

NIGERIA VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION

NIGERIA VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES

These guidelines (as amended 2026) shall regulate and guide the conduct of Nigeria League effective from 1st January 2026. Only NVBF League Management Committee (NLMC) can decide on matters not stated in this guidelines and their decision is final

CHAPTER 1

1.1 ELIGIBILITY-

- 1.1.1 CLUBS_ Only Clubs that are affiliated to Nigeria Volleyball Federation shall be eligible to participate in Nigeria League.
- 1.1.2 PLAYERS – Only players that are registered and are License by NLMC shall participate in the League
- 1.1.3 Foreign Players who are transferred through the FIVB ITC window shall be eligible to participate in the Nigeria League
- 1.1.4 Players who played outside Nigeria shall be eligible to play for their local clubs at yje expiration of their ITC or release by the clubs club that engaged them abroad in the same League season.

CHAPTER 2

2.1 REGISTRATION:

- 2.1.1 Club and players registrations starts from 1st January and closes on 31st January each year or as decided by NLMC
- 2.1.2 Clubs are allowed to register minimum of Twelve (12) players and maximum of Twenty (20) players per team Plus maximum of Four (4) Officials using Form NL 0.02 (Players Registration Form) and 0.01. Soft copy shall be submitted at the beginning of Registration period to facilitate printing of Licenses. The hard copy will be submitted during the Preliminary Inquiry. All players must have their FIVB Numbers stated against their names.

2.1.3 ANY Medical official accompanying the team shall be accredited by the Control Committee during Preliminary Inquiry before they can be allowed to sit behind the Team bench

2.1.4 TEAM LIST – Soft copy shall be submitted of 12 to 14 players. Seven (7) days before the closing date of registration. The hard copy shall be submitted during the Preliminary Inquiry. If a team has more than 12 players it must designate Two (2) Leberos in the team list. Below are possible Team Composition

SN	TEAM LIST PLAYERS	NO. REGULAR PLAYERS	NO. LEBEROS
1	14	12	2
2	13	11	2
3	12	12	0
4	12	11	1
5	12	10	2

2.1.5 Any player whose name is on the team list but missed first two matches after Technical meeting (for whatever reasons) will not be allowed to join the team for play except for article 2.5 below. However, the player can be replaced by any registered player by the club within the two matches allowance

2.1.6 TEAM UNIFORMS: Teams shall be properly dressed in the same colour and design of uniform with Liberos wearing contrast colours. All jerseys shall be properly numbered 1 to 20. The number must be placed on the jersey at the center of the front and of the back. The number must be a minimum of 15cm in height on the chest, and a minimum of 20cm in height at the back. The stripe forming the numbers shall be a minimum of 2cm in width. The captain must have on his/her jersey a stripe of 8cm (Long) x 2 cm (Wide) underlining the number on the chest.

2.1.7 In case of medal presentation; medals shall be presented to only registered players, Technical crew and accompany Referee to a maximum of 22 medals.

2.1.8 Clubs will not be allowed to register new players after the closing date of registration or window closure.

2.1.9 Late registration will attract a levy as would be determined by NLMC

2.2 Registration fees for Club is Fifty Thousand Naira only (N50,000) and Five Thousand Naira only (N5,000) per player for each team except where NLMC states otherwise. Form NL 0-01 Club Registration and Form NL 0-02 player registration must be duly completed and return along with evidence of Fifty Thousand Naira only (N50,000) payment for team registration before letter of invitation can be given to them by the NVBF Secretariat.

2.3 All Clubs/Teams must pay a stipulated annual affiliation fees to the Federation within the period of registration as determined by NVBF Organizing Committee

2.4 PAYMENTS - All payments should be made into **NVBF account number 2240015610**
Bank: ECO Bank; Account Name: Nigeria Volleyball Federation with the evidence of payment sent to the secretary NVBF with proper description of the payment,

2.5 PLAYERS ENGAGE IN NATIONAL TEAM:

2.5.i. Where a club registered a player(s) and in the course of the League, the player(s) travelled to represent Nigeria in a Competition, they will be allowed to join their team and play on arriving Nigeria

