

Air City Volleyball Club Boys' Informational Packet

2014-2015 Season

About Our Club

Air City Volleyball Club is a Dayton-area program for boys, designed to teach and develop competitive volleyball. This season will be our fourteenth year to provide training and competition outside of the spring high school and CYO seasons. We participate in the Ohio Valley Region of USA Volleyball and AAU governing bodies under the guidelines and rules of these associations. Players with our club have participated in fall leagues, winter practices and competitions, and summer events around southwest Ohio and throughout the country. Many players have continued their participation in college at both the varsity and club level. It is our mission to teach and promote the best of the sport of volleyball so that our players learn and appreciate its many great aspects.

Winter Season 2014-2015 Team Composition and Tryouts

The head coach for each team will use the criteria below to select players for his/her team, in cooperation with the other teams' coaches. Final rosters will be released once the acceptance process is complete for all teams.

Teams for the 2014-2015 winter season will be formed from those athletes who attend the club tryouts. Our coaching staff will evaluate each individual during the tryout phase and group players together as competitive units based upon the following criteria.

- Athlete's USA Volleyball age (how old a player will be on September 1, 2015)
- Athlete's physical ability (as demonstrated during tryouts)
- Need for specific playing positions (i.e. setter, middle hitter, libero, outside hitter, opposite hitter) on each team
- Athlete's interest and ability to play with a team at his requested level of competition (National or Regional, or 14U/13U)
- OHSBVA restriction of 4 players per school (does not apply to non-high school players)
- Athlete's attitude and sportsmanship
- Athlete's past performance with the club

Tryout Schedule and Fee

Try-outs will be held at multiple sites in the Dayton area. Please see the listing of dates and times listed on the next page. There will be a **\$20.00** non-refundable fee (cash or check payable to Air City VBC) for tryouts, which covers all tryout dates. Please note the level of teams associated with each tryout date as well as the age groups. **The age groups are based upon how old an athlete WILL be on September 1, 2015.** If you are unsure of the age group in which your athlete should try out, please contact club directors Monte Moser or Carol Bysak. Trying out for an age group older than the athlete's age is permitted. Trying out for a younger age group is NOT permitted.

Exceptions to the age policy are (1) if a boy is/will be age 15 but is still in the 8th grade, he may stay at the 14 and under age group, (2) if a boy is/will be age 14 but is in the 9th grade, we highly encourage him to play at the 15's/16's age group (3) if a boy will be age 19 but is still enrolled in high school, he may play at the 18s age group.

Players do NOT need to attend all tryouts. The multiple tryout dates are offered to help with everyone's busy schedules and to provide a chance to everyone to attend at least one session. **If attending multiple tryout dates, please remind your athlete to wear the numbered tryout t-shirt (provided at first tryout date) to all tryouts.** This will help the coaching staff to identify all players properly during the tryout evaluations.

Players should arrive at the **check in time** to turn in paperwork (tryout form) and payments. Players may download a registration form system from our website, www.aircityvolleyball.com, and bring this to the tryout. Players should come dressed for athletic competition or bring suitable clothes to change into on site. **We request that all players bring a volleyball if owned.**

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OFFERS OR WAITING LIST

NATIONAL TEAM OFFERS

Offers for national teams will be emailed by the head coaches within 24 hours following the October 19th tryout. Players may accept or decline the offer within 7 days. The club reserves the right to make a counter-offer should adjustments be needed to any roster to fill specific positions or number of players for a team. Those not made an initial offer may still receive a national team offer if another player declines.

REGIONAL TEAM OFFERS

Offers for regional teams will be emailed by the head coaches within 24 hours following the October 26th tryout. Players may accept or decline the offer within 7 days. The club reserves the right to make a counter-offer should adjustments be needed to any roster to fill specific positions or number of players for a team. Those not made an initial offer may still receive a regional team offer if another player declines.

WAITING LIST

Should we not be able to extend an offer to a player for any reason, the club director will contact the player to inform him that we have him on a waiting list. Waiting list individuals are "on hold" until all offers are accepted/declined and any potential adjustments to teams are made. We make our best effort to place everyone on a team, but please understand this may not be possible in every case due to numbers or the limitation of players from the same school on a roster.

