

Below is a chart that summarizes the important dates in the Tryout Window for the 2023/2024 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.

Dates	Description (Detailed Descriptions below)
July 1 <sup>st</sup> to July 31 <sup>st</sup>	<a href="#">Early Re-Signing Period (All Athletes)</a>
August 11 <sup>th</sup> to August 13 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Summer Offer Period</a> – Only open to athletes entering the 16U to 18U age divisions
August 25 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Club Declaration of Open spots on their Rosters</a>
September 8 <sup>th</sup> to February 1 <sup>st</sup>	<a href="#">Tryouts Begin</a>
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	18U - Offers can be emailed to Athletes
September 19 <sup>th</sup>	17U - Offers can be emailed to Athletes
September 20 <sup>th</sup>	16U - Offers can be emailed to Athletes
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	15U - Offers can be emailed to Athletes
September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Early Contact Initiative (ECI) - 4v4 to Traditional Limited Specialization (TLS) Age Groupings* - Offers can be emailed to Athletes
	<a href="#">Insurance and Registration</a>
	<a href="#">Adherence</a>

**\*Age Grouping:** refers to a training cohort which focuses on an athlete’s skill development level rather than chronological age. The OVA Competition structure (Early Contact Initiative) allows for multiple birth years to train and compete together. Example: A club may have 11U-13U athletes training and competing as a team in any of the ECI streams of competition.

### July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup> – Early Re-Signing Period Open to All Returning Athletes (48 Hour Offer)

Clubs are permitted to send re-signing offers to returning athletes who will be participating in all divisions for the upcoming season (ECI to 18U). **Note:** for 2023/2024 season a returning athlete is defined as an athlete that was committed to a club for the previous season as either a recreational player or full member. e.g., paid club fee, re-signed with a club, or was assigned to a club in MRS or participated in a Club House league program (for ECI divisions). Athletes must be returning to their club from the previous season to be re-signed during this offer period.

- 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 **MUST** 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.
- All re-signing offers must be honoured for 48 hours from the time indicated on the form.
- 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.

## TRYOUT WINDOW REGULATIONS 2023

- Online registration will be made available beginning September 1<sup>st</sup> for re-signed and summer offer period 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 in starting in September.**
- 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 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> – Summer offer Period (24 Hour Offer) Only open to athletes entering the 16U to 18U age divisions.**

- Athletes complete their commitment to their current club on May 31<sup>st</sup> of each season. After this date, athletes are permitted to begin researching and possibly training with new clubs.
- This summer offer period is for athletes entering the 16U to 18U age divisions 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 be entering the 16U to 18U age divisions and have participated in regular summer training opportunities as mentioned above prior to August 10<sup>th</sup>
- Athletes must email the Club to indicate that they would like to commit to the Club's team for the upcoming season. Then, between AUGUST 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 must 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.
- Summer period 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 starting in September.**
- 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.**

### **August 25<sup>th</sup> – 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 to their club. 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 ECI Division 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>).

### **September 8<sup>th</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup> – Tryouts Process Begins (48 Hour Offer)**

- Clubs CANNOT present any Offers to athletes who attend tryouts until the specified time period for each Age Division or Grouping\*
- OVA Indoor Return to Play protocols and all government regulations must be adhered to for court tryouts.
- Offers can ONLY be sent out via email at the times indicated below. **All offers must be honoured for 48 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 Age Grouping\* will start on Designated Days and proceed ongoing after those days.
  - **September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 18U offers can be emailed**
  - **September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 17U offers can be emailed**
  - **September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 16U offers can be emailed**
  - **September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – 15U offers can be emailed**
  - **September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 – Early Contact Initiative Division Age Groupings\* (4v4 to Traditional Limited Specialization) offers can be emailed to Athletes**
- Clubs are permitted to continue to hold additional tryouts to fill any open spots on their rosters after these offer dates.

**\*Age Grouping:** refers to a training cohort which focuses on an athlete's skill development level rather than chronological age. The OVA Competition structure (Early Contact Initiative) allows for multiple birth years to train and compete together. Example: A club may have 11U-13U athletes training and competing as a team in any of the ECI streams of competition.

### **INSURANCE and REGISTRATION**

New players can be registered in MRS until the February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, roster lock date. 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 reserves the right to investigate any possible tryout window infraction regardless of how the OVA learns about the incident. This is a self-policing policy, and all OVA members are obligated to report any infraction and cooperate fully with any investigation. 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.



## TRYOUT WINDOW REGULATIONS 2023

- Any type of objective documentation that supports a violation to the policy, including 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](mailto:info@ontariovolleyball.org).