



Player Handbook of Club Rules and Regulations – 2018/19

Players Name _____

I, as the player, have read and understand the try-out guidelines, the KRVA recruiting process and the Surge Volleyball Club Rules and Regulations. My signature on this form shows my commitment and agreement to follow the Surge Volleyball Club rules for the 2018/19 club season. I am also aware of the rules of the KRVA and understand I cannot play for another USA volleyball club during the 2018/19 season without the consent of the Surge Volleyball Club Director and the KRVA. The 2018/19 club season will conclude after the Girls and Boys Junior Olympic National Championships. Updates to these policies will be published to our website and notification will be sent to all parents to review these changes/updates.

Players Signature _____ Date _____

Parent / Guardian(s) Signature _____ Date _____

SURGE VOLLEYBALL CLUB WILL KEEP A COPY OF THIS SIGNED DOCUMENT ON FILE

SURGE PLAYER'S CODE

As a player for Surge Volleyball Club, I, _____ (player name), promise to conduct myself by the following Code of Conduct. Surge is committed to all of its players exercising good sportsmanship at all times. Our program philosophy is that our athletes should represent themselves, their family, their team and our organization in a positive and respectful manner. In order to represent our athlete's commitment, we have developed the following Code of Conduct for our players:

R RESPECT: I commit to respecting everything & everyone around me at all times. Respect of equipment, site, and personal property. Respect of everyone including teammates, opponents, coaches, officials and parents. I will not use my phone during practice times, during work team assignments, or on the court ever. _____ (Initials)

A ATTENDANCE: I will attend all events, practices, and tournaments. I will contact my coach immediately by phone, text or email if I am unable to attend practice. I understand that continued absence is a justified loss of playing time. _____ (Initials)

A ATTITUDE: I will always demonstrate a positive sportsmanship attitude. I will stay engaged, be respectful of my coach, teammates, officials and opponents at all times. I will exhibit a high level of sportsmanship at all times and in all situations. _____ (Initials)

C COMMUNICATION: I commit to positive and informative communication on and off the court with my teammates, coaches, administration and parents. _____ (Initials)

E ETHIC: I commit to 100% maximum effort at all times during practices and tournaments. I commit to never giving up on a ball chasing it regardless of where it ends up. _____ (Initials)

I understand that coaches make decisions about lineups and playing time based on a variety of factors including attitude, effort, attendance, skill and ability. I commit to supporting my team whether I am on the court or on the bench. I will help my team in every possible way whether on the court or off by providing positive feedback and critiques before, during and after play. _____ (Initials)

I have read the player handbook and understand what is expected of me as a representative of Surge Volleyball. I will complete all registrations, forms and other administrative requests in a timely fashion. I understand I will be benched for practices and tournaments if these requirements aren't met. I understand that failure to meet these expectations will be cause for loss of practice and/or playing time or suspension from my team.

Player Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

About our Club: The Surge Volleyball Club is a new organization opening up in the Berks County area under the Keystone Regional Volleyball Association (KRVA) governed by USA Volleyball, the sanctioning body for amateur volleyball in the United States. We are not sponsored by or affiliated with any School District.

Our Mission: Surge Volleyball Club's mission is to provide a competitive program that builds a strong foundation of fundamental skills, techniques and strategies in our athletes while building their love for the game of volleyball. The Surge Volleyball Club currently welcomes junior male and female athletes ages 10-18 as well as adults 18+.

Coaches: Our Coaching Staff is dedicated, experienced and comprise of volunteers who have been associated with the game of volleyball for many years. They are required to provide instruction that is appropriate based on our athletes age and ability. We stress team spirit and sportsmanship while instilling the desire to win.

Age requirements: The various 2018/19 age group breakdown are as follows:

Once a player participates (including but not limited to practicing, training, attending workouts and/or competing) in a club or varsity program for any university, college, community college, or junior college, he/she is ineligible to take part in any regional and national programming, which includes but is not limited to national JNC qualifying and championship events.

