

# MWHS Volleyball Parent/Athlete Agreement

## Team Rules and Expectations:

### 2021

As a new/or returning member of the Mary Walker High School Volleyball team, you will be expected to know and follow the team rules, along with working hard to meet its expectation. Being part of any team requires some sacrifices to become strong individual players and strong members of a team. Dedication and hard work is required by those involved in order to have a strong volleyball program. **(All rules are in affect from the first practice through the final game of the season)**

#### COACHES:

- Head Coach: **Matt Gines**
- Assistant Coach: **Dani Schurger**

#### SCHOOL PAPERWORK (FAMILY ID):

- Athlete may not practice or participate with the team until Family ID is completed and submitted with an up to date physical and Mr. Watts (A.D.) or Tammy Ward (AD Secretary) add you to my list.

#### POLICIES & RULES:

##### PRACTICE & GAME REQUIREMENTS:

- Practice and game requirements:
  - Athletes must participate in 10 practices before the Davenport tournament in order to be allowed to play (**There are only 10 practices so you must attend every one**).
  - Cell phones, gum, or jewelry are not allowed on the court during practice or games.
  - Appropriate dress apparel should be worn at every practice: proper shoes, shorts, shirts, and kneepads.
  - All breaks will be taken as a team and **only** as a team.
  - Practice will begin at **3:30** during regular school days.
  - Players are expected to stay and support any of the teams that they are not on or are not playing in. All players will sit together and will help cleanup after the final match. **WE ARE ALL PART OF THE SPRINGDALE VOLLEYBALL TEAM AND WILL SUPPORT EACH OTHER!!!**
  - Practices will be open to players and coaches only unless permission from the head coach has been granted.
  - Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. See below for more information on our 3 strike policy.

##### ● PLAYING TIME:

- Playing time during a match is the ultimate reward for any athlete. However, it can often be a sensitive topic when an athlete or parent does not understand or agree with the amount of playing time an athlete receives.
- An athlete can request a meeting with her coach or coaching staff to discuss playing time or what she needs to do to get better in order to increase her playing time.
- An athletes playing time will not be discussed with other players.
- An athletes playing time will only be discussed with her parents/guardians with the athlete present and at a scheduled meeting.
- Playing time is a complex mix of an athletes personal strengths and limitations (physical, emotional, mental, and social), skill level, attitude, attendance, work ethic, teams positional needs, player tendencies, opponents tendencies, strategies, long and short term goals, team cohesiveness, player roles and finally the need to follow the rules of the game. Ultimately, it comes down to "What is in the best interest of the team?"

- Coaches do not take the decision of playing time lightly. Much thought and planning goes into the decision making process.
- Volleyball is a competitive sport. As an athlete, you expect to compete against other schools but often times overlook that you compete against your own teammates daily throughout the season to earn playing time.
- Varsity letters will be given only to varsity players and up to the coaches discretion.
- **Team Make-up:**
  - Depending on number of athletes, we will have a varsity and a JV.
  - A position on each squad will be earned and could change as the season progresses.
  - Varsity will consist of those that give us the best chance to win! It will not have anything to do with age or grade, but rather who has earned that spot by their play at practice, skill level, attitude, attendance, work ethic, teams positional needs, player tendencies, opponents tendencies, strategies, long and short term goals, team cohesiveness, and player roles.
  - Younger players may play on both varsity and JV in order to get more touches and playing experience. On varsity, they may see a limited role and therefore need time on JV to gain that valuable game experience.
  - Playing on the Varsity squad comes with a lot of pressure and high expectations. I will be hard on varsity players to try and get the most out of them.
- **24-Hour Rule:**
  - Springdale Volleyball team has this rule in place to avoid conflicts between parents/guardians and coaches.
  - You are required to wait 24 hours before or after a game before approaching a coach.
  - Coaches have many responsibilities to perform before and after a game.
  - Approaching a coach to discuss a sensitive topic before or immediately after a game is inappropriate and could result in a loss of playing time for your daughter.
  - If after 24 hours you wish to visit with the coach, you may contact the head coach to schedule an appointment.
- **Away Games:**
  - All athletes are responsible for having all of the necessary parts of their uniform before they board the bus.
  - All athletes are expected to act appropriately on the bus and at other schools. Athletes who cannot act appropriately will not attend away games or team events.
  - All athletes are expected to ride the bus home with their team. However, if an athlete wishes to ride home with a parent, they need to be signed out by their parent directly after the last game is played.
- **Appearance:**
  - All athletes will dress up or dress as a team for every game. They will be dressed up all day at school and come to the gym dressed up. If you feel good, you will play better!
- **Excused Absences:**
  - Excused absences include only those which are absolutely necessary and are cleared by the coach BEFORE the game or practice missed. If an athlete is sick the day of a practice or game, I need to be contacted, text message is the best method! If a practice before a game is missed, playing time will be decided by the coaches depending on the circumstances and what was missed during practice.
  - Do not always assume that your excuse is acceptable. Always check in advance!
  - School sponsored activities are excused, however, please communicate these to the coach in advance.
- **Unexcused Absences:**
  - If the coach is not notified prior to the practice or game and are not told specifically from the athlete or parent of the athlete, it is unexcused! Unnecessary reasons for

absence will also be looked at as unexcused, including forgotten clothes, along with excessive excused absence, tardiness, or leaving early from practice or games.

- Unexcused absences will result in a loss of playing time in upcoming games!
- Athletes who have to sit out matches are still expected to sit with the team at the game, both on the bench and supporting other teams!

● **Conduct:**

- You are expected to follow all Mary Walker High School rules and Springdale Volleyball rules.
- This includes avoiding the use of Alcohol, tobacco, and drugs!
- Avoid situations that put you and your eligibility at risk!
- NO unsportsmanlike conduct by athletes or parents of athletes toward other Springdale Volleyball players, opposing teams, coaches, or officials will be tolerated at any time! **(This includes the use of social media or text messaging)** Actions of this kind will be dealt with by coaches and administration and severe consequences will follow to include loss of playing time or removal from the team.
- Athletes are expected to give 100% at all times at games and at practice.

● **Classroom Behavior/Grades:**

- Your behavior in the classroom should be exemplary and represent Springdale Volleyball at the highest level.
- Notify your teachers in advance when you will be leaving early for a game in order to get the appropriate work and not get behind in your studies.
- Prepare for classes and make up any work in advance that you will be missing.
- Grades are very important to me. If you become ineligible due to poor grades, this could impact where and how much you play throughout the season.

● **Disruptive Behavior during Volleyball:**

- Any player who struggles to follow direction or behaves in such a manner that it disrupts practice or other players ability to focus and improve. We will have a three strike policy.
- **Strike 1** - Coach will offer a verbal warning; **Strike 2** - Coach will notify parent/guardian that if the problem continues, their player will be removed from the team; **Strike 3** - Player will be removed from the team and can try to play again next season.

We are very excited to begin the season! Parent support is very important and we look forward to seeing you at our matches!

**As Springdale Volleyball players, we do not do anything that would embarrass our team, our school, or our family.**

(Please circle one) **I do give / do not give** permission for my child's photograph and name to be used on our Springdale Volleyball website or other marketing publications.

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Athlete Signature

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DATE

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Parent Signature

Thank You,

Coach Matt Gines  
Coach Dani Schurger

**Check out our team webpage for information throughout the season!  
Go to: [springdalechargers.com](http://springdalechargers.com) and like us on facebook!**