



Player/Parent Contract – 2021-2022

Introduction

Memphis Volleyball is pleased to welcome you to the 2021-2022 Season! We are anticipating another fantastic experience for everyone. Along the way this season, we must ensure that all of us- Directors, Coaches, Parents and Athletes- have a common understanding of where we are going. Our goal is an incident-free season. Our experience has taught us that the best way for us to accomplish this is to state our exact expectations up front. This will help provide guidance in potential situations that may come up as well as answer any questions you might have. Please do not hesitate to ask your Coach or the Club Director if you have any questions about any of this information!

General Policies for ALL Athletes – All Teams

1. All Athletes must adhere to the USAV Code of Conduct.
2. All Athletes are expected to attend all events scheduled for their team.
3. All Athletes are responsible for their own uniforms. The club does not have replacements for lost uniforms. All replacement costs will be your responsibility.

Travel Policies

1. If your team is scheduled to play in a “Stay and Play” tournament (you will be notified by MVA staff if your team is), you must stay at the hotel that MVA has setup a block for.
2. All Athletes must adhere to curfews established by their Coach or Chaperone when traveling with the club. Athletes are to be in their rooms at the designated curfew hour. Athletes are to be in their OWN room as of curfew and lights out time. “Lights Out” means “Lights Out.” Lights, television, phones, and computers are to be off at this time.
3. At no time will an Athlete be allowed to leave hotel property without the expressed permission of either their Coach, Chaperone, or Parent.
4. Transportation to and from all practices, club-sponsored clinics, airports, and tournaments is the responsibility of the Parents.
5. When at a lodging location, Athletes must travel in pairs (as a minimum) when walking outside of the lodging premises.
6. When at the lodging location, there shall be no display of disrespect towards any Club (MVA or other Club) Coach, Athlete, Parent, Chaperone, or Hotel Guest/Employee.
7. Boys are not permitted in the rooms or hallways of the Athletes’ lodging at any time. The only exception to this policy is relatives to an Athlete. Violation of the policy will result in immediate expulsion from MVA.

Attendance Policies

1. MVA will enforce the following practice and tournament attendance policy for every Athlete. This is not intended to prevent an Athlete from playing another sport while participating with MVA. Attendance at practices and tournaments may affect playing time.
2. General Policy: It is the responsibility of the Athlete or the Parents to notify the Coach of any scheduled team event that the Athlete will be missing with at least one week notice for practices, and two weeks notice for tournaments.
 - a. Practice
 - i. All Practices are Mandatory. There are no exceptions for schoolwork or homework. It is the Athlete’s responsibility to balance schoolwork with practice.
 - ii. When an Athlete has eight (8) absences during the season, the Coach and Club Director will conduct a review to determine if that Athlete should remain with the Team.



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- iii. Missing more than ½ of practice counts as an absence. Flexibility will be extended to school departure time and school location as well as location of residence in relation to practice site.
 - iv. All absences from practices will be evaluated by the Head Coach/Club Director with proper documentation on a case-by-case basis.
- b. Tournaments
- i. Missing a part of any tournament day counts as 1 absence.
 - ii. The Master Coaches/Club Director will evaluate all tournament absences with proper documentation on a case-by-case basis.

Athletes/Parent Conduct at a Tournaments/Practice Site

It is the intent of MVA to be a leader in the Volleyball Community. It is also the intent of MVA to lead by example, which means that both the Athlete and the Parents of the Athlete need to lead by example. These guidelines are set forth to protect the safety and integrity of the Athlete, Parents, Coaches, and MVA staff. Please be aware that all circumstances are not accounted for and in the event of an undue circumstance, the Director will enforce appropriate action. We wish to set the standard for other programs to mirror.

NOTE: All Policies listed here, where appropriate, are for Athletes AND Parents.

