



# PLAYING UP POLICY

Updated: November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Page 1 of 2

## **DEFINITIONS**

The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:

- a) “Athlete” means a player on a NSVC volleyball team.
- b) “Members” – All individuals employed by, or engaged in activities with, NSVC including, but not limited to, athletes, coaches, coordinators, judges, officials, volunteers, managers, administrators, committee members, Parents, directors, and officers of NSVC.
- c) “Parent” means the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the Athlete.
- d) “Playing-up” or “Play-up” means an athlete playing in an older age group.
- e) “NSVC” means Northern Summit Volleyball Club.

## **PURPOSE**

NSVC discourages athletes to Play-up as they are expected to play within their birth year age group. Occasional exceptions may occur and criteria for Playing-up will be outlined in this policy.

## **CRITERIA**

1. NSVC will consider all requests on a case-by-case basis.
2. Players wishing to “Play-up” must email [northernsummitvolleyball@gmail.com](mailto:northernsummitvolleyball@gmail.com) 3 days prior to their 1<sup>st</sup> age group skill assessment date and state their intentions.
  - a. When possible, NSVC will provide an option to identify upon sign up, however, if this is not presented to the player, a written request is still required 3 days prior to their 1<sup>st</sup> age group skill assessment.
  - b. Athletes are required to register and to pay for each tryout session separately.
3. The play-up athlete must attend their 1<sup>st</sup> age group skill assessment, where the evaluators will recommend to NSVC whether the player can attend the older age group skill assessment.
  - a. Exceptions may be made in the case of the older age group skill assessment being at an earlier date than the players age group. The player must still attend both skill assessments.
4. During the tryouts at the older age level, the play-up athlete must
  - a. Meet the technical abilities of other participating players within the older age category,
  - b. Must be rated as part of the starting 6 of the older age group to be further considered.
5. The play-up athlete must demonstrate a high degree of individual skill which must be transferable to competitive match situations.



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Page 1 of 2

6. The play-up athlete must have the ability to blend in with athletes of the older age group and be able to interact on and off the court.
7. The play-up athlete must meet other athletes within the older age category in game awareness and general knowledge of the game. This includes the mental strength and maturity that will be necessary when dealing with older and physically superior opponents.

### **DECISION**

8. NSVC will take into consideration what is the best for NSVC as a whole, which includes the impact to the team(s) within the actual athlete's age group.
9. Within 2- weeks of the final tryout date, the play-up athlete will be notified of decision
  - a. In the event that the older age group skill assessment occurs prior to the athlete's age skill assessment, the decision will be held until 1 day after their 1<sup>st</sup> age group skill assessment.
10. The decision from NSVC to allow the athlete to play-up is not appealable.