

## **GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES**

**revised 4/22/18**

**GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES:** Good sportsmanship guidelines are designed to keep all of our members feeling valued and respected.

- a) By being patient with those who are just developing their skills or have physical limitations, those around you will adapt a similar behavior in the water.
- b) Hurtful remarks and rolling your eyes only cause another player to have low self-esteem.
- c) All levels of players need to share the ball and not constantly pass over a player or jump in front of them.
- d) Please do not offer playing tips for others unless you are asked. That's what training sessions are for.
- e) Always look for opportunities to encourage, not criticize, other players.

**UNSPORTSMANLIKE BEHAVIOR:** Unsportsmanlike conduct is inappropriate behavior that affects another member in a disruptive or negative manner. This type of infraction or combination of infractions, when reported, will be recorded by the Steering Committee. This conduct may lead to serious disciplinary action by the Steering Committee. Repeat offender's violations of this policy will not be tolerated. This club's concern is always the health and safety of our members. The following are examples of unsportsmanlike behavior:

- a) Any intentional action that threatens another member
  - 1. A hard spike which injures another player
  - 2. Any action that causes a member to feel uncomfortable or threatened
  - 3. Laying a hand on another player with questionable intent
  - 4. Any physical altercation between members
- b) Inappropriate Recreational Play
  - 1. Failure to adjust one's (i.e. Level 4, Level 5 or Level 6) play to the level of play time slot (i.e. Level 1, 2, or 3).
  - 2. Continuous spiking to a player who does not have the ability to block a spike
  - 3. Continuous serving to a weaker player

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- c) Inappropriate Responses During All Levels of Play
  1. Excessive swearing or vulgar language
  2. Rough water splashing in anger
  3. Negative attitude or hostility towards others
  4. Bullying members in or out of the water
- d) Cyber bullying (all forms of social media, i.e. email or texting) and inappropriate use of membership email addresses

During any **single** play session, a player may be asked to correct an action using the following process:

**1st Offense:** A Steering Committee or sub-committee member will ask the offender to adjust their play according to our club Rules and Best Practices.

**2nd Offense:** The Steering Committee or sub-committee member will inform the offender that this is their second warning. If there is a third offense, the play will be stopped and they will be asked to leave the pool.

**3rd Offense:** The Steering Committee or sub-committee member will stop the play and ask the offender to leave the pool. If the offender refuses to leave, then play will be shut down and the net put away. Obviously, this is an extreme measure we hope is never necessary.

Should this 3rd Offense occur, a formal complaint will be filed. Any person may file a complaint even if the above process has not occurred and it will be addressed by the appropriate committee.

### **RESOLVING INFRACTION DISPUTES AND NON-SPORTSMANLIKE**

**BEHAVIOR:** The club encourages “Self-Reporting” of a player’s infraction, (hitting the net, interference, touching a ball going out of bounds, double hit, water ball, catch and carry, etc.). When there is a dispute about whether an infraction occurred or who did it, the club encourages the players to work it out, in most cases by replaying the point. If captains are present, then they should resolve the dispute.

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Any member in the pool has the right to stop play and address a situation that makes them feel uncomfortable by using the stop play sign of crossed arms over head or taking the ball and announcing that play has been stopped.

The Steering Committee can only resolve situations that are reported. Unsportsmanlike behavior that is reported will result in disciplinary action based on the infraction and review by the Steering Committee. There may be an oral warning, a written warning or suspended play based on the type of infraction and/or the number of times it has been committed by the member. Extreme cases may result in termination from the club.

The primary goal of the LH Water Volleyball Club is to have fun with no one feeling angry, frustrated or intimidated after playing. Any player experiencing or witnessing unsportsmanlike behavior needs to report the incident to any Steering Committee member by emailing [sclhwatervolleyball@gmail.com](mailto:sclhwatervolleyball@gmail.com) or finding a Steering Committee member at the pool.

### **14. REFEREES (Optional)**

As stated above, the club expects the players to resolve any disputes. The attending players can decide to have one player be a referee for one or more games. That player moves to poolside and officiates the game. The referee is then the final word on any infractions. Different players can be rotated through the referee position. It will be considered to be unsportsmanlike to dispute or try to influence the ref's call.

### **BEST PRACTICES**

1. Players should make every attempt to arrive on time in order to assist with set-up of equipment and avoid disruption to the game and to the other players. Late arrivals should refrain from entering the water until the game in progress has ended.
2. Players should stay for the whole playing session. If a player knows that he/she will have to leave the game early, he/she should announce it to the team at the outset.

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All players should assist in taking down equipment after play.

### 3. Fitness Club Requirements:

- a) All players must shower prior to entering the pool or entering the Jacuzzi.
- b) Players may not enter the pool or the Jacuzzi wearing any street apparel.
- c). Players must remove all objects (e.g. jewelry) which may cause injury to self or to another player.
- d) Players wearing glasses or lenses during play do so at their own risk.
- e) Players are not allowed to chew gum in the pool.

4. We encourage team play. Continuous infringement on another player's position is considered unsportsmanlike. Sometimes moving into another player's space is unavoidable. Each team member will be responsible for playing his/her position and be ready to receive/play the ball.

5. We encourage setting up the ball from the back to all of the front row players.

### 6. We encourage a three-touch pattern:

- 1) receive/pass
- 2) set
- 3) hit/spike/kill