

OILER ATTACK CLUB VOLLEYBALL
ATHLETE GUIDELINES
OILER ATTACK CLUB

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INTRODUCTION

Oiler Attack Club (OAC) is excited to begin their seventh season of Junior Olympic volleyball in the Ohio Valley Region. We bring with great enthusiasm to Findlay and the surrounding areas, the opportunity to give young athletes the chance to participate and compete at a high level in the sport of volleyball. In 2004, the inaugural year of the club, OAC built the foundation with 8 teams and a total of 68 athletes representing 19 different schools. Last season we hosted twenty-one teams with players between the ages of 8-18. There were 196 athletes in this select group, representing 54 different schools.

We have put this handbook together to tell you a little bit about Junior Olympic volleyball in general and our club, and its philosophies. If you have any suggestions please feel free to contact us.

We are delighted that you have decided to join us for the 2011-2012 season.

OAC MISSION STATEMENT

It is the intent of the OAC to promote fairness, good sportsmanship, and a learning environment for all athletes. While meeting these goals here at OAC, we hope to instill affective qualities that will transpire back to the volleyball programs and communities in which the athletes come from.

ESTABLISHED 2004

OAC PROGRAM GOAL

Our Program goals follow closely those of USA Volleyball:

- Teach young athletes the skills of volleyball
- Help young athletes enjoy volleyball
- Build confidence and self-control
- Understand winning
- Grow emotionally
- Develop friendships
- Learn a sport for a lifetime

WHY PLAY JO VOLLEYBALL

Junior volleyball programs have exploded all across the country. Only 22 years ago, the first AAU National tournament was held and only 20 teams made the trip. In 1998, there were more than 50,000 registered junior players in the United States. OAC is part of the Ohio Valley Region, which encompasses Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

Is OAC and JO volleyball only for the college bound athlete?

Certainly not! While our program begins in the fourth grade, college scholarships are often the furthest thing from the minds of our young players. Learning a life-long sport, making friends, and having fun is often the reason young girls get into volleyball. USA Volleyball provides the opportunity for girls and boys who want to increase their knowledge, understanding, and skill playing the sport of volleyball.

There are three levels of USA Volleyball Junior competition in most age groups:

1. Regional Teams are for the developing athlete.
2. American Teams are for players that are more advanced but will play a more local schedule.
3. National Team is for the advanced athlete that are willing to travel nationally

National teams can compete for a bid to go to the National Tournament, which will be held in Columbus, Ohio in 2012. National teams will play in a variety of National Qualifiers and other National Tournaments as well as local tournaments.

The OAC is fortunate to be affiliated with The University of Findlay, Findlay, Ohio. The club gets support from The University of Findlay's Volleyball Staff and both past and present players. Many members of The University of Findlay Women's team serve as coaches and assistant coaches in our program. In exchange for court time and equipment usage, partial proceeds help fund The University of Findlay volleyball program.

OAC WEBSITE

The OAC website address is www.oilerattack.org . Because we expect to have about 16 teams, 150 girls, and coaches participating, the website is an excellent tool to use to communicate with players and parents. **Please check the site regularly to see if there is anything new and exciting. We encourage parents to submit pictures to their parent rep to be posted on the site.**

In the case of bad weather, we will post the practice information on the website.

AGE GROUP CLASSIFICATION

For the 2011-2012 Season, the following age group classifications will be in effect:

10&U Teams with players born on or after Sept. 1, 2001
11&U Teams with players born on or after Sept. 1, 2000
12&U Teams with players born on or after Sept. 1, 1999
13&U Teams with players born on or after Sept. 1, 1998
14&U Teams with players born on or after Sept. 1, 1997
15&U Teams with players born on or after Sept. 1, 1996
16&U Teams with players born on or after Sept. 1, 1995
17&U Teams with players born on or after Sept. 1, 1994

Age group definitions above are binding for the entire season immediately preceding the USAV Junior National Championships, and there shall be no appeal. Players may play “up” in an age group but must receive a waiver to play down. Waivers are not given for high school age athletes and no player with a waiver will be considered for a team competing in National Qualifying tournaments at any age level.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

Ohio High School Athletic Association dictates certain eligibility requirements to travel volleyball players. No more than three (3) players from any school may play together on a travel team, graduating seniors are exempt from this rule. This rule is in effect for students in the 7th grade and higher for the public schools and for 9th grade and above in the parochial schools. This rule does not impact 7th and 8th graders playing on a school CYO team. OAC makes every effort to abide by this rule when selecting teams. However, it is up to the individual player to be aware of the rules and to confirm their eligibility. If you have questions about eligibility, please see Wick Colchagoff, director of OAC or your high school coach for clarification.

