

To: Parents of 2020 **DCS 8th Grade** volleyball players

From: Jon Teune

Welcome to the 2020 volleyball season! (Hopefully!-There will be many communications on safety regulations to follow.) The following is some information that will hopefully answer any questions you might have regarding the upcoming season. Our goals for the year are the following:

- To learn individual volleyball skills
- To learn to play as a team
- Sportsmanship
- To play with enthusiasm
- To continue to improve as players and as a team throughout the season

Players will receive shorts from the school that needs to be returned and a shirt (Estimated at \$15) that they can keep. Spandex shorts can be worn only if they are covered by game or practice shorts.

Players are expected to be at all practices. I understand that family matters and appointments for medical reasons arise. An e-mail informing me would great so I can make the proper adjustments for practices.

All practices will be at the Middle School gym from 3:20 –5:00. There is a possibility that we might have to use the DURC gym for a couple of practices. You will be notified if this happens to occur.

Drivers for games:

Players will be put into groups and a parent from each group will be assigned to drive. The parent will be responsible for driving their group of players. For away games we would like to leave school by 3:10. If you have a conflict with driving, feel free to exchange with another parent (Preferably in the same driving group) or e-mail me and I will drive for you.

Structure of Games:

Matches will be three games to 25 points, win by 2. Best 2 out of 3 games determines the winner of the match. If the first three games are completed in less than 1 hour 15 minutes, a fourth game may be played if both coaches agree. I would always want to play the 4th game. League rule states that players must have equal playing time in the first two games when a team has 12 players. Since we will have around 16 players that will not work. We have different guidelines but try to come close to honoring the league rule. Playing time for the girls will be determined by my evaluations of each girl's ability. For those girls that have limited playing time I have added extra matches where they can have an opportunity for more playing time. I have also made a request to the league that we will like to play 4 games in a match (Instead of the regular 3 games.) for girls to get more playing time. Some schools are willing to do this and some schools would rather not. We will see how many schools will be willing to do this.

We will be using the traditional offense of passing to the middle front to a designated setter, but in practice we will learn the international offense as well...passing to the right front and blocking if time allows. This takes a while to learn to do correctly.

The team skill we will be working most on is how many 3 hits to get the volleyball back over the net or 3 hits with a successful spike the team can produce. This aspect of the game teaches the transition from defense to offense which is the most important skill that is taught at this level of volleyball. The only statistic I keep track of during the game is how many 3 hits the team achieves. This statistic shows me how well the team is playing and how they are improving.

Practice will start Tuesday 8/25 (The first day of school) Wed. 8/26, Thursday 8/27. A more complete practice schedule will come out shortly hopefully with a game schedule. Please feel free to talk to me personally, email me or call me at 616-826-3030 if you have any questions.

Jon Teune

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