

Northern Kentucky Junior Volleyball
PO Box 175852
Covington, KY 41017
www.nkjb.net

2021 HANDBOOK/CONTRACT

The Northern Kentucky Junior Volleyball (NKJV) program was founded in 1983 and follows the rules and regulations of the United States of America Volleyball (USAV) program. A balance of fundamentals, teamwork, and enjoyment of the game are emphasized through practices and competitions. Area student athletes are prepared for collegiate level play and provided opportunities to be observed and recruited to play at the college level. Many NKJV athletes have received college athletic scholarships and are experiencing, or have experienced, successful careers. Any player from any school is welcome at NKJV.

Why Be a Part of NKJV?

NKJV has received national recognition and our teams have won many local and regional tournaments. Numerous NKJV teams have qualified to participate in the USAV National Tournament. Every year NKJV sends teams to National Qualifiers throughout the United States. Participation in many local, Regional, and National Tournaments, by athletes all over Northern Kentucky, has made Northern Kentucky a leading region in the Kentucky High School State Tournament. Many NKJV athletes have gone on to play at the collegiate level. NKJV is the oldest club in the Greater Cincinnati area and one of the oldest in the country. NKJV is deeply rooted in tradition. Many of the other clubs in the area have ties to NKJV as former players and coaches. NKJV provides a family friendly atmosphere with intense training to compete with clubs from all across the nation.

Our Facility

The Next Level training facility, located in Wilder, KY, is the home for NKJV. The facility has three full size volleyball courts, a conference room for team meetings, and an office for coach consultation with players and/or parents. Teams practice 2 or 3 times per week at the facility depending on the team selection.

Rules and Regulations Regarding Ohio and Kentucky Schools

NKJV abides by all USAV rules and state high school athletic association rules. Not all USAV rules are the same as high school rules. State high school coaching rules are as follows:

- **Ohio:** High school coaches cannot coach players from their own school.
- **Kentucky:** High school coaches can coach players from their own school during the club season, with permission from their High School principal.

General Information

NKJV provides the opportunity for girls who want to increase their knowledge, understanding, and skill playing the sport of volleyball.

If you have a Fever, Cough, Shortness of Breath, Sore Throat or Headache please Stay Home. You will not be permitted to attend any NKJV Clinics, Tryouts, Practices, Scrimmages or Tournaments

Notes for NKJV 12-1 Blue through NKJV 17-1 Blue Teams

- Fees will include one Qualifier and Nationals. 12 Blue thru 17 Blue will be required to attend Nationals
- Make no travel arrangements for Nationals with out the coach first checking with Jack McElveen or Vicki Fleissner.

Note for 18 National Select

- 18's Teams will include Two Qualifiers but will **not** include a National Tourney allowing them to end their season with the NKJV Tourney.
- If the Team receives a Bid at the Qualifier then the team will be required to attend the National Tourney. There will be a fee addition if a Bid is obtained. Approx \$ 325.00 per player (plus Coaches Travel expense)
- 18's will practice twice a week

Invitation Only All teams for ages 15 through 18 are by invitation only. Players not playing for NKJV may request an evaluation from the coaching director for consideration. Invitations are sent out two days following the close of the USAV National Tournament, which marks the end of the volleyball season. For the 2021 Season Pioneer Region Clubs can send out Invitations beginning July 6th, 2020.

Before the First Tryout Session

Before stepping out on the floor for the first tryout session, athletes must register online with USAV and provide the following documents:

- NKJV Medical Waiver
- TBD non-refundable tryout fee (make checks payable to NKJV) Online Registration is preferred

Tryouts

Tryouts are closed to parents to foster a distraction free environment. Athletes aspiring to be a part of NKJV will be evaluated on the following:

- A battery of physical tests such as the 20-yard dash, agility run, etc,
- Skill execution: ability to pass, set, serve, and hit.
- A game situation for their instinctive traits

We base our selections on what the athletes do during the tryout period and what we perceive their potential to be. We select athletes based on the following criteria:

- Coach ability
- Willingness to be a team player
- Athletic ability and potential
- Work ethic and drive
- Competitive attitude
- Current skill ability and experience

Any athlete who cannot participate in tryouts because of a limiting physical condition, medical condition, or other reason should talk to the NKJV Director, Vicki Fleissner, prior to tryouts to determine their ability to play on one of the teams.

