



## **Welcome to Game Point Volleyball Club!!**

With over 200 years of combined coaching experience, the Game Point Volleyball program is dedicated to providing athletes with the technical, tactical and physical training allowing each individual to reach her highest possible potential. The program is equally dedicated to the highest standards of integrity, mutual respect, personal responsibility and professional conduct as displayed by staff, coaches, players and parents. We strive to help every player, regardless of age or ability, to achieve life-changing growth in physical skills and personal character as she plays the game of volleyball.

With demonstrated nationally prominent leadership at the junior club level, Game Point will impact not only the Florida Region and the AAU and USA Volleyball Junior National Championships, but also at the collegiate and national levels.

**The Directors and Staff of Game Point Volleyball Welcome you to the finest junior volleyball program in Florida!**

### **GAME POINT VOLLEYBALL CLUB PHILOSOPHY**

GAME POINT is dedicated to the development of junior age volleyball athletes. Besides acquiring advanced skills and improving performance levels, players will learn the value of teamwork, responsibility, motivation, and discipline. The club is also committed to the development of volleyball in Florida by providing a showcase and support system for young women intending to extend their volleyball careers into college and beyond.

#### **I. GOALS**

- A. To develop interest and encourage participation in the sport of volleyball for girls 8 years old through high school seniors.
- B. To provide players with the most advanced technical training.
- C. To encourage and help athletes pursue higher education by providing maximum exposure to collegiate volleyball programs.
- D. To be recognized as one of the finest youth volleyball programs in the nation.
- E. To provide assistance for your child's future. Game Point will help to advise your child in future collegiate playing opportunities, if your child so chooses. We have a recruiting coordinator who will assist your child in the recruiting process. We also compete in national competitions to help give your athlete exposure to collegiate coaches.
- F. To train and educate young athletes in the sport of volleyball.
- G. To be dedicated to the development of teamwork, communication, sportsmanship and work ethic.
- H. To teach every athlete to be the best player she can be in a positive and productive environment.

## II. TRYOUT PROCEDURES

- A. Register your athlete at [www.gamepointvolleyball.com/registration](http://www.gamepointvolleyball.com/registration).
- B. READ the Game Point Handbook. A link is provided under Step 2 "Check-In". Print, Sign and bring the signed "Acknowledgement Page" with you to tryouts.
- C. READ the Game Point Facility Waiver. Print, Sign and bring the completed GP Facility Waiver with you to tryouts. A link is provided under Step 2 "Check-In".
- D. Bring a copy of your daughter's Birth Certificate with you to Tryouts.
- E. Arrive NO LATER than 1 hour prior to your tryout start time to have sufficient time to complete check-in and uniform sizing.
- F. Athletes are evaluated and placed on teams based on a number of factors including skill level, attitude, ability to work on a team, communication skills and leadership skills. We also take into consideration BOTH PARENT and ATHLETE commitment to the team level and who will cooperate with our club policies.
- G. If your athlete is chosen for a team, the NON-REFUNDABLE deposit is due THE DAY OF THE TRYOUT in order to guarantee her spot on that team. **PLEASE NOTE: YOUR ATHLETE'S SPOT IS ONLY SECURED BY THE DEPOSIT!**
- H. A Credit Card Authorization Form MUST be completed on the day of tryouts once your daughter is placed on a team. Game Point requires ALL members to be on Auto-Pay, unless the season is paid in full the day of try-outs.
- I. A Club Participation Contract MUST be completed on the day of tryouts once your daughter is placed on a team. This form is your financial commitment to the entire club season.
- J. TRYOUT REGISTRATION FEE is NON-REFUNDABLE.

## III. COMMITMENTS OF A JUNIOR PROGRAM PLAYER (Once selected to a Game Point Team)

- A. Upon accepting the position on a Game Point Team, you are committed to the **ENTIRE** Tuition amount stated in the Club Participation Agreement.
- B. You will attend ALL practices and ALL tournaments, barring unforeseen circumstances or illness. (Please note, many tournaments fall during Holidays including Spring Break)

## IV. FINANCIAL POLICIES

- A. Payment Policy
  1. ALL tuition will be put on AUTOMATIC-PAYMENTS. The only exception will be if the tuition balance is paid in full THE DAY OF TRYOUTS.
  2. ALL players' families will fill out a Credit Card Authorization Form the day of tryouts.
  3. ALL tuition payments will be deducted from this card automatically on the date listed on the Tuition Pay Schedule Sheet, or otherwise approved date. The amount due each month can vary based on team level and length of season.
  4. Travel Teams - If your team qualifies for USAV Nationals, the National charge will be added to your tuition Auto-Pay and automatically deducted from your credit card.
- B. Late Payment or Credit Card Failure Policy
  1. You will be notified through email automatically if your given Credit Card does not go through. It is the PARENT RESPONSIBILITY to make sure the correct emails and phone numbers are on file at the front desk.

2. **Accounts delinquent after 20 days of the payment due date will result in your daughter's ineligibility to BOTH PRACTICE AND PLAY IN TOURNAMENTS until the account is brought back to good standing.**

C. Missed Tournaments (Travel Team Players Only)

1. Any player who will not be in attendance at any tournament MUST notify their coach as to why AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
2. ANY PLAYER NOT IN ATTENDANCE AT A TOURNAMENT will be fined \$100/day for each missed day of a tournament.
3. A player who has missed a tournament WITHOUT NOTIFYING THEIR COACH will NOT be allowed to practice until they have a meeting with their coach. The process for scheduling meetings is written in Section X.
4. Players who cannot attend a tournament are still expected to attend all weekly practices.