2.5.ii. It is mandatory for Clubs to release their players for national assignment (ie National Camp, and represent Nigeria in Continental and international competitions). Failure to release players will lead to indefinite suspension of the club from participating in NVBF organized competition until the situation is rectify

2.5.iii. Where a player refuses to report to national camp without genuine reason shall band from NVBF organized competition indefinitely until the situation is rectify

2.6 MID SEASON REGISTRATION WINDOW: after Phase One, Clubs may register additional player(s) to make up for the shortfall from the maximum of twenty players in total for the season. The players to be registered can be foreign player(s) coming through the FIVB ITC transfer window or players within Nigeria which are released by the club that last registered them and their transfer fees paid in accordance with Rule 5.1 below.

2.7 A club may defer its registration (after payment) for one season only. They must inform NLMC in writing and approval given, before the commencement of phase one of the league season. The club will forfeit its registration after obe season.

2.8 LICENSES:- Licenses will be issued to all registered players of a club.

2.8.1 No player will be allowed to play without a License

2.8.2 Where a player is found impersonating another player, the player and the club involved shall be ban from participating in league that season with further consequences to be decided by NLMC

2.8.3 Licensed player(s) that do not play in Phase I will be allowed to play in Phase II for the same club that registered the player(s)

2.9 DOUBLE REGISTRATION: Where a player or Coach is found to have registered with 2 different clubs in a season, such coach/player(s) will be out rightly disqualified from playing or siting on a team bench throughout the season with further consequences to be decided by NLMC.

CHAPTER 3

3.1 PATTERN OF PLAY

3.1.1 A Round Robin Competition system shall apply.

3.1.2 All clubs will play within their Divisions on Home and Away basis at designated venues to be decided by NLMC

3.1.3 All clubs within a Division will converge at designated VENUE and play either Home or Away matches on round robin system. Points will be collated to determine rankings.

3.1.4 Clubs who register and participated in first phase of the League shall attend all her matches. Where a registered club that participated in phase I failed to appear in the 2nd phase shall forfeit all its points gained and be relegated to lower Division.

3.1.5 Where a registered club withdraws from the league, it shall pay a penalty of N200,000 before it will be re-admitted into the league system

3.1.6 Any club that does not participate in Phase One (1) of the League will not be allowed to participate in the second phase.

CHAPTER 4

4.1 TEAMS RANKING SYSTEM DURING THE COMPETITION = The final standing of clubs will be determined by the cumulative results of points gained in Phase I and II.

4.1.1 NUMBER OF VICTORIES: Team ranking will be established by the number of victories (Match won and Match lost) among the teams

4.1.2 NUMBER OF POINTS GAINED - If Two (2) or more teams have the same number of victories (match won, match lost), they will be classified in descending order by the points gained by each team per match as follows

Match won 3:0; 3:1	3 points
Match won 3:2	2 points
Match Lost 2:3	1 point
Match Lost 0:3; 1:3	0 point
Match Forfeited	0 point

4.1.3 SET QUOTIENT – If Two (2) or more teams are tie on the number of points gained, they will be classified in descending order by the quotient resulting from the division of the number of all sets won by the number of all sets lost

4.1.4 POINTS QUOTIENT – If the tie still persists based on the sets quotient, the teams will be classified in descending order by the quotient resulting from the division of all the points scored by the total points lost during all sets.

4.1.5 LAST MATCH RESULTS – If the tie continues to persist based on the points quotient, the tie will be broken based on the team that won the last match played between the tie teams. When the tie quotient is between three (3) or more teams, these teams will be ranked taking into consideration only the matches involving the teams

4.2 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

4.2.1 PROMOTION - Three (3) clubs that ended on podium (positions 1-3) in ranking in Division 2 will be promoted to Division 1 while Three (3) top clubs in ranking with podium finished (positions 1-3) in Division 1 will be promoted to Premier effective from 2026 season.

4.2.2 RELEGATIONS – Two (2) clubs at the bottom of ranking in Premier will be relegated to Division I (this will continue for a period of 3 years effective from 2026 season) while Three (3) last clubs in ranking in Division 1 will be relegated to Division 2 effective from 2026 league season.