What if I Played at NKJV Last Year?

Every athlete in NKJV will be evaluated each year. Each athlete must come to the tryouts ready to compete for a position on one of our teams. Players should never assume they will automatically be on a team.

After Tryouts

After tryouts, the coaching staff will meet to determine which girls will be offered a contract to participate in the NKJV program.

What if I Play Other Sports?

School sports and activities are an integral part of the scholastic experience and we make every effort to schedule practices around some of these other activities. If an athlete will miss more than 15% of practices and tournaments, they should reconsider participation in the NKJV program. Missing such a significant amount of time does not make it cost effective for the families and makes it very difficult to build team chemistry at a competitive level.

If an athlete participates in another sport, we expect her to make NKJV a priority. **We expect the athlete to attend all NKJV practices, unless there is a scheduled competition for the other sport at the same time as a NKJV practice.** If a game for the other sport conflicts with a NKJV practice, the athlete will be excused from the NKJV practice. If a NKJV competition conflicts with another sport competition, the coach and the athlete will decide, on a case-by-case basis, which event takes priority. All NKJV teams require dedication on the part of the athlete for the team to be a success. This means that missed practices could result in forfeiture of playing time.

NKJV per Player Fees

9 Blue, White	\$535.00	<u>3 Tournament Days</u>
10 Blue, White, Black, Silver & Gray	\$650.00	<u>5 Tournament Days</u> includes Bluegrass Tourney
11 Blue, White, Black,	\$1,190.00	<u>10 Tournament Days</u> includes Bluegrass Tourney
11 Silver & Gray	\$1,015.00	<u>9 Tournament Days</u> Includes Bluegrass Tourney Season Ends 3 rd Week of May
14 thru 17 White, Black	\$1,700.00	<u>14 Tournament Days</u> Includes a Qualifier. Nationals not included in the Fees
12 thru 17 Silver, Gray, Gold	\$1,600.00	<u>13 Tourney Days</u> Includes a Qualifier. Nationals not included in Fees (Ends 3 rd Week of May)
12 thru 13 White, Black	\$1,670.00	<u>14 Tournament Days</u> Includes a Qualifier. Nationals not included in the Fees
18's Teams	\$1,720.00	<u>14 Tournament Days</u> Includes Two Qualifiers, Nationals not included
12 thru 17 Blue	\$2,550.00	<u>19 Tournament Days</u> Includes a Qualifier and Nationals
		• Any Team that wants to add Nationals would be approx \$ 325.00 per player (Plus Coaches Travel expense)
		• Any Team that wants to add JVA Worlds in Louisville would be approx \$ 175.00 per player
		• Qualifier type Tourney includes USA Qualifiers and JVA or AAU events that have entry to AAU Natioanls

Families with multiple players playing for NKJV will receive a \$100 reduction in fees per player.

The higher amount for the 12-1 Blue thru 17-1 Blue teams is to cover the longer season, higher tournament entry fees, number of tournaments, more practice time, and number of hotel nights for coaches.

Fees include the following:

- Uniform
- Tournament entry fees for allowable tournaments
- USAV registration and insurance for each player and coach
- Balls, gym rental, coaches expenses (other than air travel or over 4 hours travel if required)
- Coaching fees and coaches' hotel accommodations on allowable overnights

White, Black or Silver Teams that decide to compete in the Bid Tournament must recognize that additional fees will be required if they qualify for a National Tournament. The additional fees will be estimated and presented to the teams before a decision to compete is made. All teams that qualify for a National Tournament are expected to play in the tournament. NKJV faces a \$1,000 fine per team for teams that qualify and do not compete and possible suspension from Nationals.

Fee Deposit

All NKJV 9 and 10 Teams:

A non-refundable 2nd deposit of \$150 is due on Parent Day (November 22nd, 2020), provided you paid the initial tryout deposit fee of \$ 150, otherwise, you owe \$ 300.00 on Parent Day.

NKJV 11 Blue, White & Black:

A non-refundable 2nd deposit of \$400 is due on Parent Day (November 22nd, 2020), provided you paid the initial deposit fee of \$ 250, otherwise, you owe \$650.00 on Parent Day.