1. Equal playing time is NOT guaranteed. Coaches evaluate athletes during practices on a weekly basis. Playing time at Tournaments is earned at Practice. If you have a question about your playing time, set up a time with your Coach to discuss the situation per the grievance/escalation policies listed below.
2. "Conduct unbecoming an Athlete" will not be tolerated at any MVA function/event. This covers a wide variety of circumstances, for example the use of foul language or rude gestures towards other Athletes, Parents, Coaches, Officials, or Opponents.
3. No Parent is to talk with any other Athlete, Parent, Coach, Tournament Official/Director, or Referee in an argumentative or disparaging manner.
4. Parents are to be supportive of their Athletes during tournaments and not question them or their teammates regarding their play or about how much or how little they have played. When in doubt, MVA believes Parent support should be Unconditional- We are ALL "All Team All the Time."
5. Parents are not to "Coach" their Athletes during Tournaments. The Athletes will be focused on what Coaches have to say and need to concentrate on such.
6. Our policy is "All Team All the Time." When we are in the gym for a Tournament, you are responsible for staying with your Team at all times. In the event friends attend a tournament, it should be understood that your priority is with your team.
7. Cell phone policy: No Cell phones are allowed to be "On" in the gym during any Practice and/or at Tournaments. All Cell phones will be turned off in the evening at a time specified by the Head Coach. (Note: The Head Coach will always be available via cell phone.)
8. If an Athlete is removed by Parents for any reason from the Tournament site without previous permission from the Head Coach, MVA will consider that Athlete to have resigned from the Program. All remaining monies will become due and payable at that time.
9. For many Tournaments, Teams will be responsible for officiating, scorekeeping and judging lines. Our policy on officiating is we want to officiate other teams the way we ourselves would want to be officiated.
10. No Team Member is permitted to leave a tournament site until all officiating responsibilities are completed.
11. You are to always support your Teammates while on the Team bench, whether you are playing in a particular match or not. Poor Bench behavior includes not expressing verbal/vocal



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- support for your Teammates, conducting side conversations taking other's attention off the match, disrupting the match with inappropriate discussion with the Coach or Coaches, or questioning your playing time or status during the match
12. Parents are to be always supportive of the entire Team, and all MVA Teams while at Tournaments. Parents are not to engage in any behavior in cheering that would reflect negatively on MVA. Guidelines for Parents are no different from Athletes in this regard.
 13. Only the Head Coach or the Team Captain, under the direction of the Head Coach, may question an official.
 14. The night(s) before a "Home" tournament (Where the MVA team is not traveling), if there is not a Team/Club function, the Parents and Athletes are asked to not schedule any other events, and to ensure that adequate rest is received so the Athlete will be ready to play the next day. The Athlete's focus should be on Volleyball the night before the event.
 15. The team will be dressed in the same representative club attire. For the purposes of uniforms, Athletes are NOT allowed to wear non MVA attire from the time they leave the hotel until the time the tournament is over. Some combination of MVA Attire, including jersey, warm-up t-shirt, training shirt, warm-up jacket, and warm-up pants is to be worn between matches. No school attire is allowed including sweatpants, t-shirts, or hoodies.
 16. Athletes are to wear MVA Practice T-shirts during Team practices. School attire is not to be worn to or from practices, including hoodies, sweatshirts, or sweatpants.
 17. If any MVA Teams are playing at the same tournament site, athletes will be advised, and Teams will be encouraged to watch and cheer for other MVA Teams.

USAV National Championships

1. It is the goal of MVA to send a minimum of 1 Team per age group to the USAV National Championships every year. These championships are conducted by USA Volleyball and are held in late June/early July in a predetermined city each year.
2. It is the Athlete/Family's responsibility **prior** to the Delta Region Qualifier to notify the Team's Head Coach if they are not willing or able to attend the National Championship tournament.
3. MVA reserves the right to add Athletes to a roster of a Team that has qualified for the National Championships in order to field a competitive team as permitted by the USAV Rules.
4. If a Team qualifies for the National Championships, all standard MVA Travel policies will apply to these travel situations, including hotel policies, travel together policies, and Team meal policies. The only exception will be if a family is sending their Athlete via another city because of prior summer plans or if an Athlete is not returning with the Team because of prior summer plans.
5. The costs for attending a National Championship are outside of the standard club budget.

