



2018 – 2019

SLAM Volleyball

Policies and Procedures

Handbook



Location

All practices, performance training and positional training will be held at:

Net Results Sports Center
2600 Research Dr.
Plano, TX 75074

netresultssportscenter.com



Adidas is the official uniform provider for Slam volleyball!

Player Expectations

- Display trust in your teammates and coaches by avoiding gossip and negative commentary
- Represent yourself, your teammates and your coaches in a respectful manner
- Develop working relationships with all of your teammates
- Be honest with and express concerns directly to your coach
- Arrive at all practices and games on time and prepared
- Always leave your playing area clean and in good condition both at Net Results and away
- Players must have cell phones turned off and stored in their backpacks. ABSOLUTELY NO texting or calling during practices, tournament matches or SLAM Volleyball events

Parent Expectations

- Parents are expected to encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every practice, tournament or other SLAM Volleyball event. If a parent has shown inappropriate behavior, he/she will be asked to leave the practice, tournament or event. If this behavior continues, the situation will be brought to the attention of the director of SLAM Volleyball
- Promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any desire to win
- Leave the coaching to the coaching staff. Do not undermine the coaches' authority by trying to be a coach instead of a parent
- Treat all players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators with dignity and respect in language, attitude, behavior and mannerisms. Understand that your behavior reflects on your daughter and on SLAM Volleyball
- Never question the official's judgment or honesty

Playing Time

Each team's head coach is responsible for determining the composition of the team at tournaments, which includes the starting line-up and substitutions. Our coaches will do their best to provide opportunities for play to all players in tournaments but SLAM DOES NOT GUARANTEE PLAYING TIME TO ANY PLAYER. The head coach will make his/her decision regarding playing time based on the following: attendance at practices, improvement, attitude, ability and effectiveness on the court and the needs of the team. Parents or players with concerns or questions about playing time need to follow the Conflict Resolution guidelines.

Attendance Policy

- Attendance is mandatory at all functions involving the team:
 1. Practices
 2. Positional training
 3. Scrimmages
 4. Tournaments
- Absences will be excused for the following reasons:
 1. Injury with doctor's note
 2. Mandatory school event
 3. Illness involving fever or vomiting
 4. Family emergency (as determined by coach's discretion)
- Whenever possible, notify your coach 24 hours in advance if you will miss a practice, and at least one week in advance if you will miss, come late, or leave early from a tournament
- The penalty for failure to adhere to the attendance policy will be determined by the coach and may result in sitting out a match at the next tournament

Conflict Resolution

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD A COACH BE APPROACHED, CALLED, EMAILED OR TEXTED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF ANY TOURNAMENT, PRACTICE OR EVENT REGARDING A GRIEVANCE.

The coaches have been instructed by the director to politely decline this type of conversation and walk away.

Please use the following steps to address any concerns or grievances:

STEP ONE: The player needs to set up a meeting between her and the coach. Parents should encourage their daughters to prepare for the meeting by making a list of questions and concerns. Players should go into the meeting confident that they will resolve the issue, move on, and expect the best from one another.

STEP TWO: Parents meet with their daughter and the coach in a timely manner. We will meet in an open, non-confrontational manner, find a resolution and move on expecting good things from one another.

STEP THREE: If you are not satisfied after completing steps one and two you may set up a meeting with the training director and the club director. We will make every effort to come up with a resolution.

Under no circumstances will a player be released from their contract with SLAM Volleyball until the season has ended.

IF A PARENT OR PLAYER CHOOSES NOT TO FOLLOW THE ABOVE PROTOCOL, THE PLAYER WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE NEXT TOURNAMENT.

Social Media Guidelines

All players and parents **must** observe good conduct and sportsmanship on all social media sites including but not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, SnapChat etc... especially concerning the reputation and representation of SLAM Volleyball. Any comments or posts deemed threatening or derogatory may result in lost play time or dismissal from the club.

Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy

PURPOSE

SLAM Volleyball 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 SLAM Volleyball acknowledges the value of these methods of communication, SLAM Volleyball also realizes that there are associated risks that must be considered when adults use these methods to communicate with minors.

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
- 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.

Transparent: All electronic communication between coaches and athletes should be transparent. All 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 communication meets all three of the **T.A.P.** criteria, then it is likely the method and manner of communication will be appropriate.

GROUP MESSAGES

All group messages including, but not limited to, email and text must include the director of SLAM Volleyball at info@slamvbc.com or 972-489-7372

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 <http://www.facebook.com/slamvbc> 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

The club has an official Twitter page <http://www.twitter.com/slamvbc> that coaches, athletes and parents can follow for information and updates on team-related matters. Coaches and athletes are not 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 shall only 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 Director must also be copied.

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. <http://tinyurl.com/hqyy3n4>

Travel Policy

SLAM Volleyball may have some teams that travel to play in tournaments outside of the North Texas Region of USAV Volleyball. SLAM Volleyball prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Volleyball SafeSport Handbook (<http://tinyurl.com/hqyy3n4>). SLAM Volleyball 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 SLAM Volleyball teams play within the North Texas Region of USAV Volleyball.

- 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.
- Coaches or administrators of SLAM Volleyball 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 SLAM Volleyball arranges for travel so that our team can compete outside of the North Texas Region of USAV Volleyball. Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones will often travel with the players.

- When possible, SLAM Volleyball 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 SLAM Volleyball 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).
- Players are required to stay in a room with a family member in the team hotel. If this is not possible, parents can make arrangements for their player to stay with another family as long as the Director of SLAM Volleyball has been notified in advance of travel.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 are responsible for arranging transportation of 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.

Club Dues

Parents are expected to pay dues on or before the 1st of the month according to the team payment schedule. Visit Slamvbc.com for payment instructions. Any payment not received by the 3rd of the month will be assessed a \$25.00 late fee. Players who are not current on their dues will not be allowed to participate in practices or tournaments until their account is current.

All returned checks will be assessed a \$35.00 transaction fee.

Players who choose to no longer participate on a team or withdraw from the program prior to the end of the season for any reason other than a season ending injury or illness will not be released from their financial obligation. If a season ending injury or illness occurs SLAM Volleyball reserves the right to determine if the player will be released from their contract.

SLAM Volleyball will use Game Point Collection Agency to claim all unpaid monies.

Insurance

SLAM Volleyball encourages athletes to obtain a complete physical examination prior to participation with SLAM Volleyball.

It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure that their athlete is covered by medical insurance. Your registration in USAV includes supplemental insurance coverage for members participating in scheduled, supervised, approved activities of SLAM Volleyball, such as practice sessions and tournaments. USAV insurance may cover some medical expenses associated with a qualified injury not covered because of a deductible clause in the family policy. This insurance coverage will not, however, take the place of your family coverage.

Photo and video release

I give authorization to SLAM Volleyball and Net Results Sports Center for my child to be photographed, filmed, or videotaped for promotional purposes and the use of such material on the SLAM Volleyball and Net Results Sports Center websites, social media accounts and promotional materials.

I hereby acknowledge that my athlete _____ and I have received, read and fully understand the 2018–2019 SLAM Volleyball Policies and Procedures Handbook. My athlete and I will follow the guidelines of SLAM Volleyball to its fullest.

Team: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____