

## **A Parent's Guide to Club Volleyball:**

This is designed as a guideline to help parents and players in their decision making process when selecting a club or team. You will want to contact prospective clubs, coaches/and or teams and ask them the following questions:

### **Mission Statement/Purpose:**

- What is the goal of the club?
- Is it Competitive? Recreational? Developmental?

### **Costs/fees for Participation:**

- What is the projected fee?
- What does the fee cover? (Gym costs? Coach stipends? Club dues? USAV registration? Uniform Costs? Etc)  
\*If the team travels to out of town tournaments (Qualifiers or other National level tournaments): Who covers the costs of the coaches expenses, traveling costs, hotel rooms etc?
- Are there any other additional costs?  
Additional tournaments? Travel fees? Clothing/merchandise?

### **Practice Time:**

- How many times per week? What is the length of the practice? What times are reserved for practice?
- Will my practice schedule change or will it remain the same throughout the season?
- What happens if I miss a practice-possibly due to participation in other sports? Sickness? Religious events?
- Are practices held during major holidays-if so what days and times?
- What strength training is expected? Additional time and cost?

### **Length of Season:**

- When does the season start and end?
- When can I expect to start tournament play?

### **Tournaments:**

- Will the team participate in local, regional or national level tournaments? How many Tournaments?
- Will the team participate in Silver Heart, Gold Heart, Power League, or Regionals
- Is the team a Gold or Silver level team?
- Will the team participate in Jr. National Qualifiers or other end of Season Tournaments-If so, what costs are associated with these tournaments?( Travel costs-air, hotel, food, etc)

### **Other Important Questions to ask:**

- How many spots on the team have been filled? And how many spots are available?
- How does your selection process work? Will you notify me if I make the team? Or If I didn't make the team?
- When do I have to make a decision?(\*If you are offered a position on a team after attending a club/team's tryout-You have at least a 24 hr period to make a decision. You do not have to commit with the team immediately.  
\*Please refer to the HOA recruiting guide for specific answers to response periods and tryout policies.
- What is the club or teams' policy on playing time?(equal, mandatory, performance only, "play to win" etc)
- Will players/and or parents be expected to participate in fundraisers?
- What are the expectations of the club in regards to:
  - A. Time commitment from the player
  - B. Can players participate in other sports?
- Who will be the coach of my team and what are their credentials/ and or experience?