



Club
Badger Region

2017-2018

Participant & Family Handbook

Welcome to Club Badger Region!

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Mission Statement (Two examples)

The mission of Club Badger Region is to teach, develop and reinforce the proper fundamental skills necessary for young athletes to succeed in the competitive sport of volleyball while providing positive examples of life skills necessary to excel into adulthood. OR Club Badger Region focuses on teaching advanced techniques and providing a competitive environment for those wishing to excel at the highest level of the sport of volleyball.

Our Philosophy (Examples of some language)

Our organization believes that the lessons athletics teaches us stays with us throughout our lives. The structure, the discipline and effort required to succeed in sports – especially team sports – teaches its participants the lifelong lessons of teamwork, confidence, adversity and overcoming obstacles.

Each of our programs is dedicated to the growth, development and education of its players and their families. Our vision of “complete player” development charges us with the task of preparing players for the physical, mental and emotional demands that high-level competition places upon athletes.

Together with our positive reinforcement tactics and an emphasis on setting individual and team goals, Club Badger Region will foster a sense of competitive togetherness. Our athletes will be put in an environment that can and will allow for personal achievement inside the team dynamic. We place an emphasis on performance coupled with an enjoyment of the sport and personal accomplishment.

It is our commitment to the sport and those who love and support it that fuels our efforts. We understand that for most, volleyball is not the only important thing in life, but for our athletes and their families it is a very important part of their lives at this time. The path to personal and team achievement is difficult and unpredictable. Our staff recognizes this and pledges to proactively assist the players and their families with the struggles they may encounter along the way. The goals and objectives of the player must be synthesized with that of the team and the program as a whole. This requires compromise and understanding on behalf of all parties involved.

Club Badger Region picks from the best players in the area to compete locally, regionally and nationally. The junior volleyball teams that Club Badger Region hosts are a vehicle for young athletes to improve their skills and to be seen by college coaches in hopes of being recruited and receive a college athletic scholarship.

Club History

Club Badger Region is a 501 c 3 non-profit youth organization founded by Verna Volleyball in 1997 with just 15 players ranging in ages from 13-18. CBR has now grown to include more than 250 athletes – male and female – on more than 25 teams each year, and we’re still growing! But despite our size, we’re still focused on each individual athlete to give each player the attention they deserve to grow as a person both on and off the court.

We strive to attract the top coaches in the area, both from the middle school, high school and collegiate ranks. Our coaches are dedicated to coaching and teaching the sport of volleyball and their success is reflected by the success of our club teams. Since our inception, we have 50 titles at the Badger Region Championships, have numerous tournaments and have qualified 27 teams to the USA Volleyball National Championships.

Club Contact Information

The best way to find out information about our club is to visit our website at www.BadgerVolleyball.org.

Club Address: 2831 North Grandview Blvd. #221, Pewaukee, WI 53072

Main Phone: 262-349-9785

Main Fax: 262-349-9971

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/ClubBadgerRegion

Twitter: ClubBadgerRegion

YouTube: ClubBadgerRegion

Person	Title	Phone	Email
Verna Volleyball	Dir. Of Operations	414-555-5555	volleyball@badgervolleyball.org
Selma Setter	Operations Manager	414-555-5555	selma@badgervolleyball.org
Terry Tournament	Tournament Dir.	414-555-5555	terryrocks@badgervolleyball.org
Sammy Spike	Recruiting Coord.	414-555-5555	recruiting@badgervolleyball.org
Yogi Young	Youth Director	414-555-5555	youth@badgervolleyball.org
Max Money	Finance Director	414-555-5555	money@badgervolleyball.org
Traveling Tex	Travel Director	414-555-5555	travel@badgervolleyball.org
Webby Webster	Website Director	414-555-5555	web@badgervolleyball.org
Abby Apparel	Apparel Director	414-555-5555	tshirt@badgervolleyball.org

The Club Badger Region’s Board of Directors: The Club Badger Region Board of Directors is comprised of five members, meets regularly, gives direction to the club and helps set club policy. Director of the Board: Verna Volleyball. Other members: Debby Digger, Jerry Jumpserve, Peggy Pancake and Trudy Tip.

About Badger Region Volleyball Association

Club Badger Region belongs to the Badger Region Volleyball Association, one of the 40 Regional Volleyball Associations in USA Volleyball's nationwide network. Each member of Club Badger Region is also a member of Badger Region Volleyball Association and USA Volleyball.

A 501c3 non-profit organization, Badger Region Volleyball Association is comprised of more than 10,000 members across the state of Wisconsin and provides services and education to more than 100 junior clubs and scores of both junior and adult players, officials and coaches. Each club is an independently-run business under the umbrella organization of Badger Region Volleyball with regards to rules, policies, procedures and membership.

Before any participation, you (the athlete) must sign up for a Badger Region/USA Volleyball membership online. This can be done by visiting www.BadgerVolleyball.org and clicking on the blue "Membership" tab at the top, and then following the steps outlined in the instructions. *When you set up your login and password, we recommend you write those down and keep them in a safe place so you can use them during the season and next year.* We recommend that you first purchase the \$10 "Tryout Membership," and then if you make a team, you can easily go back in and upgrade for \$40 to the required full junior membership (\$50). Please do not choose a club affiliation in the dropdown menu until you have accepted an offer from that club. This is the official way of committing to a club. It is recommended that you print out your membership card and medical release and carry copies with you to all events. Your coaches will also need copies of these documents.

