



SPECTATOR/PARENT CONDUCT GUIDELINES AT USA VOLLEYBALL EVENTS

The following guidelines are intended to encourage positive spectating experiences in an enthusiastic, supportive environment for athletes, coaches, officials, and fellow spectators.

1. USAV Volleyball has a "zero tolerance" policy for unsporting conduct at local, regional, and national events.
2. Harassment, intimidation, or unsporting words or actions directed towards other spectators, match participants, tournament staff, officials, including line judges and scorers, may result in removal from the event. Attendance at future events may also be impacted.
3. A current membership with USA Volleyball is required to participate in any game or game-like activities.
4. Law enforcement, security personnel, and USA Volleyball Event Arbitrators (the "Green Shirts") play an important role in ensuring a safe, fair environment for our young athletes and should be considered important members of the tournament staff.
5. Generate goodwill and good sportsmanship by being polite and respectful to others attending the event.
6. The Event Director and/or Program Administrator must be notified when any illegal activity is witnessed.
7. Spectator seating around the courts is for the primary use of those watching the match in progress. Spectators may rightfully choose to remain in a seat for an entire match without switching sides of the court.
8. Alcohol may not be consumed courtside at any USA Volleyball Youth/Junior volleyball event.
9. Club directors and coaches have a responsibility to address unsporting conduct, words, or actions, by spectators or parents associated with their club.
10. **WARNING!** Injury from flying objects incidental to the sport of volleyball may occur. Attend at your own risk. Please pay close attention to your surroundings and be alert at all times, especially during active play.

Key Points from rulebook, pg 10:



1. "Zero tolerance" policy



2. Harassment, intimidation, unsporting words or actions



4. Important role of law enforcement/security at events



9. Club director & coach responsibilities with their parents/spectators



Attendance is a privilege, not a right; misbehavior may be grounds for removal



-  No rabbit ears
-  “Zero Tolerance” does not mean “silence”
 -  Don’t hear everything & react to everything
 -  They need to “get” your attention
-  Interrupting the game
 -  Yelling at work team
 -  More than yelling, “point!” or “score is wrong!”
 -  Coming onto the court
 -  Approaching ref stand
-  Post-match
 -  At the score table
 -  As you leave the court



- Do not (verbally) address spectators yourself
- If team affiliation can be identified, ask coach to assist
- Get tournament director involved
 - Send member of work team
 - Wait until end of the set, or stop the match? It depends!
 - Call law enforcement, if necessary, i.e., aggression or threats
- Inform other referees
- Report to OVR
 - Call/Send report to **Brian Hemelgarn** and **Brian Hofman**
 - Include tournament date, site, and tournament director/site manager
 - Identify affiliated team/club, including age level
 - Provide as much detail as possible