V. **REFUND AND CANCELLATION POLICIES**

- A. Tryout Fee and Deposit are NON-REFUNDABLE
- B. Private and Buddy Lessons
  1. Game Point has a strict 24 hour cancellation policy for ALL private and buddy lessons. Our Coaches are not here full time and drive in for lessons. We must schedule and pay our coaches for their time, and without the 24 hour notice, we cannot rebook that time slot for them.
  2. If given 24 hours, we will be happy to reschedule.
- C. If your team disbands before the season is scheduled to end, Game Point is NOT liable for issuing refunds, and you are still required to fulfill all club dues.
- D. There are NO Club Season Refunds.

VI. **EXTRA EXPENSES (NOT INCLUDED IN TUITION)**

A. **During Season**

1. **MISSED TOURNAMENTS FOR TRAVEL TEAM PLAYERS** - You will be charged \$100/day for each missed day of a tournament.
2. ALL Players must purchase an AAU Membership. Information will be emailed to the email on file with the front desk. (Make sure the front desk has the correct parent email on file.)
3. **Travel Team Players Only** must purchase a USAV Membership. Information will be emailed to the email on file with the front desk. (Make sure the front desk has the correct parent email on file.)
4. Private, Buddy, and Group Lessons (call front desk for pricing).
5. ALL Travel expenses including HOTEL, AIRFARE, FOOD, GAS, SPECTATOR TICKETS, ETC.

B. **Postseason**

1. **Local and State Teams** - If you and your team decide to continue your season through AAU Nationals, you will incur an extra National Cost to pay for Coaches Fees, Entry Fees and Practice Time.
2. **Travel Teams** - If your team qualifies for USAV Nationals, you will incur an extra USAV National Cost to pay for Coaches Fees/Airfare/Hotel, Entry Fees and Practice Time. You will also have your own personal cost of Travel and Hotel (Must be the Hotel Provided to the club by the Tournament).

- a) This charge will be added to your tuition Auto-Pay and automatically deducted from your credit card.

## VII. BEGINNING OF THE SEASON MANDATORY PARENT MEETING

- A. This is a **MANDATORY** parent meeting that will be held prior to the beginning of the season.
- B. **Important** Season information will be discussed during this meeting by the Directors.
- C. You will also meet with your Coaches at this meeting.
- D. Tournament schedules will be passed out and gone over at this meeting. If you have a schedule conflict, **THIS MUST BE BROUGHT TO THE COACHES' ATTENTION AT THIS MEETING.**
  1. TRAVEL TEAMS - A fine of \$100 per day for each day missed at a tournament will be assessed.
- E. Parent Committee Roles will be determined here. At least one parent of each player will be assigned a role.

## VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. ALL Team Communications from Coaches will be through GroupMe. You must download this app if you don't already have it. Always make sure you are getting these correspondences and if not, please reach out to the coach.

## IX. 24 HOUR RULE

- A. Refers to parents waiting 24 HOURS after the END of a Tournament to address ANY issues (unless it is an emergency situation) with the coaches.
- B. Coaches are instructed to REFUSE to discuss any matter with Parents at a tournament or during practice. They will inform you they are NOT ALLOWED to discuss until after the 24 hours and at the appropriately scheduled meetings. (Please follow section X on the appropriate steps to schedule meetings.) The Coaches will then walk away.
- C. Parents SHOULD NOT:
  1. Confront a Coach during a practice or during a tournament.
  2. Expect meetings to be set during the practice time or at a tournament.
  3. Attempt to "Compare" or evaluate another athlete.
  4. Use profanity towards the Coach.
  5. Harass or threaten the Coach.
  6. Discuss their concerns with any other parents or players until resolved with the Coach.
  7. Make comments to or about ANY Player while attending tournaments.

## X. PROCEDURE FOR ATHLETE/PARENT MEETINGS

- A. **First Step** The Athlete will request a meeting with the Coach.
  1. This meeting will be with the Coaches and the Athlete only.
  2. This meeting will pertain to the Athlete only, and NOT teammates. Attempts to "compare" or evaluate another athlete will NOT be tolerated. The only exception would be if the Athlete is having an issue with a teammate. Ex Bullying.

3. If the Athlete is unsure or unclear about what the Coach expects from her, either in practice or in competition, the appropriate action is for the Athlete to communicate with the Coach as to what she can do to help the Team.
  4. If the concern remains unresolved, please continue with the next step.
- B. **Second Step** If the problem remains unresolved AFTER completing step 1, the Parent can schedule a meeting with the Coaches.
1. This meeting is to only be set up after Step 1 has been completed.
  2. This meeting will be set up by email or text message with the Coaches, never at a tournament. No meetings will be held without an appointment time.
  3. The recommended time for a parent to schedule a meeting is usually before or immediately following a scheduled practice. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SCHEDULE THE MEETING DURING PRACTICE HOURS.**
  4. This meeting will be with the Coaches, Athlete and Parents.
  5. This meeting will pertain to the Athlete only, and NOT teammates. Attempts to “compare” or evaluate another athlete will NOT be tolerated.
  6. Coaches will NOT engage in discussions about coaching decisions.
  7. If the concern remains unresolved, please continue with the next step.
- C. **Third Step** If the problem remains unresolved AFTER completing steps 1 and 2, the Parent can request a meeting with the Director(s) and Coaches.
1. This meeting will be set up only once Step 1 and 2 have been completed.
  2. This meeting will be with the Director(s), Coaches and Parents.
  3. In certain situations, Game Point may request the Athlete to also be in attendance.
  4. Meetings must be previously scheduled ahead. No meetings will be held without an appointment.
  5. Attempts to “compare” or evaluate another athlete will NOT be tolerated.
  6. The Director(s) will NOT engage in discussions about coaching decisions.

