2026 - 2027
AIM Sports Group Manual

Presented by AIM Sports Group
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Athletes, Coaches, and/or Club Representatives,

AIM Sports Group was created to help volleyball athletes and teams showcase their abilities on a local, regional and national level. The SoCal Cup is a JVA sanctioned league hosting regional competition throughout the year. AIM Sports Group hosts four (4) national tournaments in December, January, March, and June.

Our mission is to support the growth of volleyball by enhancing the quality, value, and experience, inspiring all athletes and clubs, and cultivating passion around the sport through uncompromising events and tournaments. AIM Sports Group strives to help club organizations, teams, and athletes achieve their aspirations and goals by providing best in class competition and events.

AIM Sports Group Core Values:

(1) **COMPETITION:** We are committed to creating tournaments and events that are meaningful for all club programs, help showcase both team and individual effort and achievement, and most importantly, are fun for all the athletes, parents and coaches involved.
(2) **CUSTOMER SERVICE:** We are a customer focused and customer centric organization that understands the importance of all of the clubs involved. Great communication is key and a standard that should never be deviated from. We will continue to be unwavering in our commitment to provide the best service for every club owner, director, coach, athlete and parents.
(3) **CULTIVATION:** We are committed to the growth of volleyball by cultivating a passion that encompasses the sport at every level through a grassroots movement that expands locally, regionally, and nationally.

Please read this manual in its entirety as there is important information for parents, athletes, coaches, and all club representatives. Be sure to regularly check SoCalCupVolleyball.com, aimsportsgroup.com, OttoEvent.ai, and jvavolleyball.org for detailed information about registration, eligibility, and schedules. We appreciate your cooperation as we maintain a top notch season for all of youth volleyball.

Sincerely,
AIM Sports Group Staff

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Getting Started

I. Registration

A. All adults (coaches, team representatives, and club directors) MUST purchase a JVA background check in order to participate in any AIM Sports Group activity, including sitting on the bench. Membership information can be found at jvavolleyball.org/membership.

B. All club directors must register their club through Sportwrench to participate in any AIM Sports Group event. The club registration will include the registration form and director agreement. Once registered, there will be a link on our website's resources page for the Player Commitment Form. The commitment form can then be sent out only on or after the designated Commitment Day.

II. Insurance

A. The JVA Insurance is a benefit to members only. To purchase the JVA insurance, you must have a JVA Club Director or Organizational membership. All athletes participating must complete Player Forms. All adults on JVA insured event rosters will need to clear the JVA Background Screen and take the Abuse Prevention Systems (APS) training.

B. More information about JVA Insurance can be found here.

III. Tournament Entries

A. The schedule can be found on our website at SoCal Cup Volleyball. Here, you'll find a detailed schedule and registration links. Please note that the registration link will direct you to Otto Event for online registration. **Registration for all tournaments will be listed on the SoCal Cup website and close on the registration closing date or once capacity of the tournament has been reached.**

B. Tournament entry deadlines and costs are subject to change. One day league tournaments cost $395, two day tournaments cost $785. **No entries will be accepted unless accompanied by the entry fee for the event.** Teams will be accepted into the tournament once payment has been received as space allows. **Registration for the tournament does not guarantee acceptance.**

C. Payment for league tournaments must be completed at least **14 days** prior to the tournament or the team will be dropped from the event.

D. If a team(s) is unable to participate, AIM Sports Group requests notification via email at info@socalcupvolleyball.com prior to the event date with submission of the Tournament Removal form that can be found on the resources page of SoCal Cup website. Team(s) that drop less than **14 days prior** to the tournament start date for single day tournaments will not be refunded. Team(s) that drop less than **30 days prior** to the tournament start date for multi-day tournaments will not be refunded.

E. Otto Event offers an added Team Registration Protection. This is an optional added insurance policy, separate from AIM Sports Group, that provides coverage in the event that you are unable to obtain a refund under the AIM Sports Group refund policy.

F. The tournament schedule will be posted on Otto Event the week of the tournament. Please check the tournament schedule on the Friday before the tournament date as the schedule is subject to change. Please take the time to inform your coaches, athletes and parents of the schedule and any changes that may arise, as it is your responsibility.

IV. Age Divisions

A. **JVA** Age Definitions **for the 2026-2027 Season -** The age determination date for JVA ***Boys*** Volleyball is July 1st.

B. More information about age determination can be found here on the JVA Website.

C. IMPORTANT:

Once an athlete has:

1. Been enrolled at a university, college, community college or junior college AND
2. Been cleared to participate by that (volleyball) program.

The athlete is ineligible to take part in any AIM Sports Group Event.

Eligibility

I. Beginning of the Season

A. Athletes are eligible to play for any club or team as determined by their age eligibility up until the beginning of the sanctioned season. At that time, his appearance on the court will signify his commitment to that club. The athlete must remain a registered member of that specific club for the remainder of the season.

II. Commitment & Transfer Requests

A. Athlete Release & Transfer

1. Basic Penalty: Once a Letter of Commitment is signed, the athlete is committed to join the club named within the document for the entire 2026/2027 season. If an athlete competes for another club, they may be subject to suspension for the remainder of the season.

2. Early Signing Period: No athletes can sign a Letter of Commitment before August 23, 2026. Any athlete who signs a Letter of Commitment before this date is subject to suspension for the entire season.

