



Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club Manual
2022-2023

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Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club is a registered junior program affiliate of USA Volleyball.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to cultivate a positive learning environment of physical and emotional growth by focusing on the development of talent, respect, integrity, benevolence, and effort through the sport of volleyball for young athletes.

Goal of ATVC

Our goal is to create competitive club volleyball teams that develop volleyball players into strong, confident, and well-versed young adults by focusing on our T.R.I.B.E. -

Talent: The development of physical and intellectual talent is a very important part of ATVC. Practice time will be primarily devoted to the enhancement of volleyball skills in a setting that also incorporates intrinsic growth in the areas of discipline, teamwork, coachability, responsibility, and perseverance.

Respect: Respect will be given to all players, coaches, families, club staff, referees, tournament staff/facilities, practice facilities, and anyone else that interacts within ATVC's purview. In all situations, respect will be expected by all of those associated with ATVC. This includes communication, as well as the treatment of facilities and physical property.

Integrity: Our Tribe will remain ethically strong by practicing honesty and humility, on and off the court. ATVC aims to create a club experience in which its parents, players, coaches, and staff cultivate a positive environment based on integrity.

Benevolence: Spreading kindness and goodness is an essential part of becoming successful in all areas of life. One way ATVC aims to cultivate this in our athletes is by participating in service projects throughout the season.

Effort: We do not expect perfection, but effort. All things worth having in life are those we worked hard to achieve. This means showing up for practice, tournaments, and other club events both physically and mentally prepared to give your team, your coach, and yourself your best effort.

Tryouts

Tryouts will be held starting in the summer prior to the upcoming season. Additional tryouts will be added based on need. Specific dates and times will be posted on our website.

Every athlete who participates in tryouts is given equal opportunity and evaluated on the following criteria:

- Volleyball skill level
- Overall athletic potential
- Work ethic and drive
- Willingness to be coached
- Competitive attitude and effort
- Player position
- Leadership abilities
- Needs of the team

In order to create a competitive team with depth that can handle issues such as injuries or absences, give players ample court time, and keep costs reasonable, ATVC prefers to carry 10 athletes per team. Exceptions will be made on an as-needed basis. A team will not be formed with less than nine (9) or more than twelve (12) athletes. No athlete will be offered a position without being present at tryouts unless authorized by the Club Director.

Tryout Fees and Forms

Early Registration (at least 1 week before tryout date) is encouraged and will cost \$20.00. After this time period, registration is \$30.00 per athlete. All tryout registration fees are non-refundable. Tryout fees may be paid by cash, check, or Venmo. Please make all checks out to Baylie Mills, club director. Venmo information will be given when needed.

Athletes will be required to turn in the completed **Waiver of Liability** forms prior to tryouts. Please print and sign these forms before arriving at tryouts. They are available on ATVC's website.

Movement Between Teams

Occasionally an athlete may be moved from one team to another team based on team needs. Movement from one team to another team is at the sole discretion of the Club Director, in consultation with the affected coaches, players, and parents. An explanation for the move will be disclosed to all parties. Athletes who move between teams permanently, will have their fees adjusted accordingly based on the new team's costs and budget.

Practice Rules

Practice is a crucial part of any team's success. Therefore, it is important to show up for practice on-time and consistently. Scheduled practice time is start time and not arrival time. Plan on arriving at least 15 minutes prior to the start of each practice. Athletes are responsible for their own equipment including, but not limited to, shoes, knee pads, practice shirts, water, snacks, and any sports medicine supplies.

If an athlete cannot be at practice, please contact the coach before the practice starts. You must make sure that you make contact with a coach via call, email, or text. Do not make contact with another player and expect them to relay the information. If you do not call, email or text your coach to explain the reason you are late or absent prior to the incident, you will be considered unexcused. A player's absence has a negative effect on the entire team, not just the individual. Unexcused absences may result in a loss of playing time in an upcoming tournament and is up to the discretion of the Coach and Club Director.

