



## TRAVEL POLICY

***Athletes are most vulnerable to misconduct during travel, particularly overnight stays. This includes a high risk of athlete-to-athlete misconduct. During travel, athletes are often away from their families and support networks, and the setting – new locker rooms, workout facilities, gyms, automobiles and hotel rooms – is less structured and less familiar.***

USA Volleyball junior clubs are required to implement a Travel Policy. A model Travel Policy with additional suggested items is including in the Appendix to this handbook. If a club chooses not to, or is unable to, create a written Travel Policy, the model policy will become the default policy for that club.

Some travel involves only local travel to and from local practices and events while other travel involves overnight stays. Different policies should apply to these types of travel.

### Local Travel

- It is the responsibility of the parents to ensure the person transporting the minor player maintains the proper safety and legal requirements, including but not limited to: a valid driver's license, automobile liability insurance, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with applicable state laws.
- The employees, coaches and/or volunteers of a club or one of its teams, who are also not acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated minor.

### Team Travel

- Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with a minor player (unless the coach is the parent or relative of the player).
- At no time should only one adult be present in a room with minor players, regardless of gender.
- Individual meetings between a coach and a player may not occur in hotel sleeping rooms and must be held in public settings or with additional adults present, with at least one of those adults being the same gender as the player.
- The team will make every effort to accommodate reasonable parental requests when a child is away from home without a parent.
- No coach or chaperone shall at any time be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.
- Prior to any travel, the club and/or coaches will endeavor to make players and parents aware of all expectations and rules.

- If disciplinary action against a player is required while the player is traveling without his/her parents, then except where immediate action is necessary, parents will be notified before any action is taken, or immediately after.

Additional policies surrounding safety, behavior, financial guidelines are also recommended, as is the development of a Club Travel Code of Conduct or Honor Code. An example is included in the Appendix of this handbook.