



2023-2024

Parent/Player Club Handbook

Legacy is not leaving something for people. It's leaving something in people.

~Peter Strople

1. *WELCOME*

Carolina Legacy Volleyball Club (CLVC) welcomes and thanks you for your interest in our organization. We are passionate and committed to the game of volleyball and we are looking forward to helping our players take their game to the next level.

This handbook outlines the guidelines by which CLVC players, coaches, and parents will operate. It is provided as a resource and reference throughout the volleyball season. Please take the time to carefully read the handbook. Players and parent(s) will be required to sign documents acknowledging that they have read this handbook and agree to abide by the guidelines described herein.

2. *MISSION STATEMENT*

CLVC is a player-driven club that is committed to building a culture of quality, strength, and family through the game of volleyball. It is with this simple vision that our athletes are empowered with a selfless drive to be their best self on and, more importantly, off the court.

The mission behind our organization is to provide superior fundamental training, individual and team skill development, and growing self-confidence through positive coaching methods. Our goal is to go above and beyond to help our child reach their full athletic and social potential. We strive to have our athletes develop physically and mentally to achieve the highest performance as a volleyball player.

3. *COACHING*

Studies have shown that coaches can have a huge impact on athletes' personal lives and goals, and how the athletes perceive themselves and their community. In addition, individual athletes look to coaches for leadership and encouragement beyond the sports environment, which carries over into the players athletic performance.

Through solid coaching, players have the opportunity to develop physically, socially, and emotionally. In addition, players can discover their hidden talents, gain a better understanding of oneself, and develop a higher level of self-worth and competency. CLVC coaches recognize and accept their roles in the growth and development of the player on and off the court.

3.1 Success vs Winning

In the profound words of UCLA Gymnastics Coach, Valorie Kondos Field, “Real Success is developing champions in life for the world, win or lose. Coaches, parents and leaders can no longer lead from a place where winning is our only metric of success, where our ego sets center stage, because it’s been proven that this process produces broken human beings.”

CLVC coaches focus on developing champions in life through the sport of volleyball. The coaches at CLVC focus on training successful players; stressing commitment, determination, and hard work. Studies have shown that focusing on success of the players rather than solely on the outcome of the competition promotes the player’s growth and ultimately leads to winning.

There is nothing wrong with the desire to win or winning itself, and CLVC will prepare and train our players to win. However, it will not be our sole focus. In fact, legendary UCLA coach and author John Wooden never discussed winning with his team. He had them focus on individual excellence in their skill and playing together as a team which resulted in a plethora of accomplishments that remain unmatched. One of his famous quotes to his players was, “Success comes from knowing that you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming.” This will be our main focus for every player here at CLVC.

We equate success as:

$$\text{Potentiality} + \text{Preparation} + \text{Confidence} + \text{Application} = \text{Success}$$

Potentiality - is defined as latent qualities or abilities that may be developed and lead to future success or usefulness. At CLVC, we strive to develop and grow the potential in our players and coaches.

“Only he who can see the invisible can do the impossible.”
~ Frank L. Gines

Preparation- is defined as the action or process of making ready or being made ready for use or consideration. Studies have shown that investing in disciplined preparation plays an important role in developing a player’s potential to thrive. In volleyball, this

preparation is called training. Training can properly allow a player to become more skilled, more knowledgeable, more confident, and mentally and physically stronger. While winning is not our primary focus, it is a natural byproduct of disciplined training and preparation. Proper preparation requires disciplined training which can then result in success which can lead to winning. "The key is not the will to win. Everybody has that. It is the will to prepare to win that is important." ~Bobby Knight

Confidence-is defined as the feeling or belief that one can rely on someone or something; firm trust. CLVC promotes a strong commitment to building a trust among coaches, players, and parents. When the players enter a match, we promote commitment to trusting the skill that the player has as well as trusting the skills their teammates bring to that match. This concept is crucial to the success of the team as well as the volleyball club. "One man can be a crucial ingredient on a team, but one man cannot make a team." ~ Kareem Abdul Jabaar

Application- is defined as the action of putting something into operation; giving effort. Application is something that is trained and can be noticed when the challenges of competition arise. CLVC coaches promote each player to give their best effort in practice and training, to bring positive results at tournaments. " The best competition I have is against myself to become better." ~John Wooden

CLVC coaches are committed to every aspect of this success equation. Our coaches are committed to our players being supported not belittled, coached up and not torn down, and motivated not pressured or bullied. As a club, we will pursue, discover, and enroll talented athletes. We are committed to developing these players through vigorous and demanding training and practices. We foster an environment of greatest successful application, all while establishing confidence that will guide the teams not only through the most rigorous matches, but also retain the athletes for several seasons at CLVC.

