VOLLEYBALLBC

2027 CLUB SEASON

New to Club Volleyball

What club volleyball is, how it works and what to expect this season

For athletes and families



Land acknowledgement



We live, work and play on the traditional and ancestral territories of the Coast Salish peoples of the Lower Mainland, including the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, Kwantlen, Katzie, Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen and Stó:lō Nations.

Families join us tonight from communities across British Columbia. We also acknowledge the many First Nations whose traditional territories our members live, work and play on.



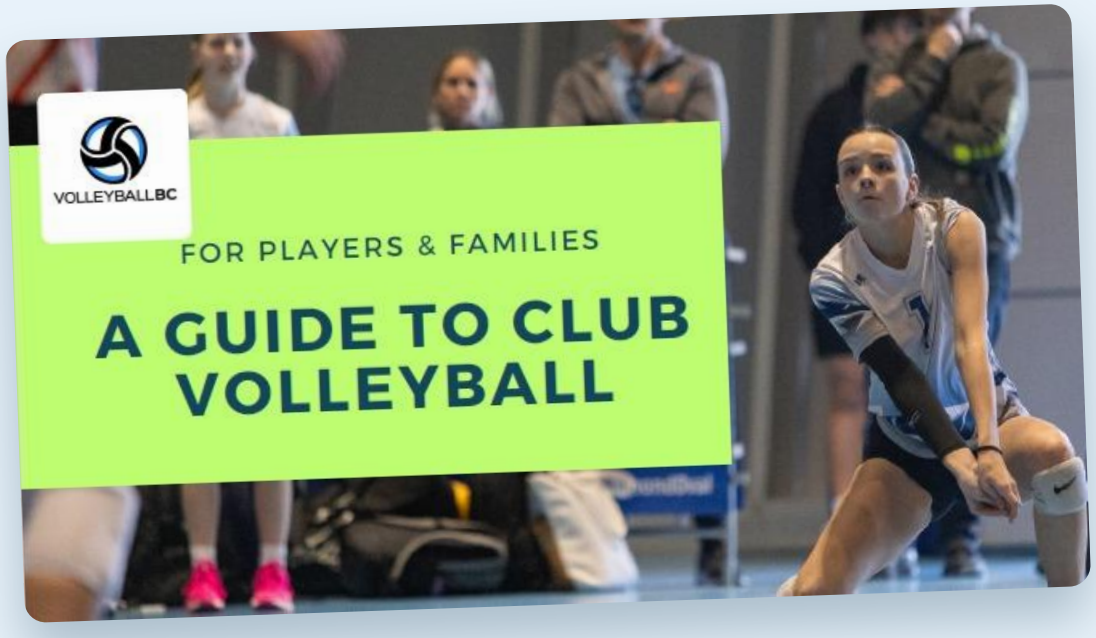
AGENDA

What we'll cover today

1. What club volleyball is
2. How the season works
3. Finding and choosing a club
4. Tryouts and offers
5. What to expect during the season
6. Your questions

YOUR GO-TO RESOURCE

A Guide to Club Volleyball



Written for players and families. Everything in today's session in one place, plus links and contacts.

AVAILABLE IN

English · Français · 简体中文 · 繁體中文 · فارسی · Tagalog

Find it at volleyballbc.org › Play › Youth › Club Volleyball

WHO WE ARE

Volleyball BC

The provincial governing body for volleyball in British Columbia. A non-profit, accredited by viaSport BC.

VISION

Igniting lifelong passion for volleyball

MISSION

To lead enjoyable and safe volleyball experiences for people to participate, share, develop and excel.

Our role in club volleyball

- Approve clubs every season
- Set the rules for tryouts, offers and recruiting
- Screen coaches, staff and volunteers
- Run regional and provincial events
- Support clubs, athletes and families

THE BASICS

What is club volleyball?

