



Volleyball Club

Greenwood, SC

Informational Meeting

Club Director: Julie McMahon

Contact Information:

Phone – 912-414-2071

Email – vballclinics@gmail.com

Website – emeraldcityjuniors.weebly.com

Facebook – Like/Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

(Emerald City Juniors Volleyball)

Our Mission:

The mission of Emerald City Juniors is to offer high-level coaching in volleyball and to provide instruction to build character, development of skills and sportsmanship.

About Us:

Emerald City Juniors is back for its eighth season. Julie McMahon, previously the director of Magnum in Greenwood (2014-2016) and Magnum in Aiken (2010-2013), will again take the reins as club director. Emerald City Juniors is a member of the Palmetto Region – affiliated with USA Volleyball.

USA VOLLEYBALL JUNIOR PLAYER AGE DEFINITION
For use during the 2023-2024 Season

To determine the correct age division, please find the Month of Birth in the left column and then the year of birth in the same row. The heading of the column matching the Year of Birth is the correct age bracket.

	18 & Under ¹	18 & Under ²	17 & Under	16 & Under	15 & Under ³	14 & Under ⁴	13 & Under ⁵	12 & Under	11 & Under	10 & Under	9 & Under	8 & Under
July	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Aug	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Sept	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Oct	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Nov	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Dec	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Jan	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Feb	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Mar	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Apr	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
May	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
June	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
¹ Players who were born on or after July 1, 2004 and a high school student in the twelfth (12 th) grade or below during some part of the current academic year are eligible to compete in 18 & under.												
² Female Only - Players who were born on or after July 1, 2005, (who are defined as 18 & under by the USAV Age Definition) and are in the 11th grade for the current academic year are waived to compete in 17 & under. (This age waiver is based on recruiting concerns for 11 th grade girls previously required to participate in girls 18's qualifiers and the 18's GJNC.)												
³ Male Only - Players who were born on or after July 1, 2009, OR players who were born on or after July 1, 2008 (15 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the eighth (8 th) grade during the current academic year are eligible to play in the 14 & Under division. This exception is based on the net height difference of 7'4 1/8" to 7'11 5/8" between the 14 and Under Division to the 15 and Under Division.												
⁴ Male Only - Players who were born on or after July 1, 2009 (14 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the seventh grade (7 th) during the current academic year are eligible for a Region approved waiver to compete in the boys 13's age group.												
⁵ Male Only - Players who were born on or after July 1, 2010 (13 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the sixth grade (6 th) during the current academic year are eligible for a Region approved waiver to compete in the boys 12's age group.												

Tryouts:

12U and younger: Sunday, October 29 from 2-3:30 at Greenwood High School

13-14U: Sunday, October 29 from 4-6 at Greenwood High School

12-14U Make-Up Tryouts: Wednesday, November 1 from 6:30-8:30 at Greenwood High School

15-16U: Sunday, November 5 from 2-4 at Greenwood High School

17-18U: Sunday, November 5 from 4:30-6:30 at Greenwood High School

15-18U Make-Up Tryouts: Wednesday, November 8 from 6:30-8:30 at Greenwood High School

*Note:

- Cost of tryouts is \$30 (nonrefundable)
- Prior to tryouts, you must register AND PAY for USAV (go to <http://www.palmettoregionvb.org/reginfo> and register/pay. The cost to try out is \$15. Once you accept an invitation to a team, you will need to pay another \$40 to finalize your USAV membership.
- Try to be there 30 minutes early to fill out paperwork and register.
- Check out the region's tryout policy: <https://www.palmettoregionvb.org/tryoutpolicy>

Notes about Tryouts:

Tryouts and Cuts: All players will try out for ECJ at either the initial tryout or the makeup tryout. In the younger ages (12 and under), tryouts are normally for placement purposes only. In the 13 and above teams, cuts can occur due to a limited number of coaches and court space. We do not like to exclude anyone from our club but know that cuts are unfortunately necessary. Teams of athletes with similar skill and age level will help provide for more efficient training. It also reduces the pressure on those players whose skill level may not be that of their teammates, and it reduces frustration for those players whose skill level may be well beyond that of their teammates.

Pre-Selection of teams:

We do not “pre-select” teams before we have tryouts. We do not make promises to any player that they will be on any certain team. Players that played on our teams (even top teams) must try out again and make the team again. Each season is different and each season different players come to tryouts. We will make the best teams we can with the best players that we feel come to tryouts. We feel that this is the only fair way to do things and the best way to keep politics and drama out of team selection.