COACHING STAFF

We consider our coaching staff to be one of the finest in the area. We strive to make an effort to find only the most qualified coaches, those who fit the OAC culture, and train them in the OAC philosophy.

Wick Colchagoff, Director of OAC and current head women’s coach at The University of Findlay is assisted in the selection and training of coaches by Annie Coger.

The Coaches for OAC undergo training mandated by the Ohio Valley Region.

The coaching staff for 2011-2012 is still in progress. Entire staff will be posted before December.

COACHING AND PLAYING PHILOSOPHY

It is OAC’s philosophy that practices are the time to improve skills and work on new drills. As the teams begin to practice and gel as a team, emphasis is shifted from individual to team-building skills. The fundamentals, which are emphasized initially, are used to develop proficient offensive and defensive tactics.

Practices will be held on average twice per week and will last 1.5 to 2 hours. Practices will begin in January and run until OVR Regional Championship. The practice schedule will be coordinated by both Directors of the club as well as with each teams coach. Practices are considered mandatory for all athletes, but players are allowed to miss practices for school sponsored teams and programs. A continual source of frustration for players and parents alike is the issue of playing time. The reality is that equal playing time is not a guarantee. Players will receive a guarantee of approximately 1/3 playing time during pool play. If a player has not attended practice regularly, the 1/3 playing time is no longer in effect. When a team makes it to playoff play, playing time is solely the discretion of coach for the benefit of the team. There is no guarantee of playing time in playoff play. Club Dues to participate in Oiler Attack Club is not payment for PLAYING TIME above that expectation stated above.

The fee structure for the 2011/2012 OAC season is as follows:

Findlay Teams:

The cost for each player will be \$695.00 for 13 and older Regional teams (this price includes: OVR registration, coaching and facility fees, 6 tournament fees, two game jerseys, one pair of spandex shorts, a warm-up shirt, a practice t-shirt and a volleyball.)

The cost for each player will be \$625.00 for 11 and 12 and under teams (this price includes: OVR registration, coaches and facilities, 6 tournament fees, two game t-shirts, one pair of spandex shorts, a practice t-shirt and a volleyball.)

The cost for each player will be \$375.00 for 10 and under (This price includes: OVR registration, coaches and facilities, 5 tournament fees, two game t-shirts, one pair of spandex shorts, and a volleyball.)

National teams price will vary on the tournament schedule.

Fees do not cover travel, food, and lodging. Players and parents often work out car pools to tournaments to reduce costs. By agreeing to play in a National Qualifying Tournament, the team will divide the cost and extra expenses that may occur if they qualify for nationals. In the event an National team qualifies for nationals, the entry fee, travel, and additional coaching stipend will be charged to each player.

Fundraising Option:

Scripts Program:

Each athlete will have the option to utilize the Great Lakes Scrip program to help lower the cost of playing in the club. This program is completely optional and details about the program will be presented at the Organizational Meeting in December.

Payment Dates:

Within 10 days of being offered a spot after tryouts \$100.00 This deposit is Non-Refundable

January 15, 2012 \$350.00 (for 11 and Older) \$200.00 (for 10's)

February 15, 2015 Remaining Balance for all players

There will be a \$25 late fee for all payments received after the due date.

There will be a \$20 fee for all returned checks.

Please make all checks payable to: Oiler Attack Club

Please send all payments to: Oiler Attack Club

2447 Tiffin Ave. #175

Findlay, OH 45840

Refunds will only be given for medical reasons and will be made based on the following schedule.

Prior to any tournaments the team plays in: 50% of entire club dues (NOT amount paid)

After 1 or 2 tournaments the team plays in: 25% of entire club dues (NOT amount paid)

After more than 2 tournaments the team plays in there will not be any refund given.

OUR EXPECTATIONS

Commitment: It is vital to be committed to the OAC program. If you work hard in practices, matches and scrimmages, you are likely to have a successful season.

Regular Attendance: It is important to attend every possible practice. Playing time in tournaments may be effected by missed practices. A notice 24 hour ahead of time is requested so that coaches may plan practice accordingly.

