



# COASTAL VOLLEYBALL

An International Volleyball Club

# Club Handbook

AN INTERNATIONAL VOLLEYBALL CLUB

# **Parent and Player Handbook**

Coastal Volleyball  
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# Mission Statement

*“Hard work beats talent  
When talent doesn’t work hard.”- Kevin Durant*

Coastal Volleyball (“CVBC”) was established in 2013 by Johnathan Bluhm, the current director, with the goal of providing high quality year-round training to dedicated athletes. While this goal seems widely used, our club utilizes a very different approach. Our mission has many facets and many levels and each individual athlete, coach and team are subject to each and every one of these intricate details to maintain the values of the club on and off the court. The major facets include:

## **1. Developing an All-around Player**

In the early stages of volleyball there are no specialties as everyone is learning the game, but around high school age, players are trained in a specific role. There comes a time when a player must step outside his or her role and perform an action that is not normally their own. For these reasons, we strive to teach each and every athlete to perform every skill proficiently.

## **2. Developing a Personal Style**

Every athlete is different. For these reason many athletes have developed habits, whether good or bad, that they perform instinctively. We will eliminate bad habits and replace them with good habits, but in the instance a player has an abnormal instinct that works for him or her instead of un-teaching this we will modify it to aid the player in having their own unique style of play.

## **3. Intelligent and Tactical**

One of the last steps in becoming a great volleyball player is understanding strategy and tactics involved in the game. Requiring tremendous knowledge about the game, at this level a player will begin to understand percentages and when to play them. They will learn to adapt to a different styles of play to take advantage or expose the opposing team’s weaknesses. This step will attempt to increase the players volleyball IQ, which will allow the player to see things develop before they happen and adjust to play the ball and not let the ball play them.

#### **4. Emotionally Solid Player**

Keeping your composure is one of the hardest skills to learn in any sport, let alone volleyball. Everyone has seen a team lose because of an emotional breakdown. We will teach our players to keep your emotions focused in the positive enabling your team to overcome insurmountable odds and be successful.

### **Training Options**

Coastal Volleyball offers a wide variety of training options to fit any athlete's needs and schedule.

#### **National Teams**

National teams will travel all over the United States and to Puerto Rico to compete at the highest level tournaments for their age brackets. Our top athletes will play in this category and will provide them with maximum exposure to colleges that would be available for recruiting.

#### **Regional Teams**

Regional teams will travel all over the state of Florida and compete in the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Junior Nationals. Athletes that compete regionally will be the athletes that can't commit to the travel and time of a national team. Regional teams will get exposure to colleges and universities around Florida and nearby regions, but our recruiting coordinator will get the athlete exposure if a school outside of these regions is desired.

#### **Local Teams**

Local teams have a much less strenuous schedule than our Regional or National teams. These teams will compete in 8 - 10 local tournaments in West Palm, Broward and Dade Counties. These teams will wear only Mizuno apparel and equipment.

#### **Practice Teams**

Practice teams are designed for players who cannot commit the time necessary for Local, Regional or National teams or those athletes who could not make their high school, but would still like to receive some training.

#### **Summer Training**

Training after the season ends in July with Junior Nationals or AAU Nationals will begin the week following our return from Nationals. Summer training will consist of 2 practices per week with one or more additional practice at the beach. These are in addition to the regular season and should be used to stay in shape and prepare for the coming year.

#### **All-around Clinics & Position Clinics**

Coastal Volleyball will offer 3 types of clinics: All-Around, Position and International. The All-Around clinic will cover passing, serving, setting, blocking, hitting and defense. with no individualization given in any category. These should be considered the foundation for all players. Coastal will offer in depth training for each position including: Libero, Middle, Opposite, Setter and Outside Hitter. Lastly, Coastal will offer only twice per year an International Clinic where we will invite current and former professional and olympic players and coaches to run a weekend clinic.

#### **Private and Semi-Private Lessons**

Coastal volleyball will offer private lessons for one-on-one coaching as well as small group or semi-private lessons for groups less than 10. The benefit in taking lessons is for more in-depth and personalized training.

## **Playing Time**

This subject has its own section due to the fact that many problems arise from this very simple issue. First, a player must understand his or her role on the team. You may not play in a tournament every point, you may only play a few points or you may not play any at all. It is the coach's decision who to play and when. However, be assured that a coach does know his or her players and is well aware who has and has not played and how much. This is not P.E. and not a charity event. The reputation of the club ultimately depends on the performance of the club and its athletes, thus winning is important, but not the only thing. Players and parents must understand that the most valuable aspect of playing for a club team is practice. Many of the players on a team will not play much at all and this can be very discerning for parents and the players. For this reason, for players that do not play a lot they will go to additional tournaments where they will be the starting team. Everyone deserves their shot at the court, but that decision will be made by the coach from the events that occur in the practice prior to the tournament.

