

Little Rock Juniors Volleyball Club : 2011 – 2012 Tryout Guidelines

Updated 10/5/2011

Purpose:

The purpose of these guidelines is to document the tryout process for Little Rock Juniors Volleyball Club. The hope is that by making everyone familiar with the process, a general understanding is gained, misunderstandings avoided, and doubts concerning fairness are removed.

Tryout Pre-Requisites:

1. Each player must register with USA Volleyball in the Delta Region **PRIOR** to trying out. **IF** you register and pay online, the registration fee is:

\$50.00 for ages 12 – 18;
\$17.50 for ages 9 – 11; and
FREE for ages 8 and under

Returning Player - <http://www.deltavolleyball.net/view/94>

New Player - <http://www.deltavolleyball.net/view/99>

If you are unable to register online, download the manual registration form. The fee for manual registration is an additional \$10.00 added to the regular fee above.

2. Each player must register with Little Rock Juniors **PRIOR** to trying out. Registration can be completed online at <http://www.lrjuniors.com> . This season, there will be no tryout fee assessed to players.
3. Each player must complete 2 copies of the USAV Medical Release form and bring with you to tryouts.
4. Each player must complete 2 copies of the Player Information form and bring with you to tryouts.
5. Print a copy of your USAV membership card and bring with you to tryouts.
6. If you were not a member of Little Rock Juniors last season (2010-2011), you must present proof of your date of birth. Acceptable proof can be a birth certificate or driver's license. We will NOT retain these documents (or copies thereof); they will only be used as proof for the player's date of birth.

Where will Tryouts be held?

Location: Tryouts will be held at the UALR Field House and the Jack Stephens Arena.

University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Donaghey Student Center - Field House [Google Map Link](#)
S. University Ave and UALR Campus Drive
Little Rock, AR 72204

Directions: To access the Field House, you MUST enter campus from S. University at University Campus Drive. Do Not enter at 28th street. The entrance to University Campus Drive is approximately one block North of the Asher & University Ave intersection across from Town & Country Drive. Follow the drive through campus until it dead ends and turn left toward the “Road Closed” barricade. Enter parking LOT 2 on the right to park. Cross the street and enter the Field House through the triple glass doors.

To access the Jack Stephens Arena, you MUST enter campus from S. University at 28th Street. Enter the arena on the ground level on the right side of the main stairway.

Age Divisions:

Confirm your appropriate age division by using the Age Chart and then locate the tryout date for your age group in the following section:

http://lrjuniors.com/index_htm_files/AgeDefinitionChart.doc

Note: Age Waivered Players may not compete on the National Team. (An older player playing down in division with their school grade.)

Tryout Dates:

Below dates are for Club and Metro teams, with the exception of Monday, 10/31/11 which is restricted to players that are trying out for the National team program. Players trying out for the National team program should also attend the regular session tryout for their age group.

12 and Under - Monday, October 24th 6:00 - 8:00 PM @ UALR Fieldhouse

13's - Tuesday, October 25th 6:00 - 8:00 PM @ UALR Fieldhouse

National Team Tryouts ONLY for ages 14 -17 (Experienced Elite Players Only)
Monday, October 31st **5:30 - 7:00 PM @ Jack Stephens Arena**

14's - Wednesday, November 2nd 5:00 - 7:00 PM @ UALR Fieldhouse

15's - Wednesday, November 2nd 7:00 - 9:00 PM @ UALR Fieldhouse

17's & 18's - Tuesday, November 7th 5:00 - 7:00 PM @ UALR Fieldhouse

16's - Tuesday, November 7th 7:00 - 9:00 PM @ UALR Fieldhouse

NO MAKEUP DATES: If you are unable to attend your assigned tryout date, please email admin@lrjuniors.com with your name, assigned age group and the date closest to your age group that you are able to attend. We will attempt to work with you so that you can complete a tryout session. PLEASE NOTE THAT MAKEUP TRYOUTS CANNOT BE COMPLETED ON OCT. 31st. This session is reserved strictly for players trying out for a National team.

Tryout Process:

What to Wear/Bring:

Players should wear athletic shoes; t-shirt and spandex/shorts. Do not wear jewelry, including earrings. Bring your own water bottle or Gatorade.

