



U. S. JUNIOR RACQUETBALL TEAM

PROCEDURES & PROTOCOLS HANDBOOK

June 1, 2026



Member



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-------|
| Welcome Letter | 1 |
| TEAM QUALIFICATION AND SELECTION | |
| A. Qualifying for the Team | 2 |
| B. Team Selection | 2-3 |
| C. Competing in More Than One Division | 3 |
| ATHLETES' CODE OF CONDUCT | |
| A. Basic Principle of Conduct | 4 |
| B. Specific Principles of Conduct | 4 |
| SAFESPORT/BACKGROUND CHECK | 4 |
| US JUNIOR TEAM RULES AND POLICIES | |
| A. Team Roles | 5 |
| B. Practice, Clinics, and Conditioning Training | 5-6 |
| C. Uniforms/Attire | 6 |
| D. Competitive Rules/Officiating | 6-7 |
| E. Travel Policies | 7 |
| F. Athlete/Family Financial Responsibilities | 7 |
| G. Alcohol, Drug Policies, and Testing | 7-8 |
| H. Players' Bill of Rights | 8 |
| I. Penalties | 8 |
| FORMS AND SIGNATURES | |
| A. Acknowledgment of Receipt of Handbook | 9 |
| B. Athlete Information | 10 |
| C. USA Racquetball Agreement | 11-13 |
| PARENTS, PARENT COACHES, AND PRIVATE COACHES: CODE OF CONDUCT/AGREEMENTS | |
| A. Parents/Private Coach Code of Conduct | 14-15 |
| B. Parent Coaching Agreement | 16 |
| C. Private Coaching Agreement | 17-18 |



Dear U.S. Junior National Team Qualifier,

Congratulations on qualifying for the United States Junior Racquetball Team! USA Racquetball will be proud to have you represent the nation's entire racquetball community in both national and international competition.

This next year will be both exciting and demanding for you in your role as a racquetball ambassador. Indeed, you will play an important part in molding future development of our sport.

Once individual(s) have officially qualified to be on the U.S. Junior Racquetball Team, the Acknowledgment of Receipt of Procedures & Protocols Handbook; the Athlete Information Form; and the USA Racquetball Agreement must be signed/sent to USA Racquetball within seven (7) days of being provided the above referenced materials.

This Procedures & Protocols Handbook should be carefully reviewed and understood before you sign the agreement. If you have any questions, please contact either of us.

Again, congratulations on qualifying to be a member of one of the world's premier racquetball teams!

Larry Haemmerle
Chair, U.S. Team Committee
USA Racquetball

ed@usaracquetball.com

Kristin Wattz
President, Board of Directors
USA Racquetball

president@usaracquetball.com

719.635.5396

USA RACQUETBALL
U.S. JUNIOR RACQUETBALL TEAM

TEAM QUALIFICATION AND SELECTION

A. Qualifying for the Team

The United States Junior National Racquetball Team is formed of individuals who are U.S. citizens and who have qualified by virtue of their finish at qualifying events including the Junior National Championships, High School National Championships, and Intercollegiate Championships. Those who make Team USA must achieve one of the following.

Junior National Championships

- Finalists in the Boys and Girls 21s, 18s, 16s, 14s, 12s, 10s Singles Championships divisions
- Champions in the Boys and Girls 21s, 18s, 16s, 14s, 12s, 10s Doubles Championships divisions
- Champions in the Boys and Girls 21s, 18s, 16s, 14s, 12s, 10s Mixed Doubles Championships divisions

High School National Championships

- Champions in Girls #1 Gold and Boys #1 Gold of the Singles division, if U.S. citizens and meet age requirements, will become alternates when forming competition teams for IRF Junior World Championships
- Out of respect for their accomplishment, the High School National Champions in Singles are named to the Junior Team in their respective age division. To qualify for international competition on the team, they still must qualify at Junior Nationals as part of that process.

Intercollegiate Championships

- Champions in Men's #1 Gold and Women's #1 Gold of the Singles division, if U.S. citizens and meet age requirements, will become alternates when forming competition teams for the IRF World Junior Championships.
- Out of respect for their accomplishment, the Collegiate National Champions in Singles are named to the Junior Team. To qualify for international competition on the team, they still must qualify at Junior Nationals as part of that process.

B. Qualifying for IRF Junior World Championships in Two Singles Divisions

In the event that an athlete qualifies for the IRF World Junior Championships in two Singles divisions, the High Performance Director and U.S. Junior National Team Coach Director will select the division or divisions in which that athlete will participate, based on the best interests of the Team.

If finalists from the National Junior Championships are unable to fulfill their position on the U.S. Junior Racquetball Team, the Team will be formed as follows:

Singles:

In the division from which a vacancy occurred:

- If a U.S. citizen, the winner of the #1 Gold division of the National High School Championships, taking into account the age of the player, or
3rd place at the National Championships
4th place at the National Championships
- Quarterfinalists (by order of seed) at the USA Racquetball Junior National Championships
- High Performance Director and U.S. Junior National Team Coach Director's choice, approved by the U.S. Team Committee and/or the USAR Board of Directors.

Doubles and Mixed Doubles:

If one member of a Doubles and/or Mixed Doubles team elects to not compete at the IRF World Junior Championships, the High Performance Director and U.S. Junior National Team Coach Director, based upon their assessment in pursuit of forming the strongest team relative to player strengths and weaknesses, will replace that player with:

- A player from the runner-up team, or
- A player who qualified as a Singles semifinalist in the age division

If both players of a Doubles team elect to not compete at the World Junior Championships, the runner-up team will be invited. If one member of the runner-up Doubles team elects not to compete at the IRF World Junior Championships, the other position will be filled per the one-player replacement process described immediately above.

Should a Doubles and/or Mixed team not be identified through the above processes, the High Performance Director and U.S. Junior National Team Coach Director will assemble a team using their professional judgment and experience, with final approval by the U.S. Team Committee and/or the USAR Board of Directors.

C. Competing in More Than One Division

A player may be selected to participate in more than one division (singles, doubles, and/or mixed doubles). The High Performance Director and U.S. Junior National Team Coach Director will select the division or divisions in which a player will participate based on the best interests of the Team. It is unlikely but possible that a player could be selected to compete in more than one age division.

**USA RACQUETBALL
U.S. JUNIOR RACQUETBALL TEAM**

ATHLETES' CODE OF CONDUCT

A. Basic Principles of Conduct

Conduct oneself in such a manner to bring credit and honor to oneself, one's teammates, USA Racquetball, and the United States of America.

As a condition of membership in USA Racquetball, all Athletes, Coaches, Event Directors, Referees, Members, Vendors, National Board Members, Officers, Committee Members, Contractors, and Staff pledge to abide by the USA Racquetball Code of Conduct. (www.usaracquetball.com, Governance/Bylaws & Policies/Code of Conduct and Statement of Ethics).

B. Specific Principles of Conduct

1. As a U.S. Junior National Team member, the player recognizes they represent the sport and country at all times, not just at official team functions or tournaments.
2. The player must act as a responsible and respectful athlete at any racquetball-related function and always displays proper sportsmanship and respect to the people in the event.
3. The player agrees to not act in any way that would negatively represent the sport or country. Examples include, but are not limited to, swearing, abuse of racquetball equipment/facility, abusing the referee, coaching against the U.S. Team in any form, directly or indirectly. (See Penalties, p. 8)
4. The player must follow the rules established by USA Racquetball and any relevant organizations, including the venues where the player stays and competes (e.g., competition venues, Olympic Training Center, medical facilities, gyms).
5. The player must attend all individual and team meetings called by the coaching staff. Punctuality is required.
6. The player will exhibit good sportsmanship during all competitions and practices.
7. Team members will attend all opening and closing ceremonies and award presentations. Stand at attention for national anthems of all countries. Be respectful - talking, fidgeting, phone use, etc. is not acceptable.
8. The player agrees to submit all required reports and documentation to relevant USA Racquetball staff and coaches by their specified due dates.
9. The player adheres to tasks agreed upon by the coaches and player.
10. The player will refrain from possessing or consuming all alcohol or prohibited substances at any time at during an international event or training, regardless of age.

SAFESPORT/BACKGROUND CHECK

1. In accordance with the Center for SafeSport's Policies and Procedures, the player will complete the online age-appropriate SafeSport Training within 30 days of signing the handbook. Should a parent of a minor junior athlete prefer their athlete(s) not complete the training, the parent or guardian must complete it in their place.
2. If 18 years of age and over, the player must complete adult SafeSport training and pass a background check if a current background check is not on file.
3. The player will abide by the Code of Conduct, SafeSport Code, and applicable MAAPP Policies (see <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Racquetball/SafeSport/MAAPP>).

U.S. JUNIOR TEAM RULES AND POLICIES

A. Team Roles

1. The U.S. Junior National Team Coach Director oversees all aspects of coaching associated with the National Team. This includes being responsible for team selection (with approval by the U.S. Team Committee and Board of Directors), coaching staff selection, and any disciplinary action at the IRF World Junior Championships.
2. The U.S. Junior National Team Assistant Coaches advise in team selection as well as assist with Coach Director duties as needed.
3. The Team Leader is the official liaison between the team members and coaches with USA Racquetball. Any questions regarding travel, USA Racquetball policies and procedures, etc., should be directed to the Team Leader.
4. Two captains (one male, one female) are selected for each IRF World Junior Championships. The captains are the official liaison between the team and the coaching staff. The captains have the responsibility of leading by example as well as supporting the coaches and ensuring that all team members follow disciplinary standards as established by USA Racquetball for the team.

B. Practice, Clinics, and Training

1. Each player must attend and actively participate in practices and training programs developed by the coaching staff when at USA Racquetball trainings or events associated with Team USA (e.g., training camp, international events, exhibitions). Any exceptions to this rule must be approved in advance by the Coach Director or coaching staff. Medical documentation may be requested.
2. A player who requires medical attention, physiotherapy, or any special conditioning or rehabilitation program must do so without exception. Schedules should be worked out with the coach and the medical staff.
3. Every team member must be on time and ready to practice. If a player is late to practice, it is up to the coaching staff to determine the consequences, which may include exclusion from practice.
4. Non or late attendance to practice must be pre-approved (e.g., medical/dental appointments).
5. Players must report injuries or sickness to one of the coaching staff as soon as possible.
6. If a player fails to attend a mandatory event, function, or team training camp without prior permission, they may be suspended for a one-year period beginning the first day of the missed function or camp. This suspension includes all Team USA events (e.g., international competitions, exhibitions, trainings).
7. The Coach Director shall be notified as soon as a U.S. Team member feels there may be an absence from a required event. Excused absences may include, for example, illness, death of a family member, or pregnancy. Unexcused absences may include, for example, employment issues, other plans, events, or obligations. Determination of excused/unexcused absences will ultimately be decided on a case-by-case basis by the U.S. Team Committee and ratified by the USA Racquetball Board of Directors.

8. If a player resigns from the team, information regarding the resignation will be submitted to the U.S. Team Committee, which will evaluate circumstances regarding the resignation and present the decision to the Board of Directors for ratification. After evaluation, the resignation may be subject to the same penalties as failure to participate in a mandatory function. This policy ensures that players do not resign from their U.S. Team position in an effort to avoid a mandatory function or event and then re-qualify for the U.S. Team at the next qualifying event.

C. Uniforms/Attire

1. Proper uniforms, as designated by USA Racquetball, must be worn. The Coach Director or Team Leader will communicate to the team prior to the beginning of each event which additional apparel is acceptable to be worn (e.g., USA apparel from previous years). In all cases, the current official team apparel must be worn during semifinal and final matches.
2. The player is responsible for bringing all their team uniforms and equipment, including ample strung, ready-to-play racquets; 1-2 pair eye guards.
3. No part of any uniform or equipment may be altered, except for normal alterations for length, waist, etc. For example, the addition of other logos and sponsors are not permitted on any apparel or accessories (e.g., hats, socks).
4. The player is responsible for maintaining practice uniforms and equipment in good repair. Notify the coaching staff if a problem arises.
5. Official team warm-ups must be worn during award ceremonies, team and individual photographs, and interviews. Chewing gum or wearing hats, sunglasses, or open-toed shoes during these events are not permitted.
6. For award banquets, receptions, team dinners, and other occasions, appropriate clothing must be worn. Final decisions regarding dress standards at such events will be the responsibility of the Coach Director or Team Leader.
7. Current team uniforms and clothing may not be given, traded, or exchanged with other countries until the completion of competition. Under NO circumstances may any equipment be sold to individuals, clubs, or organizations, or may individuals participate in promotion of racquets, camps, clinics, etc., unless cleared in advance by USA Racquetball.
8. The player must wear only authorized team clothing in any photographs or news releases published in relation to official U.S. Team functions. When it is likely photos may be taken for publication on social media, websites, etc., official apparel must be worn (e.g., match competition, official photographs, media events/press conferences, meetings where athletes are representing USAR/the U.S. Team). At international competitions, the coach and team leader will provide guidance on what activities will apply, and when. With local events, common sense applies.
9. All official photographs taken by an official USAR photographer are completely owned by USA Racquetball.

D. Competitive Rules/Policies

1. The player will follow the protocols for practice and competition as designated for each tournament.

2. During a match (either as a player or spectator), everyone must follow the rules of the game. Any conduct or behavior deviating from those rules will be subject to disciplinary review.
3. No coaching against the U.S. Team or active support of another player from a competing country will be allowed in any direct or indirect form.
4. Any disagreement among players and/or coaches must be resolved during timeouts or at the end of the game in a non-public setting.
5. The player must show respect to officials at all times.
6. In the event of a USA vs. USA match, in the spirit of team morale and camaraderie, neither U.S. Junior Team coaches nor U.S. Junior Team fellow athletes will coach one athlete against another. When this occurs, a parent or a private coach may support the athlete courtside.

E. Travel Policies

1. For international travel, the player is required to possess a passport that expires no sooner than six months from the final date of scheduled competition. If a competitive event takes place in the U.S., a passport or other proof of citizenship must be provided.
2. Other than immediate family members, no one may stay in a room with a junior team player unless USA Racquetball is notified in writing (and it is approved) before the trip.
3. Coaches and staff will designate curfew times on an event-by-event basis. They will be enforced. Any variance (e.g., a scheduled late match) requires approval from a U.S. Team coach. Violation of these times will be penalized in accordance with established rules.
4. For safety and security, when in public outside of racquetball venues, team members should make every attempt to avoid wearing USA apparel.

F. Athlete/Family Financial Responsibility

1. If selected to compete at the IRF World Junior Championships or any other international events, each player (family) will have a financial requirement to cover expenses for their participation at any designated team training camps (e.g., Olympic Training Center).
2. If selected to compete, each player (family) will have a financial requirement to cover expenses for their participation in the IRF World Junior Championships or other international events, including but not limited to transportation, accommodations, meals, entry fees, insurance, and uniforms.

G. Alcohol, Drug Policy, and Drug Testing

1. Absolutely no alcohol or prohibited substances may be possessed or consumed at any time during any official team function (Junior Nationals, team trips, Junior Worlds, etc.), regardless of the amount consumed. The player agrees to submit to testing for the presence of such substances and understands that refusal to be tested will result in disciplinary action.
2. USA Racquetball follows the guidelines as set forth in the USOPC Drug Control Program as administered by the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA). The International Racquetball Federation under the IOC follows the guidelines as set forth by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
3. USA Racquetball, USOPC, and USADA (usada.org) may drug test any athlete at random, during a competitive event, or at a training camp. The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) or any other anti-doping agency affiliated with the IOC/IRF may also test

4. athletes. Tests may come with advance notification or be of the No-Advance-Notice (NAN) variety in accordance with WADA protocols and with adherence to athlete rights.
5. Further information, including a complete list of prohibited substances may be obtained at WADA's website: <https://www.wada-ama.org/en/prohibited-list>
6. The player agrees to immediately depart from any place where either alcohol or illegal drugs is either possessed or being consumed in violation of these rules.

H. Player's Bill of Rights and Due Process

Every member of the U.S. Team should become familiar with the "Player's Bill of Rights" as spelled out in the USA Racquetball Bylaws. The Player's Bill of Rights guarantees equal opportunity to all athletes to participate in athletic competition. Every athlete is guaranteed due process with fair notice and an opportunity for a hearing before being declared ineligible for competition.

I. Penalties

Athletes will be accorded due process as required by the USAR Players' Bill of Rights in all disciplinary actions. With the approval of the Board of Directors, the U.S. Team Committee will deliberate on assigned penalties.

Examples of Penalties

Penalties include, but are not limited to, examples such as:

- Sexual misconduct or other criminal behavior
- Illegal drug use
- Consumption of alcohol at any time if underage or within competition/training timeframes if of age (Note: see G1 in this document)
- Unsportsmanlike conduct (e.g., swearing on court; any unsportsmanlike conduct that results in a technical foul; aggressive behavior; any disqualification from a match)
- Intentionally losing a match
- Coaching or actively supporting a player from another team
- Failure to follow proper protocols/rules/regulations
- Failing to follow room/curfew regulations
- Disrespect toward staff/coaches/teammates, et al.
- Wearing unauthorized apparel/accessories or altering official apparel/equipment

Penalties for Infractions

Penalties for infractions are at the discretion and judgment of the U.S. Team Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. Examples of penalties may include but are not limited to:

Written reprimand/warning

Probation, length of which may vary

Suspension from U.S. Junior Team competitions, length of which may vary

Suspension from USA Racquetball sanctioned events, length of which may vary

Disqualification for consideration for USA Racquetball awards/recognition



FORMS AND SIGNATURES

- A. Acknowledgement of Receipt of the 2026-2027 USA Racquetball Junior National Team Procedures & Protocols Handbook
- B. Player Information
- C. USA RACQUETBALL Agreement: U.S. Junior Racquetball Team

A. Acknowledgement of Receipt of the 2026-2027 USA Racquetball Junior National Team Procedures & Protocols Handbook

As a U.S. Junior National Team Member, I consent to abide by the rules and policies described in the U.S. Junior National Team Procedures & Protocols Handbook, including the Code of Conduct for all Team Members. I understand that violations may result in full or partial forfeitures of my privileges and standing as a U.S. Junior Racquetball Team Member.

I, _____, agree to the above conditions, Code of Conduct, and hereby understand that disciplinary action may be taken if a violation occurs.

Signature of Athlete

Date

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian
(if Athlete is under 18)

Date

B. Athlete Information

DOB (mm/dd/yyyy)

Athlete Name:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Allergies/Reactions:

Passport

Full Name on U.S. Passport:

Passport #:

Issue Date:

Expiration Date:

Name of Parent/Guardian 1:

Primary Phone Number:

Secondary Phone Number:

Email Address:

Name of Parent/Guardian 2:

Primary Phone Number:

Secondary Phone Number:

Email Address:

Name of Primary Coach (if applicable)

Primary Phone Number:

Email Address:

Emergency Contact (likely not to be traveling with athlete):

Name:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Relationship:

C. USA RACQUETBALL Agreement: U.S. Junior Racquetball Team

Agreement is entered on date _____, between the U.S. Racquetball Association of the United States, Inc., a Colorado corporation, having its principal office at 1631 Mesa Ave. Suite A , Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906, and _____ (U.S. Junior Racquetball Team Member).

It is agreed:

1.0 Responsibilities of the Team Member. The team member, as a racquetball athlete and a U.S. Citizen, having been selected by USA Racquetball as qualified to serve as a member of the United States Junior Racquetball Team (USJRT), agrees to represent USA Racquetball and serve as a member of the USJRT. The team member shall participate in USJRT activities as determined by the coaching staff including, but not limited to, participating in racquetball tournaments to which the USJRT has been invited. The member shall at all times:

1.1 Abide by the By-Laws of USA Racquetball and the terms of the USJRT Procedures & Protocols Handbook.

1.2 Abide by rules of eligibility for the sport of racquetball as may be adopted from time to time by the International Racquetball Federation and USA Racquetball.

