General Information about the league – reviewed annually and posted on the wmvl website under the '**About**' page.

Background

The Winnipeg Men's Volleyball League (WMVL) had its beginnings in 1957. Initially the league was organized by the Manitoba Volleyball Association (MVA). Through the efforts of one of the founding builders of the league, Mr. Wezer Bridle, the league is now run by an independent board of elected volunteers. The league operates as a non-profit organization and is registered with and utilizes the support services of Manitoba Volleyball.

Gym Locations

WMVL had 73 teams for the 2013-2014 Season and is planning to accommodate the same number of teams for the upcoming 24 game season. Games are played Monday through Friday, at Investor's Group Athletic Centre, MBCI Blue and Red gyms, River Osboure Community Centre, Red River College, Darwin School, Westgrove School, Precious Blood, and John Taylor High School. Access to facilities and reasonable game times continues to be a big challenge for the league and any assistance that can be provided is always welcome.

New Teams

There are always a few teams that drop out so new teams are welcome. New teams generally have to start at the bottom tier and work their way up (see by-laws under the About page for details), however the executive undertakes extra effort to place new stronger teams in open spots in higher tiers if at all possible. Please be advised there are no guarantees.

New Players

Individual players who want to connect with a team can add their name to the Player List database that is managed through the wmvl web site. The league does not manage individual teams and no promises are made about how successful the connections will be.

League format

WMVL changed to a three round format in the 2011-2012 season and extended the season to a 24 match schedule and dropped exhibition and challenge matches in favour of a longer season. The league is structured into 9 tiers with approximately 8 teams per tier. Tier 1 is composed of the highest skilled teams. Each match is a minimum of 4 sets with a 5th game played for tie breakers. All set wins are counted in the scoring. Tier movement occurs after the conclusion of the first and second rounds and after playoffs. After each round (except the 3rd round) the top two team moves up and the bottom two team drop down.

Each team must have a minimum of 8 players and all players must register on-line with Manitoba Volleyball and pay the annual membership fee of about \$40 to obtain individual insurance coverage which is required by the league to be able to rent all facilities. Individual players can begin registering independently on the Manitoba Volleyball website using the on-line registration system by September 1st. All teams must pay their deposit of \$500 to be included in the first round schedule which begins the last week of September. Without the benefit of exhibition matches the league does its best to place new teams into open placements within the league structure.

The regular season is broken down into three rounds and runs from September to late March. Each round is a round robin of 7 games. The first round takes about 8 weeks to play as there are several gyms that are not fully available during the first round. The first round will be completed around mid November, the second round will be completed around the end of January and the third round will end before Spring Break. Many league members are teachers or parents who likely travel so no games are scheduled during Xmas Break, University study week and Spring Break.

All teams make the playoffs and are guaranteed 3 games. Only team members who participated in a minimum of 5 games are eligible for playoffs. Prizes (usually league embroidered or silk screened t-shirts, hats or hoodies) are awarded for regular season winner, playoff champion, runner up, third place and consolation champion. Playoff results and regular season results are both used to determine rankings for the next season (see by-laws for details).

Game Nights

The following are the standardized nights with minor exceptions when individual teams have arranged usage of a gym on a non-standard night for the tier that they play in.

Tier 1 – Thursdays -MBCI Red, Blue, Red River College and IGAC

Tier 2 – Thursdays - MBCI Red, Blue Red River College and IGAC

Tier 3 – Mondays – MBCI Red and Blue and IGAC

Tier 4 – Tuesdays - River Osbourne, Red River College, MBCI Red, Blue and IGAC

Tier 5 - Tuesdays - River Osbourne, Red River College, MBCI Red, Blue and IGAC

Tier 6 – Thursdays - River Osbourne, Red River College,, MBCI Red, Blue and IGAC

Tier 7 – Wednesdays - River Osbourne, Red River College, MBCI Red, Blue and IGAC

Tier 8 – Wednesdays - River Osbourne, Red River College, MBCI Red, Blue and IGAC

Tier 9 – Wednesdays - River Osbourne, Red River College, MBCI Red, Blue and IGAC

Registration Process

Organizational Meeting for the 2013-2014 Season will be held on Tuesday August 27, 2014 at Manitoba Sports Centre in the Conference Room. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting commences at 7:00 p.m. and is usually complete within one hour. The fees for the season are finalized at the organizational meeting. Notice about the Organizational Meeting will be posted on the web site in mid August.

