

### **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 12<sup>th</sup>, 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 16<sup>th</sup>, 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 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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?

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