As far as parents are concern, your job as a parent is not to completely protect your child from any fear, pain, disappointment or failure, in fact, it is quite the opposite. Prepare your child as best you can for the inevitable time they do fall. For right now you are there to catch them if they do fall, but they will grow up and you might or might not be there to catch them. By trying to pressure a coach into giving your child more playing time you are teaching your child a valuable lesson: If things don't go your way, it is not your fault, but someone else's fault. That attitude will not carry you far in life. Remain positive with your child. If he or she is constantly hearing how he or she is being cheated, his attitude will suffer and if a poor attitude is brought on to the court there is almost no chance he or she will EARN more playing time. If your child works hard, stays positive and focused, it will be noticed and will merit playing time. Think about which scenario creates a better feeling for the child, if he or she gets playing time because their parent complained or if they earned it (I would assume an almost unanimous decision here). Everyone on the team will have their chance to show what they are capable of and how they can contribute to the team. It is most important to be properly prepared for those opportunities and make the most of them.

If, however, you do feel that your child is being neglected by the coach, do not approach the coach about the issue. Speak with your child, maybe there is a reason you do not see. Suggest that your athlete speak to the coach and tell the coach that he or she feels he/she could help the team more and ask what can be done to improve on his position. You are teaching your child two important things: self-esteem and communication. You are teaching them to stand up for themselves, value their time and to communicate their feelings.

## **Codes of Conduct**

This club will have very high standards of practice for its athletes, parents and most of all its coaches. Below you will find the codes of conduct for each group of people involved in the club. In the first meeting of the team, everyone will sign these including parents and coaches so then everyone is aware and can be held responsible for each item on the list.

## **Conflict Resolution Policy**

As members of Coastal Volleyball we all share in a common goal: the education of our players in an environment that is fun for all involved including parents, athletes and coaches. Having a common goal and interest will prevent most disagreements and disputes, but when the situation does arise, the following steps are suggested to handle any dispute or disagreement:

1. Allow yourself a minimum of 24 hours to pass before attempting to raise the issue at hand. Use the time to collect your thoughts and prepare notes as to who was involved, what happened, why it happened, when it happened, why you feel the way you do and what you would like to see happen to resolve the situation.
2. If an issue arises do not simply let it go. Differences between players, coaches and parents can manifest in ways that will be to the detriment of the players. Be an example of conflict resolution and show the club's most important members how to resolve differences appropriately.
3. Try to resolve the issue amongst the parties involved without the unnecessary involvement of other club players, parents or coaches. When other parties are involved many times it becomes a "he said, she said" battle, which will never be resolved amicably between parties involved.
4. If the dispute is between a player and a coach, allow the player to raise the issue to the coach. One of the most important lessons learned in this club is to stand up for yourself. If the player never learns this ability chances are it will carry on much longer into their adult lives to their own detriment.
5. If a resolution among the parties involved proves impossible, promptly bring to the head coach or club director, as appropriate.
6. If the head coach nor director are able to resolve the issue, you may contact the Florida Region of USAV for guidance.
7. All those involved in disagreements or disputes should treat the matters as confidential to the maximum extent possible in order to optimize the possibility of arranging an amicable resolution.

If a player or coach is in constant violation of policy and refuses to work with the club, the club has the merit and ability to terminate membership in the club.

## Payments

### **Financial Aid**

We have over the years been able to create a program to aid all athletes to apply for assistance in paying for their club fees. While travel & apparel are unable to receive these discounts, monthly club fees can be reduced significantly. The application must be completed each year and the aid will be applied upon registering.

### **Payment Plans**

At Coastal Volleyball we understand the difficulty in supporting your child's athletic interests so we have developed payment plans that can help you meet the needs of your family as well as support your son or daughters interest in volleyball. We accept multiple payment plans either one payment in full; two payments split during the year; or, monthly payments throughout the club season and beyond. We have partnered with a variety of banks and financing companies to facilitate payment plan options sometimes up to 18 months.

### **Discounts**

We give a 10% discount for siblings. Additionally, in some circumstances the facility may grant additional discounts to its players participating in the club. Previous schools have funded all players equipment & apparel, while others provided an additional 25% discount on top of all financial aid and discounts. These situations are entirely up to the facility.

