#### **RVAA DIVERSITY & INCLUSION TASK FORCE**

Existing Scholarship Programs & Ideas Research by Urissa Stephens (Austin Juniors VBC) & Cody March (Columbia Empire Region)

## Austin Juniors Volleyball Scholarship & Work Program

# **Work Program**

Work program was created to give all volleyball players the opportunity to play, regardless of their ability to pay.

How the work program works:

 Austin Junior Volleyball provides opportunities for the athletes to work off part of their dues, largely through the major events that we host. Different Work Areas: Merchandise, Concessions, Wristbands, Tournament Desk, Site Manager, Pre-event Work, Set-up and Tear-Down, and Registration.

Who is eligible to participate in the work program?

Anyone can participate in the work program as long as you are over the age of 15yrs.
old. However, we must know to which player account you would like your work credits applied.

How to sign up for the work program

• In order to be considered for the most work opportunities possible you will need to submit your completed work program application no later than November 30th, 2019. Work program applications will be accepted after this date but there may be limited work opportunities available at the time of your submission. Work program opportunities this season begin no later than August (during tryouts). The majority of work program opportunities end April 30, 2020. Any further work program opportunities are created on an as-needed basis.

How and when earnings from the work program are applied

- \$10 per hour is the pay rate. All work credits earned will be applied to the last invoice on your account first and will continue to be applied to the farthest outstanding balance until such time as the work credits earned are applied to the current outstanding balance.
- All work credits earned are posted to your account once a month at the end of the month. You will be able to view your applied work credits no later than 45 days after the work has been performed.

Do I still need to make my monthly payments while participating in the work program?

• YES! While participating in the work program you are still responsible for paying the monthly dues on your account in full by the due date designated each month (if this is not possible, please get with accounting about our alternate plan agreement)

What happens if I work in excess of the amount needed to pay off my account?

• If the work credits earned ever exceed the amount required to pay off your account you will be cut a check for the excess amount earned. Any individual who receives earnings in the form of a check in excess of \$600 in one calendar year will be issued a 1099 for income tax purposes.

#### **AJV Scholarship Program**

We reach out to companies, our AJV alumni, AJV families to donate. We create scholarship swag gear to sell throughout the year and we also have a silent auction at our end of the year banquet where families/ small business donate items or our coaches donate private lessons or training sessions to collect money for program:

Scholarship grants will only be issued to those players who have applied NO LATER THAN January 5, 2020 and have demonstrated financial need.

Scholarship grant money is distributed based on the funds available and the number of qualified families who have applied NO LATER THAN January 5, 2020.

- THEREFORE, THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT YOUR PLAYER WILL RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.
- FURTHERMORE, FAMILIES SHOULD NEVER EXPECT TO RECEIVE MORE THAN 10% OF THE ANNUAL DUES IN THE FORM OF A SCHOLARSHIP GRANT.

If your family requires additional assistance, be prepared to actively participate in the work program.

Because scholarship grant funds are limited, we ask that an application only be submitted if your current family circumstances would make playing for Austin Junior Volleyball a financial hardship.

Please note that there are alternate payment plans available.

#### SCHOLARSHIP GRANT FUNDS HAVE NO MONETARY VALUE.

- Should the scholarship grant funds disbursed to your player's account result in a credit balance, the total of the credit balance will be returned to the scholarship fund to be redistributed to other players in need.
- If your player has applied for a Scholarship grant and his or her account has been paid in full at the time the Scholarship Committee meets in March, he or she will not be eligible

- to receive a grant because there is no outstanding balance to which a grant can be applied and Scholarship grant funds have no monetary value.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO THE MONTH OF MARCH IF YOU NEED YOUR PLAYER'S FINAL INVOICE DUE DATE EXTENDED TO THE MONTH OF APRIL SO THAT A BALANCE EXISTS TO WHICH A GRANT CAN BE APPLIED.

Any scholarship grant funds disbursed to your player's account will be applied to the last invoice on your account first and will continue to be applied to the farthest outstanding balance until the amount of funds awarded is exhausted.

YOU ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THE MONTHLY DUES ON YOUR ACCOUNT IN FULL BY THE DUE DATE DESIGNATED EACH MONTH.

