

Newport Volleyball Club Outdoor League Policies and Code of Conduct

1. PURPOSE

- a. The purpose of this document is to specify the Code of Conduct to apply to and be binding upon all Players, Coaches, Referees and NVC League Officials participating in any event of, or activity associated with, the Newport Volleyball Club (NVC).

2. CITY OF NEWPORT EASTON'S BEACH AND NARRAGANSETT TOWN BEACH POLICIES

- a. All City of Newport or Town of Narragansett Ordinances must be obeyed at all times.
- b. All trash must be disposed of in proper trash receptacles or put in plastic bags and removed from the league site at the end of the evening.

3. GENERAL

- a. Every Player shall, during all matches and at all times whilst within the league "precinct", conduct himself/herself in a sportsman-like manner, in accordance with the provisions as outlined in this Code of Conduct.
- b. For the purpose of this document, the league "precinct" shall be defined as all sections of the beach/venue which are under the formal control of NVC Event Management.
- c. For the purposes of this document, the term "set" refers to individual games played.
- d. All players' league entry fees and no-show checks must be paid in full prior to the start of league play. No-show checks MUST be in the form of a personal check. Cash, money order or any other form of payment will not be accepted.
 - i. NVC policy is to shred un-cashed No-show checks at the end of the season.
- e. All players must have a valid Volley America membership for league play. No player may engage in league play without a valid Volley America membership. If the barring of play by the individual forces a forfeit, forfeit rules shall be followed.
- f. All players must sign an NVC waiver/alcohol policy/IRS 1099 form on file with league staff before engaging in play.
- g. All players must be age 18 or over except by a 2/3 vote of the board of directors.
- h. NVC follows FIVB beach rules with specific exceptions as outlined in the rules section for each league.

4. PUNCTUALITY

- a. Matches shall follow each other without delay in accordance with the advertised order of play or as amended by the NVC Beach Directors.
- b. Teams will be permitted an allocated period to be used on court for warm-up.
- c. The order of play will be displayed in a highly visible place, so all Players should ensure they check on this regularly.
- d. The match warm-up time shall commence immediately upon the completion of the previous match.
- e. It is the responsibility of each team to be prepared to commence warm-up at the completion of the previous match as well as to start the subsequent match after the appointed warm-up time period.
- f. Either team not ready to commence play at the allocated match start time shall;
 - i. Concede 1 point to their opponent for every minute, or part thereof, that they are late after the official match starting time
 - ii. If, after 5 minutes the team is not ready to play they shall forfeit that set.

- iii. The same process as outlined in i and ii shall be repeated for the second set (if the playing format allows for multiple sets).
- g. The League Director, after due consideration of all relevant circumstances, may elect under extraordinary circumstances not to declare a forfeit (loss of set). Such decision will be made immediately.

5. LEAVING THE COURT

- a. A Player shall not leave the immediate playing area during a match without the permission of the League Director or Nightly Coordinator.
- b. Violation shall subject a team to automatically forfeit the match.
- c. If, in the opinion of the NVC League Director, a player has failed to justify such an action, he/she must show cause to the NVC League Director as to why he she should be permitted to continue their participation in that or any subsequent NVC league.

6. BEST EFFORTS

- a. A Player must use his/her best efforts to win a match.
- b. If, in the opinion of the NVC League Director, a player has failed to justify such an action, he/she must show cause to the NVC League Director as to why he she should be permitted to continue their participation in that or any subsequent NVC league.

7. FAILURE TO COMPLETE A MATCH

- a. A Player must complete a match in progress unless he/she is reasonably unable to do so.
- b. Violation shall subject a team to automatically forfeit the match.
- c. A forfeit will be recorded as a loss of match with points recorded as winning score for winner and points as they stand for the forfeiting team.
- d. If, in the opinion of the NVC League Director, a player has failed to provide a reasonable explanation, he/she must show cause to the NVC League Director as to why he she should be permitted to continue their participation in that or any subsequent NVC event.