18 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2000

or

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2000 and a high school student in the twelfth (12th) grade or below during some part of the current academic year

17 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2001

16 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2002

15 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2003

14 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2004

13 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2005

12 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2006

11 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2007

10 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2008

9 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2009

8 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 2010

Boys 14 and Under Division:

Regionally waived boys teams in the 14 and under age group will be allowed to participate at the USA Junior National Championships using the following age/grade definition:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2004

or

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2003 (15 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the eighth grade (8th) during the current academic year. (This exception is based on the net height difference of 7'4 1/8" to 7' 11 5/8" between the 14 and Under Division to the 15 and Under Division.)

Note: These age definitions are used by domestic club programs and are NOT the same as the age definitions for the International and Domestic High Performance programs for 2018/19.

The Age Definition Policy was most recently revised by the USA Volleyball Board of Directors on January 19, 2002. The classification cut-off date of September 1 was reviewed by the USAV Junior Assembly and the USA Regional Volleyball Association Assembly prior and during to the USAV 2013 Annual Meetings and research justified the continuation of the cut-off date of September 1.

Uniforms: Club registration fee includes 3 jerseys for girls/women and 2 for boys. A flyer with additional information will be distributed at the parent meeting for more accessory options along with the opportunity to try on sample jerseys.

Try-outs: All players must register with KRVA at www.krva.org to participate in try-outs. Players just trying out for the team may choose the \$15 membership option (non-refundable) on the KRVA website when initially filling out the form. If the player is select to be on the team and they accept our offer, they would then need to upgrade their membership to full membership for an additional \$37.00. The total membership fee for KRVA is \$52.00 annually. Players will have to initially register their club affiliation as UNDECIDED. Players who receive and accept an offer to play within our club will declare club affiliation upon upgrading to full membership. Players are required to print their USA Membership Card and your completed Medical Release Form and bring them along to your Surge Volleyball Club Try-outs. All players must be accompanied by a parent or an adult over 18 to the try-outs. There is a \$40 nonrefundable fee for the try-out registrations sent in early and \$60 for walk-ins. Checks made payable to Surge Volleyball. \$35 fee charged for returned checks for insufficient funds.

Team Selection: Our Club would like to have every player make a team but that is not always feasible. Our Club holds try-outs so we can select the athletes based on their skills, potential, positive attitude, coach-ability and the availability of coaching staff. All of our athletes are chosen by following the KRVA Recruiting and Tryout Guidelines, which can be found on the KRVA website at www.krva.org. Players will be notified if they are chosen for a team by email the Monday following try-outs. The offer to be on a team must be accepted or declined by the player or parent within 48 hours of the email's time stamp as per KRVA rules. Accepted offers must be accepted by emailing offers@krva.org and copying Surge Volleyball at surge@surgevolleyball.org. Players must then go to www.krva.org and click on the Webpoint registration site, log into their account and affiliate themselves with Surge Volleyball Club. Athletes may be selected to play on a team above their age group but may not play on a team that is below their age group. USA volleyball no longer provides waivers for players to play an age group lower. All offers are binding as outlined in KRVA and will remain in affect until the end of the 2019 Club season on August 31st, 2019.

Practice: Practices will begin soon after our club teams are selected. Keep checking the website www.SurgeVolleyball.org for a schedule. Our players are expected to be at every practice scheduled unless they contact their Coach in advance or are already excused. Our Coaches may refuse to play an athlete in a tournament if that athlete has been absent from the prior practice without a legitimate excuse. Our Club players need to notify their Coach as soon as possible about any conflicts.

Communication with your coach is key.

Tournaments: Tournaments are typically held on a Saturday or Sunday and sometimes Monday. They start as early as November and continue through March for boys and girls starts January and continue through May. A tournament schedule will be posted on the Surge Volleyball Club's website. Many of the local tournaments are within a 70 mile radius from Reading. Tournaments usually start at 8:00am and can go as late as 8:00pm or later if our teams make the playoffs. Be sure that your athletes get plenty of rest the night before. Athletes must be prepared to leave very early in the morning and be out very late those nights we are in the playoffs. In cases where our Club is participating in a multi-day tournament, you may need to stay the night before the tournament because of the distance needed to travel. The Club would like to attend the same tournament with as many of its club teams, at different age groups, when possible.