3. Pre-Signing/Pre-Payments: Under no conditions may the Letter of Commitment be pre-signed or pre-dated before this time frame, regardless of the date of the tryout. In turn, no deposit monies, team or club fees can be collected before these dates.

4. Only One Letter of Commitment Permitted: An athlete who signs more than one Letter of Commitment with more than one club is subject to suspension for the entire 2026/2027 season.

5. Verbal Commitments: An athlete may commit verbally to a club prior to August 23, 2026. A verbal commitment is not binding. The athlete may revoke the commitment at any time, before signing the Letter of Commitment, without penalty.

6. Recruiting Ban after Signing: All clubs are obligated to respect an athlete's signing and shall cease to recruit the athlete upon their signing of the commitment form. The athlete shall notify any recruiter who contacts them that they have signed a commitment form for the 2026/2027 season.

7. Parent/Guardian Signature Required: The athlete's parent, or legal guardian, is required to sign the Letter of Commitment if the athlete is less than 18 years of age at the time of signing.

8. Falsification of Letter of Commitment: If an athlete or parent/guardian falsify any part of the Letter of Commitment, including the date, they understand that the athlete is subject to suspension for the entire 2026/2027 season.

9. Nullification of Other Agreements: Signature(s) on the Letter of Commitment nullify any agreements, verbal or otherwise, which would release the athlete from the conditions stated within this document.

10. Binding Agreement: The athlete must understand that they have signed the Letter of Commitment with the club and not with a particular individual. If the coach or any athlete(s) leave the team, the athlete remains bound by the provisions of the document for the entire 2026/2027 season.

11. Transfer Policy: Transfers are reviewed by JVA on a case by case basis. Please contact them for more information. No transfers will be permitted without the written consent of the club associated with this signed agreement.

B. Release Request
    1. All release requests must be made through the JVA.

C. Inter-Region Transfers
    1. An athlete shall represent no more than one region, club or team in sanctioned competition during the same season. Special circumstances due to military or parent job transfer may be taken up with the JVA.

D. Commitment/Tryout Dates
    1. The Tryout Date for the 2026-2027 season is August 22, 2026. Clubs **CANNOT** hold a tryout prior to the SoCal Cup Tryout Date.

    2. Commitment Day for the 2026-2027 season is August 23, 2026.

    3. No athletes can sign a Letter of Commitment before **August 23, 2026**. Any athlete or guardian who signs a Letter of Commitment before these dates is subject to suspension for the entire season.

    4. No deposit monies, team or club fees can be collected before these dates. Any club who collects fees or deposits prior to these dates is subject to suspension for the entire season.

E. Age Group Eligibility
    1. JVA allows age-waivered athletes to compete at their grade level with their peers, provided they are no more than one year older than the maximum age defined for that division.
    2. To request an age waiver, complete the JVA Age Waiver Request Form. The form must be submitted by a Club Director or Club Administrator and include a copy of the athlete's birth certificate and proof of grade, such as a report card, school ID, or class schedule, to verify the athlete's current school year and grade level.
    3. Submit the completed request and all required documentation for approval before the tournament's roster deadline.

III. New Athletes

A. Athletes may be registered at any time throughout the year as long as the proper paperwork and fees are received prior to participation.

IV. Recruiting Policy

A. The following include the Recruiting Guidelines

1. No coach or club representative is allowed to make initial contact with an athlete or his parents in order to persuade that athlete to leave their current team.

SoCal Cup League Format

SoCal Cup will implement a one day Gold & Silver Divisions (for 15U-18U) and Gold Division (for 12U-14U) bracket format and traditional pool play for the remaining divisions. This format is designed to maximize competition and create less parity amongst divisions. The format is subject to change on tournament entry numbers, feedback, and space constraints.

I. Qualifying Tournament

The two (2) day Qualifying Tournament format will be pool play on both days without playoffs. The Qualifying Tournament will determine the starting division and position within each age group for the teams participating in the SoCal Cup league. The tie breaking protocol of Match Record, Set Percentage, then Point Percentage, will be used to determine appropriate standings going into Tournament 1. Teams that do not participate in the Qualifying Tournament will be placed in the last division for Tournament 1 or their first league tournament. A complete and detailed format for the Qualifying Tournament will be published prior to the event.

II. League Tournaments

A. Bracket

1. For 15U-18U, the Gold and Silver Divisions will participate in an 8-team bracket play. For 12U-14U, the Gold Divisions will participate in an 8-team bracket play.

2. Teams participating in SoCal Cup Gold & Silver Divisions (for 15U-18U) and Gold Divisions (for 12U-14U) will be seeded into divisional brackets of eight teams (8). The format is a traditional quarterfinal bracket (1v8, 2v7, 3v6, 4v5).

3. After the completion of each one day tournament, teams will be reseeded based on the previous weekend's results. In each division, the lowest three finishers (final standing of 6-8) will move down a division and become the three higher seeds in the lower division for the following weekend. The winners of each division (final standing of 1-3) will move up a division and become the three lowest seeds in the higher divisions. Teams finishing 4th and 5th in the final division standing will maintain their positions.

