



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is JO volleyball?**

*JO stands for Junior Olympic. Club volleyball is sometimes referred to as JO Volleyball.*

### **What is club volleyball?**

*Much like club soccer or AAU basketball, club volleyball is an extended season of volleyball competition that follows the traditional volleyball season of middle and high schools.*

### **How are teams selected?**

*Each club will hold organized tryouts, beginning the middle of October and the first weekend in November. This procedure can be a one day session, or consist of multiple days of workouts. Jammers VBC attempts to complete tryouts for each age group during a two-session tryout procedure. Jammers VBC uses its own experienced coaching staff to make their team selections and assist with all player evaluations.*

### **How are team rosters determined?**

*Volleyball is a sport played with multiple players forming a team. A successful team must consist of (2) important things...players with comparable skills and a full roster of position players. Unfortunately, competitive teams cannot be formed based on player friendships, carpooling or school teammates.*

### **What are position players?**

*Like many sports, the players on the floor all have a specific job. Unlike recreation sports, club volleyball, is a higher level of competition and clubs are expected to assemble the best unit of players available. Each roster must consist of a certain number of middle hitters, outside hitters, setters, defensive players, etc. At the club level, most players are position players and they are proficient in their assigned position.*

### **How many players are on a team?**

*Typically the ultimate number is between 8 and 10. Less than 8 and you risk not having enough players in the event of an injury or absent player. More than 10 and you could have too many players standing around or sitting on the bench. Too many players will create stress on a coach with parents and players expecting equal playing time. This will lead to a decrease in team moral or resentment between the players. This is also unfair to the extra players who could possibly be rostered on another team and see extended playing time.*

## **How are returning players handled?**

*It is the policy of Jammers VBC that every player must tryout each season. This is to prevent any allegation of favoritism towards returning players and more importantly to assess the skill level of every player. VB skills can improve or deteriorate during the time in-between club seasons. Additionally, many players may develop faster than others. For example, where as two players (teammates) were comparable during the previous season's tryouts, are now playing at different levels. Because of this, when a team is selected, certain players may become the core of a team and the tryout procedure will be the tool for adding players of like ability to the missing positions of that team.*

## **The Varsity Bench vs JV Player debate.**

*This debate will continue forever, but Jammers VBC has a definite position on this dilemma. While club volleyball does not offer Varsity and Junior Varsity teams, the argument can be compared to the team selection process. It is our purpose and promise to the players that Jammers VBC will strive to improve the skill level of ALL players and continually work to field the most competitive team possible at a level equal to that of the specific team. In keeping this promise, we will attempt to place players on a team where they will provide the most impact, and benefit the most from their experience. Although some would rather be on the "-1" team regardless of playing time, we feel it is better for players to accept a position on a team where they will have the greatest opportunity to play and improve their VB skills. Bottom line is that NO volleyball player will become a better player sitting on the bench...you must play, to become a better player.*

## **How many nights do teams practice?**

*Regional teams will practice (1) weeknight and on Sunday afternoon. Practice sessions are scheduled for 2 hours. Our regular weeknights are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from either 6:30-8:30 or 7:30-9:30, depending on the team and their practice location. Sunday practices are from 1-3pm, 3-5pm and 5-7pm. Semi-National and National teams will practice an additional weeknight. Players will be expected to attend all practices.*

## **Where are practices held?**

*Jammers VBC is currently utilizing several practice facilities. Riverside High School is our home facility and all Sunday practices will be held at the main gym. Weeknight practices will be scheduled in 3-4 additional gyms and will be announced after tryouts and once facilities have been secured. We have facilities in West, South and North Durham, and are looking to obtain space in the Chapel Hill area as well.*

## **How many teams will JVC have for the 2012 season?**

*We are predicting 8-12 teams for the upcoming season. The final number of teams we field will depend on the number of available qualified coaches, available facilities and number of players accepting positions on teams. It has always been our policy to offer as many opportunities as possible each season, but we are limited to the previously mentioned elements.*

## **What are the fees for club volleyball?**

*Currently our club dues range from \$800 to \$4500 per player. This varies based on the specific age group and whether it is a Regional, Regional Plus, Semi-National, or National team.*

## **Are there any other costs?**

*Yes...there is a Uniform Fee each season. All players will be required to purchase a uniform package. This package will consist of (2) Jerseys (Short and Long Sleeve), (2) pair of spandex, socks, a set of warm-ups and an equipment backpack. Approximate cost is \$250. Each player will also receive (2) Practice T-shirts. We attempt to utilize our uniforms for two seasons, so returning players will only be required to purchase those items needed. For example, if you return and are selected to a team with another returning player who shares the same jersey number, the added player will be required to purchase new jerseys.*

*Other costs include travel expenses and food on tournament days. Some tournament sites may require an overnight stay.*

## **When are Club Fees and Uniform Fees due?**

*Club fees are broken into 3, 4 or 5 installments, with the first being due at our Club Signing Day. This will be held around November 15<sup>th</sup>. The remaining installments are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month beginning in January. The Uniform fees will be due when uniforms are delivered, usually mid-December.*

## **What are the tournaments like?**

*Regional tournaments are usually held on Saturdays, although if space is an issue, you may play on a Sunday. Arrival is normally around 8:00am with play beginning at 9am. Pool Play will usually last until late afternoon, with the Playoffs following. A winning record during Pool Play will usually guarantee you advancing to the playoffs. Once in the playoffs, it is a single elimination round. When advancing to the finals, you can expect to be in the gym until 7-8:00pm.*

## **How often are tournaments played?**

*Your age group will play every other weekend. Tournaments normally begin the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in January and will end with Regional Championships at the end of March. Semi-National and National teams will compete in several multi-day tournaments that require out-of-state travel. With Semi-National and National teams, there are times when you will play back-to-back weekends.*

## **What do I bring to a tournament?**

*Most players bring things to keep them comfortable...sleeping bag, blanket, pillow, iPod, cell phone, etc. You are going to be there a long time and you need to have some down time to rest. Parents should bring a comfortable chair, something to read, food for the players (so you do not have to run out looking for floor) and a positive attitude for your daughter and her teammates.*

## **Where are tournaments held?**

*Regional tournaments can be held basically anywhere in North Carolina. For the most part, the majority of tournaments will be between 1-2 hours away. Due to the growth of the sport, that is no longer guaranteed. A regional team may travel up to 4 hours away, requiring a Friday drive and an overnight stay.*

## **Will Jammers VBC host any tournaments this season?**

*It has been our intention to host tournaments each season. The success of this depends on the graciousness of the facilities we use for practices allowing us to have their facility for an entire Saturday. If able to host tournaments, we will make every effort to host a division in which Jammers has a team playing.*

## **Who is Jammers Volleyball Club?**

*Jammers VBC began as a single team venture in 2004 by Coach Mike Hodge and Coach Blaine Tendler. A second team was added when Steve Rogers brought a handful of rising freshmen to Coach Hodge and convinced him to take them under his wing and form a second Jammers team coached by Coach Nick Nguyen. The following season, club founder Mike Hodge took on the position as President and Director of Coaching and Steve as Vice President and Club Director. Now in our 6<sup>th</sup> season, we have grown from the original 17 players on two teams, to a high of 125 players on 13 teams. We have gone from 2 coaches the 1<sup>st</sup> year to 12 head coaches, 3 assistant coaches, and 3 Floating coaches for 2011 season.*

*We have very humble beginnings and will always remember where we came from. As big as this thing gets, we will do our best to maintain a close relationship with our members while staying true to our dedication of training and developing skilled volleyball players in the area.*

**Who we are...**

***WE ARE JAMMERS!***