Excused and Unexcused Absences

Athletes are expected to make every effort to attend all practices. Regardless of the reason, if an athlete cannot practice, their playing time may be affected.

Legitimate reasons for missing practice include:

- Serious illness that keeps the athlete home from school
- Genuine family emergencies

ATVC recognizes that many athletes play multiple sports and that other athletic events may conflict with practice time. ATVC will make every effort to schedule practices at times that accommodate as many team members as possible. This means that practice days and times might change as the season progresses. All changes will be announced so that players and families can make proper arrangements.

* Homework and games or events in which the athlete is only a spectator are NOT considered excused absence.

Tournament Rules

All athletes are expected to be on the designated court and game-ready by the time determined by the coach. Families are expected to provide transportation to and from tournament sites.

Athletes are not allowed to leave the tournament site until excused by the coach. If an athlete cannot be at a tournament, the athlete/parent is expected to inform the coach as soon as possible. It is the athlete/parent's responsibility to reach the coach **at least two weeks** before a tournament if they cannot attend. There will be no reduction in or refund of club dues because of a missed tournament.

Officiating

Officiating at tournaments is a shared responsibility of the entire team. All ATVC athletes are required to complete scorekeeping training prior to the first tournament and are required to perform refereeing duties as determined by the coach. This includes bookkeeping, line judging, libero tracking, and flipping the score board. Coaches will establish a procedure for officiating assignments for their respective teams. Every athlete is expected and required to remain in the facility until the entire team is dismissed, as well as remain close to the court in preparation for new sets to begin so that athletes may be relieved from duty on previous sets. Failure to fully participate in officiating responsibilities could result in discipline ranging from loss of play time to dismissal from the team without refund.

Inclement Weather

ATVC recognizes that some players are teen drivers and/or travel a significant distance to practices and tournaments. In the case of inclement weather, coaches will contact the parents/players at their preferred contact number to notify them of practice changes and/or cancellations.

Communication

Each team will have its own group on GroupMe with the coach, club director, and parents only. At least one parent per player is required to join the group. This is to ensure timely communication on updates and changes throughout the season. An additional group may be created with the coach and players. Each individual coach may decide whether players will be required to join this group.

Playing Time

Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club does not guarantee playing time on any team or at any event. It is important to remember what our T.R.I.B.E. stands for and that all of those values will be reflected in a coach's decision regarding playing time. Playing time for all athletes is decided at the discretion of the coach. The following will be evaluated and used to determine playing time:

- Attendance
- Effort
- Performance
- Athletic potential
- Team needs
- Team cohesion on the court
- Attitude and demeanor
- Behavior on the sidelines

If an issue does arise, it is the athlete's responsibility to communicate the issue to the coach and to ask what they can improve on to increase their court time. Athletes will be expected to play in any position to benefit team performance.

24-Hour Rule

If a parent has a question about playing time, the coach is available to explain what the athlete could improve on in order to increase their court time. However, parents are expected to wait 24 hours after specific events before reaching out to the coach - be it by phone, email, or in person. For example, if the issue occurs on Saturday of a two-day tournament, the 24 hours begins after the last match is played on Sunday. Coaches are not required to discuss playing time on days of competition.

This cool-off period allows the parent, player, and coach time to collect themselves so that discussions are productive and positive. ATVC will never allow a parent to criticize or compare their child to another player on the team during these discussions. It is ATVC's goal to enable all players to be successful which cannot be done by comparison to others, but instead a focus on personal growth.

Parent Code of Conduct for Tournaments and Practices

Parent participation is essential for the success of ATVC's teams and athletes. Active and responsible parents also contribute to the positive image of Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club within the community. ATVC is responsible for the actions of their players, coaches, parents, and spectators. Please adhere to the following conduct guidelines:

- **Respect:** Be respectful to all players, coaches, officials, officiating athletes, facilities, other teams, and parents.
- **Cheering & Encouragement:** Support all ATVC's teams and players by cheering positively from the sidelines. This is expected for players and it is imperative to model this behavior for our young athletes.
- **Sideline Coaching:** It is important to your daughter's success to focus on the coach's instruction and the team's needs. Coaching from parents during play is distracting and affects the team's dynamics on the court negatively.

