



Welcome to the 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 at the AAU and USA Volleyball Junior National Championships, but also at the collegiate and national levels.

The Directors and Staff of GAME POINT welcome you to the finest junior volleyball program in Florida!

GAME POINT VOLLEYBALL CLUB PHILOSOPHY

GAME POINT is a for profit organization 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.

Playing time is based on practice and event performance. Playing time is not guaranteed. Court time at major competitions may be geared toward the best possible lineup. Local court time may be more evenly distributed.

GOALS:

- * To develop interest and encourage participation in the sport of volleyball for girls 5 years old through high school seniors.
- * To provide players with the most advanced technical training.
- * To encourage and help athletes pursue higher education by providing maximum exposure to collegiate volleyball programs.
- * To be recognized as one of the finest youth volleyball programs in the nation.
- * To provide assistance for your child's future. GAME POINT will help to advise your child in their future endeavors, regardless of whether that includes collegiate volleyball. If your daughter chooses to play volleyball in college, we have recruiting coordinators who will assist in making college coaches aware of your daughter and her individual talents as well as various services to assist your child in the recruiting process.
- *To train and educate young athletes in the sport of volleyball.
- *To be dedicated to the development of teamwork, communication, sportsmanship and work ethic.
- *Through high level training and national competition, to also strive to give all seniors an opportunity at obtaining college scholarships.
- *For players still in high school, to provide top level training which will allow each player to participate successfully on their varsity high school teams.
- *To teach every athlete to be the best player she can be in a positive, productive environment.

COMMITMENTS OF A JUNIOR PROGRAM PLAYER

You have been selected to play on one of GAME POINT's teams. We want to make you aware of the responsibilities that come with this honor and also to let you know what GAME POINT will provide in return. We know that your commitment to a GAME POINT junior team will expose you to high quality volleyball, provide you with a valuable educational experience, and allow you to develop lifelong friendships.

- A.** A non-refundable deposit/financial commitment is required by each player selected to play on a GAME POINT team. This amount is due, in full, on the day of selection of the team. If you quit after the deposit is
- B.** Extra Expenses which are NOT INCLUDED (if selected as optional items):
 - 1. Private Instruction - \$80 per hour.
 - 2. Travel to Tournaments including all airfare, food, hotel and transport expenses
 - 3. ALL EXPENSES AFTER THE REGIONAL TOURNAMENT**
 - 1. Coaches Fees
 - 2. Entry Fees
 - 3. Practice Time

USAV National Tournament

- 1. Coaches Fees
- 2. Hotels
- 3. Entry Fees
- 4. Airfare
- 5. Practice Time

“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. In the past, three negative complaints have been heard from parents, which served only to limit the overall success of the team and the club. They are as follows:

My daughter is on the wrong team – This generally means that the player is not on what is considered to be “the number one team”. (Very rarely does anyone ask to move down). Methods used to assign players to teams are based on an evaluation conducted in a professional manner based upon the consensus of several eminently qualified individuals. Time has shown that team assignments are made fairly with few mistakes. Players have been and will continue to be moved if the qualified individuals feel that it is in the player’s best interest to do so.

My daughter is not playing the right position – Often a player is the shining star on a high school or middle school team at a particular position and is not allowed playing time at that position in GAME POINT. There are several reasons for this. First, we all have to remember that the competition within the club is a lot stronger than on school teams, therefore, the competition for each position is more intense than in a school environment where the number of skilled players is limited. Second, the coach may have a particular need at a certain position and the player is the only one with the requisite skills to fill that need. In any event, talk to the coach first about any concern you may have and then support the coach’s decision. One further note: Do not, under any circumstance, corner the coach at a tournament. A meeting time should be scheduled to discuss such a matter. GAME POINT requires a “24-hour rule” for parents to talk to coaches about issues with his/her daughter’s playing time, team, etc. See our policy which is detailed later in the handbook.

