



2015-16 TRYOUT POLICIES

Updated: August 4, 2015

The Iowa Region in support of IGHS AU regulations and to help protect high school athlete eligibility, the Iowa Region will not sanction club tryouts that take place while an athlete's high school is still in season.

- *The IA Girl's HS Athletic Union does not allow high school players to attend a club volleyball tryout while their high school is still "in season" (competing in State Regionals or the State Tournament), and that individual school boards can set stricter standards.*
- *Players and Club Directors should check with the IGHS AU and their High School board for their tryout restrictions.*

Teams are formed by invitation, tryouts or combination of invitation and tryout for remaining positions. Clubs should indicate on all tryout materials if the tryout is for all positions or just for the remaining positions. If for remaining positions, the positions should be listed in the tryout materials.

1. **A club or team may offer** a player a position in their club or team at anytime. **Coaches or club directors may not force players to give a verbal commitment before the commitment dates listed in this policy.**
 - a. **Clubs who extend** offers must keep the offered position open until the same deadlines listed below.
 - b. **A club or team should use** the Player/ Club Commitment Letter. Only a signed letter will be accepted as proof of commitment.
 - c. **The Commitment Letter should be sent** to players that are invited verbally or by email. A Player accepting an invitation by phone, in-person or via email must sign a Commitment Letter.
 - d. **All Commitment Letters** are kept with the club to present in case of a dispute.
2. **Players who are invited** to play on a team/club may sign a Commitment Letter at anytime. Coaches or club directors may not force players to give a verbal commitment before the commitment dates listed in this policy.
 - a. **Once they sign** the Commitment Letter they cannot attend any other club's tryouts.
 - b. **A Player is committed to the team/club they signed with for the entire season.**
 - c. **If a player has received more than one Commitment Letter** or offer, any non-selected clubs must be informed within 24 hours of final acceptance.
 - d. **Players should also keep a copy of the Commitment Letter** to present in case of a dispute.
 - e. **If a club extends a verbal offer and does not include a Commitment Letter**, it is recommended that the player's parents or guardians fill out the information of the offer on the Commitment Letter and send to the club to get a signature on the offer. This is for the protection of the player and to prevent Clubs from forcing a commitment before the deadline.

Offer Periods: A player can not be forced to sign or commit to the club or team before the following deadlines. Clubs who extend **verbal** offers must keep the offered position open until the same deadlines listed below.

f. **15U and older offer period.**

- i. A club cannot force a player 15U and older to make a commitment until **4 PM on the Wednesday following the State of Iowa Girls High School Volleyball Tournament**
- ii. For tryouts which occur after that date, a player 15U and older has until **4 PM on the Wednesday** following the tryout to inform the club if they accept or decline the offer.
- iii. Once the offer is made, the club must hold that position available for the player, until the above deadlines.
- iv. If a player has received more than one Commitment Letter, the non-selected clubs must be informed within 24 hours of final acceptance.

g. **14U and younger offer period.**

- i. A club cannot force a player 14U and younger to make a commitment until **4PM on the Wednesday following the first Sunday in November.**
- ii. For tryouts which occur after that date, a player has until **4 PM on the Wednesday** following the tryout to inform the club if they accept or decline the offer.
- iii. Once the offer is made, the club must hold that position available for the player, until the above deadlines.
- iv. If a player has received more than one Commitment Letter, the non-selected clubs must be informed within 24 hours of final acceptance.

3. **Player Violation of Tryout Policies**

a. **Common violations:**

- i. **May only sign one (1)** Commitment Letter.
- ii. **Backing out** of this commitment, or attending another tryout.
- iii. **Falsification** of Commitment Letter: If a player falsifies any part of this Commitment Letter, including the date.

b. **Player Penalty:** All the listed violations result in player suspension for the entire season.

4. **Coaches or Club Directors Violation of Tryout Policies**

- a. **Forcing Commitment:** Coaches or club directors forcing a player to give a verbal or written commitment before the dates listed above.
- b. **Not Holding Position:** Coaches or club directors not holding the offered position.
- c. **Club Penalties** for above violations.
 1. **Release all team members** for that particular team. These players will then have the option to play on the team that is reformed or tryout or play for other club teams.
 - i. **Qualifier Restrictions:** Furthermore, the team or age division in which the violation occurred will not be allowed to play in any Qualifying event in the Iowa Region or Nationally.
 - ii. **Out of Region Events:** Banned from out of region events held after the Iowa Regionals.