12U–18U

Teams for boys and girls in every age group

90+

Approved clubs across British Columbia

Jan–May

The competitive season, with tryouts in Nov and Dec

Members

Every club, athlete, coach and referee is a VBC member

Clubs are independent organizations

Each club applies to Volleyball BC every year. To be approved, it agrees to follow our policies and must have a refund policy, a complaint procedure and codes of conduct.

Outside the club season

Camps, clinics and private training run by a club may not be sanctioned or insured by Volleyball BC. Ask the club how they're run.

THE SEASON

The club year at a glance

Sep to Oct

Early signing

Returning 15U–18U athletes can re-sign with their club

Oct 15

Tryout registration opens

Register directly with each club

Nov to Dec

Tryouts and offers

Dates set by age group. We are here now.

Jan to Mar

Regular season

Practices and regional events

Mid-Apr to early May

Provincial Championships

The end of the season for every team

May

National Championships

Optional. Run by Volleyball Canada

THE SEASON

Early signing



Each fall, returning 15U to 18U athletes can re-sign with their current club before tryouts. For 2027 the window ran September 1 to October 15.

How it works

- Uses the standard Volleyball BC early signing form
- 72 hours to change your mind after signing
- Up to 12 athletes per team
- Not every club uses it

What it means

- Committed to the club for the season
- Can't attend other clubs' tryouts
- No guarantee of a specific team or playing time

Why it matters now

Some spots on a 15U to 18U team may already be filled before tryouts. Ask the club.

THE SEASON

2027 age categories

Age category	Born between
12 & Under	Jan 1, 2015 – Dec 31, 2015
13 & Under	Jan 1, 2014 – Dec 31, 2014
14 & Under	Sept 1, 2012 – Dec 31, 2013
15 & Under	Sept 1, 2011 – Dec 31, 2012
16 & Under	Sept 1, 2010 – Dec 31, 2011
17 & Under	Sept 1, 2009 – Dec 31, 2010
18 & Under	Sept 1, 2008 – Dec 31, 2009

Playing down

From 14U up, athletes born September 1 to December 31 can play down one age category. Not in 12U or 13U.

One age group per season

An athlete plays on one team and competes at one Provincial Championship.

