



2015-2016

Season Handbook

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## **GENERAL CLUB INFORMATION/EXPECTATIONS**

Welcome to the Pitt United Girls Volleyball Club, a member of the Junior Division of USA Volleyball. The purpose of this handbook is to familiarize parents and players with the club and to provide information regarding the club. Should you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact Pitt United Club Director and Coach; Amanda O'Connor.

USA Volleyball (USAV) is volleyball's national governing body. USAV is associated with the U.S. Olympic Committee and is responsible for local, regional, national, and international volleyball competition. The Pittsburgh United Girls Volleyball Club is part of the Keystone Region Volleyball Association within the USAV Junior Division.

The Pitt United Girls Volleyball Club is committed to providing quality physical training and competition at the local, regional, and national levels. This competitive athletic experience can enhance social development, contribute to mental and physical health, and teach the values of teamwork, responsibility, self-discipline, and motivation. Children and even parents have the opportunity to develop friendships that will last a lifetime.

While representing Pitt United all athletes, parents and supporters are expected to behave in a responsible manner. Any athlete damaging equipment owned by Pitt United or one of the practice facilities during practices, tournaments, functions, or lodging facilities will be required to reimburse the Club and/or facility for the damages. In some cases, the athlete may be dismissed from the Club.

## **REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY**

The Junior Division of USA Volleyball has eight age groups 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 & U Pitt United will register teams in the following five age brackets:

18 & Under Division: Players born on or after 9.1.97

17 & Under Division: Players born on or after 9.1.98

16 & Under Division: Players born on or after 9.1.99

15 & Under Division: Players born on or after 9.1.00

14 & Under Division: Players born on or after 9.1.01

## **TIME COMMITMENT**

The 2016 season runs from December 2015 through May 2016, with practices beginning in early December. Players will be expected to make a commitment to attend practices and competitions scheduled by the club. Advance practice and competition schedule for the season will be given to each participant. It is expected that by having advanced schedule information, that the athletes and families can keep conflict's to a minimum. While each team may have a different schedule, in general, each participant will receive quality practice time during the week with competitions held on the weekends.

## **TOURNAMENTS**

USAV Tournaments are generally played on Saturdays or Sundays lasting the entire day. Some tournaments are held on a combination of two days (Fri/Sat or Sat/Sun). Some tournaments may also include Fri/Sat/Sun play. Pool play generally begins around 8:00 A.M. with the finals held in early evening. Tournament schedules for the 2016 season can be seen on the club website. All athletes are expected to be in the gym, ready to go, at the time determined by the Coach. This usually means arriving at the site at least **30-45 minutes** prior to the scheduled arrival time. ALL team members are expected to be available to be on the "work team" when the team is scheduled and share duties. Should your work assignment be the last match of the tournament, **everyone** is expected to stay.

## **FINANCIAL COMMITMENT**

Each player is required to pay a membership fee while she participates. Various expense factors will affect the cost per team. A complete explanation of the financial commitment is enclosed at the back of this booklet. All the figures in the budget are estimates. There is no guarantee there will not be increases due to circumstances beyond the club's control. The fee covers the cost of equipment, uniforms, USAV membership fees, practice facility rentals, tournament entry fees, coaching and staff salaries, and other miscellaneous items.

## **UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT**

All uniforms and equipment must be purchased through the club to insure the best availability and price. The uniform package is provided by the club per team and consists of: 2 uniform tops, 1 pair of spandex, possible warm up shirt, bag, possible court shoes, and jacket/pants combo. Should your daughters team not be assigned a piece of equipment and you would like to purchase it additionally you may.

<b>Team:</b>	<b>Uniforms Packages for 2015:</b>
14s	2 Uniforms, 1 Spandex 1 pair of Court Shoes, 1 Bag Jacket/Pants Combo
15s	2 Uniforms, 1 Spandex 1 pair of Court Shoes, 1 Bag Jacket/Pants Combo
16s	2 Uniforms, 1 Spandex 1 pair of Court Shoes, 1 Bag Jacket/Pants Combo
17s	2 Uniforms, 1 Spandex 1 pair of Court Shoes, 1 Bag Jacket/Pants Combo
18s	2 Uniforms, 1 Spandex 1 Bag, shoes for an additional fee of \$75 Jacket/Pants Combo

## **COMMUNICATION**

This club program was created for the players. Emphasis is placed on good sportsmanship, teamwork, self-control, and having fun. If there is a problem with your daughter and a coach, we encourage you to let your daughter address the issue with her coach first. If the problem continues, we recommend that you then contact her coach to resolve the matter. We will enforce a **24-hour rule**. If you have a problem at a tournament or practice you may address it with the coach only after a 24-hour period. If you still have concerns, please contact the Club Director of Pitt United.