# CEVA Region #VolleyTheChange Scholarship Program

CEVA has two scholarship funds - the Memorial Scholarship Fund and the #VTC Scholarship Fund.

The Memorial fund is designed to help student athletes with demonstrated financial hardships (athletes/families must provide proof of receiving government assistance, such as free/reduced lunches, WIC, etc).

The #VTC fund was created in 2019-2020 to help student-athletes with other barriers to entry besides financial hardships. It aims to help players of color, players from an ethnic minority, and players who identify as members of the LGBTQ community. It is also intended to remove barriers to entry for players who have a chronic medical condition, mental health condition, and/or a learning or physical disability.

Student-athletes and their families must submit an application in the Fall, then our region's Scholarship Committee meets to select the winners. The application includes an essay section where student-athletes answer questions about what volleyball means to them and their own backgrounds. Members of our region's Diversity & Inclusion Committee are also part of the selection process for the #VTC fund.

In the first year, the #VTC fund awarded \$4,000 in scholarships to 17 student-athletes from numerous different backgrounds. We had far more applications and unfortunately we had to turn some applications away. Moral of the story: the need is there.

Scholarship funds were paid to the clubs directly and clubs were responsible for applying those funds to the student-athlete's account.

The fund received two anonymous donations - \$1,000 each - and CEVA matched those donations dollar-for-dollar from our operating budget to get to \$4,000 total.

In 2020-2021, I am proposing to our BOD a 2-for-1 dollar match for all donations that come in, up to a certain amount (not sure what that threshold is right now). For example, if somebody donates \$5, CEVA will match \$10. I am also proposing that in our new membership management system, we include a link for people to donate to this fund as part of their registration. We're also likely going to put a "donate now" button on our website.

We were prepared to hold a fundraising tournament for this fund over the Summer, but the pandemic cancelled those plans. We're still looking at opportunities to do this in 2021.

# La Jolla Volleyball Club (San Diego, CA) Scholarship Program

La Jolla Volleyball's prices are set very low, efficiently covering expenses: gym rental, uniforms, tournament entries, equipment, insurance, administrative costs, and coaching stipends. We rely on sponsors and donations to help fund families that cannot afford to pay our full fees. Our financial aid will be allocated on a need-based situation, and we reserve the right to verify information provided on this application, in order to ensure that the most needy families receive the assistance we have to offer. We reserve the right to request copies of recent pay stubs and/or tax returns in order to verify need. Our aim is to offer assistance to many players, rather than just one or two, so we do not offer full (100%) scholarships. Parents/guardians of players receiving Financial Aid must fulfill additional hours of volunteer service during the season that aid is given. This may include paperwork, equipment help, uniform organization/distribution, or other such tasks.

#### Florida Region Scholarship Program

If you are a high school senior who is in good standing with the Florida Region of USA Volleyball, then you are eligible to apply for one of our scholarships! We have transitioned to an online application so all you have to do is fill out the form, upload your documents and click submit! Once you apply, your application will be reviewed by a scholarship committee. Recipients will be notified in advance and scholarships will be awarded at the Annual Regional Awards Ceremony in Orlando!

Note: Recipients must attend the ceremony to be eligible for the scholarship! If you are unable to attend the Awards Ceremony then you will not receive the scholarship.

#### Scholarship recipients will meet the following criteria:

- Be a member in good standing of the Florida Region of USA Volleyball.
- Be a leader in their club, both on and off the court.
- Be an active junior official or scorekeeper for their team.
- Have a minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

- Be actively involved in their community.
- Have high moral, ethical, and social standards.