2014 Tryout Schedule

Age Group	October 12 tryouts (Northmont Middle School)
15, 16 NATIONAL	10:00am to 12:00pm (check in 9:45am)
17, 18 NATIONAL	12:00pm to 2:00pm (check in 11:45am)
Age Group	October 15 tryouts (Beavercreek High School)
15, 16 NATIONAL	6:00pm to 8:00pm (check in 5:45pm)
17, 18 NATIONAL	8:00pm to 10:00pm (check in 7:45pm)
Age Group	October 19 tryouts (Beavercreek High School)
15, 16, 17, 18 NATIONAL	4:00pm to 6:00pm (check in 3:45pm)
17, 18 REGIONAL	4:00pm to 6:00pm (check in 3:45pm)
13U and 14U	6:00pm to 8:00pm (check in 5:45pm)
Age Group	October 22 tryouts (Beavercreek High School)
15, 16 REGIONAL	6:00pm to 8:00pm (check in 5:45pm)
17, 18 REGIONAL	8:00pm to 10:00pm (check in 7:45pm)
Age Group	October 25 tryouts (Hadley Watts Middle School)
13U and 14U	10:00am to 12:00pm (check in 9:45am)
15, 16 REGIONAL	12:00pm to 2:00pm (check in 11:45am)
Age Group	October 26 tryouts (Alter High School)
15, 16, 17, 18 REGIONAL	6:00pm to 8:00pm (check in 5:45pm)

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TEAM PRACTICES AND ATTENDANCE

Practices vary according to the level of team and each team's individual competition schedule. Our main practice facility is South Metro Sports off of Austin Pike in Centerville. Some coaches may have access to different schools or venues and will offer the occasional practice at those facilities. Schedules will be provided via email from the team coach as part of the team offer and available on our website.

Practices are a vital part of our program. This is where personal skill development occurs and playing time is earned for competitive events. We expect athletes to attend all practices to best prepare themselves and their teammates. We **do not** dictate that the athlete cannot play another sport or hold a job during their participation with our club. We do, however, rely upon every athlete who accepts a position on a club team to honor that commitment with good attendance. There is a very good chance that some players will not be offered a position on a team this season. **Poor attendance hurts not only the player who misses practices and events, but it denies an opportunity to another athlete who might make a greater commitment to the program.**

For a known absence from practice, please notify the coach at least 24 hours in advance.

For a known absence from a tournament, please notify the coach at least 2 weeks prior to the event so appropriate adjustments may be made for the remaining players.

Understand that absences affect a player's improvement and can impact playing time at tournament events.

POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

1. Practices are open to parents and/or guardians to observe. As spectators, we ask that you respect the coach/player teaching environment and refrain from distractions during these times. Our coaches have a limited amount of time each practice to accomplish specific goals and maximize player/team improvements. Should you need to communicate with the coach, please arrange a time other than during the on-court practice times.
2. In order to maximize the practice experience, every player should know his practice schedule and arrive 15 to 20 minutes early. This will enable each player to properly prepare (change clothing, put on shoes/protective equipment, assist with set-up, stretch, etc.) and be ready at the start of the practice time.
3. Horseplay at practices and/or tournaments by players and/or coaches is prohibited. We expect your best behavior and respect of the facilities we use as well as others who share these spaces.
4. The wearing of jewelry is not allowed during practices. This is for your own safety in addition to being against the competitive playing rules. Make it a good habit to remove all jewelry as part of your preparation routine.
5. Our program does NOT guarantee playing time on any team or during any tournament. Playing time is at the sole discretion of the coach. Our personnel are knowledgeable and experienced volleyball players and coaches. They have the teams' best interest in mind regarding playing time and positions. If an athlete desires more opportunities to play, he is encouraged to discuss with his coach as to what additional work is needed to increase his playing time.
6. The tournaments we attend have requirements for all teams to officiate other matches during the course of the day. Our players are expected to learn the roles necessary to participate in all parts of the officiating crew. We will provide training in scorekeeping and R2 officiating. The team coach will determine who does each officiating task and when. Many tournaments levy fines or potentially impose a suspension from future events for failure to properly provide officiating support. We require all players to stay until the team has either won the championship match or completed their officiating assignment. All teams are expected to know these support duties fully and properly perform them so as not to be a detriment to the match being worked.
7. Please support all participants at competitive events (players, coaches, officials, opponents, etc.) in a manner you yourself would like to be treated. Not every action or decision will be fully to your satisfaction. Players will make errors. Coaches will make decisions and teach the best they are able. Officials honestly do try to make every call (or no call) correctly. The kids doing officiating duties will be good, bad, or indifferent. Opposing team parents/supporters will always be an emotional issue since they want their kid to succeed just as much as you want yours to do the same. Keeping your cool may be difficult at times, but we certainly encourage your efforts. Our club's directors appreciate not getting phone calls/emails from tournament directors about inappropriate behavior.

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RESTRICTIONS

The following actions are prohibited by our club policy or the policies of the AAU/USA Volleyball authorities. Violations of any of these will result in dismissal from Air City Volleyball Club.

- Use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs at any club function
- Leaving lodging premises without notifying coach and/or without a chaperone
- Having girls in your hotel room (other than relatives) or public displays of affection
- Approaching a coach, athlete or any other club member in a non appropriate manner (i.e. hostile, intimidating, threatening, etc.) at any club function
- Suspension or expulsion from AAU or USA Volleyball for code of conduct violations

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Within any highly competitive and aggressive environment, there may be circumstances where athletes and/or parents may have concerns regarding various issues. It is to the member's advantage to know when, where and how to communicate those concerns.