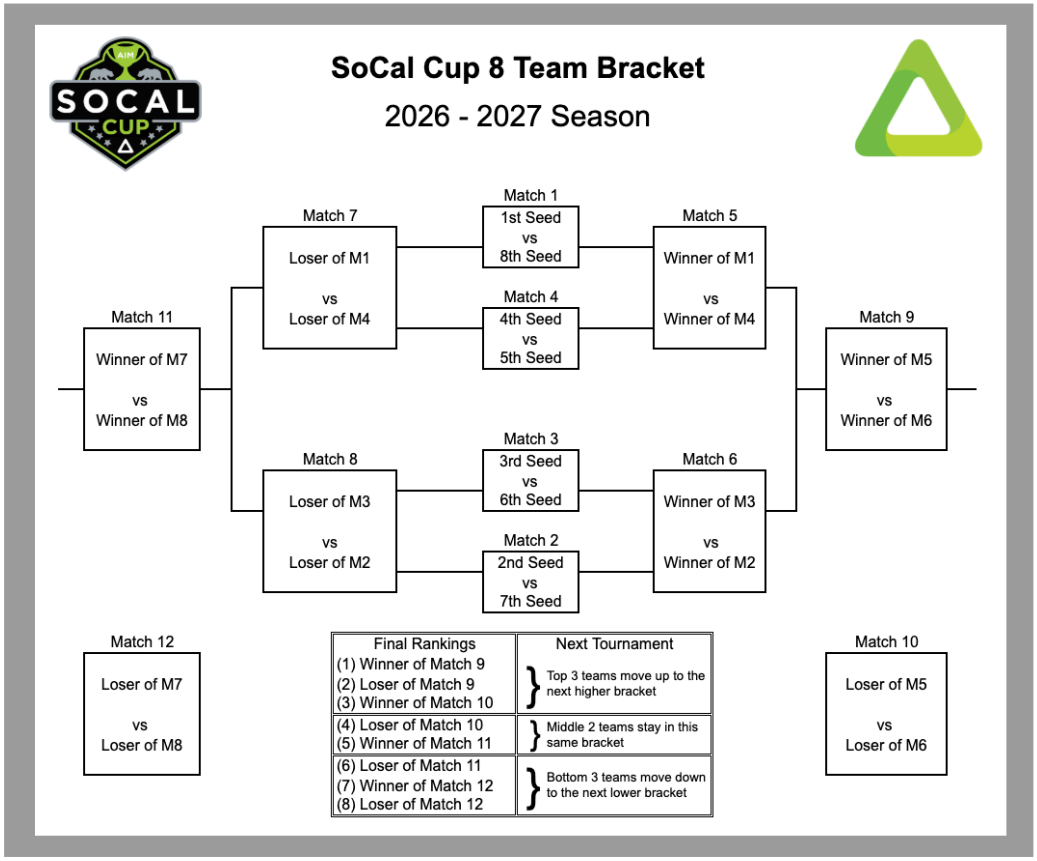
B. Pool Play (Remaining Divisions)

1. Teams in the remaining divisions outside of Gold & Silver Divisions (for 15U-18U) and outside of Gold (for 12U-14U) will participate in pool play. The format is a traditional pool where teams will have a guarantee of three matches and their seed within the pool will determine the team's match schedule. After the completion of each one day tournament, teams will be reseeded for the next tournament. In each pool, the first place finishers (final standing of 1) will move up a division and become the lowest seed in each of the higher division pools for the next tournament. In each pool, the 2nd place finishers will maintain their positions and be the 2nd seed for the next tournament. In each pool, the 3rd place finishers will maintain their 3rd place seeding for the next tournament and move pools for the next tournament. The bottom finisher in each pool (final standing of 4) will move down a division and become the top seed in each of the lower division pools for the next tournament.

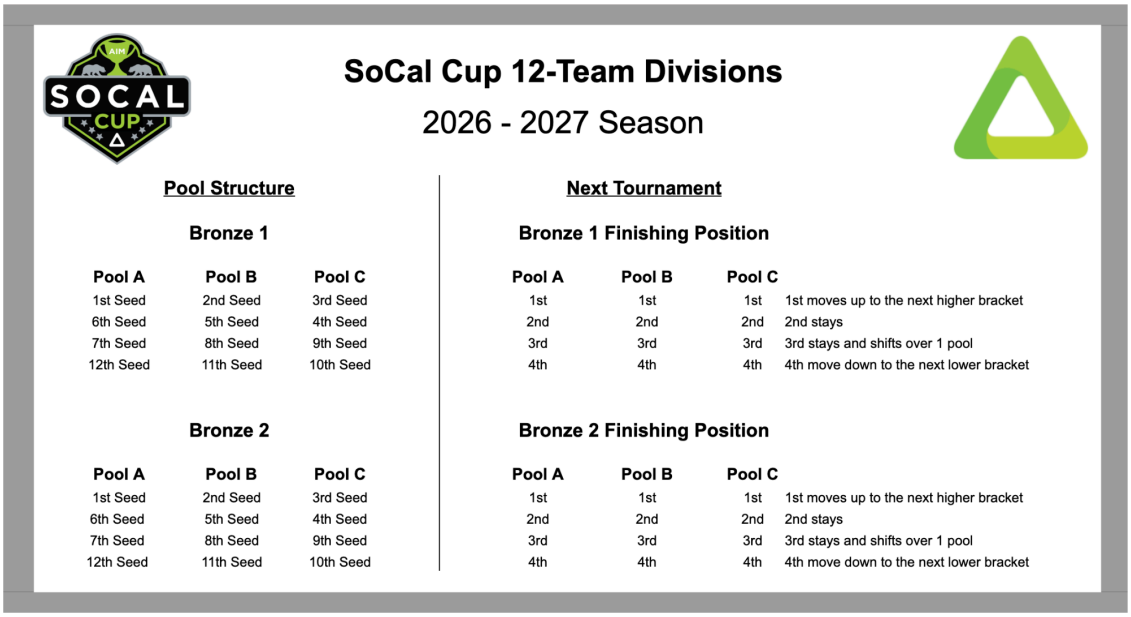
C. Division Flow

1. The top 3 teams of each division will move up to the next higher division. The bottom 3 teams of each division will move down to the next lower division. Any remaining teams will stay in the same division

