

# FRST VOLLEYBALL

## Parent and Player Code of Conduct

### Mission

It is the mission of **FRST VOLLEYBALL** to provide a positive, competitive youth volleyball experience for players, parents and coaches. We emphasize long-term player development of physical, emotional and social skills. While winning is an absolute priority in club volleyball, winning will not be placed above good sportsmanship (defined as respecting rules and procedures set forth below, teammates, coaches, officials, opponents and oneself). It is our goal to create an environment that will benefit the individual as well as the team. Your daughter has joined a competitive volleyball program. Competitive team athletics, by its very nature, creates situations where everyone may not be happy all the time. Team success is intimately linked to individual success. Each player will fill a necessary role on the team. Although some roles are larger than others, none are insignificant to the overall success of the team. Coaches will discuss and define each role with the individual. Players are encouraged to use practices as an avenue for further developing their skills and expanding their role on the team. Players and parents must understand that the only desire of the coach is to assist the team in reaching its full potential. We can only achieve this by encouraging, acknowledging and supporting each other's efforts in practice, scrimmages and tournaments.

### EXPECTATIONS

This Code of Conduct is a written contract between parents, players and coaches to abide by the policies and procedures of **FRST VOLLEYBALL**. We expect all parties to maintain a positive attitude and uphold the ideals of fair play and good sportsman like behavior. This contract is more than just paper, it is our policies and procedures and adherence to these policies and procedures is of primary importance. To participate in **FRST VOLLEYBALL**, all players and parents are required to agree to and sign this Code of Conduct.

### Zero Tolerance Policy

**FRST VOLLEYBALL** has adopted a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY** towards certain policies and procedures in the Code of Conduct. **Failure to follow the Zero Tolerance policies and procedures of the Code of Conduct can result in your daughter being dismissed from the club.**

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### Parents Pledge

We understand that it is our goal to provide positive support for our daughter, her teammates, her coaches, her opponents, officials and to **FRST VOLLEYBALL**. We are fully committed to **FRST VOLLEYBALL** and therefore will abide by the following policies and procedures:

- We will assist our daughter in meeting the policies and procedures as laid out in the **Code of Conduct Player's Contract**. We understand that if our daughter violates the Zero Tolerance policies and procedures in the Code of Conduct in any way, that she can be dismissed from **FRST VOLLEYBALL**.
- We will assist our daughter in respecting her teammates, coaches, officials and opponents.
- We will be a fan of our daughter and her teammates not a coach or a critic.
- We understand that our daughter must sign up to play with **FRST VOLLEYBALL** with the **Lonestar Region**. We understand that this needs to be done **after Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> but before the first practice**. We understand that we must go to [www.lsvolleyball.org](http://www.lsvolleyball.org) to sign her up. We understand failure to do so will keep her from playing with the club.
- We understand that if our daughter agrees to be a certified scorekeeper that she must go to a scorekeeping clinic or renew her membership if she was certified the previous year. We understand there are no exceptions to this requirement and that our daughter may not be able to play without completing this requirement. We understand that **FRST VOLLEYBALL** will provide this clinic for her. This should be done before the first or tournament.
- We understand we will have to complete and turn in a **USAV Medical Release** form for the current club ball year. **NO OTHER MEDICAL RELEASE FORM WILL BE ACCEPTED AS THIS IS A USAV RULE**. We understand the release form is available at [www.lsvolleyball.org](http://www.lsvolleyball.org) and should be turned into **FRST VOLLEYBALL** no later than the first day of practice.
- We understand that our daughter's club dues are not refundable if we choose not to participate.

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- We understand that in addition to our daughter's club dues, we will be responsible for paying for all transportation to and from practices, scrimmages and tournaments and that we will also be responsible for hotel fees at overnight tournaments. We understand that these fees are in addition to our **FRST VOLLEYBALL** dues and that they can be significant.
- We will get our daughter to practice and tournaments on time (15 minutes prior for practice and 1 hour prior for tournaments) and will pick her up on time. We understand that if our daughter is late, not ready on time, not in the appropriate attire, she may be disciplined by the coach, at the coach's discretion.
- We understand that if our daughter cannot come to a practice and/or tournament, the coach needs to be notified as soon as possible.
- If we bring other children to our daughter's practices and tournaments, we will not leave them unattended and we will ensure that they do not interfere with practices and/or the tournaments.

### **Zero Tolerance**

- A)** We understand that team selections are made by the Head Coaches and Club Directors. We trust their judgment and will be supportive of our daughter and the team for which she was chosen.
- B)** We understand that playing time is not guaranteed and is left solely to the discretion of the coach.
- C)** We understand that issues surrounding playing time will be handled in the following manner **ONLY** and there will be **NO EXCEPTIONS**. We understand if this chain of command is not followed, there will be no discussions regarding playing time.
  - 1)** We understand our daughter must approach the coach first regarding playing time issues. We understand this should be done before or after practices, but **NEVER BEFORE, DURING OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING A TOURNAMENT**. While it is the intent of the **FRST VOLLEYBALL** coaching staff to have an "open-door" policy, please do not approach or confront a coach during or immediately after tournament play for this purpose.
  - 2)** We understand that **ONLY** if our daughter has approached the coach first and there is still a concern, then the parent may request a meeting with the coach. We understand this request for

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a meeting must be made before or after a practice and that the meeting will take place another time or place as there will be no “walk-up” meetings with our daughter’s coach. We understand it is always best for our daughter to address concerns directly to the coach, and that if we still wish to have a conference with the coach; we should be prepared for FRANK answers. We understand that coaches WILL NOT discuss “coaching decisions”.

