

## 2021 Season Update as of October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

### Volleyball BC

VBC has created a plan for a 2021 season. Based on that, we are moving forward with as much planning as we currently can.

Part of the plan is that the season-start was pushed back to January 2021. This change in start date means tryouts must wait until January as well.

### Practice Facilities

As previous Sky members, you understand that Sky relies heavily on SD22 gym rentals to run our programming. Outside of school gyms, there are limited facilities available and/or suitable for our teams.

Currently, due to COVID-19, SD22 has not been able to commit to outside/community rentals. We continue to remain optimistic and hopeful, working our way through as much season planning as possible.

### Early Signing

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, Sky Board President, Troy Lorensen, sent an email to Sky's 2020 athletes and families. This email mentioned Sky's use of the Early Signing period for our 15-18U teams.

- As per Volleyball BC's regulations, the Early Signing Period is October 15<sup>th</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. To assist us in keeping numbers low at tryouts when the time comes, Sky will be utilizing the Early Signing Period this year.
- The Early Signing Period is an opportunity for Sky to offer guaranteed roster spots on teams to some athletes.
  - Nothing is required of athletes to be considered for this. We will reach out to those who have been chosen for offers.
  - To keep the process as fair and unbiased as possible, the Early Signing offers are being decided by a combination of 2020 season coaches, school coaches (where available), and Sky board member input.
  - Please note, as per Volleyball BC regulations, the Early Signing offers can only be sent to Sky 2020 members.
- Accepting an Early Signing offer means the athlete will be guaranteed a spot on a Sky team for the 2021 season without having to attend tryouts. *Specific* team placement (e.g. AA vs A) is not guaranteed, but a rostered spot for 2021 is.
- We will begin sending out offers on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. As per Volleyball BC regulations, athletes will have 36 hours to respond to an offer.
- As per Volleyball BC regulations, if Sky is unable to secure enough gym space by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020, all athletes pre-signed to teams we cannot accommodate will be notified by end of day December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and released from their commitment to play for Sky in 2021.

## **Athlete Applications**

Also mentioned in the October 19<sup>th</sup> email was the newly-created Athlete Application process. This new process was created as part of Volleyball BC's COVID-19 season planning.

- As per Volleyball BC's regulations, Athlete Applications will be accepted between November 16<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
  - Sky will make the application available on or before November 16<sup>th</sup>.
- The purpose of the Athlete Applications is to assist clubs in preparing for tryout sessions. COVID-19 restrictions limit and regulate the number of players allowed in the gym at a time, so tryout sessions will be scheduled very specifically.
- Submitting an Athlete Application officially informs us of an athlete's desire to play with Sky for the 2021 season.
- Athletes who submit an Athlete Application will most likely still be required to attend tryouts as per our usual selection processes.

**A link to Volleyball BC's outlines for these programs, and additional new information for the 2021 season, can be found here:**

<http://www.volleyballbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2021-Club-Volleyball-Information-FINAL-2.pdf>