

Below is a chart that summarizes the important dates in the tryout window for the 2021/2022 season. Please click on the description associated with each date to get full details on each period. There are specific regulations for each stage of this policy which must be adhered to.

In collaboration with the Indoor Volleyball Development Committee, the OVA is excited to be launching a new competition structure for the 11U-14U divisions for the 2021/2022 season. These changes will introduce new competition streams and rename our current entry level age divisions to better reflect their development focus according to Canadian Sport for Life Long Term Development (LTD) 3.0.

There will also be an increase in eligible birth years for each division, again, to align with LTD 3.0 and address the varying skill levels seen at these ages. Full details, educational opportunities and Club promotional materials will be released on all our social media channels through out the summer months about these exciting changes to the competition structure. Therefore, we recommend that re-signing offers for the affected divisions state an [age grouping](#) rather than a specific division.

These regulations take into consideration the current COVID environment. This policy may be updated if the provincial regulations and/or department of health measures change. Any changes to the policy will be communicated via the OVA website and all social media channels.

Dates	Description (Detailed Descriptions below)
June 1 st to August 8 th	Early Re-Signing Period (15U-18U/19U)
June 15 th to August 8 th	Early Re-Signing Period (Early Contact)
August 6 th to August 8 th	Summer Offer Period
August 10 th	Re-Signed Lists due to the OVA office
August 13 th	Club Declaration of Open spots on their Rosters
August 16 th to February 1 st	Tryouts and Athlete Application Process Begins
September 22 nd	19U/18U Offers can be emailed to Athletes
September 23 rd	17U Offers can be emailed to Athletes
September 24 th	16U Offers can be emailed to Athletes
September 25 th	15U Offers can be emailed to Athletes
September 26 th	Traditional Non-Specialized (formally 14U) offers can be emailed to Athletes
September 27 th	Rallyball (formally 13U) offers can be emailed to Athletes
	Insurance and Registration
	Adherence

June 1st to August 8th – Early Re-Signing Period Open to 15-18U/19U Returning Athletes (72 Hour Offer)
June 15th to August 8th – Early Re-Signing Period Open to Early Contact Returning Athletes (72 Hour Offer)

- Clubs are permitted to send re-signing offers to returning athletes who will be participating in the 12U-18U age divisions for the upcoming season. A returning athlete is defined as a registered OVA member assigned to a registered OVA club during the previous year/season. (**Note:** for 2020/2021 season a returning athlete is defined as an athlete that was committed to a club for the previous season e.g., paid club fee, resigned with a club, or was assigned to a club in MRS). Athletes must be returning to their club from the previous season.
- Offers are only valid when presented using the OVA Re-signing Form.
- All fields on the Early Re-signing Form should be filled out to the best of the club's ability using the information available at the time. If any of the fields are left empty, stipulations related to the missing information should be listed in the other conditions field. If there are any changes in the terms on the form, or there is a failure to meet the terms, the offer it may be voided.
 - **Age Grouping: refers to a training cohort which focuses on an athlete's skill level rather than age. The new OVA Competition structure (Early CONTACT) allows for multiple birth years to train and compete together. Example: A club may have 11U-13U athletes training and competing as a team*
- All re-signing offers must be honoured for 72 hours from the time indicated on the form.
- Clubs **MUST** provide a list of re-signed athletes to the OVA for posting on the website by August 10th.
- Clubs are permitted to collect non-refundable deposits for club fees from re-signed athletes once they have accepted a re-signing offer. All deposits must be returned if a club fails to meet the terms of the offer.
- Online registration will be made available beginning September 1 for re-signed athletes.
- Athletes are permitted to begin team activities once they have been re-signed.
- Re-signed athletes are committed to the club for the season and are **NOT** permitted to attend any additional tryouts for other clubs.
- Athletes who attend additional tryouts after returning an OVA Re-signing Form will be found in violation of this policy and may be subject to sanctions as outlined below. All verbal offers are informal and **NON-BINDING**.

August 6th to 8th – Summer offer Period (24 Hour Offer)

- All athletes complete their commitment to their current club on May 31st of each season. After this date athletes are permitted to begin researching and possibly training with new clubs.
- This period is for athletes who are actively training with a new club, attending clinics and camps provided by a new club and have chosen to commit to the new club's program. To be eligible to sign with a club during this period an athlete must have participated in regular summer training opportunities as mentioned above prior to August 6th.
- Athletes must email the Club to indicate that they would like to commit to their Club's team for the upcoming season. Then, between AUGUST 6th to the 8th, clubs can send offers to the athletes who have indicated via written consent (email) that they would like to play for their club for the upcoming season.
- This process must be athlete driven. Offers **CANNOT** be unsolicited from the club to the athlete. Athletes must have sent expression of interest via email submission to the club they have been training with.
- All offers must be sent via email on the Summer Offer Form.
- All fields on the Summer Offer Form should be filled out to the best of the club's ability using the information available at the time. If any of the fields are left empty, stipulations related to the missing information should be listed in the other conditions field. If there are any changes in the terms on the form, or there is a failure to meet the terms, the offer it may be voided.

