



2021 Club Notes & Expectations

Hello and Welcome Families!

We are so glad to have you with us this year. While we typically have an in person parent/player meeting at the first practice each season, we are sending our meeting notes electronically to avoid large group gatherings. We ask parents AND players please take time to thoroughly read this document as we feel all the information included is very important to know going in to the season. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to discuss any of these notes, reach out to one of our managing partners below. Thank you for your time on this. Good luck and let's BRING THE BOOM!

Sincerely,

Xplosion VBC Managing Partners

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1. Expectations for teams/players

- A. Our main goal is to have players and teams grow and get better over the season. While being competitive and winning are important, they aren't everything. We want to develop skills. Players at all levels may be learning new skills. This may seem frustrating at first. Please trust in your coaches.
- B. While we want this to be a fun season, we are here to work on volleyball skills. Not social skills. Players are expected to come to practice and be ready to focus and work hard.
- C. Xplosion ensures every player will be given 'quality' playing time in tournament play. However, that does not mean equal playing time. Effort, Attitude, Attendance, as well as Skill, all factor in to how much playing time players get. Positional needs and tactical needs of the team are also factored in to the decision. Coaches have final say on playing time. Keep in mind they see things in practice that you are not aware of. Players may not play in every game or match. At a minimum, we will strive to have the players average either a front row or back row rotation per MATCH played in POOL PLAY.
- D. All players will get an equal opportunity in practice to learn and improve.
- E. Players, Parents and Coaches should not get too high or too low based on early season results. It is the luck of the draw that determines the level of competition at a tournament. Give it a few tournaments to see where our teams fit in.
- F. As parents, please be supportive of your daughter's efforts. Let the coach do the "coaching" and you be there to offer positive encouragement.
- G. While we don't officially close practices, we prefer parents not to be in the gym. Players find it to be distracting. Please wait in a common area.
- H. Parents and families must not wander through the YMCA facilities during non-business hours. Please be respectful of the facility rules and remain in a common area or out of the building while waiting for your player.

2. Chain of Command for discussions

- A. **IMPORTANT:** Coaches, players and parents are asked not to discuss ANY team or player 'issues' at a tournament site. Emotions are often running high at these events, and we don't want anyone to say anything they might regret. Make an appointment with the coach to discuss things with the coach either before or after the next practice. This allows time for emotions to settle down. Our coaches are instructed to **WALK AWAY FROM A DISCUSSION** should they be approached at a tournament.
- B. In our club experience, the number one concern we hear is over playing time. Please know that if this is a concern for you, the player should address it with her coach before a parent gets involved. If it cannot be resolved between the player and the coach, then the parent should request a meeting with the coach and player. The player must be present in these meetings. If a parent requests a meeting and the player has not addressed it yet, the coach will ask the parents to have the player come to the coach first. If needed, issues other than playing time can be addressed directly between a coach and a parent without involving the player.
- C. When addressing things with the coach, or even in discussions with other players or parents, please limit the conversation to yourself or daughter. Out of respect to the other players, do not bring other players into the discussion outside of your own daughter.
- D. If there are any issues that cannot be resolved between the player and the coaches, or the coaches and the parents, then we will involve the club grievance committee as necessary. Decisions of this committee will be final.

3. Tournament Day

- A. Players, Coaches and Parents are all representing Xplosion Volleyball while at tournament sites. Please act respectfully and appropriately. Cheer positively and try not to be negative towards the refs, other teams, or fans. Especially when other junior players are line judging and reffing. Xplosion can be fined for player/parent/coaches actions. Please don't have our coaches be asked to have you leave the facility.
- B. **NO COOLERS** or **FOOD SPREADS** at tournament sites. It's OVR policy we are asking you to comply with, even if other teams get away with it. Coolers can be left in the vehicle. Also, be respectful about food that you bring in the facility. No cooking is allowed and no "team spreads". Bring in food individually, as permitted per tournament site. **NO ALCOHOL** is permitted and do not show up intoxicated.
- C. Parents are responsible for the players between matches. Please make certain the coach knows where the players are and make sure the coach is notified if a player must leave the site. If this becomes an issue, the coach will require the team to remain together as a unit. If players are traveling without parents, the coach must know where you are at all times.
- D. All players are expected to be trained in all officiating crew duties. Players will take the online courses on the OVR website for scorekeepers, down refs, libero tracking and line judging. Although not everyone will get certified, they must complete the whole training.
- E. We do have officiating responsibilities and the entire team is expected to stay until those duties are completed (Unless there is a pre-approved arrangement with the coach). This includes matches where we are finished playing but still may have to ref the next match. Everyone stays as a team.
- F. Tournaments are typically pools of 4 teams. Every once in a while, you may be in a pool of 3 teams.
- G. Top teams go to Gold and bottom teams go to Silver and bronze. Single elimination brackets once tournament play starts.
- H. Teams who are not playing likely have reffing responsibilities. All players stay until we have finished these duties, even if you are off as an individual.
- I. Be prepared for a fairly full day.