THE SEASON

Tryout and offer dates



12U and 13U

TRYOUTS FROM

Nov 8, 2026

OFFER SIGNING DATE

Nov 16, 2026

14U

TRYOUTS FROM

Nov 15, 2026

OFFER SIGNING DATE

Nov 23, 2026

15U

TRYOUTS FROM

Nov 22, 2026

OFFER SIGNING DATE

Nov 30, 2026

16U to 18U

TRYOUTS FROM

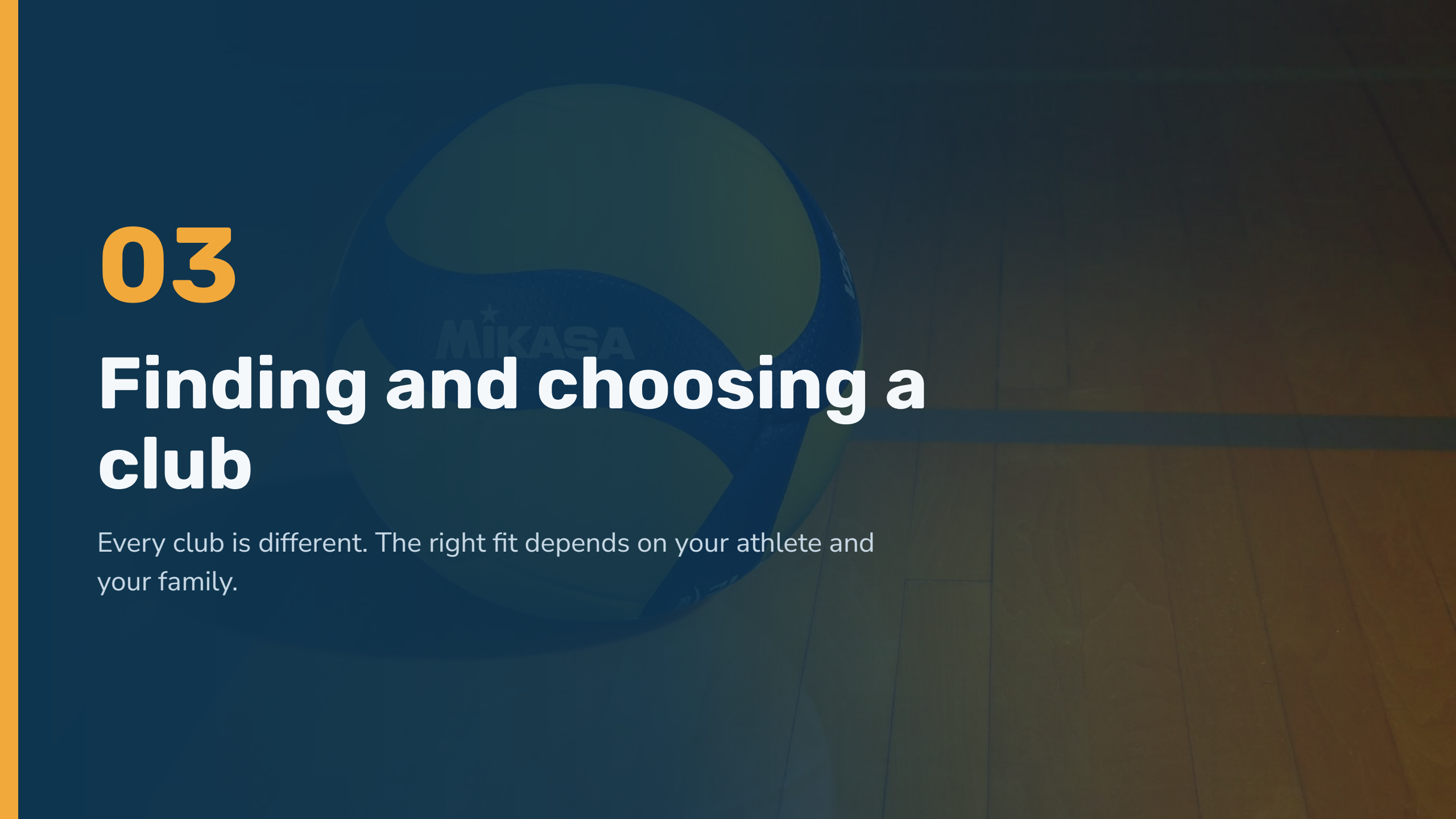
Dec 6, 2026

OFFER SIGNING DATE

Dec 14, 2026

Offers stay open until **6pm** on the Offer Signing Date.

Clubs set their own dates. Not every club runs every age group.



03

Finding and choosing a club

Every club is different. The right fit depends on your athlete and your family.

CHOOSING A CLUB

Questions worth asking

Find approved clubs in your region on our website, then do your homework. You're choosing who your athlete spends the season with.

Culture

- What are the club's values, and do its actions match?
- Do athletes come back year after year?
- What do past athletes say?

Organization

- Non-profit, business or other?
- Is there a board of directors?
- Are policies posted, with a clear complaint process?

Training

- Who are the coaches and what is their philosophy?
- When, how often and how long are practices?
- Does the club support multi-sport athletes?

Commitment

- How many events, and how much travel?
- Is the team planning to go to Nationals?
- What is expected of parents?

CHOOSING A CLUB

Fees and financial obligations

Ask what the club fee includes

- Practices and court time
- Uniforms and team gear
- Hotels and transportation
- Strength and sport science
- Exhibition events or Nationals
- Team photos or activities

Ask about payment plans and financial assistance. KidSport can also help.

Before you commit

Accepting an offer commits you to the club's financial obligations for the full season.

Read the club's refund policy. Volleyball BC doesn't get involved in financial matters between clubs and families.

HELP WITH FEES

KidSport funding

Volleyball BC is a member of Sport BC, so athletes on our registered clubs can apply to KidSport for help with registration fees.

