**PHOENIX VOLLEYBALL CLUB**

Director: Kala O’Connell (608) 516-4497

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**CLUB MISSION**

Our mission as a club is to teach, develop and reinforce the proper fundamental skills necessary for young athletes to succeed in the competitive sport of volleyball while fostering positive examples of life skills necessary to excel into adulthood.

**CLUB GOALS**

Our goal as a club is to offer athletes an opportunity to improve their volleyball skills close to home at a reasonable cost, with experienced coaches.

To help improve and develop the skill level in all players so they can learn, have fun, become the best players they can become.

Through playing volleyball together our goal as a club is to foster a sense of competitive togetherness; To strengthen the skills of each athlete, while teaching them how to work together as part of a team.

**FEES:**  **$ 550** per player based on minimum of 8 players per team and 5-6 tournaments. This fee gets paid to Phoenix Volleyball Club to operate the club.

Additional fee of $55, which gets paid online to obtain your Badger Region Membership and goes to Badger Region for your USAV Membership. This must be taken care of on your own. This money does not go to Phoenix Volleyball Club.

In order to practice/play you must be registered with Badger Region and select Phoenix Volleyball Club as the club you are playing for. This needs to be completed **after** you have been accepted on to a team, before you can practice.

**WHAT THE CLUB FEE COVERS**:

X tournament team entry fees

X jersey

X coach's USAV Membership, Background Screen, SafeSport and IMPACT training

X coach's salary

X club to run from late November/early December through end of March/beginning of April

X practices

X equipment (balls, ball carts, medical bags, etc.)

\* The only additional expenses would be your own travel costs (gas, food, lodging if you do any overnight tournaments).

**HOW PAYMENT WORKS:**

Full USAV Membership must be completed on your own prior to first practice. Total cost: $55

**Cannot participate in practice without USAV Membership.** This needs to be done online at [www.badgervolleyball.org](http://www.badgervolleyball.org).

**Payment Options Available for Club Fee:**

Option One: Pay full club fee of **$550** by Sunday, November 5, 2023

Option Two: Pay in two installments.

Installment number one in amount of **$275** due by Sunday, October 22, 2023

* + 1. Installment number two in amount of **$275** due by Sunday, November 19, 2023

**\* Unless an alternate payment plan has been arranged and approved, all player dues must be current within 15 days. Any player whose account is out of compliance will not be allowed to practice or play until the account is current. Any payment that is late (more than 15 days) is subject to a $25 late fee. If the payment is paid late but WITHOUT the additional late fee, the player will not be allowed to play.**

Payments should be mailed to:

Phoenix Volleyball Club

609 W Hudson St

Mazomanie, WI 53560.

Checks can be made out to Phoenix Volleyball Club.

It is very important that we receive either the full payment or first installment by the due date. In early December, we will be purchasing jerseys to wear at the tournaments. We will also be registering all teams online for their tournaments at the end of November. In order to be considered and accepted into tournaments, we need to register and send in payment for the tournaments.

This is directly from the Badger Region Volleyball Association’s Club Director Handbook:

“*A Junior Club player must remit all club fees as specified by their Club/Team, within the club’s scheduled time frame. If fees are unpaid at the end of the Club’s season, the Club Director may use any legal means necessary to obtain payment, i.e. collection agency. Nonpayment will result in the athlete’s name being submitted to the Badger Region Office, resulting in the athlete being restricted from registering or participating with the Region until the fees are paid. A letter requesting payment that includes the parent’s name, player’s name, player’s age level and notification of this policy must be sent to the family and a copy to the region office. Club directors must notify the region office immediately when payment has been made and the hold will be taken off the player’s membership in Webpoint.”*

\*We want all who would like to participate and get selected for a team to have the opportunity to play with us. If you need to work out a different payment option, please discuss it with the Director to see if it is a possibility.

