

# OVR Procedures and Rules for Juniors' Clubs

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The following Ohio Valley Region (OVR) procedures and rules supplement *2017-2019 USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations* for the 2017–2019 USA Volleyball (USAV) season, which runs from September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019. Please direct any questions or requests for interpretation to Bill Zehler, OVR Girls' Program Director (zehler@ovr.org, 513-726-6739).

The *OVR Juniors' Registration Packet* ([https://www.ovr.org/juniors/registration\\_packet/index.php](https://www.ovr.org/juniors/registration_packet/index.php)) includes additional information and forms necessary for registering and running a juniors' club in the Ohio Valley Region.

## 1 Membership

*You must be a current member of USA Volleyball, registered in the Ohio Valley Region, to organize a juniors' club in the OVR.* You must register as a member first at <https://www.ovr.org/index.php>. The Webpoint portion of the 2018-2019 OVR Membership Registration will open September 1, 2018. There is a News article on the OVR Homepage with a link to the Registration page. Scroll down the Registration page and print the file under: Renewing Adult Member Affiliated with a Junior Club, then follow up online with your fees (\$62) to complete your registration. Please note that there are two registration systems involved. The first is USA Volleyball's Webpoint. The second is the OVR's registration system. There is an overnight delay between the Webpoint registration and your completion of the OVR registration.

The club director must have received ASEP sports club director training and certification (<https://www.ovr.org/juniors/directing/asep.php>). Registration may be blocked if existing clubs do not comply. The accreditation does not expire. Club directors lacking the accreditation may take the course online by contacting Bill Zehler to receive the training packet.

## 2 Concussion Management

Ohio law requires Concussion Management certification for all adult coaches and officials when supervising minors in a physical activity. The OVR is extending that requirement to Tournament Directors and Site Managers of OVR sanctioned events. You need to have your concussion certification ON RECORD with the OVR prior to any involvement with a sanctioned event. Certification can be obtained from the NFHS online class, it is FREE! Instructions on how to complete the online certification can be found at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com). The program requires no more than 20 minutes. A certificate will be made available immediately online after course completion. Please email a copy of your certificate to Steve Donahue ([donahue@ovr.org](mailto:donahue@ovr.org)).

## 3 SafeSport Certification

The OVR requires all adults associated with junior players to have SafeSport certification. The USOC has implemented a **new SafeSport platform and new courses** that will be introduced in the fall of 2017. All Tournament Directors, Site Managers and any other OVR Member who has frequent contact with athletes, including but not limited to officials, coaches, club directors, staff and chaperones will need to complete the NEW SafeSport course listed below. You will need to have your new SafeSport Certification ON RECORD with the OVR prior to any involvement with a sanctioned event. Members may complete their new SafeSport requirement by accessing the site listed below.

### **NEW PLATFORM, NEW COURSES**

**The new SafeSport Platform at <https://safesport.org> <<https://safesport.org/>> will be launching on Monday, October 2. To become SafeSport certified, a USAV member will need to complete all three of the 30-minute modules (replacing the current 90-minute course).**

**G**

- 1. Sexual Misconduct Awareness Education**
- 2. Reporting Child Sexual Abuse**

### 3. Emotional and Physical Misconduct

Once you have entered the site, click on Training Resources, click SafeSport (Free), click ADD to BAG and then click on CHECK OUT. Members will then follow the on-screen instructions for registering and completing the training. During the registration process, be sure to select USA Volleyball as your sport and enter your current USAV Membership Number from your Webpoint registration. (NOTE: You may proceed without entering a number if necessary. In that case, enter your Region and Club names, or your national programming affiliation, such as National Staff, HP Coach, CAP Cadre, etc., as applicable).

**The training will be valid for 2 membership seasons, similar to background checks.**

Once you have successfully completed the SafeSport training course, be sure to follow the directions at the end of the course to download and print your certificate of completion. You can re-download this certificate at any time, and the Team USA Prep Center will also maintain an electronic record of your successful course completion. Please email a copy of your certificate to Steve Donahue ([donahue@ovr.org](mailto:donahue@ovr.org))

### 4 Background screening

Any individual intending to hire or use registered individuals in any sanctioned juniors' volleyball activities will submit to a USAV background screen. Club directors, club administrators, team reps, coaches, chaperones, and trainers who intend to register, affiliate, and/or participate with a juniors' volleyball club or team in the Ohio Valley Region will be screened. Failure to do so is grounds for automatic suspension of membership privileges to participate in sanctioned juniors' events and/or activities. The OVR will not register, or allow to be registered, any individual who refuses to consent to a USAV background screen if he or she intends to participate in OVR-sanctioned events with junior members. . It usually takes a minimum of seven business days to process a background screen. Coaches should register sufficiently early to allow time for their background screens to clear before participating in tryouts. A background screen is not required for individuals classified as junior players or members not associated with juniors' activities.

### 5 Practice sites

The OVR requires safe, high-quality facilities, including for practice. All poles and referee stands must be padded. Players must be permitted to pursue volleyballs without endangering themselves or other participants.

### 6 Coach selection

It is the club's responsibility to attract coaches of high moral character, with knowledge of the sport, and with the ability to convey their knowledge to the athletes they train. Coaches must be of good character and emotional stability. It is imperative to check the background of every coach in your program.

