



Starlings-Player Packet

Included in this packet is important information regarding the upcoming 2011-12 season. Please take time to thoroughly read all the information and ask your coach if you have any questions.

Following is a checklist of items that will need to be returned on your second meeting with your coach.

- Completed Player Registration Form (below)
- Signed Starlings Waiver & Release Form (back)
- Signed Player/Parent Guidelines Form (page 6)
- Signed Medical Release Form
- Registration Fee of \$150.00 due by 2nd practice.

Player Registration

Player _____ Birth Date _____ Email _____

School _____ Grade _____ ID# _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Player cell phone _____

Parent(s) name(s) _____

Parent Cell mom/dad (circle one) _____ Work Phone mom/dad (circle one) _____

E-mail address _____

Emergency Contact _____ Relation _____ Phone _____

Other Volleyball experience _____

T-shirt sizes, all are adult sizes (circle) S M L XL Spandex Size (circle) S M L XL

(Uniforms are pre-purchased and requested sizes are not guaranteed)

STARLINGS VOLLEYBALL CLUBS USA
WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM
2011-2012 SEASON

If the athlete is 18 years old:

I, _____ the participant, affirm that I am **eighteen (18) years of age or older**, have read this document and I understand its contents. I acknowledge that volleyball or any sporting event is an extreme test of a person's physical and mental limits and carries with it the potential for death, serious injury or property loss. With a full understanding of the potential risks, I hereby assume the risks of participating in a volleyball event.

I hereby take the following action for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors and assigns: a) I waive, release and discharge from any and all claims or liabilities for death or personal injury or damages of any kind, except that which is a result of gross negligence and/or wanton misconduct of persons or entities listed below, which arise out of or are related to my participation in, or my traveling to and from the volleyball event, the following persons or entities:

Starlings Volleyball Clubs, USA; the tournament director, sponsors; and the officers, directors, employees, representatives, and agents of any of the above; b) I agree not to sue any of the persons or entities mentioned above for any of the claims or liabilities that have waived, released or discharged herein; c) I indemnify and hold harmless the persons or entities mentioned above from any claims made or liabilities assessed against them as a result of my actions.

I agree to allow Starlings Volleyball Clubs, USA, to utilize my photograph or any likeness of me created from my participation in Starlings events or programs, without my approval in advance of such use, and without financial or other compensation due to me.

Name:(print) _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

If the athlete is younger than 18 years old:

If the athlete is under the age of eighteen (18) years, the parent/guardian has read and completed the section below. The PARENT/GUARDIAN of _____ does hereby execute the foregoing Waiver and Release for and on behalf of the minor named herein. I hereby bind myself, the minor and all other assigns to the terms of the Waiver and Release. I represent that I have legal capacity and authority to act for and on behalf of the minor named herein, and I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the persons or entities mentioned above for any claims or liabilities assessed against them as a result of any insufficiency of my legal capacity or authority to act for and on behalf of the minor in the execution of the Waiver and Release.

I agree to allow Starlings Volleyball Clubs, USA, to utilize the minor's photograph or any likeness of me created from her participation in Starlings events or programs, without my approval in advance of such use, and without financial or other compensation due to me or the minor.

Name:(print) _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

2012 Starlings Athlete-Parent Guidelines

OUR PROGRAM

In November, female athletes 12-18 years old are invited to attend open conditioning and open gym. During open gym time, potential players are provided the time to show their skills and learn about the opportunity to play club volleyball at the Junior Olympic level. During this time the girls are assessed for skill level and their abilities.

We strive to make sure we provide our girls with experiences that are positive, enriching, and focused on growth - both on and off the court. The club fees help to cover the cost of registration, uniforms, tournaments, and equipment. Club fees for the 2011-2012 season are \$600 for all teams, based on payment schedule*. Athletes that do not make the traveling teams are welcome to participate with a practice team that will be formed based on the availability of coaches. Practice teams will not participate in the NCVA season but will be part of Nationals in San Diego if they stay committed to the season. Fundraising opportunities are available to help defray all costs.

