

## **2018-2019 - St. Susanna Girls Volleyball**

I'd like to address a question that comes up every year:

"My daughter goes to a public school (Mason, Lakota, Lebanon, Kings, etc.) and will be trying out for her 7th/8th grade school team. Can she still play for St. Susanna?"

There are no GCCYS restrictions related to public school teams; however public schools are bound by OHSAA (Ohio High School Athletic Association) playing requirements. If your daughter plays 7th or 8th grade volleyball for one of the public schools in the fall, she would not be able to play for St. Susanna without being made ineligible to play for her public school team. So essentially, she cannot play for both schools.

As our Boosters program is a Parish ministry, we always welcome and encourage all of our Parish youth to participate in St. Susanna sports programs. If your daughter plans to try out for her public school team in August, she can still tryout for St. Susanna volleyball in May. However, this year we are asking players and parents to really try and choose one program or the other. Since our Parish and public school seasons were aligned a few years ago, it has created several challenges for our program. For example, last year we had to combine 3 teams into 2 teams, and the league had to re-do their game schedule. We really want and encourage as many girls to play volleyball for our program as possible, but we suggest you take some time to consider the differences:

- St. Sue teams have fewer practices during the week than most public school teams.
- St. Sue's season runs August through early November. The volleyball season at public schools tends to be a bit shorter—maybe by 2-3 weeks.
- St. Sue teams are divided into A (competitive), B (competitive) and C (recreational) teams, whereas some public schools create many balanced teams.

So, if your daughter still chooses to try out for both and plans to accept her public school team if offered, please let me know before our St. Susanna evaluations. This will neither impact the team to which she is assigned nor lock her into any decision. If your daughter chooses to attend one or more of our St. Susanna evaluations, please note the non-refundable registration fee is still required to be paid in full before our evaluations in May. This essentially holds a spot for her on one of our St. Susanna teams, but does not require her to play for St. Susanna if she later accepts a position on her public school team.

I know this is a big decision for some, so please be sure to discuss it with your daughter and let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!  
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