

SHAM-ROXZ VOLLEYBALL

Parent / Player Handbook

WWW.SHAM-ROXZVOLLEYBALL.NET

Sham-Roxz Volleyball, Inc

PO BOX 2699

Stuart, FL 34995

Mission: Sham-Roxz is a club where young athletes can develop their volleyball skills in a safe, fun and educationally sound environment. At Sham-Roxz, we expect every participant to have a positive experience including athletes, parents and coaches. Sham-Roxz will help the athlete reach their full potential in all aspects of their game as well as their life skills.

The Sham-Roxz Club: Sham-Roxz is a young new volleyball club inspired and directed by Coach Joe Keenan. Coach Keenan has been involved coaching middle and high school, as well as club volleyball for over 14 years in the Florida area and is well known and respected. Coach Keenan possesses a genuine enthusiasm and passion for volleyball that is contagious. He is a Physical Education teacher at the Pine School, Stuart Florida and coaches their high school varsity volleyball team during the volleyball season.

Sham-Roxz volleyball will serve the counties of Martin, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, Indian River and Brevard counties as well as surrounding areas. The club originated in May of 2008, forming a small 13's team to take to AAU Nationals. The following November was the first full season with the commitment to challenge young athletes and prepare them for their future on and off the court. With the dedication of experienced Coaches and the enthusiasm of volleyball in the Treasure Coast area, Sham-Roxz Volleyball strives to be the best. The club will support the teams whether they win or lose while encouraging the aspects of leadership, sportsmanship and teamwork.

Sham-Roxz Teams: 12's thru 18's

The top 9 players will be chosen after tryouts. All players must tryout with 15 and older tryouts usually held after the State finals as mandated by USAV and FHSAA. The age group of 14 and younger can tryout at any point after Sept 1. These dates may be changed by USAV on a yearly basis and can be seen on the USAV website at www.USAV.fl.org for the latest updates.

These teams will have 2 practices a week with an occasional 3rd on weeks before a tournament. They will participate in 8 tournaments (ranging from Orlando, Tampa, Fort Lauderdale, Jacksonville, West

Palm Beach) with one being out of state qualifier. The tentative tournament schedule is located and updated on the club website. This program is geared for the serious athlete who makes sacrifices for their progress, team, and sport. They also will be competing against the best competition our country has to offer often playing up against older teams at tournaments. Teams may have the option to add additional tournaments or AAU Nationals if the Coach is in agreement and more than 75% of players are committed to the addition. This would be at an additional cost above the tuition cost.

National Team: A national team may be assembled with the goal of attending Junior Olympics as well as attending tournaments for recruiting purposes. This team may attend 3-4 out of state qualifiers as well as several in state high level tournaments. This team is geared towards the older players with the goal of playing volleyball in college.

Developmental 10/12s: Will have 2 practices a week. This is a developmental team designed to teach basic volleyball skills as well as sportsmanship and the team experience while still enjoying the game. They will be participating in 5 tournaments throughout the season with the option to add tournaments with the Coaches approval and a majority of player/parents commitment. This developmental team often has specialty coaches attending practices to work with the players and Coaches on basic as well as advanced skills.

Practice players: Each Coach Will have the opportunity to choose 2 practice players to participate in practices only. More info on practice players can be found in the club policy pages.

Practices: Practices will be held at the Pine School in Stuart and Hobe Sound as well as occasionally at the sand court in Hobe Sound. On occasion a practice maybe scheduled at an alternate location. Practices are usually Monday through Friday from 4 pm on with the older kids usually having a later practice. The coach and gym coordinator works with players on the team early in the season to determine the practice times that best fit that team. On occasion, a weekend practice, scrimmage or clinic may be scheduled.

Officiating clinic: All players will attend an officiating clinic as mandated by USAV and run by the club training coordinator. At the completion of the clinic, the club will schedule scrimmages with local clubs to experience scorekeeping, and ref responsibilities.

Other Policies Regarding Grievances

Sham-Roxz will not tolerate hostile, aggressive confrontations between a parent and any official, or a parent and any coach, or a parent and any athlete, or a parent and any other parent, whether the coach, athlete or other parent is a member of Sham-roxz or not. Violation of this policy may result in the athlete being dismissed from Sham-roxz Volleyball *without refund*.

It is inappropriate for an athlete or a parent to approach other Sham-Roxz members about a problem the athlete or parent is having with a Sham-roxz coach, about objections to coaching decisions, or about disagreement with an administrative decision. Asking uninvolved people to take sides in an issue is unfair to the third party and to the Club. For the psychological health of the teams and the Club as a whole, grievances need to be handled between the parties involved and in the proper manner.