- **Approaching Officials:** Never approach or yell at the officials, lines persons, or scorekeepers at a tournament. If a discrepancy occurs, let the coach handle the issue. Officials are human and fallible, kindness and grace goes a long way in creating a positive club volleyball experience for everyone.
- **Communicating with Coach:** Always feel free to talk to the coach but remember coaches, parents, and players are expected to adhere to the 24-Hour Rule in regards to playing time and other issues related to coaching decisions.

Player's Pledge

All players must commit to the ATVC Player's Pledge. This establishes the groundwork of a successful season for all parties involved. ATVC encourages responsibility and integrity by enforcing the Player's Pledge which will be signed by both player and parent before they are allowed to participate in practice.

The Player's Pledge:

My goal is to become the best volleyball player and teammate I can be and I alone am responsible for my own actions. I am fully committed to Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club and will uphold the following policies and procedures:

- I will, along with my parents, make sure that I have signed up to play with ATVC through the North Texas Region website and I understand that I will not be able to play without completing this task.
- I will be respectful of ALL opponents, teammates, coaches, fans, game officials, equipment, and facilities at all times.
- I will not make hurtful comments or make false statements to or about my teammates, club, coaches, opponents, or officials while representing ATVC on and off the court.
- I will attend every tournament, practice, and team function. I understand that if I am unable to do so, it is my responsibility to inform my coach in a timely manner.
- I will be ready and prepared for practices and tournaments on time - 15 minutes before practices and by the designated time set by my coach for tournaments. I understand that being "ready and prepared" means that I am wearing volleyball shoes, club attire, knee pads, and braces and my hair is tied back.
- I will communicate in a kind and positive manner with my teammates and coaches both on and off the court.
- I will do whatever my coach asks of me and do my best. I will accept my role on the team. I understand what it takes to be a part of a team and that playing time will not be "equal," but based on my effort, skill level, and the needs of the team.
- I will discipline my body by getting adequate sleep and fueling my body

well before practices and tournaments.

- I will stay focused at practices, scrimmages or tournaments so that I do not distract my teammates and opponents.
- I will perform refing duties as assigned. I will stay with my team regardless of whether I am working and be prepared to step in if the need arises.
- I understand if I quit an ATVC team during the season, I may not be allowed to return to play for ATVC or receive a transfer to play for another club.
- I will not use drugs, tobacco and alcohol.
- I will not use abusive or foul language.
- I will accept lineup and other coaching decisions. If I have a question or concern, I will speak to my coach directly. I understand that there are appropriate times to have these discussions and that right before, during, or right after a match is not an appropriate time.

I understand that if I do not uphold the policies and procedures it may result in disciplinary action from my coach and/or club director.

Travel

Travel expenses and planning including, but not limited to, lodging, transportation, and meals, are the responsibility of each family. If the team is traveling out of the area, all team members are expected to dedicate tournament days to any club/team functions. In the case of Stay-to-Play tournaments, it is the expectation that parents will book rooms under the corresponding tournament system to secure the team's admittance.

Tolerance Policy

The Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club does not tolerate hostile or aggressive confrontations between a parent or player and officials, another parent, a coach, another athlete, or another team's representative(s). Violation of this policy may result in the player being expelled from the club without refund.

Policy Compliance

All coaches, players, parents, and fans are expected to represent themselves and ATVC in a respectful manner, with integrity and benevolence. Violation of any club policy may result in expulsion from the club. At their discretion, coaches and/or the Club Director may send a player home at the expense of the parent/guardian for violation of any club policy or rule.

Any player found in possession of or to have used alcohol, tobacco, or any other controlled substance(s) while representing ATVC will be immediately sent home from the event at the expense of the parent/guardian and expelled from the club. If a parent violates club policy, the Club Director may request

parents not attend future events or their child could be removed from the program.