Respect for the rules of the club: This includes the club's rules as well as the USAV Players

Code of Conduct. Rules will be clearly stated, and will be enforced. Each team may have its own rules established by the coach and approved by the club director.

Image Presentation: You are representing yourself, your family, your school and OAC at every tournament.

We are a club that is known for good sportsmanship and integrity by our players, coaches and parents.

Arguing with officials is never appropriate and not tolerated. For the older girls, you will not always know when a college recruiter is in the gym and therefore it is important to display proper behavior at all times.

Maintaining Good grades: We consider OAC to be a club of scholar athletes. It is important to maintain good grades.

GRIEVENCE POLICY

In the event a situation arises throughout the course of the season, the follow guidelines have been set forth to resolve such issues effectively. The steps should be followed in order until the situation is resolved.

1. The athlete will meet with the coach to discuss the issue
2. The parents and athlete shall schedule a meeting with the coach. Meetings should be scheduled outside of practice time and not on tournament days. Coaches are instructed to not engage in any conversation regarding a controversial issue on a tournament day. The optimal time to schedule a meeting is immediately before or after a practice.
3. The parents and athlete shall schedule a meeting with the coach and Club Directors. Meetings should be scheduled outside of practice time and not on tournament days. Meetings will not be scheduled on tournament days. The optimal time to schedule a meeting is immediately before or after a practice.
4. If the issue is still unsolved after the 3 previously discussed meetings, a special meeting involving the Board of Directors and the parents may be called to settle the matter. The Board of Directors will make the final decision regarding the issue and inform the party involved of the decision.
5. If the issue is not resolved the parents and athletes satisfaction, the final step is to file a complaint/appeal in writing. This must be written and given to the Club Director within 10 days and will be held on record.

OUR EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR PARENTS

There are ways you can help.

Pick your child up on time from practices and tournaments. Help with the transportation of players to out of town tournament. Be positive and encourage your daughter. Do not yell at the team, coaches, referees, and line judges, the other team's players and coaches. Above all, encourage your daughter and her teammates. Attend team organizational meetings. Each team and coach has slightly different philosophies. Get to know your daughter's coach. Pay your dues on time. Budgets are designed to meet expenses and if dues are not paid, we will not be able to meet those expenses in a timely fashion. If dues are not paid, your daughter will not be permitted to participate in practices and tournaments.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENT REP

One of the important ingredients to a successful OAC season is the parent rep. Each team has a representative who serves as the liaison between the coach and the parents. Listed below are the responsibilities for the Parent Rep. If you are interested in serving as the parent rep for your daughter's team, please let your coach know

Job Responsibilities:

1. Acts as a liaison between the coach and the player's parents. Communicates regularly with the coach and informs the team of practice, tournament schedule changes and any other information that need to be disseminated to the team.
2. Prepares a first aid kit for the team.
3. Prepares a team roster for all parents with names of players and parents, addresses, phone numbers, school affiliations and any other pertinent information.
4. Carry a copy of the medical forms for your team.
5. For National teams: will be registered with USA Volleyball and will be able to step in, in case of emergency of coach.

TOURNAMENT RULES

All athletes are expected to be in the gym, ready to warm-up, in an Oiler Attack Club t-shirt at the scheduled arrival time. This usually means the athlete needs to arrive at the site 15 minutes prior to the scheduled arrival time. Earlier is always better.

Proper conduct is expected for all members of the Club at all time. This includes athletes, parents, and supporters. This also means treating supporters from other teams, other parents, and officials with respect. Athletes and/or parents are expected to provide transportation for their athlete to and from tournament sites and practices. If an athlete can not be at a tournament, the athlete is expected to call the coach as soon as the athlete knows she will be absent. It is the athlete's responsibility (not the parent's) to reach the coach before the tournament starts.

Athletes will not be allowed to leave the tournament site until excused by the coach.

Except in cases of true emergency, an athlete who has an officiating assignment may not leave a tournament before the assignment is completed.

Please clean up your campsite area before leaving.

OFFICIATING FOR GIRLS

Officiating is the shared responsibility of the entire team. All OAC athletes are required to attend a scorekeeper clinic and help with the line judging, scorekeeping, score flipping, and officiating. Each coach will determine a procedure their team will follow for officiating assignments.

Every player is required to stay until the entire team can leave. Please do not ask the coach if you can leave early. You are expected to stay!

There must be at least one certified second official and one certified scorekeeper by April 1st, 2012. The club will hold a officiating and scorekeeping clinic sometime in January or February