Structure of Tryouts:

Our tryout system is time-tested and we feel it gives us a good “grade” for each of the players trying out. Do your best to come to the main tryout for your age group, as we may not have make-up tryouts. Each player MUST come to the tryout for their age group or grade. This gives us a chance to determine whether a player should play in their age group or if they may need to play up in a higher age. It is also good for players to see the other players in their age group so they can see how they compare.

After Tryouts:

Team placement is determined by the athlete’s skill level, position played, age, attitude, and athletic ability. The ECJ coaching committee determines placement. We prefer not to move players after initial team assignments have been made, but we reserve the right if the need occurs to move players based on such factors as player talent, loss of a player, players joining late, not enough players to attend a tournament, and other factors.

How we inform you of your team placement and confirming your spot:

After all tryouts are complete for your age, we will send an email with your team placement. You will need to respond to the email to accept or decline your spot. Due to region rules, athletes may not be held to a commitment to a team/club in USAV until November 1. Once we reach those dates, players will receive an email invitation to join Emerald City Juniors (sent through SportsEngine) and must accept that invitation.

Practice Schedules/Locations:

Prior to tournaments starting, Developmental and Club Teams will practice 2 days/week (1 weeknight and 1 weekend time slot) for 2 hours each practice. Power teams will practice 2 days/week (1 weeknight and 1 weekend time slot) for 2.5 hours each practice. Select teams will practice 2 days/week (1 weeknight and 1 weekend time slot) for 2.5 hours for each practice with an additional 30-60 minutes each practice day dedicated to speed and agility/positional training. Once tournaments start, it may be that a weekend practice after a tournament will not take place. Practice locations will be in Greenwood and include: Greenwood High School, Greenwood YMCA, John G Lamb Enrichment Center). Schedules will be based on availability of facilities.

Additional Training:

IF we have sufficient available practice facility time/space, we will have weekly speed and agility sessions for ALL players. We will also offer weekly positional training for all 14U and older teams. This will not be certain until we have tryouts and finalize teams.

Regular Travel Season Length:

Once the teams are formed, we will have a club-wide meeting (Date, Time, Location TBD). After Thanksgiving, team practices will begin. For the month of December, most of our practices will be skills clinic-style. Even though we may combine teams for these practices, it is expected that players attend. Developmental teams’ seasons finish in mid-March. All Club and Power Teams will end their season with the regional tournament (late March - weekend depending on age group). Select teams will end their season with the Big South National Qualifier in Atlanta at the end of March (Easter weekend).

Outdoor Volleyball

Once the regular season is over, we will begin our outdoor grass/sand season. Participants will be encouraged to participate in at least 2 of the region-sponsored outdoor tournaments (from May-July).

TOTAL COST of CLUB:

1. Tryout cost: \$30 (non-refundable)
2. USAV membership: \$55 (\$15 tryout fee must be paid before tryouts . The remaining \$40 will be paid upon being invited to a team).
 - a. Boys and Select Team Members will also have to purchase an AAU membership - \$20 (instructions will come once teams are formed)
3. Fees: Club fees vary depending on level. Payment plans are available. See table for rates and payment plan options. **Note: Most of our expenses come early in the season, so we have to charge a bulk of the fees early on. Please start your financial planning early.*

Level	Total Cost	Payment 1 – Due upon signing	Payment 2 – Due January 1	Payment 3 – Due February 1	Payment 4 – Due March 1
Developmental (12U)	\$645	\$250	\$145	\$145	\$105
Club (12U)	\$995	\$370	\$225	\$225	\$175
Club (13U-14U)	\$1095	\$400	\$250	\$250	\$195
Club (15-18U)	\$1195	\$430	\$275	\$275	\$215
Power (13U-18U)	\$1395	\$490	\$325	\$325	\$255
Select (15U-18U)	\$1595	\$550	\$375	\$375	\$295
Boys	\$1295	\$460	\$300	\$300	\$235

***Siblings can get a 10% discount – pay full cost for oldest/highest level child and get the rest for 10% off. (We will NOT be offering a discount for paying in full this year. Due to concerns about having to issue refunds, we prefer that everybody adhere to the payment schedule above). WE DO HAVE A LIMITED NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE. CONTACT ECJ FOR DETAILS.*