NKJV 11 Silver & Gray:

A non-refundable 2nd deposit of \$250 is due on Parent Day (November 22nd, 2020), provided you paid the initial deposit fee of \$ 250, otherwise, you owe \$500.00 on Parent Day.

NKJV 12 Blue, NKJV 13 Blue & NKJV 14 Blue

A final non-refundable deposit of \$800.00 is due on Parent Day (November 22nd, 2020) provided you paid the initial deposit of \$ 300, otherwise you owe \$1,100.00 on Parent Day.

NKJV 15 Blue, NKJV 16 Blue & NKJV 17 Blue Teams:

A final non-refundable deposit of \$600.00 is due on Parent Day (November 22nd, 2020) provided you paid the initial deposit/deposits, otherwise, you owe \$1,400.00 on Parent Day. (Invitation only teams will have an initial deposit of \$300 followed by another deposit on October 1st of \$500)

NKJV 12 thru 17 White, Black, Silver, Gray and Gold Teams:

A final non-refundable deposit of \$500.00 is due on Parent Day (November 22nd, 2020) provided you paid the initial deposit fee of \$300.00, otherwise, you owe \$800 on Parent Day.

All NKJV 18 Teams:

A non-refundable 2nd deposit of \$500.00 is due on Parent Day (November 22nd, 2020), provided you paid the initial deposit/deposits otherwise, you owe \$1,100.00 on Parent Day. (Invitation only teams will have an initial deposit of \$ 300 followed by another deposit on October 1st of \$300)

All fees (checks only), should be made payable to NKJV and sent to:

**NKJV
PO Box 175852
Covington, KY 41017**

Do not give any money to a coach. They have been instructed not to accept payments.
Any charges incurred by NKJV for returned checks will be added to the balance of your fees.
Below is the payment schedule of fees. NKJV Fees are due in full by February 15th, 2021
Any payments by Credit card will be charged an additional 3.5 % fee

2020 Fee Payment Schedule

Teams	July 10th	Oct 1st	Oct 26 / 27	Nov 22 nd	Jan 15th	Feb 15th
18's Teams	\$300.00	\$300.00	X	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$220.00
15 to 17 Blue Teams	\$300.00	\$500.00	X	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$550.00
15 to 17 White, Black	\$300.00	X	X	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
15 to 17 Silver, Gray	\$300.00	X	X	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$300.00
14's White, Black	X	X	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
12 to 14 Blue Teams	X	X	\$300.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$650.00
12 to 13 White, Black	X	X	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$370.00
12 to 14 Silver, Gray, Gold	X	X	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$300.00
11 Blue, White, Black	X	X	\$250.00	\$400.00	\$340.00	\$200.00
11 Silver, Gray	X	X	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$265.00	\$250.00
10's Teams	X	X	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$250.00	\$100.00

5. Athletes are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner that demonstrates pride, admiration and respect for themselves, their parents, and NKJV.
6. All practice, game, and warm up shirts must be tucked in at all times.
7. Athletes may not drive themselves to any tournament outside of the Greater Cincinnati area.
8. Any athlete damaging equipment owned by NKJV, any facility used by NKJV, or at lodging facilities will be required to reimburse NKJV and/or the facility for damages before continuing with NKJV. In some cases, the athlete may be dismissed from NKJV.
9. Athletes involved in any of the following behaviors will be given one warning before being subject to dismissal from the organization: * Disregard of coach or NKJV rules *Lack of team cooperation
10. If athletes are involved with any of the following behaviors they will be immediately dismissed from NKJV, with no refund:
 - Use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs
 - Threatening or Bullying
 - Any behavior deemed as inappropriate by NKJV
11. Athletes that do not play the entire season for NKJV, including all end of season National or Regional Tournaments, without a valid excuse, will not remain in good standing with NKJV.
12. Athletes not in good standing with NKJV will not be eligible to play for another NKJV team for the remainder of the current season and the following season. Parents wishing to challenge this standing may do so in writing to the NKJV board. All challenges must be submitted prior to tryouts for any season. The decision of the NKJV board regarding the challenge will be final.
13. Athletes that do not fulfill their financial obligations to NKJV will not be eligible to register with USAV until they have reconciled with NKJV.
14. **An athlete with a delinquent account during the current season will be denied the privilege of playing in a tournament and will sit out at practice** until the account is paid or arrangements are made with the NKJV Director.
15. In case of inclement weather, a coach or someone from a phone chain will call your home to notify you of practice cancellations.
16. We strongly encourage athletes to make NKJV practices and tournaments their highest priority.

