

# ONONDAGA VOLLEYBALL CLUB

## Code of Conduct for Players and Parents

The Onondaga Volleyball Club sponsors youth volleyball activity with the goal of providing our athletes an opportunity to develop valuable life skills through team play, sportsmanship, top competition, and hard work. To achieve this goal, we provide the following Codes of Conduct for all Onondaga Volleyball players and parents. These Codes of Conduct are a covenant between Onondaga players and parents to abide by the rules and regulations of the game, as well as to maintain a cooperative attitude and uphold the ideals of fair play and sportsmanship. These codes express our core values and goals. It is essential they be honored and followed.

- 1. Demonstrating a positive attitude.** Players and parents are expected to show a positive, respectful attitude for everyone involved in the sport. Criticism and disrespect for officials, opponents, coaches or fans undermine the purpose of sport and encourage behavior contrary to the spirit of the game and the goal of Onondaga Volleyball.
- 2. Setting a good example.** Each person associated with Onondaga Volleyball (player, parent and coach) is accountable for his/her own behavior at all times on or off the court. Parents and other adults should remember that children learn by example – it is up to the adults to set good examples. Onondaga Volleyball will not tolerate conduct that is detrimental to the sport, the participants, or the community. Such conduct includes: Vulgarity, harassment or belittlement of officials, coaches or players; verbal abuse, threats or physical violence before, during or after a match; taunting of opposing players, coaches and parents. We require all participants, both adults and players, to exercise thorough self-restraint.
- 3. Illicit Substances/Illegal Behavior.** Players are strictly prohibited from: 1) the possession, consumption, provision, distribution, sale or facilitation of any alcoholic beverage, narcotics, or other controlled substances. 2) Theft or possession of stolen property. 3) Willful act of destruction to the property of others. Any situations involving theft or property damage restitution will be the direct responsibility of the individual perpetrating the act or the parents there of.
- 4. Maintaining good relationships.**

Officials – The referee’s job is a difficult one. All referees are human and they do make mistakes. Parents or players who believe their team has been treated unfairly or has been assigned an unqualified referee should speak to their coach after the game. Coaches should inform the appropriate tournament officials about blatant officiating problems. In accordance with USAV polices, verbal abuse toward a referee will not be tolerated and can result in the ejection of a player, parent or coach from the event. Referees have the authority to suspend play if a coach does not control his/her players and parents/supporters.

Opponents – Players and coaches are required to maintain a sense of fair play and be respectful of opposing players, coaches and fans at all times. Sportsmanship begins with respect. Without it, the positive competitive environment, which should be a perfect classroom for learning the values of volleyball, is completely undermined. Occasionally we will encounter opponents who do not share our values and high standards. If we allow ourselves to be drawn down to their level, we will have lost regardless of the final score.

Our Own Team – In an environment where our children are competing not only against teams, but also frequently against each other, it can be difficult to control jealousies and rivalries. A successful team resembles a family in that members put their own needs second, behind the greater good of the team. Great care must be taken not to undermine the coaches’ authority. As in most cases, parental example is all important.

**5. Respecting the use of social media.** Onondaga Volleyball players are representatives of the Club itself and our community. We require our players, parents and coaches to exercise good judgment in their use of social media websites and to conduct these activities in a responsible and respectful manner.

- It is impermissible for players or parents to post information, photos, or any other representation of sexual content, inappropriate behavior (e.g. drug or alcohol use), or items that could be interpreted as demeaning or inflammatory.
- Players and parents are required to abide by all Club policies when utilizing social media websites.
- It is not permissible to comment on injuries, officiating, or team matters that could reasonably be expected to be confidential to team members.
- Players and parents are required to follow all respective social media website rules.
- Think twice before posting. If you wouldn't want your coach, parents or potential college coach to see your post, don't post it.
- Be respectful and positive.
- Remember, many different audiences view your posts including club coaches, prospective college coaches, other kids for whom you may be setting an example, parents, etc.
- The internet is permanent. Even if you delete something, it's still out there somewhere. Be in the right state of mind when you make a post. Do not post when your judgment is impaired. Coaches and parents monitor social media websites. Potential college coaches use these social media websites to screen candidates. Use the privacy/security settings made available on these sites.

In summary, we agree to abide by all rules, regulations, policies, and standards of behavior established by Onondaga Volleyball Club and to follow the specific instructions of the coaching staff and/or team representatives in all instances. We understand that the safety and welfare of the group is of the utmost importance.

In the event of any infraction of the rules the club director reserves the right of final decision and may, if deemed necessary, institute disciplinary procedures up to and including limiting or eliminating playing time, potential exclusion or expulsion from tournaments, and the possibility of release from the club altogether.

I understand that any detrimental behavior on my part may have immediate implications.

As a player or parent of Onondaga Volleyball Club, I agree to act in a responsible, ethical and positive manner so as to derive the greatest benefit from the experience.

I therefore certify that I have read and understand this Code of Conduct and that I agree to abide by all provisions herein.

I, (player): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ , agree to all of the above conditions.

I, (parent): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ , agree to all of the above conditions.

I, (parent): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ , agree to all of the above conditions.