## XI. **PLAYER UNIFORM POLICY**

- A. ALL players must bring ALL jerseys with them in their backpack to EVERY tournament.
- B. Players must wear the designated jersey and warm ups to each tournament. Teams will match not only their uniform, but will wear the same warm ups as well.
- C. Players **MUST** wear the appropriate designated practice shirt color. If they forget the correct color, a new shirt must be purchased at Game Point in order for them to practice that evening.
- D. Players must **ALWAYS** wear their cover up shorts or pants over their spandex when entering and leaving Practices and Tournaments. Players are **NOT** to wear their spandex outside of the gym.
- E. Shoes **MUST** be Black, White or Grey (Game Point or Neutral Colors **ONLY**). No bright colored shoes will be permitted to be worn for tournaments.
- F. Team uniforms do **NOT** include jewelry, wristbands, or headbands.

## XII. **PRACTICE POLICY**

- A. Players **MUST** be on time for ALL practices. This means **PRIOR** to their teams start time.
- B. If an athlete is going to arrive late to a practice, she must notify her coach as soon as possible, and explain why she will be late. Late players, especially those

that do not drive themselves, are expected to be fully dressed upon their late arrival. Her coach, in his/her sole discretion, will determine any corrective action to be taken.

- C. If an athlete arrives late to a practice WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE, she must change into her practice gear, report to her coach and explain why she is late. Her coach, in his/her sole discretion, will determine any corrective action to be taken.
- D. Players must notify their coach directly, as soon as possible, but at least one hour before practice if they will not be in attendance. Athletes who miss practice are missing valuable information and training time, and may potentially have their playing time decreased. To emphasize player responsibility, we do not want parents to notify the coaches on behalf of their child (with the exception of the 10 and under parents/players).
- E. Volleyball shoes should be carried into practices and tournament venues and only worn for practice and games to assure that the shoes last longer and our practice facilities remain clean.
- F. Players MUST wear the appropriate designated practice shirt color. If they forget the correct color, a new shirt must be purchased at Game Point in order for them to practice that evening.
- G. An injured athlete who attends school is expected to attend GAME POINT practices, even if she cannot physically participate in practice. This policy is to offer support to her team, stay in the loop with what is being taught, as well as to assist the coach if needed.
- H. Practices are for you, the athlete, to improve skills. You get out of it what you put into it...always give 100% of the energy you have at that moment in practice. You play how you practice!

### **XIII. TOURNAMENT POLICY**

- A. Teams will arrive at the playing site at least 45 minutes prior to their first match (45 minutes for refereeing and 1 hour for playing the first match). Coaches reserve the right to meet earlier when necessary.
- B. Players MUST meet together, as a team, in an area designated by the coaches APART FROM THE PLAYING VENUE (i.e., Convention Center Lobby, Hotel Skywalk Entrance, in front of the Ticket Stand, etc.). The team will then walk to their playing court together.
- C. Players MUST be on time for ALL tournaments. Please consider other traffic and parking to plan accordingly.
- D. All players must wear the same required GAME POINT issued warm ups upon entering and leaving the gym.
- E. Buddy System: A player must ALWAYS bring at least 1 other player (2 player minimum) when leaving the court or team setting. A player MUST inform their coach where they are going and which player(s) is/are going with them BEFORE leaving.
- F. Players will eat and be with their team at all times during the tournament.
- G. ALL Athletes are required to stay until the last match or ref assignment is completed and wait until the coach dismisses them.
- H. **MISSED TOURNAMENTS FOR TRAVEL TEAM MEMBERS** - You will be charged \$100/day for each missed day of a tournament.

#### XIV. GENERAL POLICIES

- A. Dying, bleaching, or tinting hair to an unnatural color or having contrasting unnatural colors is not permitted. Extreme styles and cuts are not permitted, this includes but is not limited to razor cut styles. The administration reserves the right to judge the acceptability of a hair style/color. Body piercings and tattoos must be covered. If appearance is judged unacceptable, the player may be sent home immediately. The player may not be allowed to practice until the problem is corrected to the satisfaction of the administration.
- B. Any member found to be in the possession of, including but not limited to: guns, knives, tasers, vapes/e-cigarettes, lighters, tobacco, nicotine, narcotics and/or illicit drugs, alcohol, or drug paraphernalia will be immediately expelled from the program.
- C. To prevent choking and 'sticky' situations, players will not be allowed to chew gum during practices, while playing, or while officiating at events.
- D. To ensure the safety of fans and spectators, and to prevent damage at playing sites, ball handling will only be done in the gymnasium.
- E. Transportation to and from all practices and tournaments is the responsibility of the players and their parents.

#### XV. TRAVEL POLICIES

- A. When teams travel, all athletes will lodge with their parents or guardians. **All parents are required to stay at the designated team hotel for all events.** This is not an option. If you do not comply, your team will be removed from the tournament, by the tournament.
- B. When traveling by airline, teams do NOT NEED to book flights together. Just know that you must arrive the day before the start of play and arrive by 7pm.
- C. Returned flights CANNOT be booked to depart before 6pm on the final day of play. There will be consequences for families that book prior to 6pm if this causes the team to forfeit a match. Players must also be available to ref if the team is scheduled to work.
- D. If traveling within the state or out of state, you must turn in your arrival time, flight times (when applicable), date and Airline to the TEAM TRAVEL PARENT. They will then give this information to the Coach.
- E. Players must not leave their room after the Specified Curfew Time (in your own room by 10:00 pm, and lights out by 10:30pm).

