

Hurricane Volleyball Club

Weston, Florida
CLUB HANDBOOK

(The way we do things, our guiding principles)

ARTICLE 1 - AFFILIATIONS

1.1 Club Affiliations. Is an affiliated organization with the USA Volleyball Association (USAV) and the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU). The Club seeks to operate in accordance with the standards and rules of the USAV and AAU and will abide by the provisions of our Club By-Laws and Policies.

ARTICLE 2 - TEAMS

2.1 Organization of Teams. Teams shall customarily consist of 12 players and 1 coach and 1 assistant coach if available as determined by the Club Director. The Coach shall obtain the approval of the Club Director to place more than 12 players on any one team. This will be approved on a case-by-case basis. Our objective is to encourage each athlete with as much playing time and as much coaching attention as possible!

If more than one team is formed within an age group, players will be assigned to each of the teams based on their talent level in an effort to group together players of like-talent.

Coaches will be selected by the Club Director according to Hurricane Volleyball standards and will be introduced to the Club members at tryouts. The Board holds the right to change coaches at its discretion at any time.

ARTICLE 3 - PLAYER SELECTION AND MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Age Requirements. Players must meet the USAV (& AAU) age requisite for involvement on a team. Age brackets are usually set similar to school years (Birth date vs. September 1). In some cases players may be asked to play up an age bracket due to their notable skill level and development.

3.2 Player Selection. Tryouts and player evaluations shall be held each Fall to select players. The selection of players and the placement on teams is the sole responsibility of the Club Director and Coaches. All candidates should follow the same tryout and evaluation process. The official evaluation will include as much known information about a player as possible, including a skill assessment, review of each player's past performances and potential team chemistry.

3.3 Notification of Selected and Non-Selected Players. The Athletic Director shall notify all potential players of their status within one (1) week of the last day of the annual tryouts. This process may be expedited with the aide of our website. All players invited to join the club will receive a conditional invitation to become a member, pending their acceptance.

3.4 Player Acceptance. A reasonable date for final player acceptance of a position with a team will be set by the Club Director. The acceptance date will be communicated to each player at the time of their invitation. Hurricane Volleyball is not obligated to hold a position for players who have not accepted a position after the designated acceptance date. A full Club meeting will be scheduled soon after tryouts in order to kick-off our season, answer questions and take care of needed forms and fees.

*(also see **Player Commitment** as discussed under 5.2)*

ARTICLE 4 – PRACTICES AND TOURNAMENTS

4.1 Practices. Practices shall be conducted on a schedule developed for the purpose of improving the skills and abilities of the players and will be based on the availability of facility space. Typically 2 (sometimes 3 or on rare occasion 1) practices per week for each team will be normal. Each player will have an opportunity for skill development during practice. The practice schedule shall be published and distributed to the players as soon as it is available. If unavoidable changes in practice times and/or locations are required based on space availability, members will be notified as quickly as possible.

4.2 Tournaments. The Club Director and Coaches will work to determine a schedule that meets the needs of each team and will attempt to be mindful of creating an undue financial burden on families. All team schedules and changes to team schedules must be approved by the Club Director. The typical Club tournament season for each team starts in January and runs until after USAV and AAU Regionals in late April (*and then if qualified, through USAV and/or AAU Nationals the selected teams/players will go through the end of June*). Our goal is for a minimum of 4 tournaments within the state.

4.3 Playing Time. The Club intends to provide appropriate opportunities for the development of individual and team skills for all of its players. Payment of club fees intends equal practice time, **not necessarily equivalent playing time**. Hurricane Volleyball is a performance based program and the coach of each team will determine court playing time based on, but not limited to, skill level, attendance, attitude and the overall commitment of the player. If a player seeks to increase the amount of their court time, the player should respectfully seek the guidance of their coach at an appropriate time. Any issues with playing time may be discussed at a pre-determined mutually agreeable time with the coach. **No player or parent should discuss playing time during practice or before, during, or after matches.** Appropriate times will be determined by each individual Head Coach. *Also Refer to Club Grievance Procedures*

There are two very strong responsibilities/concerns that every club and team grapples with and those are a team's desire to "play-to-win" as it coincides with each individual athlete's (& Parents) desire for maximum "playing time". Hurricane Volleyball strives to see that all our teams find balance and harmony somewhere within this dichotomy. We understand that all coaches should have an inherent duty to "play-to-win" and we respect that "playing time" will be a primary concern of every player and parent. As stated above, the Head Coach of each team will determine tournament playing time based on such things as skill level, attendance, attitude and commitment of each player. We all love to see our teams win but we ask that everyone understand that a coaches balance between these two duties is one of the toughest endeavors of a committed coach. In order to help elevate the issues with playing time, teams with a larger amount of player will be divided into two teams, Green and Orange. The Green team will consist of the elite players while the Orange team will consist of the players that are not quite at the elite level but will be trained with the purpose to make it to the Green team. Each team will mainly play at different tournaments so players can get maximum playing time. Players will be available to be moved between the teams if needed for tournament play.

