



Gahanna Junior Beach Volleyball FAQ

Who's running the show?

The program will be staffed by coach(es) from Elite Volleyball Training Center, based in Plain City. They've run a successful beach program for more than 7 years, and even have coaches and players coming in from all over the state on a weekly basis. Randy Cline, owner of Elite, is a former professional beach volleyball player himself and is very passionate about positive, quality instruction at every level.

How does practice work?

Beach volleyball is played with 2 players on a team, so it's best if you sign up with a partner who will come to practices with you. Practices consist of basic skills training, a review of unique beach rules/restrictions, two-player strategy, and scrimmages. Practices are 2 hours, 2 days per week. For the 2017 season, practices are 10-Noon, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

We are on vacation this summer and we'll miss several practices. Will that be a problem?

Not at all. Attendance isn't taken, so come to as many or as few as you like. Just make sure your partner is aware of your schedule.

Do we have to stay with the same partner the whole summer?

During practices, you'll stick with your partner whenever we have in-practice drills and scrimmages. If you decide to play in tournaments, you may choose any partner you wish. Partners can come from within the Gahanna club, from another beach program, or someone who's not participating in beach at all. You can even switch partners after every event if you like, though there is an advantage to learning to work with the same partner.

How do tournaments work?

There are two main types of tournaments: Mini and Standard. Mini tournaments are usually scheduled Mon-Friday at beach locations around the city. (Elite/Integrity Athletics in Plain City*, Bogey Inn, Flannagan's Dublin, Volleypark at Sandalwood.) They typically start at 5pm and end around 9pm. Standard tournaments are on Saturdays and Sundays and run from 8am to around 4pm. Costs range from \$30-\$60 per team. You can decide to only attend practices and never sign up for a tournament, or you can try to play as many tournaments as you can in the 2-month period. The schedule is completely up to you.

Additionally, if you'd like to travel around Ohio or the US, there are beach tournaments everywhere! Some require qualification matches, others are open to anyone.

*** Elite Volleyball Training Center/Integrity Athletics has 4 lighted courts built to strict AVP and NVL standards, including sand depth and net height.**

Will a club coach be at the tournaments?

Beach volleyball is considered a “self-coach” sport. Players are not allowed to receive outside coaching advice during a tournament match, including from club coaches and parents. On some occasions, a coach might attend a tournament if multiple teams are playing, but this is not common. That’s why strategy will be a focus during the weekly practices.

What age groups are there?

Age groups are divided into 12U, 14U, 16U, and 18U.

What’s the difference between the “Open” division and “Club” division?

While both divisions are competitive, Open Division tournaments are considered more competitive than Club divisions.

Will playing beach have adverse effects on my child’s indoor game?

Absolutely not! In fact, collegiate volleyball players are often required to compete in their beach programs. Coaches also encourage beach play at the high school level. Your student-athletes will find they gain speed, quickness, jump strength, and specialized skills that will benefit them when they go back indoors.

Can I get individual lessons for my child?

Yes. This can be arranged through Elite Volleyball Training Center.

What is the registration deadline?

We have a high level of interest for the Gahanna location. We are only accepting 24 athletes for the 2017 season, so sign up as soon as possible. Sign-ups are on a first-come, first-served basis. [Register by clicking here](#). Don’t forget to include your shirt size in the “Anything else we should know” section.

Does my child need to have an OVR number?

Yes. If your child is already playing indoor club volleyball, that’s the only number needed. If your child hasn’t yet played club in 2017, you will need to enroll him/her in [USAV OVR region](#) (click link) for beach volleyball. The cost is only \$15.