#### XVI. HOTEL (STAY TO PLAY) POLICY

- A. ALL Game Point Travel Teams, including State Teams, take part in tournament Stay to Plays. If your team is within 75 miles from the venue, you are not required to stay in a hotel. The location of the team's primary/posted practice location will be used when determining mileage validation. This must be able to be verified through mapquest.com. This means when traveling out of town for a tournament, you MUST stay in the hotel given to us by the tournament. These bookings will come from your Travel Parent. **There are NO exceptions.**
- B. Failure to book the hotel sent by your team's travel parent WILL result in your team being removed from the tournament by the tournament (with no refund).
- C. ALL members of the team are required to book and stay the required amount of nights set forth by the tournament.

## **XVII. PLAY TIME POLICY**

- A. Playing time on a Travel Team is earned by the individual and NOT guaranteed. Playing time is based on, but not limited to, attitude, work ethic, coachability, accountability and effort, which is displayed DURING practices and event performance.
- B. Playing time on championship day, as well as at major competitions such as qualifiers, may be geared toward the best possible lineup.
- C. Playing time for individuals on Local Teams may be more evenly distributed. Playing time is based on, but not limited to, attitude, work ethic, coachability, accountability and effort, which is displayed DURING practices and event performance.
- D. Other factors that put a player at risk for losing her playing time include, but are not limited to: missed practices, late arrivals, lack of communication between the athlete and coaches, disobeying team rules/GP policies.
- E. Any player, parent or guardian with any grievances, concerns, and/or questions about playing time MUST COMPLY with our 24-Hour Policy written in Section IX and follow the correct steps to meet with the Coach or Directors as outlined in Section X.

## **XVIII. PARENT RULES AND POLICIES**

- A. Just as we expect certain actions of our players, we also ask the same courtesy and politeness from our players' families. Parents should refrain from any unsportsmanlike conduct that could embarrass or penalize the club, team or your daughter. Parents disobeying Game Point, AAU, or USAV rules or acting in a manner deemed inappropriate by the staff, may be expelled from GAME POINT by the Staff.
- B. Parents will not be permitted to discuss the coaching philosophies with the coaches at a tournament. We, at GAME POINT, require that if a parent is upset about something with a team, he/she will comply with the 24 Hour Rule written in Section IX as well as follow the correct steps to meet with the Coach or Directors as outlined in Section X .
- C. Please follow the USAV Spectator Code of Conduct at ALL times. (SEE Section XXII for USAV Spectator Code of Conduct)

## **XIX. CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT**

GAME POINT strives to be a nationally renowned AAU and USAV program. We expect our athletes to act in a courteous manner throughout the season. Athletes disobeying either Club, AAU or USAV rules or acting in a manner deemed inappropriate by the staff, may be disciplined or expelled from GAME POINT by the Directors. If expulsion from the program is required, there will be no financial compensation, and remaining club fees will still be due as scheduled.

- A. Athletes are expected to be committed to the program and always be respectful of their coaches, teammates and other teams.
- B. Game Point encourages responsibility. Players are responsible for notifying coaches of an absence or late arrival to practices, team events, or tournaments.
- C. Academics and school are the priority before sports.
- D. Players/Parents will notify the coaches of any tournament conflict at the Beginning of the Season MANDATORY Parent Meeting.



- E. No Player, Parent or Coach shall make any disparaging remark(s) about, to, or gesture toward another Player, Team, Coach or Official. This includes all Social Media platforms.
- F. Game Point Volleyball has a “ZERO Tolerance Policy” for alcohol consumption, smoking, vaping, drug abuse or weapon use..
- G. Game Point Volleyball has a “ZERO Tolerance Policy” for bullying, peer pressure or discrimination. This includes all Social Media platforms,
- H. Players must not leave their room after the Specified Curfew Time (in your own room by 10:00 pm, and lights out by 10:30pm) and will adhere to all rules regarding phones at curfew and meals.
- I. Players and Parents are responsible for leaving all gymnasiums clean upon exiting a playing/spectating/dining area.
- J. Players will not make derogatory posts of any other Player, Coach or Official on any social media nor will a Player post any photograph of another player without that players’ permission. If requested to remove any post by another Player or Parent, the poster will comply with the removal request.

**XX. PLAYER RELEASE**

- A. ALL club fees MUST be paid in FULL from the current and all previous season (if applicable) before the release will be considered.

**XXI. PARENT COMMITTEES**

- A. In an effort to maintain order and help your Athlete’s team run more effectively, a parent for each player is asked to take on a few simple tasks for their daughter’s team. What positions are necessary, depends on the team level and the age group.
  1. **TEAM PARENT:** Liaison between Coach and Parents.
  2. **FUNDRAISING:** Organize and manage any fundraisers specific to your team held throughout the season including the End of Season Team Basket Fundraiser.
  3. **TRAVEL:** The Travel Parent will be in charge of the distribution of all out of town hotel bookings for the team.
  4. **FOOD:** Responsible for organizing and coordinating team meals when traveling.
  5. **VIDEO:** Responsible for recording and streaming all tournaments.
  6. **PHOTO:** Responsible for taking photos throughout the season.

