



Wellington Volleyball Academy

2024-2025 Travel Season Handbook

Practice Rules

The scheduled practice time is the start time and not the arrival time. Plan on arriving at least 15 minutes prior to the start of each practice. There may be a consequence for arriving late to practice and competitions (e.g., impact on playing time).

- "Horseplay" by athletes or coaches at practice or tournaments is strictly prohibited.
- All athletes are expected to make every effort to attend every practice. Only a serious illness that keeps the athlete home from school or a genuine family emergency are legitimate excuses for missing practice.
- Regardless of the reason, their playing time may be affected if an athlete misses practice. If an athlete cannot be at practice, either the athlete or a parent is expected to contact the coach before the start of practice.
- Athletes are encouraged to bring water in an unbreakable container to practices or tournaments. Absolutely no glass containers are allowed in the gym.
- In case of unforeseen emergencies or inclement weather, the club will contact you with schedule changes.



Tournament Rules

- All athletes are expected to be in the gym, ready to warm up, at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time (as determined by the coach).
- Athletes and/or parents must provide transportation to and from tournament sites.
- Athletes are not to leave the tournament site until approved by the coach.
- If an athlete cannot be at a tournament, the athlete is expected to contact the coach as soon as possible. It is the athlete's responsibility to reach the coach before the tournament starts.
- Proper conduct is expected from all athletes, coaches, parents, and fans at all times.

Officiating

Officiating is the shared responsibility of the team. All academy athletes are required to attend a scorekeeper clinic and help with line judging, scorekeeping, and officiating. Coaches will establish a schedule for officiating assignments. Every athlete is expected to remain in the gym until the team is dismissed from the facilities.

Athlete's Account

- An athlete with a delinquent account during the current season may be denied participation in tournaments or practices until the account is paid or arrangements are made with the Club Administration.
- Delinquent accounts may also disallow membership for the next season.
- Club fees are non-refundable.
- You are financially liable for the total cost upon written commitment to Wellington Volleyball Academy.



Playing Other Sports

School sports and activities are an integral part of a scholastic experience. However, it is recommended that if an athlete is going to miss more than 20% of practices due to other obligations, they should reconsider participation in this volleyball program. Missing a significant amount of practices does not make it cost-effective for the families and makes it very difficult to build team chemistry and team cohesion at a competitive level.

If an athlete participates in another sport, the Wellington Volleyball Academy expects her to prioritize the Club team when there is a conflict between the two sports. This means that Wellington Volleyball Academy expects the athlete to attend all practices, unless there is a scheduled competition for the other sport at the same time as the scheduled practices.

If a volleyball tournament conflicts with another sports competition, the coach and the athlete will decide on a case-by-case basis.

Playing Time

We believe in "equitable" playing time but do not guarantee equal playing time on any team or at any event. Wellington Volleyball Academy's philosophy is that coaches are the best qualified and equipped individuals to make 'playing time' decisions. Playing time decisions are left solely to the discretion of the coach. The "coaching decision" is not up for debate or question. Athletes are encouraged to ask what and how to improve to get more playing time.

Playing time for athletes is determined by the following:

- attendance
- attitude
- effort
- performance
- athlete's potential
- team's needs at the moment
- team's needs in the future



No Tolerance Policy

Wellington Volleyball Academy does not tolerate hostile, aggressive confrontations between a parent and any official, another parent, a coach, another athlete, or another team's representative (including coach, athlete, or parent). Violating this policy may result in the athlete being dismissed from Wellington Volleyball Academy without a refund.

Automatic Expulsion

Wellington Volleyball Academy will automatically dismiss an athlete or parent if any of the following occurs:

- Using alcohol or drugs anytime during an official function (i.e., practice, tournament, meeting, etc.)
- Smoking at any of the practice locations.
- Leaving lodging premises without notifying the coach and without a chaperone
- Approaching a coach, athlete, or any other club member inappropriately at any official function.
- Having more than five absences (subject to Club Director Review)
- Failing to pay the club fees
- Intentionally damaging equipment owned by Wellington Volleyball Academy or any facility used by the Club during practices, tournaments, other functions, or lodging facilities and not reimbursing the Club promptly (usually within one (1) week)



Grievance Procedures

By nature, competitive team athletics creates an environment where athletes, parents, and coaches may not agree with all decisions. Knowing when and how to communicate with the coach or Club is a concern for almost every parent at some time during the season. Most often, the concern is how to inquire about playing time issues.

