JUNIOR SOCIAL PLAY POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe and structured pathway for junior members to participate in social beach volleyball beyond formal junior training at Coogee Beach Volleyball Association.

The policy aims to:

- provide appropriately skilled and mature junior players with additional opportunities to play and develop their beach volleyball skills;
- allow eligible juniors to participate in club social play sessions with other members including adults;
- support the transition from junior to adult club participation;
- encourage positive social interactions between junior and adult members of the club; and
- ensure that junior participation is managed consistently with the Club's Child Safe Policy, Code of Conduct and risk management obligations.

Scope

This policy applies to all club members and participants involved in social play where a participant is under 18 years of age.

Participation under this policy is subject to the Club's existing Constitution, Child Safe Policy, Code of Conduct and other relevant club rules.

Eligibility

A junior member may be approved to participate in adult social play only if the junior member satisfies all of the following requirements:

1. the applicable age requirements;
2. the playing ability and suitability assessment;
3. written Parent or Guardian consent; and
4. completion of the Club’s new member onboarding process.

1. Age Requirement

Juniors aged **16 or older** may be considered for participation in adult social play without a parent or guardian being present.

Juniors aged **15 years or younger** may only participate in adult social play under supervision of a parent and/or guardian at all times.

2. Playing ability and suitability assessment

The junior's playing ability may be assessed by any CBVA Coach at the request of the junior or their parent/guardian.

Following the assessment, the coach should notify the Board and Junior Coordinator by email to inform them of the outcome. The relevant emails are: board@cbva.org.au and juniors@cbva.org.au . The Junior Coordinator will then notify the parent or legal guardian of the member of the outcome

Approval may be withdrawn or reviewed if the Club considers that the arrangement is no longer appropriate.

The assessment should consider:

- playing ability and experience;
- ability to participate safely in the social play environment;
- understanding of the beach volleyball rules

3. Parent/Guardian Consent

Written consent from a parent or legal guardian is required before a junior is approved to participate in club social play,

The consent should confirm that the parent/guardian:

- understands the nature of the activity;
- understands that the junior may participate without a parent/guardian physically present if they are 16 or older;
    - may nominate additional guardians;
- understands that the activity takes place in a mixed age and gender social environment;
- agrees to the junior member participating under this policy.

Parental consent does not remove the Club's responsibility to provide a child-safe environment or manage identified risks.

Where the Junior is 16 years of age or older, the Junior must also sign this agreement.

The consent form is in Appendix A.

4. New member onboarding process

Juniors approved for social play will need to complete the same onboarding process that is required of new adult members to CBVA. This includes important information such as equipment storage, set-up and pack-down expectations.

The Club will maintain a confidential register of juniors who have been approved to participate in adult social play. Only the junior's full name will be recorded on the register.

The register should be accessible only to relevant Club personnel who need this information to manage the activity.

If the Junior is 16 or older, the club will provide to the junior a standard social play card.

If the Junior is 15 years or younger, the club will provide to the junior a social play card with the "junior" mention on it to be clearly identifiable.

Expectations of Adults Participating With Juniors during Social Play

Adult members participating in these sessions are expected to:

- treat all junior participants respectfully;
- follow the Club's Child Safe Policy;
- maintain appropriate personal boundaries;
- Adults must adapt their level of play to the age and ability of junior players, particularly when hitting, to ensure a safe, inclusive and enjoyable playing environment for everyone.
- avoid inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact;
- avoid inappropriate in-person or digital / online communication with junior members. Any digital / online communication with a junior participant must be done with the inclusion of a parent/legal guardian; and
- report any concerns regarding the safety or wellbeing of a junior through the Club's established reporting process by emailing the board at board@cbva.org.au

The presence of a junior participant does not make other adult members responsible for supervising or acting as a parent/guardian for that junior.

However, all members have a responsibility to contribute to a safe and respectful club environment.

APPENDIX A: JUNIOR SOCIAL PLAY PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT

I, the undersigned parent or legal guardian, give consent for _____ to participate in Club Social Play in accordance with CBVA's Junior Social Play Policy.

By signing this agreement, I confirm that I:

- Understand the nature of Club Social Play and the activities involved.
- Understand that Social Play takes place in a mixed-age and mixed-gender social environment.
- Understand that if the Junior Member is **16 years of age or older**, they may participate in Social Play without a parent or legal guardian being physically present.
- Understand that if the Junior Member is **15 years of age or younger**, they may participate in Social Play only with the supervision of a parent or legal guardian being physically present.
- Understand that I may nominate additional guardians
- Understand that parental/guardian consent does not remove the Club's responsibility to provide a child-safe environment or to identify and manage risks associated with Junior Members participating in Social Play.

Declaration

By signing below, I confirm that I have read and understood this agreement and consent to the Junior Member participating in Club Social Play under the Club's Junior Social Play Policy.

Parent/Legal Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Junior Member Agreement – required for Junior Members aged 16 or older

I confirm that I have read and understood this agreement and agree to participate in Club Social Play in accordance with the Club's Junior Social Play Policy, Code of Conduct and applicable Club rules.

Junior Member Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Additional Guardian(s)

I would like to nominate the following additional guardian(s) who may be contacted by the Club regarding the Junior Member:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____