

CLUB CACTUS

CLUB CACTUS JUNIORS VOLLEYBALL | TUCSON, ARIZONA

Club Cactus Juniors Volleyball Club | Since 1992

WELCOME TO OUR CLUB

Club Cactus Juniors is truly a community club that strives to meet the needs of our unique volleyball community in Southern Arizona. The club works with all players or all abilities and goals: players that want to learn the game and have fun; players that wish to become better for their high school team; and players that have the desire to play at the next level when they have the ability, academics, and drive.

This information is designed to introduce our volleyball club and competitive teams for the beginning of another club season! **CCJ is Southern Arizona's longest running volleyball club.** Since 1992, CCJ has offered competitive teams, developmental programs, and organizes the Cactus Classic Invitational national volleyball tournament.



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to raise the level of volleyball in Southern Arizona by providing athletes with the opportunity to obtain quality training and competition opportunities; to meet the needs of a diverse volleyball community by providing programs of differing levels of training and competition opportunities for young players.

To help develop and educate volleyball coaches in the community by offering educational opportunities through USA Volleyball and creating a collaborative culture where coaches mentor and share ideas with their peers.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Our main philosophical belief is that we want our players to be better teammates/people in the end as well as better volleyball players. Athletics provide young athletes with excellent real-life situations and guidance without any real-life consequences. We believe this is a fundamental element of participation with CCJ and Juniors Volleyball. The competitive athletic experience can enhance social development, contribute to mental and physical health, as well as teach the values of teamwork, goal-setting, responsibility, self-discipline, and self-motivation.

OUR GOAL

The Club Cactus Juniors coaching staff thrives on training athletes from the entry level player to the elite athlete. We want our athletes to be able to compete at the highest level possible, whether it is working to make their freshman volleyball team, winning a State championship, winning a national championship, or aspiring to compete in college.

Our primary goal is for our athletes to learn to compete and behave as winners; while the goal of winning should be a by-product to the process.

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OUR VOLLEYBALL PROGRAMS

Club Cactus Juniors Volleyball Club offers a number of programs for players of all ages and abilities. CCJ was one of the first clubs in Arizona with a proven track record for developing and training young female athletes at all levels both on and off the court.

COMPETITIVE NATIONAL PROGRAM | JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAMS

Travel teams are designed to be highly competitive both regionally and nationally. In addition to competition within the Arizona Region, **these teams will travel to national invitational tournaments for the opportunity to compete against the nation's top teams and allowing exposure to college coaching staffs.** Attitude and accountability are emphasized while demanding a commitment from all players that desire intense, focused, technical and competitive training.

COMPETITIVE PROGRAM | ARIZONA REGIONAL TEAMS

Region Teams are offered at every age level that will compete in the Arizona Region's competition schedule. The goals for teams are to increase skill and proficiency, further team systems, develop positive team dynamics and offer positive competitive experiences which provide excellent off-season training opportunities for all players looking to improve for their high school teams.

The tuition is affordable due to the lack of travel costs; while each team practices three times a week and the unique opportunity to compete in the **Cactus Classic Invitational**, a national invitational tournament hosted by CCJ; and the Arizona Region's multi-day invitationals.

DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM | YOUTH VOLLEYBALL ACADEMY

The developmental program is designed to attract and introduce young athletes to the game of volleyball. The goal is to introduce basic skills and systems while instilling a love for the game. Each session will include skill development along with system training and modified game play.

TOURNAMENTS | CACTUS CLASSIC INVITATIONAL

CCJ hosts the annual Cactus Classic Invitational every January at the Tucson Convention Center. This three-day tournament is one of the top tournaments in the Southwest and is the only club-run convention center event in Arizona. As part of the JVA Challenge Series, the tournament attracts teams from Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and Texas—giving our athletes the chance to compete in a National event in front of friends and family!



OUR COMMITMENT FOR COMPETITIVE TEAMS

SEASON COMMITMENT

The girls competitive club season is **January through May**, while Junior National Teams continue through the end of June. December will be dedicated to skills clinics, practices, conditioning, along with optional pre-season scrimmages that are open to all players.

TIME COMMITMENT

Players are expected to attend all training sessions, team meetings, and competitions. CCJ emphasizes the importance of time management in order to minimize absences from practices and/or tournaments. Practices are normally Sunday afternoons and at least two weeknights (between the hours of 5:30–9:30 PM) during the week. Dates and times are subject to the availability of the facilities.

Players are expected to attend all regional and national competitions. Those athletes that wish to compete on a National Travel team must be able to attend all events and clear conflicts for the weeks prior to the event.