Badger Region Volleyball Mission Statement:

The Badger Region Volleyball Association promotes initiatives for safe, structured and fun life-long volleyball experiences!

About USA Volleyball & SafeSport

USA Volleyball (USAV) is the National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport of volleyball in the United States and is recognized by the Federation International de Volleyball (FIVB) and the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). The vision of USAV is to be acknowledged as the world leader in volleyball. In order to accomplish this mission, goals are to be achieved, including the following:

- **Competitive Success:** To win gold medals in every international competition
- **Sport Growth:** To achieve full participation in volleyball at all levels and geographical areas
- **Sports Enhancement:** To improve support services necessary for the quality and conduct of programs to ensure recognition as the authority and expert for volleyball
- **Administration:** To develop and maintain a structure which will effectively and efficiently assist in achieving the vision and mission of the Corporation

USAV is committed to and works toward opportunity for all to participate. It is an advocate for all Americans – endeavoring to assure universal access to opportunities at all levels of the game.

USA Volleyball believes that volleyball has so many positive things to offer those who participate. First, and most importantly, whether one is a gifted athlete or recreational player, volleyball is FUN! It is a lifetime sport enjoyed by players from 5-80+. Participation in volleyball is not only good exercise, but also involves team cooperation and spirit. We are committed to introducing our sport to all of America. USA Volleyball is committed to creating safe and fun environments for youth.

Therefore, it requires the reporting of abuse of any kind (sexual, physical, emotional, bullying, etc.) through the SafeSport program. USA Volleyball has developed a handbook intended to be a central location for all the policies and procedures that are designed to protect youth participants from all types of misconduct. That information is shared with all coaches as part of IMPACT training or can be done online if a coach was IMPACT certified prior to 2014.

Our Program Options and Fee Information

Club Badger Region offers programs for many different age and skill levels. We offer programs for both boys and girls from ages 11 to 18. Your AGE GROUP is based on how old you are on August 31 (ex.: for the 2015-16 season, a player born on August 30, 2001, would be “15 and Under” while a player born Sept. 2, 2001, would be “14 and Under”). We also offer instructional levels for ages 8-11 and VolleyTots for ages 5-8. Please visit our website for more information on these programs.

There are several options per age group with time and travel commitments varying, along with price:

- National Program (Ages 13-18):
 - Cost: \$x,xxx
 - Features:
 - December through May season, with the option of USAV Junior Nationals
 - Volleyball twice a week (two practices, or one practice and one tournament)
 - Position-specific training outside of normal practice time
 - Ten to 15 play-date schedule
 - Travel required, potentially nation-wide
 - College recruiting assistance
 - Additional strength and conditioning opportunities
- Regional Program:
 - Cost/Ages: \$xxx for 15-18
 - Cost/Ages: \$xxx for 13-14
 - Cost/Ages: \$xxx for 11-12 (5 tournaments)
 - Features:
 - December through March season
 - Volleyball twice a week (two practices or one practice and one tournament)
 - Position-specific training outside of normal practice time
 - Seven to 10 play-date schedule
 - Limited travel and overnight stays
 - College recruiting assistance, if requested
 - Additional strength and conditioning opportunities

These fees cover:

- Tournament entry fees
- Practice facility expenses
- Uniform package (3 jerseys, 2 t-shirts, shorts, warm-up jacket, travel bag)
- Coach salary and travel
- Equipment
- Administrative fees and supplies

Additional fees that will be covered by the player:

- Travel expenses, including hotel, food and transportation
- Shoes and socks

CLUB DIRECTORS, IT'S IMPORTANT TO LAY OUT EXACTLY WHAT THE PLAYER IS PAYING FOR AND WHAT ADDITIONAL COSTS COULD BE INCURRED – BEING UP-FRONT IS BEST FOR EVERYONE!!

- Another way to do this part would be to do a base fee that everyone pays, and then an additional travel fee that is determined once the team is formed and the tournaments that the team will be playing in. Some clubs also put in that pending a team decision, the team may also attend a national season-ending event that will bring additional costs.

Payment Structure *(There are many different options for this – here are some examples)*