## **XXII. Florida Region of USA Volleyball - SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT**

(This legally binding document may be reproduced as often as necessary)

IMPORTANT NOTICE – ENTRY TO THIS PRIVATELY SANCTIONED EVENT IS GRANTED AS A COURTESY. IF YOU ENTER/ATTEND THIS, OR ANY FLORIDA REGION SANCTIONED EVENT, YOU AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE FOLLOWING CODE OF CONDUCT GUIDELINES:

### **I WILL:**

1. I WILL abide by the official rules of USA Volleyball.
2. I WILL display good sportsmanship at all times.
3. I WILL encourage my child and his/her team, regardless of the outcome on the court.
4. I WILL educate myself on the unique rules of this facility.
5. I WILL honor the rules of the host and the host facility.
6. I WILL generate goodwill by being polite and respectful to those around me at this event.
7. I WILL direct my child to speak directly with his/her coach when coaching decisions are made that may be confusing or unclear.
8. I WILL redirect any negative comments from others to the respective Event Director or Program Administrator.
9. I WILL direct all concerns regarding officials to the Head Coach or Club Director for my team/club as opposed to contacting the Head Official directly.
10. I WILL immediately notify the Event Director and/or Program Administrator in the event that I witness any illegal activity.
11. I WILL comply with the applicable alcohol policy governing the event and/or program.
12. I WILL support the policies and guidelines of the team/club that I represent.
13. I WILL acknowledge effort and good performance, remembering that all of the players in this event are amateur athletes.
14. I WILL model exemplary spectator behavior while attending this event.
15. I WILL respect the history and tradition of the sport of volleyball by being a good ambassador.

### **I WILL NOT:**

1. I WILL NOT harass or intimidate the officials.
2. I WILL NOT coach my child from the bleachers and/or sidelines.
3. I WILL NOT criticize my child's coach or his/her teammates.
4. I WILL NOT participate in any game or game-like activities unless I have a current membership card with the Florida Region.
5. I WILL NOT bring and/or carry any firearms at any Florida Region event.
6. I WILL NOT bring, purchase, or consume alcohol at any Youth/Junior volleyball event.

Note: Any violation of this Code of Conduct will result in you being asked to leave the site/facility and may result in you possibly being banned from attending future Florida Region sanctioned events. The Event and/or Program Director has the final say regarding their individual event. The Florida Region will enforce all applicable policies and/or guidelines as necessary. Local law enforcement will be contacted if necessary to resolve any disputes or altercations. Questions or concerns may be directed to the Florida Region office.

### **XXIII. Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAP)**

Covered Organizations/LAOs are required to implement the following athlete abuse prevention policies to satisfy these requirements, USA Volleyball provides these policies to USAV member clubs. Clubs may choose to implement stricter standards.

#### **Required Policies:**

- a. One-on-one interactions**
- b. Meetings and training sessions**
- c. Athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns**
- d. Locker rooms and changing areas**
- e. Electronic communications**
- f. Transportation**
- g. Lodging**

#### **REQUIRED POLICIES FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS**

The U.S. Center for SafeSport recognizes that youth-adult relationships can be healthy and valuable for development. Policies on one-on-one interactions protect children while allowing for these beneficial relationships. As child sexual abuse is often perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations, it is critical that organizations limit such interactions between youth and adults and implement programs that reduce the risk of sexual abuse.

#### **ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS**

*USA Volleyball, RVAs and USAV member clubs, as well as all Adult Participants, shall comply with the following one-on-one policy*

#### **A. Mandatory Components**

##### **1. Observable and Interruptible**

- a. All one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible, except in emergency circumstances.
- b. The exceptions below may apply to specific policies, and if the exceptions apply, they are listed in the policy. These exceptions also apply to all one-on-one In Program Contact not specifically addressed in other policies:
  - i. When a Dual Relationship exists; or
  - ii. When the Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
  - iii. If a Minor Athlete needs an Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant, and:
    - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Volleyball, the Region or Club for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
    - (2) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and

- (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Volleyball's screening policy; or
- iv. In other circumstances specifically addressed in this policy that allow for certain one-on-one interactions if USA Volleyball, the Region or Club receives parent/ guardian consent.

## **MEETINGS AND TRAINING SESSIONS**

*USA Volleyball, RVAs and USAV member clubs, as well as all Adult Participants, shall comply with the following Meetings and Training Sessions Policy*

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### **1. Observable and Interruptible**

Adult Participants must follow the one-on-one interaction policy in all meetings and training sessions where Minor Athlete(s) are present.

#### **2. Individual Training Sessions**

- a. One-on-one, In-Program, individual training sessions must be observable and interruptible except if:
  - i. A Dual Relationship exists; or
  - ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
  - iii. A Minor Athlete needs an Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant, and: (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Volleyball, the Region or the Club for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and (2) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Volleyball's screening policy.
- b. The Adult Participant providing the individual training session must receive advance, written consent from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian at least annually, which can be withdrawn at any time; and
- c. Parents/guardians must be allowed to observe the individual training session.

#### **3. Meetings with licensed mental health care professionals and health care providers (other than athletic trainers<sup>3</sup>)**

If a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider meets one on-one with a Minor Athlete at a sanctioned event or a facility, which is partially or fully under USA Volleyball's jurisdiction, the meeting must be observable and interruptible except:

- a. If the door remains unlocked; and
- b. Another adult is present at the facility and notified that a meeting is occurring, although the Minor Athlete's identity needs not be disclosed; and

<sup>3</sup> Athletic trainers who are covered under these policies must follow the “Athletic Training Modalities, Massages, and Rubdowns” policy.

- c. USA Volleyball, the Region or Club is notified that the provider will be meeting with a Minor Athlete; and
- d. The provider obtains consent consistent with applicable laws and ethical standards, which can be withdrawn at any time.