**REFUNDS:**

When you accept an offer to participate, you accept the financial obligation for the entire club fee for that season. When teams are developed, monies immediately go directly into uniforms, tournament entry, among other fees. Refunds will not be given to athletes who choose not to play because of conflicts, team or coaching assignments, or an individual's amount of playing time. Prorated refunds will only be considered for athletes who suffer season-ending injuries while playing on the Phoenix Volleyball Club team, on a case-by-case basis with a physician's letter. Injuries incurred outside of Phoenix Volleyball Club team will not be considered for a refund.

**TOURNAMENT CANCELATION:**

If team members, as a team, take it upon themselves to not attend a tournament for any reason, each team member will be assessed a $15 fee to cover the cost we are charged from the Badger Region for backing out of a tournament. Players will not be able to participate until this fee has been paid. If arrangements can be made in advance and we are able to get out of a tournament, at no charge from Badger Region, no fee will be assessed to team members.

**TRYOUTS:**

We will do our best to offer teams to accommodate the most girls possible. This will be based on the number of girls trying out, ages of girls trying out and skill levels, as well as number of coaches available. Girls may try out for teams that are above their age but not the other way around. Teams will be formed not solely based on age, but on abilities as well. It is possible for younger girls to be placed on an older age team if they have the skills and abilities to successfully compete at a more advanced level.

At tryouts, athletes will go through a physical evaluation; coaches evaluate their potential as well as intrinsic traits. We base our selections on what the athletes do during the tryout period and what we perceive their potential to be.

Teams will typically consist of between 8 and 11 players. Total team participants are left to the discretion of the team coaches. Teams will be chosen in an effort to maximize the advancement of all players.  **It is up to the discretion of the team coaches if they would like to move a player to a different age group (“playing up”).**

**PRACTICES:**

Practices will be held 1-2 times per week. Some coaches may choose to only have 1 practice during the week if they have a tournament that weekend. We will do our best to schedule practices at the same time each week but because of many activities going on in the winter, gym space is sometimes limited and we may have to change the schedule. Practices will be held at the Middle School (North Gym) or the High School (South Gym).

**If an athlete cannot be at practice, the athlete is expected to contact the coach.** If unable to attend due to a previous commitment, let your coach know as soon as possible. Regardless of the reason, if an athlete misses practices, playing time may decrease and roles may be reviewed. Club dues will not be refunded for missing practices.

**PLAYING TIME:**

Playing time is important to everyone. That is why we will aim to keep club teams relatively small, to allow for maximum learning and playing time to utilize new skills obtained. Equal playing time is encouraged but not guaranteed. Your club membership fees go toward practice time and instruction by qualified experienced coaches, NOT just playing time in tournaments. More playing time is earned by being at practice and working hard to improve, as well as **executing** the skills when given the opportunity to play. THE AMOUNT OF PLAYING TIME FOR ALL PLAYERS IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COACH AND MAY NOT BE EQUAL FOR ALL PLAYERS. Attitude toward teammates and coaches, willingness to learn and apply, communication and comprehension also all go into playing time considerations.

*Communication regarding playing time*

Please do not talk to the coach about playing time during or immediately following a tournament. If you have a concern about playing time, it is best to set up a meeting with the coach (along with your child) to discuss playing time and the reasoning behind why these decisions were made.

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROCEDURE:**

The following guidelines have been established to protect the players, coaches and parents from uncomfortable and inappropriate situations when it comes to the professional discussion and handling of grievances. The coaches within Phoenix Volleyball Club have been instructed to adhere to these guidelines to better maintain the club/player/parent relationship.

The procedure to discuss concerns about policies and actions are as follows:

1. The athlete should speak with the coach regarding the matter
2. If the matter remains unresolved and there is a legitimate concern, the parent AND athlete should request to meet with the coach. Coaches will ONLY meet with parents when the athlete is present, and not at a tournament.
   1. Please do not confront a coach before, during or after an event. Arrange to meet with your coach at a convenient time for all parties, including before or after practice.
   2. If a parent approaches a coach during a tournament, we have instructed our coaches to refuse to discuss the situation, to refer the parent to a club director, and walk away.
   3. We also instruct our coaches not to get involved in a texting conversation.
3. If the matter remains unresolved, the parent can request a meeting with the club director, along with the coach and the player. THE PLAYER MUST BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

It is important that players and parents alike understand that conversation with a coach is allowed and encouraged at any time throughout the season as long as it is civil and polite. However, when problems arise, we will all need to be rational and calm before discussion occurs.