#### Documents to have ready when you apply:

- Recommendation letter from Club Director and/or Head Coach specifically addressing your leadership role in the club or on your team
- A copy of your most recent report card or grade summary
- List of personal references with name, job title, e-mail and telephone number
- Essay from the applicant (500 to 750 words) the essay should specifically address the following: your college plans, how you have benefited from club volleyball, what community organizations you support and how a scholarship will help you accomplish your college plans

# Spike2Care (Spokane, WA)

Spike2Care is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that raises money through volleyball and community events and provides financial assistance to individuals associated with the volleyball community in the Inland Northwest. Right now, Spike2Care is based out of Spokane and is a charity that supports our Spokane regional community. However there has been interest in expanding to other cities such as Seattle. Spike2Care will accept all applications for individuals associated with the local volleyball community including household members of an individual associated with the volleyball community. An individual may also nominate themselves. Each application will be reviewed closely by the Spike2Care Distribution of Benefits Committee and will ultimately be approved or denied by the Spike2Care Executive Board. A member of the Spike2Care Distribution of Benefits Committee may contact the nominee or nominator to discuss the application or gather further information. The amount of the funds allocated is dependent upon the number of applicants and the amount available for distribution. Within 72 hours, Spike2Care will send a confirmation email that your application has been received.

#### Inland Northwest Klassic (Spokane, WA)

Since our first year in 2010, INK has provided over \$85,000 in need-based scholarships to Evergreen Region players. To maximize our ability to help deserving athletes we ask you first make use of:

- Scholarship programs within your club, and
- Fundraising opportunities within your club or team, and
- Sponsors within your community of friends and family as well as businesses within your community

Our goal is that an INK scholarship be your last step in fundraising for your club expenses. We also look to provide assistance when sudden financial problems strike families. To be eligible for an INK scholarship you must be:

- A member of a USAV club in good standing within the Evergreen Region of USA Volleyball. A club is not in good standing if the club, any of its board members or its club director were sanctioned by the Evergreen Region or another body for any issue related to financial mismanagement or fraud in the last three years.
- A member in good standing with your club and with the Evergreen Region. You must be a regular member rather than using a special membership or one day membership.

Currently INK does not provide scholarships for participation in AAU or JVA programs or tournaments.

For players who are playing for clubs where there are substantial travel expenses or team fees it is not possible for INK to meet a substantial portion of a travel club's team fee. We usually have more than 60 applicants and try to help as many athletes participate in club volleyball.

#### Circle City Volleyball Club (Plainfield, IN)

#### **Work Opportunities**

As a club we run over 20 events each year, and we are always looking for parents and players to help with concessions, pro shop, and set-up. This is a great way to earn credit that goes directly to paying your daughter's club fees!

#### **Fundraising**

Each year we run a fundraiser to help player's earn money toward their tournament fee invoice. Participation in the fundraiser is on an individual basis and **is not required**, but it is another way to earn credit toward paying your daughter's fees.

#### CC Fusion Volleyball Club (Vancouver, WA)

Club runs a silent auction each year and proceeds benefit the club's in-house scholarship program.

Scholarship application on the website has the following information:

Scholarship recipients are expected to participate in club activities at a superior level. We are investing in you as an athlete and as a person by providing you with a scholarship. You are expected to make an investment in your own improvement as a player as well as an investment in your team's success and the success of the club. Scholarships will be dispersed on a first come first serve basis. Deadline to apply is February 1st of the current season. Names of scholarship recipients will not be released.

If approved for a scholarship I agree to the following participation requirements and understand that If requirements are not met throughout the season, scholarship funds may be revoked at the discretion of our Board and Directors. Scholarships funds will be applied to the athlete's Fusion account. \*

- Pay any dues not covered by the scholarship on time and in full according to the established payment schedule.
- Participate in any and all club sponsored fundraisers and/or events.
- Commit to participation in all scheduled team practices and tournaments for the entire season. The only exception to participation in team activities (practices and tournaments) are illness, injury, emergencies or school conflicts (with prior notice).

Questions included on the scholarship application:

- Other extracurricular activities or hobbies
- Please explain the circumstances surrounding your need to apply for financial aid.
- Why do you play volleyball?
- How does participation in volleyball impact you?

## Heart of America Region - Glen Davies Scholarship

Purpose is to provide financial support for USAV junior volleyball players who are disadvantaged or experiencing financial hardship. Selection protocol evaluates financial need, leadership and/or participation in school or community activities, aspirations/goals, academic performance, and personal/family circumstances.

Application requires a report card, federal income tax return, and an essay discussing "a special attribute or accomplishment that sets you apart."