## **B. USA Volleyball Recommended Requirements**

### **1. Monitoring**

If a permitted meeting or training session takes place between an Adult Participant(s) and a Minor Athlete(s) at a facility partially or fully under USA Volleyball’s jurisdiction, another Adult Participant will monitor each meeting or training session. Monitoring includes reviewing the parent/guardian consent form, knowing that the meeting or training session is occurring, knowing the approximate planned duration of the meeting or training session, and dropping in on the meeting or training session.

### **2. Parent Training**

Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to have a meeting or training session with an Adult Participant subject to these policies.

**ATHLETIC TRAINING MODALITIES, MESSAGES, AND RUBDOWNS** *USA Volleyball, RVAs and USAV member clubs, as well as all Adult Participants, shall comply with the following Athletic Training Modalities, Massages, and Rubdown policy*

## **A. Mandatory Components**

### **1. Athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown**

All In-Program athletic training modalities, massages, or rubdowns of a Minor Athlete must:

- a. Be observable and interruptible; and
- b. Have another Adult Participant physically present for the athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown; and
- c. Have documented consent as explained in subsection (2) below; and
- d. Be performed with the Minor Athlete fully or partially clothed, ensuring that the breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals are always covered; and
- e. Allow parents/guardians in the room as an observer, except for competition or training venues that limit credentialing.
- f. The provider must narrate the steps in the massage, rubdown, or athletic training modality before taking them, seeking assent of the Minor Athlete throughout the process.

## 2. Consent

- a. Providers of athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns or USAV, RVAs or Clubs, when applicable, must obtain consent at least annually from Minor Athletes' parents/guardians before providing any athletic training modalities, massages, or rubdowns.
- b. When possible, techniques should be used to reduce physical touch of the Minor Athlete.
- c. Only licensed providers can administer a massage, rubdown or athletic training modality.
- d. Coaches, regardless of whether they are licensed massage therapists, cannot massage Minor Athletes
- e. Minor Athletes or their parents/guardians can withdraw consent at any time.

## **B. Recommended components**

### 1. Parent Training

Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to receive an athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown.

## **LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS**

*USA Volleyball, RVAs and USAV member clubs, as well as all Adult Participants, shall comply with the following Locker Rooms and Changing Areas policy*

## **A. Mandatory Components**

### 1. Observable and Interruptible

Adult Participants must ensure that all one-on-one In-Program Contact with Minor Athlete(s) in a locker room, changing area, or similar space where Minor Athlete(s) are present is observable and interruptible, except if:

- a. A Dual Relationship exists; or
- b. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
- c. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant and:
  - i. the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Volleyball, the Region or the Club for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
  - ii. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
  - iii. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Volleyball's screening policy.

## 2. Conduct in Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces

- a. No Adult Participant or Minor Athlete can use the photographic or recording capabilities of any device in locker rooms, changing areas, or any other area designated as a place for changing clothes or undressing.
- b. Adult Participants must not change clothes or behave in a manner that intentionally or recklessly exposes their breasts, buttocks, groins, or genitals to a Minor Athlete.
- c. Adult Participants must not shower with Minor Athletes unless:
  - i. The Adult Participant meets the Close-in-Age Exception; or
  - ii. The shower is part of a pre- or post-activity rinse while wearing swimwear.
- d. Parents/guardians may request in writing that their Minor Athlete(s) not change or shower with Adult Participant(s) during In-Program Contact. USA Volleyball and the Adult Participant(s) must abide by this request.

## 3. Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms

USA Volleyball may permit recording or photography in locker rooms for the purpose of highlighting a sport or athletic accomplishment if:

- i. Parent/legal guardian consent has been obtained; and
- ii. USA Volleyball, the Region or Club approves the specific instance of recording or photography; and
- iii. Two or more Adult Participants are present; and
- iv. Everyone is fully clothed.

## 4. Personal Care Assistants

Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants are permitted to be with and assist Minor Athlete(s) in locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces where other Minor Athletes are present, if they meet the requirements in subsection (1)(a)(iii) above.

5. Availability and Monitoring of Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces a. USA Volleyball, the Region or Club must provide a private or semi-private place for Minor Athletes that need to change clothes or undress at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Volleyball's jurisdiction.

- b. USA Volleyball the Region or Club must monitor the use of locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces to ensure compliance with these policies at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Volleyball's jurisdiction.

## **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS<sup>4</sup>**

*USA Volleyball, RVAs and USAV member clubs, as well as all Adult Participants, shall comply with the following Electronic Communications policy*

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### 1. Open and Transparent

- a. All one-on-one electronic communications between an Adult Participant and a Minor

Athlete must be Open and Transparent except:

- i. When a Dual Relationship exists; or
- ii. When the Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
- iii. If a Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant and:
  - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Volleyball, the Region or Club for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
  - (2) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
  - (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Volleyball's screening policy.
- b. Open and Transparent means that the Adult Participant copies or includes the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian, another adult family member of the Minor Athlete, or another Adult Participant.
  - If a Minor Athlete communicates with the Adult Participant first, the Adult Participant must follow this policy if the Adult Participant responds.
- c. Only platforms that allow for Open and Transparent communication may be used to communicate with Minor Athletes.

## 2. Team Communication

When an Adult Participant communicates electronically to the entire team or any number of Minor Athletes on the team, the Adult Participant must copy or include another Adult Participant or the Minor Athletes' parents/guardians.

## 3. Content

All electronic communication originating from an Adult Participant(s) to a Minor Athlete(s) must be professional in nature unless an exception in (1)(a) exists.

<sup>4</sup>Electronic communications include, but are not limited to: phone calls, videoconferencing, video coaching, texting, and social media.