There is no limitation on distance or number of tournaments a team can participate in. Travel expenses are the responsibility of each player's family to include but not limited to hotel, transportation, and food. If a team selects more tournaments than allocated by the registration fee, each member will split the cost plus an additional \$50 administrative fee due prior to attending the event. Players can elect to not participate in additional events if they are unable to make it. Their portion of the additional fee will be split among those participating on the team.

Post season events at AAU Nationals and USAV (GJNC) take place in the post season during the months of June and July. As the parent or guardian of a player on a Surge Volleyball team, I am hereunto committing to attend USAV Nationals if my child's team qualifies by earning a BID for the GJNC in the location in which it is held or Junior Girls AAU Nationals in Orlando Florida, if my team earns their entry. We understand that these events are post season events and will commit to attend with my child's team, all additional costs associated with these post season events as outlined on USA Volleyball and the AAU Volleyball websites. If my daughter is playing for a 14U to 17U Open team, I am making a commitment to attend a post-season national tournament, either to AAU or USAV Nationals. All Costs are estimates for one traveler and are subject to change:

Item	AAU Orlando, Fl	USAV Detroit, Mi
Tournament Registration	\$900 (covered if earned)	\$900 (covered if earned)
Travel	\$300	\$300
Hotel	\$220	\$150
Food	\$150	\$150
Total	\$670/traveler	\$600/traveler

Playing Time: Our Coaching Staff will make every effort to offer fair playing time amongst our athletes wherever possible, but there is NO GUARANTEE of equal playing time. There are limited positions on each team and players each have their own skill set, playing time is never exactly equal. Our Coaches will make the final decisions on the starting line-up, positions, and playing time in the best interest of their team. During tournaments our Coaches will make a conscious effort to play every athlete who has attended practices, is not sick or injured, and is not displaying an attitude or a behavior issue. During play-offs, it is our Coaches decision to play those athletes that may advance our teams further.

Tardiness Guidelines:

Tournaments:

Time frame	Immediate Action	Follow-up Action
5 Minute Grace Period Given		
5 to 10 minutes late	1 st Set suspension	No Administrator Meeting
10 to 20 minutes late	1 st Match suspension	Administrator Meeting
20 to 30 minutes	2 nd Match suspension	Club Director Meeting
30 to 60 minutes	3 rd Match suspension	Administrator Board Meeting
over 60 minutes	Whole tournament suspension	Administrator Board Action

Practices:

Must always warm up & stretch before practice regardless of what activities you were doing before walking in the gym. We do not want anyone getting hurt because of improper warm-ups!

Punishment for each minute late, after warm-ups (example of punishment: 5 burpees & 1 lap)

NO grace period for practices – this is a regular event that all of us know the routes for. If there is traffic, plan accordingly!

Traffic is not an acceptable excuse unless multiple people are affected (late)

Due to a number of players having unexcused absences and being late to events throughout all of our teams, we want to make it clear to our parents how this will affect your daughter's playing time. Calling your coach (or having your parents call the coach) the day of a tournament, scrimmage, play day, etc and telling them that you have another commitment or are going to attend another event instead is not an acceptable excuse. We want to do everything we can to provide as much playing time to each of our athletes. When someone takes advantage of their team by not attending or attending late, it is not fair to the other players who arrive early to sit and wait and do not receive extra playing time for arriving early. This outline is to be used as a guide for our coaches and to inform parents and players upfront of possible consequences.

Players Moving Between Teams: Our Club teams are made up of 8-12 athletes. Our Club may move an athlete from one team to another, or offer an athlete an opportunity to play with another team in our club for certain tournaments, if so needed by our coaching staff. Our reasoning for moving an athlete can be but not limited to: a loss of another athlete due to injury, position on a team, skill level, or missing athletes for tournaments.