D. Standard Bracket Play Schedule



E. Standard 12-Team Division



**The format is subject to change on tournament entry numbers, feedback, and space constraints.

F. Point Scale

1. The number of points awarded to each team is derived from a predetermined scale based on each team's finish within their respective division. Point totals will be recorded to determine the team's current standing throughout the season. Season points and standings can be found on the Standings page on the SoCal Cup website.

Point Scale

1st - awarded 1,000 Points
2nd - awarded 985 points
3rd - awarded 975 points
4th - awarded 970 points
5th - awarded 965 points
And continues down 5 points for each lower finish

III. Friendly Tournaments

A. Friendly Tournaments will be one day events with no impact on points or standings. The format for these tournaments will be pool play.

IV. Championship Tournaments

A. Championship Tournaments will be a single day format for all age groups. Seeding for the tournament will be based on the team's current point standing within the SoCal Cup League with the lowest tournament score being removed.

SoCal Cup holds the right to change the format at any time to make the most competitive tournament possible. Factors that might determine changes include but are not limited to the number of teams entered in the tournament, best format to guarantee four matches whenever possible, or level of competition.

Tournament Rules & Regulations

I. Sanction

A. JVA Volleyball is conducted under the current playing rules of USA Volleyball. For the current USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations, visit https://usavolleyball.org/resources-for-officials/rulebooks-and-interpretations/.

II. Tie Breaking Procedure

A. In the case of a tie, pool position will be determined by the following formula:
   1. 2-way tie: 1) match record 2) head to head
   2. 3-way tie: 1) match record 2) set percentage 3) point ratio

B. Formula: Point Ratio = points for divided by points against

C. Note: A pool winner is seeded higher than a second place finisher from another pool even if the second place team has a better match/game record

II. Playing and Officiating Tardiness

A. For each minute the work or playing team is missing or incomplete, one point will be given to their next opponent, up to a maximum of 25 points. Penalty points start at the match start time - 10 minutes for the start of warmups.

III. Standard Pool Play Schedule

Listed below is the schedule for three, four, and five team pools (please note that there are certain circumstances, which may change the listed order of the matches).

THREE TEAM POOL

Playing Team	Ref Team
1 vs 3	2
2 vs 3	1
1 vs 2	3

FOUR TEAM POOL

Playing Team	Ref Team
1 vs 3	2
2 vs 4	1
1 vs 4	3
2 vs 3	1
2 vs 4	2
1 vs 2	4

FIVE TEAM POOL

Playing Team	Ref Team
1 vs 5	3
2 vs 4	3
1 vs 3	4
2 vs 5	4
3 vs 4	3
1 vs 2	3
3 vs 5	5
1 vs 4	5
2 vs 3	1
4 vs 5	1

**5 team pools will be played on 2 courts whenever possible

IV. Schedule Release

A. Schedules will be released the week of the tournament and can be accessed via ottoevent.ai (formerly SportWrench).
B. Check the SoCal Cup website for playing waves, locations, schedule updates, and information.
C. The deadline for schedule changes must be submitted by 12:00pm Monday, the week of the tournament. Any requests submitted after the deadline will be void.

V. Warm Up & Ball Handling

A. There will be no ball handling allowed in any area of the facility except on your assigned court during your assigned warm-up period.
B. Each team is expected to provide balls for their team for their allotted warm up time. Warm Up balls will not be provided by the tournament or facility staff.
C. Running in the facility will **NOT** be tolerated.

VI. Uniform Policy

A. Each athlete is required to wear the same jersey number throughout the event with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications.

B. Identical uniforms are required, with the following exceptions:

1. Libero Uniforms
    a) The Libero must wear a uniform shirt that is immediately recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team.
    b) When two Liberos are used, both Liberos can be in uniforms different from each other and from the rest of the team.
2. Different sleeve lengths are permitted.
3. If undergarments are worn in such a manner that they are exposed, they will be considered a part of the uniform, in which they must be similar and the same color for any team member (except Libero) who wears the undergarment. Socks and shoes are not considered part of the uniform.
4. Manufacturer's logo or trademark can vary if it does not exceed 2 ¼ inches.

C. The jerseys must be numbered in a permanent manner from 1 and 99 and duplicate numbers are not allowed.

D. Uniform numbers must be clearly visible and centered on the chest and back.
E. The numbers must be a minimum height of 4" on the chest and 6" on the back. It is recommended that numbers be 6" on chest and 8" on the back. The stripe forming the numbers shall have a minimum width of ¾".
F. Each jersey must use the same color and number height for all athletes except the Libero. The color and brightness of the numbers must contrast with the color and brightness of the jerseys. Color combinations including but not limited to purple/black, dark green/black, navy/black or navy/maroon are not distinctive enough to comply with the rules.
G. USA Volleyball uniform requirements must be followed. For additional specifications, please refer to USAV rule 4.3.