4.2.3 ALL PROMOTIONS AND RELEGATIONS ARE AT THE DESCREATION OF NLMC

CHAPTER 5

5.1TRANSFER OF PLAYERS: Players and Coaches are free to move to new clubs during the window of registration. However, transfer fees will be paid to clubs of origin or last club where the players are coming from as stated below. If the player is joining:

PREMIER – N150,000

DIVISION 1 – N100,000

DIVISION 2 – N50,000

5.2 SHARING FORMULAR - The transfer proceeds shall be shared in accordance with NVBF Constitution as follows:

5.2.1 50% of the total proceed to club

5.2.2 30% of the total proceed goes to concerned player

5.2.3 20% of the total proceed to Federation.

5.2.4 **All money are to be paid into the Federation Account (See article 2.4) who will do the sharing**

5.2.5 **Any club defaulting in payment of transfer fees before the commencement of the competition will result into disqualification of the player for that competition**

5.3 PLAYER (S) ON LOAN

5.3.1 Where a Club lend a player(s) to another club, it shall be for at least one season.

5.3.2 There shall be a contract agreement between the two clubs in writing copied to the Federation.

5.3.3 The borrowing club shall pay 20% and 30% of the transfer fee to Federation and Player(s) respectively. The money shall be paid into the Federation Account for further distribution.

5.3.4 A Player who has played in Phase I of any category of League, can not play for another club in Phase 2 in the same season.

5.3.5 Player who have changed club to another club for reason of being employed, transfer fees may not be paid on such player's movement provided that contract of employment is presented to the Control Committee for confirmation prior to the competition otherwise transfer fee shall be paid.

CHAPTER 6

OTHER OFFICIAL

6.1.1 REFEREES: Except where it is expressly stated otherwise, all clubs should come to competition with registered (NVRA) accompany Referees or pay a fine of N200,000 only.

6.1.2 COACHES: Only registered coaches with NVCA will be allow to seat on a team bench. Only a maximum of 4 officials per team including 1 medical/Therapist will be allowed on team bench (See article 2.1.3). The medical personnel will sit behind their team bench and enter the court when call upon by the Referees to attend to injured players. All the coaching crew shall be uniformly dressed or be disallowed to seat on the team bench.

6.2 FOREIGNER: refers to Nigerians who are playing professional volleyball outside the country who are not resident in Nigeria or employed by Federal or State government, organization or club in Nigeria. OR Non-Nigeria wishing to play professional volleyball in Nigeria.

A Club is allowed to register 3 Foreign players to play for them at the beginning or Mid season with only two playing on court at the same time for a season. The Nigeria club desiring to engage foreign player(s) shall contact NVBF who shall initiate the process through FIVB – ITC transfer window. For more explanation contact the NVBF Secretariat

6.3 DIASPORA PLAYERS: these are Nigeria players who are playing volleyball abroad.

Aii players that played outside Nigeria shall be allowed to play on Nigeria League within the same year after the expiration of their ITC or release by the foreign club that engaged them.

6.4 ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY FOR A NATIONAL TEAM AFTER A CHANGE OF FEDERATION OF ORIGIN

6.4.1 Only two (2) players who have changed Federation of Origin can be listed on the final roster (O-2bis) for a given event. one (1) player having previously played for another national team and who has changed Federation of Origin within the last four (4) years can be part of a team, for a given event. The four-year period shall start from the date that the change of Federation of Origin of the player was approved.

6.4.2 A player's Federation of Origin may be changed if the player has not represented national team of the Federation of Origin; however, it may be changed only once. Changes of Federation of Origin may be approved only by the FIVB Executive Committee, upon proposal of the FIVB President, and provided that the right to be heard of the current Federation of Origin has been respected

6.4.3 GENERAL CONDITIONS

A change of Federation of Origin may be approved only if the following conditions are cumulatively met:

6.4.3 (i) The player has established residence in the country of his new Federation of Origin for a minimum of three (3) continuous years immediately prior to the time of filing the application for the Change or the player had obtained the nationality of the country of the new Federation before the date in which the player's Federation of Origin was determined.

6.4.3 (ii) The player has obtained the nationality of the country of the new Federation.

6.4.3 (iii) The player has not represented the seniorany national team of the Federation of Origin.

6.4.3 (iv) The player's Federation of Origin agrees to the Change.