### **Non-payment**

If after the 3rd day a players balance is not paid in full according to their chosen schedule the athlete will no longer be able to participate in tournaments or practices until the balance is paid. A late fee of \$5 per day will be assessed to the players account.

## **Refund Policy**

There will be no refunds for club memberships. Once a commitment contract is signed by the parent and the athlete, the parent and athlete are financially obligated to pay their balance. If after the 10th day a player's balance is not paid in full according to their chosen schedule the athlete will no longer be able to participate in tournaments or practices until the balance is paid. If an athlete decides to leave the club prior to the end of the season they are still obligated to pay their entire balance in full. All refund and billing dispute requests should be made to the attention of the Club Director via email.

## **Eligibility and Recruiting**

### **Club Eligibility**

If an athlete would like to transfer clubs their balance must be paid before any discussion of a transfer can be made. Club transfers are done on a case by case basis, but the club will not attempt to hinder the growth of an athlete.

### **Collegiate Recruiting**

There is a school for every athlete. At Coastal Volleyball, we will use our network of college coaches to try and place each athlete that has the desire and ability to play at the next level. We will also help the athlete create a recruiting video to send to prospective colleges. First and foremost, the athlete must consider the type of school and what direction they see their education going as college is not just about playing volleyball, but progressing your life in the positive direction. We have also hired on personnel specifically to aid in this for the club as it's a very time consuming and the outcome can drastically affect the future of our athletes.

## **Training Modalities**

Coaches are not able to give rubdowns, massages or any training modality of that nature to Coastal Volleyball athletes. We are coaches not physical trainers. If an athlete is in need of the aforementioned consult physical therapists or massage therapists in your area.

## **Forms**

On the following pages you will find all the forms that must be signed and dated prior to an athlete participating in any practice or tournament. Also the release papers must be turned in at the try-outs (copies will be provided at the location).



### **Coastal Volleyball Player Commitment Agreement**

By signing below, we acknowledge that we have read and agree to the handbook and all the rules, policies and commitments set forth therein and are committed to playing for Coastal Volleyball in the 2019-2020 season.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



### **Coastal Volleyball Assumption of Risk & Liability Release**

I fully understand all of the risks and hazards involved in this program. I understand the potential dangers involved in participating in this program, such as property damage or bodily injury. I understand that there is also the potential for and risk of injury or death in traveling to and from events related to this club sports program. I have carefully considered these risks and have voluntarily decided to participate in the program with knowledge of these potential dangers. I agree to accept any and all risks of injury arising directly or indirectly from my participation in the program. I agree, for myself, my administrators, personal representatives, executors, predecessors, successors, agents, heirs and assigns not to sue, make or file any lawsuits, claims, proceedings or any other actions of any kind whatsoever against Coastal Volleyball or the Affiliated Parties for bodily injury, property damage, or death sustained during my participations in the program to the fullest extent permitted under law, including allegations or claims of negligence on the part of Coastal Volleyball or any one of its Affiliated Parties. I fully understand that all medical expenses incurred are to be filed on the athlete's parents insurance; furthermore, the responsibility for medical bills in excess of the expenses covered by insurance resides with the athlete and his/her parents.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



### Coastal Volleyball Standard Release

I hereby authorize the Coastal Volleyball to publish photographs taken of me and/or the undersigned minor children, and our names, for use in the Coastal Volleyball's printed publications and website.

I release the Coastal Volleyball from any expectation of confidentiality for the undersigned minor children and myself and attest that I am the parent or legal guardian of the children listed below and that I have the authority to authorize the Coastal Volleyball to use their photographs and names.

I acknowledge that since participation in publications and website produced by the Coastal Volleyball confers no rights of ownership whatsoever. I release the Coastal Volleyball, its contractors and its employees from liability for any claims by me or any third party in connection with my participation or the participation of the undersigned minor children.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Coastal Volleyball Athlete Code of Conduct