8. INTERRUPTIONS TO PLAY

- a. Unreasonable Delays
 - i. Players must commence play upon completion of the previous play or upon the appointed match start time.
 - ii. Thereafter, except for allowed periods of time-out and change of ends, play shall be continuous and a player shall not unreasonably delay a match for any cause.
- b. Start of Rally
 - i. Where possible the minimum amount of time shall elapse from the moment the end of the rally to the moment the next rally begins.
 - ii. Any unreasonable delay will subject the offending team to a point penalty.
- c. Change Of Ends
 - i. For all matches play shall be continuous upon the change of ends.
 - ii. Failure by any team to meet this requirement shall result in the awarding of 1 point (and service) to the opponent.
- d. Time Outs
 - i. Each team is afforded two (2) one minute time outs per set
 - ii. Each player is afforded one (1) three minute injury time out per match

- a. In the event an injured player is not able to continue play after the three minutes have expired, the match will be recorded as a forfeit with the accumulated points standing for the forfeiting team.
- iii. A "Sand Time out" can be taken to allow a player to quickly remove excessive sand after a rally.

9. MISCONDUCT

- a. During competition the following misconduct categories, sanctions and sanction scale shall apply.
 - i. Unsportsmanlike conduct – argumentation, intimidation, etc.
 - ii. Rude conduct – acting contrary to good manners or moral principles, expressing contempt.
 - iii. Offensive conduct – defamatory or insulting words or gestures.
 - iv. Aggression – physical attack or intended aggression.
 - v. Theft – Taking something that is not yours.
- b. Misconduct penalties shall be by a point penalty awarded against the offending team. In the event of the misconduct occurring after conclusion of a match or outside of match play, point(s) may be assessed at the beginning of the team's next match.
*Misconduct rules G and I contain specific penalties as outlined within each rule.
- c. Audible Obscenity
 - i. Players shall not use an audible obscenity within the league "precinct".
 - ii. For the purpose of this rule, "audible obscenity" shall be defined as the use of language commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard by the Referee, opponents or spectators.
- d. Visible Obscenity
 - i. Players shall not make obscene gestures of any kind within the league "precinct".
 - ii. For the purpose of this rule, "visible obscenity" shall be defined as any actions or gestures by a player that commonly have an obscene meaning, understood by a reasonable person, or of an inappropriate nature.
- e. Abuse of the Ball
 - i. Players shall not violently, dangerously, in frustration or anger, throw or kick the ball except in the reasonable pursuit of a rally.
 - ii. Players shall not intentionally strike, kick or throw a ball out of the immediate area of the playing court, strike a ball dangerously or recklessly, or strike a ball with negligent disregard of the consequences inside or outside of the playing area.
- f. Abuse of the Net or Court Fixtures
 - i. Players shall not violently, dangerously, recklessly, in frustration or anger, hit or pull on the net, other court fixtures, signage or other facilities.
- g. Theft of NVC / Tournament Equipment or Fellow Player Property
 - i. NVC & sanctioned agents shall be imposing a ZERO TOLERANCE on violation of this Code of Conduct item. Any players found to be in breach of this item shall face automatic suspension and shall be afforded no recourse in overturning such sanction. Additionally, appropriate law enforcement agencies may be contacted if deemed necessary.
- h. Verbal Abuse
 - i. Players shall not at any time abuse the referee, teammates, opponents, spectators or Tournament officials.

- ii. For the purpose of this rule, “verbal abuse” shall be defined as statement(s) that imply dishonesty, negligence or are derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive.
- i. Physical Abuse
 - i. Players shall not at any time physically abuse or intend physical harm to any referee, teammate, opponents, spectators or Tournament official.
 - ii. Any players found to be in breach of this item shall face automatic suspension and shall be afforded no recourse in overturning such sanction (Duration to be determined by the NVC Nightly Coordinators). Additionally, appropriate law enforcement agencies may be contacted if deemed necessary.
- j. Unsportsmanlike Conduct
 - i. Players shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner, giving due regard to the authority of all tournament officials and the rights of teammates, opponents and spectators.
 - ii. For the purpose of this rule, “unsportsmanlike conduct” shall be defined as any conduct by a player that is clearly abusive, detrimental to the success of the tournament or the sport.
 - iii. This shall include “heckling” by players both on and off the court area and any attempts to influence the referee’s decisions or interfere with an opponent’s play.