

# Velocity Boys Volleyball Club for 2020-21

## Our Goal

To provide a quality club experience for area high school players to **enhance player and team development** by competing against top club teams in our region. Similar to previous club seasons, we want to form three teams, probably two 18U and one 16U teams. We start in early October and end in early April (about three weeks before spring HS volleyball tryouts.) Usually we will practice 2X (Tues & Thurs evenings) a week, and will reduce it down to 1 a week when closer to high school spring season. We will play a strong schedule with 8-9 tournaments similar to previous seasons.

- > 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; about 32 practices and 35-40 matches; (our 16U teams last two season played 50 matches by advancing to playoffs and winning multiple tournaments)

## Club Fees\*

\$1,575 per new player (about 40-60% less than other clubs in Illinois)

\$1,400 per returning roster player from 2019-20 Velocity season (use existing uniform; new T-shirts)

\$1,275 per new 14- or 15-year-old on 16U team (\$300 discount)

\*Based upon 11 players per team; might adjust higher if less than 11 to cover team expenses.

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

## Players & Teams

Our goal is to have 11-12 players per team. 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 Velocity 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; supported by area varsity boys head coaches
- > Lower fees and one of the 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 Thursday, Aug 27, 6:15-8:00pm for 16U and 8:15-10:00pm for 18U. This will be a good opportunity to meet your future teammates, and bring any questions that you might have about Velocity. Our tryouts will be held on Sunday, Aug 30, 7:15-9:00pm for 16U, and Monday, Aug 31, 7:15-9:00pm for 18U. Both open gyms and tryouts will be held at St Paul Lutheran Church, 5201 Galitz in Skokie (1 block south of library). All NEW prospective players must complete a \$5 USAV tryout form – *2019-20 Individual Membership* (paper form) to attend ANY volleyball club tryout. This form is attached at the end of this flyer packet. Returning club players will need to bring a copy of your previous year card. ALL players will need to bring a filled-out Velocity registration form, a check for \$12 tryout fee, and a filled-out medical release form to attend our tryouts. There aren't any exceptions to this policy.

# New USA Volleyball Junior Club Players

To attend ANY club volleyball tryouts, new athletes must be registered for a USAV membership. Due to USAV switching to a new website, online registration will not be available prior to September 1. All NEW players will need to fill out the *2019-20 Individual Membership* (\$5, paper form located at end of this packet) to attend our 16U tryouts on August 30 and 18U tryouts on September 1. After being selected onto Velocity, you will need to registration online at Great Lakes Region USAV (full Junior membership at \$55 and select Velocity as your club). Specific step by step instructions for registration will be posted on the Great Lakes Region USAV website. A credit card is needed. This online process is a bit long. Please be patient and follow all of their instructions. It is important that you complete all fields. When you are finished, please make a printout of your "membership card" and bring it to our first practice.

## USA Volleyball Age Definition

Great Lakes Region USAV will place you in the proper age group. The following is for reference:

18 and Under: Players born on or after July 1, 2002 (primarily Seniors)

17 and Under: Players born on or after July 1, 2003 (primarily Juniors)

16 and Under: Players born on or after July 1, 2004 (primarily Sophomores)

15 and Under: Players born on or after July 1, 2005 (primarily Freshmen and 8th graders)

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## Returning Club Players

Your old 2019-20 membership is valid for any tryouts until October 31, 2020. Afterwards you will need to renew your USAV membership to full status for 2020-21 for \$55. You will need to bring a copy of your old membership card along with a \$12 check for tryout fee, Velocity registration form filled-out, and a NEW medical release filled-out to attend tryouts at Velocity. These forms are attached at the end of this packet.

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## Checklist for Boys Tryouts

All prospective athletes must have the following items to attend Velocity tryouts:

1. Printout of USAV 2019-20 "membership card" for a **returning player**, or a \$5 check (payable to Great Lakes Region USAV) with *2019-20 Individual Membership* (paper form) for a **new player**
2. **USAV Medical Release Form** filled-out
3. **Velocity Registration Form** filled-out, plus a \$12 check payable to Velocity Volleyball Club to attend our tryouts (Sunday, Aug 30, 7:15-9:00pm for 16U and Monday, Aug 31, 7:15-9:00pm for 18U, both at St Paul Church in Skokie). If forms are not attached, go to our website: [velocityvolleyballclub.com](http://velocityvolleyballclub.com) in late-August to download our registration and medical release forms.

Please contact Coach Wong at 847-682-0537 if you have any questions.

# Velocity Club Volleyball Q&As

## How many practices and matches will we play?

Velocity boys program will hold 2-hour practices usually 2X a week, and will reduce down to 1X a week when closer to high school spring boys volleyball. For entire season, we will have around 32-35 practices and 35-40 matches. The last two seasons, our 16U teams played very well winning multiple tournaments and finished playing up to 50 matches.

