

Rio West Volleyball Club Handbook

www.riowestvb.org

Table of Contents

History	2
Club Board	2
Tryouts	2
Practice	3
Player Eligibility	3
Tournaments	3
Uniforms	3
Travel	3
Fees and Payment Schedule	3
Refunds	4
Parental Participation	4
Rules and Regulations of RioWest VBC	4
Player Code of Ethics	4
General Behavior	5
Insurance	5
RioWest VBC Handbook Acknowledgement Form	6

History

RioWest VBC was formed in 2008 and is for players who want to participate in club volleyball for a competitive club and have an affordable experience playing for experienced and well trained coaches.

Mission Statement: RioWest VBC is a non-profit youth sports organization committed to providing quality physical and personal development through practice and competition at the local, regional and national levels. Cost will be kept nominal for players so we can provide the opportunity to gain the “club experience” for each player.

RioWest VBC was founded to provide a learning environment for Rio Rancho & Westside-ABQ Metro players without having to travel long distances to do so. The program focuses on the development of the athlete as a player and a person. Athletes will learn about the game of volleyball as well as the education and commitment required to reach and maintain a high level of success.

In our commitment to developing the athlete, RioWest VBC will only form as many teams for which we have quality coaches and availability of indoor practice facilities. We believe it is more important to provide quality training for our athletes than quantity.

RioWest Volleyball Club staff is dedicated to providing a fun, yet competitive environment for young women. RioWest VBC strives to develop the skills necessary to become a better athlete, volleyball player, and teammate.

Club Board

Club President – Jeff Sauer

Vice President – Barbara Cooke

Facility Coordinator – Stephanie McCutcheon & Courtney Warnock

Treasurer – Gwenn Bolling

Tournament Coordinator – Mindy Koch

Fundraising Coordinator – TBD

Tryouts

Registration for the tryout will require the player completing a player information sheet, a USAV membership form and paying a nonrefundable \$25 tryout fee. Fees pay for coach participation, insurance and the tryout facilities. Team selections are made based upon performance at tryouts. Our staff may waive the tryout requirement for some players if injury or illness has prevented a tryout. In these

instances, a member of our coaching staff will evaluate the player to determine the player's current athletic and volleyball skill level. **Not all those who tryout will be placed on a team.**

Players are placed on the various teams according to skill level. The objective is to put together teams with players of similar athletic and volleyball skills who will fill the various positions on each team (i.e. setters, middles, outsides, etc.) and give all team members opportunity to play. Players may tryout for a higher level team, however if not selected for that level team, the player will not be considered for a lower level team. If selected to play on a RioWest VBC team, the player must register on the SURVA website <http://suncountryvb.org> for USA Volleyball membership and pay the current registration fee. RioWest VBC is NOT affiliated with any school or school district and therefore do not favor any particular school when putting a team together.

Practices

Twice a week practice schedules will be provided to the players at the beginning of the season. Practices will typically be held at local schools. To remain eligible, a player must attend practice. Coaches must be notified prior to practice if a player cannot attend. Failure to notify, or missing practices, may result in loss of playing time. Guest players will not be allowed to participate in RioWest VBC practices.

Player Eligibility

Players will not be allowed to practice until all forms are completed and turned in along with their money deposit. This includes the following:

1. USAV release of liability form
2. Medical release form
3. Membership contract (signed by the parent/guardian)
4. USA Volleyball Registration
5. Signed RioWest VBC Handbook Acknowledgement Form
6. Players from one RioWest team may not play with another RioWest team. Players from RioWest may not play with another team in any tournament in which their RioWest team is playing.

Tournaments

RioWest VBC will set a tournament schedule at the beginning of the season. Each team will establish a cooler schedule to provide water, snacks and lunch for the players and the coach. The schedule will be fairly distributed between the players/families on the team and ALL players/families must participate.

Uniforms

RioWest VBC will issue official jerseys at the beginning of the season. Official jerseys must be worn when representing RioWest VBC at a sanctioned tournament. Care of the jerseys is the responsibility of the player. It is the responsibility of the player to purchase their own black spandex, kneepads, socks, court shoes, etc.

Travel

Transportation to and from tournaments, practice and other activities is solely the responsibility of the player's parents and is not a function of the Club. RioWest VBC Coaches are not allowed to transport any players for any reason. Hotel recommendations and/or group blocks will be provided for tournaments requiring overnight travel. Transportation, meals and lodging costs are the responsibility of the player's family. Water, snacks and lunch will be provided during tournaments for the players and coaches. Teams may not travel with less than 8 players.

Fees and Payment Schedule

First payment of \$450 is due by December 15th. Second payment of \$400 is due by January 15th. Returned checks will be assessed an additional fee of \$15. RioWest VBC does not offer family discounts. There may be instances where additional fees are required for tournaments, such as if a team chooses a different tournament that is more expensive or an additional tournament or qualifies for post season play such as Nationals.

