

Bulverde Volleyball, LLC
2023-2024 Program Information and Requirements
“The Contract”

Welcome to Bulverde Volleyball! We are happy and honored to have you as part of our organization. Volleyball is a team sport and we believe that participation in a competitive volleyball program will provide athletes an elite training opportunity and the platform to learn life skills like responsibility, commitment, respect for others, leadership, and hard work. Success of the team as a whole depends on its individual members and their enthusiasm, dedication, and support of the organization and the team. Putting the team first is crucial to success. We are extremely excited to offer this opportunity for our athletes. We will strive to create a positive volleyball experience for all athletes, while sharing our passion for and knowledge of the sport. Our goal is to have a competitive and fun season. It is asked that you read through this information carefully and thoughtfully. Club Volleyball is both a time and financial commitment.

Athlete’s Code of Conduct:

1. Conduct myself in a manner that is courteous and respectful to everyone involved with Bulverde Volleyball: Parents, coaches, team members, referees, volunteers, etc. When at a tournament, the same expectation of conduct applies to other club teams and staff by our athletes. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action or dismissal from the team.
2. Make academics and athletics a priority in my life. Planning and budgeting time is essential. A tournament schedule will be provided at the beginning of the season or if on a national team as soon as possible after the season begins. Practice schedule will also be provided in advance so that each athlete can plan their schedules accordingly. Changes to the tournament and/or practice schedule may occur.
3. Make every practice, scrimmage and tournament. If I am unable to attend an event, I will be responsible for notifying my coach prior to the event that will be missed. I understand that practices and tournaments require planning and I will kindly give 24 hours’ notice if I will be missing a practice.
4. Communicate on and off the court with my teammates and coaches and display a positive attitude towards my coaches, teammates, tournament officials, etc. WIN or LOSE. If an issue arises, the first step is for the athlete to speak with her coach. If the issue remains, the next step will be a meeting with the athlete, parent and coach. The athlete may be present for any discussion that takes place.
5. Refrain from using negative or derogatory comments about teammates, coaches, the club, other clubs, referees, playing time etc. at any time and on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc. Social media will be monitored and such postings will be removed and disciplinary action taken if warranted.
6. Athletes will help create a positive environment for both myself and my team on and off the court. This includes not reacting negatively when an error occurs but instead, providing positive encouragement and support.
7. I will leave non-volleyball related issues at the gym door and come to practice and tournaments ready to focus.
8. Athletes are expected to practice hard, play hard and strive to do their best at all times.

9. Athletes understand that it is their responsibility to get adequate sleep before and during tournaments and to maintain a balanced diet so as to allow themselves to compete at the highest level possible.

Tobacco, Drugs, and Alcohol:

1. Athletes are expected to participate in sanctioned volleyball practices, scrimmages and tournaments alcohol, tobacco and drug-free. Athlete use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs will be cause for immediate dismissal from the team and program.

Practice Information:

1. Practices typically begin late-November or the first week of December and will be held once or twice per week in a gym for 1.5 or 2 hours, depending on age group. Practices can be added at the discretion of the coach.
2. Athletes are required to attend every practice. If for any reason an athlete is unable to attend a practice, it is the responsibility of the athlete (not a friend or the parent) to notify the coach (by whichever means the coach prefers). It is important that each athlete be on time and be prepared for EVERY practice. A missed practice (or practices) could result in loss of playing time. Each athlete present for practice and tournaments has an opportunity for growth and development.
3. Athletes are expected to wear comfortable athletic clothes to practices. Athletes are expected to wear BV practice t shirts to practices. Knee pads are required. Hair should be pulled back out of face. No chewing gum is permitted at any time for any practice or tournament matches. We highly recommend NO JEWELRY to be worn at any time while participating in our events. Parents are responsible for ensuring their daughter does not wear jewelry to volleyball events. No sodas are allowed at practices or tournaments. Water only is allowed in our practice facilities.
4. Athletes are asked to not use any electronic devices including cell phones during practice or tournament matches, unless an emergency arises. Phones brought to practices or tournaments should be silenced and put away during practice and matches, line judging and score keeping.
5. Athletes are asked to arrive on time to practices and to stay in the gym until all equipment is put away and the coach has dismissed all athletes.
6. Athletes are asked to bring WATER ONLY to practice. NO FOOD is allowed in the practice gym.
7. Practice schedules are provided in advance, it is the responsibility of the athlete to plan accordingly for academics and other activities. Practice schedules could change during the season.
8. Athletes are expected to respect the decisions made by the coaching staff at all times. Athletes will not in any way engage in any conduct that does not serve the greater good of the team. This includes but is not limited to being disrespectfully vocal towards decisions made about the team, playing time, lineups, teammates, and coaches.

Scorekeeper Clinic Required for All Athletes:

1. Athlete must attend a Scorekeeper Clinic prior to the first tournament if she is not currently certified. The cost of this clinic is the athlete's responsibility. Available clinics can be found at: lsvolleyball.org under the "Official's, Clinics and Info."