If an athlete or parent is approached and asked to listen to, or express an opinion about matters between two other parties in the Club, it is strongly encouraged to refer the complaining party to take the matter up with either the coach in question, the head coach and/or the club director.

Any member who, as a third party, hears remarks or stories about Sham-roxz Volleyball, its employees or its policies, that cause the member to be concerned, is encouraged to contact the head coach and/or the club director immediately to determine the facts, or to alert the club administration to a situation it may be unaware of. It is detrimental to everyone involved to repeat complaints you hear or overhear to other uninvolved parties. By the time a story gets to the third or fourth party, it frequently bears little resemblance to the truth or the facts of the situation.

Please refrain from negative comments around your athlete or other athletes. Young athletes are vulnerable and if they hear complaining about the coach, the coach's style or Sham-Roxz policies, this can have an adverse effect on their performance and/or attitude. If you, as a parent, are unhappy about something, you should follow the grievance procedure of this guide to resolve the matter.

Repetitive complaining to the athlete(s) or other third parties that interferes with the Club's efforts to pursue its stated mission and purpose may be cause for dismissal from the Club.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION:

Disputes should initially be discussed with the coach at a prearranged appointment, not at tournaments or during practice time. If the parent/player does not feel the issue is resolved, you may request a discussion with a board member who will present the situation to the board of directors, either in person or via email for a discussion and resolution.

REFUND POLICY:

All players must attend a tryout, either the group tryout make up a tryout or a prearranged make up tryout. A non-refundable tryout fee is charged for all players at the time of the tryout or at preregistration.

At tryouts, all registration paperwork must be completed and turned in. A deposit check is also required with the registration paperwork. This check will not be cashed until your daughter accepts a position on a team and commits to the club. It will be returned, uncashed if the player does not make a Sham-Roxz team or does not commit to play for a Sham-roxz team. Once commitment to the Sham-Roxz Volleyball club is made (on commitment night) or verbally before commitment night and by signing the USAV commitment form, tuition and fees are non-refundable. Each situation will also be dealt with on an individual basis to work with you as much as is realistically possible. If we are

able to fill that position vacated by the player with a new paying player (not a practice player), a board vote will be initiated to determine if we are able to refund a prorated portion of tuition, fees, etc.

Sham-Roxz Volleyball is a business and does require timely payments in order operate on a day to day basis but we will work with you to the best of our abilities.

CLUB POLICY

ARTICLE 1 AFFILIATIONS

1.1 Club Affiliations: The club is an affiliated organization under the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) and USA Volleyball Association, (USAV). Each primary team member will be required to become a member of both the AAU and USAV. The club will be operated in accordance with the standards and rules of USAV and AAU and will abide by the provisions of the Club By-Laws and Policy.

ARTICLE 2 TEAMS:

2.1 Organization of Teams: Teams shall consist of no more than 12 players (ideally 9-10), no more than 3 practice players, one head Coach and no more than 1 assistant Coach as determined by the Director. The Director shall obtain the approval of the Executive Committee to place more than 10 players on any one team. This will be approved on a case by case basis. Coaches will be selected by the Director and discussed with the Board/Executive Committee no later than 2 weeks prior to tryouts. If more than one team is formed per age group, players will be assigned to each team based on their talent level in an effort to group together players of like talent. In most cases, the result will be an elite team and a secondary team. Each team will be treated the same, attending the same tournaments, practicing the same amount per week and players play time determined by attitude, attendance and skill.

2.2 Practice players: Each team will have no more than 3 practice players. Practice players will receive a reduced tuition rate and will participate in practices only. Practice players will not participate in tournaments unless a member of the team becomes injured, is unable to attend a tournament or the team is compromised in some way due to lack of players. At that time, the Head Coach will request one practice player attend the upcoming tournament. There will be an additional charge to attend the tournament and the club will locate a uniform for the player to utilize for the tournament. This will be on a tournament by tournament basis and may have some advance notice or may be a day or two prior to the tournament. After the tournament, that player will return to practice player status. The practice player chosen by the Head Coach will be based on skill, attitude and attendance.

ARTICLE 3 PLAYER SELECTION AND MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Age Requirements: Players must meet the USAV age requirement for membership on a team.

3.2 Player Selection: Tryouts and player evaluations shall be held each year to select players. The selection of player and placement on teams is the sole responsibility of the Team Selection committee consisting of Coaches, board members and Director. All candidates shall follow the same tryout and evaluation process. The official evaluation will include as much known information about a player as possible, including a skill assessment and review of players's past team history.

