

SOVT 2024 - Programme

Dear Volleyballers,

Welcome to the 2024 Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament - our largest ever with over 140 teams coming from near and far. For the first time ever, we had to set a closing date for entries as we realised we were at full capacity which may mean some games may go on till the early evening to reach completion.

We haven't had our problems to seek this year with flood damage to Bell's Sports Centre making the actual sports centre itself out of action including some of its indoor showers and toilets. Our thanks to Bell's staff for accommodating us the best they can and along with Perthshire Rugby Club's showers and toilets we are able to run the tournament.

Our famed Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament continues to draw teams from the UK and our usual European friends from Belgium and the Faroe Islands. The Scottish Open is a unique experience not to be missed and brings together players from across the volleyball fraternity. Our tournament has grown to become the largest volleyball event in the UK, a fact of which we are very proud. With Olympic volleyball just around the corner we look forward to seeing a growing interest in our sport.

Saturday's games start at 10.00am with **Sunday's play commencing at 9.00am** (an earlier than usual start because of the large number of entries) with twin level competitions working their way through to a grand final. The volleyball highlight of the weekend is reserved for the teams who reach the final of their particular competition where winning teams will receive one of our unique trophies.

We are also very conscious of our environment and are particularly pleased how teams have consistently shown a high regard for keeping the North Inch litter free as well as being sensitive to recycling.

Our willing band of volunteers hope you will make every effort to enjoy this year's Scottish Open and look forward to renewing "auld acquaintances," especially our various friends who make that extra special effort in "fancy dress" uniform, now a well-established tradition at the Scottish Open – so come along and join in the fun!

David Munro
Tournament Director

1. Format of the Tournament

We have a record 143 entries spread across our usual 7 Divisions as follows:

Women's Division 1: 10	Men's Division 1: 9	Mixed Division 1: 9
	Men's Division 2: 27	Mixed Division 2: 24
	Men's Division 3: 24	Mixed Division 3: 40

The three Divisions of 9 or 10 will play in Groups of 4 and 5 on Saturday and on Sunday the top 3 in each Group will play in two Groups of three with the winners playing for the final. The bottom 3 will play each other in the consolation round.

The two Divisions of 24 will play in four Groups of 6 on Saturday and on Sunday the top three teams in each Group will form four sections of three with the winners playing in the semi-finals and then the final. The bottom three teams in each sub-division will do the same for the consolation.

The Division of 27 will play in two Groups of 6 and three of 5 on Saturday. On Sunday they will split into a top 12 and bottom 15 teams. The top 12 will qualify for the trophy, consisting of the top two from each group plus the next two which will be determined on match points and then sets and then overall points until two teams qualify. The 12 will split into 4 groups of 3 with the winners playing semi-finals and then the final. The bottom 15 will play in the consolation and will split into five sections of 3 with the top 4 (as determined above) playing the semi-finals and then the final.

The Division of 40 will split into five Groups of 6 and two Groups of 5 on Saturday. On Sunday they will split into a top 16 and bottom 24 teams. The top 16 teams (determined as above) will play in four sections of 4 and the winners will play semi-finals and then the final. The bottom 24 will play in eight sections of 3 with the winners playing quarter finals, semi-finals and a final.

Trophies will be presented to the winners of each Division. The presentation will be made by the Tournament Director and will take place outside the Control Room.

All teams are expected to play on Sunday when a full schedule of matches will be arranged with teams competing for the 'Divisional Winners' award or 'Divisional Consolation' award. Please check that all your games are completed before leaving.

Referees are always in short supply on Sunday afternoon so please help the running of your Division by offering your services, even if your matches are complete.

2. Check-in and team registration

Team registration will take place at the registration desks at Bells Sports Centre on Friday between 7.30pm and 9.00pm and on Saturday between 8.00am and 9.00am. There will be an opportunity to download the form and complete it in advance.

3. Telephone number of control room

In the event of a team being delayed please contact the Control Room on 07894 291534.

4. Fixtures, court allocations and results

The fixtures for Saturday will be issued in advance of the Tournament. The fixture list will include court numbers and the refereeing team. Results should be returned to the Control Room at Bells Sports Centre by the winning captain. There will not be a control point on the North Inch. There will also not be a Public Address system.

Sunday's fixtures will be issued as soon as possible after the completion of Saturday's matches and during the course of Sunday as matches progress. Teams will require to check with the Control Room whether they have qualified for subsequent rounds or not.

5. Commencement of Play

Play begins at 10.00am on Saturday and 9.00am on Sunday.

6. Tournament Rules

- a. Teams must be on court immediately after the preceding game.
- b. If a team is not on court with six players within 15 minutes of the conclusion of the previous game, they will forfeit the match by two sets to nil. If neither team is on court within the time stipulated above, they will both be deemed to have lost two sets to nil. The Tournament Director will determine whether the circumstances of this rule apply. Fixtures can go ahead without 6 players if both teams agree.
- c. All games will be decided over the best of three sets, with all sets being scored on rally points. The first two sets will be won at 25 points and by two clear points. The third set will be won at 15 points and by two clear points. In the event of the tournament running behind schedule the Tournament Director will be able to change the scoring system.
- d. Three points (match points) will be awarded for winning a match and one point will be awarded to the losing team. In the event of teams being tied on match points, final placing will be determined by sets won then overall points won.
- e. The winning team is responsible for ensuring that the correct score reaches the Control Room.
- f. Teams must provide five match officials. Failure to provide the requisite number or to referee to an appropriate standard may, at the discretion of the Tournament Director, result in a deduction of one match point from the refereeing team or their disqualification.
- g. All teams must provide their own volleyballs and whistles.
- h. Players shall play for one team only. No player shall be permitted to play for more than one team over the weekend. Failure to abide by this rule may result in disqualification of the player(s) and/or team(s) concerned, at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- i. Teams competing in the Mixed Divisions must always have a minimum of three women on court at all times.

