



Fernie Volleyball Club Athlete Selection and Team Formation Policy

At FVC our primary objective is to develop volleyball players in Fernie, and adjoining communities. But it is more than that. We want them to learn the RIGHT way to play. That means the right skills, the right attitude and the "team" concept. Yes, we would like to win, but not at all costs. We know from experience that if players are patient and get ample opportunity to perform, eventually success will come our way.

We view success as the development of a good person, who has learned how to play the sport properly, with dignity and class. If we can accomplish this, these young men and women will graduate high school with the desire to play well into their 20's and beyond. Playing volleyball will allow them to meet people with similar life goals and aspirations. They will have learned a life long activity. Some players in the club will develop beyond the high school level, and play college or university. Our club system will assist in developing and nurturing these athletes to achieve their goals, whatever those goals may be.

This policy guides the Board in developing the procedures and operating guidelines around selection of athletes to FVC teams. It is not intended as a rigid blueprint to govern all possible selection scenarios.

The Board will designate the Head Coach to lead in the process of athlete selection and team formation. The Board shall ensure that adequate facilities are reserved for tryouts, and that the Head Coach and their selected evaluation panel are available to assess the athletes during the tryout process. The FVC Board is committed to a fair and open tryout process, and will review the selected evaluation panel for each team to ensure that the panel consists of members that are free from any conflict of interest.

The FVC tryout and selection process will adhere to the Volleyball Alberta rules for athlete signing and recruiting, the Volleyball Alberta Code of Conduct and the FVC Athlete Agreement. FVC may elect to utilize any pre-season signing options or early tryout periods available with these guidelines. The balance of the positions on a team not filled by pre-selected athletes will be selected in open tryouts.

The FVC coaching staff will select a maximum of 12 athletes to form any of the competitive teams. In gender/age categories where there is strong interest and a larger number of athletes participating in tryouts, not all athletes will be offered a position on the team. The coaching staff is not bound to select the maximum 12 athletes if it's deemed that a significant skill gap (or commitment gap) exists that could be detrimental to overall team development.



In determining team selection, the FVC coaching staff & evaluators will assess:

- Core Volleyball skills and abilities
- Overall athletic ability
- Effort/focus during tryouts
- Position-specific fit in overall roster considerations
- Overall demeanour, perceived coachability and team fit

Playing Up Considerations

Age-specific teams provide a stable structure from which the organization can operate and ensure equity among athletes trying out for roster positions.

No playing up considerations will be entertained for teams 15U or younger. For teams 16U, 17U and 18U only:

The FVC will prioritize rostering age appropriate players. If a team cannot be formed or specific positions cannot be filled, consideration may be given to younger players “playing up”

Process and Approvals

- **Decision Authority:** The FVC and the affected coaches jointly determine eligibility for older teams.
- **Initiation:** If Expression of Interest data forecasts a roster (or position) shortfall, the FVC may invite players of a younger age to try out. Alternatively, players can submit a written request to the FVC Board of Directors to be registered to try out for an older age group team. Requests must be received at least one week in advance of the scheduled try out.
- **Approvals & Communication:** The FVC Board retains sole discretion over these requests and will communicate its decision in writing.
- **Selection Priority:** Younger players who have been approved to register and try out for older aged teams are considered for open roster spots after all appropriate aged players have been considered, and the FVC and the evaluation panel determine that the player should be offered a roster spot according to the assessment criteria above.
- **Limit:** At no time will a player be invited or permitted to try out or play for more than two age groups above their own.