

COVID-19 Related protocols for
Stratford Volleyball Club Athletes
& Tryout/Season Information
2020-2021

Simplified Protocol

- *Complete the online **screening questionnaire** before every practice/tryout and bring a record/copy of this to the Agriplex at the time of your practice/tryout (more details to come)*
- *Make sure you are dressed for volleyball (shoes to be put on in the gym) prior to arrival and have your **questionnaire**, a **mask**, a **water bottle**, a **zip lock bag** for items of hygiene, and **hand sanitizer** in your gym bag.*

Please expect the unexpected this year. Protocols may continue to change throughout the year as the pandemic situation changes. We will do our best to keep you posted.

This year there will be two tryout dates for each team. Each tryout session will be 1hr 45min and will be scheduled between 4:30pm and 10:30pm on two of the following dates - (Sept 20th, 22nd, 27th, and 28th). Athletes may be given offers anytime on or after Sept. 20th, 2020. Specific tryout times will be posted on the SVC website when available.

Protocol in more detail

The protocols below are currently mandated by the province. They are based on the province's phase 3 return to play protocols, OVA requirements, and discussions with local public health authorities. Regardless of your opinion regarding these protocols, these must be adhered to. If athletes/parents/coaches do not adhere to these protocols, they will not be permitted to participate.

- 1) On or after Sept 14th, 2020, all athletes must register with the new OVA Membership Registration Service (MRS) before attending tryouts. The OVA has delayed the launch of MRS until September 14th, 2020 due to technical difficulties. Please check the SVC website after Sept 14th for registration details. More information on this soon.
- 2) There will be restrictions to our catchment area this year in an effort to reduce our risk. We will accept participants from Huron and Perth Counties and a 40 km radius around Stratford. This does include Woodstock but does not include Waterloo, Kitchener, or London.
- 3) All athletes will need to complete and pass an online self screening questionnaire and bring a record of completion to the Agriplex before every tryout and every practice throughout the year, until protocols change. The record of completion will be presented to the SVC representative at the door and serve as a record of attendance for potential contact tracing. A link to the self screening questionnaire will be on the SVC website home page soon. The club may utilize technology to simplify this process - stay posted.

- 4) Persons over the age of 65 or persons with medical issues that make them more susceptible to complications from COVID-19 will be asked not to enter the Agriplex during SVC activities.
- 5) Athletes will be required to be dressed for practice (with the exception of volleyball shoes) prior to arrival as change room use will be limited as much as possible.
- 6) If washrooms are required, please use the washrooms in the change room and not the washrooms in the lobby.
- 7) Athletes must also have the following items in their gym bag for every practice/tryout session. A) **Hand sanitizer** (or hand soap if sanitizer cannot be used. B) Filled **water bottle** as the water fountain may not be available. C) **Zip lock bag** for storing personal hygiene materials such as towels or Kleenex. D) A **mask**.
- 8) On arrival the SVC representative at the door will ensure each athlete has passed the health screening questionnaire, is wearing a mask, and has the items listed above to be properly prepared for practice.
- 9) Athletes will not be permitted to enter the building more than 5 minutes prior to the onset of practice or more than 10 min after the onset of practice.
- 10) Athletes will not be permitted to stay in the Agriplex longer than 5 minutes past the scheduled ending time of their practice session. All athletes will have left the building prior to the next practice athletes arriving.
- 11) There will be no more than 50 participants in the gym at any given time and these athletes will not be permitted to interact with athletes in a different 50 athlete chort during SVC activities.
- 12) No parents or spectators will be permitted in the building except under special circumstances that may include requests for assistance by the coaching staff.
- 13) Coaches and all non-athletes will be required to wear masks at all times. Set up and take down of equipment will be performed by a limited number of trained people and equipment will be cleaned between practices.
- 14) Athletes will not be required to wear a mask when engaged in on court activities and social distancing may be breached during on court activities although unnecessary breaching (huddles, high fives) of social distancing will not be permitted.

2020-2021 Volleyball Season Details

This year there will be no competitive competition until at least January. If the pandemic situation improves, it is possible that there could be some friendly game play between clubs prior to January but this is not definite. We are hoping to have two weekly practices for each team (Sundays and Tuesdays). Practice duration will be no longer than 1 hr 45min for each session. Practices may need to be shortened or cancelled depending on the new developments. We will not have access to the Agriplex on Mondays but could potentially secure extra time on another day of the week.

Risk

By adhering to the province's return to play guidelines, the club is hoping to reduce the likelihood of the spread of COVID-19 and provide a safe environment. Despite this, athletes will be gathering within a closed space, and there will be a risk to both athletes and their

families/contacts related to the possible spread of COVID-19. Having said that we believe that there is also a health risk to our athletes by ceasing all their usual sports programs. All families should be aware of these risks and will need to decide for themselves if they are comfortable with the risk/benefit equation understanding the many unknowns.

Change

Please be reminded that all or any part of the above protocol could and likely will change at some point during the seasons. These changes will be communicated to you via email, the website and using social media.