NPJ PARENT MEETING 10.25.2026

Thanks to everyone for attending our annual Parent Meeting! We're so excited to launch another club season. My name is Colton Naill, and I'm the Director of NPJ Bend. I'm also the Director of NPJ Beach Volleyball, and the Head Coach of NPJ Bend 16 National. Introduce Olivia Irving, NPJ Bend Assistant Director, NPJ Sports Zone Building Manager & Head Coach of NPJ Bend 15 National. Save questions until the end - group Q&A and individual Q&A

We're proud to be in our home gym, the NPJ Sports Zone. Hand over to Liv for more NPJ SZ details. We bought the gym to house our club teams, camps, clinics and lessons. We control the schedule and availability of the courts, so there are 0 scheduling conflicts throughout the season. We also use the gym at Bend International School, which features our own Sport Court and NPJ equiptment.

Club Background: NPJ Was established in 2009 to help athletes get to where they wanted to go later in life. Whether your goal is to make a high school team or play in college it is our job to help you achieve that goal. Every one of our athletes who has wanted to play in college, has or is currently doing so! NPJ Bend was founded in 2018 and now NPJ has 4 locations, over 90 total teams and sends dozens of athletes to the next level every year (point to banners - 45 in 2025, 35 in 2026). NPJ is led by Founder & Senior Director Adam Ellis, Director of Operations Alyssa Whitney and Director of Volleyball Mike Gee. NPJ is owned by 3 Step Sports, a Sports Management firm based out of Massachussets.

Our way of measuring success:

1. Do all kids have FUN?
2. Do all kids want to play again next year?

If we can answer yes to both of these we have had a successful year.

NPJ is the #1 ranked club in the Pacific Northwest. Our club uses the Ecological Approach to our coaching methods. In short - Ecological approach means using the game to teach the game. We believe in training in a way that best prepares our players & the team for competition. We've cut out drills and activities that don't translate to what we'll experience at tournaments. For that reason, our players and their teams play way more competitive rallies at practice and become more well-rounded than other players. Just last April, our 18 Forefront team finished 2nd in the nation, earning a Silver Medal in the 18 Open Division at the 2026 18s Junior National Championships, the best finish in the club's history and proof that our coaching method and recruiting efforts are working at the highest levels.

Tryouts: Tryouts for the 2026-2027 season are quickly approaching, and we encourage everyone to get signed up on our website so we can accurately plan out exactly how many teams we'll have and what the practice schedule will look like. We make as many teams as we have coaches, so in some cases we will make cuts. Players will run through various games and will be sorted by potential team. We start at the top - national for travel and 1's for local and then work down as we build teams. Ideally we place 12 players per team. Once teams are formed, players will get a welcome packet with next steps. We ask that players comitt after receiving their packet, and if they decline or leave the gym without making a deposit, their spot will go to the next player up. After tryouts, players will try on gear and place their jersey order.
Sunday November 8: 12u, 13u and 14u Travel
Monday November 9: 14u Local
Tuesady November 10: 12u Local
Sunday November 15: 15u, 16u, 17u & 18u Travel
Monday November 16: 16u Local
Tuesday November 17: All age & Levels make up

The 2026-2027 season kicks off Monday, November 30th. Practice times will be located on the NPJ Bend homepage, each team webpage and on PlayerFirst. Teams practicing at the Bend International School will have several adjusted times throughout the season as BIS basketball has priority over the gym. Tournament dates have all been finalized and are also listed on team pages of the NPJ Bend website. We receive locations for travel & local tournaments 1-2 weeks before the date of competition and we update both the website and PlayerFirst as soon as we know. We also send out messages through PlayerFirst with any updates or news regarding practice and tournaments. Please make sure you communicate with your coaches if there will be absences or any issues relating to the schedule.

Practice: Travel teams practice 2x/week for 2 hrs each, local teams 2x/week for 90 minutes each. Practice schedule will be built before tryouts and finalized once we know exactly how many teams we will make. Usually Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs. Travel teams practice here at NPJ, local teams could practice here or at Bend International School.

Dues: Will be posted on the website tomorrow. Costs range by level and team and do not include uniforms OR the post-season. High school age travel teams range between $4,700-$5,000. Middle School travel teams range between $3,000-$4,000. 12u travel teams are usually under $2,000. All local teams range between $1,000-$1,300. Club dues include gym time, coaches practice pay, tournament entry fees, region and national club dues, coaches travel (flights, hotels, per diem), Hudl for HS travel teams, and administartive fees

Post-Season: All NPJ travel teams who qualify for post season tournaments WILL be going and all members of the rostster are responsible for their share of dues whether they go or not. Dues for postseason will hit your account May 15.