UP TO

$400

per child, per calendar year, paid directly to the club

Who can apply

Athletes 18 and under whose families face financial barriers to playing sport

What it covers

Registration fees. Not travel, camps, equipment or championships

Apply early

Before or at the start of the season. A decision can take up to 60 days

Apply online at kidsport.ca/british-columbia, or email kidsport@sportbc.com

SAFE SPORT

Keeping club volleyball safe

What every club must do

- Screen every coach, staff member and volunteer: criminal record check every 3 years, screening disclosure every year, Safe Sport training
- Open and observable: an athlete is never alone with a person in authority
- Uphold the Code of Conduct and Ethics

Questions you can ask a club

- How do coaches communicate with athletes?
- How do you handle travel, overnight trips and changing rooms?
- How do you deal with a concern about staff behaviour?

SAFE SPORT

If you have a concern

A CLUB DECISION OR CLUB POLICY

Your club

Follow the club's own complaint or conflict resolution process.

A VOLLEYBALL BC RULE OR POLICY

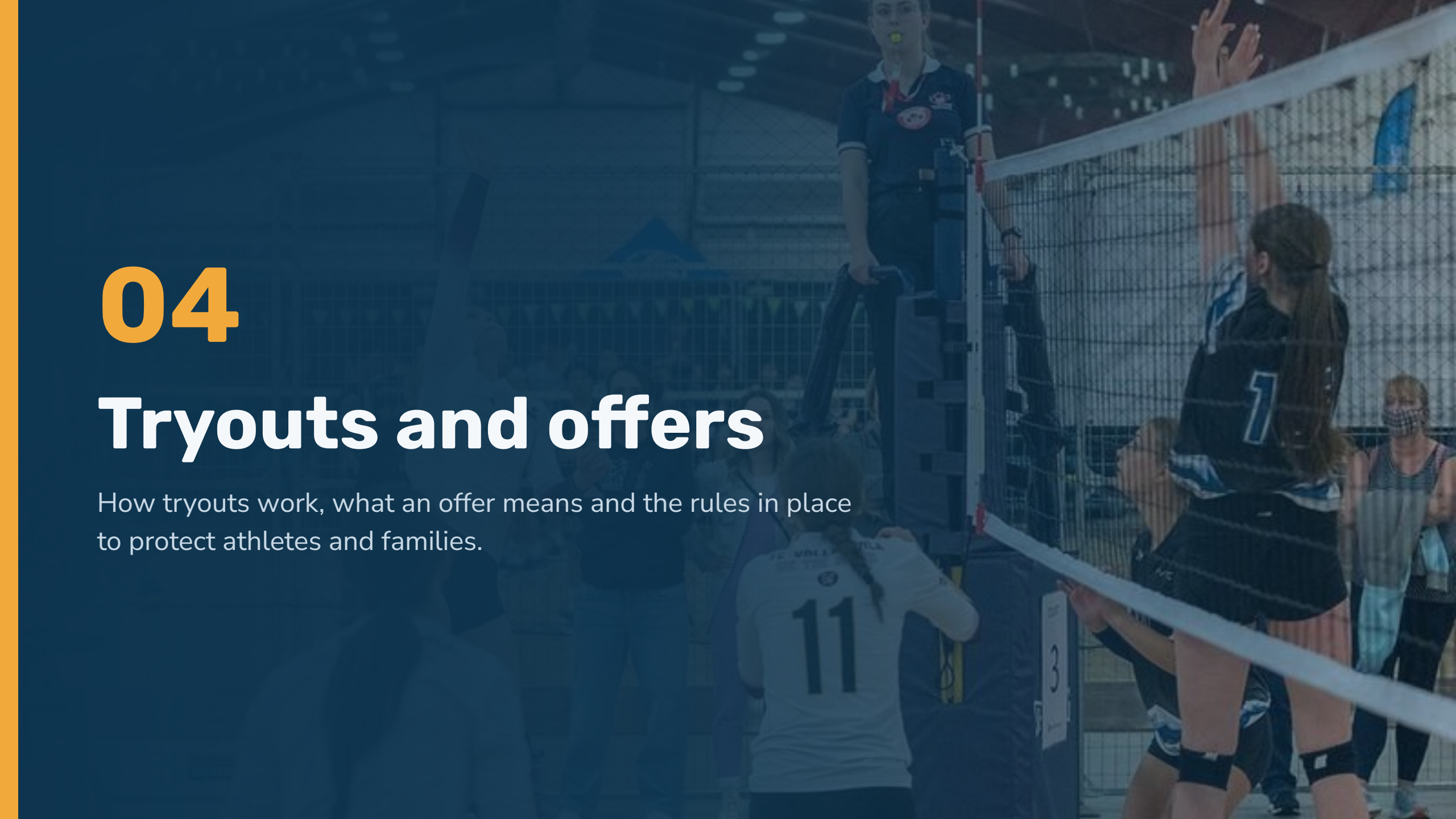
Volleyball BC

Email reporting@volleyballbc.org

MALTREATMENT, HARASSMENT OR ABUSE

ITP Sport

An independent third party that handles safe sport complaints.



04

Tryouts and offers

How tryouts work, what an offer means and the rules in place to protect athletes and families.

TRYOUTS

How tryouts work