Practice Rules

1. Coaches determine if practices are open or closed.
2. Volleyball shoes are to be carried and only worn for practice and tournaments. This ensures the shoes last longer and our facility surfaces remain clean and safe.
3. Horseplay by athletes or coaches at practice or tournaments is strictly prohibited.
4. Athletes can bring water in an unbreakable container. Absolutely no glass containers are allowed.
5. Chewing gum is prohibited in the Next Level training facility
6. Scheduled practice time is the start time. Arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start of each practice. There is a consequence for arriving late to practice and competitions.
7. Athletes are expected to make every effort to attend practices. Only an illness serious enough to keep the athlete home from school, or a genuine family emergency, is a legitimate excuse for missing practice. If an athlete is absent from practice for any reason, her playing time may be affected.
8. If an athlete cannot be at practice, the athlete is expected to call the coach. It is **the athlete's responsibility (not the parent's) to reach the coach before practice starts.**
9. If an athlete has a second unexcused absence from a practice, she will be notified by the organization of dismissal from NKJV. At this time she may appeal this dismissal to the NKJV board.
Unexcused absences are defined as any absence for a reason other than the following:
 - School academic and sporting functions such as, team practices and competition
 - Church functions, such as weddings, confirmations, etc.
 - Family functions, such as vacations with immediate family or graduation of an immediate family member
 - Serious illness or injury
 Examples of unexcused absences are:
 - Kings Island
 - Baby-sitting
 - Homework
 - Job
 - Dances
 - Vacation with a friend
 - Non-school related athletics or activities, Birthday Parties

Tournament Rules

1. Proper conduct is expected from all members of NKJV at all times. This includes athletes, parents, and supporters. This also means treating supporters from other teams, other parents, and officials with respect.
2. The athletes must maintain good condition of her uniform and can only wear the uniform provided by NKJV
3. Athletes and/or parents are expected to provide transportation for their athlete to and from tournament sites and practices.
4. All athletes are expected to be in the gym, ready to warm-up, at the scheduled arrival time. This means the athlete needs to arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled arrival time set by the coach.
5. If an athlete cannot be at a tournament, the athlete is expected to call the coach as soon as the athlete knows she will be absent. **It is the athlete's responsibility (not the parent's) to reach the coach before the tournament starts.** A single unexcused absence may result in dismissal from the team.
6. If an athlete has two or more excused absences from tournaments in a single season, the athlete may be dismissed from the team.
7. Athletes will not be allowed to leave the tournament site until excused by the coach.

8. Except in cases of true emergency, an athlete who has an officiating assignment may not leave a tournament before the assignment is completed.
9. Show respect for all coaching decisions even though you may not agree with the coach, especially at Tournaments, Scrimmages and Practices. (see Grievance Procedures for how to properly handle any issues you may have).
10. Parents should refrain from talking to players at practices & during matches so that the players and coaches can focus

Officiating

Officiating is the shared responsibility of the entire team. All NKJV athletes are required to attend a scorekeeper clinic and help with:

- Line judging
- Scorekeeping
- Score flipping
- Officiating

Each coach will determine a procedure their team will follow for officiating assignments. **Every player is required to stay until the entire team can leave. Do not ask the coach if you can leave early. You are expected to stay.**

Grievance Procedure

Competitive team athletics, by its very nature, creates situations where everyone may not be happy all the time. Knowing when to communicate and how to communicate with your athlete's coach is a concern for almost every parent at some time during the season. Most often the concern is how to inquire about issues surrounding playing time.

We encourage the athlete to take responsibility for their participation. We expect the player to talk to the coach first when she has a problem concerning her playing time, or if she is unclear about what the coach expects from her. The appropriate way to do this is for the athlete to ask the coach what she needs to do to get more opportunities to play in matches. Most of the time, the player knows why she may not be playing as much as a teammate.