Injuries or Prolonged Illness: USA rules states that our Club requests a medical document from any and all players who are injured or sick, for a period of time, before we can allow them to return to practice or to play in tournaments. Players should expect that extended absence from practices and tournaments will limit playing time upon initial return to play.

Player Responsibility: Athletes that are asked and accept membership into our Club are 100% committed to Surge Volleyball Club and may not play for another USA Volleyball Club or AAU volleyball club for the entire 2018/19 season. Athletes are expected to attend any and all scheduled practices or notify the coach in advance if they will not be there. Our Club athletes also need to notify their coach well in advance if they will be unable to attend a tournament. As a player of Surge Volleyball Club you will be expected to conduct yourselves in a responsible, mature manner. You need to have a positive, winning attitude towards your teammates, parents, coaches, officials and our Club volunteers. This Club organization will not tolerate vulgar language, violence, theft, alcohol, drug, or tobacco use, or inappropriate sexual or threatening behavior. If our athletes do not follow these rules, our Club, at the discretion of its director and/or Surge Administrators, may ban the athletes from scheduled events and from future membership to this organization without refunding any fees or costs.

Lights out and cell phone use for any and all overnight tournaments will be set for no later than 11:00pm. No one other than a parent will be allowed in an athlete's room of the opposite gender at any time. Chaperones will be in charge of enforcing these rules. Anyone who violates these rules or any other event rules will be removed from the tournament and the parent or guardian will be told to collect any and all belongings and head home. Our club director will decide a plan of action about any future events for the remainder of that season. No refunds will be issued. All athletes are required to take turns keeping score and working the lines at events. Athletes are expected to remain at the tournaments until the entire team is dismissed by their coach. Surge Volleyball Club expects our athletes to maintain good grades. Participation in volleyball should not be any reason for academic failure. Most athletes get academic scholarships over athletic scholarships. We require you to check your email and our website for any announcements or changes.

Player Concerns: As an athlete in our Club we encourage you to address any issue you may have with your coach before or after practice or by email not during practice or a tournament. We ask that you be respectful to your coach when you are addressing your issues. If after you address your coach and you feel your issue has not been resolved then bring it to the attention of your parent or guardian and they may help get your issue resolved. Remember your coaches are here to help you grow as an individual and an athlete, so always be respectful.

Conflict Resolution: Conflicts that arise that cannot be handled between a player, their coach and the parents or guardians will be handled in the following manner.

- 1- A meeting with all parties above will be setup with the club director and a club administrator.
- 2- If after the meeting, a resolution can still not be obtained, the issue will be brought to the club's board of administrators to vote on a final course of action.
- 3- All parties will be given a chance to submit their concerns and requested actions to the board in person.
- 4- All Meetings will take place within 14 days of conflict. All resolutions will be completed within 21 days of conflict.
- 5- All decisions made by the board will be final.

“No parent/person on the floor” Rule.

The rule states: Anyone who is not a member of Surge Volleyball club's administrators, coaching staff, or players cannot be on the playing surface or around it during any event (practices, tournaments, etc) while teams are practicing or playing. Spectators/parents must stay on the stage when at Surge gym or in the designated spectator area at tournaments. Parents may assist with practice ONLY with prior approval of our club's director and the completion of all required paperwork. Coaches and administrators will enforce this policy. Violators will be asked to leave immediately.

“Misconduct” Rule.

The rule states: Misconduct of any kind are grounds for immediate release from Surge Volleyball Club and all organizations associated with Surge Volleyball Club. Parent(s) and player(s) will be escorted from the site immediately and released from the club with no refund of any fees or monies paid to Surge Volleyball or any of its affiliates. Misconduct includes but is not limited to:

- Vulgar language at any events directed or within hearing range of any player, coach or parent of any team.
- Demeaning or antagonistic actions toward a player, coach or parent of any team.
- Any physical contact made in an aggressive manner.
- Any actions deemed as misconduct by the Surge Volleyball Club Director and Administrators.