

The Juniors' Page

Bill Zehler, OVR Juniors' Program Director



Welcome to the Ohio Valley Region Juniors' Pages. Our region is proof that elite and grassroots volleyball do coexist! We are the only region in America with over 10,000 registered female juniors and 5 members of the team that represented USA at the World Youth Games in Poland! What are we capable of next?

Juniors' volleyball programs are in full operation across the region. Hundreds of tournaments are scheduled. The online registration for membership, the *OVR-Molten National Bid Tournament*, and the *OVR-Kaepa Junior Championships* is working incredibly well, thanks to the efforts of Nick Nystrom,

Coaches are reminded that they must be IMPACT or CAP I accredited to coach for a USA Volleyball program in the OVR. *Everyone* must have one of these certifications. The *Juniors' Coaches' Code of Ethics* forms must be submitted by every club for each of their coaches. All clubs must be in compliance with this regulation.

We began accepting registrations for the *Ohio Valley Region-Kaepa® USA 2004 Junior Volleyball Championships* on February 1, 2004. The deadline for entry will be April 1, 2004. Clubs will enter knowing that there will be a financial penalty for withdrawing from the event. Teams entered before the deadline, with checks submitted in a timely manner, will be

accepted based on their regional ranking. Teams that enter after the deadline will be accepted only if there are openings.

Our Junior Championships will be held over 3 weekends again this season. We will be using schools in and around Columbus, Ohio on Saturday, May 1, 2004, for the 10 and Under and 12 and Under divisions. The Greater Columbus Convention Center will be the site for the next two weekends (see the Junior Tournament Schedule). We will use 36 Sport Courts each weekend at the convention center.

There are a few changes being implemented for this season's championships. Teams entering this event, then withdrawing, will receive a partial refund (\$25 penalty) *if* they are replaced up to two weeks before their event. There is no refund if a team withdraws from the tournament within two weeks of their scheduled event. We will use seeding points accrued *and* reported up to the posting of the pools.

We are going to try once again to accept every team that registers for this event and submits their payment in a timely manner. We are getting away from classifying teams as "Open" or "Club" for this event. We will still use the same terminology to classify the divisions, but reserve the right to move teams from one division to another. Our top Club teams are capable of playing in our lower Open divisions. The only age group that will be affected by the date of play is 14s. Some 14 Club teams may be placed in the lower 14 Open divisions on May 8. We will look at the number of teams entered in the event by late March and determine what we need to do at that time.

Have a great season!

Future Board Meetings

August 12-15, 2004 Mohican State Park

Board meeting schedules, minutes, and agendas are online at www.ovr.org/executive/.



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