

Boys' Volleyball: Regional and National

Emi Vishoot, Boys' Jr. Volleyball Program Liaison



Here's a quick look at recent announcements and upcoming boys events for the OVR. If anyone has ideas or recommendations for the boys' volleyball program, please contact me at vishoot@ovr.org, 937-236-1554 (home), or 937-231-2385 (cell).

Boys' Fall League

As many of the boys teams are aware by now, the 2003 Boys' Fall League will not take place due to the low number of interested teams. The relative lateness of the league announcement was definitely a contributing factor. However, the OVR will host a Boys' Fall League in 2004. Details will be announced in February and March, providing OVR and high school boys' teams sufficient time to discuss and plan for this event.

If anyone has a 3- or 4-court facility and is interested in hosting a tournament in September or October 2004, please contact either me (see contact information above) or Keith Burke (burke@ovr.org; 614-818-9465 /home).

Boys' Tournament on October 12, 2003

Wick Colchagoff, University of Findlay Men's Volleyball Coach, is interested in hosting an OVR-sanctioned boys tournament on Sunday, October 12. He will probably offer competition for 18-under and 16-under age groups. If interested or to get more information, contact Wick at 800-472-9502 or colchagoff@findlay.edu.

Upcoming 2004 OVR Boys' Tournaments

The OVR hopes to offer two major boys' tournaments in February 2004. One will be a multi-day, inter-regional event during the Presidents' Day weekend. We will be sending out a broadcast e-mail this month to find two or three facilities that are in close proximity to each other and can support 8 to 10 courts. We will advertise this event on the USA Volleyball in-

ter-regional tournament list, potentially attracting teams from Canada as well as other regions.

The second event will be the OVR Boys' Regional Championships on February 29, 2004. Last year's event was a success, and we hope to build on that success for 2004. We are in the process of securing a facility for this tournament.

Watch for more details on both events over the next few months.

Proposed 2004 Boys' Open Bid Proposal

On the following page is a description of a Boys' Open Bid Proposal that is being considered for 2004. This proposal was presented by the Boy's Committee at the Youth and Junior Olympics Volleyball Division (YJOVD) meetings in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 31-August 3, 2003. Although I did not vote for this concept (I supported an Open bid process that combined region allocations with bid tournaments), this proposal was overwhelmingly approved by the General Forum during those meetings. Subsequently, the Competition Commission approved the proposal, as did the YJOVD Administrative Council.

The proposal will require approval by the Regional Operations Division (ROD), which is comprised of the region commissioners, at their meeting in October. I cannot predict whether the ROD will approve the proposal, but at least a third of the YJOVD meeting attendees were commissioners. If the ROD does not approve the proposal or if the concept cannot be implemented for 2004, then the boys' Open bid allocation process will revert to the existing system (Open bids allocated to regions based on boys' population). Regardless, it's very likely that the Competition Commission will adopt the proposed selection criteria for at-large Open bids or if an Open division becomes oversubscribed.

www.ovr.org/juniors/boys/

Boys' Open Bid Allocation Proposal Presented by the Boys' Committee August 3, 2003

Open Division:

The goal of the Open Division of the Boys' Junior Olympics Volleyball Championships (JOVC) is to produce an event that will promote the highest level of boys' competition. Open competition will be offered in the 18, 17, 16, and 15 age divisions with a minimum field size of 16 and maximum field size of 36.

Pending the application and approval of independent tournament directors, the Boys' Committee, with the oversight of the Competition Commission, will adopt Bid Tournament to provide bids to the Boys' JOVC for the Open Divisions. This system will be in place for two (2) years, being 2004 and 2005, while the Boy's Committee creates a Qualifier Tournament package. During this two-year period, the individual tournament directors will run the tournaments independently. At the end of two years, the individual tournament directors will have first right of refusal to become a Qualifier.

Of the 36 bids to be offered in the Open Divisions, twenty-eight (28) will be allocated through the Bid Tournaments, and eight (8) through an at-large process, which will be selected by the Competition Commission using the following selection criteria:

1. Current year's results against the accepted field
2. Strength or Previous JOVC results
3. Date of entry
4. Number of teams per club

The tournaments that have been selected and accepted as Bid Tournaments for the 2004 Boys season are:

1. Southern California Jr. Boys' Invitational (Jan. 17-19)
2. Gateway Festival (Jan. 17-19)
3. Nittany 1 and 2 (Feb. 7-8)
4. East Coast Championships (Memorial Day weekend)
5. Northern California Boy's Tournament (dates TBA)

Three additional tournaments that are still pending are the following:

1. Can Am (Jan. 17-19)
2. Wisconsin Boy's Festival (Jan. 31-Feb. 1)
3. Great Lakes Festival (mid-February)

The Boys' Committee and the Competition Commission will determine the number of bids awarded at each Bid Tournament. Distribution of the bids will be reevaluated at the Youth and Junior Olympics Volleyball Division (YJOVD) meetings in August.

The standards to be met by the Bid Tournaments are the following:

1. The event is to be sanctioned through the host region
2. It must be a multi-day event, with a minimum of two (2) days
3. Entry deadline is to be four (4) weeks before the tournament date
4. Inform teams of their acceptance within five (5) days of the entry deadline
5. Submit the necessary information for the tournament to be posted on the USA Volleyball website as an inter-regional event
6. Must offer single age group divisions in all divisions that are offered at the Boys' JOVC
7. Teams are to be guaranteed a minimum of six (6) matches at a two (2) day event or a minimum of seven (7) matches at a three (3) day event
8. The fields must have a minimum of twelve (12) teams to offer bids
9. Tournament directors will submit results in a format as determined by the Competition Commission
10. Criteria for entry acceptance into the Bid Tournaments will be:
 - a. All entry material received by the entry deadline
 - b. Current year's results
 - c. Number of teams per club
 - d. Strength or previous JOVC results

The Competition Commission and Boys' Committee will monitor compliance of the Bid Tournaments.

If a team should earn a bid at a tournament, and has already qualified at a previous event, the next highest finishing team will be offered the bid, not to exceed two positions past the designated number of bids for that particular event. If, after the trickle-down process, the bid is not filled, the bid will revert to the at-large pool.

The players on the roster of a team that has qualified for the Open Division, and has accepted the bid, through a Bid Tournament will be frozen. There will be no restrictions on additions to the roster (up to the limit of fifteen (15) players) of new players or players from non-qualified teams. All teams and players must maintain eligibility compliance within their region.

All the above information will be published in all pre-tournament sources, i.e. pre-tournament manual and website.