The season runs from February to June and we encourage teamwork, health, positive life skills, and academic achievement. We will have potentially three levels of players (see **NOTE** below):

All teams conclude the season in June. Participation in Starlings National Championships in San Diego is something that all teams can participate in. This is when Starlings teams from all over the nation come together for four days of competition and fellowship. Teams that wish to be considered for the Starlings Nationals will need to do special fund raising to be eligible. Our goal is to raise enough to cover the transportation and lodging costs for San Diego and hope to not expect any additional cost to the players or parents.

Philosophy

- Starlings' basic philosophy is "Athletes First, Winning Second".
- Starlings' goals are personal development and personal enjoyment.

Player Practice-Placement

- Players will be placed on teams based on 1) age, 2) ability/skill level, and 3) player position. 10 players will be selected per team, with the option of having 2 Practice Team players. All athletes will travel/compete depending on attendance, and academics.

Traveling Team

We plan to carry 1 travelling team with the 17's age group this year. The team will participate in 6-8 Area League and non-League tournaments, 1-2 extended day tournaments and 5-days at Nationals in San Diego.

Practice Players

Practice players will participate in practice with the rest of the team but will see much less playing time during NCVA tournament competitions. If practice players commit to the program for the season they will have the opportunity to raise funds to attend Starlings Nationals in San Diego.

- Total practice time for the **traveling** and **practice** teams will amount to 2 practices per week, days and times to be determined and will be posted on the website.

NOTE: The formation of teams and practice schedule will depend on the number of coaches, players, and court facilities we can acquire and maintain. There are no expressed or implied guarantees to playing time or placement on a specific team.

Player's Responsibilities

- Attend team practices and tournaments or call ahead of time. Call your coach if you can not attend.
- Treat everyone—teammates, coaches, opponents, refs—with respect and habitually give 100% effort.
- Check www.WatsonvilleStarlings.com weekly for updated practice and program information.

Parent's Responsibilities

- Support and reinforce the Club in its efforts.
- Treat everyone—players, coaches, opponents, refs—with respect.
- Parents are expected to provide transportation or coordinate carpools to tournaments and practices.
- If, a parent is unable to provide transportation they will be expected to assist with providing snacks for the team, refreshments and fruit for the matches.

Coach's Responsibilities

- Be a responsible model for players to emulate.
- Treat everyone—players, parents, opponents, refs—with respect.
- Communicate positively. Feedback is positive & corrective, rarely negative.

Communication - Starlings' policy stresses teaching both personal responsibility & communication.

- If a problem arises, the player must first approach the coach.
- If the problem persists, player & parent should meet with the coach.
- If the problem persists, player & parent will meet with the coach & site director.

** Unless there is a safety concern, this order of events will be strictly followed.

Practice Attendance policy

	If you call	No Call
1 st late/absence	= okay if you call	Miss 1 game
2 nd	= Miss 1 game	Miss 1 match
3 rd	= Miss 1 match	Miss tournament play/must attend
4 th	= Miss tournament play/must attend	
5 th	= Meeting to discuss future with the program	

An absence is considered 30 minutes after practice is scheduled to begin if the athlete arrives.

All time on the court is directly related to time spent at practice (1) learning what to do on the court, (2) learning how to do it better, (3) and learning how to do it as a team. Missing any practice time will affect playing time.

CLUB COMMUNICATIONS

Playing and practice

All athletes are prohibited from participating in any organized volleyball play not associated with Starlings Volleyball, USA, Watsonville Starlings or the NCVA without the consent and clearance from the program director and coach. This includes but is not limited to open gyms, tournaments, practices, scrimmages or events non-sanctioned by NCVA, Starlings Volleyball, USA or Watsonville Starlings Volleyball.

WHY

Injury/health - Athletes need to be 100% to be eligible for outside program play. Even then, we would not want a player getting hurt playing at an open gym and jeopardize the rest of the Starlings season.

Liability - Non-sanctioned tournaments do not require sports trainers or qualified staff on site. There are no guidelines for non-sanctioned tournaments. There is also no implied protection from liability, all responsibility lies on the organizers of the event and whether the site is covered by liability insurance for such events. **Ask for a certificate of liability for the site.**

Watsonville Starlings is in no way responsible for injury do to an athlete participating in any non-sanctioned NCVA or non-Starlings event or activity.