Before/during practices and before/during/after tournaments is NOT the place for such communication. Attempting to voice concerns during these times will only result in negative outcomes.

Though coaches are not obligated to defend their decisions, they are obligated to point the athlete in the correct direction to solve problems or to correct concerns.

Should a grievance arise, please follow these steps for resolution.

1. Athlete meets with their coach to discuss the concern. If no resolution,
2. Athlete, parent & coach meet to discuss concern. If no resolution,
3. Athlete and parent meet with Club Directors.

Please understand that PLAYING TIME is NOT considered a grievance, nor will it be discussed beyond step #1.

Due Process:

If the concern involves a matter that was not resolved in step #3, the athlete or parent may appeal the Club Directors' decision. Should an appeal be requested, a Grievance Committee will be created to hear the concern and formulate a decision.

The Grievance Committee will consist of one club affiliated & two non-club affiliated individuals. The Committee will meet in a closed session to review the written appeal from the parent and any notes from the previous grievance meetings. The result of the Grievance Committee will be considered final.

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Coaching Staff

Our staff is comprised mostly of current or former high school boys' team coaches. They are dedicated individuals who bring many years of knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm to the court.

NATIONAL TEAMS

18U – Jim Smith & Corey Burge
17U – Craig Erford & Karl Grosselin
16U – Carol Bysak & Krista Valdiva
14U – Carol Bysak & Monte Moser

REGIONAL TEAMS

17U/18U – Jill Howard, Tom Kuhlman, Nick Patterson, Monte Moser
15U/16U – Jim Bowman, Liz Gerlach
14U – Stephanie Mercer
13U – Lesli Klaus

Volleyball

Each player is expected to own a competition-style volleyball and bring it to all practices/tournaments. Anyone who wants/needs to purchase a volleyball may do so by placing an order through the club following tryouts. The type of ball will be dependent upon the level of team and prices will be forthcoming. Everyone is **STRONGLY** encouraged to label their volleyball with name, phone number, and email address.

Uniforms

Players will receive 2 jerseys for their uniforms, 1 pair of shorts, and a long sleeve warm-up shirt. If a team wishes to purchase additional team wear (i.e. board shorts, warm-up pants or jackets, etc.) they may do so upon approval with the club director.

Team Parents and Travel

We request a volunteer (or two) to assist with the administrative needs of each team. The team parent(s) will be expected to help the coach to plan team travel and possibly other auxiliary duties to assist the team, as requested by the coach. Travel planning should include the following, but may require additional activities.

- Create/maintain a list of email addresses and phone numbers for all coaches, players, and parents on the team.
- Provide directions to the playing site for all team members.
- Determine if a carpool or caravan is wanted by any members of the team. If so, arrange a departure location and time.
- If attending an event where an overnight is requested/required, plan the hotel arrangements for team members and families. This will normally require checking arrangements with each player. Sometimes parents do not travel with the group and individual players can be placed in the same hotel room for safety and cost savings. **THE TEAM IS EXPECTED TO PAY THE COST OF THE COACH'S ROOM AND TRAVEL MILEAGE FOR ANY OVERNIGHT EXCURSION**, so the travel coordinator needs to arrange billing/collection from the team. While on travel, the coordinator should help the coach determine each family's time of arrival/check-in, team curfew time, wake-up and/or team meeting time for breakfast and morning departure to playing site.
- Expenses for coaches average \$50-\$65 per family for an overnight weekend.

Assisting at Tournaments

Helping the team at tournaments is greatly appreciated. If a parent or family member wants to be involved more than just as a spectator, please ask the team coach what assistance might be needed. Some duties could be shagging balls during warm-up (if permitted at the event—some tournaments do not allow this), keeping stats, organizing lunch, keeping watch over gym bags, etc.

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LEVELS OF TEAMS

All team members in our club will also need to purchase a membership with the Ohio Valley Region of USA Volleyball. Complete instructions for this are available at <https://www.ovr.org/register/register.php> and the cost is \$42.

National Team for ages 15 through 18

Those selected for national teams will be the top-skilled players who desire to play at the highest level. They need to be willing to travel outside of the Ohio area and would like to be considered for summer national tournaments in late June or early July

National teams will play in a minimum of 2 multi-day national qualifier events (these will be out of region tournaments requiring travel and overnight accommodations). Additional tournaments will be determined by the coach. Costs for these events are included in the club fees.

Teams must reimburse the coach for travel expenses on overnight events. The cost of this travel (hotel/mileage) has averaged \$50-\$65 per travel weekend in the past few seasons.