Athletes are first encouraged to communicate with their coaches. We expect players to be able to approach their coach directly. If the athlete is a younger player, it is permissible for a parent to contact the coach after a 24-hour waiting period to inform them that their daughter has a concern and to please meet with both of them. Athletes are expected to discuss issues concerning playing time or any other volleyball-related subject with their coaches before escalation is needed. Parents are encouraged to communicate with the Club only after exhausting all the resources to resolve the problem.

Coaches are instructed not to discuss "coaching decisions" with parents or other family members. These "coaching decisions" include playing time, substitution patterns, team line-up decisions, etc. Coaches are not required to defend their thought processes or conclusions at any time during the season except to the player. Coaches are not accountable to parents for coaching decisions but to Club Directors.

Coaches are instructed not to engage in controversial discussions during tournaments. If a coach is approached during a tournament, they have been asked to refuse to discuss any controversial matter, to refer the parent to the grievance process, and to walk away from the situation.

Parents and Athletes are asked to adhere to the following grievance process:



ALL STEPS MUST BE TAKEN AFTER THE 24-HOUR WAITING PERIOD.

1. The Athlete meets with the coach to discuss the matter. If the issue is not resolved or the athlete has a reasonable concern after speaking to the coach, they call a meeting with the Athlete, Parent, and Coach.
2. The Parent and the Athlete meet with the Coach to discuss the matter. If the issue is not resolved or the Parent has reasonable concerns after speaking to the Coach, a meeting with the Parent, Coach, and the Club's Parent Liaison is called to discuss the issue.
3. The Parent, Coach, and Parent Liaison meet to discuss the matter. The Club may ask the Athlete to attend the meeting. If the issue is unresolved, the Parent Liaison will escalate the case to WVBA's Directors and the Advisory Committee. The coach will walk away and be asked to refuse to discuss any further issues with the Parent or Athlete and refer the Parents to the Parent Liaison.
4. The WVBA Advisory Committee will make a decision. All decisions and recommendations by Wellington Volleyball Academy and the Advisory Committee are final and not subject to appeal.

The recommended time for a parent or athlete to meet with a coach is immediately after a scheduled practice.

WVBA strongly promotes fairness and believes in open communication. All issues and concerns are immediately addressed with the athlete's well-being in mind.

If you believe your child is suffering emotional or physical harm from other team members or coaching staff, report it immediately to the Parent Liaison (natalie.wvba@gmail.com).



Alcohol Policy for Youth/Junior Volleyball Activities & Events

OVERVIEW: This policy governs all USA Volleyball youth/junior events and activities sanctioned by the Florida Region of USA Volleyball.

POLICY: The Florida Region of USA Volleyball prohibits the possession, sale, purchase, and consumption of alcoholic beverages at all sanctioned youth/junior volleyball events. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted to be present or consumed on the premises of any sanctioned/insured space of any venue; this includes common areas inside the sanctioned/insured area.

NOTES: The following notes are designed to clarify specific situations that may occur and how they should be handled.

1. If a rented/owned venue has a space dedicated to serve food/drinks inside the sanctioned/insured area, alcohol may not be served during the posted event hours if youth/junior athletes are training or competing. This prohibition applies to a gymnasium/sports venue that may be used by multiple unrelated organizations simultaneously.
2. If a rented/owned venue has a separate outside entrance to a space where alcohol is being served in the same building, there can be no internal entryway/hallway/access to the competition space where the youth/junior athletes are competing.
 - a. Note 2.1: In this example, no spectators attending the youth/junior volleyball event may take alcohol from the separate space (referenced in Note 2) into the sanctioned competition space.
 - b. Note 2.2: The venue operator in this example would need to provide proof of the required liquor licenses to sell alcohol and would need to provide proof of liquor liability insurance naming the event promoter and the Florida Region of USA Volleyball as an additional insured.
3. If a rented/owned venue has a common overlook area inside the sanctioned event space with visible access to the playing courts by attendees, alcohol may not be served or consumed in that area.
4. If a youth/junior beach or grass event is adjacent to an establishment that sells alcohol, the alcohol may not be brought back into or consumed inside the event perimeter.
5. Additional situations that may not be covered above are also subject to this policy and must be disclosed by the event promoter/tournament director and cleared by the Florida Region before the event to avoid any sanctioning penalties.

