

***Constitution, By Laws & Playing Rules
2022/2023***

(Revised Sept 2022)

**ARTICLE 1: NAME AND OBJECTIVE**

This organization shall be known as the **Aurora Ladies Volleyball League**. The objective is to promote and improve ladies **AMATEUR** volleyball in the Town of Aurora and surrounding area.

**ARTICLE 2: AIMS**

To foster good team play and good sportsmanship and to promote community spirit.

**ARTICLE 3: EXECUTIVE**

The Executive will consist of a minimum of a **President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer** and a **Statistician.** In voting situations,each member of the Executive team is assigned one vote (i.e., if a member holds two positions on the Executive, they will only have one vote).

1. Executive and captains positions will be a minimum of 2-year term of office. It is recommended that a maximum of 2 positions change in one year. Search for new executive members and/or captains will be initiated the January prior to the term of office beginning. If a captain's position needs to be filled during a season, it will be filled at the time of vacancy from a member of the existing team.
2. An executive position and/or captain position can be elected from anyone from the league.

If a **Captain** or **Executive** member is found to be unsuitable or not meeting the guidelines, there will be:

* A VERBAL WARNING
* WRITTEN COMMUNICATION
* DISMISSAL BY THE EXECUTIVE
1. One month prior to the end of the season, the executive and captains are to notify the president if they are continuing their duties for the next ALVL season. If there are vacancies, captains are to speak to and email their team to recruit for needed positions. Nominating a league player is welcomed. Nominees should be familiar with league operations.
2. A review of the Constitution will take place, by the executive, after the end of each season of play.
3. Any **Member** of the league who violates any part of the constitution is subject to any of the following:
* WARNING
* WRITTEN COMMUNICATION
* DISMISSAL - NO REFUND

**ARTICLE 4: DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE**

**PRESIDENT:**

* Act as liaison between executive, captains and referees. Will also arrange permits & tryouts, organize the draft, coordinate with the webmaster to post tryout information (early August), ensure ordering of any equipment and/or shirts, and contact the head referee to secure officials for the season. If required, the president shall conduct executive meetings and keep records of the agendas (see President's Guide for duty timeline)

 Note: It is the President's responsibility to cancel any nights of play due to weather etc. Contact all captains and referees by 3 p.m. the day of the cancellation to ensure all league members can be contacted in a timely fashion.

**VICE PRESIDENT:**

* Shall prepare the year's schedule of games and arrange the banquet and assist in obtaining awards for the banquet. Will maintain the first aid kit and supplies and also assist with registration.

**SECRETARY-TREASURER:**

* The secretary-treasurer will handle the bank account (co-sign with President or Vice President), collect fees, pay officials and assist in registration, banquet and draft. If required, the secretary-treasurer shall record and then distribute executive meeting minutes.

**STATISTICIAN:**

* Shall collect scores weekly and update standings to be provided to the Webmaster each week. Will be responsible for putting write-ups in the local papers for York Region and assist in registration, banquet and draft.

**WEBMASTER:**

* Shall maintain the web site including registering and ensuring payment for the ALVL domain name and hosting services; listing the teams after the draft and adding the weekly standings and any schedule updates as needed.

**CAPTAIN**

* Assist in providing a general level rating (A,B,C) for players at tryouts; participate in the draft; organize team (prepare line ups, ensure players wear league shirt, inform players of the constitution and schedule changes); attend meetings as needed (get input from players, vote on team's behalf and communicate outcome); foster good team play and sportsmanship.

**ARTICLE 5: GENERAL RULES**

1. The rules of volleyball apply as set out in the O.V.A. Rule Book—except all playoff games will be 25 point games with a 27 point limit as per regular season games Note: The ALVL executive reserves the right to choose to modify any and all current OVA rules to suit the purpose of the league. Any modifications will be made known to members at the start of season.
2. A Libero player is permitted and may be used at the discretion of the captain. The Libero will be identified on the court with a white ‘bib’ which will be supplied to each team at the beginning of the season and is the responsibility of the captain. The Libero may be re-designated after each set.  Use of a Libero should be made in consultation with the team, and should not unduly reduce the overall court time of any league player.  If there are any indications that the use of a Libero reduces the court time of any league player (other than when specifically requested by the player), a complaint may be made to the Executive and the team may be subject to a violation (see article 3e).
3. A match will consist of three (3) games.   Each game will begin with a score of 4 to 4 (in order to accommodate more time for the 3rd game).  One point will be awarded to the winner of each game. *(Revised per Exec Mtg May 19, 2020)*
4. Game time will be set at the start of the season.
5. Each game will be played to twenty-five (25) points with a twenty-seven (27) point cap, time permitting.
6. A time-out will not be allowed in the last 2 minutes of any game unless there is an injury.
7. A substitution will not be allowed in the last 2 minutes of any game unless there is an injury.
8. Game three (3) will be played in its entirety only if time permits. The referee shall let the Captains be aware of the last two minutes of play in the game.
9. Each team shall field a minimum five (5) players, failure to do so will result in default of that game. However, they may play subsequent games should their players arrive. The default times will occur at 10 minutes (8:40/9:40), 25 minutes (8:55/9:55) and 40 minutes (9:10/10:10) after the start of each match for each game respectively. A team may borrow a player from another team if available with no penalty.
10. Each team is to start the season with a minimum of eight (8) players and a maximum of ten (10) players. However, this may change at the discretion of the Executive depending on tryout numbers and calibre.
11. A team is permitted to use a ‘Spare’ player when the team compliment is six (6) or less, to bring the total to a maximum of seven (7). The use of a ‘Spare’ for a 7th player is at the captains discretion, for the purpose of maintaining a competitive level of play that is similar to the level of the regular team compliment. The court time for a Spare should not exceed that of a regular league player on the team – although an exception is made if a regular player requires reduced court time for medical reasons, or has requested to leave early. If there are any signs of abuse of this rule, where a 7th player is deemed to increase the team’s typical level of play (i.e, ‘stacking the team’), a complaint may be made to the Executive and the team may be subject to a violation (see article 3e). During the playoffs, any use of a ‘Spare’ must be reported and approved by the Executive members by vote.