- j. In the event of any dispute arising regarding the rules of the Tournament, the matter will be referred to the Tournament Director and his decision will be final.

7. Camp Site and Rules

The entrance to the Car Park and Campsite is located on the corner of Rose Terrace and Barossa Place. The postcode is **PH1 5HG** and the What3Words ref is [quit.point.lines](#)

The camp site and car park will be available from 4.00pm on Friday. Tents will be charged at £10.00 per tent for the duration of the Tournament. The preferred manner of payment is by bank card which will be scanned into a card reader.

Security staff will be on patrol over Friday and Saturday nights.

The following Camp Site rules should be followed:

- a. Tents shall be pitched outwith the 6m strips to allow access for emergency vehicles. There should also be 3m separation between tents.
- b. Fire Points with water buckets will be set up throughout the camp site. Please ensure that they remain available for use at all times.
- c. On discovering a fire, contact Emergency Services. If possible, security staff should also be alerted.
- d. In the event of a fire, Rose Terrace (the street closest to the camp site) has been designated as the assembly point. At the assembly point each team will be responsible for ensuring that all participants using the camping facilities are accounted for.
- e. All Calor Gas containers must be stored away from the sleeping accommodation.
- f. No fires will be permitted on the campsite.
- g. Disposable barbecues must not be placed directly on the grass.
- h. No cooking shall take place in tents.
- i. All litter should be placed in the black bags provided and on leaving the camp site the black bags should be taken to the on-site skips adjacent to the North Inch path and pétanque courts.
- j. Nothing should be left behind on leaving the camp site which requires disposal by the organisers.
- k. When tents are left unattended, they should be secured as far as possible to deter or minimise the chances of theft.
- l. All on-site vehicles must be parked in the adjoining car parking area. No vehicle will be permitted on the campsite, and this includes unloading and loading camping gear.
- m. In order not to disturb local residents and other campers, every effort should be made to avoid unnecessary noise after 11.00pm.
- n. Tents should not be left on the camp site after 5.00pm on Sunday. You must contact the organisers if you wish to stay later than that.

- o. Any infringement of these rules may result in those involved being removed from the camp site and their team being disqualified.

8. Car Parking

Car parking will be available on the North Inch at a cost of £5.00 per car for the weekend of the Tournament. Payment is preferred by bank card through a contactless card reader. The Car Parking Area will be located at the Perth end of the North Inch, adjacent to the campsite. Access to this area can only be made from Rose Terrace.

Camper Van / Minibus parking is not permitted on the grass of the North Inch. Drivers of these larger vehicles are advised to park at the nearby North Inch Community Campus.

Bell's Sports Centre car parking may be available over the weekend (Friday to Sunday) on a "first come first served" basis. There is however no guarantee of spaces being available. Parking charges will apply on Friday and Saturday. The various parking rules covering parking within marked bays etc. will apply whether it is a charging period or not.

9. First Aid and Physiotherapy

Trained first aiders and chartered physiotherapists will be in attendance throughout the weekend when play is in progress. They will be located in the gazebo on the grass in front of Bells Sports Centre. The physiotherapy service is free of charge for SOVT participants and for injuries sustained at the Tournament.

10. Toilets and Showers

Toilets in the Mall area of the Sports Centre will be open and available for participants over the whole period of the Tournament including overnight for campers. There is an accessible toilet within Bells Sports Centre. Every effort will be made to keep the toilets clean and appropriately supplied. We have experienced vandalism in the toilets on previous occasions and participants are requested to do what they can to prevent any damage from anyone attending the Tournament.

This year, due to the unavailability of the female showers within Bells Sports Centre, there will be two separate locations for the female showers, one in the Mall of the Sports Centre to the right of the toilets and the other in the adjoining premises of Perthshire Rugby Club with access from the Mall. We hope to have appropriate signage. The showers in the Rugby Club are in the same suite of showers as the male showers but separated by a set of showers which will not be used and also a locked door separating the two areas. Access will be by different corridors.

Male showers will be in the adjacent Perth Rugby Club facility with access via the corridor next to the former tournament control room.

We plan to have cleaning staff on duty over the weekend and there will be certain times when the showers will be unavailable to allow cleaning to take place. We are aware that the showers can be too hot at times and too cold which unfortunately is outwith our control. The Rugby Club are planning to improve them for the future.

Showers will be open:	Saturday	6:00am to 10:30am and 4.00pm to 8.00pm.
	Sunday	6:00am to 10:30am and 3.00pm to 6.00pm.

11. Catering

There will be a hot food van located outside the entrance to Bells Sports Centre.

12. Litter / Recycling

Help us to maintain our excellent record for cleanliness at the SOVT. This has been previously recognised by Perth and Kinross Council and the public. Use the litter bins and black bags provided to keep your area clean. Take your rubbish to the skips on the North Inch and where there are separate containers for recyclables, please use them. You should clear up your court areas and camp site areas before you leave.

13. Alcohol

Local bylaws prohibit the consumption of alcohol on the North Inch at all times.

14. Photographs/Video

Please note that photographs and video will be taken throughout the Tournament for SOVT use.

15. Volleyball Merchandise

There will be no merchandise available for sale at the tournament this year.

Have a great tournament!

The SOVT Committee

15 May 2024