

# Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club

## Player/Parent/Coach Handbook



# 2018

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# **Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club**

## **Mission Statement**

Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to developing highly skilled volleyball players in the Mid-Wisconsin area.

Wisconsin Ice offers a top-quality, fun club experience through competitive practice situations, competition in regional and national tournaments, the ability to pursue volleyball opportunities beyond the high school level, and a coaching staff that is knowledgeable, dedicated and caring. Wisconsin Ice VBC is committed to developing self-confidence in the player, stressing personal development as a volleyball player and as an individual, and educating each athlete and parent about the sport of volleyball.

## **Commitment**

Wisconsin Ice is committed to developing the finest volleyball players in the Mid-Wisconsin area. Attendance at all practices and tournaments is expected and players/parents must be able and willing to commit their time and resources to Wisconsin Ice. [Missing practices could affect your playing time in tournaments.](#)

## **Practices & Tournaments**

The Ice season will begin with the first practice on December 3, 2017, for the National, Purple, and Black teams. Chips & Shavings teams will also begin their practice season on December 3, 2017. With the earlier 13s & 14s Tryouts this year, these teams might have a couple of practices in November on Sundays.

Wisconsin Ice Purple & Black teams will conclude their season in mid-March to mid-April. National teams will conclude their season in late June. Teams can continue the season past the end of their regular tournament schedule at their own expense if there is a committed group of girls. This must be approved by the Club Directors and the team Coaches. The players and their parents would be responsible for collecting all of the money from the team and for paying all of the tournament entry fees and practice facility fees as well as the coaches' expenses including practices, coach stipends and hotels, parking fees, and mileage and/or air fare.

National, Purple & Black teams will normally practice twice per week on non-tournament weeks and once per week on tournament weeks for approximately 2 hours per practice. If practice facility space is not available for full 2 hour sessions, the practices might occasionally be reduced to 1 ½ hours.

The Ice Chips will conclude their season in early March. Ice Shavings will conclude their season in late February. Ice Chips will practice two times per week for approximately 1 ½ to 2 hours per session. Ice Shavings will practice once a week, typically on Sunday for 1 ½ hours per session.

Practice facilities and times might vary and will be assigned after teams have been formed. We will attempt to keep the practice facility locations as close to those players and coaches on the team as possible; however there is no guarantee of this as Wisconsin Ice is at the mercy of the availability of the practice facilities. Practice schedules will be posted on the Wisconsin Ice website.

# **Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club Philosophy**

## **The Ice Chips & Ice Shavings Programs**

The biggest emphasis at this age level is to introduce the athletes to the basic skills of volleyball. The basic skills are serving, setting, passing and attacking. Proper footwork and court movement will be stressed. A basic offense and a three or four person serve receive will be used. Athletes will be trained to work and communicate as a team on the court. These age levels (Chips – 11 & 12, Shavings – 8, 9 & 10) are offered as an introduction to the Ice experience and to instill a love of the game in our younger players. Chips teams will compete in a few tournaments; whereas Shavings is strictly an instructional program.

## **13 & 14 and Under Teams**

The biggest emphasis at this age level is to build on the athletes' prior skills of volleyball. The basic skills are serving, setting, passing and attacking. Proper footwork and court movement will be stressed. Offensive & defensive systems will be introduced & refined. Athletes will be trained to work and communicate as a team on the court. This age level prepares the athlete for middle school and high school volleyball and enhances their love of the sport.

## **The 15 & 16 and Under Teams**

Emphasis will still be on mastering the basic skills of volleyball. Athletes will be introduced to advanced offensive strategies as well as advanced defensive systems. Athletes will learn how to anticipate and read what opposing players and teams are doing offensively and defensively. Most often a three person serve receive will be used. Continued emphasis will be placed on communicating and working as a team on the court. This age level enhances the player's skills to prepare them for their high school seasons.

## **The 17 & 18 and Under Teams**

Basic skills should be mastered and will only need minor refinements. Offensive and defensive strategies will be taught and used in practice and team competitions. This involves running combination plays and making minor adjustments offensively and defensively based on your opponent's style of play. A two or three person serve receive will be utilized. Emphasis will continue on communicating and working as a team on the court. This age level prepares the player for top level high school play and college.

# Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club Rules

1. Arrive at practice and tournaments early and fully dressed so that practices can start on time.
2. Taping should be done prior to practice or the start of the warm-ups before the first match.
3. Follow and obey your signed participation Agreement with the Club. **Penalties at the discretion of each team's coaches, as approved by the Directors, will be enforced.**
4. Report all injuries and ailments immediately to the coach.
5. No jewelry, earrings, etc. at practice or matches.
6. Knee pads will be worn at all practices and matches. Knee pads can be ordered on the Spirit Wear Order Form.
7. No food, pop or gum at practice.
8. Call or send an e-mail message to your coach before the scheduled practice time if you are unable to attend a practice due to illness or severe weather conditions. Let your coaches know as far in advance of the practice as possible so that you coach can plan the team practice accordingly.
9. If a conflict arises between a player's commitment to Ice & a school activity or college visitation, the athlete must give her coach advance notice of her absence at least one week before a tournament.
10. Use a wastebasket for disposing of any garbage at all sites.
11. Let your coaches do the coaching! Yelling at officials, teammates or opposing players will not be tolerated.
12. Hustle, listen attentively, and be mentally ready to play. Horseplay or talking on the bench will not be tolerated. Watch your team mates on the floor and especially the players who play your position so you know what they are doing on the court.
13. Be encouraging to teammates.
14. **Do not forget: We will play the way we practice!**

15. When reffing, line judging, scorekeeping, or libero tracking at tournaments, no food, drink other than water, headphones, cell phones or other distractions will be allowed. Your attention must be totally on the match that you are officiating. It is the responsibility of both the coaches and the players to understand how to ref, line judge, scorekeep and libero track.
16. Attendance at all practices and tournaments is expected and players/parents must be able and willing to commit their time and resources to Wisconsin Ice VBC. Missing practices will seriously affect your playing time in tournaments.

# **Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club – Directors, Program Coordinators, & Lead Coaches**

## **Directors**

The **Directors** of the Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club are Jay & Shelly Johnson & Betty Lange. They can be contacted as follows:

### **Jay and Shelly Johnson**

2501 Springville Dr.

Plover, Wisconsin 54467

Shelly 715-340-0466 (cell), Jay 715-340-3784 (cell)

sjjohnson@charter.net

### **Betty Lange**

407 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.

Colby, Wisconsin 54421

715-302-1161 (cell)

Elizabetty\_13@hotmail.com

Please call or e-mail the directors with general concerns about anything involved with the Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club. We ask that any specific concerns about your daughter or Ice be directed to the appropriate **Program Coordinator or Lead Coach** as shown below:

## **Program Coordinators**

### **13s-15s Programs Coordinators**

Shelly & Jay Johnson

Shelly 715-340-0466, Jay 715-340-3784, sjjohnson@charter.net

### **16s-18s Programs Coordinator**

Betty Lange

715-223-6245, elizabetty\_13@hotmail.com

### **Ice Chips Lead Coach**

To Be Determined

### **Ice Shavings Lead Coach**

Jason Rickstad

715-574-1515

jrickstad@capmail.org



## So You Want to be a Good Spectator???

Far more than the winning and losing are the lessons learned in the process of tournament play. To quote Socrates, "I believe that we cannot live better than in seeking to become still better than we are." The sport of volleyball is unique in its core cooperative nature and its strength in building character. The ability to cooperate is far more important to human survival than the ability to compete. Success is a journey, not a destination. Winning and losing are temporary, but friendships last forever, is a Chinese proverb of great truth. We ask that your role from the sidelines and stands match that which we are developing through our coaching education programs and training. – Thanks for working as a part of this Junior Olympic Volleyball program by conducting yourself within these guidelines - John Kessel, USA Volleyball Director of Grassroots & Beach Volleyball Programs.

**Rule Number 1.** Keep POSITIVE support, encouragement, cheerleading and general hollering and yelling to a MAXIMUM on the sidelines.

When players are working hard, they need and deserve everyone's best POSITIVE encouragement and support. They need to know you are there. Most teams have a tough enough time developing a sense of teamwork and achievement as they are also developing their own individual experience and skill. They DO NOT need to hear YOUR anxiety piled on top of their own when the game is going poorly.

**Rule Number 2.** Just one word on criticizing players, coaches or referees - DON'T.

Publicly criticizing players on your team can really hurt morale. They will already have an excellent idea, from all the practicing they have already done, as to their errors. They do NOT need reminders from their families, friends and other spectators. The players for the other team are also doing their best and in truth are probably no more aggressive than the players on your team. Criticism is simply poor sportsmanship and leads to unnecessary bad feelings on and off the playing area. The unfortunate spectacle of a supposed adult shouting insults at a child or other adult is disgusting. Volleyball is a game, not a war. When the opponents make a great play, give them positive encouragement, too.

The referees are making judgment calls on each and every contact, and will err at times, though far fewer than the best player on the team for which you are cheering. Referees may make mistakes, but they never make a bad call in their heart. The referee might ignore you, but also has the right to ask you to leave the playing area. Either situation is at best distracting from the most important thing going on - the player's competition.