* Phoenix Volleyball Club will not acknowledge or act upon any negative emails. While convenient for conveying details, email can also leave room for interpretation of feelings and misunderstandings. To initiate the grievance process, please contact the coach by phone or schedule an in-person meeting.
* Phoenix Volleyball Club will require 24 hours from the time of the incident before a meeting is able to be scheduled. Please conduct all scheduling through email.
* All problems or questions should wait until after the tournament or practice is concluded. At this time, our coaches would be more than happy to discuss any concerns you may have. The athlete must be included in this conversation. No conversations will be held without the athlete in attendance, to make sure that everyone is getting and giving the same message.

**Additional Information that may be helpful**

**Reporting Inappropriate Behavior of Club Staff**

Phoenix Volleyball Club vigilantly maintains a policy that places the safety of the young athletes entrusted to our care and instruction as our highest priority. We watch team activities and interactions closely to try to prevent miscommunications that cause discomfort to any of the athletes or parents. If you see behavior of a Phoenix Volleyball Club employee that you believe to be inappropriate, report it immediately to the club director. All complaints will be investigated. Any employee found to be in violation of policy would be subject to discipline, which may include dismissal. There will be no retaliation against any complainants and/or witnesses who participate in an investigation. If you have any questions regarding the Phoenix Volleyball Club policies or procedures, please do not hesitate to contact the club director.

**Club Communication Policy & Guidelines**

Parenting and coaching are important and complimentary vocations and by working together we are able to better provide benefits to the player. Since she is beginning to move into the adult world, one of our goals is to make them responsible for their own actions.

* Examples of Communication Coaches Expect From Parents
  + Advanced notification of any schedule conflicts. Preferably an email or phone call.
  + Specific concern regarding a coach’s philosophy and/or expectation.

Since our goal as a program is to move each athlete forward in their development as a player and a person, it is our request that you encourage your child to discuss any of the issues first with their coach. If your child is unclear of the resolution, please feel free to contact the coach with your child present.

* Examples of Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches
  + The treatment of your child – both mentally and physically
  + Ways to help your child improve
  + Concerns about your child’s behavior

Our coaches are professionals who make tough decisions based on what they believe to be the best for the team and athletes involved. Certain things can and should be discussed with coaches. Other things, such as those in the following section, must be left to the discretion of the coach and will not be discussed, either in person or via phone or email:

* Examples of Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches
  + Team Strategy
  + Play Calling
  + Other Athletes or Coaches
  + Playing Time (unless framed such as “what can my child to do to earn more playing time?”)

Situations may arise that may require a conference between the coach and a parent. These are to be encouraged, and it’s important that both parents/guardians of the player have a clear understanding of the other’s perspective.

**Phoenix Volleyball Club Signature Page (PARENT/PLAYER COPY)**

I have read and understand this handbook and agree to follow these rules and any other rules and regulations deemed appropriate by Phoenix Volleyball Club. By signing this agreement, the player and parent signify they understand the rules and regulations to participate with Phoenix Volleyball Club.

Rules included in this manual may only be the basic guidelines and other rules may be added throughout the playing season that would enhance the performance and structure of Phoenix Volleyball Club.

I understand that I am committing to the Phoenix Volleyball Club for the entire 2023-24 season. I understand that I will owe the dues as outlined by the club, and I agree to pay these dues according to club policy, even in the event of injury.

I understand the communication procedures outlined in this handbook and will follow these procedures should an issue arise during the season.

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Parent(s), Legal Guardian(s) Signature Date

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Player Signature Date

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Player Name (Printed) & Team Name

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**Phoenix Volleyball Club (CLUB COPY)**

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Player Name (Printed) & Team Name

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