



Parent Information for Volleyball Tournaments

The club provides the following information which was developed by another club's parents during their first year to help guide new parents. This information will provide tidbits on how to prepare and what to expect at the all-day and multiple day tournaments. This information is provided in no certain order.

ALWAYS BRING A CHAIR!

A folding (lawn) chair and a bleacher chair are recommended, as some venues will NOT have bleachers! A bleacher chair with a back is preferable – you can find these chairs at Wal-Mart or Dick's in many styles. You may wish to bring a folding chair for your player as well so they have a place (other than the floor or your lap) to sit when not on the court!

FOOD AND DRINKS

Parent volunteers will coordinate with the rest of the parents/players to be sure the team area is well stocked with a variety of nutritional foods ☺ We recommend that along with that you bring water and/or Gatorade in a small cooler as well – it's a long day! Some teams are starting to use the tailgate.com website to try and pre- plan for their tournaments. Some venues state "No outside food or drinks" – most of the experienced parents know which venues mean business and which ones you can get away with a small cooler – don't be afraid to ask!

FIRST AID

The team carries a first aid kit but it is a "bare bones" kit. It's recommended that you bring your own aspirin or ibuprofen, some plastic sandwich bags to use as ice packs, and band-aids, tissues and menstrual products.

HOT/COLD VENUES

Some of the venues are really cold (especially in the morning and early in the season) – it's a good idea for the players to carry a blanket with them, as well as yourself – they do get used. Towards the end of the season, the venues do warm up and can be very HOT! Good idea to bring a hand-held fan.

T-SHIRTS

EVERY tournament has a variety of t-shirts available for sale. It can be difficult to say "no" when so many of the girls do purchase t-shirts. It would be helpful to discuss the t-shirts PRIOR to each tournament. You can anticipate anywhere from \$15 to \$30 per shirt (depending on the venue and options). If you are planning to purchase, keep in mind that smaller shirt sizes (XS and S) sell out quickly! There is usually a variety of other gear as well.

JERSEYS

Always make sure your player carries both jerseys in their backpack each day. Should a player get hurt or for some other unknown reason the jersey color is required to be changed, you don't want to be that parent of a player who doesn't have that second jersey available.

VALUABLES

Keep your valuables and your daughter's CLOSE. Do NOT leave cell phones, ipods, cameras, purses, etc. unattended in the team "camping" area. ALWAYS bring them with you into the spectator area.

TEAM CAMPING AREA

At each venue, the teams will set up a "camping" area outside of the gym. This is typically a small spot in a school hallway, where the team can leave coolers, backpacks, etc. when the team is playing or working in the gym. It is also the area the team usually eats and "hangs out" when there are breaks. Whomever arrives at the venue first should choose the location! Your player can "flag" other families/players as they arrive, and direct them to the camping area. Many girls like to have a blanket or sleeping bag and pillow so they can stretch out and relax between play times. This location usually becomes the command post where coaches can keep all players and parents up-to-date on any information required. If anyone has a folding table or tent, and the space to bring it, it would be GREAT to have it at tournaments.

WORKING

Your daughters will be required to provide a work team throughout the tournament. This means that they will be helping to officiate or keep score during some of their off time. Each work team is comprised of 2 lines-people, a down ref, a scorekeeper, a libero tracker and a player to flip the score. This is a team of 6 and with only 10 players on a team, players will be required to work quite often. A schedule should be ready prior to the tournament, and the coaches will share those with the players.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

The coaches do not receive the weekend tournament play schedules until the Wednesday before the tournament weekend. At that point, you will be advised as to what time your player is required to report to the venue.

Be prepared for all of the following:

- Getting lost en-route to a venue. Changes in road signs and construction sometimes are faster than the updates from the GPS.
- Staying late into the day or evening (depending on the success of the team). Games usually are required to be won by 2 points and there are times when there is no cap. This means the game does NOT end until one team has won by 2 points! These situations can lengthen a day.
- Unless you are in the Championship match, all players are required to stay after the last match played of the tourney and work the next match.
- Volleyballs – this sounds silly but courts are VERY close together and it's likely that at some time during the season you will be hit with a volleyball that you never saw coming. We've seen cut noses, broken glasses, etc. Always be on the lookout!