Automatic Expulsion

ATVC may automatically expel a player or parent for any of the following:

- Using tobacco, alcohol, or drugs at any time during an official function such as practice, tournaments, or meetings
- Leaving a practice or a tournament without notifying the coach
- Using obscene language or gestures in any participating situation with ATVC or anytime they are representing the club
- Having more than 8 unexcused absences from practice/events (subject to Club Director review)
- Failing to remain current on club fees
- Damaging equipment owned by ATVC or any facility used by the club and not reimbursing the costs in a timely manner (usually within one (1) week)

Grievance Policy & Procedure

Issues and concerns should first be brought to the attention of the coach by the athlete. If the player or parent feels the issue is not appropriately addressed, then the parent may reach out to the coach on the matter after adhering to the 24-Hour Rule. It is recommended that these discussions be in person. Texting and emailing is not as reliable or effective as face-to-face communication. If an in-person meeting is not possible, the next step is a phone call.

If after a parent-coach meeting has taken place and both parties do not feel the issue has been properly addressed, the next step is an in-person meeting with the club director, coach, parent, and player. The Club Director, in compliance with Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club's manual and policies and in cooperation with the coach, parent, and player, will determine the most positive and beneficial outcome for all parties involved.

Forms and Requirements

All players and coaches must be registered with USA Volleyball and have all documents and forms completed/signed by a parent or guardian before they will be allowed to practice with ATVC:

1. USAV – North Texas Region Membership Completed and Paid
2. USAV Participant Code of Conduct
3. USAV Emergency Medical Release form
4. ATVC Player/Parent Agreement
5. Scorekeeping Training
6. A copy of the player's birth certificate

7. Player Questionnaire
8. Other forms as determined necessary by the Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club.

Club Commitment Fees

The fee to commit to play for Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club for the 2022-2023 club season is \$150. This fee is not included as part of club dues and is used for the following club needs:

- Club registration fees
- Website maintenance fees
- Administrative fees (ie., banking, paperwork, meetings, etc)
- Practice equipment
- Other needs determined by ATVC

Club Membership Dues

Payment may be made in full or in four monthly installments. The club fees for 2022-2023 \$1800

*****Fees are accurate as of July 11, 2022 and are subject to change. Changes may be made by the Club Director at any time prior to commitment contracts being signed. All changes will be announced and communicated in a timely manner.*****

Fees may be paid by the following methods:

- Cash
- Check payable to Baylie Mills (Club Director)
- Venmo (please specify athlete's name and what the payment is for)

Club Dues fund the following:

- Practice facility rentals
 - **Practices are twice/week** – December-the last scheduled tournament (usually mid-April)
- Coach's pay, hotel, mileage, and meals
- Jerseys (2)
- Practice shirts (2)
- Backpack/athletic bag (1)
- Tournament Entry fees
 - **Fees are based on a 7-tournament season** – 6 two-day & the Lonestar Classic in Dallas (3-day)
- Administrative fees

Club Dues DO NOT include:

- Food, hotel, or transportation for athletes
- Additional National Qualifiers (if awarded)
- Player uniforms other than jersey such as knee pads, spandex, shoes, etc

Fundraising

Fundraising is allowed and encouraged for teams and individual players to help cover club membership dues and extra costs involved with traveling. Coaches are required to facilitate at least one fundraiser at the beginning of season in which the whole team must participate. Funds raised will be distributed to the team's athletes accounts. Additional fundraising may be done by the team or individual players, however, these must be parent and/or player led.

Athletes Account

An athlete with a delinquent account during the current season may be denied participation in tournaments or practices until the account is paid or arrangements are made with the Club

Director. Delinquent accounts may also disallow membership for the next season. Club fees are non-refundable and not based on the player's ability to attend practices or tournaments. Families are financially liable for the total cost upon written commitment to Angelo Tribe Volleyball Club regardless of injury or illness.