



National Volleyball League (NVL)

VNZ are delighted to be able to launch a National League.

The new National Volleyball League (NVL) will be launched in late June/July and be held over 2 full weekends. Four Men's and Women's teams representing the 4 zones across NZL will vie for the title of New Zealand National Volleyball League Champions. New Zealand's best athletes will be selected through an EOI draft system to play against each other in a compact competitive event. Games will be livestreamed and will run back-to-back, all at the same venue using the international portable court which will create an awesome live atmosphere. Initial social media release and communications to athletes and coaches.

VNZ want to introduce a league that gives our best 48 athletes to play with and against each other in a compact yet extremely competitive environment. The cost is anticipated to be approximately \$200 per athlete.

As part of VNZ's strategic plan, we call out 'Playing the Game' as one of our 4 pillars. Participation, Development and Performance are critical areas for VNZ. We have a responsibility to provide integrated pathways for performance, to provide for athletes who demonstrate the ability to perform on the world stage.

Sport NZ has provided financial support into sports after the Covid-19 impacts. Currently NZ's top athletes have not played high level competitive international volleyball for nearly 2 years and limited top level domestic play.

Currently VNZ has consulted with numerous athletes and coaches seeking out their interest, support, and feedback on the NVL. Their input is reflected in many of the recommendations in this document.

1 Team Names

VNZ are utilising Bevan Erueti (Taranaki, Te Ati Haunui-ā-Pāpārangī, Ngāti Tūwharetoa), Assoc. Dean Māori (ADM) for the College of Health at Massey University and VNZ Board to develop

some Maori names with synergy to the Associations/Regions and appropriate symbols. Once some drafts are created, VNZ will set up a call with interested Association's to discuss suggestions and to further discuss regional input.

2 Timeline of logistics

The event is expected to fit in the window of post IPC and pre Club Champs/Zonal events. Current suggestions are June 26-27 and July 10-11. VNZ will work with Associations and Zones to confirm the best fit.

Promotion has already gone out for coaches and an initial EOI for athletes. This is to coincide with the National Training Camp window which required rsvps by February 25th for their planning.

Associations were advised of the NVL via Association Comms on Wednesday 17th February.

Social Media will remain a major communication platform.

3 Venues and Location

The intention is to play in the 2 most cost-effective locations in New Zealand. VNZ are considering a range of suitable venues to utilise with good grandstands and suitable for rolling out the Olympic floor and live streaming.

4 Flights and Accommodation

These will be provided for athletes and booked as early as possible, Athletes may purchase their own flights and be reimbursed at an agreed rate for flights.

Suitable team accommodation will be determined and booked.

5 Uniforms

NVL Playing strip to be ordered in colours of teams. Northern – Blue, Midlands – Yellow, Central – Red, Southern – Green.

Logos will be added once the team names and logos have been agreed upon.

Uniforms remain VNZ property.

6 Coaches

Selection of coaches and planning for the programme to be led by Colleen Campbell and Dave Keely. A specific process to be agreed through an EOI for coaches and following up with a Development/Assistant coach.

All NZL coaches have the option of applying to coach teams (recommended where coaches do not have significant coaching commitments during the year and as coaching opportunities will be Covid-19 dependent).

7 Selections

Athletes are selected via a live online draft in late April. EOI for athletes will remain open for a number of weeks.

Club and Association coaches to be supported to encourage players to enter the draft. Final athlete draft details to be confirmed after athlete consultation.

Final team members will be confirmed after IPC with 2 positions remaining open in each team.

IPC is mandatory for those wishing to play NVL.

8 Game Scheduling

Options to be confirmed but include round robin and finals.

Event to run over 2 full weekends, all games at one venue.

9 Promotion/Branding

Social media communications are to be critical along with Association contacts and general community.

More details are to be developed alongside logos and perhaps launched at NZSS with logos and graphics.

10 Cost

Currently according to calculations, it is expected the cost excluding providing own food would be **\$200** for two weekends of volleyball, flights for those requiring it, accommodation, refs and lines people, uniforms etc.