



Captions 1) **Guy Harper ‘20** goes for a spike at a club volleyball practice (Photo courtesy of **Howard Chi**). 2) The club swim team gathers for a team photo (Photo courtesy of **Elon Club Swim**). 3) **Ethan Krone ‘22** takes flight for a spike during a game (Photo courtesy of **Howard Chi**). 4) **Howard Chi ‘21** hits a set at club volleyball practice (Photo courtesy of **Howard Chi**). 5) **Ethan Krone ‘22** retrieves the ball at practice (Photo courtesy of **Howard Chi**). 6) **Ethan Krone ‘22** and **Guy Harper ‘20** bump elbows after winning a point (photo courtesy of **Howard Chi**).



Club Sports: COVID Edition

Club sports offer students a chance to get away from the stress of the pandemic

In order to play during this uncertain year, club sports had to adjust to COVID-19 related protocols and rules. While the club sports experience may have been a bit different for some, it provided a sense of normalcy for others.

The men’s club volleyball team is a great example of a team that successfully adapted to the unprecedented circumstances – although it was certainly a challenge.

Club volleyball president and junior **David DeRosa ‘22** noted that nearly everything about their process this year had to be altered due to COVID-19.

“It was like trying to reinvent the wheel,” DeRosa said. “We’ve had to change the way we do pretty much everything.”

To adhere to campus guidelines, the team had to move all of its practices and matches outdoors, and all players had to wear masks at all times. The team purchased two portable nets prior to the season, which allowed them to practice in numerous different spots on campus.

The team’s vice president, junior **Ethan Krone ‘22**, explained that the toughest part about the season was playing outside.

“Not being indoors has been a challenge,” Krone said. “It is difficult to breathe with the masks on,

and it has been more physically challenging to play outdoors.”

According to DeRosa, the team had a difficult time recruiting new players, especially freshmen, to the team because of the lack of an in-person organization fair.

“We typically rely on word-of-mouth advertising to get new players, and that has been hard this year,” DeRosa said.

The team held practices on Friday afternoons, and DeRosa believes that has helped create a space for participants to take a breather.

“For two hours on Fridays, you don’t have to worry about anything stressful,” DeRosa said. “It’s nice to have that piece of my day to decompress, relax, and have some fun with the guys.”

Krone is proud of the team’s efforts this year and believes their vigilance in carefully planning events and practices was crucial.

“Even with COVID-19 guidelines, we have been one of the most active club sports teams,” Krone said. “We have been creative this year about finding different avenues to play and keep everybody safe.”

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