



Club Volleyball

Player and Parent Handbook

(REVISED 6/09/2026) Director – Josh Brenneman

Mission Statement

Yorktowne Volleyball Club is a nationally recognized, highly competitive program dedicated to advancing the athletic and personal development of young athletes through the pursuit of excellence in volleyball. We strive to foster a strong sense of community while promoting leadership, sportsmanship, and character among all members of the Club.

The coaches, athletes, parents, and supporters of Yorktowne Volleyball Club share a common mission: to create and sustain a program that has a lasting, positive impact on the lives of our athletes through the platform of competitive volleyball. We believe that success extends far beyond the court, and we are committed to helping young athletes develop valuable life skills by teaching them to set ambitious yet attainable goals.

Through teamwork, accountability, perseverance, and a commitment to one another, we empower our athletes to reach those goals. Together, we pledge to do whatever it takes to build and support a culture that inspires excellence, develops leaders, and creates meaningful experiences that will benefit our athletes long after their playing days are over.



Team Composition

Team Formation and Player Movement

Teams will be formed based on the players who best fit the positions and systems utilized at each age group. Rosters will consist of a minimum of 10 players, with final roster sizes determined by the Club. (Normally 10 -12 athletes)

In certain situations, athletes may be selected to compete above their age division when the coaching staff determines that such placement is in the best interest of both the athlete and the team. Requests to play up will be considered; however, placement decisions will be based on whether the athlete's skills, development, and overall fit will positively benefit both the player and the team.

From time to time, roster adjustments may be necessary. Team assignments and player movement are at the sole discretion of Yorktowne Volleyball Club and are made with the goal of providing the best developmental and competitive experience for all athletes. Any athlete moved to or from a travel team will have club dues adjusted accordingly through prorated additions or reductions.

No athlete will be reassigned to another team without prior communication involving the athlete, parents, and coaches. The Club is committed to ensuring that all roster changes are handled thoughtfully and with transparency.

Tryouts/Open Gyms

Player Evaluation and Tryout Process

We anticipate evaluating a large number of athletes through our open gyms and tryout sessions. Some athletes will have extensive playing experience, while others may be newer to the sport. During these evaluations, our coaching staff assesses not only volleyball skills and athletic ability, but also qualities such as motivation, leadership, competitiveness, coachability, and overall desire to improve.

Team selections are based on what athletes demonstrate during these sessions and the coaching staff's assessment of each player's potential contributions to the team. Athletes are evaluated using the following criteria:

- Athletic potential

- Volleyball knowledge and skill execution
- Attitude and character
- Work ethic and reliability
- Competitive drive
- Willingness to be coached
- Leadership qualities
- Commitment to team success

Athletes are strongly encouraged to attend as many open gyms and evaluation sessions as possible to ensure the coaching staff has ample opportunity to conduct a thorough assessment.

Every athlete within the Club is evaluated annually, and all players should come to tryouts prepared to compete for a position on one of our teams. Returning players should never assume that placement on a Travel or National team in one season guarantees placement on that level the following year. Team placement is earned each season based on performance, development, and the needs of the team.

Athletes are selected for Open and National teams because, in the opinion of the coaching staff, they possess the ability and potential to help those teams compete successfully at a high level. Yorktowne Volleyball Club has traditionally experienced strong participation in the 17U and 18U age groups, allowing us to field multiple teams capable of competing at the national level.

Tryouts are used to finalize team selections based on the entirety of the evaluation process. It is important that athletes arrive prepared to perform at their highest level.

Registration Requirements

Please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled tryout time and have the following completed and ready at check-in:

- Current AAU Membership
- Signed Medical Release Form
- If not pre-registered, a \$60 tryout fee payable to **YT Volleyball LLC**

Athletes with any physical limitations or medical conditions that may affect participation should contact Club Director **Josh Brenneman** prior to the start of the tryout period so that appropriate accommodations and considerations can be made.

Membership Dues and Financial Policies

Membership dues are established prior to the season and will not increase during the year. Travel teams may incur additional expenses for travel, lodging, meals, and optional team activities beyond their annual membership dues.

Yorktowne Volleyball Club has developed a payment schedule that meets the operational needs of the Club while making payments manageable for our families. It is the responsibility of each parent and athlete to remain aware of their account balance. Questions regarding dues or payment schedules should be directed to Club Director **Josh Brenneman**.