#### **Badger Region Scholarship Programs**

The Badger Region Student-Athlete Scholarship Committee will award \$500 to up to five male and 10 female student athletes who participated with a Badger Region recognized-club during the 2019-20 club volleyball season. Winners can also be USAV coaches or officials who were seniors during the 2019-20 school year. Deadline: April 17, 2020. Scholarship candidate criteria and supplemental material requirements include:

- Graduating high school senior in the year of application (students who graduate in winter will be eligible alongside students who graduate in the spring or summer)
- No code of conduct violations
- Student athlete is member of the Badger Region and is in good standing with the Badger Region Volleyball Association and his or her club
- Submit a completed application form
- Submit an acceptance letter from a college, university or other post-secondary academic institution. (To receive payment, proof of registration and enrollment in a post-secondary school will be required

FriscoMo apparel is also offering a \$500 scholarship to one boy and one girl for going above and beyond in their community. Seniors can apply for the scholarship as part of the Badger

Region scholarship (see above), but must also have donated their time to a community service effort and be willing to mention it in their application.

# TCS Volleyball (Total city sports):

- One of the most affordable clubs in the Austin Area
- Uses interns and volunteer coaches
- Find sponsors to sponsor a player (help bridge the gap between talent and opportunity for our players)

#### Texas Advantage Volleyball

- Fundraising: TAV Gold Program
- Texas Rangers Concession stand

# **Dallas Skyline Juniors**

# **Skyline Financial Assistance Program**

Skyline Juniors wants to provide an opportunity for all girls to be able to achieve their full athletic potential as a volleyball player while promoting leadership, teamwork, friendship, character, goal setting, and self-discipline. The grant program is available to families who demonstrate that their commitments and obligations will not allow them the means to provide the monetary commitment necessary for their daughter to play for Skyline Juniors. If you should have any questions please contact Jodie Rye at jodie@skylinejuniors.com or at (972) 675-1448. The deadline for submission for the Financial Assistance Program is the end of January. Our goal is to announce the grant recipient(s) by early March.

The Financial Assistance program is set up as a committee of parents. We provide them the applications and the committee soley decides how and who the funds are allocated to. It is an NCAA regulation that we have no influence in who receives the funds. Last year, over \$20,,000 was raised for Skyline athletes who demonstrated their need of financial assistance.

The Financial Assistance application can be found on the "Athlete's MainPage" after logging into the i-Skyline Account. We will provide all athletes their information after tryouts.

If you would like to donate to the Skyline Financial Assistance Program, please contact Jodie Rye at jodie@skylinejuniors.com or at (972) 675-1448.

#### Fundraising Opportunities with Skyline

Below is a list of opportunities for athletes and families to earn additional money towards club dues. More information about these items will be discussed at the Pot Luck Event at the end of November. For more information about Fundraising, contact Heidi Johnson at heidi@skylinejuniors.com or at (972) 675-1448 ext 103.

- Skyline Gold Scrip Program
- Sweet Virginia's Popcorn
- Serve-a-thon
- Super Bowl Squares
- Flamingo Flocking Fundraiser
- Work Program
- Donations to Scolarship Program

#### **Work Program**

Skyline will have many opportunities to help work. Standard rate is \$8.50/hour. The whole family is welcome to help and every working family member may earn credit towards the players account.

- Concessions at Tournaments
- Gate at Tournaments
- Pro Shop and Apparel sales
- Club Administration Help
- Special Events Setup

#### Skyline Gold Scrip Program

Skyline Gold – Earn 1-75% rebate of every dollar you spend at over 500 merchants thru the Scrip and Kroger programs. This rebate will then be applied directly to your i-Skyline account, reducing your account balance. That means you can lower your monthly dues and/or airfare (anything applied to your i-Skyline account). The beauty of this program is that you earn money without spending any additional money! If you purchase groceries, gas, clothes, if you eat out, make home improvements or travel, then you can earn Skyline Gold! It's FREE money!!

