WELCOME...

REMINDER: AVSC REGULATION ADVANCEMENTS
A reminder that the following alterations that have been made to the AVSC 2012:

1. **Time-limited matches for all divisional age groups**: For all age groups (U14, U15, U16, U17 and Opens) in Divisions 1, 2 or 3 all matches (up until finals’ day) will be played at 70 minute intervals. This will involve strictly 60 minutes playing time with a 10 minute warm up.

   **Reasons / Benefits for time limited matches for all divisional age groups:**
   - More match time for players.
   - Some teams had played less than an hour of volleyball by Wednesday.
   - Not all divisional teams were getting value for money with the amount of volleyball being played.
   - Ensure a fixed match time of 60 minutes per match for each team.
   - Increasing value for money for all participants, giving 38% more volleyball (this based on data from previous AVSC tournaments).
   - Allow for synchronized warm ups for all divisional matches.
   - Ensures that all teams know exactly what time matches start/finish. This will reduce waiting times for teams and will allow for schools to plan their days more accurately.

2. **Event Timing Changes:**
   A number of time changes to the first day of the event will be implemented in 2012. This may impact on some team travel arrangements.
   **Sunday 9th Dec:**
   - **Coaches’ Meeting** – 3:00pm (prior to the Opening Ceremony)
   - **Opening Ceremony** – 4:00pm
   - **Matches will commence after the Opening Ceremony** – approximately 6:00pm

   **Reasons/ Benefits for matches commencing on Sunday:**
   - With the increasing number of teams entering this will allow the AVSC to cater for this increased number and hopefully will avoid the necessity to hire a fourth venue.
   - Schools can support teams playing on Sunday night.
   - Opening Ceremony being held earlier may allow some teams to make earlier dinner arrangements.
   - The Closing Ceremony may be held earlier on Friday, thus creating an opportunity for more schools to attend.

3. **Net Touch Rule:** The net touch rule has reverted to the previous rule whereby players are not allowed to touch any part of the net at all during play. Any net touches will incur a point loss. (The exception is if the ball is in the back court behind the attack line and there is an incidental net touch-then the team is not penalised).
Reasons / Benefits for reverting to the previous net touch rule:

- The Events Commission reverted to the previous net touch rule in the interest of safety (SMA reports show that there has been an increase in serious injuries sustained by players at the net. The numerous complaints that have been received from school physiotherapists, coaches, teachers, parents and players support the SMA reports).
- Reduce the number of serious injuries caused by players purposely playing ‘through the net’.
- Easier for referees to call a net touch.

4. **Net Heights**

   Please note the following net height changes highlighted in **red**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Honours Tournament</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open (Under 20)</td>
<td>2.43</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 17</td>
<td>2.35</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 16</td>
<td>2.35</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 15</td>
<td>2.24</td>
<td>2.10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Divisional Tournament</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open (Under 20) – Div 1 or 2</td>
<td>2.35</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 17 – Div 1 or 2</td>
<td>2.35</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 16 – Div 1 or 2</td>
<td>2.24</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 15 – Div 1 or 2</td>
<td><strong>2.15</strong></td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 14 – Div 1 or 2</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td><strong>2.10</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Reasons/Benefits for increases in net heights:

- Align net heights with National and International events for AVSC players.
- Intending to lift the standard of the game and expect more from the elite female athletes
- The current design of the Mikasa ball allows the ball to float more through the air and the higher net heights will reduce the impact the serve has on the game.
- Easier for AVSC administrators to schedule games.

The updated Tournament Regulations are currently being approved by the AVSC Events Commission and will be released in the May edition of the ‘AVSC Monthly’. A ‘Summary of Changes’ document will also be released outlining all the alterations that have been made in order to minimise any confusion as to what changes have actually been made.

**AVSC KEY DATES**

On the last page of this newsletter you will find a list of key dates for this year. This includes nomination open and closing dates, entry fee payment dates etc. Make sure you keep tabs on where you are at in relation to this time line.
THINGS TO DO...

- Contact your State Volleyball Association to book students into an approved Referee accreditation course. Work with your State Association now, as one of the biggest issues for schools at the end of the year is making sure they have enough qualified referees.
- Secure accommodation for AVSC 2012.
- Organise a budget and start deciding on transport options to, from and within Melbourne.
- With more than 6 months to go, get the students together and start fundraising now. With so much time, fundraising could easily reduce AVSC costs for the team.
- Start brain storming ideas for your schools’ banner for the 2012 banner parade. There will be a prize for the school with the best banner!
- Remind all your players that they need to register with the State Volleyball Association to be eligible to play at the 2012 AVSC. Please contact your appropriate State Association directly.

KEY DATES FOR 2012 AVSC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event/Note</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July 2012</td>
<td>Online Team Nomination Opens</td>
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| Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2012 | International Team Nominations Due  
                            | Nominations to be accompanied by their National Federation ranking where multiple teams are seeking entry into the same division |
| Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012 | Nomination Closing Date  
                            | Schools must nominate their players and their referees by this time, but may amend divisions following state schools cup events. Please ensure referees nominated have current membership for the duration of the event.  
                            | 1) Requests to AVSC EC for exemptions to eligibility criteria close |
|                        | 2) Wildcard Nominations close |
|                        | 3) Member state associations are provided nomination lists to verify membership within each state/territory |
| Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 | Nomination Advice & Tax invoice sent to school |
Monday 29th October 2012

1) Nominations for AVSC long service awards close

Wednesday 31st October 2012

2) Wildcard nominations confirmed

3) Teams withdrawing from the competition from this date forfeit half their entry fee

Friday 16th November 2012

1) Team entry fee payments due

2) Schools sent Confirmation of Entry documentation and receipt for monies received

Entry fees received after this date will incur a $100 late entry fee

Monday 19th November 2012

1) Teams withdrawing from competition after this date forfeit entire entry fee

2) Confirmation of Entry documentation must be fully completed and returned VA Events Office by this date

Friday 30th November 2012

Draft Tournament draw published on Tournament website and emailed to confirmed coaches