We want our athletes to have a competitive spirit when facing any team on the opposite side of the net.

We believe that success is possible at all age and skill levels, although it looks different on the specific player and team. CLVC offers opportunities for all skill levels (beginner, intermediate, advanced) throughout the year in order to provide continuous opportunities for growing each athlete's measure of success.

4. CLUB TEAM DIVISIONS

Teams at CLVC are formed by assessing every athlete that tries out. CLVC offers three (3) levels of teams to be able to accommodate athletes with varying skill levels.

The three (3) levels offered are:

- **National**

This team will have the most extensive travel. On average, they will compete in eight (9) multi-day tournaments and (2) local tournaments. This team, on average, will receive two (2) practices. One position specific training and one strength and conditioning training per week. **NOTE: FEES DO NOT INCLUDE TRAVEL**

- **Semi-National**

This team will have extensive travel. On average, they will compete in seven (7) multi-day tournaments. This team, on average, will receive two (2) practices. One position specific training and one strength and conditioning training per week. **NOTE: FEES DO NOT INCLUDE TRAVEL**

- **Regional Plus**

This team, on average, will attend four (4) multi day tournaments and two (2) local. These teams will receive, on average, two (2) practices per week. An optional clinic is available each week for an additional \$10 fee per clinic.

5. CLUB TRYOUTS

The Carolina Region Volleyball Association and USAV determine the tryout period for players based upon their age. When these organizations release tryout dates, CLVC will post tryout dates and information on our website as well as our social media pages. We offer at least two (2) tryout sessions per age division to allow the coaches as much assessment time as possible. Athletes are encouraged to attend both tryout dates; however, CLVC understands that dates and times can conflict with other club tryouts. We ask that you attend as many CLVC tryout sessions as possible to be accurately assessed and evaluated. All of our sessions will be intense and fast paced as to simulate practices for the upcoming club season.

5.1 Registration

Registration and payment options for tryouts will be available via the CLVC website. The player must register according to the USAV age definition and limit their tryout to the appropriate age division, unless otherwise informed by the club director prior to a tryout session.

CLVC hosts open play sessions in the weeks leading up to tryouts. Open play is an opportunity for parents and athletes to familiarize themselves with the club and coaches. Attendance in open play is not required, but we encourage athletes to participate as much as possible.

5.2 Tryout Process

Each of the tryout sessions adhere to the following process:

- Tryouts will begin promptly at their scheduled start time.
- Tryouts will begin with a brief introduction followed by warm-ups.
- All courts will be staffed with trained coaches running various drills.
- All athletes will be evaluated on various skills during the tryout period, regardless of desired position.

5.3 Athletes

Athletes have the following responsibilities during tryouts:

- Arrive at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled tryout time.
- Wear proper apparel for tryouts. (ie. court shoes, knee pads, t-shirts, and spandex/shorts).
- Come ready to compete for a position on a team.
- Come ready to be coached and eager to learn.

5.4 Parents

Parents have the following responsibilities regarding tryouts:

- Attend a parents information session meeting which are generally held before or after open play of your athlete's age division. These sessions are intended to answer questions and provide information on the club's teams, coaching staff, fees, and other information for the season.
- Ensure registration has been completed on the CLVC website.
- Ensure your player is prepared with proper attire for tryouts.
- Ensure all tryout fees are paid using a credit card through the CLVC website. If it is not possible to pay by credit card, other arrangements must be approved by the club director prior to an athlete being permitted to participate in tryouts.

5.5 Coaches

- Arrive at least sixty (60) minutes prior to tryouts to consult with the director of coaching on the tryout process and assignment.
- Assist with checking in athletes and assist with the tryout process.
- The Director of Player Development will implement a plan that will ensure each athletic candidate gets adequate consideration.
- Keep drills engaging, competitive, and interactive.
- Remain on site after tryouts for a review and discussion with all coaches and the director to discuss athletic candidates.

5.6 Team Selection

Athletic Candidates are selected by the head coaches and a panel of coaches who observe the performance of players during tryouts. Some of the factors considered but not limited to are:

- Skill level
- Specific athletic ability to volleyball
- Specific needs for a particular team
- Overall athleticism
- Eagerness to perform
- Competitive attitude
- Social skills with other candidates
- Willingness to be coached
- Work ethic
- Specific needs for a particular team

Athletic candidate(s) should never assume that they will be offered a spot on a given team due to the fact that they played with the club or a particular team the previous club season.