ARTICLE 5 – MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS

5.1 Member Commitment. The Club requires and expects the commitment and dedication of its players, families and coaches in matters of participation, sportsmanship and financial support. All members, both players and parents, are expected to conduct themselves during all Hurricane Volleyball activities in such a way as to promote goodwill among the club members and a good reputation with their opponents. All members will adhere to the *club's Grievance Procedures* to resolve any conflicts or disagreements. If any member, i.e., player, parent or coach does not adhere to the Club's **Policies** or represents the club in a "manner unbecoming," it could result in termination of membership.

5.2 Player Commitment. Each player has an obligation to their team and to the club for timely attendance and diligent effort at practices and tournaments throughout the full season. For this reason, the primary extra-curricular commitment of the players during the practice and playing season should be volleyball. Each player is expected to participate in all scheduled practices, tournaments and all refereeing responsibilities and to report all unavoidable absences to the coach prior to the scheduled practice or tournament. Players who are offered a position need to give careful consideration to the team's projected tournament and practice schedules before accepting a position. If the player feels they cannot meet the requirements for playing on a particular team, they should instead elect to not participate or locate a club that fits their availability and commitment level.

5.3 Parent Commitment. Membership carries a responsibility for prompt payment of financial obligations and for cooperation and other assistance with the various needs of the club. Parents have the duty of ensuring their child(ren) is/are able to fulfill the obligations set forth in Article 5.2. Parents should also give careful consideration to the team's projected tournament and practice schedules prior to allowing their child to accept a position.

5.5 Coach Commitment. Coaches should promote each player's enthusiasm and positive self-image. Attention should be given to developing the team as a whole, as well as each individual's skills. The Club's Purpose should be the governing philosophy to each coach's responsibilities.

The purpose of Hurricane Volleyball is to provide a supportive environment in which young athletes can seek to develop technical and tactical skills for competitive volleyball. We also desire to instill exemplary values in each athlete that will transcend volleyball and lead each player to become the best person they can be.

5.6 Injury Policy. Each athlete is responsible to have proper health insurance prior to tryouts. If a player is injured during or outside of practice please notify the coaches immediately. If the player is seen by a medical professional please supply Hurricane Volleyball with the report and required treatment. Upon completion of the treatment or rehabilitation please obtain a medical release and submit to Hurricane Volleyball. As winning and training the players to succeed their health is the first priority for us to ensure a long and fulfilling volleyball career.

5.7 Financial Obligations. Hurricane Volleyball Club is not for profit and together strives to diligently keep our costs to a minimum for the sake of our membership. We are consistently trying to be as affordable as possible yet at the same time we seek offer the highest quality product possible.

Separate tryout fees will be assessed and are not applied toward annual membership fees. Each player chosen shall pay annual membership fees as set forth by the Club and all applicable USAV and AAU Membership/Registration fees. Club Fees will be determined by the cost of each team's schedule, coaches' compensations, uniforms(with the exception of the jerseys which remain the property of Hurricane Volleyball) as well as facility & equipment costs. Each member family is responsible for its own travel and meal expenses. Any tournaments beyond those chosen by the Club or specific team will need to be agreed to by all members of the interested team and paid for from outside the club fees.

Since the Club's performance of duties is dependent upon payment of each members Club fees, it is imperative that fees be paid based on the fee schedule. If payments are not received as requested, a notification will be given out. If payment is still not forthcoming and no prior arrangements have been made, the Club Director and YMCA Sports Director will determine what further action should be taken; from the assessment of late fees, up to and including; suspension or termination of Club membership. Any

outstanding fees from a prior season must be paid, including any assessed late fees, prior to future membership with the Club. We do understand that there are circumstances in which a player does not feel the same desire as when the season started. Travel Volleyball has a long season and requires a lot of dedication. If this situation arises the parent will need to set up a meeting with the Club Director to discuss the situation. If after the meeting and it is decided that the best interest for the player is to separate from Hurricane Volleyball we will guide them in way we can and stop monthly club fees(contingent on a 30day cancellation policy). If the player decides to leave the program and request a release from the team the player will have to satisfy financial responsibility for full club dues for the season. Upon satisfaction of the preceding requirements release will be granted.

**We hope you find your Volleyball experience with us
Purposeful, personable and pleasurable!**