

## Summary of Recommendation to the SCVL

### Section I: General Structure and Rules of Participation

1. Beginning in the Fall of 2011, the SCVL will include three Competitive Divisions and a single Recreational Division. The Competitive Divisions include Setter, Spiker and Power.
2. Players of any skill level may participate in the Recreational Division. Players in the Competitive Divisions will be placed according to appropriate skill level.
3. Players will be permitted to participate in one (1) competitive division PLUS the recreational division. Some players may choose to participate in EITHER one of the Competitive Divisions OR the Recreational Division. However due to scheduling conflicts, players will NOT be permitted to participate in more than one (1) Competitive Division.
4. Players whose skills do not qualify them to participate in at least the Setter Division will be invited to play in the Recreational Division only. Emphasis will be placed on skill development for those who are interested in progressing to play in a Competitive Division in future seasons.
5. Teams in all Divisions will be formed in a way that distributes skill levels, and –in the case of the Competitive Divisions—player positions appropriately among all teams.
6. Competitive Division players who play in the Recreational Division are expected to support the development of skills of novice or less skilled players. The focus of the Recreational Division is on fun and community while learning and playing the game.
7. Anyone that would like to play in the Competitive Divisions beginning in the Fall must be evaluated and will be placed in the appropriate division pending the results of their evaluation. This includes all returning and new players, with no exceptions. Players who do not participate in one of the evaluation sessions will not be placed on a team.
8. Returning players who choose ONLY to play in the Recreational Division will not be required to participate in the evaluation process. New players, even if they choose to play only in the Recreational Division, will participate in the process, but will be evaluated only to assist in Recreational Division team placements.

### Section II: Evaluation Process Fall 2011

1. The league will adopt the use of a new evaluation rubric that has been chosen and approved by the Skills and Development Committee. The rubric is included in this document.
2. Evaluators will be made up of a combination of Board Members and other SCVL players. All evaluators should have considerable playing experience, both in the SCVL and in other leagues. The Board will identify potential evaluators and invite them to participate.
3. Players will be invited to be evaluated for the Competitive Division of their choice on specific dates and times prior to the Fall 2011 season. A range of dates will be available. Again, players MUST participate in the evaluation process or they will not be placed on a team.
4. The ratings rubric will be shared with all players well in advance of the evaluation dates, and players will be asked what position they would like to play prior to being evaluated. Players will not be guaranteed a particular position in every Division; however, identifying preferred positions will aid both the evaluation and team selection process.

5. Evaluations will occur during 6 on 6 sets to 25 points, with each player being evaluated in at least 2 sets by no fewer than 3 evaluators. The evaluators will record ratings independently from one another for each player and then compare evaluations to reach consensus. In some cases the evaluators may ask a player to play in additional sets for more observation. In order to give the Skills & Development committee adequate time to compare evaluations and resolve any disputes, ALL players' final ratings will be posted to the SCVL website after the evaluation process is complete. Players will NOT be notified of their rating in person on the same day of their rating like in past years. Also, each player's 3 specific raters will be kept confidential. If any player disputes his/her rating they should address the Skills & Development Committee instead of singling out any one evaluator.
6. Representatives from the Skills and Development Committees will create evaluation schedules (for both the evaluators and the players being evaluated) and will manage the activities during the evaluation periods.
7. Players whose overall rating is 1 will be placed in the Recreational Division; ratings of 2 will be placed in the Setter Division; ratings of 3 will be placed in the Spiker Division, and ratings of 4 will be placed in the Power Division.

### Section III - Challenges and Future Process

1. Going forward, only new players and challenging players will be required to participate in the same evaluation process that was used at the beginning of the Fall 2011 season (described above). Players may challenge their Fall 2011 ratings at the beginning of the Winter 2012 season.
2. Going forward, during each season, up to 25% of the membership will be randomly observed by evaluators. This is to ensure that all ratings are kept relatively accurate and fair as players' skills improve/decline over time, including those of Board members. Evaluators will be given a list of players they are expected to evaluate as the season progresses. The evaluators will record ratings independently from one another for each player and then all evaluations will be collected and compared by the S&D Committee to reach a final rating for each player.
3. Initially, each player's performance will be reevaluated during one (1) 25-point regular season game. If the player's new rating matches their previous rating, no more evaluations will be necessary. If however, the player's new rating is higher or lower than their previous rating, two (2) more evaluations will be performed by different evaluators in different 25-point regular season games. These three (3) ratings will be averaged to determine the player's new final rating.
4. If a player's new averaged rating matches their previous rating, in the subsequent season they will continue to play in the same Division and will not be re-evaluated for 2 years. If a player's new averaged rating is higher than their previous rating, in the subsequent season they will have the option to play in the higher Division or continue to play in their current Division. If a player's new averaged rating is lower than their previous rating, in the subsequent season they will be put on "Evaluation Notice".

5. Players on "Evaluation Notice" will be notified via email that their most recent evaluation rated them in a Division lower than their current one. They will be permitted to play for one more season in their current division, and during that time will be re-evaluated using the same ratings process as before. If during this second round of ratings their skills improve and are given a higher rating they will be permitted to stay in their same Division, relieved of "Evaluation Notice" and will not be re-rated for 2 years. If instead, they are again down-rated, they will be only permitted to play in the lower Division in the subsequent season. However, these players are still invited to challenge their ratings by going through the evaluation process before the subsequent season begins.
6. If a Board member identifies a player whose skill development or decline indicates the need for a possible up-rating or down-rating prior to the subsequent season, the Board member will notify the Board and the Skills and Development committee will assign evaluators to observe that player's on-court performance, using the ratings rubric, for the last 3-4 matches of the season, including playoffs, and then will make a recommendation to the Board regarding that player's rating for the subsequent season. Players who are recommended to be down-rated by the Board will be put on "Evaluation Notice" (described above).
7. Players may miss one season of play and not be required to participate in the evaluation process in the season they return. Players who miss two or more consecutive seasons will be required to participate in the evaluation process in the season they return. The typical SCVL year includes two separate seasons: Fall and Winter/Spring.