5.7 Notification of Offer (Team Assignment)

The director is allowed to extend offers to athletic candidates as soon as the first tryout session has ended. However, the process can take up to seven (7) days. The team selection can be very tedious and is often difficult for the coaches as well as the athletic candidates. Each candidate who is selected for a team will receive a phone call extending an offer for a specific team (National/Semi-National, Regional Plus). In addition, the selected candidate will be informed of the potential role that they may fill on the team. However, roles may change as the team/season develops and necessary adjustments will be made accordingly by the coaches. The full roster will not be disclosed to candidates during this notification.

5.8 Acceptance of Offer

Once the parent and the athlete have reached a decision verbally to accept the offer a deposit (TBD amount) will be required in five (5) days. The deposit will be paid through the CLVC website. If you decline an offer , we ask that the athlete notify the club as soon as possible of that decision. CLVC foresees having all their team rosters verbally committed as expeditiously as possible.

According to the USAV National Policy, once the candidate signs the Player's Commitment form, they are no longer eligible to play for another club.

6. *SIGNING DAY*

Let the club season begin!

Signing day is the official kickoff of the season and the first time players, parents, and coaches gather as a team. There will be a brief introduction to the club, review of the handbook guidelines and procedures, uniform fittings, team photo and opportunity to meet your new teammates and coach.

Each team will be notified of their specific date and time of signing day kickoff. Attendance is mandatory for players and coaches unless other arrangements are discussed with the club director.

All required paperwork is due at this time (Forms will be forwarded electronically or posted on the website prior to signing day)

7. PAYMENTS AND FEES

Fees include facility rental, tournament entry fees, coaching stipends, coaches travel costs, miscellaneous administrative fees, equipment costs, marketing materials, first aid kits, and other items necessary for the club to function.

Actual fee amounts and payment schedule will be available on the club's website.

Note: Club fees do NOT include travel expenses or the uniform packages. The uniform package will consist of three (3) jerseys, two (2) pair of spandex, one (1) backpack, one (1) wind jacket, one (1) pair of leggings and three (3) practice shirts. The jersey design will be updated every four (4) years and should only need to be replaced if outgrown, damaged, or if there is a number conflict in a future season.

7.1 Payment Method and Policy

Payments are expected to be made online through the CLVC website via the player's OASYS' account. It is strongly encouraged that payments are authorized to auto-draft the credit card on file per the team payment schedule. If an alternate payment schedule/plan is needed, it will be signed and agreed upon on an individual case by case basis with the volleyball director prior to signing day.

AT NO TIME WILL COACHES ACCEPT CLUB FEE PAYMENTS

7.2 Late Payment Policy

All players must have a valid credit card on file through their account at the CLVC website. Fees are considered late ten (10) days after the monthly due date and can affect the players ability to participate in team activities, which can include practices and tournaments. The player will NOT be allowed to practice or compete until financial obligation has been fulfilled.

7.3 Refund Policy

CLVC has a strict no refund policy for players not willing or not able to complete the season after signing day, however, each situation will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

8 PRACTICES

Practice attendance is mandatory for every level team. Whether it is position training, conditioning, scrimmages, or team-specific practices, it is imperative that every player comes prepared to give their very best. It was once said, “hard work beats talent when talent doesn’t work hard”, just showing up is not enough. All players should be punctual, come with a mindset to work, be a team player, and be coachable.

8.1 Missed practices

If a player cannot attend practice, please notify your coach **at least 36 hours** before practice. As we know, unexpected situations arise (illness, injury, etc.) which may affect the ability to practice. However, it is very important that all players and parents understand the importance of practices.

It is of vital importance that each player understands that volleyball is a team sport, where the dynamics of the team are extremely important. The team requires an established rotation of position players, each providing an element to the team’s overall design. If a player is absent from practice(s)/training and/or tournaments, it can discompose the overall planned design for the team.

Missing practice due to an excused absence may result in a change of playing time in a future tournament. Missing practice due to an unexcused absence WILL result in a change of playing time in a future tournament.

Excused absence includes:(not limited to)

Illness, injuries, required attendance to official school events, certain family commitments (approved by the director)

Unexcused absence includes: (not limited to)

Forgetting about practice, homework/school projects, preparation for test(s) final, conflict with another sport (unless approved by the director).

