

Velocity Boys Volleyball Club for 2021-22

Our Goal

To provide a high quality club experience for players from northshore suburbs to **enhance player and team development** by competing against top clubs in our area. Similar to previous club seasons, we are projecting to form four teams, ideally two 18U and two 16U teams. We will start in early-September and will end in mid-February, about three weeks before spring high school volleyball tryouts. We will usually practice two times (Tuesday & Thursday evenings) a week plus a few Sundays. We will play a strong schedule with 8-9 weekend tournaments similar to previous season against top volleyball clubs in our region.

- > 2/3 double-day weekend tournaments (Sat & Sun) at the Palos Courts Power Series
- > 1 regional qualifier tournament (Sat, Sun & Mon) at Chicago McCormick Place over MLK Holiday
- > 4/5 additional single-day local tournaments; total about 35 practices and 35-40 matches (16U in previous seasons played 50 matches due to advancing to playoffs in numerous tournaments)

Club Fees*

\$1,700 per new player (uniform included) about 35-50% less than other clubs

\$1,525 per returning roster player from 2019-20 Velocity club season (use existing uniform; new T-shirts)

\$1,450 per new 14- or 15-year-old on 16U team (\$250 discount, uniform included)

*Based upon 11-12 players per team; will adjust higher if less than 11 to cover team expenses.

The fees for new players will include a full uniform package (2 jerseys, shorts, long-sleeve hitting shirt, 3 T-shirts, backpack, kneepads and volleyball). Fees does not include any transportation cost, meals and parents entrance fees. Parents are responsible for driving players to and from all practices and tournaments.

Players & Teams

All 16U & 18U teams will have 11-12 players. Players on a HS fall sports team are allowed on our club team. Athletes can finished their HS fall season sport before attending Velocity practices/matches full-time. Any player wishing to play a HS winter sports and join our club team at the same time will need to talk with our club director **in advance** of tryouts.

Velocity Boys Volleyball Advantages

- > Continue to play and develop together with your high school teammates
- > Convenient practices at St Paul Lutheran Gym in Skokie (1 block south of library)
- > Supported by area high school boys varsity volleyball coaches
- > Lower fees and most cost-effective volleyball club in Illinois
- > A highly competitive schedule at best tournaments in our Great Lakes Region



Open Gyms & Tryouts

Come to our FREE open gyms on Tuesday & Thursday, Aug 24 & 26, 6-8pm for 16U and 8-10pm for 18U. This will be a great opportunity to meet your future teammates, talk with our coaches, and have you questions answered about Velocity. Our tryouts will be held on Sunday, Aug 29, 6:00-7:30pm for 16U, and 8:00-9:30pm for 18U. All open gyms and tryouts will be held at St Paul Lutheran Gym, 5201 Galitz, downtown Skokie (1 block south of library). All NEW prospective players must complete a \$5 USAV Tryout Membership thru SportsEngine to attend any volleyball club tryout. Returning FULL club players will need to mail/bring a copy of your previous year membership card. For Velocity **advance** tryout registration, players will need to mail (postmark of Aug 23), USAV tryout membership printout, a filled-out Velocity registration form, and a check for \$15 tryout fee (or bring them to our 1st open gym). **On-site** tryout registration will be \$30 with all the forms listed above. Please contact us with any question via email: dogwong@comcast.net.

New USA Volleyball Junior Club Players

To attend ANY club tryout, new prospective athletes must be registered with the Great Lakes Region of USAV (SportsEngine) for the 2021-22. **New players should select the \$5 tryout membership.** Please note you will need to go back later and update to a full membership (\$55) when you are selected onto a club. When you are finished, please **make a printout** of your USAV “tryout membership card” or your email confirmation, mail it with you along with a filled-out Velocity registration form, and \$15 check for Velocity Advance Tryouts Registration fee (see below). A credit card is needed for USAV registration.

Use the link below for USAV Great Lakes Region new \$5 Tryout Membership:

<https://memberships.sportsengine.com/buy/11eac226-4fcd-e104-9809-0e3e2744e461>

You will need to register for a full junior membership at \$55 prior to our first practice.

USA Volleyball Age Definition

USAV application will place your athlete in the proper age group. The following is for reference:

18 and Under: Players born on or after September 1, 2003 (primarily Seniors)

17 and Under: Players born on or after September 1, 2004 (primarily Juniors)

16 and Under: Players born on or after September 1, 2005 (primarily Sophomores)

15 and Under: Players born on or after September 1, 2006 (primarily Freshmen and 8th graders)

Registration for Great Lakes Region of USAV (USA Volleyball) full junior membership starts online on September 1, 2021. Please do not register for USAV membership before September 1.

Returning USA Volleyball Junior Club Players

Only your 2020-21 FULL membership is valid for any tryouts until October 31, 2021. Afterwards, you will need to update your USA Volleyball membership to full status for \$55. Your 2021 “Practice Only/Clinic” membership has expired and is not valid for tryouts. See below for tryouts details.

