

## **USAV / IREVA POLICY – JUNIORS AND ADULTS**

Adopted by IREVA 4/30/2010 [approval authorities]

### **1) BACKGROUND AND EXPLANATION**

- a) USAV policy requires background checks for “Club Directors, Club Administrators, team reps, coaches, chaperones and trainers who intend to register, affiliate and/or participate with a junior club or team...”
- b) USAV policy on this topic has a number of ambiguities, so it is necessary to develop a Regional policy to address various issues about interpretation and application of the USAV policy. Consultation with USAV resulted in guidance to move in this general direction.
- c) USAV and IREVA policy is that it is generally in the best interests for all concerned for juniors to play with their peers.
- d) IREVA policy is driven by an additional goal of maximizing participation and competition opportunities for JO players in the context of our relatively small regional membership. The policy balances the concern about risks for JO members with a reasonable approach to responsible supervision.

### **2) REGISTRATION – note: reference to “player” also means non-playing members.**

- a) IREVA policy - JO players may be allowed to register on an adult club/team only on an exception basis with parental approval of the JO application / waiver and requires a request by a parent, and the advance concurrence of **the JO Director, Adult Director, Registrar, Assistant Registrar and Commissioner** . Typical criteria for such concurrence are extreme geographic inconvenience or parental involvement on the adult team. The parent request will include acknowledgement of the USAV background check policy, this IREVA policy, and responsibility for supervision of the JO player. No background checks are required of the adults in this case.
- b) IREVA policy - JO teams and adult teams may register under a single club umbrella. USAV policy applies to all JO team and player activities in such a case, i.e., background checks are required for all adults participating in any capacity with JO team practices, scrimmages and tournaments – but not all adults in the club.
- c) IREVA policy - when JO teams or players may be involved with non-background-checked adults in accordance with this IREVA policy, JO Club Directors / coaches must provide parents and JO coaches with copies of the USAV Background check policy and this IREVA policy.

### **3) TOURNAMENTS / SCRIMMAGES / PRACTICES / FELLOWSHIPS**

- a) USAV policy prohibits JOs from participation in the USAV Adult National Tournaments.
- b) IREVA policy requires officials at IREVA JO events to have background checks.
- c) IREVA policy allows JO teams [i.e. JOs only] to scrimmage against adult teams and participate in IREVA adult tournaments, in accordance with Competition policies [including the Regional Championships]. JO team coaches are responsible for supervision. No additional background checks are required for other adults participating in the competition.
- d) IREVA policy allows JO players and one or more JO coaches to scrimmage against adult teams and to participate as an adult team [i.e. a composite team] in IREVA adult tournaments, in accordance with Competition policies [including the Regional Championships]. JO team coaches are responsible for supervision. No additional background checks are required for other adults participating in the competition. As soon as an adult is no longer merely a competitor, but switches to being a coach or teammate, they must be background checked.

e) IREVA policy - JO players may participate with a parent on an adult team [i.e. a composite team] in the same club. Parent approval of the JO application / waiver to register with an adult club / team constitutes acknowledgement of responsibility for supervision of the JO player. No background checks are required for the other adult players.

f) IREVA policy - JO players may participate on an adult team [i.e. a composite team] in the same club without a JO coach or playing parent only on an exception basis with a request by a parent and prior concurrence of the JO Director, Adult Director, Registrar, Assistant Registrar and Commissioner. Typical criteria might include obtaining better competitive experience and / or lack of JO event opportunities. Parent request for a JO player to play with an adult club / team constitutes acknowledgement of responsibility for supervision of the JO player. No background checks are required for the other adult players.

g) Players must stay within their club structure unless the Commissioner grants a specific Regional waiver. The above policies apply in such a case. IREVA policy no longer allows any JO player to participate on any adult team outside their club, as implied in the handbook [which pre-dates the USAV background check policy and requirements] and as per past practice as composite age-group teams.



## Application for an IREVA JO Player to participate on an Adult Team

[Send both pages, when completed, to IREVA JO Director by mail]

[JO Director CC: Adult Director, Registrar, Assistant Registrar and Commissioner]

Player's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Player's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Player's Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Person submitting application: Relationship to Player: \_\_\_\_\_

Adult Club and Team requested to be joined: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why waiver being requested: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**JO Clubs considered and reasons for not joining them:**

**JO Clubs**

**Reasons for not joining**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**We acknowledge the USAV / IREVA POLICY - JO AND ADULTS and responsibilities for supervision if this application for a JO player to participate on an adult team is approved. In addition, the attached USAV release is acknowledged and signed.**

**Printed Names:**

**Signatures:**

**Dates:**

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Player: \_\_\_\_\_

Club/Team Rep: \_\_\_\_\_

**Summary of discussion/s with JO Director, Adult Director, Registrar, Commissioner:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**JO Director, Adult Director, Registrar, Commissioner Decision:** Accepted      Denied

**JO Director / Designee's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



**USA Volleyball.**

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY -- READ BEFORE SIGNING  
MINOR PARTICIPATING ON ADULT TEAM**

(Under age 18 at time of registration)

I \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, acknowledge, and agree to allow my minor child, \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in adult volleyball competition which could include but is not limited to matches, tournaments, practices, clinics and other USAV sanctioned activities. I further understand, acknowledge there will be no appointed adult supervision for my child and the responsibility for this supervision is borne by me as a parent.

1. The risk of injury from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular skills, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,

2. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my child's participation; and,

3. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation for my child. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove my child from participation and bring such to the attention of the responsible party immediately; and,

4. I, for myself, my child and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS USA Volleyball, its regions, officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used for the activity ("Releasees"), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property associated with my presence or participation, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

5. This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided above of all the Releasees, and, for myself, my child and our heirs, assigns, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to my minor child's involvement or participation in these programs as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**6. I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS for ME AND MY CHILD BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.**

X \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE (print name)

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_