

www.shakopeevolleyballassociation.com



PLAYER/PARENT HANDBOOK 2025-2026

SVA Mission Statement:

The Shakopee Volleyball Association (SVA) exists to promote the sport of volleyball to girls in grades 3rd - 11th who attend or live within the Shakopee School District and/or the City of Shakopee. We will provide equitable opportunities to develop and refine their skills from the novice to the competitive level. We will also provide a healthy environment that emphasizes personal growth and demonstrates community value.

The SVA Agrees to:

- Form partnerships with Shakopee School District #720 and the City of Shakopee to promote and demonstrate community values of self-worth, honesty, dignity, generosity, and respect for others on and off the court.
- Support the co-curricular mission of the Shakopee School District #720 with the philosophy that individual students will benefit through opportunities to grow physically, intellectually, and creatively from involvement in as many activities as a student shows an interest.
- Hold tryouts with an impartial selection process.
- Be administered by volunteer representatives through the SVA board.
- Provide opportunities to as many participants as coaches and facilities will allow.

Shakopee Hosted Tournaments:

- Daylight Dig (15/16/17): March 22nd
- Spring Dig (13/14): April 18th
- Spring Dig (11/12): April 19th
- YDT Spring Dig (10/11 and lower 12s): April 19th
- SERVE-A-THON: TBD (March/April) – Nominee announced in March

Watch the SVA Calendar:

- Shakopeevolleyballassociation.com
- Spirit wear Store – November 2025
- Officiating Clinic all SVA Juniors Players & Coaches – TBD
- SAQ (Strength/Agility/Quickness) – Additional cost this year (more details to come)
- Serve-a-thon Event – TBD (April)

2025-2026 SVA Junior Volleyball Season Player Fees:

- Non-refundable Pre-Registration Tryout Fee: \$40.00
- Player's Season Fee: \$950.00
- DIBs Deposit Fee: \$300 (Please be prepared to have a check written out to: Shakopee Volleyball Association on tryout day. Checks are shredded once DIB hours are fulfilled if a team is made).

Fee Details:

- Pre-Registration Tryout Fee includes pre-tryout Boot Camps.
- For the 2025-2026 Season the player's fee includes 2 new jerseys (NEW PLAYERS ONLY), coaches pay, and tournament fees. If a returning player needs replacement jerseys, it will be at the expense of the player.
- Optional SAQ will be offered for an additional charge. Additional details to come.
- There is an additional cost incurred by the player for the other required uniform items: black spandex shorts, white crew length socks, white knee pads, and white volleyball (or equivalent) shoes.
- Player Fee is payable online after tryouts and Juniors players are announced. Payment options are payment in full or in 4 equal installment payments due monthly on the 1st.
 - A player will NOT be allowed to participate in team selection practice and will NOT be placed on a team until the first installment of the player's fee is paid.
 - If there is a history of non-payment in past seasons the SVA Board may require a different payment plan be put in place. This could include paying in full before the player can participate in team selections or be placed on a team.
 - All travel costs (hotel/transportation/meals) incurred are at the expense of each family.
 - The Shakopee Volleyball Association does offer Financial Assistance to those families who qualify. The guidelines to be considered for assistance are the same guidelines used by the schools for determining low-cost or free lunches in the schools. If you think you may qualify, please complete the financial aid form on our website.
 - DIBs Volunteer Requirements have been established to assist with SVA functions, which in turn assist in keeping costs down, and to promote parental

involvement. We believe parents should be involved in their daughter's athletic endeavors.

Player Expectations (Code of Conduct):

Respectful Behavior & Good Sportsmanship

- Behavior towards coaches, players, officials, and fans should ALWAYS be respectful.
- Players should demonstrate good sportsmanship both on and off the court.
 - Remember...you are representing **SHAKOPEE** while at tournaments and playdates.
- Players are to be respectful of all practicing/playing sites and others using those sites. This includes the gym, hallways, and common areas.
 - Clean up trash
 - No running
 - No LOUD music
 - No yelling and screaming
 - Do not use profane or explicit language
 - Do not use negative/explicit body language
- Players must adhere to respectful and appropriate social media posts.
 - Specifically prohibited behaviors include but are not limited to:
 - Posting anything that is disparaging to the SVA, SVA-sponsored events, SVA coaches, or SVA players.
 - Sexually explicit, profane, lewd, indecent, illegal, or defamatory language/actions.
 - Derogatory language regarding SVA, Coaches, or players.
 - Comments designed to harass or bully players or coaches
 - Nude, sexually-oriented, or indecent photos, images, videos, or altered pictures

We recognize there are polarizing views on current events, politics, etc. These discussions will NOT be talked about between players/coaches at practices, team events, or games. Please respect each other!