League Registration Required:

1. Registration with USA Volleyball (USAV) is mandatory for all participants in the Lone Star Region Sanctioned events including practices. This applies to Club Directors, Coaches, and Players. Registration can be completed after September 1st, online at: lsvolleyball.org under "Registration". The USAV membership cost is the athlete's responsibility.
2. Registration with AAU may also be required. AAU tournaments require all participants in their events to be members of AAU. Should the club enter athlete's team in an AAU tournament, Registration by the athlete will be at the parent's expense.

Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct:

As a parent I will:

1. Abide by the official rules of USA Volleyball or any other league's events we are participating in.
2. Display good sportsmanship AT ALL TIMES.
3. Encourage my child and her team, regardless of the outcome on the court.
4. Educate myself on the unique rules of the facility.
5. Honor the rules of the host and the host facility at tournaments.
6. Generate good will by being polite and respectful to those around me at any event.
7. Direct my child to speak directly with her coach when coaching decisions are made that may be confusing or unclear. I will not approach the coach before, during, or after tournaments with issues/concerns. I will make an appointment to speak with the coach at least 24 hours following the event where the concern/issue occurred.
8. Redirect any negative comments from others to the respective Event Director or Program Administrator.
9. Direct all concerns regarding officials to the Head Coach or Club Director for my team/club as opposed to contacting the Head Official directly.
10. Immediately notify the Event Director and or Program Administrator in the event that I witness any illegal activity.
11. Support the policies and guidelines of the team/club that I represent.
12. Acknowledge effort and good performance; remember that all players in this organization are amateur athletes. All players make mistakes, it is how they learn and improve.
13. Model exemplary spectator behavior while attending any event.
14. NOT coach my athlete from the bleachers and / or sidelines.
15. NOT criticize my athlete's coach or her teammates.
16. Not bring and/or carry any firearms to any volleyball event.
17. Not bring, purchase, or consume alcohol at any sanctioned volleyball event.
18. Not allow my children (not participating in practice) to run around the gym during practice. It is not allowed to have children any other place than inside the gym at all times during practice. If the children cannot sit and be quiet during practice, then it is advised not to bring them.
19. Not go onto the court during practices. I further understand that practices may be closed to parents by the coach or director, and I will not attend practices that are closed to parents upon notice from coach or director.
20. Attend the MANDATORY pre-season meeting.

Tournament Information:

1. Tournaments are typically held on Saturdays but can be on Sundays also and holiday weekends as well, and can sometimes run all day and into the evening on occasion.
2. Travel to and from tournaments is the responsibility of the parents.
3. Overnight accommodations are the responsibility of the parents.
4. Athletes are not allowed to leave tournament sites for any reason, unless permission has been given by the coach. Parents are ultimately responsible for their athlete's whereabouts. Athletes are not allowed to leave the team area without asking the coach or chaperone first.
5. Pools/tournament times (venues and times) are often not posted until late in the evening 1-2 days prior to a tournament. Your flexibility in dealing with these issues is greatly appreciated.
6. No athlete cell phone use is permitted during tournaments.
7. All players will stay at the tournament site until all refereeing by all team members is complete.
8. STAY TO PLAY: The larger tournaments organize blocks of hotel rooms for participating teams. In order for our teams to be accepted into the tournament, we have to commit to staying at the hotels designated by the tournament directors. It is Bulverde Volleyball's policy that ALL team members will stay at the same hotel for Stay to Play tournaments. By joining a team, you agree to book a room at the Stay to Play hotel designated by the club director. There are no exceptions. Staying with friends/family in the host city is not acceptable. Staying at the same hotel as a team not only fulfills our obligation to be able to participate in the tournament but also allows for bonding for the team.

ABOUT PLAYING TIME:

We understand playing time can be a sensitive subject for players and families. We feel it is important to be upfront. There will not be equal playing time for each player. There is not guaranteed playing time. Playing time is at the discretion of the team's head coach. Please understand that every tournament holds a high significance in the season. Each match determines where the team ranks and seeds for tournaments are based on ranking. Regional tournaments determine a team's overall seed and play a major role in National Qualifiers. Playing at the club level-where a high competitive standard is expected always requires having the best gameplay, team chemistry, and consistency on the court.

Playing time is not just based on athletic performance. Other items that affect playing time:

1. Attitude
2. Ability to cooperate with the team
3. Ability to cooperate with the coaching staff
4. Commitment to the team, practices, and tournament schedule

Always keep in mind, playing time is not personal. Ultimately we are there to win and our coaches will attempt to play the best lineups at any given match

We ask that parents do not approach, text or call a coach about playing time before, during tournaments or directly after tournaments or before or after practice time. We encourage our coaches to not engage in these conversations at these times. If parents and athletes have a question about playing time, they should talk to the coach about how they can improve. It is our desire to see all athletes improve their skills and reach their goals .

