



**2019 – 2020**

**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

[slamvbc.com](http://slamvbc.com)

[netresultssportscenter.com](http://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 are prohibited from possessing, consuming or distributing alcohol, tobacco, vaping devices or e-cigarettes during the term of their contract with Slam Volleyball
- Players are to refrain from inappropriate physical contact at team activities
- Players are to refrain from the use of inappropriate language.

## 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. Performance training
  4. Scrimmages
  5. 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

**All content between adult and player must be readily available to share with the public or families of the adult or player. If the player is under the age of 18, any email, text, social media or similar communication must also copy or include the player's parent or a staff member of Slam Volleyball. The same is recommended for junior players who are no longer minors.**

USA Volleyball, The Regional Volleyball Associations and USAV member clubs will comply with the following social media & electronic communications policy.

### Mandatory components

#### a. Application

This policy shall apply to:

- 1) Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors;
- 2) Any adult authorized by a Covered Organization/LAO to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
- 3) Adult staff and board members at a Covered Organization/LAOs.

(Collectively "Applicable Adult" for the purposes of this policy.)

#### b. Content

All electronic communication originating from Applicable Adults to minor athletes must be professional in nature.

#### c. Open and transparent

- Absent emergency circumstances, if an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes needs to communicate directly with a minor athlete via electronic communications (including social media), another Applicable Adult or the minor athlete's legal guardian will be copied.
- If a minor athlete communicates to an Applicable Adult (with authority over the minor athlete) privately first, said Applicable Adult should respond to the minor athlete with a copy to another Applicable Adult or the minor athlete's legal guardian.
- When an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes communicates electronically to the entire team, said Applicable Adult will copy another adult.
- Minor athletes may "friend" the organization's official page.

#### d. Requests to discontinue

Legal guardians may request in writing that their minor athlete not be contacted through any form of electronic communication by the organization or by the Applicable Adults subject to this policy. Slam Volleyball will abide by any such request that their minor athlete not be contacted via electronic communication, absent emergency circumstances.

## **MISCONDUCT**

Because 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 our SafeSport Handbook.

## **VIOLATIONS**

Violations of the Club's Social Media and Electronic Communication Policy should be reported to your immediate supervisor, a Club administrator or the Regional SafeSport Contact for evaluation of complaints and allegations. 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

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://www.ntrvolleyball.net>). 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").

## **Transportation**

Slam coaches and staff members who are not also acting as a legal guardian, shall not ride in a vehicle alone with an unrelated minor athlete, absent emergency circumstances, and must have at least two minor athletes or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor athlete's parent/legal guardian in advance of each local 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 adhere to Slam's transportation policy listed above.

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> of the month according to the team payment schedule. Visit Slamvbc.com for payment instructions. Auto payment is required in order to enroll in a payment plan unless otherwise agreed upon. Any payment not received by the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2019–2020 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: \_\_\_\_\_