Register for tryouts with each club, not through Volleyball BC

Attend as many different club's tryouts as you like. Going to a tryout is not a commitment

Tryout fees are set by each club and are separate from club fees

One session or several days. Each club runs its tryout its own way

Haven't received an offer? Many clubs only contact the athletes they're offering a spot. If you're unsure, ask the club.

A tryout can't depend on attending a club's off-season training

TRYOUTS

Know what you’re trying out for

Before you go, ask the club:

1. How long is the tryout, and how many days?
2. Is my athlete trying out for one team, or any team they’re eligible for?
3. Have some spots already been filled by returning athletes?
4. Who will coach the team, and when does it practise?

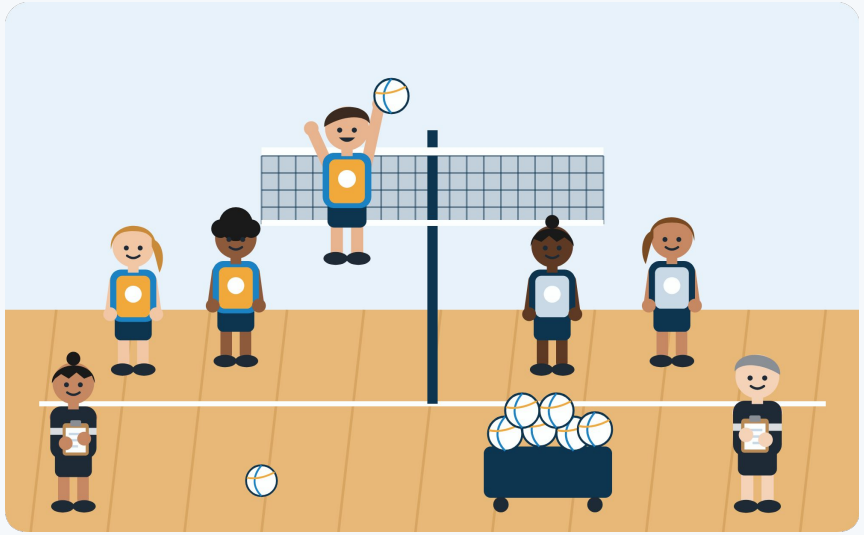


If you’re not comfortable with the answers, keep looking.

There are many good programs across the province.

TRYOUTS

Tryout day



Expect a busy gym with lots of athletes, numbered pinnies, drills and coaches taking notes. **Feeling nervous is normal.**

How athletes can prepare

- Get a good sleep and eat beforehand
- Pack water, a snack, knee pads and court shoes
- Arrive early to check in and warm up
- Listen closely, and ask if you're unsure about a drill
- Bring energy, hustle and talk on the court
- Everyone makes mistakes. Coaches watch how you respond

FOR PARENTS

Keep it low pressure. Afterwards, ask about effort and what they enjoyed, not how they compared.

