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## Tiering Survey

The Campbell River CRUSH Volleyball Club is a non-profit volunteer athletic association created to promote volleyball as a community sport. It is the intent of the club to develop a love for the game of volleyball and provide as many athletes as possible, opportunities to develop sportsmanship, skill and a sense of 'team' and competitive spirit.

Regardless of whether an athlete is playing on an A team, a B team or one of two equally skilled teams, it is the philosophy of the club that at this age level, the focus will be on player development. Therefore, playing time will be equal for all Playdays, except the Islands, Superspike and Provincials which will be at the discretion of the coach.

Until 2001, it was the policy of the CRUSH Volleyball Club that it be mandatory for athletes at both U13 (grade 7) and U14 (grade 8) to play on equally skilled teams.

At the Club Annual General Meeting in 2001, a parent questioned why this policy was in place, wondering why the stronger athletes did not play on one team and those athletes needing more development be on another team. The parent felt that this arrangement would ensure a better chance for the Club to move up in the standings as well as provide an environment more conducive to learning for all athletes. Stronger athletes would be challenged by athletes with a similar skill level and progress their skills more quickly while there would be less pressure on those athletes in need of more development to comfortable progress at their own rate. The motion was put on the floor of the meeting to tier at the U14 (have an A and B team).

Because CRUSH coaches and Club Executive members feel there are benefits to both approaches (two equally skilled teams and an A and B team), a compromise was struck and the following was decided; equally skilled teams would be maintained at the U13 (grade 7) level as all athletes are in need of development and general participation in sport and having fun are of more importance. For U14 (grade 8), each year the parents of those athletes affected by the decision would be asked to make the decision on their particular child's behalf.

### Some things to consider when making your decision

You do not know which team your daughter will be chosen for and most athletes at this age have not fully matured in height, coordination and strength and could in fact be an excellent player in the future.

**If the teams are tiered**, it may discourage some players who do not make the 'A' team from playing in subsequent years. The goal of CRUSH is to encourage athletes to have fun, enjoy the game of volleyball and continue to play long into their adult lives.

**If the teams are not tiered** there is the potential that more time may be required on improving all athletes' skills without as much emphasis on the stronger athletes and thus the team may not be able to move to a more advanced team/game like focus. The CR club teams would therefore not be as capable of competing with other teams to advance within the standings on our island or within BC.



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The Campbell River Volleyball Club (CRUSH) is asking for your opinion:

With enough athletes to create two teams this year, do you choose that the U14 (grade 8) athletes be split into equally skills teams or be tiered into A and B teams with an A team made up of the stronger athletes and the B team having those athletes requiring more development.

**Please clearly indicate your preference by circling your choice**, sign your name and return this sheet to your coach in a sealed envelope. The survey will be opened by a member of the executive and the results passed on to the coaches.

Tiered teams A and B

Equally Skilled teams

Name of Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\* Note: Should there be a tie, the Club Executive will vote to break the tie and make the final decision.**