## Fees and payments?

The season for 2020-21 will be similar to previous season at \$1,575 for a new player and \$1,400 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 \$300 discount. Half of the fees will be collected at our parents/team meeting and balance will be due in mid-January.

## Tryouts, rosters and practices?

Velocity tryouts will be held on Sunday, Aug 30, 7:15-9:00pm for 16U, and Monday, Aug 31, 7:15-9:00pm for 18U. We are aiming to fill two 18U teams and one 16U team, ideally with 11-12 players per team. All of our practices (and tryouts) will be held conveniently at St Paul Lutheran Church, 5201 Galitz Street in Skokie (1 block south of library).

## How long is the boys club volleyball season at Velocity?

Practices will start in early October. Due to the Corona-virus, we will stretch our club season with practices only in the fall. We will end in early April, about three weeks prior to the start of the high school boys volleyball spring season.

## 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 with transportation. Directions to tournaments will be provided via e-mails 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 tournaments, 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 don't Velocity offer a 17U or 15U boys team?

All local boys 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.

## Corona-virus

Club volleyball is similar to other organizations and businesses, 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. At open gym, tryouts and practices, all players will need to arrive with a mask on. We will take a non-contact temperature check, and hand sanitizer will be available at our gym. We ask that families and friends not enter our gym to help reduce personal contacts.

# Volleyball clubs comparison chart – be informed!

Club	Open Gyms	Tryout Fee	Club Fees	Addl Fees	Tournaments
<b>Velocity</b>	1, free	\$12	\$1,575 New+ \$1,400 Returning	None	8-9 Tournaments local, including Chicago Qualifier
?	?	?	?	U, T&H*^	9-10 Tournaments, plus St Louis Qualifier
?	?	?	?	?	?
?	?	?	?	?	?

Please verify other clubs' fees for 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, official game ball, knee pads, whistle and 3 T-shirts. Returning player's fee is about \$175 less with 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 any tournaments if 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 32-35 practices. *Through 13 years of providing quality volleyball experience, we have determined that our tournament and practice schedule is a great balance between academics, cost, proper development of volleyball skills, 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). Some clubs will also play in the California Qualifier over holiday break. Please contact each club and verify their fees to get an accurate total cost of participation – these can add up to \$4,000. Plus, families will have to pay additional fees to play at Nationals, 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 for athletes to play club volleyball against the highest level of competitions in the best tournaments (Palos Power Series and Chicago Qualifier) in our area.*

All websites list the reason to chose their club is their coaching staff. We match our coaching staff against any other club:  
**Charlie Long** – 4th year with Velocity; and CSL All-Conference volleyball and football player at Niles North  
**Kha Tran** – 13th year with Velocity; CAP 2 Certified; coached all club levels; CSL All-Conference player at Niles West  
**Simeon Mladenov** – 2nd year with Velocity; 3 years club coach; 9 years of coaching in U.S. and in Bulgaria  
**George Wong** – 11th year with Velocity; CAP 1 Certified; coached all club levels; 25+ years of HS coaching

During your volleyball tryouts, you should ask the following questions:

- a) Which team will I qualified for – some clubs will have multiple tiers within each age group, and will continue their selection process after their tryouts to place you onto their various teams/levels?
- b) How many players are on our team and what position will I be able to play?
- c) 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 all information. Bring this form, Medical Release, and check for \$12 to our tryouts)

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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: \_\_\_\_\_



## USAV YOUTH & JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL PLAYER MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

This **must be** completed - legibly - and signed in all areas by both the player and his/her parent or guardian. I understand and agree that this document will be kept in the possession of authorized adult team personnel and that reasonable care will be used to keep this information confidential. **By signing this form the participant affirms having read and agreed to the terms and conditions listed below.**

Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Male  Female

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Contact: Parent or Guardian**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Secondary Contact:**  Parent/Guardian  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Insurance Co \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Group/Policy # \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Family Physician Name \_\_\_\_\_ Physician Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please elaborate on any medical conditions of which we should be aware:

Please list any medications currently being taken:

In the past 24 months, have you been tested, diagnosed and/or treated for a concussion:  Yes  No  
 If yes, provide the date (months and year), who performed the testing/diagnosing/treatment and what was the outcome:

Please list any allergies:

If None, please write None.