It is imperative for all student-athletes to recognize the commitment they have made to the club and their teammates. CLVC values education and believes that all of our athletes are students first. However, it is necessary to implement proper time management skills for academic and athletics.

NO PRACTICES ARE CANCELED unless authorized by the director.

8.2 Practice Attire

Players are expected to wear proper equipment at every practice; including volleyball shoes, knee pads, and CLVC t-shirts. Coaches will assign practice t-shirt colors to be worn by their team for each practice. Failure to wear the proper shirt may result in disciplinary action by the coach.

9. *TOURNAMENTS*

The tournament season typically runs from January to April depending on team level. Practices typically begin in November and the first tournament is typically held at the beginning of January. Schedules are available on their team manager application. Players are expected to commit to attending ALL scheduled tournaments. Excusals/absences from tournaments will be addressed on an individual case by case basis.

Multi-day tournaments outside of North Carolina require overnight accommodations. Parents are responsible for their player(s) transportation to these tournaments. If a tournament requires a player to be absent from school, the coach will give ample notice to allow the player to make necessary arrangements. If necessary, an official club absence letter can be provided for the player's school.

9.1 Stay-to-Play

Many host tournaments require teams to reserve a block of hotel rooms prior to the tournament registration. This ensures that hosts of the tournaments can reserve the largest venues for the scheduled tournament dates. **ALL TEAMS ARE REQUIRED TO STAY IN THE CLUB ELECTED HOTEL BLOCK, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!** (parents' hotel points, rewards, membership, etc. can NOT be used for stay-to-play tournaments).

The host tournament will provide a link to the club director for the booking of said stay-to-play hotel, which is the ONLY link to be used for reservations. Failure to book through the provided link can jeopardize the team's participation in said tournament. If the room block is not filled by the deadline, each player on the delinquent team will be financially responsible for 50% of one total room. The balance will be assigned to the player's account and expected to be paid with the player's next monthly fees. Player's with an outstanding balance will jeopardize their position on the roster.

9.2 Players Officiating

All tournaments require participating teams to officiate games. CLVC will arrange date and time and/or provide the link for the referee/scorer training clinic for the appropriate teams. All players should take their duties and responsibilities seriously and be mindful that they are representing CLVC. All players are expected to carry out officiating duties when assigned and ALL players (entire team) are required to remain at tournaments until all officiating/work duties are complete. All athletes may not leave the tournament area at any time without permission from their coach. There will be very few allowable exceptions to this rule at the discretion of the club director, not the coaches.

9.3 Uniforms

All tournaments require teams to be in compliance with the USAV and uniform regulations. Only CLVC apparel may be worn at our tournaments, along with your spandex and jersey. In addition, at the discretion of your coach, gear may include sweatpants, practice shirts, and other spirit wear. NO SCHOOL APPAREL OR APPAREL FROM ANOTHER CLUB ARE PERMITTED TO BE WORN WHILE AT CLVC TOURNAMENTS OR PRACTICES.

USAV has relaxed its jewelry policy from no jewelry to some jewelry. CLVC will permit any jewelry that will not cause a health/injury risk to themselves or others. (Examples of non-permitted jewelry -hoop earrings, heavy/bulky necklace)

10. *INJURIES*

If a player becomes injured during practice and/or outside of practice that requires a doctor's visit, that player must turn in a doctor's note to her coach prior to returning to practice or a tournament. The note must include the player's official diagnosis and the doctor's recommendation of the player's ability to perform on the court.

If a player's injury prevents her participation in practice or tournaments, she is still expected to attend the practice or tournament unless the injury prevents her from doing so.

11. *EXPECTATIONS OF PLAYERS*

All players are expected to be disciplined, competitive, energetic, responsible, and hard-working; all while having fun and enjoying the sport of volleyball.

All players are to be accountable and reliable to all team requirements; including, but not limited to, completing tasks on time, being punctual, giving your all during practices, conditioning, scrimmages, and games.

All players are to operate with a high level of appreciation and esteem for what has been provided (keeping our facility clean, picking up our personal items at tournaments, etc.) and will do it with a sense of pride.

It is MANDATORY for ALL players to attend team bonding events/activities (breakfast, lunch, dinners, etc) planned by the director, coaches, or designated parent.

All players are to refrain from unnecessary behavior that disrupts the team's chemistry. Players must stay positive toward their fellow teammates and coaches. **NO DRAMA!!!**

All players are to support their teammates on and off the court. Furthermore, players are to remain engaged in all matches, continually cheering, and supporting the team.