VII. Officiating Policy

A. Each team must provide a complete officiating team when scheduled. If the officiating team is late for their assignment, that team will be responsible for officiating the remainder of that match and will be penalized a point per minute to the teams next opponent in the first set of the next match. Failure to officiate for an entire assigned match will result in the forfeit of a game win from that team's overall record. A game win will become a game loss. If a team is late for the last match of the day or misses the assignment, the penalty as described above will carry over to the next tournament.

B. The officiating team will consist of SIX people:
    1. (1) 2nd Official/Down Ref (Must be a Rostered Adult Non-athlete)
    2. (2) Linespersons
    3. (1) Official Scorekeeper
    4. (1) Official Libero Tracker
    5. (1) Visible Scoreboard Keeper

VIII. Rosters

A. Team rosters may include up to fifteen athletes and five (5) adult bench personnel. All bench personnel must be a rostered JVA member with a background check.
B. Uniform numbers and positions are required to be submitted on the team roster. Each athlete must wear the same number throughout the event, with limited exceptions.
C. Athletes shall not compete for more than one team per event. This includes teams within the same club.
D. Rosters will be checked by the Official prior to match start.
E. Any roster changes made after the roster deadline for AIM Sports Group Events will require a $50 charge per roster adjustment. This charge will be submitted electronically (no cash).

1. Failure to pay will result in removal from upcoming tournaments.
2. If payment is not complete, the team will not be eligible to register for future events until the outstanding balance has been paid.
3. Roster changes for League events will need to be communicated to the tournament desk.

IX. Protest Procedure

A. Protest Procedures (USAV 5.1.2.1)

1. Protestable situations include a scoring discrepancy.
2. The coach may handle the protest procedure for any age level; the team or game captain is encouraged to participate for educational purposes...
3. A protest must be lodged immediately at the end of the rally in which the protested situation occurred; a serve negates a protest of any previous rally.
4. The last rally of a set/match must be protested within 60 seconds of the end of that set/match.
5. The coach may not cross the court to speak with the 1st referee; the 1st Referee may leave the stand, if necessary, to confer near the team bench.
6. Judgment decisions are not protestable. Please find more information here.

X. Side Switches

Side switches will only take place during a match if there is a clear and apparent advantage or if both coaches agree to the side switch prior to the match start.

XI. Cancellation Policy

A. Multi Day Tournaments

1. Registration for multi-day tournaments will close 30 days prior to the tournament start date or until the tournament has reached capacity. If a team(s) removal form is submitted and received 30 days prior to the tournament start date, a refund will be given to the team(s) and removed from the tournament. If a team(s) removal form is submitted and received less than 30 days prior to the tournament start date, no refund will be given and the team(s) will be removed from the tournament.
2. The waitlist for AIM Sports Events will be cleared 3 weeks prior to the tournament date. Refunds for waitlisted teams will be processed the week following the tournament.

B. Single Day Tournaments
    1. Registration for single day tournaments will close 14 days prior to the tournament start date or until the tournament has reached capacity. If a team(s) removal form is submitted and received 14 days prior to the tournament start date, a refund will be given to the team(s) and removed from the tournament. If a team(s) removal form is submitted and received less than 14 days prior to the tournament start date, no refund will be given and the team(s) will be removed from the tournament.

Social Media and Online Communications Policy

I. OVERVIEW

AIM Sports Group is committed to safeguarding youth privacy and safety, both online and offline. With online, social media and other electronic communication tools becoming more prevalent in professional communication, fundamentally changing the way many people and organizations interact.

This policy sets forth expectations with respect to the use of online and social media, as well as other forms of electronic communications, by all AIM Sports Group clubs, athletes, coaches, officials, parents, staff, volunteers, and administrators (each a “AIM Sports Group Participant” or “Participant”).

II. POLICY

The term "online and social media" as used in this policy, encompasses a wide array of digital communications, and their scope is constantly evolving. For purposes of this policy, the terms "online media" and "social media" refer to internal and external websites, blogs, online social networks (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, X (aka Twitter), Snapchat, LinkedIn), wikis, video and photo sharing sites (e.g., YouTube and Flickr), as well as other forms of personal online publishing and discourse now in existence or which may be developed in the future. For clarity, instant messaging, email and individual telephone communications are also covered by this policy.

Social media forums are typically public. Even when using social media for purely personal purposes, a person's public expressions might affect their professional identity and the organizational interests of AIM Sports Group and our members. Moreover, person-to-person instant messages, emails and other communications can be easily shared online to make them public or widely known within the AIM Sports Group community and beyond. Accordingly, anyone participating in online or social media must ensure that their participation is consistent with this policy and other AIM Sports Group policies.

AIM Sports Group fully respects the interest our parents, athletes, and volunteers may have in participating in online and social media on a personal basis. What our coaches, athletes, officials, parents, staff, volunteers, and administrators do outside of AIM Sports Group activities on their own time is normally their own business. However, activities of Participants outside of AIM Sports Group activities that affect the organization's reputation, the safety of our athletes, or other members of the AIM Sports Group community are within the scope of this policy.

With these objectives in mind, all Participants must be familiar with and adhere to this policy, regardless of whether they personally use online or social media.