### **Chain of Command In Communication**

\* Athlete to Coach

\* Parent to Coach (after a 24 hour period)

\* Parent to Club Director

Coaches are told not to answer any parental questions or concerns regarding any coaching decisions if the chain of communication and or the 24-hour rule was not followed. Thank you in advance for your understanding with this rule and policy.

## **FUNDRAISING OPTIONS**

Fundraising can offset half of your daughter's club experience. This requires a commitment of time and energy by both the parent and the athlete. The Fundraising Committee will administer all activities designed to solicit funds using the Pitt United Girls Volleyball Club. We welcome ideas but these activities must be sanctioned by the club, and will be done without the direct administration or participation of the club director or coaches.

The following applies to all fund raising activities sanctioned by the club:

- A proposal for the fund raising activity must be submitted to the Club Director and Fundraising Committee for approval.
- All profit from the fund raising activity must be turned over to the club. The money will then be credited to each player's individual account dues after the fundraiser is completed.

## **FOR PARENTS**

Please focus on your daughter's improvement. Let the coach/coaches focus on her volleyball skill and performance. Be supportive! Let the analysis of your daughter's performance come from her coach, which is what the coaches are trained to do.

## **PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Make checks payable to the "PITT UNITED GIRLS VOLLEYBALL CLUB" and mail payments, to be received by the club due dates to:

Pitt United Girls Volleyball Treasurer  
Mrs. Lin Johns  
1029 Sandhurst Drive  
Moon Township, PA 15108

Due dates and financial obligations per team are the following:

14s: 12/7- \$500; 1/29- \$500; 3/4- \$500 (Total: \$1,500)

15s, 16s and 17s: 12/7- \$585; 1/29- \$585; 3/4- \$580 (Total: \$1,750)

18s: 12/7- \$560; 1/29- \$560; 3/4- \$555 (Total: \$1,675)

## **PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITIES (CONTINUED)**

Please note; coaches are not authorized to accept payments. All checks must be sent to the treasurer with the address found on page 4 or given directly to the Club Director.

Athletes may not be permitted to participate in any practices or tournaments if payments have not been received by the due dates listed above. All accounts must be paid in full by March 11<sup>th</sup> 2016 in order to participate in the remaining club-scheduled tournaments.

Payments must be made on a timely basis in order for the club to function properly and the club expenses be paid. Uniforms and tournaments must be paid in full at the start of the season and practice facilities and coaches are paid on a monthly basis.

Additionally, a \$20.00 late fee will be charged if the payment is not received within 3 days from the identified due date/s. If a personal check or a sponsor/ad check is returned for non-sufficient funds, the amount will still be owed to Pitt United Girls Volleyball Club. The NSF check will be returned to the player/parents, and the parents will be charged a \$35.00 bank fee that will be added to the overall expenses still due.

## **CORRESPONDANCE WITH THE CLUB**

Please include your daughter's name and age group on all correspondence. This is especially important to include on checks made for payments. Correspondence with the club and Club Director can be done in the following ways:

EMAIL: [pittunitedvolleyball@gmail.com](mailto:pittunitedvolleyball@gmail.com)

PHONE/TEXT MESSAGING: 724.766.3180 (3:00pm-8:00pm M-F)

CLUB ADDRESS: Pitt United Girls Volleyball Club  
Amanda O'Connor  
150 Rossmor Ct.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15229

CLUB PAYMENT ADDRESS: Pitt United Girls Volleyball Treasurer  
Mrs. Lin Johns  
1029 Sandhurst Drive  
Moon Township, PA 15108

WEBSITE: [www.pittunitedgirlsvolleyball.com](http://www.pittunitedgirlsvolleyball.com)