**Rule Number 3.** Leave the player coaching to the staff.

This is a game for the players. Coaches are already there on the bench to guide the players and in the stress of the game, there needs to be just one source of feedback, that from the coach. If you think an athlete is not doing what should be done, tell the coaches in private, not the player. As others not on the team occasionally discover, a player on the team may be doing exactly what the coaches have instructed. Either way, a parent can help a player's development much better working with the coaches, not independently.

**Rule Number 4.** Set an example in your actions and words.

Do not break the rules of the tournament, by sneaking in, leaving a mess, smoking, or drinking where/what is not permitted. Players on the court can be removed from the game for foul language, and spectators can too. Degrading actions and words are the bane of sports character development. Leave the gym better than you found it, physically and verbally by being a great role model.

**Rule Number 5.** Remember, it is a GAME.

Therefore, it is supposed to be FUN. Please remember, YOUR attitude in the spectating area can affect the mood and success of a team. Any spectator who persists in inappropriate behavior may be asked to leave the gym. Emotions run high in competition, and feelings are easily hurt. Be tolerant. The place to talk about the game with the coaches is not in the gym, and not around the players.

The program these young athletes are part of is USA Volleyball's JUNIOR OLYMPIC Volleyball programming. Take a moment to read the Olympic Creed and the Oath of Athletes:

“The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well.”

-Baron Pierre de Coubertin

“In the name of all competitors, I promise that we will take part in these Olympic Games, respecting and abiding by all the rules which govern them in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sport and the honor of our teams.”

-Baron Pierre de Coubertin

By – John Kessel, USA Volleyball Director of Grassroots & Beach Volleyball

# Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club

## Player/Parent/Coach Agreement

### General

All players, parents, and coaches receive the Wisconsin Ice VBC Player/Parent/Coach Agreement in this Handbook and have signed the USAV Code of Conduct documents on Webpoint, and hereby acknowledge the receipt and understanding of these documents by their signatures on page 25 of this Handbook. This Handbook, including the Player/Parent/Coach Agreement Form, is to be reviewed and the form should be signed by players, parents, and coaches. Coaches should give their signed form on page 25 to Jay Johnson. **Players and their parents should mail their signed form from page 25 along with a check for their full membership fee to Wisconsin Ice VBC before the first practice of the season in order to participate in that first practice.** The first practice for all programs is scheduled for Dec. 3, 2017. 13s & 14s might start earlier. Mail your signed Player/Parent Agreement Form and membership fee check to Wisconsin Ice VBC, Jay Johnson, 2501 Springville Drive, Plover, WI 54467.

All players and parents must also either attend the Parent & Player Informational Meeting on Sept. 24, 2017, for 14s and under or October 29, 2017, for 15s and above to view the Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club 2018 Season PowerPoint presentation or review the PowerPoint presentation on the [www.wisconsinice.net](http://www.wisconsinice.net) website (under “Resources”, “Informational Meeting”, “Presentation”).

### Commitment

Athletes are expected to attend all practice sessions and tournaments.

### Practice Sessions

A practice session schedule will be provided on the Wisconsin Ice VBC website, [www.wisconsinice.net](http://www.wisconsinice.net), each month and players are expected to attend each and every session. Players cannot be trained if they are not in the gym. Players are to be in the gym, dressed, and ready to practice 10 minutes before the scheduled start of practice. Players must also set up and take down the volleyball standards, nets, and pads in a timely manner. You must maximize the use of the available court time.

**If a practice is missed, the session must be made up by attending another team's practice.** Talk to your coaches for their suggestion as to which practice to attend. **Notify the coach of the practice that you wish to attend by an e-mail message 48 hours in advance of the scheduled practice to ask permission to attend the practice and to allow the coach to plan for your attendance at the practice.** Excused misses will only be considered if the coach is notified 48 hours in advance and only in the cases of illness, death of a family member, school related activities and religious activities. Missed practices due to homework and tests will not be considered as an excused miss. Practice schedules are made well in

advance in order for the athlete to plan their time accordingly. Please remember that you are paying for practice facilities and all members of the team must attend the practices to help prepare for tournaments. When a player misses practice, they are not only penalizing themselves but also the other members of their team. Players should make every effort to respect the facilities. Misuse of the facilities should be brought to the attention of the coaches. Each coach will have their own set of practice rules; be sure to adhere to them.

### **Tournaments**

A tournament schedule will be provided to players on the website within the first two weeks of December. Each player and parent will commit to attending specific tournaments and once the final schedule is determined, the player is expected to attend. Wisconsin Ice VBC entry fees and other tournament fees are covered by the membership fees, but sanction fees imposed by the Badger Region for failure to play, failure to referee, or failure to follow tournament site rules will be charged to the player(s) responsible for the sanction.