III. PRIVACY

While the SoCal Cup league and AIM Sports Group Events are generally open to the public, for the safety and well-being of athletes and other Participants, no photography, videography or other video or audio recordings of any athlete or other minor child may be used or posted to online or social media without prior written permission from such athletes or other minor's parent(s). All clubs must obtain written permission from their athletes and athletes' parents to post any content regarding the athletes on any online or social media. Incidental footage of athletes from other teams may be posted so long as such footage is otherwise compliant with this policy and such other athletes are not the focus and not named in the footage or related posts, unless permission is obtained.

IV. RESPECT

While we understand that the use of online and social media, including during matches, often occurs during competition, the inappropriate use of online and social media can damage the reputation of AIM Sports Group, its teams, and its athletes. In this spirit, AIM Sports Group Participants posting through statements, pictures, videos, memes or gifs) on online or social media that could be are prohibited from posting anything (including construed – direct, implied, or otherwise – as negative, critical, or derogatory toward any other Participant. This includes any content that:

- Disparages, criticizes, ridicules, belittles, or embarrasses a Participant.
- Mimics or impersonates a Participant in a negative manner.
- Criticizes officiating or the AIM Sports Group officiating program.
- Disparages, criticizes, ridicules, or belittles any other club.

Participants should never disparagingly or negatively refer to an opponent, official, AIM Sports Group staff or other Participant's personal life, family, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or any other status or characteristic protected by law. Positive comments are of course fine. In addition, clubs may use online and social media for fun and lighthearted banter that does not reflect poorly on any team, athlete, AIM Sports Group personnel, or the AIM Sports Group as a whole. However, such activity should not be inappropriate or offensive.

V. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MANIPULATION

The developments in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning have created opportunities in the world of sport and competition. They have also made it easier to change, alter, and manipulate images, video, audio, and other content in a manner that is false, misleading, disparaging and/or offensive. These developments pose a serious threat to the safety and well-being of athletes and other members of the AIM Sports Group community.

AIM Sports Group Event Participants are prohibited from manually or using artificial intelligence or any other technologies to change, alter, or manipulate in any manner any image, video, audio, or other content featuring any other AIM Sports Group Participant without express prior written permission from all involved.

VI. DISAGREEMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

In competitive sports, it is natural for disagreements to arise regarding strategy, tactics, fair play and officiating. Online and social media is not the place to resolve these disagreements. In the event any AIM Sports Group Participant has a complaint regarding any tournament, match, or other AIM Sports Group Participant, such complaint should be directed to Administration@aimsportsgroup.com for review, evaluation, and resolution. In no event should any such complaints be posted to online or other social media.

VII. TRAINING AND MONITORING

Each AIM Sports Group club is responsible for any content posted by the club. In addition, each club is responsible for communicating this policy to all coaches, athletes, staff, parents, and family members as well as overseeing/monitoring posts by such individuals, including but not limited to monitoring fans (followers) of pages, monitoring for inappropriate activity, ensuring that any photography with a minor child is not posted unless prior written permission is provided from the parent(s), and ensuring that any element of the applicable page or post (or the page or post itself) can be deleted quickly if directed to do so by AIM Sports Group.

As such, we encourage clubs to properly and extensively train their athletes, coaches, staff members, and spectators to ensure that they know what postings are appropriate and what are not, in accordance with this policy. Failure by a club to enforce this policy with its athletes, coaches, staff members, and/or spectators may be deemed a violation of this policy by the club.

VIII. REPORTING AND RESOLUTION

Any inappropriate online or social media content and all suspicious internet and electronic communications should be reported to the Director of Tournament Operations. Participants may also report inappropriate activity to law enforcement authorities directly, as appropriate.

Once reported, the complaint will be investigated by AIM Sports Group and/or other outside authority designated by them. Each AIM Sports Group Participant agrees to fully cooperate with any such investigation. Failure to cooperate will be taken into consideration in investigating the claim and reaching a determination regarding the matter.

Upon conclusion of the investigation, AIM Sports Group shall make a determination regarding the claim, which determination may affect future participation by the individual(s) involved in the policy violation. AIM Sports Group Participants understand that such determinations may include suspension or termination of an individual or clubs right to participate in AIM Sports Group events or activities and/or other affirmative obligations and/or restrictions on such individual(s). Factors in determining any penalties for any violation, include, but are not limited to, the severity of the violation and/or the number and severity of prior violations, if any. Further, AIM Sports Group reserves the right to report any violations of this policy to JVA Volleyball, USA Volleyball, and/or law enforcement.

FURTHER MEDIA INFORMATION

I. OVERVIEW

Capturing memories of your children's accomplishments is part of parenthood. We understand that family members and friends will take photographs and record matches and tournaments. For the safety of our athletes, coaches, officials and other personnel and the integrity of our competitions, the SoCal Cup (AIM Sports Group) has adopted this content capture and media policy for all AIM Sports Group events.

II. DESIGNATED SPACE

In order to ensure the safety of participants and the integrity of competition, any filming, photography, recording or other content capture at any AIM Sports Group event or in any AIM Sports Group venue or other facility may only occur in the designated spectator areas. These are typically located in the stands at each venue. However, from time to time, AIM Sports Group may restrict filming, photography, recording and other content capture to specific areas within the spectator area. Without limiting the foregoing, any filming, photography, recording or other content capture from team benches, locker rooms or other athlete areas without AIM Sports Group's prior written approval is strictly prohibited.

III. DEVICES

Filming, photography, recording and other content capture is intended for personal, non-commercial use only. As such, professional equipment, including telephoto lenses, external microphones, lighting, and other professional equipment are not permitted at any AIM Sports Group event.