1. Because our club submits payment for many items and tournaments prior to collecting any money from participants, it is important that you stay on track with your payments. Available payment options:
 - Payment in full at the beginning of the season by credit card or check
 - Monthly automatic debits from checking accounts (form completed at tryouts)
 - Monthly credit card payments through Paypal (form completed at tryouts)
2. Your membership dues will be paid in three installments during the season (December 5, January 15, February 25). Unless an alternate payment plan has been arranged and approved, all player dues must be current within 15 days. Any player whose account is out of compliance will not be allowed to practice or play until the account is current.
 - Any payment that is late (more than 15 days) is subject to a \$50 late fee. If the payment is paid late but WITHOUT the additional late fee, the player will not be allowed to play.
 - All player dues must be paid in full prior to the final regular scheduled tournament
3. Your membership dues are to be paid IN FULL at the season kick-off meeting on Dec. 5. Players will not receive uniforms or other equipment until these fees have been paid.
4. The base membership dues of \$600 is due at the first all-club meeting. The additional membership dues based on the team is due on Jan. 15.
5. Club dues are not dependent on the number of tournaments or practices a player can make. Each member of the team will pay the same amount for the entire season, regardless of time commitment.
6. On an individual family/player basis, dues and fee structures can be modified to accommodate family/player circumstances. Please speak with the club director regarding this matter. The club director will not discuss specific arrangements with anyone other than the family.
7. Coaches will not accept club dues payment. All payments must be mailed to the club director at the following address: 2831 N. Grandview Blvd. #221, Pewaukee, WI 53072
8. A \$5 service fee will be added to any credit card payment.
9. Please make out separate checks for each child participating. OR ... One check per family.

Refund Policy *(There are many different options – here are some examples – important to include!)*

1. When you accept an offer to participate, you accept the financial obligations for the entire club fee for that season. When teams are comprised, monies immediately go directly into uniforms, tournament entry, travel and other fees.
2. Due to our non-profit status and budget requirements, we do not offer refunds. Refunds will not be given to athletes who choose not to play because of conflicts, team or coaching assignments, or an individual's amount of playing time. Prorated refunds will be considered for athletes who suffer season-ending injuries while playing on a Club Badger Region team, on a case-by-case basis with a physician's letter. Injuries occurred outside of Club Badger Region will not be considered for a refund.
3. Dues are NON-REFUNDABLE for ANY reason, even in the event that your daughter/son quits, is suspended or injured at any point in the season.

Badger Region Volleyball Association's Policy On Unpaid Player Dues

This is directly from the Badger Region Volleyball Association's Club Director Handbook:

A Junior Club player must remit all club fees as specified by their Club/Team, within the club's scheduled time frame. If fees are unpaid at the end of the Club's season, the Club Director may use any legal means necessary to obtain payment, i.e. collection agency. Nonpayment will result in the athlete's name being submitted to the Badger Region Office, resulting in the athlete being restricted from registering or participating with the Region until the fees are paid. A letter requesting payment that includes the parent's name, player's name, player's age level and notification of this policy must be sent to the family and a copy to the region office. Club directors must notify the region office immediately when payment has been made and the hold will be taken off the player's membership in Webpoint.

Fundraising Opportunities (Language options and ideas)

1. We will run several tournaments throughout the year. Families are expected to help in concession stands or in tournament operations.
2. Each player will be required to raise an additional \$xxx through candy sales, pizza sales, ice cream sales, car washes, brat fests, etc. This amount is not included in your yearly dues to our club.
3. Club Work Program
 - a. The Work Program is open to all Club athletes interested in contributing money towards their dues or earning for themselves. The program will require athletes to attend a training session in order to be eligible to work. Duties will include sales (club store), site managing, gate monitoring, gym maintenance and administrative assistance. There will be a minimum hours worked each month. **(If you want more information on this, contact Jen and she can get you in contact with the club this is from.)**
4. Apparel Sales
 - a. While we will not have any official fundraising, we will sell apparel and the additional money will go toward uniforms and t-shirts for the players.
5. Hosting a grass/sand tournament
6. **If you have any other ideas, feel free to share them with club directors**

Tryouts

Each year we evaluate a large number of athletes during tryouts, and every athlete is evaluated every year. Each athlete must come to the tryouts ready to compete for a place on one of our teams. An athlete with a limiting physical or medical condition should contact the club prior to tryouts. Players should never assume because they are on a team one year they will automatically make a team the following year. Each year athlete's skills improve and each year the pool of athletes to choose from will change. Some athletes have extensive playing experience while others do not. Athletes go through a physical evaluation; coaches evaluate their potential as well as intrinsic traits. We base our selections on what the athletes do during the tryout period and what we perceive their potential to be.

Tryout Procedure

All players of the same age group will be evaluated by several members of the club staff. Even if these coaches aren't standing directly on the court, there are people watching for skills and also leadership and communication skills from each athlete. **Include more information about your tryout procedures.**

Team Composition and Placement

- Teams typically will consist of between 9 and 11 players. Total team participants are left to the discretion of the club director and team coach.
- The number of teams within each age group is dependent upon:
 - The number of players trying out
 - The number of available coaches
 - The number of available practice courts
- Teams will be chosen in an effort to maximize the advancement of ALL players
- It is up to the discretion of the coach and club director if they would like to move a player to a different age group (“playing up”). This is not something that should be requested by a player.
- Teams will be divided into single age groups: 11s, 12s, 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, 17, and 18s.
- Players may or will not be asked to move between teams (or whatever your club policy is).

Offer Process

All offers to play with Club Badger Region will be made via email (or whatever your club policy is).

Badger Region Commitment Policy

Individual clubs will determine their tryout schedule. Badger Region encourages all prospective athletes to directly contact each club they will be trying out for to determine how the tryout processes will work on a club-to-club basis.