The only excuse for unexpectedly missing a tournament is illness or a death in the family. If there is a conflict between a player's commitment to Wisconsin Ice and a school activity or college visitation, the athlete must give the coach advance notice at least one week before the tournament of her absence.

Wisconsin Ice VBC relies on the help of parents to transport their children to and from tournaments. USA Volleyball Junior Olympics competitions are generally held on a Saturday or Sunday for one-day tournaments or multi-day weekend tournaments. Round robin play normally begins between 7:30 am and 8:30 a.m., single elimination play for the top finishers begins in the mid-afternoon, and finals are in the late afternoon. Before leaving a tournament site, it is absolutely necessary to clean up our area. Teams will be fined by Tournament Directors for messes they need to clean up.

Updated schedules for this season's competitions are made available to each athlete from their coach or on the website. Starting time for a tournament can come from the tournament sponsor as late as the DAY BEFORE THE EVENT. Any changes or updates will be relayed to the players by the team's coach, Team Parent, or on the Wisconsin Ice website ([www.wisconsinice.net](http://www.wisconsinice.net)).

When inclement weather threatens a trip, the decision whether to cancel will be made by the Directors who will notify the team and coaches as soon as possible. Please check the [www.wisconsinice.net](http://www.wisconsinice.net) website or a mass e-mail message from WI Ice through Webpoint when the weather looks threatening for potential practice or tournament cancellations. **It will be the parents' final decision as to whether they think it is safe for their own daughter and them to travel.**

Players provide your daughter's food by packing coolers and/or pocket money for meals. Please be aware that some tournaments do not allow food to be carried in and we must abide by the tournament rules. If you choose to bring your own food to a tournament that does not allow carry-ins, then you must keep it outside of the tournament venue and eat it either outside or in your vehicle.

The Wisconsin Ice, Ice Chips, & Ice Shavings athlete is making a commitment to: a) their parents (time and money), b) herself (time and future), c) Wisconsin Ice VBC financially, d) their coach, and e) their teammates. These commitments are not to be taken lightly.

Once an athlete is registered with Wisconsin Ice VBC through USAV/Badger Region on Webpoint, they are not eligible to transfer to another club during the season without a written release from Wisconsin Ice VBC to the USAV Badger Region Office administrators.

### **Team Placement**

Players and parents are advised that time spent participating in the practice sessions, attitude, knowledge, and skill determine playing time with Wisconsin Ice VBC --- NOT YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEES. Missing practices will seriously affect your playing time in tournaments.

A player's placement on a team will be made according to her ability, attitude as evaluated at tryouts, and positions needed on a team. Wisconsin Ice VBC reserves the right to move a player at its sole discretion to another team.

### **Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Policy**

For the athlete: No drugs, alcohol or tobacco will be allowed at any time while participating, traveling with, or being associated with Wisconsin Ice VBC. If a member of Wisconsin Ice VBC is discovered using any of these substances, they will be released immediately from the organization. If the athlete is at a tournament, they will be placed in the charge of a Wisconsin Ice VBC representative and will be required to stay with this representative until they can be returned to their parents. This rule will be strictly enforced.

### **Your Daughter's Training and Tournament Playing Time**

Parents WILL NOT approach any coach with their concern/complaint during a tournament or on the day of a tournament. Concerns/complaints WILL NOT be aired in front of team members at any time including practices. Parents or players **must wait 24 hours** (cool down period) after the conclusion of a tournament before proceeding with the following procedure:

1. Parents must wait 24 hours after the completion of a tournament to address the Coach or Program Coordinator. The Coach & Program Coordinator will determine how these issues should be addressed.
2. Our coaches are selected for their professionalism and ethics. We expect them to treat you with respect and you are also held to the same standard.
3. A joint meeting of all parties involved may be suggested.

If a player or parent, under the Code of Conduct and Player/Parent Agreement and as further established by the guidelines of USAV and Wisconsin Ice VBC, is disrespectful or violates USAV/Wisconsin Ice VBC policy to coaches, parents, players, or officials at any time, she/he will be asked to leave the organization in compliance with USAV/Wisconsin Ice VBC regulations.

### **Parents and the Game**

Please let the athletes play to the best of their ability and leave what coaching is needed to the coach. This is not intended to squelch spectator enthusiasm. Please do cheer and encourage the actions you like and ignore the mistakes you will surely see. Please do not interfere with your child's coach, especially during play, or do anything else that will detract from the enjoyment your child deserves to get from volleyball.

The referees in many cases (especially early rounds of play), like most of us, are volunteers, not professionals. Even professional referees participate in USA Volleyball out of love for the game -- just like Wisconsin Ice coaches and players. Every contact made by each team can be judged; an official's decision may not be agreeable to all participants and spectators, but the decision is final. No useful purpose is served by stating disagreement or shouting derogatory remarks, nor do such actions teach respect for authority.

