



Tournament Reminders

The following are reminders to all teams and parents regarding preparation for and participation in volleyball tournaments. Please be sure to review this information in advance of your first events.

READ THE TOURNAMENT DETAILS BEFORE YOU TRAVEL: Our online schedules have clickable links to the tournament details. Remind your entire team to review these before they travel. They may contain parking instructions, information about seating and concessions, instructions about bringing volleyballs and carts, doors open time, time of coaches meeting, and much more. On about Tuesday or Wednesday before the event, the pools will be finalized and posted. This will also make you aware of the play order.

REMIND EVERYONE TO TAKE THEIR VOLLEYBALL: It is not the coach's responsibility to haul all of the volleyballs to the tournament. All players (13-18) were asked to have a Molten L2 volleyball. It is an uncomfortable situation to find yourself at the tournament without volleyballs for warm-ups.

TELL YOUR TEAM WHEN AND WHERE TO MEET: Are you meeting somewhere for dinner the night before? What time should players be in the gym? Are you meeting and carpooling together? Let folks know this as early as possible.

BE SURE TO CONFIRM THAT EVERYONE HAS A RIDE: Believe it or not, this has been a recurring problem. If you are the person who needs a ride, try to arrange it early. If you are rooming I with another player, it is customary to offer to pay a few dollars towards the hotel bill.

IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND: If a player finds that they cannot attend a tournament at the last moment, they are expected to make personal contact with the coach. Keep trying to reach your coach until contact is confirmed.

OUTSIDE FOOD AND DRINK: The OVR's policy is that outside food and drink is not allowed inside the tournament facility or outside of private vehicles on the tournament property. You will not be charged for admission, so the tournament host is using reasonably priced concessions to make a few dollars. You may see others violating this policy at some events, but this is not our concern. Please be respectful of this rule. The exception is the player's bag. Players may have drinks and snacks in their bag as long as it is for individual consumption.

ALWAYS TAKE A CHAIR: You may not need it, but have it in your car just in case.

LINEUP SHEETS: Each season I prepare a lineup sheet for each team that can be easily printed and used at OVR tournaments. It is posted on your team page. Please check this lineup sheet for accuracy and let me know if corrections are required. The front page of this sheet can be printed and provided to the Tournament Director (TD) at team check-in. Some TDs want it and others may not. I have posted a PDF version that is easily printable as well as an MS Excel version in case you need to make last minute changes and can't reach me.



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TEAM CHECK-IN: Coaches will want to arrive early enough to complete the team check-in process. This usually involves reviewing a pre-printed roster (provided by the TD from the OVR system) and signing it as official.

PROTOCOL REMINDERS: Coaches, please read at least Sections 5 and 6 from the OVR Tournament Procedure manual (https://www.ovr.org/juniors/tournament_packet/JTP_Procedures_and_Rules.pdf). You will want to be familiar with the protocol before attending. For example: "Only registered USAV members with a "Clear" USAV background screen may be in the playing area to assist with warm-ups." And, "During each team's full-court warm-up segment, the opposing team must be in their bench area and not interfere with the team using the court."

LIBERO JERSEY RULE: In some cases, our libero's may be playing in a multi-colored jersey while the team is in a solid black jersey. I anticipate at least one official this season to misinterpret the "libero jersey rule". To be clear, the rule states: *"The Libero and/ or his/her teammates shall wear a solid colored uniform top."*

REMINDE PARENTS TO PLEASE BE COURTOUS: It may surprise you to learn that some people can become frustrated and irritable while watching a volleyball match. I know, it's never happened to you. Usually this frustration is aimed at the officials or a member of the work crew that "totally blew that last call." If you find frustration building, do what I do and find a hot dog or other snack to occupy your mouth and avoid the negative words that are tumbling around in your mind.

BUT, THE SCORE IS WRONG: You may find that the score flipper has fallen asleep at the table and our team has not received credit for a critical point. It's been a long day, and perhaps she needs the rest. Since few of us observe our own kids performing their work crew duties with the same diligence as when our little angel is pounding that match-winning spike, we may not have noticed that they can suffer similar fatigue. My suggestion is to come up with a team signal, like raising your hand like you're asking a question. Then, when any member of our team sees this signal from the fans, they can be prompted to challenge the score.

WORK CREW REMINDERS: It is each team's responsibility to ensure an adequately trained work crew for their match support duties. If players are untrained or incapable of accurately keeping score or performing as the 2nd Ref, the coach will be required to do so. Coaches are asked to remain with their work crews at the scorer's table until they have reached a point of clear proficiency. For this reason, I encourage all coaches to take the 2nd Ref and Scorer training. *Also, it is the 2nd Referees responsibility to bring their own whistle to the tournament.*



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ABOUT CELL PHONES AND TECHNOLOGY: While your team is working a match, it is forbidden for players to have in their possession any cell phone or device that might otherwise distract their attentions. If observed by the officials, your team will receive point sanctions during your next match, and our club is subject to fines by the OVR. Those fines will be passed along to the offending individuals.

AFTER THE TOURNAMENT: You are not free to leave the tournament until after your coach dismisses you. During bracket play, the work crew is usually the team which lost the preceding match. **DO NOT ASSUME THAT WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED PLAYING THAT YOU MAY LEAVE.** Also, subject to your coach's discretion, it is customary for all players, even those not performing a support role at the time, to remain at the facility while their team is working. Players leaving the tournament without the coach's permission may be subject to disciplinary action. (See Policy Manual for more on this rule.)