“Previously registered player” means a player who played for the same club in 2016–2017. In other words, if you played for a club in the 2016–2017 season and that same club offers you a spot for the 2017–2018 season, you are considered a “previously registered player.” If another club that you did not play for offers you a spot, you may follow the “all other players” time frame.

Formal acceptance of an offer is determined by when the player selects their chosen club in Webpoint. Players should leave the club selection as “Undecided” until an offer has been made by the club and accepted by the player. Upon official commitment to a club that is registered with Badger Region/USA Volleyball, the athlete must remain with that club/team for the remainder of the Junior Volleyball season.

14 & Under Girls (born Sept. 1, 2003 and after)

- First available date for tryouts: Oct. 7, 2017
- Previously registered players commitment date: Tuesday, Oct. 10
 - A player will not be required to commit to a club for which they were a registered member the previous season until 9:01 p.m. on Tuesday.
- All other players commitment date: Thursday, Oct. 12

o A player will not be required to commit to a club for which they were not a registered member the previous season until 9:01 p.m. on Thursday.

- Commitment dates for all offers made after Oct. 12 is at the discretion of the club.

15 & Older Girls (born Aug. 31, 2003 and before)

- First available date for tryouts: Nov. 11, 2017
- Previously registered players commitment date: Tuesday, Nov. 14

o A player will not be required to commit to a club for which they were a registered member the previous season until 9:01 p.m. on Tuesday.

- All other players commitment date: Thursday, Nov. 16

o A player will not be required to commit to a club for which they were not a registered member the previous season until 9:01 p.m. on Thursday.

- All offers made after Nov. 16 must be held until 6 p.m. on Nov. 21.

All Boys

- **Boys 14 & Under (born Sept. 1, 2003 and after):** First available date for tryouts: Nov. 17, 2017

• **Boys 15 & Over (born Aug. 31, 2003 and before):** First available date for tryouts: Nov. 18, 2017

- Previously registered players commitment date: Tuesday, Nov. 21

o A player will not be required to commit to a club for which they were a registered member the previous season until 9:01 p.m. on Tuesday.

- All other players commitment date: Wednesday, Nov. 22

o A player will not be required to commit to a club for which they were not a registered member the previous season until 9:01 p.m. on Wednesday (to avoid Thanksgiving).

- All offers made after Nov. 22 must be held until 6 p.m. on Nov. 27.

Notes: As always, players are encouraged to let clubs know of your intentions as soon as the decision has been made – a player does NOT need to wait until the deadline to accept or decline an offer. Individual clubs may choose to extend offer deadlines, at their discretion, or athletes may ask for this extension. Any extensions granted (or not) are the sole responsibility of Badger Region member clubs.

A club program who has given an offer of membership to a player may make one (1) club-initiated follow-up contact with that player between the time of the offer and the subsequent commitment date. A club-initiated contact shall be defined as a phone call, email, text or Facebook message by a representative of the club program making the offer.

Acceptance Process

After you have received an offer and have decided to commit, the official acceptance policy is to log into Webpoint (<https://webpoint.usavolleyball.org>) and select the club from the dropdown menu. (On the left side, click “My Information” and then the far left tab titled “Main Info.” You’ll see a drop-down menu with “Undecided” in it. Choose the selected club from that list.) Please be sure to talk about this decision as a family as once this decision is made, it is for the entire season.

Practices

Only IMPACT-certified adults with current USAV memberships and properly background-checked club volleyball personnel are allowed to provide instruction and have on-court contact with players during practice or tournaments.

Parents are allowed to attend practice if they so choose (or not), however, parents are not allowed to “shag” balls during practices or tournaments unless they are registered with USAV/Badger Region.

We expect players, parents and coaches to keep this facility clean while we use it. If we abuse this location, we risk losing it. Players are asked to turn their cell phones off during practice. Any player whose phone rings/beeps/plays a sound during practice will face consequences.

Locations and Schedule

Practices will last two hours and will include basic and advanced volleyball techniques and scrimmage time. Practices will be held every Wednesday and Sunday and at the gym and will be conducted by the team’s coach and/or assistant coach. YOUR TEAM’S CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY POINT DURING THE SEASON. Changes will be made on the website and via email, so please be sure to check both of these points prior to practice.

Pick-Up & Drop-Off Information

Parents of players age 12 and under are asked to come into the facility to pick up your child. This is for all of our players’ safety, as various organizations use the facility at the same time. We do not know all of these people and want to err on the side of caution.

Parents are reminded to pick your child up timely at the end of practice. Coaches should not be required to wait 15-45 minutes for players to be picked up after their scheduled practice is completed. If this is a consistent problem, parents of the player(s) will be contacted by the Club Director.

Practice Structure & Attendance

Scheduled practice time is start time. Please arrive early enough to be dressed and completely ready for practice by designated start time, which usually requires 15 minutes before start time.

IF AN ATHLETE CAN NOT BE AT PRACTICE, THE ATHLETE IS EXPECTED TO CALL THE COACH. It is the athlete’s responsibility (not the parent) to reach the coach before the practice starts. If unable to attend due to a previous commitment, let your coach know at least a week in advance.

