

Parent Handbook

The mission of Dallas Synergy Volleyball Club is to give junior players the opportunity to improve their volleyball skills in a competitive, disciplined, and positive environment.

Section 1 – Club Costs and Payment Options

- 1.1 Select – Refer to Club Contract received at signing for details
- 1.2 Travel - Refer to Club Contract received at signing for details

Section 2 – Payment Schedule

- 2.1 Payment Promptness
 - 2.1.1 To accept a position on this or any club team, the family enters into a financial contract with the club. The due date for payments is the 1st of each month.
 - 2.1.2 If the family fails to fulfill their obligations, then as far as Texas State Law and the UIL are concerned, the player received services for free.
 - 2.1.3 Failure to fulfill financial obligations makes the student ineligible to participate in school sports and/or extracurricular activities until the debt is settled.
 - 2.1.4 Questions regarding your dues or payments should be directed to Ronda Cluff. Mobile is 214/893-8664.

Section 3 – Team Rules Regarding Player Participation

- 3.1 Club Policies Regarding Practices and Tournaments - See Section 1 of Player Handbook
- 3.2 Club Policies Regarding Absences – See Section 2 of Player Handbook
- 3.3 Club Policies Regarding Match Play – See Section 3 of Player Handbook
- 3.4 Club Policies Regarding Team Captains – See Section 4 of Player Handbook

Section 4 – Parent Code of Conduct

- 4.1 The North Texas Region is short on referees. Several quit after enduring abuse and harassment by parents. Loud criticism by fans can result in the ejection of fans, coaches and point penalties against the team.
- 4.2 Attempt to relieve the pressure of the competition, not increase it. A child is easily affected by outside influences. Children have more need for example than criticism.
- 4.3 Be kind to your child's coach and officials. The coach and officials are giving of their time to provide a positive atmosphere for a learning and developmental opportunity for your child.
- 4.4 Be kind to the opponents. The opponents are necessary friends. Without them your child could not participate. Do not say things to the opponent that you would not want said to your child.
- 4.5 Applaud good plays by your team and by members of the opposing team.
- 4.6 Do not openly question an official's judgment and honesty. Officials are symbols of fair play, integrity, and sportsmanship.
- 4.7 Accept the results of the game. Encourage your child to be gracious in victory, and to turn defeat into victory by working towards improvement.
- 4.8 Remember your child is involved in organized sports for her enjoyment, not yours.
- 4.9 Encourage your child to always play by the rules.
- 4.10 Teach your child that honest effort is as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- 4.11 Cheer your child on, be supportive of her, console her, but do it without judging her, the coach, officials or teammates.
- 4.12 Many things will aggravate you that do not even faze your child. Do not make something into an issue if it is not an issue.
- 4.13 Encourage your child to seek her own answers. Coaches respect players who come to them and privately question their playing time or role; it immediately indicates they want more.
- 4.14 Understand the rules of the game and the coach's philosophy. Substituting in volleyball has consequences that sometimes may not be immediately evident.
- 4.15 Do your physical part as a parent. Get your child to practice on time and pick them up promptly. Demonstrating responsibility and commitment can be incredibly effective.
- 4.16 Positions and talent sometimes do not match up. Coaches attempt to do what is best for the team, putting the best physical mix and best "chemistry" on the floor. That may mean that sometimes your daughter may be playing "out of position" in an attempt to strengthen the team. A

- positive spin by you can go a long way in helping your child adjust to a new role. Stay positive, and your child will flourish.
- 4.17 If you have real concerns, and your player has attempted unsuccessfully to work things out with the coach on her own, schedule a meeting with the coach and have your child attend with you (you may not be hearing the whole story - a common occurrence). If you are trying to resolve a problem, help your child by being a role model in the problem-solving procedure.
 - 4.18 Never approach a coach with complaints during a tournament. Please call after the tournament to schedule an appointment.
 - 4.19 Please think before criticizing anyone connected with your player's club or team. Criticism is contagious and often hurtful. The damage could be irreversible.
 - 4.20 Visibly show that you enjoy watching your child perform; this will make her feel better about individual participation, no matter what the role.

Section 5 – Schedule Updates

5.1 Practice Updates and Changes

- 5.1.1 Occasionally schools at which we practice have school organizations requesting gym space that are given priority over the Club. We are sometimes forced to change practice locations or dates. If any change is made, we will post it on our website.
- 5.1.2 Sometimes we are forced to cancel a practice due to inclement weather. If this is required, we will post it on the website by 4pm of the day in question. If Lewisville or Coppell ISD Schools are closed due to bad weather, then practice is cancelled. We will try with all due-diligence to reschedule these practice later in the season.
- 5.1.3 Please check the website regularly. The address is **DallasSynergy.com**.

5.2 Tournaments

- 5.2.1 We will strive to have all tournament paperwork submitted to host Tournament Directors and have all entries confirmed by December 31. Local tournaments are subject to changes until confirmations are received.
- 5.2.2 Tournament information will be posted on our website as soon as it is received by the tournament host. Please understand that this information is usually not available until a few days prior to the event and is subject to change. We recommend you continually check our website for this updated information.

Section 6 – Grievances

- 6.1 Due to all of the requirements and stressors at tournaments, coaches shall not be approached at tournaments by upset parents.
- 6.2 Parents or guardians are welcome to call or meet us to discuss playing time, strategy specific questions they have regarding their daughter. We are very open and eager to share with you all of our “Why’s.”
- 6.3 These meetings shall be conducted before or after practices and preceded with a call to the Head Coach so that they may make arrangements to give you all the time you require to be heard.
- 6.4 The Director and the Head Coach reserve the right to have the other one present.
- 6.5 Whether or not the parent agrees with what the Club is doing, they are encouraged to be positive around the team and keep these items between them and the Club.
- 6.6 If you have tried unsuccessfully to resolve an issue with the coach, then the next step is to contact Forrest Medcalf. Mobile is 214/505-8255.

Section 7 – Travel Information

- 7.1 Valuable travel information can be found on our website under the link, “Travel Information”.
- 7.2.1 Kim Medcalf will reserve rooms to accommodate each girl and their parents for travel tournaments. Parents will make their own arrangements under the block Kim has reserved. Directions are posted on the website. If you have any trouble or questions regarding the hotel arrangements.
- 7.2.2 All coach flights have been reserved by the club. We recommend as many of the team travel together as possible but realize family schedules vary. Coach flights are listed in the travel information section of the website for your convenience.
- 7.2.3 If your daughter is traveling to an out of town tournament without a legal guardian you must fill out a “travel liability form” and return it to your coach prior to traveling. This form can be found on our website under “Travel Information.”