In an effort to keep administrative costs low, monthly statements will not be mailed or printed. Families may request an account statement at any time by contacting Josh Brenneman at YorktowneVB717@gmail.com. Email reminders will be sent out 2 weeks before each payment is due.

Membership dues cover the items outlined in the team budgets provided each season. Families are responsible for all travel, lodging, and meal expenses associated with tournaments and team travel. Club dues support the overall cost of operating the program and are essential to maintaining the quality and stability of Yorktowne Volleyball Club.

As a **non-profit-minded** organization operating on a "money in, money out" philosophy, Yorktowne maintains a conservative financial approach and does not rely on credit card debt, in fact the club is ran on a debit account. Membership dues are considered a commitment between the family and the Club. In return for those dues, the Club provides, among other benefits:

- Professional coaching and training
- Practice facilities and gym time
- Regional and national competition opportunities
- College recruiting guidance and exposure
- Administrative support and player development resources
- Additional benefits associated with our Club Membership
- Housing coordinator.
- Any much more

Specific team budgets and event schedules will be finalized once teams are formed and tournament schedules are established. A team meeting or email communication will be held following team selection to review contracts, registration requirements, tournament schedules, and final team costs.

Timely payments are critical to the operation of the Club. Failure to remain current on dues may result in suspension from practices, tournaments, or other team activities until the account is brought into good standing.

Financial Commitment

Membership dues provide security for both the family and the Club. If operating expenses exceed projections, families will not be assessed additional fees to cover those shortfalls. Likewise, if revenues exceed expenses, refunds will not be issued. Any excess funds will be reinvested into the Club to enhance facilities, equipment, training opportunities, and the overall experience for our athletes.

Yorktowne Volleyball Club strives to provide exceptional value and maintains dues that are competitive with, and often lower than, those charged by many nationally recognized programs.

Financial Assistance and Fundraising

Yorktowne Volleyball Club is committed to ensuring that no deserving athlete is denied the opportunity to participate due to financial hardship. We are willing to work with families to establish payment arrangements and provide fundraising opportunities to help offset expenses.

Over the years, many athletes have successfully used fundraising efforts to significantly reduce, and in some cases nearly eliminate, their participation costs. Families experiencing financial difficulties are encouraged to contact Club Director Josh Brenneman as early as possible. All discussions regarding financial matters will be handled discreetly and with respect.

We ask that families communicate concerns promptly so that we can work together to find solutions before financial issues become overwhelming.

Any dues that are not paid in full by May of the current season will be turned over to a collection agency. The player (and/or parents) will then be responsible for all extra fees and interest that occurs due to the delinquency. The player will also be reported to any agencies and organizations permitted by law.

Any player who leaves the club, for any reason, will still be responsible for the full amount of their dues. Players asking for a release will not have their request considered until dues are paid in full. Should a player miss part of the season due to an injury, a pro-rated amount of half the fees will still be required to be paid. If the player would return mid-season or nationals they would be required to pay the full club dues for the season.

Club Payment Schedule

For your convenience, the following schedule will be used to make payments on current Club dues:

Payment	Due Date	Amount
Deposit	Just 31 st	\$750
Payment #1	August 31 st	1/4 Balance
Payment #2	Sept 18 th	1/4 Balance
Payment #3	October 16 th	1/4 Balance
Payment #4	Nov 27 th	1/4 Balance

- All dues must be paid in full by Dec 1ST 2026

Club Dues Refund

Refund Policy

All refunds related to the current club season will be processed and mailed during the week of July 1st each year. A detailed accounting of any refund issued will be provided to the family.

In the event of a full or partial season cancellation, refunds will be issued on a prorated basis after deducting any expenses already incurred by the Club. These expenses may include, but are not limited to:

- Tournament entry fees for events already played or committed to
- Uniforms and apparel
- Coaching compensation earned through the date of cancellation
- Administrative and operational expenses associated with the season

Families will receive a detailed breakdown of all realized costs and the resulting refund amount.

National Championship Season Refunds

Refunds associated with teams participating in post-season national events will be processed and mailed during the week of August 1 each year. As with the regular season, any full or partial cancellation of the national season will result in a prorated refund after deducting expenses already incurred by the Club, including tournament fees, uniforms, coaching compensation, and other committed costs.

A detailed accounting of all expenses and refund calculations will be provided to ensure transparency and accountability.



