

# 2021 Girls 18s National Championship Safety Protocols

Due to the current circumstances with the COVID-19 pandemic, our priority at the GJNC 18s is to take the appropriate steps to provide a safe return to the court for all participants. We have been in constant contact with the Greater Columbus Convention Center, City of Columbus, and health authorities to make sure all appropriate precautions are set into place for the 2021 GJNC 18s. Our main goal is to provide a safe environment for all attending and to do so the following guidelines will be put into place.

We ask that all participants and attendees read through the following protocols carefully to understand the new guidelines and best practices. As we work to limit touch points and provide a safe environment, please be patient as we implement new procedures to the 2021 GJNC 18s. These procedures are put into place for your safety as well as others and that is why it is important that we all comply with the following protocols. These safety protocols do not in any way guarantee or prevent an attendee against the possible exposure to COVID-19 during the attendance of this event. All those in attendance voluntarily assume all the risks of exposure. Attached is a letter from our Medical Provider with important information on attending the GJNC 18s as well as tips to keep in mind throughout the event. We are closely monitoring COVID-19 as we progress toward the event dates. Please visit our website to get more up to date information and available resources.

The following safety protocols are subject to change and are based on the most current guidelines provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), facility and local authorities.

- **FACILITY ONSITE PLANS:**

- Keep 6 ft of distance from those not in your household.
- Please adhere to the designated markings for entrances and exits to alleviate the areas of high traffic.
- Courts are distanced 6 ft – 12 ft apart.
- Aisles are over 15ft apart.
- Spectator seats will be single seats placed 6ft apart. The seats MUST remain on the taped "X". Please do NOT move the chairs from these designated spots.
- There will be no water stations.
- Additional hand sanitizer and hand washing stations will be available throughout the facility.
  - We encourage attendees to bring their own hand sanitizer.
- All tournament staff are being monitored and making sure they are symptom free before the start of their shift and throughout the event.

- **ATTENDEE GUIDELINES:**

- It is **MANDATED** that all attendees over the age of 2 years old must wear a face masks to enter the facility and throughout their entire attendance at the event.
  - Attendees will not be allowed to attend the event without a Face Mask and must wear it at all times.

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- Nose and Mouth must be fully covered by a face covering.
  - NOT PERMITTED: Mesh material, scarves, face shields without a mask, and masks with holes
- USAV reserves the right to remove anyone from the facility and event for not wearing a mask.
  - **NO EXCEPTIONS**, if you are unable to wear a mask for health reasons, please do not attend.
  - Those who are vaccinated are still required to wear a mask.
  - USAV authorizes officials to use the following penalties to help enforce the above policy:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense – Reminder/Verbal Warning
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – Delay Warning (Yellow Card)
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – Delay Penalty (Red Card & Point)
- USAV highly recommends athletes continue to wear masks while playing on the court, but it is not required.
- Once players come off the court, they are required to put their mask back on. Coaches are required to wear masks at all times.
- Please do not attend if you are showing symptoms or feel sick.
- All attendees that show symptoms will be asked to leave the event.
- Teams may be subject to disqualification for the rest of the event if a player or rostered staff show symptoms or test positive for COVID-19.
  - Our medical personnel onsite will make the final decision if a participant or attendee is not cleared to return to the facility due to COVID symptoms.
- No food will be allowed in the exhibit halls.
- Wash and sanitize your hands often.
- When in line to enter the facility, maintain a social distance from those around you.
- Refrain from contacting other participants and attendees (high fives and huddles).
- Properly dispose of your personal drinking cups, bottles, or utensils used.
- USAV request that those meeting the CDC's definition of "at risk" reconsider their attendance.
  - 65 year of age or older
  - Cancer
  - COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
  - Down Syndrome
  - Heart Conditions
  - Pregnancy
  - Sickle Cell Disease
  - Smoking
  - Chronic Kidney Disease
  - Immunocompromised

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- Severe obesity
- Diabetes or liver disease

## • TICKETS:

- This will be a cashless event – tickets will be purchased online. Tickets will not be available onsite.
- We are limiting 15 spectators per team.
  - Ticket will only be available as a Daily Pass – no weekend passes.
  - Daily Pass is \$15
  - Each team will receive a code for each day of the event for a limit of 15 spectators per day.
  - Closer to the event, Head Coaches will be given team codes to share with their families where they will be able to purchase tickets, *no more than 15 per team*.
    - Tickets will not be transferrable between parents once they are scanned for the day.
- When entering please have your QR code ready to be scanned.
- Live Streaming will be available for every court with a BallerTV subscription.
- Teams and spectators will have each of their own designated entrances.
- Doors Open at 6:45 am.
- All attendees and teams in the PM Waves will not be allowed to enter **the facility until 2:30 pm** to allow AM waves to leave after their scheduled match.