#### **Super Bowl Squares**

The months of December and January we will be selling Superbowl squares online. Our goal is to complete 1 grids/pools for every Skyline team – which means that we need to sell 100 squares at \$10 each for each team. Contact your friends, family and co-workers – people love to play squares on Super Bowl. As a grid fills up, we can open new grids. Multiple prizes will be given out for winners. Proceeds will go directly to the Scholarship Program. This is a manditory fundraiser for all teams for proceeds to the scholarship fund.

#### Sweet Virginia's Popcorn

This year we will be selling gourmet popcorn for \$20 a bag. You will receive 50% of the profit towards your I-Skyline account. You can pick up the order forms from Heidi. Visit their website to find out more about their product.

Make all checks payable to Skyline Juniors and all money and order forms are due by Dec.1, 2018. We will accept cash and check.

#### Serve-a-Thon

The Skyline Serve-a-thon is a simple and easy way to raise money for your dues. Collect pledges from family and friends that donate a certain amount for each serve you get over the net and in the court. Athletes serve 100 times. Contact Heidi Johnson at heidi@skylinejuniors.com to get a copy of the Serve-a-thon pledge sheet. Once you have completed your pledges, contact your head coach and let them know you are ready to serve. The Head Coach will coordinate the time for you to do your Serve-a-thon. Click Here to download the Serve-a-thon form and begin getting pledges now!!!

#### Flamingo Flocked Fundraiser

This is something you can do all on your own, at any time, and requires no assistance from our organization. Be the one to start a chain of "Flocking" your friends, family and neighbors. For more information about this fundraiser, go to your "Startup Page" of your i-Skyline account to download the instructions.

#### **Houston Junior Volleyball**

Provide Sponsorship letter to give out to companies: <a href="http://www.fastcomplex.com/houston-juniors-vbc/sponsorship/">http://www.fastcomplex.com/houston-juniors-vbc/sponsorship/</a>

#### **Austin Performance Volleyball**

#### **AP Foundation Goals**

Austin Performance Volleyball (APV) was founded as a non-profit in 2007 and characterizes the true value of team sports as the maturity of character taught and learned through teamwork, self-sacrifice and commitment. The embodiment of these values ultimately adds to the quality of life by creating strong, self-reliant and dedicated individuals. At APV, professional and committed coaches, who are positive role models, use coordinated techniques and strategies for competitive player development to build a strong foundation and prepare athletes for college bound environments.

APV is seeking grants to secure the funds to continue the process of building, sustaining operations, and scholarship funds for athletes. Any donations from your foundation will contribute to paving the way to make this dream a reality for all involved. Providing for a building fund that promotes and supports our mission will enable these young athletes to afford competitive volleyball while building their skills and character which prepares them to be a successful contributor and give back to the community and world.

#### **Donate to the Foundation**

When you support the APV Foundation, you become part of a local and national movement allowing teenage girls the opportunity to play competitive volleyball with the exposure to collegiate opportunities. Your continued support of APV will help us fulfill our commitment to

these young women who depend on us to achieve their dreams. Your individual support will help be the pivotal factor that will open up this avenue of competition and preparation for these young athletes. We welcome your charitable donations in any amount.

#### **Corporate Giving**

The generosity of businesses allows us to make an even broader impact on young athletes in our community and provides the resources necessary to help us have a real impact in their lives. We consider these corporate partnerships an essential building block for the APV Foundation into the future. Many companies have giving programs that make donating to charity easy and can increase the impact of your gift. Some employers will match employee charity donations, so ask your employer to add Austin Performance Volleyball Foundation to their annual campaign.

For more information contact: <a href="mailto:foundation@apvball.net">foundation@apvball.net</a>;

Benefits of Sponsors Donations	National \$10,000	Regional \$5,000	Local \$1,000	Individual Any \$ Amount
Most Prominent Name Placement on AP Foundation Website	X			
Name listed sponsorship level plaque in AP building	X	X	X	
Name represented on banner at AP tournaments	X	X		
Social media recognition from AP	X	X		
Recognition on AP website	Х	X	X	X
Recognition and preferred seating at AP Banquet	X			

# Other Options For Support

#### **Fundraisers**

- Silent Auctions
- Golf fundraisers (Arizona Region does this in support of their HP program)
- Amazon Smile partnership
- Fundraising tournaments (outdoor tournaments in the Summer)