



2026 Cloth Rule Updates

Effective: From 2026 VPL Season (including DV Cup).

This document summarises key updates for 2026. All standard VPL Cloth Rules remain in effect unless otherwise stated.

Court Setup

- Court size: 18m x 9m
- Activation lines: 5.5m from centre
- Neutral lines: 2m from centre

Match Duration

- DV Cup format: 15-minute games.
- VPL Season format: Matches are 40 minutes, played in two 20-minute halves.

End of Half Timing

- If a set finishes with less than 2 minutes remaining in the half, a 90-second final set will be played.

Ball Rush

- Side ball rushers may have only one foot over the line.
- Centre ball rusher cannot cross the line.

Neutral Zone – Ball Control

- If a player carries a ball into the neutral zone and leaves it there, once they exit the neutral zone, the ball is deemed invalid.
- Balls in the neutral zone are considered in possession of the team closest to them, as determined by the referee.

Live Ball / Advantage

- A player who has been hit may still attempt a throw until the ball that hit them makes contact with either a dead object or a live player.
- Example: A pop-up hit allows a return throw attempt before the ball hits the ground.

Catches

- A catch is deemed complete once the player has clear control of the ball.
- Control can be established while airborne (relevant for boundary catches).

Ball-to-Ball Contact

- If two balls collide mid-air, both balls are dead.

Referee discretion: Referees have final authority on all rulings, including possession and advantage calls.