Uniforms: All uniforms/gear will be delivered directly to your house from GearUp. Once gear has been delivered, players wear NPJ shirts to practice to show club pride! Players Need to come and leave tournaments in sweats/leggings . Hard to look like a team when players are in pajamas and random sweats. Travel teams get 3 jersey tops, 2 bottoms, leggins, kneepads, backpack and hoodie. Local teams get 2 jersey tops, 1 bottom, kneepads, hoodie and backpack. National & Premier - $540, Local & 12/13 Premier $428

Memberships: Please make sure your players's CEVA (travel) /AAU (local) Membership is updated to full-season and you accept the NPJ Bend team assignment on Sports Engine. SportsEngine will be used for rostering only this season. PlayerFirst will be used for ALL scheduling and communication this year
Travel Teams **Hotel block** booking information- Players stay with family and not in team rooms this year at all age groups. Stay-n-Play policy in effect for most travel tournaments ... so please book using the link sent out. If you have any hotel questions - talk to Olivia after the meeting. Travel tournaments - coaches flight info will be posted to PlayerFirst as well by December 15th.

Tournaments: Travel teams will compete in the CEVA Region of USA Volleyball, which includes Power League & Regionals. Travel teams also compete in Top Court Event tournaments,

Recruiting: Colton serves as the NPJ Bend Recruiting Coordinator, and has a unique perspective being on all sides of college recruiting - former D1 player, former NAIA College Head Coach and longtime Club Coach & Director. Hudl recently bought BallTime, and all 15-18 travel teams will have a Hudl account for video services and college recruiting profile. There are over 1,800 college programs in the country between NCAA D1, D2 & D3, NAIA & Junior College. We will work tirelessly to find a program thats right for your athlete! We recommend players begin building a list of potential schools, initiate early communication and idenifying camps during Freshman year. Sophomore year is an important year to begin making highlight tapes and expanding your recruiting profiles.

We are a **CEVA Blue Ribbon Club** ... meaning parents/coaches/players all maintain good sportsmanship at all tournaments, practices, club events! It's very important to us to keep this distinction so we can become eligible for help with post-season costs. Full details are on the CEVA website, but items include no red or purple cards, no ejections from tournaments, no personell on probation or suspension from the region, no reports or complaints about parents & coaches. 1st Purple Card is a warning, 2nd is an ejection. NPJ is always known for being one of the best clubs in terms of parent sportsmanship!

Parents are welcome and encouraged to watch practices! Remember the role of the parent is just that- to parent. Cheer on the team and always tell your daughter how fun they are to watch and how proud you are of them. We are looking for a team parent on each team to help with food/communicationn/bonding.

Playing time is earned! The six players who play the best together will play the majority of the time. We are playing to win while making sure players who have stepped up in practice get their shot to prove themselves. When a team is out of contention for a bid, or division win, the coach will be able to give playing to time to those players who have not seen as much. Paying for practice time, not playing time. Players will not be penalized by coaches if they have to miss practice for school or a family event.

Issues: Sports are a microcosm of society and want kids to practice advocating for themselves. Players are responsible for talking to coaches about playing time (48 hours after a tournament) If more conversation is needed after that, please talk to Colton or Olivia and not coaches about playing time. If not going to be at something it's athlete's responsibility to let the coach know as early as possible (12 and under parents can be involved). Remember you're representing your Club, Family and Team at all times.

HIIT Logic - NPJ Bend has partnered with HIIT Logic to provide cross training for our athletes. We know that the HIIT Logic method will help athletes in becoming stronger and more physical volley- ball players and to stay healthier longer. Turn to Katie for details on HIIT. A la carte, $125/month

Fundraiser/Scholarship Opportunities: Hudl is our gym livestraem that contains a marquee of ads in the bottom corner of the feed. $300 gets businesses their logo on the marquee which can link to a website of your choosing, and $200 of that sale will go to the athlete's club dues. CEVA funds a scholarship opportunity that any athlete can apply for. - CEVA Scholarship application deadline Nov 30th
We've also done holiday wreaths, hanging flower baskets & citrus that will need a Bend point person to complete.

Group Q&A.