4. Uniforms: All players will be required to purchase two jerseys. Cost of girls' jerseys will be \$130 (\$65 each - two jerseys) – Under Armor Sublimated jerseys. Boys' Jerseys are \$100 (\$50 each - two jerseys). Each player also needs black spandex (shorts for boys). Jerseys must be purchased by or at the team meeting (Date, Time, Location TBD).
5. Balls: Each player is required to purchase a ball (12U must have a lite ball). You do not need to buy another ball if you already have one. Cost of a ball is \$35. Ball must be purchased by team meeting (Date, Time, Location TBD).
6. Travel: See the tentative tournament schedule in this packet. We encourage families to carpool to help with gas costs. Some tournaments allow families to set up food tables for the teams, which helps with food cost, as well. Cost of travel (gas, hotels, etc) is not included in the regular fees. Decisions to stay overnight are at the family's discretion with the exception of the regional tournament, which is a stay to save tournament.
7. Notes about cost: We are not accepting credit cards at this time. We accept checks and cash. All checks need to be made payable to: Emerald City Juniors

Fundraiser

We will be doing a fundraiser this season for all who are interested. The fundraiser will be announced and begin at our club meeting. Each individual's profits will go directly to pay for club fees.

2024 Tournaments (possible - not set yet)**12 DEVELOPMENTAL**

Date	Event Name	Location
December/January TBD	ECJ In-House Officiating Clinic	Greenwood, SC
January 20, 2024	Kids Power 1	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 3, 2024	Kids Power 2	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 17, 2024	Kids Power 3	Columbia, SC
March 3, 2024	Kids Power 4	Rock Hill Sports Center
March 16, 2024	Palmetto 12's	Kershaw, SC

12 CLUB

Date	Event Name	Location
December/January TBD	ECJ In-House Officiating Clinic	Greenwood, SC
January 13-14, 2024	Southern Classic Club	Rock Hill Sports Center
January 27, 2024	Crosstown Throwdown Club	Columbia, SC
February 25, 2024	CSRA Winter Heat Club	Augusta/Aiken Area
March 10, 2024	C1 Challenge Club	Easley, SC
March 16, 2024	Palmetto 12s	Kershaw, SC
March 29-31, 2024	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center

13-14 CLUB

Date	Event Name	Location
December/January TBD	ECJ In-House Officiating Clinic	Greenwood, SC
January 13-14, 2024	Southern Classic Club	Rock Hill Sports Center
January 27, 2024	Crosstown Throwdown Club	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 10-11, 2024	Beach Ball Bash	Myrtle Beach, SC
February 25, 2024	CSRA Winter Heat Club	Augusta/Aiken Area
March 9, 2024	C1 Challenge Club	Upstate, SC
March 16, 2024	LMVC Club Challenge	Columbia area
March 29-31, 2024 14s could be March 22-24, 2024 (TBD)	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center

15 CLUB

Date	Event Name	Location
December/January TBD	ECJ In-House Officiating Clinic	Greenwood, SC
January 13-14, 2024	Southern Classic Club	Rock Hill Sports Center
January 28, 2024	Crosstown Throwdown Club	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 10-11, 2024	Beach Ball Bash	Myrtle Beach, SC
February 24, 2024	CSRA Winter Heat Club	Augusta/Aiken Area
March 9, 2024	Stars Challenge Club	Spartanburg, SC
March 16, 2024	LMVC Club Challenge (playing 16U)	Columbia area
March 22-24, 2024	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center

16 CLUB

Date	Event Name	Location
January 13-14, 2024	Southern Classic Club	Rock Hill Sports Center
January 28, 2024	Crosstown Throwdown Club	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 10-11, 2024	Beach Ball Bash	Myrtle Beach, SC
February 24, 2024	CSRA Winter Heat Club	Augusta/Aiken Area
March 10, 2024	Stars Challenge Club	Spartanburg, SC
March 16, 2024	LMVC Club Challenge	Columbia area
March 22-24, 2024	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center

17-18 CLUB

Date	Event Name	Location
January 13-14, 2024	Southern Classic Club	Rock Hill Sports Center
January 28, 2024	Crosstown Throwdown Club	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 10-11, 2024	Beach Ball Bash	Myrtle Beach, SC
February 24, 2024	CSRA Winter Heat Club	Augusta/Aiken Area
March 10, 2024	Stars Challenge Club	Spartanburg, SC
March 16, 2024	LMVC Club Challenge	Columbia area
March 22-24, 2024	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center