3.3 Notification of Selected and Non-Selected Players: The Director and Coaches shall notify all potential players of their status within one (1) week of the last day of annual tryouts. All players invited to join the club will receive a conditional invitation to become a member, pending their acceptance. Commitment paperwork must be completed by the commitment date.

3.4 Player Acceptance: A reasonable date for final player acceptance of a position with a team will be set by the director in accordance with USAV tryout and commitment restrictions. The acceptance date will be communicated to each player at the time of their invitation to join the team. The team selection committee is not obligated to hold a position for a player who has not accepted a position after the designated commitment date.

ARTICLE 4-PRACTICES AND TOURNAMENTS

4.1 Practices: Practices shall be conducted on a schedule developed for the purpose of improving the skills and abilities of the players and will be based on the availability of gymnasium space. Each player will have an opportunity for skill development during practice. The practice schedule will be published and distributed to players/families as soon as it is available. If unavoidable changes in practice times and /or locations are required based on space availability, etc, members will be notified as quickly as possible. Most practices will be two (2) hours in length. Players are required to arrive 15 minutes before the start of practice to prepare the gym, (set up nets, etc) and be ready to begin practice at the allotted time. Practices are mandatory and must be attended by all players.

4.2 Tournaments: The Director and tournament Selection Committee will determine which tournaments teams will attend. They will be mindful of a tournament schedule that meets the needs of each team while attempting to decrease undue financial burden. This tournament schedule is subject to change due to tournaments not having all age groups, lack of availability in a certain ages, etc. All team tournament schedules and changes to this schedule must be approved by the Board of Directors. The season for each team includes AAU Nationals as well as Junior Olympics (for those who qualify.)

4.3 Playing time: The Club intends to provide appropriate opportunities for the development of individual and team skills for all players. Payment of club fees guarantees practice time, not necessarily playing time. **The Coach of each team will determine court playing time based on, but not limited to, skill level, attendance, attitude, and the commitment of each player.** If a player seeks to increase the amount of their court time, they should respectfully seek the guidance of their coach at an appropriate time. Any issue with playing time may be discussed at a predetermined mutually agreeable time with the coach. No player or parent should discuss playing time before, during or after practice or a tournament.

ARTICLE 5-MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS

5.1 Member Commitment: The Club requires and expects the commitment and dedication of its players, families and coaches in matters of participation, sportsmanship and financial support. All members,(players and parents), are expected to conduct themselves in such a way to promote goodwill among the club members and a good reputation with their opponents. All members will adhere to the Club's Grievance Procedures to resolve any conflicts or disagreements. If any member, i.e. player, parents or coach does not adhere to the Club's By-laws or policies or represents the club in a 'manner unbecoming,' it could result in termination of membership.

5.2 Player Commitment: Each player has an obligation to their team and to the Club for timely attendance and diligent effort at practices and tournaments. Academics and school activities are expected though the player is expected to balance this with the club commitment. Each player is expected to participate in all practices and tournaments. If a conflict does arise, written communication with the coach is expected as far in advance as possible. **Players offered a position with a team must give careful consideration to the team's tournament and practice schedule before accepting this position.** If they do not feel they can commit 100%, they may need to consider becoming a practice player which may better suit their availability. Players will be asked to sign a contract expressing their understanding and willingness to uphold the policies of the club.

5.3 Parent Commitment: Membership carries a responsibility for the prompt payment of financial obligations and for cooperation and other assistance with the various needs of the club. Parents have the duty of ensuring their child(ren) is/are able to fulfill the obligations set forth in Article 5.2. Parents should also give careful consideration to the team's tournament schedule and practice schedule prior to allowing their child to accept a position. Parents will be asked to sign a contract expressing their understanding of and willingness to uphold the policies of the Club. Parents are expected to be present and responsible for their child or have someone responsible for them at tournaments in case of injury or problems.

5.4 Coach Commitment: Coaches should promote each player's enthusiasm and positive self-image. Attention should be given to developing the team as a whole, as well as individual skills.

5.5. Financial Obligations: Each member shall pay fees as set forth by the Club, which will include all applicable AAU and USAV registration fees. Separate tryout fees will be assessed and are not applied toward annual membership fees. Each family is responsible for their own travel expenses. Additional assessments may be requested if tournaments are added during or post season. Since the Club's performance of duties is dependent upon payment of member fees, it is imperative that fees be paid based on the fee schedule. If payments are not received as requested, a notification will be given to the family. If payment is till not forthcoming and no prior arrangements have been made, the Board of Directors will meet to determine what further action should be taken, from the assessment of late fees, up to and including, suspension or termination of membership. Any outstanding fees from a prior season must be paid, including any assessed late fees, prior to future membership with the club.

Parent Signature: _____