



USA Volleyball

To the Parents/Guardians of Prospective USAV Jr. Olympic Volleyball Club Players

Thanks to Kathy Goodlett, North Texas RVA & Youth & Junior Olympic Volleyball Division

The start of a new season always brings a lot of excitement with the hope of new possibilities and anticipation of a great volleyball season ahead. Each year as a region grows, the competition between clubs to get the best players becomes filled with tension. It makes the role of the parent in helping to guide their son or daughter and learn the process more challenging. In order to help you understand the process we are outlining common region policies in hopes that some way it will help you and your child find the right club.

NOTE: These are general common policies, but every USA Volleyball Regional Volleyball Association (RVA), can have policies quite different from these, to best serve that unique area of the country. You must check with your RVA for specific policies.

General Guidelines for Regional Tryouts:

- There is no limit to the number of CLUBS for which players may tryout.
- Players should **not participate in a physical tryout** until their public or private school team has totally completed their High School season (playoffs included). Nor should they try out before filling out and completely signing the RVA's individual membership form
- Players may commit to a USAV RVA team and attend informational meetings without doing a physical tryout.
- Players/Parents who have not completed their financial obligations for the preceding USAV season may not tryout, register with USAV or join a club until a satisfactory resolution is reached with the previous club director.

Terminology:

Tryout Fee: Money paid to the club by the parent/player to assist in the expenses of running the tryout and one-event USAV membership (usually pays for: insurance, coaches time, facility use and sometimes T-shirts or club gift)

Team Deposit: Money paid by player/parent to hold a spot in a **specific club** for a window of time prior to making decisions (either by the club or the family).

Deposits may or may not be refundable based on each clubs policies.

This generally does not guarantee placement on a **specific team** or to work with a specific coach.

USAV Membership Dues: Dues paid to the USAV Region Volleyball Association (RVA) for membership in USAV for the current season. Registration of membership is with that USAV Region.

Club Dues/Fees: Valuable consideration – money- given to join the **Club** for the season and for all services rendered. Fees may be paid in installments or in one lump sum based on club policies.

USAV National rules state that once a player has registered (paid dues to USAV RVA) they may only represent that one club for the entire season. Also, the rule is that once a female junior player has participated in a JOVC qualifying event, she may not participate in another JOVC qualifying or championship event with a different club unless a waiver is granted by the YJOVD Arbitrator and the regions involved.

Remember, some RVAs have added or amended policies. You need to contact your RVA office for these specific rules/policies. Listed below are some examples of the amended changes to the rule to assist in making it clear.

Players/Parents that:

1. sign a letter of intent/contract with a club, (standard players contract- mutual assent) (parent and player signature required if the player is not of age)
2. submit a completed Region Registration form and pay the USAV Membership dues for the season under the name of a specific club, (not the tryout fee/ temporary membership)
3. pay an installment toward the Club Dues/Fees, (deposits are not Club Fees)
4. and play with a JOV Region Team, as a registered member, in a sanctioned event

you are legally committed/contracted for the current season to play with that club for the entire season as it relates to contract law and sports teams. If any of the 3 conditions above have been met the player/parents are obligated to the club for the entire USAV season.

It is a big decision to choose to play for a club. We hope that you will take your time and ask lots of questions. Talk to parents and players who have been with the club in the past and see if it matches your goals and family values for participation in a club sport. Does the club philosophy match your goals of playing? Will your child get the exposure and playing time that will accomplish what he or she is trying to do? Whether it is making friends, having fun and lots of playing time with an opportunity to improve players skills or it is about being in a competitive environment where only the best are on the court at all times, the decision is important.

USAV offers a wide variety of opportunities. It is up to you to see that the goals of the club and yours are the right match. Remember, you are paying for the opportunity to be coached in a club sport. Agreements generally do not guarantee you will be on a specific team, with a specific coach, or that you will play in games—only that you will be a member of club on a team that is coached and you will have an opportunity to practice during practice times.

If you have questions contact your Regional Jr. Olympic Volleyball representative. These names and specific regional information can be found by starting at the USAV website, www.usavolleyball.org and clicking on the “Regions” button on the opening page. Next, find your region and click on the highlighted RVA website to get the regional contacts and info.