Checklist for Tryouts

Velocity **Advance** Tryout Registration, postmark by Aug 23 (or bring it to our 1st open gym on Aug 24):

1. Printout of USAV “membership card” or confirmation email printout, or last year **full** membership card
2. Velocity Registration Form filled-out
3. \$15 check payable to *Velocity Volleyball Club* – mail all three items to
Velocity Volleyball Club, 8303 Keystone Ave, Skokie, IL 60076

Velocity **On-site** Tryout Registration:

1. Printout of USAV “membership card” or confirmation email printout, or last year **full** membership card
2. Velocity Registration Form filled-out
3. \$30 check payable to *Velocity Volleyball Club* – bring all items to our tryouts at St Paul Lutheran Gym, 5201 Galitz Street, downtown Skokie (1 block south of library)

Parking is available across the street and behind the gym.

Club Volleyball Q&As

How many practices and matches will we play?

Velocity boys program will hold 1½ or 2-hour practices usually 2X a week. After the Chicago Qualifier, we will reduce our practices to 1 a week in February. Overall, we will have approximately 35 practices and 35-40 matches. Our 16U teams two years ago played very well winning numerous tournaments, and finished playing 50 matches.

Fees and payments?

The total club fees for 2021-22 will be \$1,700 for a new player and \$1,525 for a returning player (based upon a roster of 11 or 12. We will adjust fees if roster is 9 or 10. A 15-year-old on 16U team will get a \$250 discount. Half of the fees will be collected at our parents/team meeting and balance will be due in early-January.

Tryouts, rosters and practices?

Velocity tryouts will be held on Tuesday & Thursday, 6-7:30pm for 16U & 8-9:30pm for 18U. We are aiming to fill two 18U teams and two 16U team, ideally with 11-12 players per team. All of our practices and tryouts will be held conveniently at St Paul Lutheran Gym, 5201 Galitz Street in downtown Skokie (1 block south of library).

How long is the boys club volleyball season at Velocity?

Practices will start in early-September and end in mid-February, most practices will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Once tournaments are posted, we will provide a calendar of practices and tournament dates.

Where are the boys tournaments being held?

Velocity will play at local tournaments within a 90-minute drive, including the Chicago Qualifier at McCormick Place. Velocity will NOT schedule any tournaments or practices within 10 days of final exams in December. We strongly believe in avoiding any conflicts with finals. *This is one item that separates Velocity from other volleyball clubs.*

How do players get to practices and tournaments?

Similar to all volleyball clubs, Velocity does not provide transportation for players to and from practices or tournaments. It is the responsibility of each family to arrange for rides. A team contact sheet with addresses and phone numbers will be provided to assist families with transportation. Directions to tournaments will be provided via emails a few days in advance.

Why don't Velocity play at the St Louis Qualifier, or travel to play in another city?

St Louis is too far (6-hour drive one-way), 3-night hotel stay, and additional travel cost do not justify participation when there are plenty of quality tournaments locally.

What are club tournaments like?

All of our tournaments are held on weekends, either on a Saturday or Sunday. Usually each day we will play 3 matches. During one-day tournament, we will play 3 matches and move onto single-elimination playoffs if we advance. The Chicago Qualifier at McCormick Place will be held over MLK Holiday with matches held on three days – Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Why doesn't Velocity offer a 17U or 15U boys team?

All local tournaments (except the Chicago Qualifier) are 18U and 16U, there isn't any benefit since all 17U teams will play in the 18U division and all 15U teams in the 16U division. Having a separate 17U or 15U team would be important only if we elect to try qualifying for Nationals.

Covid virus

Our volleyball club is similar to other organizations, and we will follow the state health and safety guidelines. We ask that each player wash their hands with soap, and take their own temperature prior to leaving your home, and arrive with a mask on. We will take a non-contact temperature check, hand sanitizer will be available, and volleyballs will be sanitized. We ask that families and friends not enter our gym to help reduce personal contacts. Coaches will be available to talk with parents afterwards.

Volleyball clubs comparison chart – be informed!

Club	Open Gyms	Tryout Fee	Club Fees	Addl Fees	Tournaments
Velocity	2, free	\$15	\$1,700 New+ \$1,500 Returning	None	8-9 Tournaments local, including Chi Qualifier*
a	?	?	?	U, T&H^	9-10 Tournaments, St Louis Qualifier
b	?	?	?	?	?
c	?	?	?	?	?

Please contact other clubs and verify their fees to get an accurate **total cost of participation**. Use the chart above to compare and be informed.

+ Uniforms fee is included for all new players on Velocity. Our uniform package consists of 2 jerseys, 1 shorts, 1 long sleeve hitting shirt, backpack, Molten official game ball, knee pads, whistle and 3 T-shirts. Returning player’s fee is about \$200 less with get new T-shirts, and will be able to purchase replacement items as needed.