**3)** Coaching decisions will include, among other things, specific match decisions (who played when, who was subbed out and when, etc.). We understand the amount of time our daughter is given on the court is the result of a complex determination, in her coach’s opinion, of our daughter’s ability, the athlete’s potential, the athlete’s position and the teams needs at the moment and the teams needs for the future. We understand the coach will not be required to defend his/her thought process or conclusions in these determinations, and it is improper for a parent to make that request. In addition, we understand coaches have been instructed not to discuss any athlete with a parent other than the parent’s own child. We understand that if we feel our concern has still not been addressed, that we can ask to speak with the Club Director.

- D)** We understand that it is inappropriate for an athlete or parent to approach other **FRST VOLLEYBALL** members about a problem the athlete or parent is having with a **FRST VOLLEYBALL** coach, about objections to coaching decisions or about disagreements with administrative decisions. We understand asking uninvolved persons to take sides in an issue is unfair to the third party and to the club. We understand that if we are approached and asked to listen to or express an opinion about matters between two other parties in the club, that we are strongly encouraged to direct the complaining party to take the matter up with our daughter’s coach, or the **FRST VOLLEYBALL DIRECTOR**.
  
- E)** We understand that we are not to knowingly disseminate false information regarding **FRST VOLLEYBALL** or its members to other **FRST VOLLEYBALL** players, parents, coaches, officials and opponents through any social media outlets.
  
- F)** We are allowed to attend practices, but must not coach, critique our daughter, her teammates or our daughter’s coach at any time.
  
- G)** We are to always act as good ambassadors of **FRST VOLLEYBALL**.

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- H)** We are to treat all our daughter's teammates and coaches with the utmost respect and will show support for the entire team, not just our daughter.
- I)** We will remain in the spectator areas during all games.
- J)** We will not use foul or abusive language towards anyone at any practices, scrimmages or tournaments.

### **Players Pledge**

An athlete will be ineligible for athletic participation or practice for the following:

- A)** Smoking
- B)** Influence or possession of alcohol or drugs

Immediate dismissal from the club could result from any the following:

- A)** Obscene gestures; profanity or swearing
- B)** Provocation
- C)** Fighting
- D)** Stealing
- E)** Unexcused missed practices or games
- F)** Other disciplinary situations which may arise
- G)** Nonpayment of membership dues
- H)** Insubordination towards any member of **FRST VOLLEYBALL** including the coaching staff and chaperones, referees, fans, etc.

*\*An athlete who is removed from the team for disciplinary reasons will not be eligible to practice or play with another club until the athlete adheres to the guidelines for changing clubs under the USAV policy.*

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### **General**

- A)** Be on time for all practices and tournaments.
- B)** Display good sportsmanship on and off the court.
- C)** Display respect & show a good, positive attitude toward the sport, teammates, and coaching staff.
- D)** Prepare mentally for competition and take care of details prior to match.
- E)** Notify your coach if you will be late or not attend a **FRST VOLLEYBALL** event. This includes practice and tournaments. No notification by the player is considered an unexcused absence and may impact an athlete's future play time.
- F)** We understand that we are not to knowingly disseminate false or slanderous information regarding **FRST VOLLEYBALL** or its members to other **FRST VOLLEYBALL** players, parents, coaches, officials and opponents through any social media outlets.

### **Practice and Tournaments**

- A)** Each athlete will play at the coach's discretion. The coach will determine the amount of playing time. All athletes are required to be at all practices in order to compete in the following tournament. Any player missing any practices between tournaments will sit out at the coach's discretion.
- B)** Any questions concerning playing time must be addressed first through your coach via phone call or meeting on a non-playing day. There will be NO discussions during a game, tournament, or practice.
- C)** **All players are required** to participate in tournament work team duties and must stay until all duties and **responsibilities are fulfilled**.

### **Travel Policy**

At **FRST VOLLEYBALL** we expect our players and coaches to represent the club in a professional and respectable manner when traveling to and participating in tournaments. All players will be expected to follow the rules stated in the Player and Parent Contract. The off-court actions of our players and coaches are just as important as those on the court.

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As part of our player development, we strongly believe in players staying together as a team when they are at a tournament. You will find the teams that are the most successful and that compete at the National level have team chemistry and have developed a team concept. This is also becoming an important characteristic coaches at the next level are looking for in recruiting players. We want to make sure our athletes are fully prepared in all aspects of the game.

Drugs, tobacco, and alcohol are of course strictly forbidden. Players caught with the above will meet with staff and their parents to determine the course of action. Punishments will be swift and firm.

### **Video Taping and Still Photography**

I agree to be photographed and videotaped for this production by **FRST VOLLEYBALL** or its approved vendors without receiving compensation of any kind. I understand that this footage may be used, as deemed appropriate by **FRST VOLLEYBALL** for future productions which may be viewed by public and private sector audiences.

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We have read and we accept the **FRST VOLLEYBALL Code of Conduct** located at [frstvbc.com](http://frstvbc.com). We understand that our failure to comply with any of the Zero Tolerance policies and procedures listed above will be deemed as being contrary to the positive development of **FRST VOLLEYBALL** and can result in our daughter being dismissed from the club.

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PARENT'S SIGNATURE:

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PARENT'S SIGNATURE:

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PRINTED NAME:

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PRINTED NAME:

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PLAYERS SIGNATURE:

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DATE:

