



## F.A.Q - Frequently Asked Questions

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### I'm new - What is AVC? What is JO? What is Club Volleyball?

AVC (The Academy) is USA Volleyball club based in the Greater Cleveland area. USA Volleyball (commonly referred to as JO) is an organization that is dedicated to the promotion and growth of volleyball and offers instruction and competition for juniors. USA volleyball teams are traveling sports team. This is AVC's 5th year as a club. AVC organizes several teams to compete at the National, Elite, American, and Regional levels.

### How many teams will AVC have? How many make the team?

AVC intends to host 30+ teams ranging from age 10 to 18. Each team will have 9-10 players per team.

### What's the difference between the National, Elite, American and Regional classifications?

- **National** is the most competitive division and is for the highest skilled athletes. National team members are required to travel and practice more than American or Regional teams.
- **Elite** is an AVC classification for teams comprising of the highest talented players outside of the National teams and can either play in the American or Regional divisions. Typically, Elite players are highly talented players that want to play a schedule that requires less travel than a National team but still play at a high level and in larger tournaments
- **American** is a relatively new classification within the Ohio valley region. The American division is meant to consist of highly talented regional teams so that the level of competition is slightly higher than regional teams. It is only available for teams in ages 13-17.
- **Regional** is the most popular classification and requires less travel and time commitment than National and Elite teams. Regional teams compete at a more local level and overnight stays are uncommon.

### When, where, and how long are practices?

Most practices will be held at the AVC Volleyball Center in Valley View and occasionally at other school gymnasiums. Team Practices are typically 2 hours long and will occur twice a week for Regional, American, and Elite teams and 3 times a week for National teams. There will be 4-6 teams that will practice at Hiram College. Positional practices are held as an additional practice day on certain weeks throughout the season.

### What does AVC Cost? What does the fee go towards?

The cost ranges from \$900 to \$2000 depending on the age and team classification. Teams that practice and travel more have a higher cost than other teams. It is expensive but the reward for participating includes improved skills and an experience like no other volleyball program can provide. The cost goes to cover uniforms, gym rental expenses, tournament fees, coach reimbursement, and administrative fees.

### When is the Club Fee Due and Is there any fundraising?

A 1/2 fee deposit is due by December 1st. The remainder is due in January. Payment plans are available and handled on a case by case basis. **Is there any fundraising?** Yes. AVC is planning a couple different fund raising opportunities for athlete's to raise money for their club fee.

### When and Where are the Tournaments?

The tournament season runs approximately February through May. Check our website for update on tournament locales.

**American and Regional Teams** typically are entered into 6-8 tournaments spanning 8 play dates. (10s play in 5-6 tournaments and 11s have 7 play dates.) We will try our best to select tournaments local to the Cleveland/Akron areas to minimize travel. The OVR regional championship tournament at the end of the season will be held in Columbus in May.

**Elite Teams** play in larger tournaments that are sometime a little further to travel to than regional teams. A couple of overnight trips may be required. Depending on the age, Elite teams will typically travel to Columbus, Louisville, Dayton. Elite teams will also compete in a National qualifier tournament.

**National Teams** will play in 8 or more tournaments including National qualifying tournaments. Qualifiers may involve a plane trip and multiple day stays at locations around the state and beyond. Depending on the age level, tournaments and qualifiers can be in Columbus, Louisville, Dayton, Indianapolis, Baltimore, Atlanta or St. Louis.