Fundraising

Yorktowne Volleyball Club is recognized as one of the premier volleyball programs in the region and among the outstanding clubs in the nation. We are committed to providing our athletes with exceptional training, competition, and developmental opportunities. A program of this caliber requires a significant commitment of both time and financial resources. To help families manage these costs, Yorktowne offers a variety of fundraising opportunities throughout the season.

Fundraising efforts are designed to support the continued growth of the Club while providing families with the opportunity to offset a portion of their athlete's membership dues. Participation in fundraising activities is completely optional.

The Club Director will coordinate multiple fundraising opportunities during the season. All net proceeds generated by an athlete or family, less any administrative fees or expenses associated with a specific fundraiser, will be credited directly to that athlete's account. Fundraising credits are applied beginning with the athlete's final payment and then work backward through the payment schedule.

Please note that fundraising credits may not exceed the amount of the athlete's club dues. In accordance with applicable tax regulations, fundraising proceeds cannot result in a cash profit to the participant.

End-of-Season Fundraising Credits

At the conclusion of the season, families with remaining fundraising credits may choose one of the following options:

- Receive a refund in accordance with the Club's refund schedule.
- Carry the balance forward to the following club season.
- Transfer the balance to another athlete within Yorktowne Volleyball Club.

All requests regarding the disposition of remaining fundraising credits must be submitted in writing or by email.

Through fundraising and the support of our families, Yorktowne Volleyball Club continues to provide a first-class experience while maintaining dues that are competitive with other nationally recognized programs. Our goal is to ensure that every athlete has the opportunity to participate and thrive, regardless of financial circumstances.

Outside Activities

Yorktowne Volleyball Club understands that athletes may participate in other activities. However, regular attendance is essential to team chemistry and individual development. Sporadic attendance can negatively impact both the athlete and the team.

When balancing high school and club volleyball, the following priorities should be observed:

- High school games and matches take precedence over club practices and tournaments.
- High school practices take precedence over club practices.
- Club tournaments take precedence over high school practices.
- Athletes are encouraged to attend club practices whenever possible, even if arriving late from high school activities.

Players should discuss potential scheduling conflicts with their high school coaches before committing to club volleyball. Policies regarding club participation vary by school and coach.

Please note that personal recreational activities are not considered acceptable reasons for missing practices or tournaments. Athletes are responsible for maintaining their development in this competitive program. Attendance and commitment directly affect skill progression, and playing time may be impacted if an athlete falls behind teammates who are consistently training and improving.

Tournaments

Athletes are expected to arrive at the gym ready to warm up at the designated team arrival time. This typically requires arriving 20–30 minutes earlier to check in and organize equipment.

Athletes are expected to attend all scheduled tournaments. If an athlete must miss an event, they are responsible for notifying their coach as soon as possible, preferably in writing. Communication should come directly from the athlete, not the parent.

Parents and athletes are responsible for transportation to and from tournament sites. Tournament schedules are fluid, and match times often change throughout the day. Athletes and families should expect to be at the venue for the entire day.

Proper sportsmanship and respect are expected from all Yorktowne members, including players, parents, and spectators. Officials, opponents, tournament staff,

and facility rules must be respected at all times. Many venues prohibit food and beverages other than water, and violations may result in penalties to the team.

Athletes are not permitted to leave a tournament site until released by their coach and all team work assignments have been completed. Even if an athlete is not assigned to the final work team, they are expected to remain until all team responsibilities are fulfilled.

Questions regarding tournament schedules, departure times, or locations should be directed to the Head Coach or Club Director. It is the responsibility of the athlete and family to stay informed.

Travel

Transportation to and from tournaments is the responsibility of the athlete and their family. Athletes are not permitted to ride alone with a coach under any circumstances. Parents providing transportation for other players are encouraged to complete the appropriate USAV volunteer forms. Athletes who are at least 17 years old may be permitted to drive themselves to tournaments with prior written parental approval.

When traveling with the team, volleyball comes first and all athletes are expected to represent Yorktowne Volleyball Club in a positive manner. Travel attire may be designated by the Director or coaching staff. Athletes are expected to conduct themselves respectfully toward coaches, chaperones, trainers, hotel staff, and all adults associated with the team.

Athletes may not leave the hotel property without the permission of their coach and must be accompanied by an approved adult. A 10:30 p.m. curfew applies to all athletes, including those staying with their parents.