1.3 Promote USA Racquetball and the sport of racquetball and participate in promotional efforts as outlined in the USJRT Procedures & Protocols Handbook.

1.4 Perform such other duties as may be required by USA Racquetball, USJRT coach, or team liaison with guidance of the US Team Committee.

1.5 Team members shall be required to participate in and support the procedures of training programs and competitions as outlined in the USJRT Procedures & Protocols Handbook.

1.6 As a member of the junior team, each player (family) will have a financial requirement to cover all expenses for their participation in US Junior Team Training Camp and IRF Junior World Championships (including but not limited to transportation, accommodations, meals, entry fees, insurance, and uniforms). Transportation to the event is the full responsibility of each athlete. Travel dates should be confirmed with the Coach Director. All participation fees will be due by the communicated deadline dates.

1.7 Adhere to all rules, policies, and Code of Conduct as outlined in the US Junior Team Procedures & Protocols Handbook.

1.8 Provide prompt response to all communication and meet all deliverable deadlines set by the Junior Coach Director/Team Leader.

2.0 Responsibilities of USA Racquetball. USA Racquetball shall:

2.1 Provide opportunities for the team member to demonstrate racquetball skills.

2.2 Provide no payment or benefits that might in any way jeopardize the Olympic eligibility of the team member.

3.0 Indemnification.

3.1 USA Racquetball shall not be responsible for any losses, claims, damages, or injuries to the team member or the team member's equipment or property, unless those losses, claims, damages, or injuries relate to the negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct of USA Racquetball.

3.2 The team member shall be responsible, liable for, and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless USA Racquetball and its officers, directors, employees, and agents for any and all losses, damages, claims, and injuries arising out of injury or damage to the team member, to other team members, to third persons and to equipment and property of the team member and others which is the result of negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct of the team member.

3.3 USA Racquetball shall give the team members notice of any claims against it.

4.0 Term. This agreement shall remain in effect until the first day of the scheduled event in which the athlete qualified in the prior calendar year.

5.0 Amendment. This agreement may be altered or amended at any time by the mutual agreement of USA Racquetball and the U.S. Junior Racquetball Team Member.

6.0 Non-Exclusivity - This is a non-exclusive agreement and therefore USA Racquetball may enter into similar agreements with other racquetball athletes.

7.0 Force Majeure - Both USA Racquetball and the team member shall be relieved of their obligations under this agreement in the event and to the extent that performance of those obligations is unavoidably delayed or prevented by acts of God, public enemy, war, civil disorder, fire, flood, explosion, riot, labor disputes or strike, any act or order of any governmental authority, or any other causes, whether similar or dissimilar, beyond their control.

8.0 Assignment - The team member may not assign or otherwise transfer any rights or obligations of the member under this agreement.

9.0 Waiver - The right of USA Racquetball or the team member to require strict performance and observance of any obligations under this agreement shall not be affected in any way by any previous waiver, forbearance, or course of dealing.

10.0 Governing Law - This agreement and any disputes arising under it shall be governed by the laws of the State of Colorado.

11.0 Termination

11.1 USA Racquetball may terminate this agreement and remove the team member from the U.S. Junior Racquetball Team by written notice to the team member upon occurrence of any of the following events:

11.1.1 The team member's breach of any of the terms of this agreement.

11.1.2 The team member's failure to qualify as an eligible competitor under

International Racquetball Federation rules.

11.1.3 The team member's continuous illness or incapacity for a period in excess of 120 days.

11.1.4 The insolvency, dissolution, or termination of existence of USA Racquetball.

11.1.5 A determination by USA Racquetball that the member has failed to perform his or her duties under this agreement with reasonable diligence or, in USA Racquetball's view has acted in a manner contradictory to the best interests of USA Racquetball and the sport of racquetball.

11.2 The team member is guaranteed due process as outlined in the Players Bill of Rights of the By Laws of USA Racquetball.

11.3 The team member may terminate this agreement by the giving of 30 days written notice to USA Racquetball.

11.4 If this agreement is terminated by the team member of USA Racquetball in compliance with sections 11.1 or 11.3, all products and materials supplied to the athlete during the agreement period must be surrendered to USA Racquetball within two weeks of official notice.