- J. Go to www.ovr.org and link through juniors programs to find specific tournament information. This will include directions, site specific info, etc....
- K. Review the tournament site information. It will explain parking, food policies, team camping areas. Please abide by them! PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF PLAYERS AND PARENTS.
- L. ALL PLAYERS ARE EXPECTED AT THE TOURNAMENT SITE **30 Minutes** PRIOR TO THE START OF THE TOURNAMENT.... (may be earlier as determined by the team coach.)

4. Practice Information

- A. Players must arrive 10 to 15 minutes prior to practice time to start setting up the net, counting balls and be dressed, ready on the court to start practice at designated practice time.
- B. Any changes to the schedule will be posted on the website and will be communicated through the coach ASAP.
- C. No jewelry and no metal in hair should be worn to practice. This is a safety rule. You can't wear it in a match, either.
- D. Safety of the participants is always a priority. No horseplay will be tolerated at any practice or tournament.
- E. Conditioning and or team discussions pre or post practice will be established by the team coach.
- F. Parking at the downtown YMCA in their lot is not free. Purchase a token as you come into the facility. If practicing on Sunday's, you may want to buy them a week in advance since we are in the facility after closing. Street parking is available for free after 6 PM and all day Sunday. There are plenty of options within a block or two.
- G. All players will exit the building as a team, with a coach, to see that players leave with a parent.

5. Miscellaneous

- A. Please clean up after yourself at practices and matches. No trash should ever be left in facilities.
- B. If weather becomes an issue and we cancel a practice, or if we find out in advance that a tournament is cancelled, it will be put on the website as soon as possible. Coaches will also send out texts/emails. At the same time, if we do not cancel a practice and you feel it is still too unsafe for you to travel to practice, that is a decision we will respect. You have to use your best judgement! We just ask that a parent calls or text your coach in advance.
 - *Also, if you see the YMCA is closed for any reason, we will cancel our practices...they usually only close for a Level 3 emergency.
- C. If you want contact information for other parents in the club, please just email the support box(listed on the website) and we will provide it. Families like to use this for carpooling to practices, tournaments, and workouts. We can also provide if you want info for players who practice at same time with another team. Coaches may ask for player contact info on a team-only or coach-only sheet.
- D. Spirit Wear order information is still in the works. We will follow up soon with information and a date to have orders turned in by. Payments for Spirit Wear should only be given to Coach Dawn or Coach Kevin. We don't want money/checks floating around with coaches. You can also use the drop box at the Coffman YMCA.
- E. Club Payments should only be given to Coach Dawn or Coach Kevin. They can also be mailed to us or put in the drop box at the Coffman YMCA. Again, we don't want coaches responsible for handling cash and checks. 2nd Payments are due by January 15th and final payments are due February 15th.
- F. The website - xplosionvbc.com is a wealth of information. Please use it.

6. Communication is the key!

- A. Let your coach know as far in advance as possible if you will be missing a practice or tournament.
- B. Even if you become ill at the last minute, parents please at least text or leave a voice mail for your coach. Do this before the scheduled start of practice.
- C. Generally speaking, required school activities will be excused absences. Other absences will be evaluated on an individual basis. Note that each coach can establish policies for consequences for unexcused missed practices. We understand that a lot of our players are dependent on parents for transportation. Please remain in communication about any issues with your coaches.
- D. If you have questions, have your players ask them early on. Don't let things build up over time.

Thanks for sticking it out to the end of our notes. Coaches will also relay their specific team rules and expectations to the players. As mentioned, if you have any questions, please reach out to one of our managing partners.

Thank you!