

# CAROLINA JUNIORS VOLLEYBALL

## Why Summer Tryouts?

Historically tryouts for our CJV Travel Teams have been in the Fall. For our upcoming season, we have decided to have our Travel Team Tryouts at the end of summer, before most schools begin their volleyball seasons. Below are some of the reasons and benefits of having tryouts earlier.

### **“Make Up” For Lost Competitive Volleyball Playing From Past Season**

It was unfortunate that the COVID-19 pandemic shortened the season for our 50+ competitive Travel Teams. Although we can never really “make up” for lost time, our goal is to allow our 2020 / 2021 players and teams to have an extra 2-3 months of training and playing together by starting earlier and having a “preseason”.

### **Uncertainty Of The Status Of Fall Volleyball With Middle Schools And High Schools**

The future of Fall Sports in North and South Carolina is in limbo. Our concern with waiting to have tryouts AFTER schools finish is some schools and players may actually still be playing into November and December, therefore making it difficult for some players to attend tryouts for a Travel Team.

### **Most Larger And Successful Volleyball Clubs Have Tryouts In The Summer BEFORE Schools Start.**

Volleyball Clubs in other parts of the country choose to hold tryouts in July to establish teams before schools start to allow players to focus on their school seasons and not stress about tryouts. By creating the teams earlier, it also allows the team, players and coach to begin to bond and have occasional practices and get together during the “preseason” to create more competitive teams and players.

### **Avoid The Holidays & School Functions**

In the past, when having tryouts in early November, it has been very difficult to have tryouts, select teams, have team meetings, select tournaments, order uniforms, register for tournaments and also try to squeeze in a few practices before the Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks. The holidays, mixed in with football games, homecoming, exams, school functions, other sports, etc all lead to a very hectic and stressful few weeks when trying to prepare a competitive team for their first tournament the first weekend of January.

### **Players Are Ready To Train And Play NOW**

Thank you for all the feedback from all our players, parents and coaches about wanting to get back into the gym and playing volleyball again. We hear you and are ready to get started as well! We have discussed and researched offering various new programs for the competitive player like High School Leagues, Clinics, Lessons, etc for the Fall, but the majority of the players would prefer to start Travel Play sooner than later.

### **Early Registration For Tournaments And Hotels**

Many of the larger Qualifiers and Tournaments already are accepting registrations. In the past, we often have had to register for tournaments in September and October, BEFORE we even have teams formed. By waiting until AFTER the late fall tryouts, we often did not get into the better tournaments and often were not able to get into the better hotels, etc.

### **Teams Have More Choices Of The Tournaments To Attend**

By having earlier tryouts, teams will have a longer time to practice together and for the coach and team to decide the best tournaments to attend based on the level of the team, versus the “club” making the tournament decisions.