RioWest VBC will make every effort to keep the cost of participation as low as possible. The following are some of the expenses: coaches, jerseys, equipment, USA Volleyball membership for coaches and administration, tournament fees, coaches travel expenses and miscellaneous expenses for postage, duplication, etc.

Players falling more than three days behind in payments will not be allowed to practice or participate in tournaments until the account is made current.

Payments may be made to the Treasurer in person or mailed to: RioWest VBC, PO Box 45324, Rio Rancho, NM 87174.

Refunds

Payments made to RioWest VBC are **NOT** refundable. Exception requests for extenuating circumstances may be presented to the RioWest VBC Board in writing for Board review and resolution.

Parental Participation

RioWest VBC needs and encourages parental participation. Please notify your daughter's coach or the Club Director if you are interested in becoming a team parent or volunteering in other ways. Team parents are responsible for coordinating team coolers, providing team communications including tournament details and travel information, and carrying a basic first aid kit.

Rules and Regulations RioWest VBC

Players cannot use tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs. Any indication tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs are being used by a player will result in player suspension, until reviewed by the Coach and Club Direction. Unless cleared, the player will be dismissed from RioWest VBC and no refunds will be given.

Since a player and/or parent's attitude may adversely affect eligibility for the Club, a player may not be eligible if the club determines that participation could be disruptive or detrimental to the Club.

Each player is responsible for helping with officiating duties at tournaments. Generally, the losing team must stay to referee the following match. All players must attend a SURVA scorekeeping clinic, which will be scheduled at the beginning of the season.

Each player must cooperate in helping maintain the gym facilities where practice is held. Nets must be set up prior to practice and put away neatly afterward. Balls must be counted after practice and after warm-ups at tournaments.

Players are responsible for leaving all facilities neat and clean.

While at a tournament, the players are encouraged to stay together in the gym or immediately outside the gym area. Players may not leave the tournament facility without discussing it with their coach.

Each player, as a condition to Club membership, agrees to abide by the USA Volleyball Participant Code of Conduct which includes the USA Volleyball Disciplinary Policy. In addition, RioWest VBC has adopted, and each player must agree to follow, the Player Code of Ethics and a Player Code of Conduct as follows:

Player Code of Ethics

A player is not merely an individual; a player also represents both the team and the Club. A player should:

1. Participate as a member of a unit, showing for the team effort.
2. Be concerned primarily with their own playing, leaving control of other people at an event to the appropriate officials and coaches.
3. Show respect for others, the coaches, and the officials.

4. Realize that successful sportsmanship at a game depends, to a large measure, on a player's actions. Thus a player is courteous on the court as well as on the bench.
5. Make every honest effort to win a contest, but avoid deliberate actions which could cause harm to other players.

General Behavior

1. At all times, members and coaches are expected to act appropriately, keeping in mind that they are representing the club and our area.
2. Players, coaches, and parents must display good sportsmanship toward competitors, officials, and event staff at all times.
3. No foul or abusive language will be tolerated from players, coaches, or parents at any time.
4. Parents must refrain from criticizing any player, including their own daughter, during tournaments.
5. Players and parents are encouraged to discuss any problems relating to their team with their coach. However, no coach will be allowed to speak with a parent regarding their child's playing time, game strategies or any other team management issue during tournament play. The coach will schedule an appropriate meeting time before or after practice.
6. When you have a concern regarding your daughter, we expect you to use the following procedure 1) the athlete should speak with the coach first, 2) the parent should speak with the coach, and then 3) if you feel the problem is not remedied the parent and athlete should meet with the coach and the Club Director. Players or parents not complying with this procedure risk expulsion from the club.
7. Many facilities have rules regarding what may and may not be brought into the facility or play location. Please adhere to all facility rules regarding food, drinks, chairs, and pets, etc. Teams may be penalized for failure to follow facility rules.

INSURANCE COVERAGE: Each participant is expected to have her own medical insurance coverage which will be the primary insurance to be relied upon in the event of injury during a Club activity. Once registered with the SURVA/USA Volleyball, participants are covered by the USA's sport accident policy on a secondary coverage basis while participating in scheduled, supervised, and approved activities such as practice sessions, games, fundraising activities and tournaments. If a player has sustained an injury in a Club activity, the coach should be notified as soon as possible. If an injury appears serious enough to require a doctor, medical care should be sought immediately. Parents should make a claim for medical expenses to their family medical insurance carrier first. The USA Volleyball coverage is secondary. Parents or other volunteers not registered with SURVA are not covered by the USA's sport accident policy.

RioWest VBC Handbook Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and accept the information in the RioWest Handbook. I recognize that player eligibility for participation in RioWest VBC is contingent upon my following the spirit of its contents.

Parent Signature/Date

Player Signature/Date