

PCVC Hand Book

Introduction

The Players Choice Junior Olympic Volleyball Club (aka PCVC) was organized in November 2001 and began competing in 2002 with eight teams. The club is the result of reorganization of the Players Only Club, which was organized in 1997. The sole purpose of our club is to offer young athletes between the ages of 9 and 18 years old, the opportunity to increase their knowledge, understanding and skill level, playing the sport of Volleyball.

General Information:

PCVC is a pay-to-play non-profit organization. The club operates under the guidance of the Ohio Valley Region (OVR) of USA Volleyball. The club is managed by the Club Director who shall oversee the operation of the club and matters related to finance, facilities, equipment, scheduling, coaching, players, team make-up and complaints. The coaching staff also participates in decisions related to club operations and to assist with matters pertaining to players, team selection, practice and game management, complaints and other operations, as they are called upon. We have tried to design the club to allow input from all of the talented associates on our staff.

The players are selected based on try-out performance, athletic potential, work ethic, drive, attitude and commitment. Typically each team will maintain a team roster of (9) to (12) players. The club policy is to play each player as equally as possible however, many factors are considered, including but not limited to the players commitment to practice however the final decision is left to the discretion of the team coach.

Some Rules and Regulations

PCVC abides by all of the USAV and Ohio State High School Athletic Association rules. Some of these rules are:

- Only 3 players from a school building can be on the same team for grades 7-12 in Ohio (This rule is a statewide rule and doesn't apply in neighboring states).
- A high school coach cannot coach players from their own school.

Team Placement by Age or Grade Level

All age brackets are based on the player's birth date or grade level, players may play up in age brackets but not down.

- PCVC allows grade level exceptions.

For age placement brackets visit WWW.OVR.ORG

Before the First Tryout Session:

Before stepping on the floor for the first tryout session, athletes must turn in the following documents:

- Players Choice Profile Sheet
- Non-refundable Tryout Fee (which provides insurance protection for the player, facility and the club during the tryout). All checks should be made out to **PCVC**.

Tryouts

Bring the required forms listed above and the tryout fee.

Tryouts may be closed to parents depending on the facility used. The purpose for closed tryouts is to create a productive environment free from as many distractions as possible.

Each year we evaluate a growing number of athletes during tryouts. Athletes aspiring to be a part of the club are evaluated on skill execution and will be assessed on their ability to pass, set, serve, and attack. Finally, they are watched during a game situation for their intrinsic traits. We base our selections on what the athletes do during the tryout period and what we perceive their potential to be.

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We select athletes based on the following criteria: coachability, willingness to be a team player, athletic ability for volleyball, athletic potential, work ethic, drive, competitive attitude, commitment and current skill ability and or experience.

After Tryouts

After the initial tryout, the coaching staff will meet to determine which girls may be invited back for a second tryout or offered a contract to participate in our program. Athletes will be notified at the tryouts, email or by phone and will be asked to sign the PCVC Participation Agreement; this agreement will be turned in at the player registration meeting.

You must send an email to the coach and/or club and acknowledge the acceptance of the offer.

Once you accept the clubs offer you may not play or tryout for any other USA Volleyball Junior program during this season. Fee's are non-refundable.

What if I Played at PCVC Last Year?

Every athlete in the Club will be evaluated each year. Each athlete must come to the tryouts ready to compete for a position on one of our teams. An athlete who cannot participate in tryouts because of a limiting physical or medical condition or absence should talk to the Club Director, prior to the start of the tryout period to determine the status of their ability to play on one of the teams. Players should never assume because they were on a previous PCVC team that they will automatically be on a future team.

What if I Play Other Sports?

School sports and activities are an integral part of the scholastic experience and we still make every effort to schedule practices around some of these other activities. However, it is recommended that if an athlete is going to miss a significant number of practices and tournaments, those families reconsider participation in our program. Missing such a significant amount of time does not make it cost effective for the families and makes it very difficult to build team chemistry and team cohesion at a competitive level. If a player miss more than three practices, the coach and the club director on a case-by-case basis may limit the players participation at the tournaments.

Players Choice Volleyball Club Fees

The fee includes at least six tournaments plus attendance at the OVR Regionals, uniforms, warm-ups, coaching fees, court rental fees, player and coach registration fees.

All fees, should be payable to PCVC. 50% of the fee is due at registration meeting and the balance is due by mid-January.

If the entire player fees are not paid, the athlete will not be eligible to play in tournaments. No Exceptions.

An athlete with a delinquent account during the current season may be denied the privilege of playing in a tournament and/or maybe asked to sit out at practice until the account is paid or arrangements are made with the Director.

Refund Policy

All fees are non-refundable.

Playing Time

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We do not guarantee equal playing time on any team or at any event, even though ultimately we strive to achieve this. PCVC has the philosophy that what you pay for is instruction time during practices. The club philosophy is to play each player as equally as possible however, many factors are considered and the final decision left to the discretion of the team coach. **We do not guarantee equal playing time on any team or at any event.** PCVC has the philosophy that what you pay for is instruction time during practices.

Playing time for athletes is determined by attendance, attitude, effort, performance, the athlete's potential, the team's needs at the moment, and the team's needs in the future, and is left solely to the discretion of the PCVC coach.