## 4. Requests to discontinue

Parents/guardians may request in writing that USA Volleyball or an Adult Participant subject to this policy not contact their Minor Athlete through any form of electronic communication. USA Volleyball and the Adult Participant must abide by any request to discontinue, absent emergency circumstances.

## 5. Hours

Electronic communications must be sent only between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. local time for the location of the Minor Athlete.



## 6. Social Media Connections

Adult Participants, except those with a Dual Relationship or who meet the Close-in-Age Exception, are not permitted to maintain private social media connections with Minor Athletes and must discontinue existing social media connections with Minor Athletes.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

*USA Volleyball, RVAs and USAV member clubs, as well as all Adult Participants, shall comply with the following Transportation policy*

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### 1. Transportation

a. An Adult Participant cannot transport a Minor Athlete one-on-one during In-Program travel, except if:

- i. A Dual Relationship exists; or
- ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
- iii. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant and:

(1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Volleyball, the Region or Club for the Adult Participant Personal

Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and

(2) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and

(3) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Volleyball's screening policy; or

iv. The Adult Participant has advance, written consent to transport the Minor Athlete one-on-one obtained at least annually from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian.

b. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time. c. An Adult Participant meets the In-Program transportation requirements if the Adult Participant is accompanied by another Adult Participant or at least two minors. d. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian is required for all transportation sanctioned by USA Volleyball, the Region, or Club at least annually.

#### 2. Shared or Carpool Travel Arrangement

USA Volleyball mandates parents/guardians to pick up their Minor Athlete first and drop off their Minor Athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement.

## **LODGING**

*USA Volleyball, RVAs and USAV member clubs, as well as all Adult Participants, shall comply with the following Lodging policy*

## **A. Mandatory Components**

### **1. Hotel Rooms and Other Sleeping Arrangements**

- a. All In-Program Contact at a hotel or lodging site between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible, and an Adult Participant cannot share a hotel room or otherwise sleep in the same room with a Minor Athlete(s), except if:
  - i. A Dual Relationship Exists, and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided USA Volleyball, the Region or Club with advance, written consent for the lodging arrangement;
  - ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies, and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided USA Volleyball, the Region or Club with advance, written consent for the lodging arrangement; or
  - iii. The Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant, and:
    - (1) The Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided advance, written consent to USA Volleyball, the Region or Club for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete and for the lodging arrangement;
    - (2) The Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
    - (3) The Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Volleyball's screening policy.
- b. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian must be obtained for all In Program lodging at least annually.

### **2. Monitoring or Room Checks During In-Program Travel**

If USA Volleyball, the Region or Club performs room checks during In-Program lodging, the one-on-one interaction policy must be followed and at least two adults must be present for the room checks.

### **3. Additional Requirements for Lodging Authorized or Funded by USA Volleyball, RVAs or Clubs.**

- a. Adult Participants traveling with USA Volleyball, the Region or Club must agree to and sign USA Volleyball, the Region or Club's lodging policy at least annually.
- b. Adult Participants that travel overnight with Minor Athlete(s) are assumed to have Authority over Minor Athlete(s) and thus must comply with the Center's Education & Training Policy.

## **PART IV**

### **RECOMMENDED POLICIES FOR KEEPING YOUNG ATHLETES SAFE A.**

#### **Out-of-Program Contact**

Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not have out-of-program contact with Minor Athlete(s) without legal/parent guardian consent, even if the out-of-program contact is not one-on-one.

## **B. Gifting**

1. Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not give personal gifts to Minor Athlete(s).
2. Gifts that are equally distributed to all athletes and serve a motivational or education purpose are permitted.

## **C. Photography/Video**

1. Photographs or videos of athletes may only be taken in public view and must observe generally accepted standards of decency.
2. Adult Participants should not publicly share or post photos or videos of Minor Athlete(s) if the Adult Participant has not obtained the Parent/Guardian and Minor Athlete's consent.

## **TERMINOLOGY**

**Adult Participant:** Any adult (18 years of age or older) who is:

- a. A member or license holder of USA Volleyball, RVAs or Clubs ;
- b. An employee or board member of USA Volleyball, RVAs or Clubs ;
- c. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Volleyball, RVAs or Clubs ; d. Authorized, approved, or appointed by USA Volleyball, RVAs, or Clubs to have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes.<sup>5</sup>

**Amateur Athlete:** An athlete who meets the eligibility standards established by the National Governing Body or paralympic sports organization for the sport in which the athlete competes.

**Authority:** When one person's position over another person is such that, based on the totality of the circumstances, they have the power or right to direct, control, give orders to, or make decisions for that person. Also see the [Power Imbalance definition in the SafeSport Code](#). *NOTE: NGBs, PSOs, and the USOPC must submit/include categories of members/individuals that fall under the definition including specific volunteer designations.*

**Close-in-Age Exception:** An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant does not have authority over a Minor Athlete *and* is not more than four years older than the Minor Athlete (e.g., a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old). Note: this exception *only* applies within the prevention policies and *not* regarding conduct defined in the SafeSport Code.

**Dual Relationships:** An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant has a dual role or relationship with a Minor Athlete and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided

written consent at least annually authorizing the exception.

**In-Program Contact:** Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in sport.

Examples of In-Program Contact include, but are not limited to: competition, practices, camps/clinics, training/instructional sessions, pre/post game meals or outings, team travel, review of game film, team- or sport-related relationship building activities, celebrations, award ceremonies, banquets, team- or sport-related fundraising or community service, sport education, or competition site visits.