* Velocity teams will play in the Chicago Qualifier, 2 Palos Power Series (2-day Saturday & Sunday tournaments), and 4-5 single day tournaments. We will NOT play in tournaments held on weekend prior to high school final exams to assist student-athletes in their academic preparations. Our players will have an opportunity to play in approximately 35-40 matches (8-9 tournaments) and 35 practices. **Through 13 years of providing quality volleyball experience, we have determined that our number of tournaments and practices is a great balance between academics, cost, proper skills development, and avoiding burn-out.**

^ Uniform, Travel and Hotel (U, T&H) fees for St Louis Qualifier (6-hour drive one-way, plus three-night hotel stay) in February. Some clubs will also travel to play in the California Qualifier over holiday break. Please contact each club and verify their total fees to get an accurate cost of participation. The total fees for some clubs can add up to \$3,500. Plus, families will have to pay additional fees to attend Nationals, plus travel cost and minimum 4-night hotel stay.

Taking in consideration our practices, tournaments and uniform package, Velocity is one of the most cost effective boys volleyball club in Illinois. Our structure is different from majority of other clubs and thus our goal is different – **to provide an affordable opportunity to play club volleyball against the highest level of competitions in the best tournaments (Palos Power Series and Chicago Qualifier) in northern Illinois.**

Our staff is highly qualified, and has experience coaching both at high school and club volleyball programs:

Charlie Long – 4th year with Velocity; 2 years Niles North frosh coach; and CSL All-Conference player at Niles North

Simeon Mladenov – 3rd year with Velocity; 4 years club coach; 10 years of coaching in U.S. and in Bulgaria

Kha Tran – 14th year with Velocity; CAP 2 Certified; 2 years Niles West varsity boys assistant coach

George Wong – 13th year with Velocity; CAP 1 Certified; coached all levels from 15U-18U; 25+ years of coaching

During any volleyball tryouts, please ask the following questions:

- Who will be my coach and what is his coaching experience?
- Which team will I qualified for – some clubs will have multiple tiers within each age group, and will continue their tryout process to place you onto their various teams after their tryouts?
- How many players are on our team and what position will I be able to play?
- What are the total fees and the list of tournaments? Remember almost all clubs will NOT include travel and hotel fees for out-of-town tournament(s).

Velocity Volleyball Club - Registration Form

Please PRINT neatly. Mail this form with postmark by Aug 23, USAV membership printout, and check for \$15 for Velocity **advance** tryouts registration. Bring this form, USAV membership printout, and check for \$30 for **on-site** tryouts registration.

Player: _____ Tryout # (Velocity will assign): _____
Address: _____ City, Zip: _____
Date of birth: _____ Player's cell: _____
School: _____ Grade: _____ E-mail: _____

Club volleyball experience: No, Yes, club name _____

1st position (check one): Outside hitter, Middle hitter, Right side, Setter, Defensive specialist

2nd position (check one): Outside hitter, Middle hitter, Right side, Setter, Defensive specialist

Mother/Guardian: _____ Father: _____
Mother's cell: _____ Father's cell _____
Mother's e-mail: _____ Father's e-mail: _____

How did you hear about Velocity VBC?

Online search, Referral, Informed by HS coach, Other _____

Glenbrook Athletic Club/Velocity VBC Waiver and Release Form

I acknowledge that volleyball or any sporting event is an extreme test of a person's physical and mental limits and that my participation in a volleyball event can cause potential death, serious injury, or property damage. With a full understanding of the potential risks, I HEREBY ASSUME THE RISKS OF PARTICIPATING OR OFFICIATING 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 THE RESULT OF GROSS NEGLIGENCE AND/OR WANTON MISCONDUCT OF PERSONS OR ENTITIES LISTED BELOW, which arise out of or relate to my traveling to and from or my participation in any volleyball practice or event, THE FOLLOWING PERSONS OR ENTITIES: Glenbrook Athletic Club/Velocity VBC and its officers, directors, board members, employees, representatives, coaches, practice sites and facilities, and agents of any of the above as well as USA Volleyball and its Regional Volleyball Associations, tournament directors, sponsors, and tournament facilities, 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 listed above for any of the claims or liabilities that I have waived, released or discharged herein; and 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.

In consideration of the rights and privileges granted to me by my membership with the RVA, a USAV Group D Member, by signing this membership form, I certify that:

1. I have read and understand the Waiver and Release of Liability.
2. I understand that I have given up substantial rights.
3. I (or my parent or legal guardian) am at least eighteen (18) years old.
4. I agree and consent to abide by the Waiver and Release of Liability set forth herein.

Participant's signature: _____ Date signed: _____

If applicant is under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian must execute, in addition to the foregoing Waiver and Release, the following, for and on behalf of the minor. The undersigned parent and natural guardian or legal guardian on the applicant

(_____ [minor's name]) executes 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 named in the Waiver and Release 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 have also received the USAV Participant Code of Conduct and have reviewed the Code with my child regarding the stipulated conditions and their ramification. I fully consent to my child's participation in RVA/USAV events.

Parent/Guardian name: _____ Signature: _____ Date signed: _____