TRAVEL COMMITMENT

Most regional tournaments may be held in the Phoenix metro area and transportation will be up to the players' family. CCJ and its' coaches are not responsible for any transportation to or from any practice and/or regional competition. For National tournaments, team lodging for the event are included in the player's tuition.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

By signing a Player/Parent Contract, the athlete/parent commits to pay the tuition for the entire season. Players with delinquent accounts will not be allowed to train, travel, or compete in tournaments.



REGIONAL TEAM PROGRAM

CCJ Region Teams are offered at every age level that will compete in the Arizona Region's competition schedule. The goals for teams are to increase skill and proficiency, further team systems, develop positive team dynamics and offer positive competitive experiences which provide excellent off-season training opportunities for all players looking to improve for their high school teams.

These Regional teams do not go to any out-of-state event or the Junior National Championships. This program provides a substantial training season for athletes, yet has a fee structure that is much less than the Junior National program due to the fact that the teams do not travel.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

During the season, Regional teams attend numerous one-day tournaments, organized by the Arizona Region of USA Volleyball, which will take place in Phoenix and/or Tucson.

CCJ's Region Teams get the unique opportunity to compete in the **Cactus Classic Invitational**, a national tournament with teams from California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas and Mexico.

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Practices will start in December and end with optional training in June. The competitive season ends at the Regional Championships in late April or May, but our teams still practice in the summer.

CCJ's Region Teams typically practice three times a week (two weekdays and Sunday); and practices are typically 2 hours.

REGIONAL TEAMS (NAVY/RED/WHITE)

The number of teams that CCJ fields is determined by the number of participants who wish to play on Regional teams. Teams consist of 10 to 12 players. Age groups for these teams are:

HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS

- **18-and-under**; Seniors
- **18-and-under**; Juniors
- **16-and-under**; Sophomores
- **15-and-under**; Freshmen

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAMS

- **14-and-under**; Eighth graders
- **13-and-under**; Seventh graders
- **12-and-under**; Sixth graders
- **11-and-under**; Fifth graders

#THEPROCESSISTHEPRODUCT

We believe the following factors are key to **Our Process** at CCJ:

- **We have athletes and coaches committed to being successful**
- **The CCJ gym culture creates high expectations**
- **Our coaches are focused on teaching and training**
- **Our Mizuno Teams compete Nationally in the highest divisions**
- **CCJ creates a family culture with our teams and our partners**

NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

CCJ's National Travel teams are designed to be highly competitive both regionally and nationally. In addition to competition within the Arizona Region, these teams will travel to several national tournaments providing an opportunity to compete against the best clubs in the Nation, and allowing exposure to college coaches.

The Club offers two levels of National Teams:

- **Mizuno Open National Teams**
- **Silver National Teams**

The **Mizuno National Teams compete at the Open Level** of National Tournaments to give our players exposure to the highest level of competition in the Nation.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

The Junior National teams compete in the Arizona Region's Open or Championship Division—one-day tournaments during the club volleyball season typically held in Phoenix.

The Junior National Teams also travel to major tournaments, including the **Cactus Classic Invitational** (Tucson), the **Las Vegas Classic** (Las Vegas) or the **Capitol Hill Classic** (Washington, DC), the **Lone Star Classic JNQ** (Texas), the **SCVA Red Rock Wave JNQ** (Las Vegas), **Northern Lights JNQ** (Minneapolis), and the **JVA West Coast Cup** (Long Beach). The Mizuno teams typically compete at the **USAV Junior National Championships**.

THE TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

All National Teams travel together to National Events, providing a unique collegiate experience for our teams. The athletes stay in team rooms supervised by the coaching staff and chaperones, staying together for team meals, meetings, team activities, curfew, and traveling to/from the playing site during the competition. We believe that the teams that travel together, stay together.

CCJ is one of the few remaining volleyball clubs that still offer this unique travel experience, which helps lower the overall cost for families since travel expenses (hotel, team van, etc) are divided among the team. The only exception is the athlete's travel to/from the host city, but CCJ will help arrange that as well if needed.

RECRUITING PLATFORMS

CCJ has partnered with two industry leaders to provide recruiting resources to our Mizuno (and Silver) Level National Teams.

- **Hudl** provides video breakdowns for our athletes that is used in training and helps provide highlight videos that can be shared on recruiting platforms and social media.
- **SportsRecruits** provides information on all collegiate programs and a platform to communicate with every college coach. This is not a recruiting service—athletes manage their own profile with tools to track all communication with prospective coaches.