Club fees for National teams will be \$640 per player. First payment of \$320 will be due at the team's first practice. The second payment will be due on or before January 11, 2015.

Regional Team for ages 15 through 18

Athletes not offered positions on a national team or who have stated a national team is not in their preference will be considered for regional level teams. Regional teams will participate in tournaments within the Ohio, Indiana, and/or Kentucky area. The team coach will determine the tournament schedule from those available.

Club fees for Regional teams will be \$540 per player. First payment of \$270 will be due at the team's first practice. The second payment of \$270 will be due on or before January 11, 2015.

National Team for ages 14 and under

Those selected for national teams will be the top-skilled players who desire to play at the highest level. They need to be willing to travel outside of the Ohio area and would like to be considered for summer national tournaments in late June or early July

National teams will play in at least one multi-day national qualifier events (these will be out of region tournaments requiring travel and overnight accommodations). Additional tournaments will be determined by the coach. Costs for these events are included in the club fees.

Teams must reimburse the coach for travel expenses on overnight events. The cost of this travel (hotel/mileage) has averaged \$65 per travel weekend in the past few seasons.

Club fees for the 14 National team will be \$500 per player. First payment of \$250 will be due at the team's first practice. The second payment will be due on or before January 11, 2015.

Regional Team for ages 14 and under

The 13U and/or 14U regional teams are for junior high (or younger) ages. Players of these teams have a wide variety of ability and experience in our sport. Our teams are created by placing the most similarly-skilled boys together.

Club fees for regional 13/14 and under teams will be \$350 per player. First payment of \$175 will be due at the team's first practice. The second payment will be due on or before January 11, 2015. Teams for 13U and 14U will participate in tournaments within central to southwest Ohio. The team coach will determine the tournament schedule from those offered.

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REGARDING FEES AND OUR REFUND POLICY

Air City VBC keeps our costs to athletes as low as possible. Players offered the opportunity to participate with our program are expected to pay the full cost of their team commitment, according to the two payment dates. Failure to pay on schedule will result in players being withheld from practices and/or tournaments until financial obligations are met.

Refunds are dealt with on a case by case basis by the club directors. If a refund is in order, Air City VBC will deduct the expenses for the period of participation, then refund the remainder to the parent.

Boys Tournament Events

The following is a current list of known events for boys. Others may be added as tournament directors advertise their events to the boys' volleyball clubs. Many of our coaches also have options to participate their teams in adult men's tournaments locally. Each coach will determine the tournament schedule for their team based upon the team level and budget for events. Additional tournaments may be put on a team's schedule provided (1) the coach is available to attend the event, (2) the team pays "a la carte" for the event in full prior to the tournament entry deadline.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Level</u>
12/14-15	OVR Preview Tournament	Columbus, OH	ALL	ALL
1/4	Vanguard Tournament	Columbus, OH	15, 16, 17, 18	ALL
1/10-11	MAVA Classic	Louisville, KY	ALL	ALL
1/10	Vanguard Tournament	Columbus, OH	14	ALL
1/11	Gem City Open	Mason, OH	16, 18	Regional
1/17-19	Great Lake Festival Qualifier Tournament	Chicago, IL	14, 16, 17, 18	National
1/17-18	Can-AM Qualifier Tournament	Rochester, NY	14, 16, 17, 18	National
1/24-25	OVR Winterfest Tournament	Urbana, OH	15, 16, 17, 18	ALL
1/31-2/01	Nittany Invitational Qualifier Tournament	College Sta, PA	17, 18	National
2/7	Vanguard Regional Tournament	Columbus, OH	16, 18	Regional
2/8	Vanguard Regional Tournament	Columbus, OH	14	Regional
2/14-15	Gateway Festival Qualifier Tournament	St. Louis, MO	14, 16, 17, 18	ALL
2/15	Carmel Classic	Carmel, IN	14, 16, 17, 18	Regional
2/21-22	OVR Boys Championships	Urbana, OH	14, 16, 17, 18	ALL
2/28-3/01	Northeastern Qualifier Tournament	Harrisburg, PA	14, 16, 17, 18	ALL
6/28-7/05	Boys National Championships	Columbus, OH	14, 16, 17, 18	ALL

Regardless of age and level of team, any team may elect to participate in tournaments beyond their budget if the additional cost is shared among the participating players AND the coach is available/willing to lead the team.

2015 SUMMER NATIONALS

Our area is hosting the 2015 Boys Junior National Championships in Columbus, Ohio, June 28th to July 5th. This is a very rare opportunity for our athletes to compete at the highest level of play without a huge travel or overnight expense. We plan for our national teams to compete at this event by getting back together following the Ohio high school season. Regional teams are welcome to participate as well. Cost for this tournament is estimated at \$150 per player (not included in the 2014-2015 Winter season fees). Coaches will discuss this opportunity with their team during the winter season.