TRYOUT WINDOW REGULATIONS 2021

- All club-initiated offers are valid for 24 hours as per the time on the email.
- Any athlete who starts participating in activities with a new club after August 5th will not be eligible for signing until the tryout period.
- Athletes that commit to the club with a signed Summer Offer Form are NOT permitted to attend any additional tryouts for other clubs.
- Athletes who attend additional tryouts after returning a signed Summer Offer Form to a club will be found in violation of this policy and may be subject to sanctions as outlined below. All verbal offers are NON-BINDING.

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August 10th – Re-Signed Lists due to the OVA office

All clubs who have signed athletes for the upcoming season must provide a list of committed athletes to the OVA by August 10th. Lists are to be submitted via FormStack through the OVA website (<https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/club-tryouts>).

All lists must include the athletes age division and position (multiple age divisions and positions are permitted).

- This includes re-signed athletes and athletes who were signed during the summer offer period.
- Failure to report re-signed athletes will result in sanctions.

August 13th – Club Declaration of Open spots on their Rosters

- This phase in the process is meant to allow clubs to advertise their needs and encourage applications. This phase is imperative to the process as the OVA website will be a central board for athletes to view clubs that are accepting applications.
- Clubs will be listed by region, hometown (as listed in MRS), and alphabetically.
- Clubs accepting applications will be required to submit the following information for each team with open spots on the roster:
 - Club Name
 - Coaching Staff
 - Age Division or Age Grouping*
 - Position or positions (if applicable)
 - Number of positions available on each team
- This information will be posted on the OVA website (<https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/club-tryouts>).

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August 16th to February 1st – On site Tryouts and Athlete Application Process Begins (36 Hour Offer)

- Clubs CANNOT present any Offers to athletes who attend tryouts or apply using the OVA application form until the specified time period for each Age Division or Grouping*
- PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR A FULL COPY OF THE APPLICATION: <https://www.ontariovolleyball.org/club-tryouts>
- If a club can secure permits and is following the OVA Indoor Return to Play protocols and all government regulations, clubs can choose to run on court tryouts or a combination of both the application process and on court tryout.

TRYOUT WINDOW REGULATIONS 2021

- Offers can ONLY be sent out via email at the times indicated below. **All offers must be honoured for 36 hours or until the date and time indicated on the offer form, whichever is longer.**
- All Offers must be presented on the OVA Offer Form with the following information: Club Name, Head Coach, Team Name, Age Division or Grouping* and Expected Base Club Fee.
- Offer Periods for each Age Division or Grouping* will start on Designated Days and proceed ongoing after those days.
 - September 22nd, 2021 – 19/18U offers can be emailed
 - September 23rd, 2021 – 17U offers can be emailed
 - September 24th, 2021 – 16U offers can be emailed
 - September 25th, 2021 – 15U offers can be emailed
 - September 26th, 2021 – Traditional Non-Specialized (formally 14U) offers can be emailed to Athletes
 - September 27th, 2021 – Rallyball (formally 13U) offers can be emailed to Athletes
- Clubs are permitted to continue to hold additional tryouts to fill any open spots on their rosters.

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INSURANCE and REGISTRATION

New players can be registered in MRS until February 1st. All athletes and team staff must be registered members of the OVA to be eligible to participate and or compete in any OVA sanctioned events (including club practices). Registering all participants as OVA members by their first practice ensures that they are covered by the OVA insurance policy.

ADHERENCE

The OVA reserve the right to investigate any possible tryout window infractions regardless of how the OVA learns about the incident. This is a self-policing policy and all OVA members are obligated to report any infractions and cooperate fully with any investigations. If the OVA determines that an offense has occurred, there will be a fine of \$500 per occurrence and any of the following sanctions may also be imposed, depending on the severity of the offense:

- Letter of reprimand.
- Indefinite suspension of the individual, team and/or club from OVA events, beginning from the date when the investigation concludes.
- Individuals, teams, and/or clubs suspended for more than one year must apply in writing for reinstatement as a member in good standing. Approval for reinstatement will be contingent upon a full review of the application by the OVA.
- An individual, team and/or club may appeal a sanction or fine through the OVA Appeals Policy.

When reporting a possible infraction please include the following information:

- Date of infraction and Offending club.
- Any type of objective documentation that supports a violation to the policy, includes but not limited to:
 - Website links and or Social media posts
 - Emails and or texts
 - Publications (newspaper ads, flyers etc.)
 - Receipts
- Contact information for the person reporting the incident.

All complaints can be forwarded to info@ontariovolleyball.org.