Teams who miss the Organizational Meeting may be able to still register if they contact the league executive before September 15th if their spot has not already been taken.

Contact the league president, Glen Cook at president@wmvl.com or on his cell phone at 479-2520 for more information and to arrange payment of your deposit.

WMVL uses Manitoba Volleyball's on-line registration system that will be updated in 2014. All member information should remain in the system and returning members simply have to update their personal information and pay the annual membership fee of about \$40 plus GST. The registration system provides WMVL with a team listing, ensures all players have adequate insurance, ensures players are only registered with one team and provides WMVL with the ability to collect fees using credit cards. Follow the link to the MB Volleyball site to connect to the registration system.

Registration Steps

Step 1 – Refunds of Performance Bonds

Teams that are not planning to return are asked to send an email to the president or treasurer so performance bonds can be returned. Teams that have outstanding accounts are asked to contact the treasurer to work out payment arrangements to re-establish an account in good standing. Teams that have outstanding accounts will not be allowed to return until all outstanding accounts are cleared up.

Step 2 – WMVL Organizational Meeting – Tuesday August 26, 2014.

Teams must send a representative to begin the registration process for the team and pay a \$500 deposit (cheque, money order, no cash please, charge card(we will not use this as the transaction fees are in the order of 4%), or INTERAC e-Transfer) to hold their spot for the season. Final budget will be approved by the membership at the organizational meeting. The remaining balance of fees is due before the end of September.

Representatives from Manitoba Volleyball will provide the option to use charge card services for the payment of the deposit – looking to drop this option to save the extra fees so bring a cheque or be prepared to send an eTransfer. Only the deposit is required at the first meeting.

Step 3 – Individual Member Registration with Manitoba Volleyball - The on-line registration system for WMVL will be open to new and returning teams to pre-register players beginning about September 1st, 2014. Individuals must pre-register with Manitoba Volleyball and pay the Manitoba Volleyball portion of the fees directly to Manitoba Volleyball (\$ 40 fee per player plus gst **plus service fee**). Visa or Mastercard may be used. Individuals should be registered prior to the team being processed by the team contact; otherwise, team contacts will also have to pay outstanding individual Manitoba Volleyball membership as well. Refunds will be available if the player does not end up on a team.

Step 4 – Team contacts assemble team from registered members of Manitoba Volleyball. Team contacts will be able to complete their team registration following the

organizational meeting once the final budget is approved. Team contacts will assemble their team from those members who have registered with Manitoba Volleyball. A minimum of 8 registered players is required to complete registration of a team plus the balance of the fees must be paid in full.

Step 5 – Payment of balance of League Fees – will be made in two payments. Second payment (\$20) is required to complete the team on-line registration and must be made online using a credit card. A third payment of the balance of fees, estimated to be \$875 will be made via cheque or INTERAC e-Transfer directly to WMVL, care of 366 Almey Ave, R3W 1P3. Both payments must be made before the end of September. If either payments are received after that date, an automatic late fee of \$25 that will be applied and take from the team's performance bond. The third payment will not be made using a credit card as the league elected to eliminate the use of credit cards due to approximately 4.5% additional charges that are applied by those collecting the fees on behalf of WMVL.

PAYMENT OF THE ALL FEES \$1350 LESS \$20 THAT IS COLLECTED AS PART OF THE ONLINE REGISTRATION STEP = \$1330 WILL BE ACCEPTED AS A SINGLE PAYMENT AT ANY TIME.

Step 6 – Payment of Performance Bond

Each team must maintain a \$100 Performance Bond. All teams can pay the whole or outstanding amount at the organizational meeting or prior to September 30. Please check your team's performance bond status by referring to the previous Annual Meeting report or the on-line database at wmvl.com.

Fees

Fees cover the costs to rent facilities, hire officials, and purchase all support equipment, services and expenses to run the league including game balls, first aid equipment, website, game sheets, flip cards, equipment boxes, prizes, mileage expenses etc. The estimated fees for the upcoming season are \$1350 per team plus \$100 performance bond plus \$40 per player for Manitoba Volleyball insurance. Performance bond is refundable providing teams fulfill all league commitments. See by-laws for details about fines and performance requirements.

Miscellaneous

All matches are officiated by members of the Manitoba Volleyball Officials Association (MVOA). Members of WMVL are encouraged to become members of MVOA as there is always a need for more officials.

The Annual General Meeting for WMVL has been moved to early May to provide time to process all of the expenditures and will be held at the conference centre at Manitoba Sports for Life facility. 145 Pacific Ave.