

DUNWOODY VOLLEYBALL PARENT EXPECTATIONS

WELCOME PARENTS

Parents have long been central to the success of the Dunwoody Volleyball program. The Dunwoody Volleyball Program enjoys an unusually high level of encouragement and sportsmanship from members of their extended family, including parents, alumni, teachers, school administrators and fans. We welcome the chance to continue that tradition of support.

COMMUNICATING WITH COACHES

Dunwoody's coaches are always willing to communicate with parents. We are glad to speak with you about your daughter, but ask that you:

- Insist that your daughter try to work out volleyball-related issues directly with her coach before enlisting your assistance. Learning to deal with authority figures is one of the supreme benefits of participation in organized sports.
- Discuss all concerns with the volleyball coaching staff first before contacting the school's Athletic Director or administrators.
- Avoid jumping to conclusions. Remember that some teenagers tend to exaggerate both when praised and criticized, and that decisions about complicated issues like playing time are usually the product of many factors.
- Remember that independence through athletics is critical in a child's development. Parents should consider the value of stepping back to "release their child" to their sport, except where there is clear evidence of physical or emotional concerns.

24-HOUR RULE

If you are concerned about a volleyball-related issue that requires you to speak directly with a coach, we ask that you wait at least 24 hours after the triggering event. Cooler heads are inevitably more productive. We always enjoy chatting with parents at the conclusion of matches, but cannot address non-emergency issues at that time. We also cannot interrupt practice sessions.

SPORTSMANSHIP

All parents (and players) are expected to demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship while representing Dunwoody Volleyball. Please cheer for our team's

efforts and successes. Parents and other fans should never celebrate our opponents' mistakes.

- While in the gymnasium, keep all comments positive—remember, you are sitting among parents from the other school. Please do not compare the skill or attitude of your daughter out loud with other members of the team.
- Volleyball officials are off-limits for parents. Refrain from yelling at the referees—before, during and after the match—no matter what the perceived error or injustice. Dunwoody's coaches believe players must learn to perform under adversity, and to not waste emotion or effort on things not within their control.
- Take the time to learn more about volleyball rules and strategy. What sometimes seems like a blown call or a poor coaching decision often looks much different if you have a more detailed appreciation for the nuances of this sometimes-complicated sport.
- Consider it a sign of trouble if a player looks into the stands repeatedly for parental approval or disapproval during a game.

PLAYING TIME

For coaches, delegating playing time is a zero-sum exercise: the decision to give one player more time on the court means another player will get less. As such, all good coaches know that with each decision, however well-considered, comes the likelihood that someone will be disappointed.

- Strong teams have strong benches. Players who keep focused on the match while not on the court greatly increase their chances of success once they enter the game. Spirited bench players almost always infect their teammates with optimism and extra energy.
- Lineup decisions are primarily the result of careful consideration about our own team's chemistry, and our opponent's strengths and weaknesses. Playing time is earned by hard work, proven performance and an occasional hunch. Coaches take a season-long view about each player's time on the court.

Parents should resist measuring their daughter's volleyball experience solely by the amount of her playing time in matches. We strive to inject each player with a love for the sport, teaching her to value the opportunity to be strong and confident, whether in practice or a game.

VOLUNTEERING

The Dunwoody Volleyball Program is essentially run by parents and it is essential for all parents volunteer and support the teams.

At each match we need the following volunteers:

- Scorekeeper
- Libero Tracker
- Score Flipper (Scoreboard)
- 2 Line Judges

Training will be provided for all jobs. If either team needs someone to fill a spot, please volunteer. Don't wait to be volun**TOLD!**

Because matches are after school, parents provide a nutritious snack/meal for the team before the game. Each family is expected to provide food for the team for at least one match. This should include things like:

- Sandwiches or wraps
- Pasta Salad
- Fruit
- Granola / protein bars / cheese sticks
- Small sports drinks and water

For day long tournaments, parents will sign up to bring specific items for the team food table.

We use the SignUp Genius website to coordinate volunteers. Please keep it updated if your schedule changes and you will not be able to keep your commitment.

On match days, if you will be late, please contact the team sponsor so other volunteers can be recruited.