Failure to follow travel policies or other team rules may result in disciplinary action, including being sent home from the event at the expense of the parent or guardian.

National Trips & Junior National Championships

Teams may have the opportunity to participate in national events, including the Junior National Championships or AAU Nationals. The estimated cost of these trips is approximately \$550–\$650 and is not included in season dues. Participation for non-National teams will be discussed with families and determined by team interest. National team players are expected to travel with the team to the Junior National Championships, especially if the team earns an Open bid.

Entry fees and expenses associated with National Championship events are separate from regular season dues. In the event roster additions are necessary, Yorktowne may add players from other teams or clubs to complete the roster. All National teams are expected to compete at Nationals regardless of bid status. If

Yorktowne fields a team in an athlete's age division, that athlete is expected to represent Yorktowne. Players will only be released to another club if Yorktowne is not fielding a team in that age group.

Following the conclusion of the regular season, National Championship teams are considered a new team. Athletes who choose not to participate in Nationals are not guaranteed practice opportunities or roster spots for pre-National events or scrimmages. Yorktowne reserves the right to add players as necessary to field the most competitive roster possible for National Championship competition.

Physical Training and Conditioning

As we begin another exciting Yorktowne Volleyball season, it is important to emphasize that peak performance is achieved when athletes are physically and mentally prepared.

All athletes are expected to maintain a high level of physical conditioning throughout the season. Two scheduled practices per week are not sufficient on their own to prepare for competitive play. Athletes should participate in regular additional training outside of club practices, which may include strength and conditioning work, personal training, or participation in other sports.

To perform at their best, athletes must also learn to manage recovery and overall well-being. Performance can be impacted by a variety of factors, including but not limited to:

- Nutrition and hydration
- Illness or injury
- Fatigue and lack of sleep
- Inadequate recovery between training sessions
- Academic pressures
- Emotional or family stress
- Participation in additional extracurricular activities

Athletes are encouraged to develop healthy habits that support both physical readiness and mental focus. Proper recovery, discipline, and balance are essential components of long-term athletic development and competitive success.

Insurance

AAU Volleyball provides secondary insurance coverage for all registered athletes and coaches during sanctioned practices and competitions. This coverage applies

only after a family's primary health insurance has been utilized and includes a \$500 deductible.

In the event of an injury, an incident report must be submitted to the Athletic Director within 48 hours of occurrence.

Yorktowne Volleyball Club also maintains its own insurance coverage to support club operations and participant safety

Season 32

Director – Josh Brenneman – 717-654-6061 – Yorktownevb717@gmail.com

Mailing Address: Yorktowne Volleyball – 459A Buttonwood Lane York PA 17406

Practice Facility 1: York Learning Center – 300 East 7th Avenue York PA 17404



Playing Time and Practice

Yorktowne Volleyball Club believes that playing time is earned through performance and is determined at the sole discretion of the coaching staff.

Playing Time

- Quality practice time is guaranteed for all athletes.
- Equal playing time is not guaranteed during tournament competition.

Attendance Expectations

All athletes are expected to attend every scheduled practice. Acceptable reasons for missing practice are limited to illness severe enough to miss school or a genuine family emergency. Excessive absences, regardless of reason, may result in reduced playing time.

If an athlete will miss practice, it is their responsibility to notify the coach directly prior to the start of practice. Communication must come from the athlete, not the parent.

Priorities and Commitment

Yorktowne practices and tournaments are expected to take priority over all non-school-related activities, including club sports, extracurricular events, and personal commitments. Exceptions may be made for in-season school sports, with all other conflicts requiring approval from the Director.

Practice Conduct and Safety

- Horseplay or ball handling in facility lobbies is strictly prohibited.
- Athletes are encouraged to bring water in a durable, unbreakable container to all practices and tournaments.
- All injuries or illnesses must be reported to the coach immediately.

Weather and Schedule Changes

In the event of inclement weather, athletes and families should first check the Club website for updates. Coaches may also communicate schedule changes via phone, text, or email.

Player Conduct

Code of Conduct and Expectations

While representing Yorktowne Volleyball Club, all athletes are expected to demonstrate maturity, responsibility, and respect at all times. Athletes must adhere to all USAV rules and are expected to display positive verbal and physical behavior, along with strong sportsmanship, teamwork, and fair play.