IV. USE AND DISTRIBUTION

Use of any photography, video, recording, or other content captured at any AIM Sports Group event may not be sold, licensed, distributed, or transmitted in any manner without the prior written consent of AIM Sports Group. Subject to compliance with this policy and all other AIM Sports Group policies, images and footage can be used for recruitment purposes and content not exceeding 60 seconds may be posted to the photographer's personal social media handles. Any other proposed uses must be submitted to media@aimsportsgroup.com for approval, which may be granted or withheld in AIM Sports Group's sole discretion.

V. ADDITIONAL PERMISSIONS

In the event any team, group or individual wishes to film, photograph, record and/or capture any content at any AIM Sports Group event or in any AIM Sports Group venue or other facilities in any manner not specified in this policy or use any content in a manner not specified in this policy, the individual must do the following:

1. Read and follow the Media Credential Policy below.
2. Complete the AIM Sports Group Event Media Credential.
3. Submit a written request to media@aimsportsgroup.com for approval, which may be granted or withheld in AIM Sports Group's sole discretion.

AIM Sports Group Media Credential Policy

I. REQUIRED CREDENTIALS

A. Credentials issued by AIM Sports Group are required to cover all events hosted by AIM Sports Group.

B. Credentials are provided to working members of the media to assist in the coverage of AIM Sports Group events, as well as to Content Creators who are working on behalf of volleyball clubs or privately to disseminate content to athletes and families. Credentials do not imply any guarantee to access, are of limited duration, are not transferable, and are revocable.

C. Loaning or transferring credentials to another may result in immediate permanent revocation of media credentials and ejection from the event of the original holder and unauthorized holder of the credentials.

D. Failure to adhere to the requirements of this policy may result in revocation of credentials for the representative and/or their outlet. Media outlets will be held accountable for the actions, conduct and professionalism of all their credentialed personnel.

E. All credentials are subject to space availability restrictions in working media areas at various facilities.

F. Credentials must be displayed at all times during the media event. Credentials will be distributed once for the duration of the event by AIM Sports Group and must be returned at the end of the event.

II. DEFINITIONS:

"Approved Media Credential Applicant" (AMCA) shall signify that annual application was approved, Background Screen has cleared and remains in good-standing, and credentials can be freely provided throughout the year.
"Media Credential Holder" (MCH) shall signify that Approved Media Credential Applicant holds a Media Credential for that specific event and will be allowed entry per the terms in this policy.

III. CREDENTIAL APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS

A. All media credential applications should be requested by completing the AIM Sports Group Media Credential Application, which includes a link to complete the JVA Background Screen.

B. Media credential applications will need to be completed **once per year per applicant**. Once the application is approved, the applicant will become an AMCA. AMCAs will need to specify which events they will be attending. Failure to specify an event in advance may result in not having credentials available at the event.

C. Credential applications will be reviewed and granted by the AIM Sports Group Directors. Appeals for denial or revocation can be made to AIM Sports Group, but there is no guarantee that the denial appeal will be successful.

IV. CREDENTIAL ELIGIBILITY

A. Media credentials may be issued to working members of the media representing recognized media outlets in the business of news gathering/sports reporting as a primary function of their business. Media credentials may also be issued to Content Creators working on behalf of a volleyball club or privately to disseminate content to athletes & families.

1. The types of media outlets eligible for credentials include: newspapers, websites, magazines, volleyball publications, television and radio.
2. The dissemination of editorial content must be a primary purpose of the media outlet and the outlet must demonstrate a record of sustained, original coverage of youth sports, on a regular basis.
3. The dissemination of action photography/videography for highlights must be the primary purpose of the Content Creator and they must demonstrate a record of sustained, original coverage of youth sporting events, on a regular basis.
4. Credentials will not be issued to representatives whose outlet exists solely as a platform for distributing unoriginal content (press releases, aggregate news sites, etc.)
5. Online outlets should typically (a) be affiliated with a national or regional media organization; or, (b) host a website that provides substantial coverage of athletics, and employs at least one full-time, permanent employee responsible for producing the site's content. Outlets which are message boards without regular, substantial news/editorial/feature coverage by a full-time writer may be denied credentials.
6. Outlets whose working function is limited primarily to the recording and posting of full media availability sessions without any produced news/editorial/feature content will be denied. There shall be no broadcasting or live-streaming of AIM Sports Group events by media credential holders.

B. Media credential holders should be on assignment for that outlet. Passes used by any member of a credentialed outlet without specific editorial assignment or by non-working members of the outlet are subject to revocation and will affect all future credentialing decisions by AIM Sports Group for that outlet.

C. Media credential holders should be affiliated with a lawful working business or enterprise with a Federal Tax ID/Employer Identification Number.

D. Media credential holders must pass a JVA Background Screen and maintain approved-status for the duration of the year to continue to access AIM Sports Group events.

V. PRIORITY & CREDENTIAL DURATION

A. AIM Sports Group may prioritize media credential requests and may deny specific event passes to AMCAs based on availability.

B. All credentialing decisions will be made on a per-event basis. Being an MCH for one event does not guarantee approval for future events.

VI. MEDIA CREDENTIAL HOLDER REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

A. MCHs and their outlets are asked to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with professional codes of conduct and ethics (such as one provided by the Society of Professional Journalists) in terms of their actions, decorum, dress, etc.

