

March 13 Statement:

As of 7pm ET on Friday, March 13, USA Volleyball has released the following statement, which directly impacts all USAV activities:

“In the interest of welfare and safety of our membership, **USA Volleyball is eliminating the sanctioning for all USA Volleyball activities (including but not limited to events, practices, individual training sessions or anything covered by USA Volleyball insurance) effective 11:59 p.m., Friday, March 13.** This ban on all USA Volleyball sanctioned activities extends through March 31.”

This statement means that any individual or entity operating under the USAV-OVR umbrella, including but not limited to a team, club, or facility, will assume all liability associated with that activity; USAV is not providing insurance coverage through March 31.

The cooperation, patience and understanding that our membership has shown is greatly appreciated. As OVR leadership navigates an ever-changing landscape, we will be keeping everyone’s health and well-being a priority!

March 12 Statement:

On Thursday, March 12th, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine has issued a state of emergency. The order has restricted mass gatherings to fewer than 100 people with emphasis on the importance of “social distancing.” He has mandated all K-12 public schools will be closed beginning Monday, March 16th, 2020, for a period of 3 weeks; there may be more restrictive policies implemented in the coming days.

USAV has issued a position statement, and a link to that information is posted on the OVR website. The RECOMMENDATION from USAV on cancellation of events extends to March 22nd, 2020. Please refer to the USAV website for updates from the National office. I want to encourage all parents, coaches, and club directors to check the OVR website on a regular basis for updates.

With the safety and well-being of our members in mind, the OVR will be suspending/cancelling all OVR-run events and tournaments (such as upcoming Bid Play-ins and the 18s Bid Qualifier this month), until further notice. To clarify this statement – the OVR cannot legally cancel an event that the OVR does not own/manage. That decision is at the discretion of the local tournament host, who must also abide by any orders or mandates from local or state authorities.

I want to strongly encourage all tournament directors to use their best judgement and cancel their events. I cannot emphasize enough how critical the problem is. The OVR wants to be part of the solution that supports the effort to combat this medical emergency.

The most frequently asked question: Can the clubs or teams practice?

Answer: That is a parent-club-team decision.

My response to practices: Are they necessary? Is it defeating the purpose of social distancing?

Bob Price
Commissioner of the Ohio Valley Region
price@ovr.org