

# NorthCountry

## REGION VOLLEYBALL

North Country Region junior players who are defined in the 18s division by [USA Volleyball junior player age definition](#) (**AGE DIVISION DEFINITIONS UPDATE 7/15/2021**) will be able to participate in Open Club Commitment starting August 1, 2021. North Country Region Board of Directors approved the following policy on July 14, 2019:

"Starting August 1, 2019, North Country Region junior members entering the 18s age division may commit to a North Country Region club and team prior to the 18s age division designated tryout date."

### **Rationale Behind Policy** (shared in 2019)

- Survey feedback from Region Club Directors supports policy
- Majority of 17 and under junior age players who continue to play club volleyball have pre-selected (prior to tryouts) where they want to compete for their 18s club season or have opted not to compete in their 18s club season
- Historical data of USA Volleyball and Region's 18 and under teams shows a decline in a number/amount of 18 and under teams fielded
- This age group can be left in a lurch on finding a team in their age division during try-outs; clubs scrambling to make a team or players waiting to know if a team will exist
- Allows club directors and junior players in the 18age division to complete rosters and/or communicate to players that an 18 and under team is not available so that a player can find a team prior to tryouts or allow a player to wait until tryouts to find a team
- Club Directors are not obligated to participate in Open Commitment

### **Recommended Next Steps**

- Communicate with your club director if you would like to compete at their club for the 2021 - 2022 season
- Communicate with your club director if you plan to NOT compete at their club for the 2021-2022 season
- Or decide to wait until tryouts to find the club and 18s teams on which to compete

**Try Out Date Policy for 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 age divisions – NO CHANGE. OPEN COMMITMENT IS ONLY AVAILABLE FOR THE 18s AGE DIVISION.**

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Laura Bush, Executive Director