All athletes are expected to attend every practice. Only an illness serious enough to keep the athlete home from school or a genuine family emergency are legitimate excuses for missing practice. Regardless of the reason, if an athlete misses practices, playing time may decrease and roles may be reviewed. Club dues will not be refunded for missing practices.

Practice Cancellations – Weather-Related Cancellations

Please be aware that Club Badger Region may have to cancel practice at the last minute due to weather, coach unavailability, personal emergencies and scheduling conflicts.

WEATHER-RELATED CANCELLATIONS: If schools are closed or school events are cancelled, so are our practices. If the morning/afternoon forecast calls for bad weather late in the day, keep an eye on your email. Any cancelled practice will be announced on the website and via email by 3 p.m.

Players are encouraged to use their best judgment when attempting to travel to practice. The safety of the athlete and their family is our first concern and priority. If you will not be making practice due to weather, please call your coach ASAP.

Playing Time

What determines playing time?

Playing time is very important to us. It is important to apply the skills and fundamentals taught in practice in a match situation – only then can a coach and player truly realize which skills the player is proficient at and which skills require more training. Your club membership fees go toward practice time and instruction by qualified experienced coaches, NOT playing time in tournaments. We will guarantee a “fair” amount of playing time for every play, not an “equal” amount.

When assessing the amount of playing time, make sure that the comparison is being made about players who play the same position. For example, there may be only two middle hitters on a team and three outside hitters. One outside hitter must sit out, since only two are in the game at the same time. Yet the two middle hitters play all the time. Please also keep in mind substitution rules and rotations.

More playing time is earned by being at practice and working hard to improve, as well as executing the skills when given the opportunity to play. Coaches are advised to give everyone an opportunity to contribute their individual skills and abilities to the team during pool play matches. Those skills and abilities may include being a hitter in the front row, serving and playing defense in the back row, or playing all the way around. When teams advance past pool play, this is the time to reward those players who have excelled when given opportunities earlier in the day. THE AMOUNT OF PLAYING TIME FOR ALL PLAYERS IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COACH AND MAY NOT BE EQUAL FOR ALL PLAYERS.

Attitude toward teammates and coaches, willingness to learn and apply, communication and comprehension also all go into playing time considerations.

Communication regarding playing time

Please do NOT talk to the coach about playing time during or immediately following a tournament. If you have a concern about playing time, it is best to set up a meeting with the coach (along with your child) to discuss playing time and the reasoning behind why these decisions were made.

Competition and Tournaments

Scheduling and Objectives

Club Badger Region will work to make the most competitive schedule possible with the athletes on each team. **Talk about how many tournaments you look to compete in, and where they will be located, how far you want to travel, etc. Also talk about if your team will be looking to qualify for USAV Junior National Championships, etc.**

Non-refundable tournament fees are paid by CBR on December 1 to the respective tournament hosting clubs. Tournaments are RARELY, if ever, cancelled because of weather. We are expected to make every effort to attend. However, if we decide that the safety of the participants is at risk, a recommendation will be made not to attend. However, we will NOT be refunded for this fee, hence, the participants will not be refunded either.

Day-Of Schedule

Each tournament format is determined by the organization hosting the event. Tournament hosts will provide actual day-of scheduling details no later than the Wednesday prior to the tournament date. This will be either emailed out or posted on their website. Your coach will send you this information as soon as we receive it. PLEASE DO NOT REPEATEDLY CONTACT US ABOUT THE SCHEDULE as we do not have this information prior to Wednesday. Plan on being at the tournament early in the morning and remaining there all day long. Teams do one of three things at a tournament: play, officiate, sit out (time to eat and watch other teams, especially those in our club). Tournaments can run ahead of schedule or (more often) behind schedule. Please be prepared. Please also be aware that there could be additional charges for spectator entry and/or parking, and many facilities have rules regarding outside food and beverage. We as a team/club can/will be penalized for breaking these rules.

Uniforms

Upon acceptance into the club and payment of dues, each participant will receive uniforms (add all items received). Uniforms are to be worn only on tournament days and only by team members. Uniforms should not be worn for practice or out in public. All players are expected to be in full uniform each time the team competes at a tournament. If you happen to lose your uniform, you will NOT be provided with a new one. Uniform maintenance is the responsibility of the player – wash only in cold water and air-dry – if you forget your shorts or jersey, you will NOT be able to participate. PLEASE PACK THE NIGHT BEFORE A TOURNAMENT! When at a tournament and not playing, all athletes are required to wear Club Badger Region apparel.

Scorekeeping and Officiating Duties

All players are expected to help officiate in one of these capacities:

- Line judge
- Scorekeeper (visual or paper)
- Libero tracker
- 2nd referee (down)

Training will be provided to all club members prior to the first tournament to be able to do each of these positions, and online tools are also available to help you learn. **NO PLAYER IS EXEMPT FROM OFFICIATING DUTIES!**

It is also important to note that oftentimes when you lose your last match of the day, you will be expected to officiate the next match. **NO PLAYER MAY LEAVE THE TOURNAMENT IN ADVANCE OF THE ENTIRE TEAM, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY ARE ASSIGNED AN OFFICIATING DUTY OR NOT.** Under certain extreme circumstances, permission may be granted by the coach for a player to leave early.

