



Ohio Valley Region - No Contact Policy for OHSAA Athletes Aug/Sept/Oct 2020 Moratorium

The status of Volleyball participation in schools is very much in question. With the ever-changing information provided by the Ohio Governor's office and the Ohio Dept of Health, the OHSAA has attempted to establish a timeline for schools' Return to Play. Western PA and West Virginia have different plans and timelines, which emphasizes the variety of circumstances we all face. The vast majority of Ohio programs were set to begin August 1, 2020, with practices and competitions "to be determined." There are many factors contributing to the contradictory messaging that parents and athletes are receiving. The OVR is attempting to provide some options for our volleyball community with the following policy:

Effective Monday, August 10, 2020, all OVR-affiliated clubs are permitted to provide athletic training, skill development and team competitions to athletes who are associated with OHSAA school programs. (This is a temporary exception to established OVR policy.) This policy will remain in effect through Oct. 29, 2020. Clubs and facilities **MUST FOLLOW** all State and County Health policies! The OVR will provide additional guidelines to participating clubs.

PARENTS

The uncertainty of the fall high school/junior high sports season has created a great deal of anxiety for everyone. Many school districts are delaying, postponing, or cancelling the competition segment of the regular season. The OVR's goal with this policy is to offer an option until school programs again become a reality. OVR/USAV affiliated clubs and coaches comply with all necessary requirements to ensure athlete safety: SafeSport training, concussion and sudden cardiac arrest training, and USAV Impact coaching certifications. Parents can be guaranteed that the adults associated with each club are current OVR/USAV members and have passed USAV background checks and screening.

ATHLETES & TEAMS

Athletes who **HAVE NOT REPRESENTED** their school team in a scrimmage or competition, and athletes not currently associated with any school program, are eligible. An athlete who participates in a school team scrimmage or competition **MUST NOT BE PERMITTED** to participate in the OVR's fall program after the date of the scrimmage/competition in which they represented their school.

School teams may remain intact, or athletes from different schools and/or clubs may form a team. Different teams comprising different athletes may be formed for each event, or the same group of athletes may choose to compete together. Athletes who are not current members of the OVR/USAV can purchase a \$15.00 membership valid through Oct. 31, 2020.

CLUBS & FACILITIES

Each club or facility will determine whether their program will affiliate with the OVR/USAV for this fall opportunity. Those clubs or facilities that run their own fall programs, choosing to not affiliate with the OVR fall friendship season, are not covered by USAV insurance.

Please visit www.ovr.org to locate a club near you.

Bob Price
Commissioner
Ohio Valley Region – USA Volleyball