Player attitude and sportsmanship during the previous seasons may be a consideration for current season team selections.

Monitoring and repercussions for bad behavior are the coach's responsibility. If bad behavior becomes excessive to the point where it is affecting the team, the coach may work with the SVA board on consequences, which may include expulsion from SVA programs. If expelled from the SVA for breaking SVA policies, players fees must be paid in full and will not be refunded.

Practice & Play Events:

- Players are expected to be ready and in the gym at the start of the scheduled practice time. If a coach is not present when you arrive for practice, please wait in the gym for the coach to arrive. DO NOT congregate in the hallways.
- Players must have all necessary equipment/apparel on at each practice.

- No jewelry is allowed during practice or play events. This includes ALL earrings and piercings, including new piercings.
- Hair should be kept out of the face using elastic headbands or pre-wrap.
- Cell phone use during practices & playing events is at the discretion of the coach.
- All players will receive equal opportunity to practice time. However, playing time at games may not be equal at any age level on any team.
- All players must have a ride to and from practice and games.
- Players are responsible for their own food at playdates and tournaments.
- If an overnight hotel stay is required, players are responsible for the cost of the hotel room.
- Players are not allowed to leave the hotel without adult supervision when traveling.

Player/Player or Player/Coach Conflicts:

- AFTER a practice or a competition, a PLAYER may meet with the coach for a discussion about playing time or team issues.
 - If the issue is not resolved, a parent may contact the coach to arrange a meeting with the player, parent, and coach. This meeting must be held at least 24 hours after the conclusion of a competition event.
 - Event is defined as a complete playdate or tournament. This means 24 hours AFTER the final match is played, not 24 hours after the incident took place.
 - If the player, parent, or coach feels a resolution still has not been reached, the President or Vice President of the SVA and/or the coach liaison should be contacted. It will then be up to his or her discretion to conduct a meeting via phone call or in person and reach a resolution for all parties involved.
- If a player-to-player conflict arises, please let your coach know immediately.

Alcohol, Tobacco & Drug Policy The SVA has a no-tolerance policy with alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs:

- If caught using or in possession of any of these substances, including but not limited to social media posts, the player will be disciplined according to MSHSL guidelines for the offense. If expelled from the SVA for substance use player's fees must be paid in full and will not be refunded.
- Any person found to be using or in possession of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs on the premises of any SVA practice, competition site, hotel during a competition, or any team bonding event will be immediately expelled from the program. If expelled from the SVA for substance use, player's fees must be paid in full and will not be refunded.

Dress Code:

- Players are not permitted to wear tank tops or cut-offs to practices or games.

Parent Expectations (Code of Conduct):

Positive Attitudes Encouraged!

- Encourage your daughter and give positive statements about her play.

- Speak positively about the team and other team members, as well as other teams and coaches competing (both SVA and non-SVA).
- Model community values; you are representing the Shakopee community when you are at events.
- Parents and other family members must adhere to respectful and appropriate social media posts.
 - Specifically prohibited behaviors include but are not limited to:
 - Posting anything that is disparaging to the SVA, SVA-sponsored events, SVA coaches, or SVA players.
 - Sexually explicit, profane, lewd, indecent, illegal, or defamatory language/actions.
 - Derogatory language regarding SVA, Coaches, or players.
 - Comments designed to harass or bully players or coaches
 - Nude, sexually-oriented, or indecent photos, images, videos, or altered pictures
- Parents should support the coach and the team with positive encouragement.

The Game/Practice is for the Players, not the Parents:

- If a player is having issues, please encourage your daughter to have a discussion with the coach.
- If the problem is not resolved, a meeting with the player, parent, and coach may be arranged as described in the Player Code of Conduct.
- Allow the coach to do his/her job. Please be considerate and refrain from approaching the coach before, during, or immediately after a practice or match. This is NOT the time to have a discussion.
- If a parent feels the issue has not been resolved after the player/parent/coach meeting, the parent should contact the President or Vice President of the SVA and/or the coach liaison. It will then be up to his or her discretion to conduct a meeting via phone call or in person and reach a resolution for all parties involved.
- Do not communicate with officials or opposing teams, coaches, or fans in a negative manner.
- Negative comments and poor behavior will not be tolerated.
- Parents are required to work DIBs throughout the season. This consists of a variety of activities, such as helping at tournaments hosted by the SVA, coaching, or serving as a member of the SVA Board. The requirement is 4 hours (total) for each family in the program.
- At the time of tryouts, parents must be prepared to submit a DIBs deposit check made out to the SVA for \$300.00. The check is NOT cashed and will be shredded at the completion of the DIBs commitment.
- Hours will be logged in our online volunteer system. At the completion of your hours, the SVA will shred your DIBs check.
- Parents who do not fulfill the DIBs requirement by the end of the playing season will have their checks cashed by the SVA. If you choose to opt out of the DIBs volunteer hours, please inform the SVA Treasurer at treasurer.shakopeevolleyball@gmail.com and your DIBs check will be cashed.
- Parents should support the Shakopee Volleyball Association's mission and community values. If expelled from the SVA for breaking SVA policies, player's fees must be paid in

full and will not be refunded.

Conflict Resolution:

Remember that your coaches' job is to improve your daughters and the team they are on. They are coaching because they love the sport. Please be respectful when discussing concerns, questions and/or constructive feedback. **Conflicts will be resolved if handled in a respectful manner, and in the spirit of cooperation and assistance. If you can resolve your concerns directly with the coaches that would be the first step that we ask you to take. ALL coach conflicts and parent concerns MUST be documented for the SVA board to respond. Please send your concerns shakvball24@gmail.com.** Any verbal conversations regarding concerns with an SVA board member, will be documented.

24 Hour Rule:

- **Waiting Period:** It is required that a parent wait 24 hours to review and consider the situation before approaching the coach.
- **Appropriate Timing:** Do not approach a coach during competition or at practices when players, other parents, or other coaches are present.
- **First Offense:**
 - If the "24 hour" rule is broken, or if a parent approaches a coach with other players, coaches, or parents present, the parent may be asked to leave the venue at the time of the offense.
 - The parent will receive a warning from the SVA Board.
- **Second Offense:**
 - If the "24 hour" rule is broken, or if a parent approaches a coach with other players, coaches, or parents present a second time, the parent may be asked to leave the venue at the time of the offense.
 - The family could be expelled from all SVA programs.
 - If expelled from the SVA for breaking SVA policy, the player's fees must be paid in full and will not be refunded.
- **Extreme Misbehavior/Abuse by a Coach:**
 - If there is a case of extreme misbehavior/abuse by a coach, the parent may contact the President or Vice President of the SVA within the 24-hour time frame.
- **Extreme Misbehavior/Abuse by a Player or Parent Towards the Coach:**
 - If there is a case of extreme misbehavior/abuse by a player or parent towards the coach, the family will be immediately expelled from all SVA programs.

Coach Expectations (Code of Conduct):

Exhibit Positive Attitudes and Leadership!

- Conduct yourself as a positive role model for players and parents.
- Encourage and provide positive feedback to players and parents.
- Exhibit behavior that is in the best interest of all players and the Shakopee Volleyball Association (SVA).
- Demonstrate respect towards coaches, players, officials, and fans at all times.

- Communicate and enforce the SVA Player and Parent Code of Conduct.
- Communicate effectively with players and parents, providing clear and consistent messages.
- Foster an inclusive and supportive team environment that emphasizes teamwork, effort, and personal growth.
- Be punctual and prepared for practices, games, and events.
- Ensure player safety and well-being during all activities.
- Adhere to the SVA's guidelines and policies.

Promote Fair Play and Respect for the Game:

- Teach and promote the principles of good sportsmanship, fair play, and respect for the game.
- Encourage players to respect the rules, officials, and opponents.
- Lead by example in demonstrating ethical behavior and integrity.
- Address and resolve conflicts or issues in a respectful and constructive manner.
- Support the development of each player's skills, knowledge, and love for the game.
- Maintain a focus on the players' overall development, both as athletes and individuals.

Ensure Effective Communication and Collaboration:

- Communicate team goals, expectations, and schedules clearly and regularly with players and parents.
- Provide constructive feedback and guidance to players to help them improve and reach their potential.
- Collaborate with other coaches, SVA board members, and stakeholders to ensure a positive and cohesive program.
- Seek opportunities for professional development and continuous improvement as a coach.

Uphold the SVA's Mission and Values:

- Embrace and promote the SVA's mission and community values of self-worth, honesty, dignity, generosity, and respect for others.
- Foster a positive and inclusive environment where all players feel valued and supported.
- Ensure that the SVA's policies and guidelines are consistently followed and enforced.

