

Coaches Expectations:

Wilson Elite Volleyball Club is most interested in teaching the children in our club solid and effective volleyball skills, so they are familiar with almost every technique their middle/high school coach asks of them. Our coaching staff is expected to perform at the level of a middle/high school coach and to have a knowledge base at least as large as a high school coach.

COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

WEVC coaches are expected to not only know volleyball, but also to be excellent teachers, good sportspersons, and excellent role models. Coaches are expected to be good organizers so that every practice is packed with conditioning and skill-building drills and that there is never a moment when players are standing around doing nothing, as gym time is too precious a commodity not to be fully utilized. Minimal amounts of time should be spent going over statistics at practices as we prefer skill-building drills and conditioning. We do not support using scrimmages without coaching correction as a means of teaching the game, as valuable lessons and skills must be taught to the players during each practice through interaction with coaches during drills, conditioning, and skill competitions. Scrimmages play an important role in preparing for games, but not to the exclusion of skills and practice of fundamentals that are necessary to the development of good volleyball players.

Coaches at WEVC are required to be aware of league rules, to create rosters, to motivate parents to get players to locations on time, to conduct practices effectively, to manage equipment and turn it in on time, and several other duties.

Coaches are encouraged to recruit parents to keep statistics for all players during games. The coach might also recruit a parent to record games on video for future review if time permits. Statistics should be used during games to spot trends, outside of practice via email to set goals, and educate and motivate players, but stats should not be gone over in practice as practice/gym time is too valuable.

Coaches have a responsibility to give players on their team a reasonable amount of playing time, assuming that a player is regularly attending practice and meeting and exceeding expected goals. Sometimes this is not possible due to many players on a team and the flow of the game (i.e., one team gets on a long scoring/serving run). If a player does not attend practice regularly, does not personally notify the coach in advance when a practice will be missed, is disruptive during practice, or has parents who are disruptive to team discipline and order, they may be punished, by a reduction in playing time, suspensions from the team or dismissal from the team.

Parents are required to discuss issues they may have with coaches in a discreet and mature manner. Following a game, there is a 24-hour "cooling down" period before parents/players should discuss concerns with a coach. **Players should advocate for themselves and communicate with coaches first whenever possible.** If a parent remains dissatisfied after the player and the parent have spoken with their coach, the parent is directed, under the Parent Agreement to address concerns to Assistant Director and Club Director. Coaches are expected to use good judgment when dealing with a dissatisfied parent. Volunteer efforts are for the kids. If you have a problem that you deem sufficiently unmanageable you are encouraged to bring it to the attention of the Assistant Director and Club Director.

Parents have been advised that coaches are not drivers or child sitters, so parents must be conscientious to deliver their children on time and to pick them up from practice and games on time

Coaches are expected to be teachers, not friends, to their players. Players should respect their coaches, but they by no means are expected to like all their coaches. Coaches are authority figures and personality conflicts and other differences of opinion that every person will encounter in their life will occur in sports, and players need to learn to deal with that. If WEVC teaches its players this life lesson, then it is performing part of its stated goals for developing players and solid citizens.

NO AUTOMATIC BIDS DUE TO PLAY IN OTHER SPORTS

It is imperative that coaches pick the players at tryouts based on performance during tryouts. While summer programs and other sports are usually a good indicator of talent, it is WEVC's policy that players should start from scratch at tryouts and each player entering the gym should have an equal chance of making the team regardless of the relationship to the coach. They are expected to perform at tryouts, and if they do not, they do not get an automatic bid to join the team as that is clearly unfair to those others trying out.

INJURIES

If a player is not available to try out due to injury, but the coach is familiar with the players skill level, the coach may select the player, but in fairness to the other players trying out, must select one extra player on the roster. The injured player, once recovered, should not get undue preference over other players on the team regarding playing time.

COACHES INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

In addition to volleyball skills, our coaches are expected to have interpersonal skills so that they may effectively deal with players, parents, school personnel, and officials during the year

COACHING STYLES

Every coach has a different style. Some choose to coach during the game, and some choose to coach mostly during practice and let the players play during games. Some coaches actively correct their players while they are on the floor and while they are in the huddle, and some focus on team strategy.

WEVC supports an active coaching style where players are corrected on the floor, on the bench and at practice. It is particularly important to have an assistant coach on the bench during games. When a player leaves a game, he should be told by the assistant what he did right and wrong during the time he is in a game, while the head coach concentrates on game action and strategy. Every step a player takes is a learning experience and good coaching will help that player all along the way. **WEVC does not support a coach who will see a player performing a skill incorrectly and not correct them, or a coach who overlooks a mistake.** Of course, WEVC recognizes that in the heat of a game, perfect skills may not always be performed, but it is a goal of our program to teach them properly every practice. WEVC wishes to develop skill levels as close to perfect as can be obtained at the various age levels.

WEVC does not support singling out kids on the floor and berating them in front of the crowd. WEVC also does not support "calling out" or challenging an entire team in a loud voice that may be heard by parents and other spectators. That is poor coaching, reflects a lack of understanding of motivational skills, and should not be tolerated. However, WEVC does support some active yelling from the bench to position players, warn them about possible opposition activities, positively "fire up" and motivate the team and a variety of other things that might arise in a game. **Just because a coach raises his voice does not mean he is berating players and a lot of constructive things are taught by a coach from the bench during a game.**