The "coaching decision" is not up for debate or question. Athletes are encouraged to ask what they can improve on to get more playing time. (See Grievance Procedure)

Rules and Regulations

While representing PCVC, all athletes are expected to behave in a responsible manner. Determination of what is responsible lies solely with PCVC. PCVC is proud of our image. Any athlete damaging equipment owned by PCVC or any facility used by the Club during practices, tournaments or other functions, or at lodging facilities will be required to reimburse the Club and/or facility for the damages before continuing in the Club. In some cases, the athlete may be dismissed from the Club.

In case of inclement weather, a coach or someone from a phone chain will call your home to notify you of practice cancellations. Tournament planning and preparation is very tedious and time consuming. Cancellations rarely occur. We strongly encourage athletes who make a PCVC team to take this participation seriously. This means we expect PCVC practices and tournaments are of the highest priority.

Practice Rules

Scheduled practice time is start time and not arrival time. Plan on arriving at least 10 minutes prior to the start of each practice. There may be consequences for arriving late to practice and competitions. Horseplay by athletes or coaches at practice or tournaments is strictly prohibited.

All athletes are expected to make every effort to attend every practice. Regardless of the reason, if an athlete misses practice, her playing time may be affected. If an athlete cannot be at practice, the athlete is expected to call the coach. It is the athlete's responsibility to reach the coach **before** the practice starts.

Tournament Rules

All athletes are expected to be in the gym, ready to warm-up, at the scheduled arrival time. This usually means the athlete needs to arrive at the site 45-60 minutes prior to the scheduled arrival time. Earlier is always better. Proper conduct is expected for all members of the Club at all time. This includes athletes, parents, and supporters.

This also means treating supporters from other teams, other parents, and officials with respect. Athletes and/or parents are expected to provide transportation for their athlete to and from tournament sites and practices. If an athlete cannot be at a tournament, the athlete is expected to call the coach as soon as the athlete knows she will be absent. It is the athlete's responsibility (not the parent's) to reach the coach before the tournament starts.

Athletes will not be allowed to leave the tournament site until excused by the coach

Officiating

Officiating is the shared responsibility of the entire team. Each coach will determine a procedure their team will follow for officiating assignments. Every player is required to stay until the entire team can leave. Please do not ask the coach if you can leave early. You are expected to stay!

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Grievance Procedure

Competitive team athletics, by its very nature, creates situations where everyone may not be happy all the time. Knowing when to communicate and how to communicate with your athlete's coach is a concern for almost every parent at some time during the season. Most often the concern is how to inquire about issues surrounding playing time.

At PCVC, we encourage the athlete to take responsibility for their participation. For this reason we expect the player to talk to the coach first when she has a problem, or if she is unclear about what the coach expects from her either in practice or in a competition. The appropriate way to do this is for the athlete to ask the coach what she needs to do to get more opportunities to play in matches. Parents can best help their athlete by helping her set some goals to achieve more opportunities.

When a parent has a problem that is specific to their own athlete, we also expect them to first talk to their athlete's coach. Coaches have been instructed not to discuss "coaching decisions" with a parent. These "coaching decisions" include, but are not limited to, specific match decisions such as who played when, where, and how long. Also, who was subbed out and when, etc.

Specifically, the procedures to follow if you as a parent, or your athlete as a member of a PCVC team, have concerns about PCVC policies or a coach's actions are, in this order:

- The athlete will speak or meet with the coach to discuss the matter
- If the matter remains unresolved, or if the athlete has reasonable concern that speaking to the coach will not resolve the matter, the parent should speak to or meet with the head coach. Parents should call the head coach on the phone to set a meeting. Meetings are to be at times and locations other than tournaments. If a coach is approached by a parent during a tournament, we have instructed the coach to refuse to discuss any controversial matter, to refer the parent to the Club Director and to walk away from the situation.
- If the matter remains unresolved, or if the parent has reasonable concern that speaking to the coach will not resolve the matter,
- The parent may speak to the Head Coach and the Club Director. In certain situations, PCVC may ask the athlete to attend the meeting also. Meetings should be previously arranged. The Head Coach or the Club Director will not engage in discussions about "coaching decisions"

PCVC will not tolerate hostile, aggressive confrontations between a parent and any official, or a parent and any coach, assistant coach or staff member, or a parent and any athlete, or a parent and any other parent, whether the coach, athlete or other parent is a member of PCVC or not. Violation of this policy may result in the athlete being dismissed from PCVC without refund.

It is inappropriate for an athlete or a parent to approach other PCVC members about a problem the athlete or parent is having with a PCVC coach, about objections to coaching decisions, or about disagreement with an administrative decision. Asking uninvolved people to take sides in an issue is unfair to the third party and to the Club. For the health of the teams and the Club as a whole, grievances need to be handled between the parties involved and in the proper manner.

Please refrain from negative comments around your daughter and the other athletes. Young players are vulnerable and if they hear complaining about the coach, the coach's style or PCVC policies, this can have an adverse effect on their performance and/or attitude. If you, as a parent, are unhappy about something, you should follow the grievance procedure of this guide to resolve the matter. Repetitive complaining to the athlete(s) or other third parties that interferes with the Club's efforts to pursue its stated mission and purpose may be cause, in the sole determination of the Club, to ask a member to resign.