**\* USA Volleyball will be using an electronic ticketing system at the 2021 Girls 18s Junior National Championship in Columbus, OH. As stated in the Pre-Tournament Manual only those registered coaches are permitted to use the designated coach tickets to enter the Greater Columbus Convention Center. All other spectators will be required to purchase tickets with a cap of 15 spectators per team. Coaches, tickets are nontransferable to non-rostered spectators and will be confiscated if misused. This rule will be strictly enforced as it is a safety precaution for athletes and spectators as the registered coaches are background screened and SafeSport trained. NO EXCEPTIONS. Any team caught violating this policy will have the credential confiscated. In addition, USA Volleyball reserves the right to impose additional penalties including, but not limited to, a \$5,000 fine and team disqualification from the Girls 18s Junior National Championship.**

**We take the safety and well-being of athletes and spectators seriously and we appreciate your strict adherence to this policy.**

## • SPECIFIC TEAM GUIDELINES:

- There will be no handshaking before or after matches between participants.
- Teams and spectators will not switch sides during the match.
- Only 1 representative from each team will participate in the coin toss.
  - Coin toss will be conducted with each representative on their respective 10ft. line.
  - The winner of the coin toss will only have the decision of serve or receive.
  - The higher seed in the pool will choose side before warmups begin.

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- USAV will have warm up balls for rent and will be disinfected after each use. An ID is required for check out.
  - Game balls will be provided and disinfected before each game.
  - No gatherings of teams in walkways – you will be encouraged to leave the exhibit halls if you are not playing.
  - Officials will wipe down game balls, worktables, and official stand after each match.
  - There will be no tie breakers played. Please see tie breaking procedure in the PTM and Championship Manual
  - Teams are **mandated** to leave the exhibit halls once their play and work schedule is completed for the day.
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- **WORK TEAMS:**

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    - Teams will provide a rostered adult for R2, 2-line judges, a score keeper/flip scorer and a libero tracker/operate BallerTV score for work team assignments.
      - Parents who help with work team assignments count toward the 15 spectators per team.
    - There will be no flags for the line judges.
    - Teams must provide their own writing utensils.
    - Only 3 people are allowed at the scores table, any additional personnel at the table will be asked to leave.
    - R2s are highly encouraged to use an electric/handheld whistle, if you do not have one, you will use hand signals and/or use a traditional whistle under your mask – R2s are still required to wear their mask the entire match.
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- **TEAM REGISTRATION:**

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    - This event's team registration will be done **all** online.
      - By checking your team online, you are acknowledging your team understands the current circumstances and choosing to participate.
        - **COACHES:** By signing your online roster you are signing on behalf of all on your roster and taking responsibility that your team will comply with these Safety Protocols.
      - Any teams that have last minute changes that need to be done after online check-in has been completed will be allowed to make those changes onsite on April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4pm – 9 pm in room TBD.
        - Changes onsite are subject to a Late Roster Change Fee.
      - There will be credential pick up on Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2pm- 9pm for player bag tags and coaches/ rostered staff credentials.
    - Rostered Staff will receive a QR code and must have it present for their entrance into the event. USAV will be providing physical credentials but these will not be your ticket in the door.

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- **AWARDS:**

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- Award Ceremonies will be taking place at GJNC 18s. Each team will take the staging one at a time. Only the parents of the team being awarded will be allowed to be in the court area.
- All- tournament will take the stage but stand on a designated mark spaced that is socially distanced.
  - Only the parents of the athletes being awarded will be allowed on the court area.
- All award ceremonies will be live streamed through BallerTV for parents who are unable to attend the event and to avoid unnecessary crowding around the championship courts

- **RESOURCES:**

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**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:** <https://usavolleyball.org/event/2021-usav-girls-18s-junior-national-championship/>

- **POST EVENT:**

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If a participant or spectator test positive for COVID-19 during the event or within 48 hours of the event's conclusion, we ask that you please notify [gjnc@usav.org](mailto:gjnc@usav.org)