BOYS

Date	Event Name	Location
January 6-7, 2024	Appalachian Power League Guys	Myrtle Beach Sports Center
January 27-28, 2024	K2 Wilderness at the Smokies	Sevierville, TN (Convention Center)
February 10-11, 2024	AAU Great Smoky Mountain Invitational	Cherokee, NC (Harrah's Casino)
March 2, 2024	Winter Heat Boys	Rock Hill Sports Center
March 16, 2024	Club Challenge Boys	Columbia area
March 29-31, 2024	Big South National Qualifier	Atlanta, GA

14 POWER

Date	Event Name	Location
January 6-7, 2024	January Jam	Charleston, SC
January 20-21, 2024	Southern Classic Power	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 3, 2024	Rumble at the Rock	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 17, 2024	Purple Showdown Power	Orangeburg, SC
March 2-3, 2024	Winter Heat Power	Rock Hill Sports Center
March 17, 2024	Shamrock Showdown	Columbia, SC
March 22-24 or March 29-31, 2024	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center

15 POWER

Date	Event Name	Location
January 6-7, 2024	January Jam	Charleston, SC
January 20-21, 2024	Southern Classic Power	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 4, 2024	Rumble at the Rock	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 17, 2024	Crosstown Throwdown Power	Columbia, SC
March 2-3, 2024	Winter Heat Power	Rock Hill Sports Center
March 17, 2024	Shamrock Showdown	Columbia, SC
March 22-24, 2024	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center

16 POWER

Date	Event Name	Location
January 6-7, 2024	January Jam	Charleston, SC
January 20-21, 2024	Southern Classic Power	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 4, 2024	Rumble at the Rock	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 17, 2024	Crosstown Throwdown Power	Columbia, SC
March 2-3, 2024	Winter Heat Power	Rock Hill Sports Center
March 16, 2024	Shamrock Showdown	Columbia, SC
March 22-24, 2024	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center

17-18 POWER

Date	Event Name	Location
January 6-7, 2024	January Jam	Charleston, SC
January 20-21, 2024	Southern Classic Power	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 4, 2024	Rumble at the Rock	Rock Hill Sports Center
February 17, 2024	Crosstown Throwdown Power	Columbia, SC
March 2-3, 2024	Winter Heat Power	Rock Hill Sports Center
March 16, 2024	Shamrock Showdown	Columbia, SC
March 22-24, 2024	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center

15-18 SELECT

Date	Event Name	Location
January 13-14, 2024	Winter Bump	Myrtle Beach
January 27-28, 2024	K2 Wilderness at the Smokies	Sevierville, TN Convention Center
February 10-11, 2024	AAU Great Smoky Mountain Invitational	Cherokee, NC (Harrah's Casino)
February 17, 2024	Crosstown Throwdown Power	Columbia, SC
March 2-3, 2024	Winter Heat Power	Rock Hill Sports Center
March 9-10, 2024	SVT's Bulldog Brawl	Athens, GA
March 22-24, 2024	Regional Championships	Rock Hill Sports Center
March 29-31, 2024	Big South National Qualifier	Atlanta, GA

Playing Time

The number one problem that arises in clubs throughout the country is playing time. This is the rule we will follow concerning playing time at tournaments. All developmental and 12 and under club teams will allow as close to equal playing time as possible. All 13-18 club level teams will offer fair playing time to each team player. FAIR is not EQUAL. We will play your child as much as possible taking into consideration his/her position, attitude, practice time attended, skill level and competition. Playing time for Power/Select level players is based on competition in practice, skill level, and other factors determined by the coach of the team. There is no guarantee of playing time for power/select players. However, we do our best to not put players on Power- or Select- level teams that should not be on there. Therefore, if a player plays hard, practices hard, and has a good attitude then he/she should have an opportunity to play.

Commitment Level given of us and expected of you in Emerald City Juniors

At ECJ we commit to provide you with a quality coach that will train your child to the best of our ability, both in the physical and mental aspects of volleyball and life. We expect our members to be committed to their team in practices and in tournaments. We also expect you to honor your financial commitments.

Playing School Sports during Club Season

Although we do want our players to be at every practice they can be, we understand that many athletes play more than one sport. We will not limit you to only playing volleyball. You CAN be involved in other high school sanctioned sports and play for ECJ. It is your responsibility to find out the practice and game schedules for your sport and let us know when you will miss a practice or tournament before we make teams. If you are going to be missing a lot of tournaments, then we may not put you on a Power or Select team. If you know your exact schedule at the beginning of the season we may try to work our practice schedule around it if possible but this cannot be guaranteed. We can only do this successfully if the players communicate with us IN ADVANCE your schedules.