Equipment and Facility Responsibility

Athletes are responsible for the proper care of all equipment and facilities used during practices, tournaments, travel, or lodging. Any athlete who causes damage to Club property, host facilities, or transportation/lodging venues will be held financially responsible for repairs or replacement costs and may be suspended or dismissed from the Club depending on the severity of the incident.

Substance Use Policy

Substance abuse is strictly prohibited. Any athlete found in possession of or under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be immediately suspended pending investigation. In such cases, the athlete may be responsible for all outstanding dues to ensure that other team members are not financially impacted.

Illegal Activity

Any involvement in illegal activity will result in immediate suspension pending investigation and may result in dismissal from the Club. The athlete may also be held responsible for any outstanding financial obligations.

Staff and Athlete Boundaries

In accordance with USA Volleyball regulations and Federal Laws, athletes are strictly prohibited from engaging in personal or intimate relationships with any coaching or administrative staff members.

Yorktowne Volleyball Club reserves the right to take appropriate disciplinary action in any situation that compromises the safety, integrity, or reputation of the Club.

Parent Conduct

Yorktowne Volleyball Club expects all parents and members to act as positive role models and maintain respectful communication at all times. Hostile, aggressive, or confrontational behavior toward officials, coaches, athletes, or other parents will not be tolerated and may result in removal from events or dismissal from the Club.

Concerns regarding coaching decisions, administrative matters, or team issues must be addressed directly with the appropriate coach or Club Director. It is inappropriate to involve uninvolved third parties or to seek opinions from other members regarding internal Club matters.

All grievances should be handled privately between the involved parties and Club leadership. Members who are approached about disputes are encouraged to direct the individuals to the appropriate coach or Director.

Repeated complaints or disruptive behavior that interferes with the Club's mission may result in disciplinary action, including potential dismissal from the Club at the Club's discretion.

Anti-Harassment Policy

Yorktowne Volleyball Club is fully committed to maintaining a safe, respectful environment for all athletes. The safety and well-being of the young athletes in our care is our highest priority.

Harassment in any form is strictly prohibited under both Yorktowne Volleyball Club and USAV policies, including but not limited to:

- Demanding or implying sexual favors in exchange for benefits
- Unwelcome physical contact of any kind

- Unwanted personal communication (letters, calls, texts, or emails)
- Inappropriate inquiries into personal life or sexual matters
- Repeated sexual jokes, comments, or innuendo
- Sexual remarks regarding appearance or body

Verbal abuse, ridicule, or behavior that belittles athletes is not tolerated from coaches, players, parents, or spectators. Physical abuse of any kind toward athletes is strictly prohibited.

Hazing in any form may result in immediate suspension from the Club and may also lead to civil or criminal action where applicable.



Anti-Hazing Policy

Hazing is defined as any intentional act that endangers the physical or mental health of an individual or group for the purpose of initiation, admission, or continued membership.

Yorktowne Volleyball Club strictly prohibits all forms of hazing, including but not limited to:

- Physical abuse or forced physical activity (e.g., beating, striking, or excessive calisthenics)
- Forced or excessive consumption of food or beverages
- Intimidating, coercive, or threatening behavior that causes emotional or mental distress

Any player, coach, or parent found responsible for hazing may be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or dismissal from the Club, and may also face civil or criminal consequences where applicable.

Drug & Alcohol Policy

Yorktowne Volleyball Club enforces a zero-tolerance policy regarding the use of drugs and alcohol.

Any athlete found using or in possession of drugs or alcohol during the defined club season will be subject to disciplinary action. The season is defined as beginning with

the first organized practice and ending the day following the regional championship. This policy also applies to national championship participation, beginning with the first practice for Nationals and ending the day after the team returns home.

Athletes represent Yorktowne Volleyball Club at all times during the season, whether in uniform or not. Conduct outside of Club events that occurs during the season and violates this policy may also result in disciplinary action.

Serious violations occurring outside the defined season may impact an athlete's eligibility for future participation in the Club.

Reporting Behavior

If any Yorktowne member observes or experiences behavior that appears inappropriate, it should be reported immediately to the Head Coach or Club Director.

All reports will be promptly investigated. Any staff member found to be in violation of the Club's code of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include dismissal. Retaliation against any individual who reports concerns or participates in an investigation is strictly prohibited.

Questions regarding Club policies or procedures should be directed to the Club Director.

Season 32

Please use the following contact list to assist you with any questions, comments or concerns. You can also visit the Club's Web site at www.YorktowneVB.com for more information

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