TRYOUTS

How teams are selected

Each club sets its own selection process and criteria. Most look at a few common things:

Skill and experience

Commitment to the club and team

What the team needs: positions and skills

Effort, attitude and coachability



OFFERS

Receiving an offer



VOLLEYBALLBC

SIGNING OFFER FORM

This is a formal agreement to commit to the club identified for the Volleyball BC indoor club season.

Club Name
Athlete Name — First Name — Last Name
Athlete Birthdate — dd-mon-yy — Birthdate required for Athlete identification purposes
Team Information
Gender Category
Age Category

- By signing this form, the athlete and the club are committing to each other for a minimum of one season. Participation in additional tryouts after a form has been returned is not permitted. Athletes who accept offers from multiple clubs will be found in violation of the signing policy.
- This offer will be honoured until 6:00pm PST on the signing date has expired. For age specific signing dates, please reference the Indoor Club Handbook on the Volleyball BC website. All offers provided after the age specific signing date are valid for a minimum of 24 hours. A valid offer can be signed at any time.
- This agreement may be voided if there is a significant change to the agreed upon terms and/or extenuating circumstances. Volleyball BC strongly recommends a Club Contract be signed outlining information such as (but not limited to); practice schedule and locations, tournament dates, travel arrangements, code of conduct, and any conflicts the athlete may have with the team commitments, club philosophy, coaching philosophy, etc.
- Additional documents accompany this agreement.

Club/Team Signature

Club Representative
Role with Club
Email
Phone
Signature
Date — dd-mon-yy — Time

Athlete Signatures & Initials

Athlete Signature
Parent/Guardian Signature
Date — dd-mon-yy

By signing this form, I am making an official commitment to this club for the season. Initial: _____

Clear Athlete Info | Clear All Info | Print | Save

- Clubs can offer a spot on a team after their first tryout has started
- Every offer should use the standard Volleyball BC Club Athlete Offer Letter
- You accept by signing the letter or by paying any part of the club fee
- A club can't withdraw an offer before 6pm on the Offer Signing Date. Offers expire at 6pm that day
- To decline, tell the club in writing

Let clubs know as soon as you've decided.

OFFERS

Your rights during the offer process

No pressure

Choose any club without pressure or consequences. A club pushing you to sign may not be the right fit.

Know what you're signing

You should know the coach, team and age category before you commit, and you can ask questions about the offer.

Reasonable hours

Clubs can contact athletes 4pm to 9pm on weekdays and 8am to 9pm on weekends. Parents can be contacted any time.

It goes both ways

Clubs have a right to know your answer as soon as you do. Holding offers isn't fair to anyone.

OFFERS

Accepting an offer is a commitment for the whole season.

Stop attending other tryouts

Let any other clubs you tried out for, or that made you an offer, know your decision.

Both sides are committed

An athlete who leaves without approval can't play for another club for the rest of the season.

Exceptions are rare

Moving away or a major change in family circumstances may be approved. Wanting a different team or coach is not.

RECRUITING

No club-to-club recruiting

Volleyball BC has a zero-tolerance policy on recruiting between clubs. A club's representatives can't contact athletes from another club to recruit them. That includes **coaches, administrators, team staff, parents and athletes.**

A club can contact an athlete directly only if they

- Played for that club last season
- Registered for that club's tryout
- Weren't with any club last season

For new families

If your athlete is new to club volleyball, clubs are allowed to reach out to you. General information a club posts publicly is always fine.

AFTER TRYOUTS

If you don’t receive an offer

Club volleyball is competitive, and most clubs run only one or two teams in an age group. Clubs decide who they offer, which age groups they run and how many teams.

There are still plenty of ways to keep playing

Volleyball BC programs

Youth programs, camps and clinics across the province

Club programs

Many clubs run camps, clinics and house leagues

Local recreation

Check with your community or recreation centre

Non-VBC camps

Colleges and universities run camps and clinics

05

What to expect during the season

Practices, events and what it asks of families from January to May.