No cell phones or electronic devices should be at the scorekeeping tables or used by any player with a refereeing assignment. If seen by the coach, they will be confiscated and turned over to the parent(s). If a parent is not present, the phone or device will be held by the coach until the end of the day.

Travel

Many tournaments require travel time. It is the responsibility of the family to get the player to the tournament on time. This may mean traveling as a family or making arrangements for your child. If sending your child with another family, it is suggested you provide some gas money. Coaches are **NOT** allowed to transport players, unless that player is their child. These trips are for the player's volleyball experience and training as a member of a team, not a family vacation.

Parents must understand (as indicated in the forthcoming Agreement at the end of this handbook) and agree that when the team is traveling to tournaments, Club Badger Region will not act in place of a parent or assume any duty of supervision including at hotels or in the course of transportation to or from the event.

There are different types of events that we will travel to:

- One-day event held on a Saturday or Sunday, generally starting at 8-9 a.m.
- Two-day events held on Saturday AND Sunday
- A National Qualifier, which involves leaving on a Thursday and playing Friday, Saturday and Sunday, or leaving on a Friday and playing Saturday, Sunday and Monday.
- A larger national tournament that spans 3-5 days and can include travel to and from the event

Weekend or longer tournaments may require overnight lodging that is not included in the team fee. Players are required to stay with a parent or other designated adult (unless team rooms are reserved – **or whatever your club preference is**). You will need additional funds for food, t-shirt purchases, etc. Any

flights will be the sole responsibility of the individual. Club Badger Region will provide the Team Rep a set of travel parameters specific to each event, including earliest and latest time of arrival, hotel check-in procedures, event site locations and restrictions, departure times and schedules.

Although we will provide site directions given to us, please double check with other sources. Please make sure you know where you are going and allow more than enough time to get there. Getting lost is not an acceptable excuse for being late and could jeopardize playing time.

All Club Badger Region players will demonstrate good behavior at tournaments, which includes:

- No discussion with officials concerning calls
- Help officiating when asked by your coach
- Return balls to ball bag after warmups and keep track of medical bag
- Food is to be eaten in the designated area
- Clean up the bench area of empty bottles after matches
- No stealing or vandalism
- No smoking, drugs or alcohol
- If staying at a hotel, players must adhere to the lights-out policy (as established by the coach), even if staying in a room with adults
- An adult needs to be present at any time that multiple players or their guests (boy or girls) are congregated in a hotel room.
- Do not leave the gym or tournament until the coach releases you

Any violations of these policies may result in suspension of play and possible dismissal from the club. Serious offenses will also be reported to the appropriate authorities, the Region and high schools.

Club Badger Region will not be responsible for any player's personal items while participating in an event. All athlete's personal items will be their own responsibility while playing or during hotel lodging. It is advised that no jewelry be brought to tournaments as it cannot be worn. It is also advised that cell phones be left at home or turned off, as tournaments are a time for competition, not texting.

Communication

Club Communication Policy & Guidelines

Parenting and coaching are important and complimentary vocations and by working together we are able to better provide benefits to the player. Since he/she is beginning to move into the adult world, one of our goals is to make them responsible for their own actions.

- Communication Coaches Expect From Parents
 - Advanced notification of any schedule conflicts. Preferably an email or phone call.
 - Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectation.

Since our goal as a program is to move each athlete forward in their development as a player and a person, it is our request that you encourage your child to discuss any of the issues first with their coach. If your child is unclear of the resolution, please feel free to contact the coach with your child present.

- Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches
 - The treatment of your child – both mentally and physically
 - Ways to help your child improve
 - Concerns about your child’s behavior

Our coaches are professionals who make tough decisions based on what they believe to be the best for the team and athletes involved. Certain things can and should be discussed with coaches. Other things, such as those in the following section, must be left to the discretion of the coach and will not be discussed, either in person or via phone or email:

- Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches
 - Team Strategy
 - Play Calling
 - Other Athletes or Coaches
 - Playing Time (unless framed such as “what can my child do to earn more playing time?”)

Situations may arise that may require a conference between the coach and a parent. These are to be encouraged, and it’s important that both parents/guardians of the player have a clear understanding of the other’s perspective. Please read on for the Club Badger Region Grievance procedure.

Grievance Procedure

The following guidelines have been established to protect the players, coaches and parents from awkward and inappropriate situations when it comes to the professional discussion and handling of grievances. The coaches within Club Badger Region have been instructed to adhere to these guidelines to better maintain the club/player/parent relationship.

The procedure to discuss concerns about policies and actions are as follows:

1. The athlete should speak with the coach regarding the matter
2. If the matter remains unresolved and there is a legitimate concern, the parent AND athlete should request to meet with the coach. Coaches will ONLY meet with parents when the athlete is present, and not at a tournament.
 - a. Please do not confront a coach before, during or after an event. Arrange to meet with your coach at a convenient time for all parties, including before or after practice.
 - b. If a parent approaches a coach during a tournament, we have instructed our coaches to refuse to discuss the situation, to refer the parent to a club director, and walk away.
 - c. We also instruct our coaches not to get involved in a texting conversation.
3. If the matter still remains unresolved, the parent can request a meeting with the club director, along with the coach and the player. **THE PLAYER MUST BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING.**

It is important that players and parents alike understand that conversation with a coach is allowed and encouraged at any time throughout the season as long as it is civil and polite. However, when problems arise, we will all need to be rational and calm before discussion occurs.

