

REBELS VOLLEYBALL CLUB (RVC) CONTINGENCY PLAN

This contingency plan ensures that all aspects of the volleyball events or practices are covered in the event of unexpected situations. By having a well-thought-out plan in place, you can ensure safety, reduce disruption and maintain the integrity of the event.

By implementing these strategies, we ensure a safe and transparent environment where players can trust that their well-being is a priority. Coaches must always operate with the highest level of professionalism and accountability, and this contingency plan outlines practical steps to prevent being alone with a player.

The safety of players should always be the primary concern, and by following these procedures, we aim to protect both the coaches and the athletes, creating a secure and supportive environment for everyone involved.

1. Guidelines and Policies

Clear Communication:

Inform all coaches, players, and parents at the beginning of each season about the policy of never being alone with players.

Include this policy in your code of conduct for both coaches and players, ensuring everyone is aware of the rules and expectations.

Designated Adult Rule:

A coach should always be accompanied by another responsible adult (e.g., another coach, or a parent volunteer) when interacting with players, both on and off the court.

Closed-Door Rule:

Coaches should never meet with players one-on-one behind closed doors or in secluded areas. If a private conversation is necessary, it should take place in an open or public setting and always have 2 coaches.

All practices, games, and training sessions should be held in open, visible environments whenever possible with 2 coaches or 1 coach and parent volunteer.

2. Practical Implementation

Supervision at Practices and Games:

Ensure there is always a minimum of two adults (coaches, trainers, parent volunteer or officials) present at all practices and games.

Establish a coach-to-player ratio that ensures an appropriate number of adults are available to supervise the group.

Have a team of assistant coaches or volunteers who can rotate duties to ensure that no coach is left alone with any player.

During Travel:

If coaches and players need to stay in the same hotel, ensure that the players stay in designated rooms with other players (preferably in rooms with a minimum of two players), and that coaches stay in separate, assigned rooms away from players.

3. Emergency Procedures for Unexpected One-on-One Situations**Unexpected Circumstances:**

If a situation arises where a coach might be alone with a player (e.g., a late-arriving parent, an injury), ensure that another adult (assistant coach, trainer, or parent) is called immediately to supervise or join the interaction.

Immediate Reporting:

Encourage players, parents, and coaches to report any incident where they feel uncomfortable or where the rules might have been violated. Reports should be taken seriously, investigated promptly, and handled confidentially.

4. Parental and Volunteer Involvement**Parent/Guardian Involvement:**

Encourage parents or guardians to be present during practices or games whenever possible, particularly for younger or youth teams. This provides extra oversight and prevents situations where a coach may be alone with players.

Volunteer and Staff Training:

Train all staff members and volunteers on the importance of not leaving a coach alone.

Ensure that volunteers and parents who assist with practices or events are background-checked and informed of the coach-player supervision rules.

5. Communication with Coaches and Players**Coaching Staff Training:**

Conduct mandatory training sessions for all coaches on appropriate coaching behavior, boundaries, and the importance of adhering to the no-alone policy.

Provide coaches with practical advice on how to handle difficult or sensitive situations without being alone with a player.

Transparency with Players:

Hold team meetings with players to discuss appropriate boundaries and expectations, letting them know that if they feel uncomfortable at any time, they should feel safe in speaking up and that no coach should be alone with them.

Encourage players to report any uncomfortable situations immediately and offer multiple channels for communication.

6. Record Keeping and Monitoring

Documentation:

Keep a log of who is present at all practices, games, and events. This helps maintain transparency and can serve as evidence if any concerns arise.

7. Consequences and Accountability

Policy Enforcement:

Establish clear and consistent policy, this could include additional training,

Accountability:

Hold all staff members, including coaches, accountable for adhering to this policy. This accountability should be communicated clearly from the start of the season and reinforced throughout.