



ND Elite Volleyball
Player and Parent Handbook
2024-2025

Fargo, North Dakota
<https://www.ndelitevolleyball.com/>

OUR MISSION:

ND Elite Volleyball is dedicated to providing young athletes and coaches with the opportunity to grow and mature through the sport of volleyball.

We are committed to helping young athletes in achieving their goals by personal commitment to support each other and work as a team, which needs diligence, perseverance and discipline. We recognize that all the coaches, athletes and parents benefit from being committed to a volleyball club that has a purpose and that pursues excellence and demands the same from their athletes.

THE MULTI-SPORT ATHLETE:

Many players in the club are multi-sport athletes who compete in two or more sports at one time. Conflicts are to be worked out well in advance with your coaches. We DO NOT discourage athletes from participating in another sport during our season; however, it is important to be aware of the physical demands and the time commitments required of these athletes. Safe participation is our primary concern. Injuries are much more common among athletes who participate in more than one sport at a time. However, each athlete needs to be aware of her own limitations in order to stay strong and injury free.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Club Fees:

Winter: \$650 for athletes playing in **both** winter and spring, \$750 for **winter only** athletes (price includes jersey package/backpack)

Includes: four-five tournaments/tournament entrance fees, practice space, coaches pay and coaches travel expenses.

Spring: \$1000 (before program fundraising)

Includes: seven tournaments/tournament entrance fees, practice space, Uniform package from REN Athletics, ND Elite backpack, coaches pay, coaches travel expenses, team photos.

Travel Fees:

Travel fees are additional fees paid by all athletes to cover the expenses of traveling. Fees can include:

- Hotel expenses
- Ground transportation to and from the hotel including gas, insurance, tolls and parking.

Other Fees:

- NCR Membership
- AAU Membership

Refunds:

A player/family will not receive a refund if they decide to terminate their contract to ND Elite. Nor will any refund be given if needed to pull a team from any tournament.

TOURNAMENTS AND PRACTICE POLICIES:**Practice:**

Practice will begin at the scheduled time. Players should take care of putting on shoes, knee pads, ankle braces, net set up, etc before the start time of practice. If you are going to be late to practice, the athlete should contact the coach directly with an approximate arrival time.

If an athlete can not make practice, she should call the coach directly. Injured athletes who can attend school are expected to come to practice (within reason). Even if you can not participate physically, there is a lot that can be learned though observing and listening to the coach.

If you know you will miss a practice in advance, that needs to be communicated ahead of time. We understand that illness happens, and will be excused. However, missed practices could potentially result in losing playing time.

Participation:

Players are expected to attend all scheduled tournaments. Scheduling conflicts should be brought to the attention of the coach at the beginning of the year. Conflicts may result in the athlete's court time being affected as the team prepares during practices leading up to an event. Missed tournaments does not mean a reimbursement of the player's fees.

Team Officiating:

Officiating is the shared responsibility of the entire team. All athletes are required to help with line judging, score keeping, libero tracking, and R1/R2 officiating. An athlete who has an officiating assignment may not leave a tournament before the assignment is completed. Coaches will provide further information regarding scorekeeper and officiating online clinics. Completing the scoring/officiating is the responsibility of the player.

Tournament Policies:

- Playing time for athletes is determined by the performance of the athlete during practices and previous matches, and is left to the discretion of the coach.
- Proper demeanor is expected of all members of the Club (this includes anyone supporting ND Elite) treating members of the officiating crew with respect.
- All uniform pieces must be brought to tournaments.
- Athlete may not leave tournament site until excused by the coach.
- Be respectful of referees and work teams.
- Do not address playing time issues at tournaments. This should be done through contacting the coach at a later time to set up a meeting.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE:

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.

Athletes are encouraged to talk to the coach when a problem arises (regarding playing time, position or unclear expectations in practice or competition). The appropriate manner for the athlete to approach the coach is to ask what she needs to do in order to receive more opportunities to play or to accomplish a goal.

Parents can best help their athlete by guiding them through this process and supporting communication with the coach.

Athletes should be the one to approach a coach regarding coaching decisions, not the parents.

The amount an athlete is on the court is the result of that coach's opinion, of the team's needs at the moment, and the team's needs in the future. The coach will not be required to defend his/her thought process or conclusions in these determinations. It should be expected, however, that the coach be able to relay information to the athlete to explain the athlete's current role on the team and what the athlete needs to improve upon to resolve the issue.

We ask that you respect our 24 hour policy, and please wait at least 24 hours to reach out with any concerns about setting up a meeting, etc. We want to ensure there is time to reflect and make sure we're not speaking from emotion. We will take this 24 hour policy very seriously and will not respond to any emails/texts until the 24 hours are expired.

GENERAL BEHAVIOR POLICY:

It is inappropriate for an athlete or a parent to involve other ND Elite members about a problem the athlete or parent is having with a ND Elite coach, objections to coaching decisions, or disagreements with an administrative decision.

ND Elite will not tolerate hostile, aggressive confrontations by a parent or player towards an official, a director, a coach, an athlete, or another parent. Violation of this policy may result in the family being dismissed from the club. In such cases, no refunds will be issued.

Be respectful of our teammates' feelings and personal space. Players who exhibit sexist, racist or inappropriate behavior towards another person will be excused from practice or tournaments, and will be subject to a disciplinary process, as determined by the head coach (depending on the infraction). Any coach or staff member, at any time, has the authority to ask a player to exit the gym for disciplinary reasons.

PARENT/PLAYER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

(To be signed by player, parent/guardian and returned to ND Elite Coaches)

We have read and fully understand the policies stated in the ND Elite Volleyball player parent handbook.

- The player's commitment to ND Elite Volleyball Club shall follow the NCR restrictions.
- Any disagreements with the Club, coach or training philosophy shall be discussed with the coach and/or Club Director, according to the Club Handbook.
- Parents and spectators shall follow the guidelines of the Club Handbook.
- Players shall follow all Club rules at practice, tournaments, and during travel.
- All fees shall be paid before player is allowed to practice or compete in tournaments.

We agree to abide by the policies of the Club and fully understand that the consequences and/or penalties issued by the Club – should anyone fail to follow these guidelines.

Please sign below and return to your coach.

(This signed document is intended for the purpose of ensuring that each player and her family has read, and understands the policies stated within the Club information handbook and attached player rules and parent guidelines. We trust you will sign this document in good faith, as we will use the handbook, and this agreement, in the event that any aspect of the Club's philosophy is questioned. If you do not understand any part of this handbook, contact the club directors or administration for any necessary clarification before signing.)

Thank you – ND Elite Volleyball Coaching Staff

Team

Player's Name

Date

Parents Name

Date

Parents Name

Date