1. All players must be registered with AAU and/or USAV (depending on the team). All players will abide by all USAV/AAU guidelines and code of conduct that MUST be signed before a player is allowed to participate.
2. All players will use positive verbal and physical behavior, controlling temper and aggression.
3. Players will notify the coach if they cannot attend either a practice or a tournament.
4. Players will stay together as a team during tournament breaks.
5. Players MUST attend and be on time to all practices/tournaments (unless special arrangements have been made ahead of time).
6. Players will play by the rules of volleyball and will display fair play by treating all those involved in the match with dignity and respect.
7. There is zero tolerance for disrespectful behavior – toward coach, teammates, parents, referees, opponents, etc.
8. There is zero tolerance for drug and alcohol use by parents and players at any club function, including practices and tournaments. Violators of this rule will be immediately dismissed with no refund.
9. Players will give true information concerning another individual's involvement in or knowledge of an incident relevant to a violation of the rules.
10. Players will have a positive attitude towards teammates and coaches at all times or playing time may be reduced. If negative behavior continues, players may be dismissed with no refund.
11. Players will work hard and honestly to improve performance and participation.
12. Players must communicate directly with their coaches. They are encouraged to ask questions.
13. No player is guaranteed playing time in a tournament without participating in practices, showing maximum enthusiasm, demonstrating good sportsmanship, participating in officiating and scorekeeping assignments, and working at developing their own skills.
14. No player is guaranteed a specific position. The coach determines all positions. The coach will assess strengths and weaknesses of all players to determine where an athlete best fits in the line-up.
15. No player is guaranteed membership for future seasons. Each new season, the number of teams and roster size will be determined by number of available coaches, availability of facilities, and previous behavior of the player and parents, including payment of club and coaches fees.

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Player's Name (Print)

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Player's Signature

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Date



## Coastal Volleyball Parent Code of Conduct

1. Will remain in the spectator areas during all games.
2. Will not advise the coach on how to coach, who to put in the game and/or who to take out of the game.
3. Will respect the integrity of the officials and not advise them how to call the match.
4. Will model sportsmanship for my child by treating all coaches, officials, tournament directors and players of either team with courtesy and respect.
5. Will encourage hard work and honest effort that will lead to improved performance and participation.
6. Will emphasize the cooperative nature of the sport.
7. Will not try to coach my child during the game.
8. Will ensure athletes participate in volleyball drug, tobacco and alcohol free.
9. Will attend all volleyball events alcohol and drug free.
10. Will cheer for my child's team.
11. Will encourage my child to participate for enjoyment as well as competition.
12. Will applaud good and fair play during matches.
13. Will be in control of my emotions.
14. Will learn the rules of the game to help me better understand what is happening on the court.
15. Understand that physical or verbal intimidation of any individual is unacceptable behavior.
16. Understand that conduct that is inappropriate as determined by comparison to normally accepted behavior is unacceptable.
17. Will protect the ability to continue using the facility by following all the rules of the facility, such as NO FOOD, DRINK OR COOLERS IN THE GYM, smoking in designated areas only, throwing all trash in an appropriate receptacle, etc.
18. Will protect athletes from sanctions and/or suspension by producing accurate documentation
19. Will honor financial commitments.

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Parent's Name (Print)

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Parent's Signature

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Date



### Coastal Volleyball Scholarship

I hereby recognize that my child has received a scholarship from Coastal Volleyball determined based solely on financial need. **Given this scholarship, my son or daughter will miss no more than 2 practices per month and will be in attendance at every tournament in which his or her team participates.** Tournament schedules and practice schedules will be announced in the beginning of the season and are subject to change.

If an athlete misses more than the allotted number of practices the scholarship agreement becomes null and void and the athlete will be responsible for his or her balance and owe the monies that were put forth for the scholarship. This is to ensure that our scholarship money is provided to those athletes that intend to make good use of it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Coastal Volleyball Club Release Policy

If an athlete would like to be released from Coastal Volleyball the athlete/parent must send an email to the current director at [info@coastalvbc.org](mailto:info@coastalvbc.org) stating the request and the reason for the request.

The athlete will be released once each of the following is completed:

- Athlete must pay the entire remaining balance of the season.
- Athlete must return all club jerseys & shorts.

Once an athlete has played in a Qualifier Event they may not be released for the rest of the season. Please refer to the Florida Region website for further information on club releases after participating in a Qualifier.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Coastal Volleyball  
Johnathan Bluhm

## **MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES**

**Covered Organizations/LAOs are required to implement the following athlete abuse prevention policies**

To satisfy these requirements, USA Volleyball provides these policies to USAV member clubs. Clubs may choose to implement stricter standards.