Maintain a Commitment to Player Development and Team Success:

- Prioritize the individual development and growth of each player.
- Strive for team success while emphasizing the importance of effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

- Encourage players to set and achieve personal and team goals.
- Celebrate and recognize the achievements and progress of players and the team.

Adhere to SVA's Policies and Procedures:

- Follow the SVA's policies, guidelines, and procedures as outlined in the Code of Conduct and other official documents.
- Ensure that all practices, games, and events are conducted in a safe, respectful, and organized manner.
- Address any violations of the Code of Conduct promptly and appropriately, involving the SVA board if necessary.

Absenteeism Policy:

Unexcused Absences:

- **Two or More Practices/Competitions:** Two or more practices and/or competitions without notifying the coach.
- **Same Day Notification:** Notification the same day or night for a previously scheduled event (e.g., choir concert, dress rehearsal, basketball tournament, family event, etc.).
- **Lack of Advance Notice:** Not giving advance notice when the athlete needs to come late or leave early.

Excused Absences:

- **School Work:** School work should always come first. If an athlete is missing practice due to homework or studying for a test, this would take priority as long as it is not excessive.
- **Illness or Injury:** Illness or injury is an excused absence.

Multi-Sport Players:

- **Conflicting Activities:** If an athlete is in other sports/activities that conflict with practices or play events on a consistent basis, there must be a balance of which activity gets attended. Playing time may be affected if a player is consistently missing practices and play events due to other sports/activities.

Monitoring and Repercussions:

- **Coach's Responsibility:** Monitoring and repercussions are the coach's responsibility.
- **Excessive Unexcused Absences:** If unexcused absences become excessive to the point where it is affecting the team, the coach may work with the SVA Board on consequences, which may include expulsion from SVA programs.
- **Expulsion Consequences:** If expelled from the SVA for breaking SVA policies, the player's fees must be paid in full and will not be refunded.

Quitting Policy:

- **Declining Team Placement:** If a player makes an SVA team and declines their team placement, the SVA will refund 75% of the Juniors Registration fee. This decision will be documented and discussed with evaluators at future tryout evaluations.
- **Medical Condition:** If a player encounters a medical condition that is season-ending, there will be a prorated (by the day) refund of fees paid, and no penalty will apply for the following year.
- **Quitting During Season:** If a player quits during the season for any reason not approved by the SVA Board, the player must recognize at tryouts during the following season that their previous year's actions will be noted to the tryout evaluators.
- **Unpaid Fees:** If a player quits during the season, regardless of the situation, the family will be required to pay any unpaid fees and penalties due for that season before she can try out again.

Policy for SVA Programs Refund (SVA Programs refer to Fall League, Fall Camps programs, Juniors Program, Prep Program):

- **Request Procedure:** Requests for refund must be in writing from a player's parent or guardian and submitted to the President of the Shakopee Volleyball Association. E-mail correspondence is acceptable.
- **Extenuating Circumstances:** Refunds may only be requested due to extenuating circumstances.
- **Non-refundable Registration Fees:** Registration fees will not be refunded.
- **Doctor's Note:** A doctor's note may be requested by the Board to confirm the seriousness of injury.
- **Prorated Refunds:** The SVA Board may consider issuing a prorated partial refund or forgoing all or a portion of the balance of the season's fees owed.
- **Refund Payment:** If a refund is approved by the SVA Board, it will be done via check or card to the player's parent/guardian and the address used for registration.

SVA Strike Rule Policy:

- **Three-Strike Rule:** The SVA has a three-strike rule that combines offenses incurred by players and/or parents when determining consequences. 1 offense = 1 strike. Strikes carry over from season to season if someone in the family is participating in SVA programs. If a family receives a total of 3 strikes while participating in SVA programs, the family may be expelled from all future SVA programs.