All players are to maintain a solid academic foundation throughout the club season. This requires proper time management for studying and other academic responsibilities as a student athlete.

CLVC has a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY** with players:

- Consuming alcohol, smoking of all kinds, and anything that will harm the body.
- Any form of verbal or physical abuse and/or bullying will not be tolerated from any player, parent member, coach, or any other associate of CLVC.
- Any form of defamation of the club coaches, director, or club staff of CLVC.

A player in breach of this policy will be DISMISSED from the club.

All players are to refrain from obscenities during practice and competitions.

Players are NOT allowed to have their boyfriends attend practices or tournaments. This is a distraction to not just the player but the entire team. Players breaking or manipulating this policy will NOT play in the remainder of the current tournament or play in the next tournament. Any questions about this policy can be answered by the club's director.

Players will positively accept the decisions of the club director and coaching staff regarding playing time. They will always do what is best for the team as whole, but with communication we can help each other be better players, teammates and individuals. Therefore, the following steps are the proper protocol procedures for resolving playing time, positions played and general frustrations during a tournament:

- Train hard!!! In practice, in clinics, and during strength and conditioning. The opportunities and resources to improve are all around you, use them.
- TALK TO YOUR COACH! Our coaches are expected to be approachable and capable of explaining and resolving your concerns.
- If the player feels that they have met both of the above steps without resolve, schedule a meeting with the club director and your coach. No discussion will take place during practice times or during a tournament. It is believed that everyone wants the same results, which is for the player to grow as both a strong individual and a strong volleyball player.

NOTE: Every effort will be made by Carolina Legacy Club Director, coaches, and staff that each player and parent have a positive volleyball club experience. Player dismissal is a right reserved by the organization for use as a last resort when all other resources of conflict resolution have been exhausted. Any player dismissed by the club director for stated rules in the handbook will be held liable for any and all outstanding registration fees and club dues outlined on the parents financial contract agreement. Parents will not be entitled to a refund of any such fees paid to the organization.

12. EXPECTATIONS OF COACHES

Coaches are to assist with building the skills and confidence in each player.

Constantly monitor the team chemistry, dynamics, and overall season progress.

Coaches are to attend all team practices and tournaments.

Coaches are to attend coach's meetings at tournaments.

Coaches are to notify players/parents of the tournament play schedule.

A coach must be present at the referee table when the team is working to ensure that assignments are being allocated/rotated fairly.

13. EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS

Parents are to positively support their player, the team, the coaches and the club.

Parents are to be amicable to all fellow parents, coaches and refereeing personnel.

Parents are to comply and support decisions made by the team parent representative(s) and share responsibilities assigned. Positive communication (opinions, ideas, etc.) among parents is a contributing factor to a successful season.

Parents, if you talk about your player's teammates and coaches in a negative manner in front of her/them you are setting your player and her team up for failure.

Parents are to cheer and **NOT** coach players at practices and tournaments. Parents are to ensure that their players arrive on time to practices, tournaments, and any other team events.

Parents are to exhibit appropriate sportsmanship at all times.

Parents attending team bonding events shall come to bond with other team parents not under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance.

Accepting that coaches will make popular and unpopular decisions; however, trust that the end result is for the betterment of the team and each player. If a parent doesn't agree with a coach's decision(s), it is not to be discussed at practice or tournament sites. Parents are to allow at least 24 hours before contacting a coach via email or text. Moreover, allowing time to let initial feelings and opinions subside opens an opportunity for logical and controlled discussion. All conversations/meetings will remain confidential.

Parents are NOT allowed, under any circumstances, to approach the bench, sidelines, referee table during game play, timeouts, or otherwise.

Parents will assume financial responsibility for their player and make timely payments. (Parents are to sign a financial commitment letter on Signing Day)

14. CONTRACTS AND RELEASE FORMS

Once the official season commences, the following forms will be available for signature on or before signing day:

- Carolina Legacy Parent/Player Contract
- Player letter of Commitment
- USAV Medical Release
- Parent Financial Contract

Receipt of Handbook Consent Form

I, _____ (player/parent) have
RECEIVED AND REVIEWED Carolina Legacy Volleyball Club
Parent/Player Club Handbook. I understand that I am responsible to follow
all procedures and guidelines stated, as well as all other materials,
practices, and procedures of Carolina Legacy Volleyball Club.

Parent

Printed
name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent

Printed
name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Player

Printed
name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