### **Tournament Behavior**

The primary purpose of attending tournaments is to play volleyball and to compete against the very best possible competition available. It is therefore necessary to set the following rules:

1. While in the Wisconsin Ice uniform, you are expected to conduct yourselves with proper manners, including speech, behavior, and common courtesy.
2. On an overnight situation, you are responsible for getting the correct amount of sleep and for being in the supervision of an adult.
3. It is the responsibility of the player to know the team's plans in terms of playing schedule, uniform, etc.
4. A player may not leave the playing venue without the express permission of her coach.

5. Players must be accompanied by an adult when leaving a playing venue.
6. At National tournaments, all players are asked to stay at the same hotel so that all players can go to and from the tournament site together.

### **General Concerns Other Than Coaching Decisions**

When a parent or player has a concern about a specific issue, they hereby agree to contact the appropriate party to discuss the matter. If it relates to your child, let the child talk to her Coach first regarding the issue. If it relates to something inappropriate related to the athlete's coach, they should talk to the Program Coordinator. If it relates to the administration of the club, they should talk to Jay Johnson, Shelly Johnson, or Betty Lange. There are no other appropriate parties.

### **Amendments**

This Agreement may be amended as deemed necessary by the administration of Wisconsin Ice VBC. The Wisconsin Ice administration acknowledges that this document is unlikely to cover every situation that may arise and therefore, reserves the right to make decisions deemed to be in the best interest of the player, Wisconsin Ice VBC, and the parents, in that order. The undersigned further acknowledge this fact and are willing to accept the Wisconsin Ice administrative decisions.

### **Membership Fee Agreement & Optional Fundraiser**

The Wisconsin Ice VBC individual membership fees for the 2018 season, in addition to the Badger Region/USAV registration fees, are as follows:

- Ice Shavings Program - \$55
- Ice Chips Teams - \$325
- Purple & Black Teams - \$825
- National Teams - \$2300

There will be an optional fundraiser for those players who wish to participate to raise money to assist them with paying their membership fee. This optional fundraiser is described later in this Handbook.

**The non-refundable individual membership fee must be paid in full before the 1<sup>st</sup> practice, which is on December 3, 2017, for all programs. Please note that the membership fee will not be refunded for any reason.** 13s & 14s will have a couple of practices in November due to the earlier Tryout this year; however the membership fee must be paid before the December 3, 2017 practice. **Mail** check payable to “Wisconsin Ice VBC” & the completed & signed Wisconsin Ice VBC Player/Parent Agreement Form (page 25 of this Handbook) to **Wisconsin Ice VBC, Jay Johnson, 2501 Springville Drive, Plover, WI 54467.** **A uniform will not be issued to a player until their membership fee has been completely**

paid. Absolutely no refunds are given after your child has been placed on a team. Please take this into account when accepting an offer.

You will be charged \$25 for each returned check due to “Not Sufficient Funds” to cover the bank fee for any check written to Wisconsin Ice VBC.

If a player does not fulfill their membership fee financial obligation to Wisconsin Ice VBC by the first practice on December 3, 2017, or according to an agreed upon payment plan, then the player’s name will be placed on HOLD in Webpoint for their USAV/Badger Region membership until all fees are paid in full.

If a parent of a player requires a payment plan to pay their membership fees due to financial hardship, they must send an e-mail request with their proposed payment plan to Jay Johnson at [sjohnson@charter.net](mailto:sjohnson@charter.net). If the payment plan is approved by the Treasurer, then the player’s parent must write a check for the agreed upon downpayment before the first practice on December 3, 2017, along with post-dated checks for all of the remaining payments. The checks and the completed page 25 of this Handbook must be mailed to **Wisconsin Ice VBC, Jay Johnson, 2501 Springville Drive, Plover, WI 54467**, and received by the Treasurer before the first practice on December 3, 2017. The post-dated checks will be deposited into the Wisconsin Ice VBC bank account based on the parent’s agreed upon payment schedule.

The membership fee will cover the cost of equipment, uniforms, tournament entry fees, coach instruction and stipends, gym rental, and other costs of administration for the regular season.

Parents and players are responsible for their own transportation to and from tournaments, overnight accommodations, food, spirit wear, socks, shoes, knee pads, and the optional volleyball equipment bag. Teams or players that choose to extend their seasons past the scheduled end of their seasons will incur all costs associated with this longer season, including collecting all monies and paying for all expenses incurred.

Wisconsin Ice VBC will sponsor an optional fundraiser for the 2018 season for those players that need financial assistance to pay their membership fees. Only Wisconsin Ice VBC Players & their parents who have paid their membership fees in full or who are on an approved payment plan are able to participate in the optional Pizza or Gas Card Fundraisers that will be administered by Wisconsin Ice VBC for the 2018 season. Jay Johnson will be the Fundraiser Administrator for the Portesi Pizza & Kwik Trip Gas Card Fundraisers. Jay will collect your pizza orders or gas card orders with one personal check written to “Wisconsin Ice VBC” on December 10, 2017, 2:00-4:00 pm at Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School in Mosinee. No third party checks will be accepted.



The pizza & gas card orders distribution will be held on the weekend of December 16 & 17, 2017, with the site & time to be announced. All pizzas & gas cards must be picked up during this time period. The cost for each pizza is \$8. You write a personal check (no cash) to “Wisconsin Ice VBC” for all of the pizzas or gas cards that you sell. The check should include \$4.25 for each pizza that you sold and you keep the remaining \$3.75 for each pizza sold to defray the cost of your membership fee. You keep 5% of the face value of the gas cards to help defray the cost of your membership fee. You can participate in both fundraisers; however, we ask that you write a separate check for each fundraiser. Remember that Wisconsin Ice does not accept checks from your customers to which you sell pizzas & gas cards. They write checks directly to you and then you write one personal check for the pizzas and one personal check for the gas cards if you participate in both fundraisers.

Parents are also expected to organize and work the concession stands at the Wisconsin Ice VBC sponsored “Season Opener” tournament on January 7, 2018, to help raise the additional funds that are needed to run the Club.

If any extenuating circumstances arise that makes it difficult to meet the financial obligation as required above, please contact the Treasurer, Jay Johnson, to discuss a payment plan.

**Use of your Name, Image, Picture, Likeness, etc.**

All members, by signing the Agreement on page 25 of this Handbook agree to be filmed, videotaped and photographed, and have your name, image, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information otherwise recorded, in any media, during USA Volleyball (USAV) and/or its Regional Volleyball Association (RVA) sanctioned events by USAV, RVA, or Wisconsin Ice representatives, under the conditions specified by the USAV/RVA (the “Footage”).

You also hereby grant USAV/RVA/Wisconsin Ice, with no financial or other compensation due to you, full right and license to use, and to authorize third parties to use, in all media, the Footage for: (1) news and information purposes, (2) promotion of the specific competition(s) in which you compete, (3) promotion of the Sport, (4) promotion of USAV/RVA, provided that, in no event may the USAV/RVA/Wisconsin Ice use or authorize the commercial use of the Footage in any manner that would imply your endorsement of any company, product, or service, without your written permission, and (5) promotion of Wisconsin Ice through brochures, it’s website, etc

# **Social Media & Electronic Communications Policy of Wisconsin Ice VBC**

## **Purpose**

Wisconsin Ice VBC (the “Club”) recognizes the prevalence of electronic communication and social media in today’s world. Many of our student-athletes use these means as their primary method of communication. While the Club acknowledges the value of these methods of communication, the Club also realizes that there are associated risks that must be considered when adults use these methods to communicate with minors.

**Any electronic communication and social media communication between any personnel involved with Wisconsin Ice VBC (the “Club”) related to players, coaches, directors, other personnel involved with the Club, and about the Club in general should be in a proper and positive manner at all times.**

## **General Content**

All communications between a coach or other adult and an athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. The content and intent of all electronic communications must adhere to the USA Volleyball Code of Conduct regarding Athlete Protection.

For example, as with any communication with an athlete, electronic communication should not contain or relate to any of the following:

- Drugs or alcohol use;
- Sexually-oriented conversation; sexually explicit language, sexual activity
- The adult’s personal life, social activities, relationship or family issues, or personal problems; and
- Inappropriate or sexually explicit pictures.
- Note: Any communication concerning an athlete’s personal life, social activities, relationship or family issues or personal problems must be transparent, accessible and professional.

Whether one is an athlete, coach, board member or parent, the guiding principle to always use in communication is to ask: “Is this communication something that someone else would find appropriate or acceptable in a face-to-face meeting?” or “Is this something you would be comfortable saying out loud to the intended recipient of your communication in front of the intended recipient’s parents, the coaching staff, the board or other athletes?”

With respect to electronic communications, a simple test that can be used in most cases is whether the electronic communication with athletes is **Transparent, Accessible and Professional**.

**Transparent:** All electronic communication between coaches and athletes should be transparent. Your communication should not only be clear and direct, but also free of hidden meanings, innuendo and expectations.

**Accessible:** All electronic communication between coaches and athletes should be considered a matter of record and part of the Club's records. Whenever possible, include another coach or parent in the communication so there is no question regarding accessibility.

**Professional:** All electronic communication between a coach and an athlete should be conducted professionally as a representative of the Club. This includes word choice, tone, grammar and subject matter that model the standards and integrity of a staff member.

If your communication meets all three of the **T.A.P.** criteria, then it is likely your method and manner of communication with athletes will be appropriate.

### **Facebook, Instagram, Blogs and Similar Sites**

Coaches may have personal Facebook (or other social media site) pages, but they are not permitted to have any athlete member of the Club join their personal page as a "friend." A coach should not accept any "friend" request from any athlete. In addition, the coach should remind the athlete that this is not permitted. Coaches and athletes are not permitted to "private message" each other through Facebook. Coaches and athletes are not permitted to "instant message" each other through Facebook chat or other IM methods.

The club has an official Facebook page that athletes and their parents can "like" or "friend" for information and updates on team-related matters.

Coaches are encouraged to set their pages to "private" to prevent athletes from accessing the coach's personal information.

### **Twitter**

Best Practice: The club does not have an official Twitter page at this time. If the Club creates an official Twitter page in the future, it would be for coaches, athletes and parents to follow information and updates on team-related matters.

Coaches would not be permitted to follow athletes on Twitter. Likewise, athletes would not be permitted to follow coaches on Twitter. Coaches and athletes would not be permitted to “direct message” each other through Twitter.

### **Texting**

Subject to the general guidelines mentioned above, texting is allowed between coaches and athletes during the hours from 7am until 10pm. Texting only shall be used for the purpose of communicating information directly related to team activities.

### **Email**

Athletes and coaches may use email to communicate. When communicating with an athlete through email, a parent, another coach or a board member must also be copied.

### **Request To Discontinue All Electronic Communications**

The parents or guardians of an athlete may request in writing that their child not be contacted by coaches through any form of electronic communications. Immediate compliance without repercussion must be granted.

### **Misconduct**

Social media and electronic communications can be used to commit misconduct (e.g. emotional, sexual, bullying, harassment and hazing). Such communications by coaches, staff, volunteers, administrators, officials, parents or athletes will not be tolerated and are considered violations of the SafeSport Handbook and the Wisconsin Ice VBC Handbook.

### **Violations**

Violations of the Club’s Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy should be reported to a Club Director. Complaints and allegations will be addressed following the appropriate procedure.

A USA Volleyball participant or parent of a participant who violates this policy is subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including but not limited to: suspension, permanent suspension and/or referral to law enforcement authorities.

# **Travel Policy for Wisconsin Ice VBC**

Wisconsin Ice VBC has some teams that travel regularly to play in tournaments, has some teams where travel is limited to a few events per season, and some teams where there is no travel other than local travel to and from our own area. Wisconsin Ice VBC prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Volleyball SafeSport Handbook. Wisconsin Ice VBC has established policies to guide our travel, minimize one-on-one interactions and reduce the risk of abuse or misconduct. Adherence to these travel guidelines will increase player safety and improve the player's experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

We distinguish between travel to training, practice and local tournaments ("local travel") and team travel involving an overnight stay ("team travel").

## **Local Travel**

Local travel occurs when Wisconsin Ice VBC does not sponsor, coordinate or arrange for travel.

- Players and/or their parents/guardian are responsible for making all arrangements for local travel. The team and its coaches, managers or administrators should avoid responsibility for arranging or coordinating local travel. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure the person transporting the minor player maintains the proper safety and legal requirements, including but not limited to: a valid driver's license, automobile liability insurance, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with applicable state laws.
- The employees, coaches and/or volunteers of Wisconsin Ice VBC or one of its teams, who are not also acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated minor player.

## **Team Travel**

Team travel is overnight travel that occurs when Wisconsin Ice VBC or one of its teams or designees sponsors, coordinates or arranges for travel so that our team can compete locally, regionally or nationally. Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones will often travel with the players.

- When possible, Wisconsin Ice VBC will provide reasonable advance notice before team travel.

- Travel notice will also include designated team hotels for overnight stays as well as a contact person within Wisconsin Ice VBC or the team. This individual will be the point of contact to confirm your intention to travel and to help with travel details.
- Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with a minor player (unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player).
- The coach or his/her designee will establish a curfew by when all players must be in their hotel rooms or in a supervised location. Regular monitoring and curfew checks will be made of each room by at least two properly background screened adults. At no time should only one adult be present in a room with minor players, regardless of gender.
- Team personnel shall ask hotels to block adult pay per view channels.
- Individual meetings between a coach and a player may not occur in hotel sleeping rooms and must be held in public settings or with additional adults present, with at least one of those adults being the same gender as the player.
- Family members who wish to stay in the team hotel are permitted and encouraged to do so.
- The team will make every effort to accommodate reasonable parental requests when a child is away from home without a parent. If any special arrangements are necessary for your child, please contact the team personnel who can either make or assist with making those arrangements.
- No coach or chaperone shall at any time be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.
- In all cases involving travel, parents have the right to transport their minor player.
- Prior to any travel, coaches will endeavor to make players and parents aware of all expectations and rules. Coaches will also support chaperones and/or participate in the monitoring of the players for adherence to curfew restrictions and other travel rules.
- If disciplinary action against a player is required while the player is traveling without his/her parents, then except where immediate action is necessary, parents will be notified before any action is taken, or immediately after.

### **Additional Policies That Might be Suggested by the Directors and/or Coaches For Certain Trips or Events**

The following policies are additional guidelines for developing a travel policy based on the Club's preferences and needs:

- Players are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip. Players are not to leave the competition venue, the hotel, restaurant or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission/knowledge of the coach or chaperone.
- When visiting public places such as shopping malls, movie theatres, etc., players will stay in groups of no less than three persons. Athletes 12 and under will be accompanied by a chaperone.
- Safety Policies
  - Additional guidelines to be established as needed by the coaches;
  - Supervised team room provided for relaxation and recreation;
  - Respect the privacy of each other;
  - Only use hotel rooms with interior entrances;
  - Must wear seatbelts and remain seated in vehicles;
- Behavior Policies
  - Be quiet & respect the rights of teammates and others in the hotel;
  - Be prompt and on time;
  - Develop cell phone usage guidelines;
  - Develop computer usage guidelines including social media;
  - Respect travel vehicles;
  - Establish travel dress code;
  - Use appropriate behavior in public facilities, including language;
  - Establish two different curfews – in own rooms and lights out;
  - Must stay in assigned hotel room; and
  - Needs and well-being of the team come first.
- Financial
  - No room service without permission
  - Players are responsible for all incidental charges
  - Players are responsible for any damages or thievery at hotel;
  - Players must participate in contracted group meals; and
  - Communicate travel reimbursement information and policies.
- General
  - Establish fair trip eligibility requirements;
  - Establish age guidelines for travel trips;
  - Parent(s) responsible for getting player(s) to stated departure point; and
  - Requirements for families to attend “Team Travel Tournaments.”

## **Code of Conduct / Honor Code**

- a.** Team members will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrator, teammates, fellow competitors and the public at all times.
- b.** Team members and staff will refrain from any illegal or inappropriate behavior that would detract from a positive image of the team or be detrimental to its performance objectives.
- c.** The possession or use of alcohol or tobacco products by any athlete is prohibited.
- d.** The possession, use or sale/distribution of any controlled or illegal substance or any form of weapon is strictly forbidden.
- e.** Team members are reminded that when competing in tournaments, traveling on trips and attending other club-related functions, they are representing both themselves and Wisconsin Ice VBC. Athlete behavior must positively reflect the high standards of the club.
- f.** Failure to comply with the Honor Code as set forth in this document may result in disciplinary action. Such discipline may include, but may not be limited to:
  - i. Dismissal from the trip and immediate return home at the athlete's expense;
  - ii. Disqualification from future tournaments, either local or traveling;
  - iii. Financial penalties;
  - iv. Dismissal from team; and/or
  - v. Penalties set forth in the USA Volleyball Participant Code of Conduct, which may include a lifetime ban.
- g.** Players are to refrain from inappropriate physical contact at team activities.
- h.** Players are to refrain from the use of inappropriate language.



# **Compliance with the Wisconsin Ice VBC Player/Parent/Coach Agreement, the USAV Registration Forms, and the USAV Code of Conduct**

Failure to comply with these rules, regulations and financial obligations will subject the player and parents to immediate dismissal from Wisconsin Ice VBC. Said dismissal will be at the sole discretion of the Wisconsin Ice VBC administration. There will be no refunds of fees. Any fees not collected at the time of dismissal must be paid immediately or the matter will be turned over to an attorney for collection and to the Badger Region Volleyball Association office. Additional costs associated with the collection of these funds will be added to the outstanding account.

The undersigned has read and understands the guidelines set forth by Wisconsin Ice Volleyball Club and USAV Code of Conduct and agrees to abide by all of the rules and regulations, including the prescribed financial obligations.

Player's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Player's Team \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. 15 Purple...)

Player's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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If you are a Wisconsin Ice VBC coach for the 2018 season, then sign below:

Coach Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Please mail this form along with your membership fee payment to: Wisconsin Ice VBC, Jay Johnson, 2501 Springville Drive, Plover, WI 54467, so that it is received before December 3, 2017, which is the first regularly scheduled practice for all teams, or you will not be eligible to participate in the first practice. Make sure that the Player's signature and the Parent/Guardian signature are both included before sending in this form.

Your coach will carry these forms along with the Medical Release & Concussion forms to all practices and tournaments.