<sup>5</sup> This may include volunteers, medical staff, trainers, chaperones, monitors, contract personnel, bus/van drivers, officials, adult athletes, staff, board members, and any other individual who meets the Adult Participant definition

**Local Affiliated Organization (LAO):** A regional, state, or local club or organization that is directly affiliated with an NGB or that is affiliated with an NGB by its direct affiliation with a regional or state affiliate of said NGB. LAO does not include a regional, state, or local club or organization that is only a member of a National Member Organization of an NGB. LAOs of USA Volleyball include all 41 Regional Volleyball Association regions and all volleyball clubs that are a member of those regions.

**Minor Athlete:** An Amateur Athlete under 18 years of age who participates in, or participated within the previous 12 months in, an event, program, activity, or competition that is part of, or partially or fully under the jurisdiction of, an NGB, PSO, USOPC, or LAO.

**Partial or Full Jurisdiction:** Includes any sanctioned event (including all travel and lodging in connection with the event) by the NGB, PSO, USOPC, or LAO, or any facility that the NGB, PSO, USOPC, or LAO owns, leases, or rents for practice, training or competition.

**National Governing Body (NGB):** A U.S. Olympic National Governing Body, Pan American Sport Organization, or Paralympic Sport Organization recognized by the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. §§ 220501, et seq. This definition shall also apply to the USOPC, or other sports entity approved by the USOPC, when they have assumed responsibility for the management or governance of a sport included on the program of the Olympic, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games.

**Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant:** An Adult Participant who assists an athlete requiring help with activities of daily living (ADL) and preparation for athletic participation. This support can be provided by a Guide for Blind or visually impaired athletes or can include assistance with transfer, dressing, showering, medication administration, and toileting. Personal Care Assistants are different for every athlete and should be individualized to fit their specific needs. When assisting a Minor Athlete, Adult Participant PCAs must be authorized by the athlete's parent/guardian.

**Paralympic Sport Organization (PSO):** an amateur sports organization recognized and certified as an NGB by the USOPC.

**Regular Contact:** Ongoing interactions during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any Minor Athlete(s). *NOTE: NGBs, PSOs, and the USOPC must submit/include categories of members/individuals that fall under the definition including specific volunteer designations.*

**U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC):** A federally chartered nonprofit corporation that serves as the National Olympic Committee and National Paralympic Committee for the United States.

### APPENDIX I

CHART OF POSSIBLE ADULT PARTICIPANTS IN USAV:

Adult Participant	Regular Contact	Authority Over
USAV Staff/Interns	X	X
USAV Board Members		X
Region/Club Staff	X	X
Region/Club Board Members		X
Coaches	X	X
Officials	X	X
USAV Members 18 years or over on teams with Minors	X	
Chaperones	X	X
Club Administrators	X	X
Arbitrators	X	X
Medical Professionals	X	X
Athletic Trainers	X	X
Independent Contractors	X	

**USAV Members 18 and over who are only participating in Opens (i.e., not also a club coach, chaperone, or board member) with no minor players are not required to take training.**

**USA Volleyball Player affiliation, releases and transfers** for Florida Region Indoor Clubs. During the tryout process, junior athletes are able try out for as many clubs as desired. Once a junior athlete has selected the club of their choice, they must do two things. These two things should be done concurrently, but may be done separately. 1. Athletes must sign a Florida Region Player Commitment Form on or after September 1st to affirm their club of choice 2. Accept a digital club invitation in the member management system (Once an athlete accepts a digital club invitation, they will only be able to transfer to another USAV club after obtaining a written release from the club they wish to depart. In addition, we Game Point Volleyball junior club to also execute a player/parent agreement to join the club. This is not a requirement of the Florida Region, but it is recommended to assist the club and family with outlining the rights and responsibilities of both parties.

Transfer policy: There are no transfers allowed in the Florida Region without extenuating circumstances. A player can represent only one club during the Season. A change in geographical location of the family due to a change in job, military, scholastic or inner-collegiate status may receive special consideration. No player may participate in different Qualifying events with different clubs/teams

For the full guideline visit this page of our website on the tryout page, or

[https://1c52c3f2-dfdc-46ae-b7b8-41792898cfd.filesusr.com/ugd/92d4ee\\_7db4fb6f44bf46f889661220035cccd0.pdf](https://1c52c3f2-dfdc-46ae-b7b8-41792898cfd.filesusr.com/ugd/92d4ee_7db4fb6f44bf46f889661220035cccd0.pdf)

# Game Point Handbook and SafeSport MAAP Acknowledgment Page

Please Sign and Return this page only to Game Point to indicate you have read the Game Point Volleyball Club Handbook and SafeSport MAAP in its entirety:

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Athlete Printed Name

---

Team Name (if applicable)

---

Parent Printed Name

---

Parent Signature

---

Date

### **“Success Begins with a Positive Attitude”**

GAME POINT has established a volleyball program in which everyone can be proud to be a part. We consider ourselves elite. To continue this tradition, a positive commitment from coaches, players, and parents is required.

Our coaching staff must be committed to have up to date knowledge to teach the fundamentals of the game and the ability to motivate our players to their maximum level of performance. They must have patience and, above all, the ability to communicate with positive reinforcement and to assist each player in any way possible to achieve the goals established by that player.

Our players must be committed to the program as established by the coaching staff, to practice and play with competitive attitudes, and to maintain good sportsmanship at all times. Finally, our parents must be committed to the program as established by the coaching staff and should maintain a positive attitude toward the program at all times. Parents must eliminate their own ego from the process and see the game without parental eyes. Parents should become knowledgeable of the game to understand how it is played and appreciate the efforts of ALL players. It is extremely important to the maintenance of our program and to the accomplishment of our goals that coaches, players, and parents maintain a positive attitude. So much can be accomplished if we believe in and are committed to the same system.