Season Dues:

\$2,250.00 – LOCAL

\$3,250.00 – REGIONAL

\$4,750.00 – NATIONAL

Payment plan will be offered if needed. We can divide the remainder balance minus the commitment payment into 5 equal monthly payments beginning August 15th, 2023. All season dues must be paid in full on or before December 15th, 2023. Payments can be made on-line, by check, or paid in cash. On-line payments will have about a 3% processing fee added to the payment amount. Receipt will be provided for all cash payments.

Club dues include: Coach compensation, Uniform (to include jersey, practice shirt, spandex short, warm up top, backpack), Team Tournament entry fees, practice (s) each week, gym fees, club administrative fees, club equipment.

Club fees do not include any Travel, Food, Team Photos, Trophies, Shopping, Athlete USAV membership, Athlete AAU membership, Scorekeeper Certification course, required majority black volleyball shoes, required black knee pads, and required black socks. Should a team earn a bid to nationals, the above season dues do not include the extension of the season. The cost to extend the season in this case is estimated to be \$700-\$900.

All paid club dues are NON-REFUNDABLE. If for whatever reason your daughter or you choose to leave the team, the financial commitment remains the same. This means you still owe any unpaid balance due for the remainder of the season. Any payments not received on or before the due date, as specified by the club director, will result in a \$30.00 late fee and your athlete will not be allowed to practice or compete in any tournaments until the account is made current. Season Cancellation Policy: Should the season not be able to be finished as deemed by the club director, then the club agrees to refund or credit a portion of the season dues based on missed practices and tournaments.

Team Mom/Dad:

Responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

1. Filtering team/parents questions and concerns for the Team Coach and/or Club Director.
2. Passing along any information regarding practice and tournament location, dates, and changes at the request of the Team Coach and/or Club Director. This is especially true in the event that tournament changes (i.e. venue, times, etc.) occur at the last minute and need to be relayed to the parents as quickly as possible.
3. Organizing a fundraising event (s).
4. Organizing the snack/food/drink schedule for tournaments (if team so desires to have this).
5. Organizing a rotating tournament work duty chart for athletes. Post a pic of the work duties each match on the group me.
6. Selecting and organizing at least one philanthropy event per season to help teach the team to give back to their community.
7. Assisting in team-building activities at the request of the Team Coach.
8. Organizing one team meal, per month, usually after a tournament or during a long tournament weekend.
9. Organizing an end of the season party/dinner or event at the close of the club season.

Social Media:

Bulverde Volleyball will not seek permission from athletes and/or parents to post their image on social media sites but agrees to use good judgement in doing so. Furthermore, Bulverde Volleyball cannot control further use of these photographs or their likenesses outside of Bulverde Volleyball’s website (if applicable) and social media. If at any time it is felt that the use of a particular post, photo etc. poses a danger to a particular player, it is asked that the Club Director be notified immediately and it will be removed, if possible.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read carefully through Bulverde Volleyball, LLC’s Program Information and Requirements “The Contract” (7pages TOTAL) and understand and agree to all aspects within.

Athlete Signature	Print Name	Date
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Parent Signature	Print Name	Date
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Parent Signature	Print Name	Date
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Amateur Athletic Minor Waiver and Release of Liability

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in Bulverde Volleyball, LLC athletic sports programs, and related events and activities, the undersigned:

1. Agrees that the parent (s) and / or legal guardian(s) will inspect and will instruct the minor participant, that prior to participating, they should also inspect the indoor facilities, outdoor facilities, and equipment to be used, and if the parent or participant believes anything is unsafe, they should immediately advise their coach or supervisor of such condition and refuse to participate.
2. Acknowledges and fully understands that each participant will be engaging in Activities that involve risk of serious injury including permanent disability and death, and severe social and economic losses which might result not only from their own actions, inactions or negligence, but the action, inaction or negligence of others, the rules of play, or the condition of the premises or of any equipment used. Further, that there may be other risks not known to us or not reasonably foreseeable at this time.
3. Acknowledges and fully understands that there is risk of contracting communicable disease including all known and unknown bacterial and viral illnesses by being in close proximity of others and participating in volleyball.
4. Assumes all the foregoing risks (#1, #2, and #3) and accepts personal responsibility for the medical expense for treatment and any damages as a result of such illness, injury, permanent disability or death.
5. Agrees to deposit a copy of a current insurance card with Club prior to season beginning for the athlete on the team, showing athlete is insured in case of injury. The club does not carry insurance for athlete injury or illness.
6. Releases, waives, discharges and covenants not to sue Bulverde Volleyball LLC., or Sarah Johnson, its affiliated clubs, their respective administrators, directors, agents, coaches, and other representatives of the organization, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessees of leased premises used to conduct the event; from any and all liability to each of the undersigned, his or her heirs, and next of kin for any and ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES OR DAMAGES ON ACCOUNT OF INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, CAUSES OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED PERSONS AND ENTITIES, OR OTHERWISE.

I/WE HAVE READ THE ABOVE WAIVER AND RELEASE AND UNDERSTAND THAT WE HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY.

Athlete Signature	Print Name	Date
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Parent Signature	Print Name	Date
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Parent Signature	Print Name	Date
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