**Note:** a “Spare” is defined as a player not registered on the team roster, who is recruited from the substitution list or another ALVL team. There is no charge for a ‘Spare’ to play – unless it becomes clear they have become a regular player.

1. Uniforms are to be worn while playing. Requests for exceptions should be presented to the Executive. Players will be allowed on the court without wearing a uniform but two (2) points will be awarded to the opposing team for one of the games of each match. Referees are to enforce this rule. New/replacement players entering the league after registration that do not receive a team shirt should have a similar coloured shirt for the remaining part of the season, no penalty applies in this situation.
2. In the case of injury during a game, a team of four (4) may continue to play.
3. Linesmen and scorekeeping duties are the responsibility of the teams playing.
4. A doctor's certificate is required for pregnancy and the player may play up to the end of the FOURTH month. Cost of certificate is the responsibility of the player. League players will be advised of this rule at registration.
5. A player who has not been in attendance for 3 consecutive play dates and has not contacted her team captain, her eligibility for play shall be reviewed. A dismissal may result without refund.
6. Only 1 foot may be placed into another court during play. However, if a player places 1 foot into another court and contacts a player or interferes with play on the other court, the play will be ruled out. Referees will have discretion to call the ball out as they see fit to ensure the safety of all players. If the other court is not in play it is up to the discretion of the referee to allow lenience in this rule while ensuring the safety of all players.
7. Each team takes a scheduled turn to set up and take down nets.(slightly revised)

For set up, it is the responsibility of each team member to arrive by 8:00 p.m. to:

* set up nets, referee stands, chairs, score cards, pens and score sheets
* post schedule
* ensure balls are pumped and ready for play

For takedown, it is the responsibility of each team member to:

* put away nets, referee stands, chairs in correct place in storage room
* put schedule, score cards and pens in rolling bag
* take necessary equipment home (balls, rolling bag)
* ensure that score cards are provided to the statistician

**ARTICLE 6: LEAGUE RESPONSIBILITY**

1. The ALVL does not accept any responsibility for any injury to players, executive or spectators.
2. The ALVL does not accept responsibility for any debts incurred by any team.
3. The ALVL does not accept responsibility for any injury to referees, scorer's, spectators or any other person's present working in the League games or activities.

**ARTICLE 7: REGISTRATION**

1. All players must be 18 years of age or older by December 31st of the calendar year (Note: the YRDSB permit category allows for those under 18 to participate).
2. The fees for players entering mid season will be prorated.
3. Refunds will be prorated for players leaving the league minus a $25 administration fee. After January 1st, no refunds will be issued.
4. A 50% discount off the full season registration fee is available to all current members of the Executive Committee and Captains. Members of the Executive Committee are outlined in Article 3.

**ARTICLE 8: DRAFT**

1. The number of teams will be decided after the rating of players.
2. Two (2) nights will be designated for tryouts at the start of the year in September. The Executive and Captains will rate all new players at that time. The previous year's players are to be rated by their Captains at the end of the previous season's play.
3. All players must be rated A, B, or C before the draft. A player may be replaced with a player of the same caliber by:

	1. selecting a rated player from the available players list, or
	2. recruiting from outside the league if no players are suitable on the available players list. The player needs to be approved by all captains before starting regular league play.
4. New players to the league in mid season must be rated. All captains must agree upon new players and the team they are to be drafted to. The goal is to ensure consistent league play.
5. Each year, the draft system is to be determined on draft night by the captains prior to the draft.
6. The caliber of all teams must be as even as possible and agreed upon by all captains before the draft is completed.

**ARTICLE 9: BLOOD RULE**

If at any time, a player injures herself to a point of bleeding, play must be stopped. The area must be sterilized (by any league player) using alcohol wipes and gloves which are provided in the first aid kit. The player must be removed from the court. Play can only resume once these steps have been taken. The player may return to the court once bleeding has stopped. Any open wounds must be properly bandaged and any blood stained clothing must be changed.

THIS RULE SUPERSEDES THE UNIFORM RULE. A PLAYER MAY PLAY WITHOUT A LEAGUE UNIFORM ONLY IN THIS SITUATION.

**ARTICLE 10: EQUIPMENT**

The equipment is the property of ALVL, unless rented from the YRDSB and to be used by them only.

**ARTICLE 11: REFEREES**

1. Of the referees retained by the league, one of them will be designated as the #1 referee.
2. It is the responsibility of the #1 referee to declare the start and default times.
3. Referees are to be OVA certified.

It is the responsibility of the referees to advise the scorekeepers and linesmen of their duties and to advise them at the start of each match as required.

**ARTICLE 12: SPECTATORS**

1. Spectators under the age of four years old need to be supervised by a non-ALVL player while all league games are in play.