

Code of Conduct

Applies to all MGVA players, substitutes, captains, officials, and participants in any MGVA-sanctioned league, open play, tournament, or event.

By registering or participating in MGVA, all individuals agree to uphold the standards below to ensure a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for everyone.

Sportsmanship & Community Standards

All participants are expected to demonstrate positive sportsmanship and respect at all times.

Players will:

- **Treat teammates, opponents, officials, and staff with respect and dignity.**
- **Demonstrate fair play, honesty, and integrity in all interactions.**
- **Use language that is respectful and inclusive.**
- **Avoid hostile, threatening, or abusive behavior, including insults, slurs, or derogatory comments.**
- **Refrain from any form of verbal, written, or physical confrontation.**

MGVA is an LGBTQ+-affirming organization; hate speech or discriminatory behavior of any kind will not be tolerated.

Conduct During Training, League Play & Competition

Players agree to:

- **Know and follow all current MGVA Rules & Regulations, including the 2025 USAV ruleset.**
- **Give their best effort during league play and tournaments.**
- **Follow guidance from referees, captains, and MGVA event staff.**
- **Compete in a manner that promotes safety, fun, and fairness for all.**

Unsporting conduct, intentionally dangerous play, or disruptive behavior will result in sanctions.

Respectful Behavior & Personal Responsibility

MGVA is committed to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for all participants.

Players will not:

- **Engage in harassment, intimidation, or bullying of any kind.**
- **Make unwanted or inappropriate physical, verbal, or sexual advances toward others.**
- **Engage in retaliation against anyone who reports misconduct.**
- **Damage facilities, equipment, or belongings of others.**
- **Consume or possess illegal drugs during MGVA events.**
- **Smoke or vape in prohibited areas or within restricted indoor facilities.**
- **Violate local, state, or federal laws while participating in MGVA activities.**

Alcohol & Substance Use

- Alcohol is not permitted on the court or in playing areas unless allowed by the facility.
- Participants are expected to be in a physical and mental state that ensures safe play.
- Any behavior that endangers oneself or others due to substance use may result in removal from play.

5. Compliance With MGVA Rules & Event Officials

Players must comply with:

- MGVA Rules & Regulations
- Current USAV (2025) rules
- Facility policies
- Directions from referees, coordinators, and MGVA board members

Failure to follow these rules will lead to corrective action.

Consequences for Violations

MGVA reserves the right to address conduct that violates league expectations, including but not limited to:

- Verbal warning
- Point, set, or match penalty
- Immediate removal from a match or facility
- Suspension from future play
- Removal from a team or league
- Full dismissal from MGVA events or membership

If a referee or the MGVA Board determines that a player is dismissed from a league or event, no refunds will be issued.

MGVA may also refer incidents to facility management or law enforcement if required.

Commitment to Safety & Inclusivity

MGVA strives to create a space where all gender identities, sexual orientations, racial and ethnic backgrounds, and ability levels feel welcomed and respected.

Participants are expected to uphold MGVA's values of:

- Inclusion
- Respect
- Community
- Safety
- Fair play

Acknowledgment

All participants—members, subs, and guests—are bound to this Code of Conduct by participating in any MGVA-sanctioned activity. Captains are responsible for ensuring their subs understand and follow the Code.