My daughter is not playing enough – This can be a common question or complaint. When playing for GAME POINT at the elite level, players will not always play the same amount of time. We cannot provide a guarantee of playing time. GAME POINT does provide a guarantee of the right to practice with players of equal or better ability and, through hard work, to improve skill levels and to compete for the opportunity to play. **Playing time is earned, not awarded. Negative comments directed to other parents, coaches and players concerning offensive schemes, defensive schemes, players’ positions, who is playing, etc. or providing excuses to players for poor performances have no place in our program. Help maintain an excellent program by supporting coaches and players with a positive attitude.**

****Repetitive complaining to the athlete(s) or to a third party that interferes with the club’s efforts to pursue its’ stated mission and purpose may be a cause, in the sole determination of the club, to ask the member to resign.****

INVALID CREDIT CARD & RETURNED CHECKS

All fees will be paid for by CC and will be on Auto Pay unless you pay in full at the beginning of the season

We ask that parents provide a credit card so that payments can be charged on the payment dates and ensure that payments are made on a timely basis. Enrollment in the online auto-payment system is required.

In the event that a credit card needs to be charged and is later found to be invalid, an additional \$25.00 fee will be added to the bill and, if the payment is NOT made in full within 10 days, your daughter will be ineligible to practice or play until the payment is settled with the GAME POINT office. Notification will be delivered through email, therefore, it is the parent's responsibility to verify that a current email address on record. Returned checks will be charged a \$50.00 reprocessing fee. Once again, if not paid in full within 10 days of the returned check email notice, your daughter will be ineligible until the full payment is settled with the GAME POINT office. Any overdue payments will incur an additional 10% late fee.

All payments should be sent to:
GAME POINT
6700 Kingspointe Parkway
Orlando, FL 32819

PLAYER RULES AND POLICIES

GAME POINT strives to be a nationally renowned AAU and USAV program. We expect that our athletes act in a courteous manner throughout the season. Athletes disobeying either club 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.

Every member of GAME POINT will be offered training through practices. Playing time is based on practice and event performance of the athlete as viewed by the team coach and the GAME POINT coaching staff. Court time at major competitions (such as Regionals, National Qualifiers, and/or Nationals) will be geared toward the best line-up. Local court time will be more evenly distributed. Equal playtime is NOT guaranteed.

Any member found to be in the possession of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs on the premises of any practice or tournament facility of the GAME POINT will be immediately expelled from the program.

Players must call their coach 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, potentially, may have their playing time decreased. To emphasize player responsibility, we do not want parents to call on behalf of their child (with the exception of the 10 and under parents/players).

To promote team and program unity, all athletes are required to wear the assigned practice uniforms at all practices and full game uniforms at all tournaments. Team uniforms do not include jewelry, wristbands, or headbands. Pants or shorts are to be worn over spandex outside of the gym.

To prevent choking and 'sticky' situations, players will not be allowed to chew gum during practices, while playing, or while officiating at events. To ensure the safety of fans and spectators and to prevent damage at playing sites, ball handling will only be done in the gymnasium.

Transportation to all practices and competitions is the responsibility of the players and their parents.

TOURNAMENT POLICIES:

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).

All players are required to wear GAME POINT issued warm ups upon entering and leaving the gym. All players must also match practice t-shirts at tournaments or any other volleyball related function.

No food, drinks (other than water), or chewing gum is permitted in any gym at any time. Florida Region rules allow a tournament director to penalize teams if parents and/or supporters ignore this rule. All athletes are expected to attend every tournament. If an athlete cannot be at a tournament, she must inform the coach as soon as she knows she will be absent so that the

coach can make appropriate changes to practices or lineups. It is the athlete's (not the parent's) responsibility to make arrangements with the coach.

ATHLETES MAY NOT LEAVE A TOURNAMENT SITE UNTIL EXCUSED BY THE COACH.

OFFICIATING:

To ensure fairness in distributing officiating duties, every player will attend a referee/scorer clinic. In addition, players may leave a tournament only after all refereeing duties have been completed and permission has been obtained from the team coach.

TRAVEL:

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 "stay and play" events.

When traveling via airline, GAME POINT expects all teams to dress accordingly. If the team decides to wear GAME POINT apparel, every member of the team should wear the same thing. If the team decides to just look nice, please use good taste when selecting your attire for the airline. No midriiffs or "daisy dukes" please.