Expulsions and Suspensions

While it is not the intent of MVA to suggest there will or could be problems, the Mission and integrity of MVA should be foremost in our minds. Suspensions have been identified where appropriate in this document. The Head Coach, Master Coaches and Director will evaluate all situations. Fairness to all is our objective; use your common sense in all situations. MVA will support the following:

Automatic expulsions will result for the following offenses committed by a player:

- Smoking at any MVA function
- Using alcohol or drugs at any time during an MVA function
- Leaving lodging premises without notifying the Coach and without a Chaperone
- Having boys in your room (other than relatives)



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- If the Athlete has more than 8 absences (Subject to Coaching Director/Club Director Review)

Grievance/Escalation Procedure

The procedure is designed to help Athletes and Parents with questions, concerns or problems that may occur during the season. It ensures open and honest communication between all parties involved.

1. The Athlete must first ask for a meeting between the Coaches and herself to discuss the issue at hand. In the case of Athletes on 14's and younger Teams, the Parent may request the meeting.
2. If the issue is unresolved, the Parent may ask for a meeting between themselves and the Coaching Staff to discuss the issue. The meeting should take place at a location considered adequate for a private discussion, agreed upon by both the Parent and Coach- **NOT at a tournament and/or practice. Coaches are not to address these issues at tournaments and are told to advise the Director if any of these conversations are started at a tournament.**
3. If the problem is unsolved, then set up a meeting with all parties involved and MVA's Grievance Officer.
4. If the issue is still unresolved, the Parent must ask for a meeting with the Club Director, Parent, Athlete, and Coach. A scheduled time away from practice or a tournament is appropriate. The decision by the Club Director at this point is **FINAL**.

Financial Agreement:

1. Club fees are due in accordance with the provided schedule when the Athlete and Parents accept a position on a team or having signed this agreement.
2. Fees paid to the club are non-refundable except due to a season ending injury, illness, or relocation out of the area. In this instance, refunds may be granted with a written request, to the Director, accompanied by a physician's report where applicable. After January 1st, refunds will be pro-rated based on length of participation. **NO REFUNDS** will be granted after March 1st of the current season.
3. Any club fee schedule agreed to in writing must be adhered to. An Athlete will not be allowed to participate until fees are paid as per agreement.



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Sign-Off Sheet – Return This Sheet To Your Head Coach!

Athlete Name: _____

Age: _____

Team Name: _____

We, the parents/guardians of _____, have read the aforementioned information concerning the policies and practices of Memphis Volleyball Academy (hereafter called "MVA"). We agree that having been selected to a team, to let her join MVA for the 2021-2022 club season. We have read the information provided and understand the time and commitment involved in the practice and competition schedule. We have reviewed the fee schedule and agree to pay all fees regardless of the duration of participation. Understanding the stipulations and having discussed these with our child, we agree to and will support her participation in MVA. We understand that once registered with and having participated with MVA, the Athlete will be unable to transfer clubs and compete in the Junior Olympic Championships.

I, _____, the athlete of MVA, have read the aforementioned information concerning the policies and practices of MVA and agree to follow these policies. I understand the commitment I am making to MVA and that if I should choose not to follow the policies as expressed above and any additional boundaries set forth by my coach, my playing time may be restricted, and I risk expulsion from MVA.

I, _____, the parent of an MVA athlete, have read the aforementioned information concerning the policies and practices of MVA Volleyball and agree to follow these policies. I understand the commitment I am making to MVA and that if I should choose not to follow the policies as expressed above and any additional boundaries set forth by the Team's Head Coach and/or the Director, you may be asked to leave the MVA program.

This agreement, together with any attachment(s), will be governed by the laws of the State of Mississippi and Tennessee. This supersedes all prior oral or written representations or communication between all parties. It also constitutes the entire understanding of the parties regarding the subject matter of this agreement and may only be modified or amended by written supplement signed by both parties.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Athlete

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian