

# Texas Legacy Volleyball Club Lone Star Region USA Volleyball

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#### Welcome to Texas Legacy Volleyball Club!

We hope that this handbook will help answer any questions you may have about Texas Legacy Volleyball Club throughout the season. Please keep the handbook for reference and feel free to share it with anyone you know who has an interest in playing club volleyball.

#### **Mission Statement:**

At Texas Legacy Volleyball Club, we are dedicated to helping young players grow and excel in the sport of volleyball. Our goal is to provide unparalleled instruction that ensures the building of character and the development of skills and sportsmanship, while providing a fun and Christ-centered environment for our players to reach their maximum potential. With an indomitable work ethic, we believe that our players will be successful on the court and in their future experiences.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

# **Dates to Remember:** There will be no MANDATORY practices during these dates.

Thanksgiving Break	November 18-25
Christmas Break	Dec 21-Jan 2
Spring Break	March 11-15*
	*tournaments may be scheduled at the
	beginning or end of Spring Break.

#### **USAV Age Breakdowns for the 2023-2024 Season are as follows:**

11 and Under born on or after 7/1/12
12 and Under born on or after 7/1/11
13 and Under born on or after 7/1/10
14 and Under born on or after 7/1/09
15 and Under born on or after 7/1/08
16 and Under born on or after 7/1/07
17 and Under born on or after 7/1/06
18 and Under born on or after 7/1/05

#### Playing other sports while playing at Texas Legacy Volleyball Club:

It is not our desire for girls to have to choose one sport at this time in their lives. However, it is challenging to play two or more club sports at the same time. Practices may not conflict, but there will more than likely be tournament conflicts.

Please consider this carefully and let your coach know immediately if you will miss any tournaments. Absences from tournaments can have an impact on your team's ability to compete. Because you are making both financial and time commitments to us, we want your daughter and her teammates to get the best possible experience.

#### How many players will be on a team?

This varies depending on age and level of the team. Our goal is to have teams of 10-12. We strive to not have more than 12 and no less than 8.

#### How are the teams selected?

Athletes will be evaluated on their performance during the tryouts and how they communicate with others. Teams are selected through tryouts where the skill level of each individual athlete is evaluated. If there is more than one team per age level, the teams will then be created by skill level. If there is an age group with an excessive amount of girls at the same skill level, we will divide by position and create more than one team at the same level.

Once a player commits to play for Texas Legacy Volleyball club, she will be responsible for all fees for the entire season. She will also be committed to working with Legacy coaches and should not be taking lessons or working with coaches from other clubs.

Elite/Adidas/National level expectations: At the highest level, the expectation is that athletes understand the commitment it takes to be a part of this team. Club volleyball must be a top priority. Athletes need to be in the gym outside of scheduled practices working to accelerate their level of play. We want a player who self-driven and willing to work to compete. Athletes and parents understand that play time is never guaranteed when competing. Athletes and parents understand it is the job of the coach(es) to put together lineups they believe can/will win, and that athletes do not receive "fair chances" in live game play – they are expected to earn their opportunities in practice.

Elite teams should be competing in the top 20 in the Lone Star Region.

Adidas teams should be competing in the top 48 in the Lone Star Region.

National teams should be competing in the top 75 in the Lone Star Region.

<u>Black level expectations</u>: At the regional level, the expectation is that athletes understand commitment and being a team player. Club volleyball should be a top priority. Athletes and parents understand play time is

never guaranteed but must be earned during practices. Attitude, effort, and skill all affect playing time. There should be no expectation of "even" play time. Travel is involved and athletes are expected to travel to all out-of-town tournaments with the team.

<u>Texas level expectations</u>: At the local level, the expectation is that athletes understand commitment and being a team player. Club volleyball should be a priority. Athletes and parents understand play time is never guaranteed but must be earned during practices. Attitude, effort, and skill all affect playing time. There should be no expectation of "even" play time, but all athletes will get the opportunity to compete.

#### How long is the club volleyball season?

Regular season practices will begin in November and conclude in late April or early May. Our teams will participate in approximately 2 tournaments per month starting in December. Elite level teams WILL compete in postseason and the cost is included in your fees. Adidas/National level teams may compete in the postseason at an additional cost. If a team qualifies for the USA Junior National Championships (late June/early July), additional expenses of the extended season will be the responsibility of that individual team and not the other club members. It is required that athletes on any team receiving a bid to nationals will participate in the extended season.

If Legacy decides to send a team to AAU Nationals in Orlando or Volleyfest in Phoenix, athletes will be selected by Legacy coaches and additional expenses will be incurred for those who choose to participate.

#### **Texas Legacy Volleyball Club Fees**

Fees are different for each level of team and differ primarily based on the amount of practice time, coaching, facility fees, and scheduled tournaments throughout the 2022-2023 season. Uniform packages are very similar for all teams. Expenses for traveling are in addition to membership dues. Fees for TLVC can either be paid up front or a payment plan can be followed. Tuition paid in full up front will receive a 5% discount off the cost. For a player to be eligible to participate in the first practice, all required player forms and payment information must be complete!

### How and when do we pay the fees?

All players should be registered online with our system and enrolled in a payment plan if you have not already paid your tuition in full. Fees will be due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.

# What happens if we don't pay the fees?

Fees not paid will result in suspension of the player's participation in practices and tournaments until the fees are up to date. For players whose fees are not paid by the due date according to your plan, a charge of \$50.00 will be added to your account. If there is a problem getting your payment in by the 1<sup>st</sup>, please notify Jen Cobb at jen.txlegacy@gmail.com.

#### Uniforms

Uniform costs are built into the fees. Uniform packages differ based on the level of the team.

# What other expenses do we need to consider?

Travel to and from practices and tournaments, and meals are not covered in your fees. Depending on level of the team, tournament locations will vary from mainly in and around Houston, to multiple out-of-town/out-of-state competitions. There are tournaments that will require overnight stay. Hotel blocks will be made for each team (see below for Stay and Play policy), but you are responsible for booking off the block and hotel payment. Also, all tournaments charge admission for the spectators and sometimes parking.

#### What is STAY AND PLAY?

Almost every out of town tournament has a "Stay and Play" policy. As a team and a club we must participate in this hotel policy to participate in the tournament. That means every girl on the team must book through this system and stay at the same hotel. The hotel rates and locations provided by the tournaments are very fair and adequate.

Rooms will be blocked by Legacy admin and coaches for the overnight tournaments. Parents will be able to go in and reserve a room off of the block BY A SPECIFIED DATE/TIME. TLVC will not be held liable if it is not taken care of properly or on time. Admin will be in touch with instructions for reserving rooms off the blocks.

#### **Ref and Score Clinics**

Each of our girls is expected to attend a score clinic at the beginning of the season (or once her current active scorer status is expired – must be renewed every two years) and become a certified USAV scorekeeper. Legacy does not cover the cost of the clinic, but we will provide a link with a list of available clinic options prior to the season. The Lone Star Region requires for this to be completed before competing in our first sanctioned tournament.

# **Practices**

<u>We expect all players to be at every practice</u>. If the player cannot attend practice, she must contact her coach at least 4 hours before practice begins. Coaches are responsible for creating practice plans and need to be aware of absences in advance to plan accordingly. It is not the responsibility of the player's parent to contact the coach, but can follow up if needed.

<u>Coaches are required to keep attendance for their teams.</u> Missed practices will be recorded by the club administrators.

Consequences for the following will streamlined across the club.

- Tardy to a practice with or without advising coach before practice TARDY MAKE-UP WORKOUT
- Tardy to a tournament REF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ALL WORK TEAM MATCHES
- Missed practice or tournament PRACTICE MAKE-UP WORKOUT / TBD by coach

#### Playing time may be affected for the following:

- Missed practice before a tournament
- Tardy to a tournament without advising coach
- Missed tournament without advising coach

Please keep in mind that we understand there are extenuating circumstances. Coaches are to discuss these situations with the Director or Assistant Director if there is a need for an exception.

# **Playing Time**

**Equal playing time at tournaments is not guaranteed**. Players earn playing time according to the discretion of their coaches. Factors that will be considered are the level of competition, the ability of the athlete, the attitude/sportsmanship/effort of the athlete, the need of the team, and the importance of the match or tournament. Play time at tournaments is earned at practices. Obviously missed practices and any violation of the practice agreement can result in loss of playing time as well. We will be playing to win during tournaments and sometimes individual's court time may be limited. Playing time at practice will always be equal.

TLVC requires our <u>players</u> to talk with their coach when there is a question or a concern about her playing time. Questions about playing time should be directed at the COACH of the team by the ATHLETE with the question. Our coaches are open to discuss the roles, expectations and status of each of our athletes, but those discussions need to happen between coach and athlete first, not the parent. The ability to communicate in an adult manner will help them on and off the court. If your athlete meets with her coach and is still unsatisfied, at that point the parent can request a meeting with the coach. If the issue is still not resolved, please request a meeting with player, coach, parent and a Legacy administrator.

Please do not allow problems and emotions to build up. We would rather handle the problem immediately to allow the best possible experience for your daughter.

# The best time to talk to a coach

Coaches will gladly come early or stay after practices to meet with parents and players to address any questions or concerns you have, but please contact the coach beforehand. Please do not engage a coach during his/her practice or while players are present. We do not want to use any court time we have on anything other than developing our athletes.

You may call or email your coach at any time. However, <u>please do not speak to the coaches about any</u> <u>concerns at tournaments</u>. As stated in our parent expectations, please wait a minimum of 24 hours after a tournament before contacting the coach to express your concerns.

#### **Tournament Information**

Coaches will be responsible for supplying tournament information once the information for each tournament is provided to us. Typically, tournament schedules will not be released until the week of the tournament, so please bear with us. Season schedules will be disseminated as soon as tournaments are released and we create a plan for each team. All schedules are TENTATIVE; our teams are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The requirements to be accepted in tournaments vary and can cause changes to be made to schedules.

#### TRAVEL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

When we are traveling in and out of state to tournaments and National Qualifiers, Texas Legacy requires a curfew for the athletes and asks that athletes who travel prior to the tournament do not attend theme/water parks or any other draining activity prior to play. Please reserve this for AFTER the tournament.

AM Wave Curfew: 9:30 pm

PM Wave Curfew: 11:00 pm; wake up and move around by 9:30 am.

These curfews require athletes to be IN THEIR HOTEL ROOMS and are in place to ensure athletes get a good night's sleep to prep for play.

Advanced Event Systems (AES) is a great place to view tournaments and schedules in advance as well. The link is www.advancedeventsystems.com.

# **Legacy Ministry**

The mission of Legacy Ministry is to help young athletes find their identity in Christ by providing an environment that fosters spiritual growth through both evangelization and a commitment to serving our community.

Coach Hanna Smith leads our athlete ministry and has truly been given a gift for spreading God's love and His Word to young women. Legacy Ministry is included in your fees, but registration is optional. Once our teams' schedules are set for the season, we will set the Ministry schedule so it interferes with as few tournaments as possible. This is a beautiful option for your girls to grow in their walks with Christ and to learn the Word of God in a comfortable, positive and safe environment. Our goal is for the majority of our athletes to participate in this Ministry and to then spread the Good News to others.

#### **Additional Information**

Our administrators and coaches are dedicated to providing an amazing experience for our athletes, and will utilize devotionals, books, studies, and/or community service opportunities for team-bonding activities, guidance and motivation for this season and for our athletes' futures.

Being a Christian-based club, Texas Legacy Volleyball strives to give back to the community and provide an extraordinary experience for our athletes. We work to take part in at least one community service project, and our coaches reserve the right to pray over our kids at their discretion.

# PLEASE SEE PARENT AND PLAYER EXPECTATIONS ON FOLLOWING PAGES

#### **Parent Expectations**

#### PLEASE SEE YOUR TEAM CONTRACT FOR FULL EXPECTATIONS FOR THE 2023-24 SEASON

Very few youth programs are successful without the support of parents. Texas Legacy Volleyball Club wants each of our players to have a positive experience and get the most out of their season. Below you will find some guidelines that may help you be supportive of your daughter.

- Focus on supporting your child's mastery of volleyball skills, strategy, and self-development. Competitive ranking focuses on winning and losing, which is outside of an individual athlete's control. Volleyball is a TEAM sport and allows your athlete to develop life-long values and self-respect.
- Try to stay positive and keep negative emotions away. No one wants to perform poorly. If you react negatively, it can add to the pressure and make it harder for the athlete to shake off mistakes. Try to avoid negative talks after a bad practice or an off day at a tournament. Athletes are typically hard enough on themselves, without parents adding their thoughts. If you wish to discuss their performance, wait 24-48 hours, when the emotion is gone. Try not to confuse support with constantly reminding the athlete that they need to focus, practice more, and condition.
- Show respect for other players, parents, opponents, officials, and the program. Please keep in mind these young ladies have feelings and when hearing negativity from another adult, it can be devastating. The same goes for parents. Please consider how you would feel if parents were talking about your child. Good sportsmanship does not only apply to your child on the court, parents should be setting an example as well. Please refrain from arguing or questioning an official. It is their job to use their best judgment when making a call. As a coach, if we do not agree, we will handle the situation appropriately. You are representing your daughter and our club at these events and we will not tolerate any kind of disrespect.
- Understand and respect the differences in roles between parents and coaches. When you decide to join the
  Texas Legacy Family, you trust that we have provided you with a coach that has your daughter's best interest in
  mind. Please avoid coaching "over the shoulder" of the coach and publicly questioning coaching decisions. In
  most situations, the parent will perceive something completely different than what has actually happened on
  the court.
- If a problem arises, please notify the Head Coach first, not the Club Director. Please wait a minimum of 24 hours after an incident before contacting the coach to express your concerns. Under NO circumstances shall a parent approach a coach during competition or when other players or parents are present. The parent, player, and coach will often resolve the conflict and learn from the experience. If the parent and coach cannot resolve the issue, contact the Club Director.
- Parents are invited to participate in officiating/score keeping clinics and assist with team activities. Each team
  will need at least 1-2 team moms for the season. Team moms will help with group travel arrangements (booking
  group flights, van rentals), team dinners, team shirts, any extra-curricular activity as a team, and may help coach
  with team correspondence.
- Last, but NOT least...please assure your player arrives/is picked up on time for practice and tournaments. If there is an emergency, please contact your coach and the Club Director.

#### **Player Expectations**

- I will ALWAYS give PERFECT EFFORT.
- I will be a team player and will show respect for my teammates and coaches.
- I will be coachable and accept feedback from the coaches because I know they are here to make me better and to push me to reach my full potential.
- I will do my best to have a positive attitude.
- I understand playing time is guaranteed **ONLY** at practice and will <u>NOT</u> be equal at tournaments. Playing time is earned by hard work, performance, and attitude, but level of team and competition will also be determining factors in coaches' decision-making.
- I am expected to work hard at every practice. I understand that even if I am a stronger player, but not working hard, I will not play.
- I will be **ON TIME** to practices and tournaments and remain for the duration of all events. Tardies to tournaments will result in working all sets assigned to my team.
- I will wear assigned practice shirts and spandex at all team practices.
- I will wear warm up shirts, shorts, and/or pants assigned by Legacy at all tournaments.
- I will wear cover shorts over my spandex before, after, and between matches.
- No cell phones will be permitted during practice or at a tournament.
- I am expected to communicate with my coaches ahead of time about absences, expected tardiness, concerns, or anything that will affect my team's practice plans.
- I understand missing practices, continued tardiness, and leaving early could result in consequences. These consequences are at the discretion of my coach.
- I understand it is **MY** responsibility to discuss questions and concerns with my coach(es) prior to my parents getting involved.
- I will be on my best behavior at all times. Inappropriate language and disrespect for others will not be tolerated.
- I understand engaging in any illegal activity will not be tolerated by Texas Legacy Volleyball Club and may be grounds for dismissal. I will represent this club and my family in a positive manner.
- I understand only positive and supportive comments should be made about the club, team, or other teams on social media sites. I will be mindful of my posts and comments and understand that Legacy has a zero-tolerance policy for online bullying or inappropriate posts. This includes private accounts. I will respect my position within Legacy's organization and represent this club to the best of my abilities.
- I understand that club volleyball is a big commitment and will make practices, tournaments, and team events a priority.
- Love Jesus, have FUN, and enjoy the game.

We look forward to a great season!!! - TLVC Staff