

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Congratulations on your daughter being selected to play Junior Varsity Volleyball for Pigeon Lake this year. I am very happy to have you and your daughter on board with our program. You should be very proud as she is one of the best volleyball players in the school. However, along with this selection comes the responsibility to represent our school respectfully with good sportsmanship, positive attitudes, and great hustle in an environment of fun and competitive volleyball. I am attempting to develop a strong and sustainable athletic program at PLRS and I'm excited about the upcoming year and the opportunity to coach your "pride and joy".

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Lee Woodward and I am a Physical Education teacher at PLRS, Falun, and Lakedell schools. This is my twenty second year teaching and my second in WRPS...time has flown by!!! Every year I have coached volleyball at some level. My expectations are high and my coaching style is intense. I expect that mistakes are corrected in time and I expect a commitment to win and a winning attitude. If there is a concern as a result of something that occurred during a game, after the game is not the time to discuss it as emotions are likely high on both ends. I use the 24 hour rule for all parties to discuss any concerns. Although I do not foresee any problems, if there are any questions or concerns, please contact me and we can resolve any issues before they multiply.

My philosophy during the year will be to give everybody the opportunity to play. I believe that kids will develop more by playing than sitting. The goal of Junior Varsity is to develop the skills necessary to compete at the varsity level. However, as this is senior high volleyball, there will be many occasions where playing time will not be equal. To make my expectations clear, I will talk to all players individually to outline how much playing time they can expect. If you or your daughter has any problems with this philosophy, I urge you to contact me as soon as possible and we will talk privately. To emphasize, playing time will be fair, but not equal. Playing time is a decision solely at the coach's discretion based on level of skill, commitment to the team, game situations, academic standing, and behavioral expectations on and off the court. We cannot allow any player or parent to cause dissention among our team.

I acknowledge that everyone likes to play but I also know that everyone must practice. I expect a full commitment from players in practices. Players receive more 'touches' in a practice than in a game and therefore their attendance is essential to their improvement. It is my expectation that players make all practices, games, tournaments, and team functions as they all have roles to play and contributions to make to the team. Being punctual for these events is also very important. Players who know in advance that they cannot attend a volleyball function need to inform me in advance so that adjustments can be made. I understand that there is more to life than volleyball. We have talented ladies that have more commitments than just volleyball. I just ask that those commitments are shared evenly and one does not take a back seat to the other. Since I will commit 100% to ensure your daughter develops to her full potential and enjoys playing on a school team, I expect the same commitment in return. We cannot succeed as a team if we only have partial commitment heading into a tournament. The players and I will meet to outline team rules, academic requirements, expectations and possible consequences for breaking team rules and policies. The ladies are student athletes. This means being ambassadors to our school. It also means not attending school or living up to their classroom responsibilities equals not playing.

My goal is to develop solid fundamentals in our players so that they may progress to and be successful at higher levels of competition. But always in the back of my mind and of equal importance, is the desire for the players to have fun, experience success, and enjoy the experience of representing their school in an extra-curricular sport.

There will be a user fee to play Junior Varsity Volleyball. This fee will be communicated once our season schedule is finalized. The user fee covers:

- Transportation and accommodation for all tournaments
- Tournament entry fees
- League Fees and officials
- Team celebrations
- Other miscellaneous and supply costs that may arise

Payment can be made online or through the PLRS office. Please, if finances are a problem, see me so we can discuss some alternatives. Monthly payment plans can always be arranged from now until the end of June.

Once again, I appreciate the opportunity to coach your daughter. We are team and our team cannot experience success unless everybody contributes. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me through email at lee.woodward@wrps11.ca. I am also seldom at my desk so calling the school and leaving a voicemail is the least effective. I will assure you that everybody will have a blast playing volleyball this year! Thank you.

Coach Lee Woodward