OUR TEAMS

JUNIOR NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

Club Cactus 18-Mizuno
Club Cactus 17-Mizuno
Club Cactus 16-Mizuno
Club Cactus 15-Mizuno
Club Cactus 14-Mizuno

JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAMS

Club Cactus 18- and/or 17-Silver
Club Cactus 16-Silver
Club Cactus 15-Silver
Club Cactus 14-Silver
Club Cactus 13-Silver

18U/17U REGIONAL TEAMS

Club Cactus 18-Navy

16U REGIONAL TEAMS

Club Cactus 16-Navy
Club Cactus 16-Red

15U REGIONAL TEAMS

Club Cactus 15-Navy
Club Cactus 15-Red

14U REGIONAL TEAMS

Club Cactus 14-Navy
Club Cactus 14-Red

13U REGIONAL TEAMS

Club Cactus 13-Navy

12U REGIONAL TEAM

Club Cactus 12-Navy
Club Cactus 12-Red
Club Cactus 11-Navy
Club Cactus 11-Red

USAV AGE DEFINITIONS

18-and-under

12th Grade; born on or after July 1, 2006

17-and-under

11th Grade; born on or after July 1, 2007

16-and-under

10th Grade; born on or after July 1, 2008

15-and-under

9th Grade; born on or after July 1, 2009

14-and-under

8th Grade; born on or after July 1, 2010

13-and-under

7th Grade; born on or after July 1, 2011

12-and-under

Athletes born on or after July 1, 2012

OUR COSTS: TUITION BUDGET EXPENSES

CCJ TUITION IS ALL INCLUSIVE: The club has prepared a budget for the season which includes everything listed below. Tuition for the club season may be paid in full at the beginning of the season or in monthly installments agreed upon by the club. The tuition will include the following:

- USA Volleyball Team registration and insurance
- Arizona Region Tournament team contracts
- Coaching staff salaries and administrative expenses
- Facility Rental and operating expenses (increased due to minimum wage increase)
- Gym equipment and volleyballs
- Player Uniform and Gear Package (including Mizuno Volleyball Shoes)
- National, USAV Junior National Qualifier, and JVA Tournament team entry fees
- Team lodging and local transportation for National Tournaments
- Coaching Staff lodging and transportation to National Events

- **Not Included:** player meals at tournaments
- **Not Included:** player transportation to and from any Regional Tournaments (in Arizona)
- **Not Included:** player lodging for any National/Regional events in Arizona
- **Not Included:** transportation (airfare or other) to and from any National Tournaments

TUITION CREDITS AND DISCOUNTS

Due to NCAA and AIA regulations, CCJ does not offer scholarships or reduced tuition to athletes. However, the club does offer a few tuition credits for the following:

Cactus Commitment Credit: Seniors that will participate with CCJ for their fifth consecutive year will qualify for this credit (percentage off Team Base Fees). Prorated credit is also available for seniors participating in their fourth or third consecutive years with CCJ as well.

Cactus Classic Staff Credit: Opportunities are available for families that wish to work for the Cactus Classic Invitational. Credit varies based on the tournament committee and/or task (helping set-up/take down courts, tournament staff, etc.)

Cactus Classic Sponsorship: The Cactus Classic offers different levels of sponsorship opportunities to help off-set the tuition costs of club volleyball. The tournament credits 30% of the sponsorship to the CCJ family (Example: find a Court Sponsor (\$1500) and get a \$500 credit)

Sibling Discount: CCJ families with multiple athletes in the club will qualify for a \$250 credit for each additional player's tuition.

Accounting Discount: A discount is available when tuition is paid in full by cash or check by December. Please see Director for amounts available.

TEAM SELECTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

The goal of the club is to place every committed athlete on the correct team and level (Open, National or Regional) based on similar athletic ability and skills, desired position, as well as the commitment level for the club season.

EVALUATION SESSIONS: The evaluations are designed to evaluate each athlete based on their attitude, athletic ability and skill level, as well as their competitive skill. The athletes will be paced through evaluation sessions that will include camp-like instruction as well as controlled-scrimmages.

COMMITMENT POLICY: Please review the Commitment Policy.

We believe that after active participation at our Open Houses and Team Selections, athletes should proceed with the CCJ tryout process with the intent of accepting a position should the club offer a roster position on a National or Regional Team.

CCJ intends to offer and sign the majority of its players on the day of Team Selections. **In order to secure a roster position, signed Contracts and Commitment Deposits will be due within the first 30 minutes following the Team Selections.** Once all players are committed, the club will attempt to fill all remaining roster positions immediately.

Please contact CCJ if you have any questions regarding commitment.