12.0 Headings - The headings and numbers appearing in this agreement have been inserted as a matter of convenience, and this agreement is not to be construed with reference thereto. If there is any conflict between such numbers and headings and the text of this agreement, the text will control.

13.0 Entire Agreement - This agreement contains all of the terms agreed upon by the parties with respect to the subject matter of this agreement and supersedes all prior agreements, arrangements and communications between the parties concerning such subject matter, whether oral or written.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties to this agreement have entered into it on the day and date written above.

U.S. Junior National Team Member

Date

Parent or Legal Guardian (if U.S. Junior National Team Member is under 18 years of age)

Date

Executive Director, USA Racquetball

Date

PARENTS, PARENT COACHES, and PRIVATE COACHES: CODE OF CONDUCT/AGREEMENTS

A. Parents / Parent Coaches / Private Coaches Code of Conduct

USA Racquetball is committed to creating a positive environment for youth members' physical, emotional, and social development and ensuring we promote a safe environment, free of misconduct.

By signing below, I hereby agree:

1. To provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my athlete by placing their emotional and physical well-being ahead of my personal desire for them to win.
2. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other event.
3. I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, athlete, or parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, and/or using profane language or gestures. (Note: During matches, Parents and Private Coaches are prohibited from talking to referees or linespeople.)
4. I will never reprimand or yell at my athlete or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
5. I will teach my athlete to treat other players, coaches, fans, volunteers, officials, and staff with respect, regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language, and socioeconomic status. I will report any acts of bullying, harassment, or abuse to the appropriate authorities.* I will help my athlete enjoy the experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectful fan, assisting with coaching, etc.
6. I will respect my athlete's national coaches and understand that the individual(s) assigned by the Coach Director to coach my athlete's matches is (are) the only individual(s) who will coach (match strategy, serve suggestions, appeals, time out management, etc.) my athlete during the match, including between games and during time outs. If I am not one of those individuals, any information or suggestions that I convey to the coach(es) will be conveyed in a respectful manner either prior to or after the match.
7. I will respect the authority and decisions of USA Racquetball staff members, tournament officials, and referees during practice and tournaments, and I will teach my athlete to do the same.
8. I will insist that my athlete compete in a safe and healthy environment. I will demand a sports environment for my athlete that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and will refrain from their use in court areas at competition venues. Any legal use of the above at other Team events around my athlete or other U.S. Junior National Team staff, members, and delegates will be done only where permitted and in a way that is respectful to their wishes, health, and well-being. Note: No one in a coaching and/or leadership role will consume prohibited substances or alcohol at any time during an U.S. Junior Team event or competition.
9. I will not assist or condone any athlete's use of prohibited substances as described by the International Olympic Committee, International Racquetball Federation, United States Olympic Committee, or USA Racquetball, or, in the case of athletes, to use such drugs or refuse to submit to properly conducted drug tests administered by one of these organizations. <https://www.wada-ama.org/en/prohibited-list>

ACKNOWLEDGMENT/AGREEMENT

I understand that, should I violate any points of the **Parents / Parent Coaches / Private Coaches Code of Conduct**, I could be subject to a verbal warning by an official, coach, or on-site director; ejection from the court area or competition venue; a written warning by USA Racquetball; suspension of spectator privileges; and/or complete removal from all tournament/event activities.

* I acknowledge that my SafeSport/MAAPP training and education are current.