Onsite Check-in:

Each registered player must check in at the tryout site and present the required documents (Player Information Form- 2 copies; Medical Release Form 2-copies, USAV Membership card and proof of age.)

Depending on the age group and level of participation, check-in could take up to 15 - 20 minutes so ARRIVE EARLY!

Tryout Numbers:

After players have submitted their required documentation they will be issued a tryout number and can proceed into the gymnasium. The assigned number will be the player's number for all tryouts they are asked to attend. Throughout tryouts, players will be identified on the evaluation form by number and not name. At the end of each tryout session, players must return their tryout number to LRJ staff prior to leaving the facility.

Evaluators:

The LRJ Club Director, as well as LRJ coaching staff will serve as the evaluators. Evaluators will be assigned a court and an initial group of players to evaluate. Each evaluator will then follow the group through the various drills and competitive activities and rate each player based on the numerical scale.

Evaluation Form:

Coaches will use an evaluation form to rate players on the basic volleyball skills of passing, setting, hitting and serving. Ratings will be 1 – 5 with 5 being the highest skill level. Additional notes may be made regarding footwork, blocking, digging, receiving, communication, court awareness and leadership during game play sessions.

At the conclusion of tryouts, all evaluation forms will be collected by the Club Director or the Club Administrator. A suitable number of copies will be made so that each coach has a set corresponding to all players eligible for their team. The Club Director or Club Administrator will retain the original evaluation forms.

Use of Tryout Evaluation Form:

The evaluation process is an important piece of information to a coach's decision but not the only piece. The tryout evaluation form provides an independent observers opinion on an individual's specific volleyball skills. The form does not take into consideration the coach's style of play or the player's non-skill attributes, such as coachability; team leadership; or attitude. The tryout evaluation form is a factor but not solely conclusive to a coach's decision.

Team Selection:

Player Distribution:

A quality, competitive team must have players that collectively possess all volleyball skills and attributes. For example, a quality competitive team cannot be comprised of all servers and hitters. So once a coach has enough servers and hitters, his/her subsequent selection would be more heavily weighted to other skills like setting, passing and receiving.

Non-Volleyball Skills:

In addition to the tangible volleyball skills, a coach must also consider Coachability - a player's acceptance of direction; Team Leadership – acknowledging others, bringing team together; Attitude – confidence, positive and supportive of teammates and Team Chemistry.

Number of Teams:

The number of teams selected and formed will be based on the number of available coaches and the number of interested players within each age division. Teams may not be formed in all age divisions. For example, if there are only five players trying out for the 10's Metro team, then there will not be a sufficient number of interested players to form a team.

Selection Process:

One of the toughest jobs for any coach is the final decision about which players make the team, and those who do not. The Little Rock Juniors coaching staff strives to make all decisions fairly, without bias, and after extended deliberation and evaluation by all evaluators. The final decision on team selection always falls to the coach selecting their team.

National Teams: Coaches will select the top players from the National tryouts to field teams based on talent and position. Teams *may* comprise players from different age divisions. In this case, the team will compete within the age division of the oldest player on the team. For example, if a National Team is formed of players ranging in ages 15 – 17, then the team will compete in the 17's division at all tournaments.

Club Teams: Coaches will select the top players by position for the “1” team within each age division. The next best set of players will be assigned to the “2” team. In age divisions where there is enough interest and available coaches, additional teams may be formed.

Metro Teams: Coaches will select players based on skill level and will attempt to form equally talented teams based on player's skill strengths. Players within this program *may request* to play on the same team with another player, but we cannot guarantee that your request will be granted, as the overall skill level of the team must be the first consideration. Metro teams in the 12 and under divisions will typically be developmental teams and consist of players with limited to no playing experience, so requests are more easily granted in these age groups.

Team Selection Notification:

Players in the age 12 – 13 division will be notified of their team selection no later than 8:00 PM on Friday, October 28th.

Players in all other age divisions will be notified of their team selection no later than 8:00 PM on Wednesday, November 9th.

Coaches will contact each player, or their parent, at the phone number indicated on the *Player Information Form*, so please make sure that you provide a number that we are able to contact you at.