Recruiting/Scouting/Coaching - word of mouth vs. direct solicitation

There are minor laws against recruiting young athletes for many reasons, but most have to do with keeping student athletes focused. **(Northern California Volleyball Association: 2010-2011 Girl's Division Handbook Page 23)**

- ❑ Once a player has committed to a team during the NCVA sanctioned season, club directors and coaches from other NCVA clubs must respect the player's commitment and cease recruiting the player. If a recruiter contacts a player who has signed a commitment to another team, the player must notify the recruiter of the commitment. After notification, the recruiter shall not contact that player or the player's family.
- ❑ A recruiting violation occurs when an NCVA-registered club director and/or coach from one NCVA registered club makes initial verbal or written contact with an athlete, or the athlete's parents, from another NCVA-registered club with the intent to persuade the player to leave the present club and join another club.
- ❑ If a player or parent makes the initial contact, a club director or coach may answer questions and inform the player or parent about the club's specific program without fear of committing a recruiting violation. It is strongly recommended that all club directors and coaches refrain from making negative comments concerning other clubs or their staff.

When athletes go to open gyms and un-sanctioned events they open themselves to being recruited, scouted or coached by other clubs or programs. The "coach" may begin to impose a different style of play than that which is being demonstrated by the athletes current club. This will lead to a conflict of interest and will not be tolerated. Athletes must immediately notify the party of their club affiliation and clarify that their goal of open gym is to define and shape skills demonstrated at practices and not to learn new skills.

Coaching, recruiting ,or scouting from any player, student, athlete, coach or director associated in any way with another registered or non-registered volleyball club is strictly prohibited and must be reported to your club director immediately.

* If you see something you like at an open gym, bring it to the attention of your coach at the next practice and it will be taken into consideration for the entire team.

If any coach/athlete/student/director from another club invites a signed athlete to any organized volleyball activity, they are required to get contact information and inform them that your coach will contact them for more event information. Athletes are in no way to accept any on the spot solicitations, invitations or give out your contact information without consulting your coach and parents.

Since Starlings pays for the club season by February, if an athlete decides to transfer to another club after registering for the season, 100% of club dues must be paid in full before transfer paperwork is signed and there will be no refunds of fees already paid.

If there are events and opportunities for athletes to develop their skills please notify your coach and we can look at growing stronger as a team and not divided groups. Divided groups can benefit individuals but destroy a team. Athletes do not go out and make attempts to get better than your team mates, you grow as a team. You may get better, but think of the skills that you can provide your team and not making your skills better than your team.

We have read the preceding guidelines, and we agree to abide by them.

In addition, we are committed to participating in the

Player Name: _____ Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____ Signature: _____

15th ANNUAL STARLINGS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
San Diego – June 21- 25, 2012

The 2012 event will celebrate its 13th year. Record expansion of new clubs promises to make this championship our largest and best yet. Continued emphasis on participation in the Opening Ceremony, Sister Cities exchange and annual Literary/Art Contest is expected to take the unique level of fun and friendship to a higher level as well..

OPENING CEREMONY

There will be an opening ceremony on Wednesday, at 7:00 PM, location to be announced.

PLAYING SCHEDULE

Pool play will be held Friday, 8:30 AM to 9:00 PM with playoff pools on Saturday and Sunday mornings, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Finals of the 12's, 14's, 16s and 18s Divisions will be held on Sunday from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM, location to be announced.

PLAYING VENUES

The playing venues are easily accessible from the host hotel by freeway and trolley The main playing venue will be Alliant University. Local high schools will serve as other playing sites according to need.

FINALS

Finals of all divisions will be held on Sunday afternoon beginning at 1:00 PM, location to be announced.

All participants are expected to attend the finals, which will include a karaoke contest, announcement of Literary/Art Contest winners, and the presentation of Gold Division medal winning teams.

FUN

A "Picnic In The Park" will take place on Saturday afternoon after play. The event is optional and will emphasize ocean/water sports as kayaking and surfing. These activities will be held in the lawn area of Alliant University.

LITERARY/ART CONTEST

The contest will continue with cash and other prizes. Please encourage girls to participate. Winners will be announced at the Finals on Sunday afternoon.

TRAVEL

The Starlings Volleyball teams will be leaving from WATSONVILLE at 7:30am on Thursday, June 14th and returning from San Diego on Monday.

HOTELS

Parents interested in attending Starlings Nationals 2012, you should reserve soon and can cancel without penalty at most hotels until May 2012.