

What to Expect at EKVC Club Volleyball Tryouts

As we get ready to welcome athletes and families to our upcoming club volleyball tryouts, we want to ensure everyone knows what to expect throughout the evaluation process. Our goal is simple: **to create a fair, transparent, and supportive environment where every athlete has the opportunity to show their skills, potential, and passion for the sport.**

A Fair and Transparent Evaluation Process

We know that tryouts can be both exciting and nerve-wracking. To ensure fairness for all athletes, our evaluation process follows a structured and consistent framework:

Use of a Standardized Evaluation Matrix

Our evaluators use an evaluation matrix grounded in **Volleyball Canada's Long-Term Development Model**. Further information on the model can be found at: <https://volleyball.ca/en/about/ltad>. Using this model as a guide for our evaluation criteria allows us to assess athletes with clear skill-based expectations that support both current performance and long-term potential.

Neutral Evaluators

While team coaches may be present at evaluations, **they will not be evaluating the age group they coach**. This separation helps maintain objectivity and ensures that evaluations are unbiased and focused solely on athlete performance during tryouts.

Anonymous Identification

To further support fairness, each athlete is assigned a number at the start of tryouts. **Evaluators will not receive any personal or identifying information** beyond this number. This ensures assessments are based only on what evaluators observe in the gym.

Objective and Subjective Measures

We evaluate the full picture of an athlete's abilities using both objective and subjective criteria.

Physical Testing

All athletes will complete standardized physical assessments, including:

- **Vertical jump**
- **Medicine ball throw** (or similar strength-based test)

These tests provide **objective, measurable data** that helps support consistency in our overall evaluation.

Technical and Tactical Skills

Skills such as serving, passing, attacking, blocking, and defensive movement are evaluated using our matrix to ensure alignment with developmental expectations for each age group.

Coachability and Readiness to Learn

If two athletes receive similar skill-based evaluations, **coachability becomes an important differentiator**. We look for athletes who demonstrate:

- A willingness to learn
- Positive communication
- Focus and effort
- Responsiveness to feedback

These qualities often translate into long-term success and contribute to a positive team culture.

What Happens After Tryouts?

We want athletes and families to feel informed and prepared for what comes next.

Clear Next Steps and Timelines

After tryouts, families will receive information outlining:

- The timeline for **team invitations**
- Expectations for accepting or declining roster spots
- The **registration process** for the season

We aim to communicate this information promptly and clearly so families know exactly what to expect.

How Teams Are Formed

Our **Technical Direction Team** oversees all evaluation results and final roster decisions. Their goal is to create teams that are both **inclusive and competitive**, ensuring that athletes are placed where they can grow, contribute, and feel a strong sense of belonging.

Thank You for Your Support

We appreciate the patience, trust, and understanding of our athletes and families. Evaluations require thoughtful planning, collaboration, and attention to detail to ensure the process is **fair, consistent, and supportive of all participants**.

Thank you for being part of our club community and for recognizing the work behind the scenes to make evaluations meaningful and equitable. We look forward to seeing everyone on the court and to another season of growth, teamwork, and passion for volleyball.