6.4.3 (v) The new Federation agrees to the Change.

6.4.3 (vi) The applicable administration fee for the Change has been paid to the FIVB (see

6.5 BRANDING/ADVERTISEMENT: Clubs/Teams are allowed to have brand Logo on their jerseys for a fee to be determined by NLMC

CHAPTER 7

7.1 DISCIPLINE/PROTEST: All players, Coaches, Referees, other Officials and spectators are expected to be of good conduct before, during and after the competition. Any behavior contrary to good manners shall be sanctioned by the Control Committee appropriately or be referred to Discipline and Ethics Committee.

7.1.1 No Coach or any official from the team bench should approach the scorer's table. Any violation will be sanctioned by the Referees accordingly.

7.1.2 Teams must follow FIVB procedure in channeling their complaints. Only the GAME CAPTAIN is allowed to ask from the First Referee the interpretation of the rule applied during a match. Where the captain is not satisfied with the Referee's explanation of the rule, he/she will inform the Referee that he/she will like to protest the decision of the Referee. The Referee must allow the captain or the scorer to record this on the score sheet. The protest will be heard after the match.

7.2 PROTEST – Complaint may be lodged at different stages of the competition. It can be before, during and after matches.

7.2.1 PROCEDURE- Where a protest is against another team or player(s), the captain or coach must inform the 1st Referees/Control Committee before the commencement or during the match. This must be noted on the score sheet. The protesting team must make a written presentation to the Chairman Control Committee within 2 hours after the match with a protest fee of N20,000.

7.2.2 All complaints concerning the result of a match must be presented in writing to the Chairman Control Committee within 2 hours after the end of the match concern with the stipulated amount (See 7.2.1)

7.2.3 The Chairman of Control Committee must convene to consider the complaints within 12 hours after the presentation of the complaint and render its verdict. A member of the

Control Committee who has vested interest in the complaining team will be excused from the session.

7.24 The Chairman of Control Committee may invite all persons concerned in the case and their representatives to give testimony

7.3 VERDICT –

7.3.1 The Control Committee must take decision within 18 hours of the receipt of the deposit

7.3.2 APPEAL - The Control Committee must communicate its verdict in writing without delay to the interested parties. The complainant may appeal the decision of Control Committee to Chairman NLMC within 2 hours of receipt of the verdict of Control Committee with a sum of N50,000. The decision the NLMC shall be final.

7.4 UNSPORTS MAN LIKE CONDUCT – The control Committee will decide on any rude conduct of players, coaches and officials arising from the competition. Where the offence do not boarder on a match, the matter will be referred to Ethics and Disciplinary Committee of NVBF.

CHAPTER 8

8.1 SUPER CUP

8.1.1 Super Cup shall be an extension of League season to determine the Champion of champions in Division I and Premier League - men and women categories.

8.1.2 Only players who participated in just concluded league shall be eligible to participate in Super Cup Championship for that season.

8.1.3 Only one Giant Trophy will be presented to the Champions. There will be no second and/or third positions

8.1.4 The same Trophy will be competed for every year. A club that wins it three (3) consecutive times will keep it for good. Another trophy has to be provided by NLMC

8.1.4 NLMC will determine the venue and other matters related to Super Cup

CHAPTER 9

9.1 MEDICAL – Medical fitness is a necessity for athletes and officials participating in the game of Volleyball

9.1.1 All athletes must provide medical certificate of fitness from a reputable hospital to be submitted to the Control Committee during the Preliminary Inquiry

9.1.2 All Coaches, Referees and other officials that must participate in any NVBF Competition must present to the Control Committee Certificate of medical fitness from a reputable hospital. During Preliminary Inquiry

9.1.3 NVBF shall not be responsible for any pre-competition illness and or injury of any athlete or official suffer during competition.

CHAPTER 10

10.1 CONTROL COMMITTEE – Control Committee is the highest authority during a competition (appointed by President NVBF at the recommendation of Chairman Technical Committee) with the powers of NVBF through NLMC and is responsible for

10.1.1 Smooth running of all activities related to the competition

10.1.2 The adherence to NVBF Constitution FIVB Rules and regulations and League Guidelines

E-Signed.

NLMC