Examples of Strikes:

- Breaking the 24-hour rule (after tryouts, team selection, tournaments, playdates, or practice)
- Breaking Social Media policy
- Fights with players/coaches
- Extreme disrespect
- Caught with drugs/alcohol

Additional Consequences:

- Suspension: sitting sets/matches

- Dismissal from SVA Program

Absenteeism at Juniors Program Tryouts:

For Injury:

- **Notification:** Player/parent must notify the SVA when registration is open that she is injured but wants to play juniors volleyball. The reason for absence must be in writing and submitted to the SVA President at the time of tryout registration. Email is acceptable.
- **Tryout Registration:** Player registers for tryouts.
- **Coach Decision:** Coaches of the appropriate age group decide if they want a player on the injured reserve list after seeing video, previous coaches' recommendations, doctor's return-to-play date, etc. Player would be part of the 10 players making up a team.
- **Tryout Process:** Player goes through the tryout process and is either chosen to move on to team selections based on the above or not.
- **Team Placement:** If chosen after tryouts, the player moves on to team selections either by attending (if feasible) or not.
- **Participation:** Player is placed on a team as one of 10 players by coaches. Communication is kept open via parents, player, and coaches. If possible, the player attends practices and participates as much as is allowed.

For Other Reasons (Illness, Travel):

- **Boot Camp Attendance:** The player must attend all boot camp sessions (only if missing tryouts).
- **Tryout Registration:** Must be completed.
- **Board Communication:** The Board will communicate with appropriate coaches.
- **Coach Evaluation:** Coaches will evaluate the player at boot camps and complete the same evaluation that is done at tryouts and pass it along to the SVA President.
- **Former Coaches' Input:** If a player becomes injured or ill and cannot attend tryouts, evaluation is based on observations from former coaches, boot camp coaches, school coaches, etc. A board member must be notified by email or phone call PRIOR to the beginning of the tryout session.
- **Team Selection:** If the player is chosen after tryouts, she moves on to team selections.

Travel Policy:

- **Safety and Legal Requirements:** It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure the person transporting the player maintains safety and legal requirements, including a valid driver's license and a safe automobile.
- **Coach Transportation:** A coach will not transport a single player to any practice or event (unless the coach is the parent, guardian, or sibling of the player).
- **Hotel Room Sharing:** Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with a player (unless the coach is the parent, guardian, or sibling of the player).
- **Meetings:** Individual meetings between a coach and 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 these adults being the same gender as the player.

- **Hotel Safety:** Players cannot leave the hotel without an adult 18 years or older. When walking around the hotel, at least two girls must go together for safety reasons.

DIBS (Volunteer Hours):

Juniors:

- **Parent Meeting:** The DIBs policy will be discussed in detail in the upcoming parent meeting following tryouts. All families must be made aware of this change as the season starts.
- **Volunteer Deposit:** Each family must provide a check for \$300 as a Volunteer Deposit at tryouts. The deposit check will be shredded after each family meets the minimum volunteer commitment: 4 volunteer hours per family by the end of the '25-'26 season. Deposit checks WILL be cashed for all families that have NOT met their volunteer commitment by April 20th, 2026.
- **Volunteer Shifts:** Each shift listed is worth 4 volunteer hours. Families must choose 1 shift between the Spring tournaments to fulfill the season-wide 4-hour commitment.
- **Notification:** The SVA will notify all parents by email when DIBs registration opens a month before each tournament (e.g., DIBs will open for each tournament 1 month prior to the tournament date i.e. Winter Dig Jan 4th, DIBs will open Dec. 4th).
- **Volunteer Eligibility:** SVA players may participate in completing DIBs; however, they must be 16 years old in cash-handling volunteer roles (concessions/admissions).
- **Check Requirement:** Be prepared to have a check written out to: Shakopee Volleyball Association on tryout day. Your player will not be able to try out until the check has been collected.

DIBS Tracking:

- **Tracking Hours:** The SVA Board will track the number of DIBS hours each family completes during the season. If a family does not complete the required hours during the 2025-2026 season, the SVA will deposit the \$300 check provided at tryouts.

Prep Program:

- **Volunteer Requirement:** All SVA Prep program families are able to volunteer during the 2024-2025 season but it will not be required. These hours can be fulfilled by anyone representing your family (must be 16 years old in cash-handling volunteer roles (concessions/admissions)).
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** The SVA will have three opportunities to fulfill hours during the season.

SVA Board Members:

- **President:** Rachel Hove
- **Vice President:** Kristy Brewer
- **Treasurer:** Sarah Buesgens
- **Secretary:** Marissa Grefe
- **Juniors Program Coordinator:** Angie Ponce

- **Juniors Program Coordinator:** Kristen Kodet
- **Website/Email/Social Communications:** Jeana Reed
- **Equipment:** Jenny Freng
- **Scheduler:** Kacey Koenig
- **Coach Liaison:** Brian Ascherman

You may reach any of the board members at: shakvball24@gmail.com