2 ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS**

- 2.1 All old students, current students (except current DSE candidates) and current or ex-teaching staff of Queen Elizabeth School are eligible to join this Tournament. A team with members from different FAs (Form Association) is allowed.
- 2.2 A participant may be required to provide relevant proof to demonstrate his/her identity.
- 2.3 Any player found to be ineligible shall be rejected from the Tournament. The result achieved or any award or points received by the team participating by this player may be cancelled up to the point of rejection. The OSA has the sole discretion to disqualify the team from the entire Tournament.
- 2.4 Each player can only participate in one particular team throughout the Tournament. Multiple entries to different teams may render the player being disqualified from the entire Tournament. The result achieved or any award or points received by the teams participating by the relevant player may be cancelled up to the point of disqualification.
- 2.5 New player may be registered prior to the commencement of 1<sup>st</sup> team game upon application made to the OSA not less than 15 minutes before the match. The rule against multiple entries as stated in 2.4 above shall be observed.

### **3 FORMAT OF COMPETITION AND PRIZES**

- 3.1 Trophy will be awarded to the Champion team. Medals will be presented to the Champion, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up teams.
- 3.2 Matches will adopt a single round-robin tournament format, followed by knockout matches for the championship and second runner-up positions.
  - 3.2.1 Each team plays one another once, accumulating points as they win.
  - 3.2.2 The two teams with the highest accumulated points will advance to the championship match, while the teams ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in the single round-robin will compete in the second runner-up match.
- 3.3 Team composition
  - 3.3.1 There must be at least 1 female player in each participating team.

There is no restriction on the maximum number of female players in the team.

- 3.3.2 Throughout each match, there must be at least 1 female player at the Court. There is no restriction on the maximum number of female players at the Court.

#### 3.4 Competition system

- 3.4.1 Rally scoring (直接得分制) will be used.
- 3.4.2 All matches will be played at the best of 3 sets (三局兩勝制).
- 3.4.3 In the first two sets, a team shall win by gaining at least 25 points, with no less 2-point advantage, or reaching 30 points first.
- 3.4.4 In the case of a tie-breaker, a team shall win by gaining at least 15 points, with no less than 2-point advantage, or reaching 20 points first for matches in the First Round. In the tie-breaker of the Champion and second runner-up matches, there is no score ceiling. A team shall win by gaining a minimum of 15 points, with no less than 2-point advantage. The set shall continue until a team leads a 2-point advantage.

#### 4 SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS AND TIME-OUTS

- 4.1 At the commencement of the scheduled time of each match, a 5-minute warm-up/test-play period at the same time inside the court is allowed for both teams.
- 4.2 Each team is permitted a maximum of 12 one-on-one substitutions for each set. A substituting player can replace any player on the court, except for the Libero, whose substitution is subject to Rule 5 below. Each pair of substitutions is limited to 3 rounds (e.g., player A -> player B -> player A, counted as three substitutions).
- 4.3 A maximum of 2 time-outs, each of 30 seconds, is allowed for each team in each set.
- 4.4 For set 1 and set 2, a technical time-out will be applied when the leading team reaches 12<sup>th</sup> points. For tie-breaker, a technical time-out will be applied when the leading team reaches 8<sup>th</sup> points. Each technical time-out is 30 seconds.
- 4.5 There will be a 3-minute break between each set. The referee is entitled to shorten such break time if the match time is likely to overrun that delay will be caused to the subsequent matches.

#### 5 THE "LIBERO" PLAYER

- 5.1 Each team has the option to register two specialised defensive player "Libero" (自由防守球員) in each match. Approval on registration of a substituting Libero must be sought from the OSA through the Tournament official on duty. Two Libero players are allowed to play on court at the same time during the match.
- 5.2 The Libero must wear a uniform/outfit in a colour prominently different from other players of the same team.
- 5.3 The Libero may not serve, block or attempt to block. The Libero may not complete an attack-hit from anywhere if at the moment of contact the ball is entirely higher than the top of the net. His/ her teammate may not complete an attack-hit on a ball coming from an overhead pass using the fingers by the Libero if the Libero sets while in the front zone. The ball may be freely attacked if the Libero makes the same set from behind the front zone.
- 5.4 The libero(s) may replace any player in a back row position, with the exception as stated in 5.5. Such replacement(s) is/are unlimited but only the player whom the Libero replaced may replace the Libero. After the Libero is replaced, he/she must stay out at least 1 rally before replacing another back row player.
- 5.5 A designated male Libero may not replace a female back row player if that back row player is the only female in the Court.
- 5.6 In the case of a female Libero replacing a male back row player, if an obligatory replacement of the female Libero by the original male player due to a position rotation results in all male players in the Court, either an additional replacement of a back row player by the second female Libero or a replacement of any male player in the court by a female player (not Libero) would be needed.

#### 6 REFEREES

- 6.1 Referees shall be appointed by the OSA for all matches.

7 BALLS And NET

- 7.1 A match ball will be provided by the OSA in each match.
- 7.2 Volleyball net at the height for Boys Grade B will be set, i.e. 2.30 metres.

8 UNIFORM AND OUTFITS

- 8.1 Uniforms of the team members shall fulfil the following requirements:
  - 8.1.1 The shirts shall be of the same dominant colour front and back;
  - 8.1.2 Each player shall be numbered on his shirt with plain numbers of a solid colour contrasting with the colour of the shirt;
  - 8.1.3 The numbers shall be from 1 to 99 and there cannot be duplicate number within the same team
  - 8.1.4 The Libero must wear a uniform/outfit in a colour prominently different from other players of the same team.
- 8.2 If it is in the opinion of the referees or OSA that the uniforms or outfits of the player(s) shall cause confusion or are inappropriate, the player(s) shall be required to wear the bibs provided by the OSA.
- 8.3 Players shall not wear anything that may cause injury to him/herself or other players.
- 8.4 The referees shall have the sole discretion to reject any player with inappropriate outfit or gear.

9 MISCELLANEOUS

- 9.1 The decision of the referee on the spot shall be final and no appeal will be allowed. The spirit of this Tournament for old students is "Friendship First; Competition Second".
- 9.2 The team leaders of all teams shall duly complete and submit the list of attending players to the Tournament officials for verification 15 minutes before the commencement of the match.

10 TYPHOON & RAINSTORM ARRANGEMENT

- 10.1 If typhoon Signal No. 8 or above is hoisted or any Rainstorm Warning Signal (Yellow, Red or Black) is issued by the Hong Kong Observatory two hours before the time scheduled for the first match in the morning or afternoon session on a particular match day, all matches for that half day will be cancelled and re-scheduled.
- 10.2 If typhoon signal No. 8 is lowered to No. 3 two hours before the scheduled time of the first match on that day, all matches will be played as scheduled.
- 10.3 Team captains and players should check the OSA website ([www.qesosa.org](http://www.qesosa.org)) and official WhatsApp communication group for the latest updates in the event of bad weather condition.

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