Parents can help their athlete by helping her set goals to achieve more opportunities. When a parent has a problem that is specific to their own athlete, we expect the parent to first talk to their athlete's coach. Coaches have been instructed not to discuss coaching decisions with a parent. Coaching decisions include, but are not limited to, specific match decisions such as who played when, where, and how long or who was subbed out and when. **The coach will not be required to defend his/her thought process or conclusions in the determination of playing time, and it is improper for a parent to request a defense from the coach.**

****Parents are not to approach a coach or Board Member at a Tournament over any controversial matter when emotions are at a high level for all involved. The 48 Hour rule is in effect for contacting a Coach, the Coaching Director, President or any Board Member about grievances at a Tournament****
Coaches, the Coaching Director, President or Board Member will adhere to the 48 hours rule unless a situation arises that needs to be addressed immediately.

If you are a parent, athlete or member of a NKJV team, follow the grievance procedure, in order, as listed below:

1. **The athlete will speak or meet with the coach to discuss the matter.**
2. **The parent should speak to or meet with the coach** if the matter remains unresolved, or if the athlete has reasonable concern that speaking to the coach will not resolve the matter. Parents should call the coach to set a meeting. Meetings are to be held at times and locations other than tournaments.
3. **Meetings are to be held at times and locations other than Tournaments or Practice.** If a parent approaches a coach during a tournament, we have instructed the coach to refuse to discuss any controversial matter, to refer the parent to the NKJV Director or President and to walk away from the situation. **Again, a reminder of the 48 Hour Rule.**
4. **The parent may speak to the Coach and the NKJV Director** if the matter remains unresolved, or if the parent has reasonable concern that speaking to the coach will not resolve the matter. NKJV may ask the athlete to attend the meeting. The recommended time for a parent and/or athlete to talk to a coach about a problem is at an arranged meeting time before or after a scheduled practice. The Coach or the NKJV Director will not engage in discussions about coaching decisions.

Policies Regarding Grievances

1. NKJV will not tolerate hostile, aggressive confrontations between a parent and official, a parent and coach, a parent and athlete, a athlete and another athlete or a parent and other parent, whether the coach, athlete or other parent is a member of NKJV or not. Violation of this policy may result in the athlete being dismissed from NKJV without refund.
2. It is inappropriate for an athlete or parent to approach other NKJV members about a problem the athlete or parent is having with a coach, about objections to coaching decisions, or about disagreement with an administrative decision. For the psychological health of the teams and the NKJV as a whole, grievances need to be handled between the parties involved and in the proper manner.
3. If a player or parent is approached and asked to listen to, or express an opinion about matters between two other parties in NKJV, they should refer the complaining party to the coach in question, the NKJV Director, Vicki Fleissner, or President, Jack McElveen.
4. Any member who, as a third party, hears remarks or stories about NKJV, its employees or its policies, that cause the member to be concerned, should contact the coach and/or the NKJV Director immediately to determine the facts, or to alert administration to the situation. It is detrimental to everyone involved to repeat complaints you hear to other uninvolved parties.

5. Refrain from negative comments around your daughter and the other athletes. Young players are vulnerable and if they hear complaining about the coach, the coach's style or NKJV policies, this can have an adverse effect on their performance and/or attitude. If you, as a parent, are unhappy about something, you should follow the grievance procedure to resolve the matter.
6. Repetitive complaining to the athletes or other third parties may be cause, in the sole determination of NKJV, to ask a member to resign.

Tournaments

Tournaments can last anywhere between **one and four days**. Arrive early to help set up your team area warm-up. Except for starting times, most tournaments do not follow a set time schedule. Matches will begin 10 minutes after the end of the previous match. If the tournament is run well, it should be over around 6:00 p.m. But to be on the safe side, **expect to be there all day**.

Teams will begin pool play where they will play each team in their pool with the winning teams advancing to a Gold bracket and other teams advancing to a Silver or Bronze etc bracket. Most tournaments are best two out of three games with rally scoring.