Name of Parent or Private Coach

Signature

Date

Name of Parent or Private Coach

Signature

Date

B. PARENT COACHING AGREEMENT

1. No parent coaching will be allowed during U.S. Junior National Team matches at the IRF World Junior Championships unless discussed and approved in advance by the U.S. Junior Team Coach Director.
2. The U.S. Junior Team Coach Director or an Assistant Coach will be assigned to each match and will be responsible for coaching during the match. Any information parents wish to convey to the assigned coach should be provided before or after the match in a respectful and constructive way.
3. If a parent is also the private coach of an athlete and wishes to participate in coaching or assisting with coaching their athlete at an event, that parent coach must complete SafeSport training (including a background check) and complete the USA Racquetball Instructor Program (USAR-IP) at least 30 days prior to the event.
4. For the well-being of the athletes, the U.S. Junior Team Coach Director/Assistant Coaches and parent coaches will agree before each match on who will be the primary coach and who will assist.
5. The U.S. Junior Team Coach Director or an Assistant Coach will occupy one of the two coaching positions for each match as allowed per international competition rules. *(Note: Athletes are not permitted to coach other athletes at IRF events.)*
6. Coaching positions for each match are limited to two (i.e., seated courtside). See #4 and #5 above. All coaches must recognize that too many individuals trying to coach a player in a match is not in the best interests of that athlete.
7. The parent coach will communicate closely with the U.S. Junior Team Coach Director throughout the event so that the good of the team is considered along with that of the individual athlete.
8. While athletes will be invited to express, before and during the World Junior Championships, which coaches they would most like to work with among the U.S. Team Coaching staff, flexibility on everyone's part is important based on availability of U.S. Team Coaches at any given time.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT/AGREEMENT

I acknowledge that as a parent coach, I am certified as a USAR-IP Instructor, including but not limited to SafeSport training/MAAPP and successful completion of a background check.

I am in receipt of the US Junior Team Procedures & Protocols Handbook and agree to adhere to all content therein.

Name of Parent Coach

Signature

Date

Name of Parent Coach

Signature

Date

C. PRIVATE COACHING AGREEMENT

1. USA Racquetball recognizes that private coaches who are not family members are at times engaged by a family to work with an athlete. Private coaches are welcome to attend and coach their clients/athletes with the stipulation that they must complete SafeSport training (including a background check) and complete the USA Racquetball Instructor Program (USAR-IP) 30 days prior to arrival at the event. Private coaches must agree to adhere to the same standards and conduct as the U.S. Junior Team Coach Director, Assistant Coaches, and Parent Coaches.
2. Private coaching arrangements/intentions to coach will be communicated to the US Junior Team Coach Director as soon as possible after the athlete has signed his/her US Junior Team contract but at least 30 days before the first day of event competition.
3. If a private coach has not been engaged for an athlete prior to an event, the U.S. Junior Team coaching staff will have full responsibility and latitude for coaching the athlete. No private coaches may coach during the event without having been approved prior to the event. In the unanticipated event of an emergency situation (e.g., an ill coach), a private coach may be asked to assist in coaching other athletes.
4. The private coach will communicate closely with the U.S. Junior Team Coach Director throughout the event so that the good of the team is considered along with that of the individual athlete.
5. The U.S. Junior Team Coach Director or an Assistant Coach will occupy one of the two coaching positions for each match as allowed per international competition rules. *(Note: Athletes are not permitted to coach other athletes at IRF events.)*
6. A U.S. Team Coach Director or Assistant Coach will be at the venue from the first match through the last match regardless of whether or not that coach is in a primary coaching role.
7. Private coaches are not considered part of the U.S. Team Coaching staff. They will not attend team meetings unless the Coach Director extends an invitation to participate in a particular meeting for a specific purpose. **Athletes who have private coaches at an event are not in any way exempt from their responsibilities to fully participate as a team member per the U.S. Junior Team Procedures & Protocols Handbook.**
8. Private coaches will adhere to the schedule as prescribed by the U.S. Junior Team Coach Director. Practice times and directly before, during, and at the end of the match are the extent of private coach participation with the team and its players.
9. If an issue arises between a private coach and the U.S. Junior Team coaching staff, the Team Leader or USAR Staff Member will act as liaison between the parties at the event and the U.S. Team Committee/USAR Executive Committee.
10. USA Racquetball will not be responsible for any costs associated with the presence of private coaches at event competitions.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT/AGREEMENT

I acknowledge that as a private coach, I am certified as a USAR-IP Instructor, including but not limited to SafeSport training/MAAPP and successful completion of a background check.

I am in receipt of the US Junior Team Procedures & Protocols Handbook and agree to adhere to all content therein.

(Signatures on next page)

Private Coaching Agreement, Signature(s)

Name of Private Coach

Signature

Date

Name of Private Coach

Signature

Date