

North Country Region Board of Directors is considering the following update to **tryouts and commitments** for the 2024-2025 USA Volleyball Season. In addition to allowing players in the 18s age to commit to a club prior to 15s and older tryouts, the NCR Board of Directors is considering the addition of a **Region Retention Policy**.

If this is supported and approved the following would occur:

North Country Region will allow an **optional** “Retention Period” during Aug. 1-Aug. 10 that would provide participating clubs to offer a spot to players from the club’s previous season (23-24). After 7 p.m. CT on Aug. 10, the Retention Period ends. Offers not accepted by that time are void and will not be recognized by the Region. All offers after that timeframe must occur during the Fall 2024 tryout period. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in sanctions on the club by North Country Region.

This optional Retention Period affords clubs the flexibility to extend early offers to returning club members for the purpose(s) of player retention, budgeting and other logistics, including securing and training coaches, etc. The August Retention Period timeframe was chosen to avoid conflicts with both the club and high school seasons for the athletes. This opportunity can help relieve some of the anxiety and stress of tryouts for players who already know that they will be able to return to their club. This is done at the club’s discretion and the Region will have no involvement in the specifics of this process, including if a club chooses to offer this option, who is offered, who is not offered, and if the club offers a spot within the club or on a specific team.

It is up to the family to decide if this is the best option for them, with the understanding that commitment during this time period is binding to the club for the entire season, per the North Country Region tryout and commitment policy.

The second page of this document contains a template that the club may (but is not required to) use and includes additional information on the offer and acceptance of a position on a club team during the Retention Period. This document, if utilized, is an agreement solely between a family and a club. North Country Region WILL NOT get involved in financial or contractual disputes, nor any administration of any offers nor paperwork pertaining to the Retention Period. North Country Region does not have knowledge of which clubs choose to use the Retention Period, nor will it adjudicate any disputes between any parties pertaining to such an arrangement.

ONCE A FAMILY RETURNS A RETENTION PERIOD AGREEMENT TO A CLUB, THE FAMILY HAS COMMITTED TO THAT CLUB FOR THE ENTIRE 2024-2025 SEASON. The family must select that club in the member management system after Sept. 1, 2024. Any abuse of the Retention Period guidelines may result in sanctions or revocation of a North Country Region membership for the season.

### **RETENTION PERIOD AGREEMENT**

**All forms should be kept by the club. No forms should be sent to the NCR Office.**

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Making The Offer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Player Offer Being Made To: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Offer Made: \_\_\_\_\_

Offer Details, If Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*By signing and returning this entire document to the club, the parties signing below understand and accept the scope of the offer details, if applicable, and understand that this commits the named player to the above-named club for the 2024-25 season. The signers also recognize that North Country Region does not get involved in financial or contractual disputes between a family and a club. All decisions relating to this agreement are made between the parties below and shall be resolved in a manner determined by such parties. Any abuse of the Retention Period guidelines may result in sanctions or revocation of North Country Region membership for the season.*

Printed Name of Player Acceptance: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Player Acceptance: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name of Parent/Guardian Acceptance (if player is under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian Acceptance (if player is under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_