

Legacy Volleyball

Player/Parent Handbook

Walt Ker

Coaching Director

Welcome to Legacy Volleyball Club!

We would like to welcome to you Legacy Volleyball Club. Our first as a club was met with incredible enthusiasm and support. The purpose of the club is to provide an environment where young athletes will improve in the game of volleyball and learn the important values of team, spirit, and sportsmanship. To those of you who have shared our vision and offered support thank you, we will try to continue to earn the trust you bestowed upon us.

The boys' season is divided into two, one beginning in the fall ending in January and the other beginning after the high school season in May. Once a player makes the team in the fall he is guaranteed a spot in the spring season, presuming he adheres to attendance and discipline policies.

The girls' season is a continuous 7 month season, beginning with practices in early December and ending at either the Festival or Junior Olympics in late June/early July. Once a player makes the team they are guaranteed a spot throughout the season, presuming she adheres to attendance and discipline policies.

Emphasis is placed on teaching skills, sportsmanship, and preparing the player to succeed on both their club team and their high school team. Practices are designed with that in mind. In practice all players have equal opportunity. The practice sessions are designed to create an instructional yet competitive environment. Players will earn the right to see playing time in the tournaments. Playing time is never guaranteed. Parents are paying club dues for their children to be well trained in practice, not for the right to play in tournaments. The club does not guarantee that club players will make a high school team. The club cannot and will not attempt to influence coaching selections for the schools as it is a separate entity. We do make an effort to prepare the athlete for high school and hopefully collegiate level play. However, the main focus of the club will be on the aspects it takes to build a team including: skill development, team tactics, Volleyball I.Q., team pride, demeanor, sportsmanship, and commitment to one another.

Club Definitions and Responsibilities

1. Legacy is a girls' and boys' club for high school and junior high girls and boys. It is a year round program that provides instruction, training, and information for club and possibly college play. Sportsmanship and team play are important goals of the club. The tryouts will commence in the fall. The boys' season will end officially at the fall qualifying tournament. There is a break during the high school volleyball season. The second tryout for open spaces or positions will be after the high school season usually the weekend before Memorial Day. An extensive program will begin in June and culminate at the Junior Olympics, the first of June to the middle of July.
2. The girls' season will begin in early December, with tryouts in mid November. The girls' season will end with a culminating tournament at either the Festival or Junior Olympics.

3. The club shall provide: a practice facility, coaching, replacement coaches for an absence of a coach (provided enough notice is given to the club), notice of change in practice times or facility as needed, uniforms (including two numbered jerseys, one practice shirt, one backpack, two pair of shorts, and sweatpants and hooded sweatshirt suit).
4. The club will have two payments fees. The fees in the fall will be the deposit and therefore the largest as it will include: individual membership dues in the USA volleyball organization, entry into local tournaments, uniforms, coaching salaries, gym rental, equipment, and club operating expenses for the year. A payment plan will be provided to the parents for automatic withdrawal from their checking account for monthly dues from September-June. Should a payment be late or omitted, it could result in player being suspended.
5. Missed practices: The player MUST notify the coach via telephone, prior to the practice that he or she plans to miss. If it is a planned outing, the player must notify a week in advance. If it is an illness, please notify as soon as possible. Do not come to practice sick! The coach plans his practices and for the coach to show with a minimum team is not satisfactory.
6. The main goals of the club will be sportsmanship, pride, team, knowledge of rules, improvement in skill, and representation of self and club. The actions of one reflect on the entire team. If you are late, you take away from the practice; if you are not there you take away from the team. If you show poor sportsmanship you represent all of us. If the team is good, an official's call will not be important, taunting under the net or trash talking, and temper tantrums will not be needed. If the team is good, play on the court will prove it. None of the above will be tolerated. Repeat violations will be addressed. In most cases a warning, followed with benching and eventual removal from the team. However, if the infraction is deemed to be severe enough, removal from the team may come as a result of the first infraction.
7. Drinking and drugs are not a part of our program, this will not be tolerated. If this activity occurs during a tournament it will end membership in the club. It also involves a sanction from the region or at the national level. It could mean forfeiture of playing status for a year. If it occurs during a traveling tournament it will mean an early flight home and parents will pay for the added costs. If this action penalizes the entire team, because of the number participating in the illegal activities and thus results in the teams' inability to participate in the tournament, parents of the responsible should assume those costs as well. There is no probation for this infraction. If a player suspects another of substance abuse, the club administration

- should be advised. The information will be handled as confidential. Every effort will be made to work with the player prior to tournament play. Remember if the national organization finds out about it before we act, they will impose a sanction either on the player and perhaps the entire club. This will penalize everyone and put a shadow on what the club is trying to accomplish.
8. The club, where possible will try to bring in extra speakers, people to give extra clinics or talks to advance the athlete and to give information about play at higher levels. There may be an additional charge for these clinicians. Monies are given to the clinician for their effort and expenses. These are optional usually but encouraged as it often gives very valuable advice about colleges or a particular skill. We encourage participation. It is usually before or during a regular scheduled practice.
 9. The club will provide entries into local tournaments, entry into the Festival or Junior Olympics and any additional traveling tournament will be assessed as fees become known. The SCVA reserves the right to change tournament sites up to the morning of the tournament. Please check the SCVA website for changes before leaving for your tournaments. It is not the club's choice where the playing site is or how to organize the tournaments. Please make sure you understand this. Visiting with player's relatives or friends may add to the enjoyment of the tournament but it is not the club's focus. We can insure the date but nothing else. We are sorry for the inconvenience but it is not within our realm to control this matter. Calls to the SCVA are not acceptable as stated in their minutes. It is just their standard operating procedure.
 10. Fees are on a yearly basis. Please note late payment may jeopardize status for the athlete. Fees are non-refundable. If the athlete is asked to leave for disciplinary reasons or because of the number of practices missed, no refund will be granted. If the athlete is injured and no longer able to play that season, a pro-rated refund will apply.
 11. The club will help with college information. Because the player plays for the club does not guarantee a spot in any college program nor does it guarantee the club will recommend a player for a program. The club will provide information about recruiting, NCAA Clearinghouse, recruiting tapes, profiles to help promote the athlete, information regarding contact with a college program, and measurement of block jumps and approach jumps. We take pride in promoting our players. This does not mean we can guarantee them a spot for a college program.

Player Responsibilities

Each player represents the club anytime at practice, tournament or when a Legacy uniform is worn. This is on and off the court. Think of how you want to be represented. There should be no swearing, poor sportsmanship, or taunting of a player, official, or person. Trash talking is not allowed, it takes away from the game and reflects poorly on the player, team, and club. We want the club to stand for SPORTSMANSHIP, FAIR PLAY, GOOD PLAY and HIGH STANDARDS FOR ALL. The athlete will be instructed on how to act during large tournaments, how to address officials, as well as rules. The purpose of this is to insure a sense of pride that the player was selected to play for the club and the team.

1. Every player will be assigned an age group according to the USA Volleyball guidelines and qualifications for the Junior Olympics or the Festival. No player will play-up except on an "as needed" or staff recommended situation. The decision will be with the staff as safety is a main concern for the player. It also helps with college recruiting. The philosophy is that even though the player may be somewhat advanced, that player could sit the bench more and play time is important. It may also take away from the fact the player could be a leader and find more success at the lower age level.
2. Players must remember the #1 rule for the club when it comes to practice, tournaments, and meetings: **EARLY IS ON TIME, ON TIME IS LATE, AND LATE IS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE.** If your practice is 6-8 (for example) the athlete should be there at 5:45 to warm-up and stretch. 6 means the practice starts. This includes the training our athletes receive from the Velocity Staff. We are exceptionally fortunate that we have the ability to have our players trained by such a professional staff in such an elite environment. If there is a practice prior to yours, be respectful of their practice. Parents are no excuse for being late. We have a team! Support your team! A player should also not "pepper" or play on the side line if he is waiting for his practice to begin.
3. Absences: Call the coach, or email if you are to be absent. If you have a school event, it is always excused and you will always know in advance! So call or email in advance. The night before an activity is not in advance! We always think team. If you are ill, it is understandable that you will not attend, please don't attend. But a phone call prior to practice is in order. The coach plans drills and each player has a role, your missing will change the practice. Our attendance ratio should be very high. It is important to keep it that way as we only practice twice a week. All practices count!
4. All players will try-out in the fall. If you make a team, you will be insured a spot in the club for the year. We will however, fill in those positions that are vacant for the

boy's spring season. There will be no more than 12 players on a team. The team will be selected on positions. We will try to avoid 6 outsiders or 5 setters. The idea is to put forth a team.

5. Each fall starts a new season with no carry-over. It also means the player may move up or down on teams within their age group. Selections are based on the athletes that try-out each year. Placement is based on that skill level and position.

6. **If the player, parent, or family member is unhappy with the player's role on the team the following procedure must take place.(THIS ONLY APPLIES TO ISSUES REVOLVING THE PLAYER'S ROLE ON THE TEAM, ANY OTHER COMMUNICATION IS INVITED AND GREATLY APPRECIATED!)**
 1. **The player only, must schedule a meeting with the coach, outside of practice time. (Before or after)**
 2. **If the player is not satisfied with the response from their coach, the player can schedule a meeting with the coach and the director.**
 3. **If the player is still not satisfied, then the parent may schedule a meeting with the coach and director, but only with the player also present.**

If any family member fails to follow this protocol, then the player will be suspended from the team for one week. If there is a 2nd violation the player will be suspended for 3 weeks. We truly care about the success of both the players and the team. Toward this end the coaches will do everything possible to accomplish both. However, please remember this is a team sport and playing time is earned in practice, not paid for by club dues. Every effort will be made to satisfy or address the concerns of the athlete. The athlete may not like the reply, but each concern will be addressed and an explanation will be shared with the athlete. This brings up another important rule for the club: **NEVER TREAT ANYONE ANY DIFFERENTLY THAN YOU WANT TO BE TREATED.** Please remember, if you as a player are unhappy, talking to everyone else but the staff will not change your problem. We can only correct those problems we know about.