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(regardless of age):

Participant, \_\_\_\_\_, has my permission to participate in training, competition, events, activities and travel sponsored by USA Volleyball or any of its Regional Volleyball Associations (RVAs). I approve of the leaders who will be in charge of this program. I recognize that the leaders are serving to the best of their ability. I certify that the participant has full medical insurance with the company listed above. I understand and agree that this document will be kept in the possession of authorized adult team personnel and that reasonable care will be used to keep this information confidential. I agree to allow the authorized adult team personnel to release this information in the event of a medical emergency to a third party medical provider. I also certify to the best of my knowledge that the participant named hereon is physically fit to engage in the activities described above.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

If, during the course of my daughter's/son's activities in volleyball, she/he should become ill or sustain an injury, I hereby **authorize** you to obtain emergency medical/dental care. I will assume financial responsibility for the bills incurred through my insurance company.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian

or

**I do not authorize** emergency medical/dental care for my daughter/son.  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian





## USA VOLLEYBALL WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

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 event, **THE FOLLOWING PERSONS OR ENTITIES: USA Volleyball and its Regional Volleyball Associations, tournament directors, 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 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.

Participant's Signature (regardless of age): \_\_\_\_\_ Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE REQUIRED** 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 of 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 fully consent to my child's participation in USAV/RVA events.

Parent/Guardian's Name (if registrant is under 18 years of age): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

## USA VOLLEYBALL CODE OF CONDUCT

### THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE PROHIBITED:

1. Violation of any anti-doping policies, protocols or procedures as defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC; [www.olympic.org](http://www.olympic.org)), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA; [www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org)), Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB; [www.fivb.org](http://www.fivb.org)), US Anti-Doping Agency (USADA; [www.usada.org](http://www.usada.org)) or the United States Olympic Committee (USOC; [www.teamusa.org](http://www.teamusa.org)). Violations of this provision will be adjudicated only by USADA or the proper anti-doping authority, not USA Volleyball (USAV).
2. Violation of safe sport rules, policies and procedures promulgated by the U.S. Center for SafeSport ([www.safesport.org](http://www.safesport.org)), as they may be amended from time to time.
3. Possession, consumption or distribution of alcohol, tobacco, vaping devices or e-cigarettes if illegal or in violation of USAV or Regional Volleyball Association (RVA) policy.
4. USAV policy prohibits the possession, consumption or distribution of alcohol, tobacco, vaping devices or e-cigarettes by anyone registered as a junior volleyball player at the event venue of any USAV/RVA sanctioned junior event.
5. Use of a recognized identification card by anyone other than the individual described on the card.
6. Physical damage to a facility or theft of items from a room, dormitory, residence or other person. (Restitution will be part of any penalty imposed.)
7. Possession of fireworks, ammunition, firearms, or other weapons or any item or material which by commonly accepted practices and principles would be a hazard or harmful to other persons at USAV/RVA sanctioned events.
8. Any action considered to be an offense under Federal, State or local law ordinances.
9. Violation of the specific policies, regulations, and/or procedures of the USAV, RVA or the facility used in conjunction with a sanctioned event. (It is the responsibility of the individual to be familiar with applicable specific policies, regulations and procedures.)
10. Conduct which is inappropriate as determined by comparison to normally accepted behavior.
11. Physical or verbal intimidation of any individual.
12. Actions that will be detrimental to USAV or the RVA.

### USA VOLLEYBALL DISCIPLINARY SUGGESTIONS:

Infraction	When Occurred	Suggested Maximum Sanction
First	Before or during event	Individual disqualified (if person is a junior, he/she will be sent home as soon as possible and parent or guardian notified). The individual may be declared ineligible for USAV registration or RVA membership for one year starting from the date of infraction.
	After event concludes	The individual may be declared ineligible for USAV registration or RVA membership for one year starting from the date of infraction.
Second	Before or during event	Individual disqualified (if person is a junior, he/she will be sent home as soon as possible and parent or guardian notified). The individual may be declared ineligible for USAV registration or RVA membership for two years starting from the date of infraction.
	After event concludes	The individual may be declared ineligible for USAV registration or RVA membership for two years starting from the date of infraction.
Third		Individual may be declared ineligible for USAV registration or RVA membership for the remainder of his/her lifetime.
<b>NOTE:</b>		Major misbehavior (e.g. verbal or physical abuse of a child, sexual harassment, etc.) may subject the violator to a lifetime ineligibility for USAV registration or RVA membership after the first infraction.

Sanctions are applied after affording the participant due process that may be required by the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (TSOASA), USOC, USAV, and RVA. Appeals, other than for doping violations and matters under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Center for SafeSport, may be made in accordance with procedures set forth in the bylaws and operating codes of USA Volleyball and the RVA respectively. USADA and the U.S. Center for SafeSport retain the sole ability to determine any and all sanctions in those matters under their respective and exclusive jurisdictions.

- I have read and understand the USA Volleyball Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policies
- I agree and consent to abide by the USA Volleyball Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policies and other region specific code of conducts and/or disciplinary policies.
- I understand that, if I violate the USAV and/or RVA Codes of Conduct, I might be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with USAV and/or RVA Disciplinary Policies.

Participant's Signature (regardless of age): \_\_\_\_\_ Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name (if registrant is under 18 years of age): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE REQUIRED**