We encourage parents to travel with the team to different events, but this is an extra expense to the family. The team is attending an event to **PLAY VOLLEYBALL.**

PLEASE NOTE: Prior to an out of town tournament, the coach must receive in writing the date and time the athlete will be arriving and departing from the event in addition to the location of stay. GAME POINT assumes all players will be staying overnight at the GAME POINT assigned hotel for every event unless prior written approval is granted by the Director and the Team Coach.

PRACTICE POLICIES:

Please be on time for practice. We have limited gym space and to avoid another team's practice starting late or your practice running short, every athlete must be dressed, warmed up, and ready to go at the practice time listed.

Volleyball shoes should be carried into practice and tournament venues and only worn for practice and games to assure that the shoes last longer and our practice facilities remain clean.

All athletes are required to wear GAME POINT practice apparel to practice. If your team has more than one color shirt, make sure that everyone knows which color to wear on which practice days. Each team is required to wear the same practice t-shirt at practice.

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 shaved heads, and/or razor cut styles. The administration reserves the right to judge the acceptability of a hair style/color. Outlandish or fad styles will not be accepted. 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.

If an athlete is late arriving to a practice, 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.

An injured athlete who attends school is expected to attend GAME POINT practice, even if she cannot physically participate in practice. This policy is to offer support to her team as well as to assist the coach if needed.

Transportation to practice is your responsibility. If your daughter has to wait after practice for someone to pick her up, her coach is required to stay with her. Coaches are not babysitters...please do not take advantage of the fact that he/she is required to stay with your daughter if you are late.

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!

PARENT RULES AND POLICIES

Just as we expect certain actions of our players, we also ask the same courtesy and politeness from our players' parents. Parents should refrain from any unsportsmanlike conduct that could embarrass the club or penalize a team. Parents disobeying club or USAV rules or acting in a manner deemed inappropriate by the staff, may be expelled from GAME POINT by the Staff.

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 wait until the day after the tournament ends before communicating with the coaches. Under no circumstances may a parent contact the coach while at a tournament. If further problems arise, please contact the Directors of the club who may schedule a meeting with the Coach, Directors, and parents all together. (Please see Grievance Policy & Procedures)

Every GAME POINT team shall have a Team Parent. This parent will make sure the coach has everything needed from the team's parents. Each team will have a Travel Parent who will be in charge of helping the coach when traveling. This duty includes helping GAME POINT determine which parents will be traveling with the team and the accommodations needed. Each team will also have a Telephone Parent. This parent will be in charge of making sure each member of the team has a list of everyone's contact information. In addition, this parent will be in charge of contacting all the parents if the coach needs information for the team spread quickly.

Sometimes, a team chaperone will be requested for a tournament. A parent who volunteers to be a chaperone takes the responsibility of being at the tournament for its entirety and may be required to check-in the team.

PARENT COMMITTEES

In an effort to maintain order, a parent for each player is asked to take on a few simple tasks for his/her daughter's team. Depending on the team level and the age group, not all of these positions are necessary, but we would like each team to have the following parents:

- ❖ TEAM PARENT – Basically a team representative. Usually asked to be the team chaperone as well.
- ❖ TRAVEL PARENT – Remind and gather any information necessary for travel for GAME POINT (i.e. a list or spreadsheet of all hotel information and flight details including coaches, players, and parents).
- ❖ VIDEO PARENT – Generally for 15 and up teams. A parent that will tape matches for the team. Someone that the team can count on to get game footage of the entire team for parents to make individual recruiting tapes and/or to be utilized for training purposes by the coach.
- ❖ FOOD/DRINK PARENT – Organize a schedule for nourishment at tournaments. The coach will determine the preferred method, for example, packing food, going out as a team, or eating at the hotel or venue. Please note that the food parent is an organizer not the financier.
- ❖ TELEPHONE PARENT – In charge of creating a carry-along telephone list for every parent, player, and coach with cell phones as well as home phones. You may be asked to communicate emergency plans or changes at the coaches' request via text messaging or email as well.
- ❖ FUNDRAISING PARENT – Team representative for GAME POINT fundraising, to help get the team create a team basket for the end of the year auction and to work with the GAME POINT office in creating a team specific fundraiser if desired by the team and coach.

GAME POINT GRIEVANCE POLICY & PROCEDURES “24 HOUR RULE”

The “24 Hour Rule” refers to parents waiting 24 hours to address a specific issue (unless it is an emergency situation) or 24 hours from the conclusion of any tournament. 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.

