



GRINNELL VOLLEYBALL CLUB

ATHLETE and PARENT/GUARDIAN HANDBOOK

Travel Teams 2023-2024 Season

CLUB MISSION: The Grinnell Volleyball Club's (GVBC) mission is to provide a positive, supportive training environment with high-quality instruction and coaching where young athletes can strengthen their volleyball skills, develop and deepen their appreciation for the game of volleyball, and build positive relationships.

EXPECTED BEHAVIOR: Appropriate behavior is expected of all athletes and parents/family members, whenever they are involved in any activity related to the GVBC. The GVBC has a goal to be a respected organization, recognized not only for its competitiveness but also its good sportsmanship. Athletes and family members associated with the GVBC are representatives of the Club and are counted on to uphold and reflect the values of the GVBC. Respect should always be shown to: teammates, opponents, coaches, parents, officials, equipment, and facilities.

RESPECTFUL COMMUNICATION: It is the expectation that behavior and communication between and among adults be civil, courteous, supportive, and cooperative. This same expectation is held between and among the adult to youth relationships.

PRACTICE: ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION - Attendance at all team practices is required; participation in all scheduled tournaments are expected of all Travel Team athletes. We realize that this is not always possible due to any number of outside conflicts. However, all absences, planned or emergency, must be communicated to the team's head coach and/or GVBC Directors as early as possible, understanding that ongoing and/or unexcused absences may impact playing time in tournaments. Every athlete must understand the nature of team sports and the effect their absence has on the entire team. A team is dependent upon all of its members. An athlete cannot improve and contribute to their team unless they consistently attend practices and tournaments.

Scheduled practice time is a start time. Athletes should arrive early, not less than 10 minutes before start time to get dressed and help set up nets. The athlete must be dressed and completely ready for practice by start time. Athletes should arrive at least 30 minutes before the start of tournament play, ready to warm up.

TOURNAMENTS: PLAYING TIME - Tournament playing time for athletes competing on Travel Teams is a coaching decision and is earned by engagement and effort in practice and success during competition. Playing time and an athlete's role on the team is the responsibility and decision of the coach(es). The coach(es) will consider skill, attitude, attendance, effort, and other factors when determining playing time.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES:

- ❖ Be respectful of all opponents, teammates, coaches, fans, officials, equipment, and facilities.
- ❖ Practice good sportsmanship at all times.
- ❖ Have a positive attitude and support your teammates.
- ❖ Contact the coach as soon as possible if you cannot attend practice or a tournament. This is YOUR responsibility, not your parents', and understand that playing time may be affected.
- ❖ Be on time to practice and tournaments and give your best effort each day.
- ❖ Go directly to the coach with problems about volleyball to talk about the issue.



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FINANCIAL OBLIGATION: The fee for participating on a Travel Team for the 2023-2024 GVBC season will be \$440. This fee covers team tryouts, one-year AAU membership, all practice and tournament instruction/coaching, facility rentals, a club-supplied jersey, and team entry fees to tournaments. Athletes shall provide their own black spandex/shorts, and other optional gear (i.e., knee pads, arm sleeves, active ankles). Spectator admission to tournaments and other supplies (e.g., food/snacks at tournaments) are not included in this fee.

PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMITMENT: GVBC parent participation and support are essential to the success of our club and to the positive experience of your child. Your commitment to GVBC includes the financial obligation, understanding that should your child quit for whatever reason and/or receive a dismissal from the Club because of violations to this contract, you are still required to pay any remaining balance. Families must make a responsible and reasonable commitment to get their child to practices, tournaments, travel, and team functions on behalf of the athlete, their team members, and the Club. While at tournaments, parents/guardians and athletes share the responsibility to help officiate, keep score, and meet other tournament obligations. Our GVBC families play a critical role in influencing the success of team chemistry. Your conversations, behavior, and actions influence your child, their teammates, and the youth and adults in your presence.

COMMUNICATION & CONFLICT: GVBC staff and volunteers understand that when a combination of competition, training, and evaluation is blended with different points of view, emotional triggers, family dynamics, financial investment, and human nature itself, conflict or disagreements may arise. We may not always see things the same way. As collaborators in the care and nurture of your children, we must pledge to each other to exercise and model healthy processes in resolution of our differences. If you or your child have a concern about practice instruction, coaching technique, or playing time, please communicate directly with your athlete's coach(es) no LESS than 24 hours after the practice or tournament has concluded. We strongly encourage athletes to address concerns with their coach(es) directly, and coaches will work to include athletes in the resolution of any concerns. If you have continued concerns after communicating with your athlete's coach, please contact the Club Directors.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

- ❖ Celebrate your athlete's skills, contributions, improvements, and participation; refrain from comparisons and criticism.
- ❖ Be respectful of all opponents, teammates, coaches, fans, and game officials at all times.
- ❖ Demonstrate and model good sportsmanship.
- ❖ Honor and respect timeliness to practices and tournaments.
- ❖ Focus your parent coaching on positive attitude and goals, allowing the coach(es) to coach skill and strategy for which they are well trained.
- ❖ Communicate concerns at appropriate times to appropriate personnel for resolution.
- ❖ Address concerns in a timely and respectful manner rather than let them fester and grow, or worse, multiply beyond original concern.

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR PLAYER/PARENT HANDBOOK CONTRACT](#)