### **SafeSport Club Policies**

1. One-on-One Interactions, including meetings and individual training sessions (Clubs are required to establish reasonable procedures to limit one-on one interactions, as set forth in federal law)
2. Massages and rubdowns/athletic training modalities Locker rooms and changing areas
3. Social media and electronic communications
4. Local travel
5. Team travel

These policies shall apply to the following:

- 1) Adult members at a facility that is either partially or fully under the jurisdiction of a **FLORIDA REGION CLUB**
- 2) Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors
- 3) Any adult authorized by **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** that may have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor
- 4) Adult staff and board members of a **FLORIDA REGION CLUB**

(Collectively “Applicable Adult” for the purposes of this policy)

### **POLICY 1 - ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS**

## **Observable and interruptible**

One-on-one interactions between a minor athlete and an Applicable Adult (who is not the minor's legal guardian) at a facility partially or fully under the jurisdiction of a **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** are permitted if they occur at an observable and interruptible distance by another adult.

One-on-one interactions between minor athletes and an Applicable Adult (who is not the minor's legal guardian) at a facility partially or fully under the jurisdiction of a Covered Organization/LAO are prohibited, except in the circumstances described in meetings with mental health care professionals and health care providers of this section and under emergency circumstances.

Meetings between Applicable Adults and minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under the jurisdiction of a **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** may only occur if another adult is present, except under emergency circumstances. Such meetings must occur where interactions can be easily observed and at an interruptible distance from another adult.

If a one-on-one meeting takes place in an office at a facility partially or fully under the jurisdiction of a **FLORIDA REGION CLUB**, the door to the office must remain unlocked and open. If available, it will occur in an office that has windows, with the windows, blinds, and/or curtains remaining open during the meeting.

## **Meetings with mental health care professionals and health care providers**

If a mental health care professional and/or health care provider meets with minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under the jurisdiction of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB**, a closed-door meeting may be permitted to protect patient privacy provided that:

The door remains unlocked and another adult is present at the facility.

The other adult is advised that a closed-door meeting is occurring written legal guardian consent is obtained in advance by the mental health care professional and/or health care provider, with a copy provided to the organization.

## **Individual training sessions**

Individual training sessions between Applicable Adults and minor athletes are permitted at a facility partially or fully under the jurisdiction of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** if the training session is observable and interruptible by another adult. It is the responsibility of the Applicable Adult to obtain the written permission of the minor's legal guardian in advance of the individual training session if the individual training session is not observable and interruptible by another adult. Permission for individual training sessions must be obtained at least every six

months. Parents, guardians, and other caretakers must be allowed to observe the training session.

## **POLICY 2 - MASSAGES AND RUBDOWNS/ATHLETIC TRAINING MODALITIES**

Any massage or rubdown/athletic training modality performed at a facility or a training or competition venue under the jurisdiction of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** must be conducted in an open and interruptible location. Any massage of a minor athlete must be done with at least one other adult present and must never be done with only the minor athlete and the person performing the massage or rubdown/athletic training modality in the room.

### **LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS**

#### **Non-exclusive facility**

If **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** uses a facility not fully under their jurisdiction (for, e.g., training or competition or similar events) and the facility is used by multiple constituents, Applicable Adults in categories 1 through 4 are nonetheless required to adhere to the rules set forth herein..

#### **Use of recording devices**

Use of any device's (including a cell phone's) recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras in locker rooms, changing areas, or similar spaces at a facility under the jurisdiction of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** is prohibited. Exceptions may be made for media and championship celebrations, provided that such exceptions are approved by the **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** and two or more Applicable Adults are present.

#### **Undress**

Under no circumstances shall an unrelated Applicable Adult at a facility under the jurisdiction of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** intentionally expose his or her breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals to a minor athlete.

#### **One-on-one interactions**

Except for athletes on the same team, at no time are unrelated Applicable Adults permitted to be alone with a minor athlete in a locker room or changing area when at a facility under the partial or full jurisdiction of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** , except under emergency circumstances.

If **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** is using a facility that only has a single locker room or changing area, separate times will be designated for use by Applicable Adults, if any.

### **Monitoring**

**FLORIDA REGION CLUB** will regularly and randomly monitor the use of locker rooms and changing areas at facilities under their jurisdiction to ensure compliance with these policies.

## **POLICY 3 - SOCIAL MEDIA & ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

As part of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** emphasis on athlete safety, all electronic communications between a coach and athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities.

### **Content**

All electronic communication originating from Applicable Adults to minor athletes must be professional in nature.

### **Open and transparent**

Absent emergency circumstances, if an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes needs to communicate directly with a minor athlete via electronic communications (including social media), another Applicable Adult or the minor athlete's legal guardian will be copied.