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6. As part of this policy, the following requirements for event promoters/tournament directors will be in effect:
 - a. Event promoters/tournament directors will be required to indicate if any alcohol is available to be purchased or consumed from the venue within the sanctioned event space or in any common area or adjacent space within the same building when requesting an event sanction and insurance coverage from the Florida Region and/or USA Volleyball.
 - b. Event promoters/tournament directors will be required to indicate if alcohol was available or consumed within the sanctioned event space or in any common area or adjacent space within the same building on their post-event report.

IMPORTANT: A violation of this policy will result in the event in violation not being awarded ranking points for the event and MAY result in additional sanctions by the Florida Region, up to and including loss of Good Standing status as an event promoter.



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
 - (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.

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.

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- 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
 - 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.

³ Athletic trainers who are covered under these policies must follow the "Athletic Training Modalities, Messages,

A. 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.



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

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:



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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1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.



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 educational 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:

- c. A member or license holder of USA Volleyball, RVAs or Clubs ;
- d. An employee or board member of USA Volleyball, RVAs or Clubs ;
- e. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Volleyball, RVAs or Clubs ;
- f. 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.



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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*



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including specific volunteer designations.

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.

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.



Refund Policy

Wellington Volleyball Academy does its best to ensure every program participant has the best possible experience playing with our club; we understand that certain circumstances occasionally prevent a player from finishing the season. Refunding the deposit or payments made is impossible as many of the expenses associated with participating are paid upfront (i.e., tournament entry fees, flights, uniforms, etc.). Please review the terms and conditions below regarding our policy for issuing Club Dues and Travel Fees refunds.

Terms & Conditions

Club Dues (deposits and any portion of remaining balances paid) will NOT be refunded in whole or part. Additionally, future due Club Dues will only be considered for a refund if one of the following circumstances arises:

1. Severe illness or injury prevents a player from participating in our programs. Participants or parents should provide documentation from medical professionals for our records.
2. An unforeseeable life-changing event that prevents the player from participating in our programs (i.e., family moving out of the area).



Club Release Policy

If an athlete/family requests to depart WELLINGTON VOLLEYBALL ACADEMY during the current season, the following steps must take place:

STEP 1 - The athlete/family in question must submit a written request for release to the Club's parent, Liason, Natalie Bookal, at Natalie.wvba@gmail.com, stating the reason for the request.

STEP 2—The Club will discuss the issue with WVBA's Directors and the Advisory Committee within two weeks time after receiving the written request.

If the club determines that proceeding with the club release is the most beneficial outcome for the Club, the team, and the athlete/family, The Club will instruct the athlete/family to contact the Florida Region of USAV and request the release.

The release will only happen after the following items have been completed:

- 1.- Club release approval by Club Directors. The club has the right to deny the release for any reason if it considers the release is not beneficial for the club, the team, or the player/family.
- 2.- If any gear is on loan, athletes must return all club gear provided to them this season.
- 3.- Members must remit all financial obligations agreed upon contractually to the end of the current season.

Wellington Volleyball Academy

Transfer Policy: A player can represent only one club during the Season. A change in the family's geographical location due to a change in job, military, scholastic, or inner-collegiate status may receive special consideration.

The family must provide proof of residency at the time of the release/transfer request.

Athletes who have participated in a National Qualifier Event (JNQ) may not be released to another club for the rest of the season.



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 where 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 to the prevention policies and 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

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 entities approved by the USOPC, when they have assumed responsibility for managing or governance a sport included in the Olympic, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games program.

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.

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.

SIGNED DIGITALLY DURING REGISTRATION