



Mariners Volleyball Club Play-Up Policy

Mariners Volleyball Club provides athletes the opportunity to participate in community-based volleyball with the intent to foster personal growth, development and a passion for the sport of volleyball.

Athletes may be considered to “play-up” on Mariner Club Teams. These decisions will be made by the technical committee, chaired by the MVC Technical Director, with input from previous coaches, parents and the athlete. The decision will be guided by utilizing an “athlete-centered” approach impacting all athletes in the Club. Factors that will be discussed will be the demonstrated behaviors and perceived characteristics of *Technical Ability, Physical Size and Growth, Cognitive and Social Development and Leadership Potential*. Athletes interested in being considered to “play-up” must follow the below steps:

Camps and Training Programs

1. Athletes must register for their correct age group. Players wishing to "play up" must request to do so **2 weeks** in advance of their first session by email to the Technical Director at td@marinersvolleyballclub.ca

Club Team Tryouts

1. Players must register and attend their correct age group tryout and *may* be asked to register and attend the older group session as well. **There is NO exception for those athletes who have previously played up. All applicant athletes are assessed every Club season.**
2. Players wishing to "play up" must request to do so **2 weeks** in advance of their 1st age group tryout date by email to the Technical Director at td@marinersvolleyballclub.ca; If athletes are NEW to the Club, then the request should include a detailed athlete bio, as well as a coach reference, with contact information.

CONSIDERATIONS:

1. Cannot impact viability of teams within the actual player age group category;
2. A “play-up” athletes must have met or exceeded the technical abilities of other participating players within the *older* age category, must be rated top 2 in a position to be considered for U15 teams and above; rated as a top 10 athlete overall for U14 or below.
3. The player will not replace a player of equal or higher skill level for the older intended age category.
4. The player must demonstrate a high degree of individual technical and tactical skill which must be transferable to competitive match situation.
5. The player must have the ability to blend in with players of the higher age group and be able to interact with the intended age group on and off the court.
6. The player must meet or exceed other players within the older age category in game awareness and general knowledge of the game. This includes the mental strength and maturity that will be necessary when dealing with older and physically superior opponents.