Seating is sparse in some of the gyms, so we recommend that you bring your own chairs. However, some facilities do not allow chairs and provide seating. We strongly advise that you pack a cooler for your athlete for the day of a tournament. Most tournament facilities will not allow coolers in the facilities. You can bring pillows and sleeping bags so the athletes can rest between rounds. Games, homework, books, etc. are all recommended for some of the longer tournaments.

Team Parent Duties

A team parent is needed for each Team. As team parent you would be required to fulfill, but not limited to, the following responsibilities.

- Assist the coach in any way possible.
- Establish a phone tree and email list for the coach, players and parents.
- Make calls to parents (athletes) regarding practice times, places and changes.
- Provide written directions to tournaments, hotels and practice locations.
- Arrange carpools for tournaments.
- Act as a liaison between the parents, coaches and players.
- On overnights ensure that all parents attending (not just the team parent) assist the coach in making sure that the players are in bed on time, curfew is enforced and lights are out, as directed by the coach. **It is important that each parent/guardian take responsibility for their athlete on overnights.**
- Help the coach to determine eating arrangements (such as ordering pizza, going for carry-out during a tournament, calling ahead for reservations to a restaurant, buying breakfast items, etc.). Some coaches may be stricter than others and may want the team to eat together. This should be discussed with the coach and every effort should be made to comply by all parents.
- Make hotel reservations for all team athletes, coaches and parents on overnights. Costs for the coaches' rooms are covered by players' fees (**up to a certain number of nights, depending on the type team**, at an average of \$110 - \$120 per night). The team parent needs to find out the exact cost of the coaches' rooms (with taxes), and notify the NKJV Treasurer to get a check for the **exact amount** of the coaches' rooms before leaving for the tournament or provide a receipt detailing the amount paid and submit to the NKJV treasurer for reimbursement. Please include team name, coaches name, number of nights and amount of reimbursement requested with the copy of your receipt. **Do not hold rooms for other parents on your credit card.** Get a confirmation number for each parent room and get that number to the appropriate parent so they can confirm their own room. You are responsible for confirming your own room and the coaches' rooms.
- If traveling by air, make sure that travel arrangements are made for everyone from your team that is flying. On some teams, someone other than the team parent may be able to handle this due to travel experience or connections at airlines.
- Assist in securing fund raising opportunities to help offset team costs, unless someone else on the team has taken on this responsibility.
- Assist NKJV in recruiting parents from your team to assist in running our NKJV tournament.
- Team Parents are only to assist in housing, travel plans, team announcements, etc. Team Parents at no time are to address the team regarding any grievance or similar team issue. Any such issues are to be handled by the coach or NKJV. No exceptions!

Privacy Statement

The personal information that you provide to apply for membership is used within NKJV to provide the services that we offer to you. NKJV does not share your personally identifiable information with any nonaffiliated third party businesses, organizations, or individuals.

NKJV Handbook Contract

Please sign and return this contract.

As a player, I understand the commitment I am making to Northern Kentucky Junior Volleyball (NKJV) and the team I have been assigned to. **I am willing to commit myself to the program and my teammates for the entire 2020/2021 season.**

SIGNATURE _____
Player

DATE: _____

Understanding the stipulations and having discussed these with our child, we agree to and will support her participation in NKJV. We do understand the **fee is not refundable** and that this is **not a pay to play organization**. We have read the NKJV Handbook/Contract and agree to abide by all NKJV Policies. **I understand the commitment we are making for our daughter and by signing this I am committing her to NKJV for the 2020/2021 Season.**

SIGNATURE: _____
Parent/Guardian

DATE: _____

PHOTO RELEASE

I hereby give permission for my photograph and/or video image to be used in Northern Kentucky Junior Volleyball (NKJV) publications. These publications include, but are not limited to, recruitment publications, newsletters, newspapers, magazines, videos, and web sites. I understand that I will receive no compensation for my time or the use of my name, photograph/video image.

SIGNATURE _____
Parent/Guardian

DATE: _____

Printed name: _____
Player

Please place a check mark below to prohibit use of the player's name in the same manner as stated above.

_____ Player's name may not be printed in publications

SIGNATURE: _____
Parent/Guardian

DATE: _____

Printed name: _____
Parent/Guardian