Also please note that Club Badger Region will not acknowledge or act upon any negative emails. While convenient for conveying details, email can also leave room for interpretation of feelings and misunderstandings. To initiate the grievance process, please contact the coach by phone or schedule an in-person meeting.

Reporting Inappropriate Behavior of Club Staff

Club Badger Region vigilantly maintains a policy that places the safety of the young athletes entrusted to our care and instruction as our highest priority. We watch team activities and interactions closely to try to prevent miscommunications that cause discomfort to any of the athletes or parents. If you see behavior of Club Badger Region employee that you believe to be inappropriate, report it immediately to the club director. All complaints will be investigated. Any employee found to be in violation of policy would be subject to discipline, which may include dismissal. There will be no retaliation against any complainants and/or witnesses who participate in an investigation. If you have any questions regarding the Club Badger Region policies or procedures, please do not hesitate to contact the club director.

Team Contact List, Website and Other Communications

Once the club's teams are formed, team contact lists will be assembled. Each list will consist of all team member's names, parent's names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. This list will be distributed to all coaches by the club director. The coach for each team will then distribute to their team. Corrections can be made directly to the club director as soon as they are noticed.

Regularly check out the Club Badger Region website (www.badgervolleyball.org) as this is where a majority of the answers to questions will be posted – locations, dates and times of practice and tournaments, etc. We also urge members to make sure we have a regularly-used and correct email address on file as information will be communicated that way as well. Club Badger Region does NOT condone text messages sent to anyone under the age of 18.

Social media is also popular, however, we urge coaches not to accept "friend" requests from their players, nor any other current players under the age of 18. We will utilize our Club Badger Region Facebook page, however, official communication and information will be via our website.

At events, we encourage all players to leave their phones at home or in the car, or at least in their bags. They are not allowed at the scorer's table and can be a distraction throughout the day. Face-to-face team communication and bonding are favored over texting or playing games during off times.

Team Parent

The role of the team parent is to assist the coach with administrative duties as assigned by the coach. We will ask for one parent to volunteer for this role. Other duties of the team parent:

- Organize team dinners or meals at tournaments
- Make sure that everyone has a ride to/from a tournament or practice
- Distribute directions to a site, and site rules (no coolers, etc.)
- Special events (team-bonding on overnight/weekend trips, birthdays, etc.)

End-Of-Season Items

Player End-Of-Season Release

At the end of your team's season, Club Badger Region will release you to another club to continue play at a season-ending event should the opportunity arise. The other club director should contact Club Badger Region to request permission. We will then discuss this with you, and alert the Region that you have fulfilled your financial obligations to us and that you will be allowed to play with them. **OR Club Badger Region will not release players to play out the end of the season with any other Region club. WHATEVER YOUR CLUB'S POLICY, PLEASE MAKE IT CLEAR.**

Season-Ending Functions

We will have a club-wide pot-luck picnic and awards lunch sometime in May and a golf-outing fundraiser in June. Further details will be provided at a later date.

Other Club Offerings

During the summer months, Club Badger Region holds many training opportunities open to anyone interested, including one-on-one training, sand opportunities and open gyms. Keep an eye on our website for more information.

How To Be A Supportive Parent

Youth programs cannot be successful without the support of parents. The following guidelines are for concerned parents as they strive to be supportive of their young athletes without being pushy.

1. Supportive parents focus on mastering sport skills and strategies rather than competitive rankings. Sport mastery focuses on performance, which can be controlled by the athlete, while competitive ranking focuses primarily on winning and losing, an outcome, which is frequently outside the athlete's control. An overemphasis on competitive rank and an under emphasis on sport mastery is a primary cause of a dramatic dropout rate in competitive sports by 12 to 18 year olds.
2. Supportive parents decrease the pressure to win. Supportive parents realize that sport creates its own pressure to succeed. Additional pressure from the parent is likely to be counterproductive, particularly, in the long run. Supportive parents avoid making the outcome of the game bigger than life. As a game or a competition becomes blown out of proportion, a youngster's self-esteem can become tied to winning or losing. A child should not feel less valuable or less loved when a match is lost.
3. Supportive parents believe that sport's primary value is the opportunity for self-development. The probability of achieving lasting fame and glory via sport is low. Many outstanding athletes never achieve professional status. However, their sports experiences have allowed them to develop life-long values and self-respect.
4. Supportive parents understand the risks. Competition places the athlete on center stage. Anytime competing is willingness to chance failure. Giving your best is what athletics is all about.
5. Supportive parents communicate their true concerns directly with the coach/teacher. A positive working relationship is based upon clearly communicated mutual goals among parents, coaches and athletes. While a parent cannot control the behavior of a coach/teacher, they can communicate with the coach/teacher on a regular basis about the overall development of their child.
6. Supportive parents understand and respect the difference between parental roles and coaching roles. While parents are ultimately responsible for their child's development, once they have chosen a program/coach they must leave the coaching to the coach/teacher. Even though Supportive parents often play sports with their child they avoid coaching "over the shoulder" of the coach/teacher and/or publicly questioning the coaching decisions.
7. Supportive parents control negative emotions and think positively. Few athletes wish to perform poorly. Negative reactions to poor performances only add to an athlete's pressures. Supportive parents realize that even the athlete who "chokes" is trying to succeed. In fact, part of the problem with many athletes is that they are trying too hard to succeed. Criticizing such athletes does little to enhance their performances.
8. Supportive Parents KNOW HOW TO HELP YOUR ATHLETE DEAL WITH FRUSTRATIONS OF TEAM SPORT - CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING: 1. How to deal with demanding superiors 2. How to be a cooperative team member 3. How to make use of both positive and negative feedback 4. How to cope with adversity 5. How to achieve mental toughness 6. How to be a gracious winner 7. How to live with the eccentricities of coaches, teammates, and opponents.