If a minor athlete communicates to an Applicable Adult (with authority over the minor athlete) privately first, said Applicable Adult should respond to the minor athlete with a copy to another Applicable Adult or the minor athlete's legal guardian.

When an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes communicates electronically to the entire team, said Applicable Adult will copy another adult.

Minor athletes may "friend" the organization's official page.

### **Facebook, Myspace, blogs, and similar sites**

Coaches may not have athletes of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB's** Team join a personal social media page. Athlete members and parents can friend the official **FLORIDA REGION CLUB's** Team page and coaches can communicate to athlete members through the site. All posts, messages, text, or media of any kind

between coach and athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities or for team-oriented motivational purposes.

### **Twitter, instant messaging and similar media**

Coaches and athletes may “follow” each other. All posts between coach and athlete must be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities.

### **Email and similar/electronic communications**

Athletes and coaches may use email to communicate. All email content between coach and athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. Where the coach is a staff member and/or volunteer, email from a coach to any athlete we recommend come from the club website email center (the coach’s return email address will contain “@CLUB.com”).

### **Texting and similar electronic communications**

Texting is allowed between coaches and athletes. All texts between coach and athlete must be professional and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities.

### **Electronic imagery**

From time to time, digital photos, videos of practice or competition, and other publicly obtainable images of the athlete – individually or in groups – may be taken. These photos and/or videos may be submitted to local, state or national publications, used in club videos, posted on club or club associated websites, or offered to the club families seasonally on disc or other electronic form. It is the default policy of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** to allow such practices as long as the athlete or athletes are in public view and such imagery is both appropriate and in the best interest of the athlete and the club. Imagery must not be contrary to any rules as outlined in **FLORIDA REGION CLUB’s** Participant Safety Handbook.

### **Request to discontinue all electronic communication or imagery**

The parents or guardians of an athlete may request in writing that their child not be contacted by any form of electronic communication by coaches or Applicable Adults subject to this policy. (Photography or videography). The **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** will abide by any such request that their minor athlete not be contacted via electronic communication, absent emergency circumstances.

### **Misconduct**

Social media and electronic communications can also be used to commit misconduct (e.g., emotional, sexual, bullying, harassment, and hazing). Such communications by coaches, staff, volunteers, administrators, officials, parents or athletes will not be tolerated and are considered violations of our Participant Safety Handbook.

### **Violations**

Violations of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB's** Electronic Communications and Social Media Policy should be reported to your immediate supervisor, a **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** administrator or a member of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB's** Participant Safety Committee for evaluation. Complaints and allegations will be addressed under **FLORIDA REGION CLUB's** Disciplinary Rules and Procedure.

### **LOCAL TRAVEL & TEAM TRAVEL**

This policy shall apply to:

- 1) Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors
- 2) Any adult authorized by **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor
- 3) Adult staff and board members of **FLORIDA REGION CLUB**

(Collectively "Applicable Adult" for the purposes of this policy)

### **POLICY 4 - LOCAL TRAVEL**

Local travel consists of travel to training, practice, and competition that occurs locally and does not include coordinated overnight stay(s).

#### **Transportation**

Applicable Adults who are not also acting as a legal guardian, shall not ride in a vehicle alone with an unrelated minor athlete, absent emergency circumstances, and must have at least two minor athletes or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor athlete's parent/legal guardian in advance of each local travel.

## **POLICY 5 - TEAM TRAVEL**

Team travel is travel to a competition or other team activity that the organization plans and supervises.

### **Team/competition travel**

When only one Applicable Adult and one minor athlete travel to a competition, the minor athlete must have his/her legal guardian's written permission in advance and for each competition to travel alone with said Applicable Adult.

### **Hotel Room**

Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with a minor player. (Unless coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player) However, a parent/legal guardian may consent to such an arrangement in advance and in writing. Furthermore, a parent/legal guardian may consent in advance and in writing to the minor athlete sharing a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an adult athlete

Coach or his/her designee will establish a curfew by when all players must be in their hotel rooms in a supervised location. Regular monitoring and curfew checks will be made to each room by at least two properly background screened adults. At no time should one adult be present in room with minor players, regardless of gender.

Team personnel should ask hotel to block adult pay per view channels.

### **Meetings**

Meetings shall be conducted consistent with the **FLORIDA REGION CLUB** policy for one-on-one interactions

Individual meetings between coach and player may not occur in hotel sleeping rooms and must be held in public setting or with additional adults present with one of those adults being the same gender as the player.