THE SEASON

What a typical season looks like

Jan–May

Season commitment, ending at Provincials

2–3

Practices a week, usually weekday evenings

3–6

Event weekends, depending on age and team

Parent support

Driving, team logistics, snacks, scorekeeping and cheering. Ask the club what it expects of parents.

Communication

Usually a team app, text or email from the coach or team manager. It varies by team.

THE SEASON

How competition works

12U to 14U

Development and regional play

- Playdays and 1-day events in your region
- Super Spikes for 13U Boys and 14U
- Teams must play their Regional Championship (April 3) to go to Provincials
- 12U plays tripleball

15U to 18U Girls

Two tiers

- Division 1/2: two mandatory Super Series
- Division 3+: optional Super Series and 1-day regional tournaments
- Teams can move up or down a tier for Provincials based on results

15U to 18U Boys

One division

- Optional Super Series, one in each region
- 1-day regional tournaments
- Two of three Super Series are needed to be eligible for Division 1 at Provincials

THE SEASON

What it means for your family

1 **Ask which events the team will enter**

Your club decides the schedule. Ask about travel weekends before you accept an offer.

2 **Some events are mandatory**

Division 1/2 Super Series and 12U to 14U Regionals are required. Plan family weekends around them.

3 **At 15U and up, every result counts**

Including 1-day regional tournaments. Provincial placement uses a team's top two results.

4 **Travel is a choice for many teams**

Division 3+ Girls and all 15U to 18U Boys teams choose how far to travel. Ask what your team plans.

PLANNING AHEAD

When event details are released

October

Host regions

The region hosting each event is posted on the competition calendar

Dec 15

Host cities

The city for each event is confirmed

10 days

Schedules, venues and draws

Posted 10 days before each event, or sooner if ready

PLANNING AHEAD

Book hotels once your city is confirmed

What we're seeing

Some families and teams are reserving rooms in several cities so they're ready wherever they end up, then cancelling the ones they don't need.

We understand why. It still causes real problems.

Why it matters

- Teams actually playing in that city can't get rooms
- Late cancellations strain our relationships with hotel partners
- Those partners help us host events around the province

Book once. Wait until you know your team's division and the city where it plays. Then book in that city only, following your club's instructions.

EVENT DAYS

A typical tournament day

8:30–10:30

First match usually starts

3–4 matches

On day 1

2–3 matches

On day 2 of two-day events

1 move

At most, between schools in a day

Between matches

Certified referees run every match. Athletes take turns scorekeeping and line judging.

Plan for a full day

Pack water and food, and know where you can eat. Schedules are posted 10 days before.

EVENT DAYS

Respect the facility

Finding enough schools to host events is difficult. **When the rules are broken, we risk losing access to the gyms we need.**

Please do

- Bring water only into gyms and school areas
- Stay in the gym and spectator areas
- Clean up benches and bleachers before you leave

Please don’t

- Bring in coffee, food or other drinks
- Go into closed areas of the school
- Play with balls in hallways or off the courts

New to Club Volleyball · Clubs are fined for breaches: $50 or more for food and drink, $100 for off-limit areas

CONTACTS

Who to contact at Volleyball BC

For questions about club volleyball in your area, start with your region.

LOWER MAINLAND
lm@volleyballbc.org

FRASER VALLEY
fv@volleyballbc.org

VANCOUVER ISLAND
island@volleyballbc.org

OKANAGAN
okanagan@volleyballbc.org

KOOTENAYS
kootenay@volleyballbc.org

NORTH
north@volleyballbc.org

Membership: members@volleyballbc.org

Policy concerns: reporting@volleyballbc.org

VOLLEYBALLBC

Questions?

Thank you for joining us

Keep the **Guide to Club Volleyball** handy. It's at volleyballbc.org › Play › Youth › Club Volleyball, with the club list and key dates.