Guidelines For Being A Positive Parent

1. Be positive with your child. Let them know they are successful simply because they are a part of the TEAM.
2. Encourage your child to seek their own answers. If he/she is unsuccessful at working things out with his/her coach, schedule a meeting with the coach and have your son/daughter attend with you. (You may not be hearing the whole story - a very common occurrence)
3. Be supportive of the coaching staff. If you have questions or concerns please talk with the coach at the appropriate time. Never approach a coach with complaints after a tough game. Wait and schedule a visit after everyone cools off.
4. Be careful not to show animosity or jealousy toward any of your child's teammates. Many things will aggravate you that do not faze your child. Do not make something into an issue if it is not an issue. This type of attitude can rub off on your child and affect the whole team.
5. Please think before criticizing anyone connected with the club or your child's team. Criticism is contagious and open harmful. The damage can be irreversible.
6. Do your physical part as a parent. Get your child to practice on time and pick them up promptly. Encourage your son/daughter to work hard, be smart, and to do his/her best in everything they attempts. You are a role model for your child.
7. Insist on your child's respect for TEAM rules, game officials, and sportsmanship. As a fan, you are entitled to your enthusiasm, but please do not be belligerent towards players, coaches or officials.
8. Visibly show that you enjoy watching your child perform; this will make them feel better about individual participation, no matter what the role.
9. 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 child may be playing "out of position" in an attempt to strengthen the team. Stay positive and maybe your child will flourish.
10. Encourage your child to PLAY FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME, not for scholarship or something that is in the hands of college recruiters.

Club Badger Region Signature Page (Parent/Player Copy)

I have read and understand this handbook and agree to follow these rules and any other rules and regulations deemed appropriate by Club Badger Region. By signing this agreement, the player and parent signify they understand the rules and regulations to participate with Club Badger Region.

Rules included in this manual may only be the basic guidelines and other rules may be added throughout the playing season that would enhance the performance and structure of Club Badger Region.

I understand that I am committing to Club Badger Region for the entire 2015-16 season. I understand that I will owe the dues as outlined by the club, and I agree to pay these dues according to club policy, even in the event of injury.

I understand the communication procedures outlined in this handbook and will follow these procedures should an issue arise during the season.

Parent(s), Legal Guardian(s) Signature

Date

Player Signature

Date

Player Name (Printed) & Team Name

This page is to remain with the family for your records

Club Badger Region Signature Page (Club Copy)

I have read and understand this handbook and agree to follow these rules and any other rules and regulations deemed appropriate by Club Badger Region. By signing this agreement, the player and parent signify they understand the rules and regulations to participate with Club Badger Region.

Rules included in this manual may only be the basic guidelines and other rules may be added throughout the playing season that would enhance the performance and structure of Club Badger Region.

I understand that I am committing to Club Badger Region for the entire 2012-13 season. I understand that I will owe the dues as outlined by the club, and I agree to pay these dues according to club policy, even in the event of injury.

I understand the communication procedures outlined in this handbook and will follow these procedures should an issue arise during the season.

Parent(s), Legal Guardian(s) Signature

Date

Player Signature

Date

Player Name (Printed) & Team Name

This page is to be turned into the club for their records

Player Questionnaire

Player's Name _____

Parent's Name(s) _____

Birth day (mm/dd/yyyy) _____ Age Level _____
(how old will you be Aug. 31, 2016)

Address _____

Phone Number(s) _____

**Most of our communication will be done via email.
Please make sure you have a valid and legible email and check it regularly.**

Player's Email Address _____

Parent's Email Addresses _____

Handed: RH LH Height _____ Grade _____

Position on Court _____ Secondary Position _____

We will have samples of apparel at our preseason meetings.

Apparel Sizing Information:

Jersey _____ T-Shirt _____

Warm-up Jacket _____ Spandex _____

Dates NOT available (it will be assumed that you are available on all weekends between Jan. 1 and May 30 if you do not indicate any here) _____