Parent Responsibilities

Leadership and support comes from the parents. The parents play an important role to the athlete as a support system and to the club because of that very same reason. Because of the importance the parent carries we have devoted a section to helping them help the athlete! Your number one job as a parent is to support your child's efforts and build a better man or woman by teaching them to communicate with adults, be punctual, be unselfish and be hard working.

1. Please be enthusiastic. Please support your son or daughter at all of the tournaments! Please make sure all of their information is current and up to date on forms! This section will help you get the most from the club.
2. Please remember that while you are being enthusiastic about your child, do not take away from another. The number one thing is that your child is provided with coaching and improving their skills. Every athlete goes through growth periods, learning curves, and should be made to feel their efforts are great! Support means support them where they are. Remark upon their improvements, good plays, and try not to be too critical. If the parent sits back and lets things unfold, the athlete many times does better than with a parent that tries to direct the outcome. All the athletes are trying. No one is going out there to do a bad job. Please keep that in mind. Cheering should be positive. THESE ARE KIDS. THIS IS A GAME.
3. The one thing that every staff member of the club has realized, there are many ways to see the game. And there is no right way or wrong way. There are some ways that are more successful. We do provide the athletes with knowledgeable, hard working, effectively trained, thoroughly evaluated and caring coaches. You are welcome to attend practices anytime and watch. We want you to see how effectively we teach. You are welcome to help shag balls and toss balls should the coach direct you. Feel free to volunteer, but please leave the coaching to the coaches!
4. If you are having trouble getting information, please inform your coach. We will use email as it is faster and the parents get the information. The website has most of the information posted. Please be patient as mistakes do occur.
 - Please keep in mind that at all tournaments, the player is the responsibility of the parent. While we do provide a chaperone at the Festival or Junior Olympics we know that if a player wants to get into trouble we cannot possibly stop all of it. Please reinforce manners, hotel behavior, and the code of conduct expected as outlined by SCVA.
 - Drugs and/or alcohol will result in immediate expulsion from the club and tournament. Control is mandated by the USA Volleyball organization.

Expenses incurred because of this will be covered by the parents of players involved. If you are attending a tournament please note that after hours are just as much your responsibility as the clubs. The more chaperones the better.

- Please also remember your behavior or example says more than we ever can. It is hard to tell a player not to drink or party when the parents are doing just that. That is not to say parents should not have a good time. Discretion is key and very helpful to the staff. If something happens we would like to be able to contact you for help. Do not leave players unattended at the hotel. Do not leave players to chaperone younger siblings. What might be appropriate at home is not necessary appropriate as the team travels.
5. Never take your child from a playing venue for lunch or snacks without checking with the coach. The child is to always stay with the team. Tournament schedules change. The parent may take the player at the end of the tournament. The coach needs to know where the player is at all times.
 6. Please note that tournament dates and playing venues change frequently. We will pass on the information as soon as we confirm it. You may see it posted elsewhere but we will post when we feel it is final. We are trying to minimize the confusion.

Traveling Tournaments

A traveling tournament by club definition is one that requires an overnight stay. If the parents are not attending, it is important to realize the responsibility you are asking another parent to assume. The parent needs a statement from the non-attending parent regarding rendering of first aid, insurance, and a telephone contact. Travel to and from any tournament is not a club responsibility. The parent assuming the liability should have money for food, snacks, and compensation for hotel, gas, and laundry if needed. Remember that parent is giving transportation, feeding, and making sure your child is at each venue. If the player is traveling with another family, they may be infringing upon the privacy of the other parent by sharing a room or adding a burden by adding a room for the stay. Just remember, if your child gets injured, how it will affect that person's tournament. It is understandable that every parent cannot attend every tournament but while this is the case, adding responsibility to another parent is a major request and responsibility. Please treat as accordingly.

1. On all tournaments travel to and from will be parental determination. The club will not provide for the player but may have arrival times necessary for check-in. The club staff will be compensated for rooms, travel, and meals. The parents will be responsible for making sure players are at the venue on time and do not take

an athlete from a site until the end of play. Parents will be expected to help provide food, etc. for the tournaments and help with laundry. A chaperone or parent representative will help with these assignments. Parent representatives (chaperones) will have tournament information and will be the contact for the club. The club director cannot know every playing schedule and site information. The coach may be pre-occupied with other matters. Remember the coach is in control during the tournament and the parent representative/chaperone may have those duties. Parent representatives are there to help with information and coordinate activities. Be nice to them! For this to work everyone has duties! The player will be expected to be at a predetermined location at a certain time. The player must be there!! More information will be handed out for away tournaments. Please remember that we are trying to move over 100 people to different sites in some cases. We will share the information as we get it. Sometimes it does not go as we wish. Please be patient. The club is not in control and shares information as it is received. The most important thing to remember is that this is not a vacation. The players and team have worked hard and the main focus should be the tournament. Entertainment should be of a quiet nature. In a multiple day tournament: Focus, rest, and diet all play a part of success. They will be exhausted at the end of the tournament.

This book was written as a guide for parents and players. When there is a question we will try to use this book to resolve any issues that arise during the season. Players and parents hopefully will use the book to answer the questions and refer to it often.

Player Signature

Parent Signature

Parent Signature