

Ducks 10U-14U Selection Process



The purpose of the program is to identify, select and train athletes as part of the Ducks Volleyball Club. The goal of the tryout process is to produce an accurate assessment and ranking of all the eligible athletes in each age group place them on Ducks teams appropriate to their developmental level.

***The Ducks Volleyball Club understands that many athletes will be new to volleyball and will not have acquired or been exposed to volleyball skill or tactical training. Please do not let this discourage you from attending our tryouts. We understand athletes are at different points in their exposure to volleyball, we want as many new and experienced athletes to attend as possible. Therefore, although skill and tactics are an essential part of the assessment, there is a strong emphasis at tryouts on the character attributes, as we want to create and provide as many athletes as possible, opportunities to grow and learn in an environment appropriate to their ability. We offer program from beginner to advanced.**

***The Ducks Volleyball Club understand that many of the 14U athletes trying out may not have been exposed to, or understand, positions in volleyball. Athletes at the 14U age level will primarily be evaluated using the criteria below, however, as teams are determined they will be placed onto teams positionally by the Selection Committee based on their abilities. These positions are not permanent and may be fluid throughout the year.**

Selection Process

Authority for Selection

The Ducks Volleyball Club has delegated the Selection Committee the authority for all decision making during the tryout process. The Selection Committee will consist of (not limited to):

- Technical Director
- 2 Executive Members not coaching in the specified age group
- Head coaches of each team in the specified age group

Selection Process

1. The Selection Committee will oversee the entire tryout, athlete assessment and ranking, and determine at its sole discretion the recipient(s) who will be offered a position in the program. If a decision is inconclusive, the Technical Director has final decision-making ability.
2. Tryout Lead coaches will be hired for each age group and are responsible for running and coordinating the tryout.
3. If an athlete decides not to accept a spot in the program, the Selection Committee will select the next athlete on the waitlist.
4. Members of the Selection Committee are required to remove themselves from any discussions, ranking and voting if there exists a conflict of interest.

Number of Positions Available

The number of spots available on each team is dependent on the age level, as well as by the level of the athlete pool. Details will be provided at the tryout. Exact allocations will not be known until all tryouts have been completed. In general, 10-12 athletes will be selected for each team.

Selection Criteria

Criteria

1. Physical attributes (when applicable or when time permits – not normally assessed due to time constraints)
2. Skill and Tactical Assessment
3. Character Attributes

Physical Attributes

Physical testing will be provided to the selection committee. Tests will include (not limited to):

- Height
- Spike and Block Touch

Skills and Tactical Assessment

All the foundational skills of volleyball will be assessed, as well as tactical (decision making) assessment will be evaluated. The ability to consistently apply the 6 major skills while limiting errors during competition in training as well as in matches.

1. Skills

- Serving - The ability to serve accurately, consistently, and aggressively
- Passing - The ability to provide the setter with a middle attacking option
- Setting - The ability to provide attackers with hittable sets
- Attacking - The ability to terminate a rally or place the opposing team in a difficult defensive situation
- Blocking - The ability to take away hitting options from the attacker, and block opponents
- Defending - The ability to control attacked balls

2. Tactical Skills

- Game Plan - The ability to implement and follow a game plan as detailed by the coaching staff
- Reading – The ability to read and respond to game situations during a rally

Character Attributes

1. Willingness to Learn and Improve – Athletes should demonstrate an effort and ability to follow directions and instructions that are provided by the coach, stay focussed and concentrated on a task, and a willingness and commitment to learning both during training and game play.
2. Emotional Stability – Athletes should demonstrate the ability remain positive, focussed and calm during adverse situations both during training and game play.
3. Competitiveness – Athletes should demonstrate a competitive spirit, consistent play, the ability to function within a team setting, and the belief that one can make a significant impact on the play of the game at any point during play.
4. Leadership – Athletes should be able to demonstrate strong leadership and communication abilities with other athletes and coaches, throughout the tryout.
5. Strong Work Ethic – Athletes should demonstrate a consistent and concerted effort regardless of the environment, coach or teammates.
6. Responsible – Athletes should accept responsibility for one's actions and demonstrates the ability to self-direct and does not rely on other for support or guidance.

Much of our criteria is in line with Volleyball Canada. Thank you, Volleyball Canada, for sharing your information:

Volleyball Canada Junior and Youth National Team Selection Criteria and Process. (2018). Retrieved from [https://www.volleyball.ca/uploads/National_Teams/YNDP/2018_Selection_Process_and_Criteria_-_YN_\(M\)_&_JR_\(W\).pdf](https://www.volleyball.ca/uploads/National_Teams/YNDP/2018_Selection_Process_and_Criteria_-_YN_(M)_&_JR_(W).pdf)