B. MCHs are expected to adhere to all requirements of this policy, the applicable rules, regulations, and policies of AIM Sports Group including venue specific rules, and all applicable local, federal, and state laws. Failure to do so may result in revocation of credentials.

C. MCHs are not permitted to seek autographs, request personal photographs/videos, solicit/take equipment, etc. from athletes, attendees, special guests or others. Such actions or requests will be viewed as a breach of professional conduct and are grounds for credential revocation.

D. MCHs are responsible for their conduct, including any damage caused by negligent, reckless, or malicious acts.

E. Credentials issued hereunder authorize the use by the MCHs of any descriptions, accounts, photographs, films, audio or video recordings of AIM Sports Group events solely for news and editorial coverage of the event in accordance with this Policy, unless specified on their application for commercial sale of action photography/action videography to athletes/families. Any other use or attempted use of any coverage of the AIM Sports Group event by the MCH is prohibited, unless they have obtained the prior specific written permission of AIM Sports Group for such other use. Any secondary or commercial use of any picture, audio description, film/tape, of any AIM Sports Group event taken or made by the MCH (including, but not limited to use in delayed editorial, advertising, sales promotion, or merchandising) is prohibited without prior specific written approval of AIM Sports Group. AIM Sports Group reserves the right to revoke AMCA status at any time based on post-event use of content.

VII. RISKS

By applying for credentials, AMCAs, MCHs, and their outlets acknowledge and assume the risks that come from viewing sporting events including being struck or injured by participants, and

flying objects such as balls and other sports equipment. AIM Sports Group will not be held responsible for damage to equipment, persons, or personal property.

VIII. ACCESS, ISSUANCE, AND REVOCATION
AIM Sports Group reserves the right to deny or revoke credentials at any time in its sole discretion. Appeals of revocation are handled as provided for in this policy. No guarantee of availability of credentials, space, viewing, telephone, or internet access is made. Scheduled events may be canceled or rescheduled at AIM Sports Group's sole discretion. MCH will not be charged admission to the event so long as they adhere to the guidelines set forth in this policy. Upon completion of assignment, MCH shall return media credentials and then promptly exit the facility. Failure to return credentials at the completion of the event may result in denial of credentials at future events.

Facility Rules

Clubs are required to follow all facility rules, regulations, and policies as listed by the facility. Clubs are required to obtain and distribute all rules to parents and athletes prior to tournaments. There will be **NO** running and/or ball handling in any area of the facility that is not your assigned court during your assigned warm-up period.

Code of Conduct

Directors, Coaches, Athletes, Parents, and Spectators

Any participant or spectator who is causing unfavorable situations either prior to, during, or after the event is subject to disciplinary action by the Tournament Director(s).

Fair Play

Participants must behave respectfully and courteously in the spirit of FAIR PLAY, not only towards officials but also toward the opponent, teammates and spectators.

ZERO Tolerance Policy

I. Prohibited Behavior
   A. Abusive, obscene, and racially charged language, threats, violent play, violent conduct both physical and verbal, and other inappropriate behavior (including, but not limited to, taunting, harassment, bullying, etc.) will not be tolerated during any AIM Sports Group event. "Physical" altercations will not be tolerated at any point and will result in suspension from any AIM Sports Group event for the duration of the season.

II. Coaches Conduct
   A. Coaches and all non-athletes on the bench are subject to the Coach Conduct rules and standards outlined by the Junior Volleyball Association (JVA), unless otherwise noted. Click here for the **JVA Code of Conduct.**

B. It is the coaches responsibility to promote respect for officials and support spectator control.
C. Coaches shall confine their discussions with the opposing team and game officials to interpretation of the rules and not challenge an officials' judgment call.

III. Spectator Conduct

A. No Spectator shall persistently address a game official at any time. This includes but is not limited to:
    1. Spectators shall not make derogatory comments to athletes or coaches of any team.
    2. Spectators shall not yell at the officials, EVER. This includes criticism, sarcasm, harassment, intimidation, discriminatory comments, or negative feedback of any kind before, during, or after the game.
    3. Spectators shall not dispute calls during or after the game.
    4. Spectators shall not advise an official to watch certain athletes or attend to rough play.
B. The only allowable exceptions to addressing an official are:
    1. Spectators may respond to an official who has initiated a conversation with a parent or attendee.
    2. Spectators may point out an emergency or safety issues, such as an athlete injury or observed fighting.

IV. Policy Violation

A. Any person not in compliance with the Code of Conduct will be removed from the event facility at the discretion of the AIM Sports Group Tournament Staff, without admission refund, and cannot attend AIM Sports Group events in the future, pending attendance reinstatement review.
B. Any participant listed on the official roster who is causing unfavorable situations either prior to, during, or after the event is subject to disciplinary action by the AIM Sports Group Tournament Director(s).
C. AIM Sports Group Volleyball may take any corrective action it deems appropriate to assure proper sportsmanship; the safety and well-being of all participants, spectators, officials and event staff; and the integrity and standards of the event. All teams, coaches, athletes, and spectators are subject to rulings and corrective actions.
D. Anyone discovered in possession of or consuming illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, or e-cigarettes will be immediately expelled from the event. There are no warnings for possession or consumption of materials listed above for athletes or any other underage person whose name appears on the tournament roster. If an underage person is found with any of the materials listed above, the police will be called. Expulsion will be immediate. Pets (other than service animals) and weapons of any kind will NOT be allowed in any event.