GAME POINT encourages the athlete to talk to the coach when she has a problem with playing time. 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 needs to do to get more opportunities to play in matches or at another position.

When parents have an issue that is specific to their own athlete, we also encourage them to have their daughter meet with the coaches first. Coaches WILL NOT discuss “coaching decisions.” Coaching decisions include, among other examples, specific match decisions (who played when, who was subbed in/out and when, etc.). Playtime is a very complex determination. It includes the coach’s opinion, the athlete’s ability, the athlete’s potential, the team’s needs/game strategy at the moment, the momentum of the game, the number of subs remaining, and the team’s needs for the future. The coach will not be required to defend his/her thought process or conclusions in these determinations, and it is improper for a parent to make such a request.

In addition, GAME POINT instructs coaches not to discuss any athlete other than the parent’s own or the actions of any other GAME POINT coach. If you, as a parent, have legitimate concerns about a coach other than your athlete’s coach, or with an athlete other than your own, you must address the directors.

The athlete and parents SHOULD:

1. The athlete should approach the coach to ask for a meeting time to be set. (Consider calling the coach on the phone to set a meeting time)
2. Expect meetings to be at a location other than a tournament.
3. The meeting should be between the coaches of the team and the player.
4. If the concern remains unresolved, the parent should approach the coach to ask for a meeting time to be set.
5. The meeting should be between the athlete, the coaches and the parents.
6. If the concern still remains unresolved, the parent should contact the Directors for intervention.

The parent or athlete SHOULD NOT:

1. Confront a coach during a practice or during tournaments.
2. Expect meetings to be set during practice or tournament participation.
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. Contact coaches at any time in violation of this policy.
8. Make comments to or about players while attending tournaments.

POLICY ORDER:

1. The athlete should first speak to the coach about the matter. If the matter remains unresolved, or the athlete has a reasonable concern that speaking to the coach will not resolve the matter, then move on to Step 2.
2. The parents should speak or meet with the coach. Parents and/or athletes should contact the coach via the telephone or email to set up a meeting time after a tournament (never during a tournament).
 - A parent should never approach a coach at a tournament. We have instructed the coaches to refuse to discuss any controversial matter, and to refer the parent to the Directors. The coach will then walk away.
 - The recommended time for a parent to schedule a meeting is usually before or immediately following a scheduled practice.If the matter remains unresolved or if the parent has a reasonable concern that speaking with the coach will not resolve the matter, then proceed to Step 3.
3. The parent may speak to the Director(s) and request a meeting with the coach(es) and Director(s) together.
 - In certain situations, GAME POINT may request the athlete to also attend.
 - Meetings must be previously arranged. This will not take place at a tournament site.
 - The Director(s) will not engage in discussions about coaching decisions.

Refunds and Deposits: Upon making any GAME POINT team, at a regular or supplemental tryout, there is a **non-refundable** \$500 deposit due to secure the spot Refunds will be only given for **medical reasons ONLY**.

Any dispute with the club must be submitted to the club in writing, including the date of incident or injury, Dr. notes including type and length of disability, and the duration of club participation. All disputes which include complete documentation as previously stated will be considered.

All issues or disputes, regardless of the nature or source, must follow the previously detailed club “Policy Order” as stated above.

If a team has to pull out of a Tournament the club is not obligated to put them in another tournament.

All players are committed to the team when the deposit is paid at tryouts. The player is committed to the full club dues, and must follow the payment schedule through the auto payment plan. If the fees are not paid we will turn this over to a collection agency.

If your team disbands before the seasons ends, we are not liable to refund your dues. We will try to get you placed on another team for practice.

The 18's season will be done at the end of the USA National Tournament in April. If the team wants to continue, we will need to collect additional fees.

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

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- (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.

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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 trainers³)

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

³ Athletic trainers who are covered under these policies must follow the “Athletic Training Modalities, Massages,

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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.

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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

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 abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to receive an athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown.

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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:

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- 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.

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ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS⁴

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.

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

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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.

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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.⁵

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.

⁵ 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.*

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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.

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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

Please Sign to indicate you have read the Game Point Volleyball Club Handbook in its entirety:

Printed Name

Signature

Date