

## **Bristol Crush Volleyball Club**

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### **Team Travel Policy**

USA Volleyball requires all Junior Club Volleyball Programs to implement a team travel policy. This document serves as the official Bristol Crush Volleyball Club Team Travel Policy and is based on USA Volleyball's model policy.

Travel for Bristol Crush Volleyball teams may involve local travel only, or team travel that includes overnight stays. Different policies apply to each type of travel to ensure the safety, well-being, and positive experience of all athletes.

### **Travel Policy for Bristol Crush Volleyball**

Bristol Crush Volleyball has teams that travel regularly for tournaments, teams that travel to a limited number of events per season, and teams whose travel is limited to local practices and competitions.

Bristol Crush Volleyball strictly prohibits physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment, and hazing, as defined by the USA Volleyball SafeSport Handbook.

The club has established these travel policies to:

- Guide team travel
- Minimize one-on-one interactions
- Reduce the risk of abuse or misconduct
- Promote a safe, positive, and enjoyable travel experience for all athletes

For purposes of this policy, travel is divided into:

- Local Travel – travel to practices, training sessions, and local tournaments without overnight stays
- Team Travel – overnight travel coordinated or arranged by Bristol Crush Volleyball or its designees

### Local Travel

Bristol Crush Volleyball ***DOES NOT*** sponsor, coordinate, or arrange transportation.

- Players and/or their parents or guardians ***ARE*** responsible for all local travel arrangements.
- It is not the responsibility of the director or coach to coordinate travel arrangements
- Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that anyone transporting a minor athlete:
  - Holds a valid driver's license
  - Maintains automobile liability insurance
  - Uses a vehicle in safe working condition
  - Complies with all applicable state laws
- Employees, coaches, and volunteers of Bristol Crush Volleyball who are not acting as a parent or guardian shall ***NEVER*** drive alone with ***ANY*** athlete.

### Team Travel (Overnight Travel)

Team travel includes overnight stays when Bristol Crush Volleyball is required to stay overnight

Because team travel involves extended time together, additional safeguards are required.

- Bristol Crush Volleyball will provide reasonable advance notice of all team travel, including:
  - Tournament details
  - Designated team hotels
  - A club or team contact person
- Coaches will ***NEVER*** share hotel rooms or sleeping arrangements with minor athletes, regardless of gender, unless the coach is the athlete's parent, guardian, or sibling.
  - At no time will a single adult be alone in a hotel room with minor athletes.
- Individual meetings between a coach and athlete:
  - May ***NEVER*** occur in hotel sleeping rooms
  - Must take place in public settings or with additional adults present
  - At least one additional adult must be the same gender as the athlete
- Parents/guardians are permitted to stay at the team hotel.
- Bristol Crush Volleyball will make reasonable efforts to accommodate parental requests and athlete needs during travel.
- Coaches ***MAY NOT*** be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while supervising athletes.
- Parents always retain the right to transport their own child.
- Prior to travel, coaches will communicate all expectations, rules, and consequences to players and parents.

- If disciplinary action is required while an athlete is traveling without a parent, parents will be notified before action is taken when possible, or immediately afterward if urgent.

### **Athlete Supervision**

- Athletes must remain with the team at all times unless permission is granted by a coach or chaperone.
- Athletes may not leave venues, hotels, or team activities without approval.
- In public places, athletes must remain in groups of three or more.
- Athletes age 12 and under must be accompanied by a chaperone, adult

### **Safety Policies**

- Additional safety guidelines may be established by coaches as needed.
- Athletes must respect the privacy of others.

### **Behavior Policies**

Athletes are expected to:

- Be respectful and quiet in hotels
- Be punctual and prepared
- Follow cell phone, computer, and social media guidelines
- Respect travel vehicles and facilities
- Follow dress codes and public conduct expectations
- Use appropriate language at all times
- Observe established curfews and lights-out times
- Place the needs and well-being of the team first

### **Financial Responsibilities**

- Athletes are responsible for incidental charges
- Athletes are responsible for damages or theft