### 7 Coaches' membership

All coaches assisting with tryouts must be current members of USA Volleyball. All coaches must be current members of USA Volleyball prior to the first practice. All coaches must have attended the USAV IMPACT course (or the online Webinar course) prior to coaching in an event. All coaches must also have the Safe Sport and concussion certifications.

## 8 Banned substances

Use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages are prohibited at USA Volleyball events in the gyms, locker rooms, and facilities. This includes 'E-cigarettes'.

## 9 Tryouts

Clubs having tryouts must sanction these events to use USA Volleyball insurance. Apply for sanction at <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/tryouts/index.php>. Tryouts are limited to one contact per weekend, not to exceed 3 consecutive hours. Any second session or "call back" is also limited to 3 consecutive hours. The weekend is considered to be a Saturday and Sunday. Friday is not considered as part of the weekend. No post-tryout organizational meetings are to be scheduled prior to the expiration of the acceptance deadline.

Clubs may host tryouts for athletes of high school age the day after the state championships in their state. Athletes from surrounding states are not permitted to attend tryouts in another state until the day after the state tournament has concluded in their state of residence. The last weekend of October is the first weekend tryouts are permitted for 10s-14s. At this time, athletes in interscholastic programs in Kentucky and Michigan are not restricted by any regulations from their states.

Failure to adhere to these dates may jeopardize the eligibility of the athletes we are trying to serve and will result in a penalty to the offending club and director. Clubs having tryouts in similar geographic areas should coordinate their tryouts to avoid same age group time conflicts. Each participant is to receive a copy of the *Athlete's Bill of Rights*, [https://www.ovr.org/forms/Athletes\\_Bill\\_of\\_Rights.pdf](https://www.ovr.org/forms/Athletes_Bill_of_Rights.pdf) at the tryout, and prior to making a commitment with a club.

Tryouts listed on the OVR website ([www.ovr.org/juniors/tryouts/](http://www.ovr.org/juniors/tryouts/)) have been approved by the region. USA Volleyball's secondary liability insurance is available for these events. Clubs that do not sanction their tryouts with the region are responsible for insuring their events. Athletes attending non-sanctioned tryouts do not have USAV secondary medical insurance coverage.

The OVR has instituted a National Division Signing Day. Athletes and their families that are accepting offers to participate on a National Division team (ages 11-18) will have to accept an offer by 9PM on the assigned date. For 11, 12, 13, and 14 National teams, the first date for tryouts is Friday, October 26, 2018. The signing deadline for National teams will be October 31 at 9 PM. For 15-18 National teams, the first day for tryouts is Sunday, November 11, 2018. The deadline for accepting National offers in these age groups is Wednesday, November 14, 2018 by 9 PM. Clubs may still form National teams after these dates.

Tryouts for American, Regional, and Youth teams hosted within the first 2-week period will have a common acceptance deadline (see the table below). Athletes not originally accepted, but then offered a position, will have 48 hours from the date of the extension of the offer.

### 2018-19 Girls' American, Regional, and Youth Tryout Dates and Acceptance Deadlines

<u>Age</u>	<u>Tryout Dates</u>	<u>Acceptance Date Deadline</u>
10s-14s	October 26-November 5	November 7, 2018 at 9 PM
15s-18s	November 11-November 18	November 21, 2018 at 9 PM

Athletes attending tryouts after these dates will have 48 hours from the date of the club's offer to accept the contract. For example, a club hosting tryouts on December 15 must give the athlete and their family 48 hours to accept or decline the offer.

## 10 Tryout participants

Tryouts may be open to anyone or by invitation. Each club must act responsibly when trying to attract athletes to their tryouts. Clubs may advertise through the media and distribute information regarding their tryouts to the coaches of the schools in their area. Membership with any specific club lasts from the date of the signed contract to July 15 of the current year. Beginning November 1, it will be considered inappropriate for any member of a club (director, coach, or athlete) to try to recruit a player that has already signed a written agreement to participate on another club. Clubs may respond to anyone interested in trying out for their programs. Failure to comply with these regulations will result in sanction by the region.

Note: all participants (with their parents/guardians) must register online, pay the \$10 tryout insurance fee, and read and check the Waiver and Release of Liability.

All club directors and coaches conducting tryouts must be members of USA Volleyball. The OVR strongly recommends registering anyone working at tryouts to cover liability for injury of an athlete. The OVR will sanction tryouts and provide, on request to registered members, a Certificate of Insurance, <https://www.ovr.org/forms/CertificateOfInsuranceRequest.pdf>. The region will provide liability insurance for each athlete for the length of the tryout. Failure to have your tryout(s) sanctioned through our online application process or by submitting the Application for Sanction of Tryouts will place all responsibility for injury on the club. Sanctioned tryouts will be posted on the OVR website (<https://www.ovr.org/juniors/tryouts/index.php>).

## 11 Club tryout fee

Any nonrefundable club tryout fee should not exceed \$15. Multiple day tryouts should not cost more than \$25. Permission may be granted to charge more with documentation of extraordinary expense. Written documentation of expense and value must be included with your application. Open gyms and clinics will not be sanctioned as part of a tryout.

## 12 Player selections

Clubs may offer contracts to athletes at the end of their tryout sessions. Clubs may not require a commitment on-site. Athletes may accept an offer at any time within the acceptance period. Once an athlete and their family accept an offer, they must select the club on the USA Volleyball site and submit the remaining \$52.

Release from a contract must be accomplished by the club director providing a written statement to the OVR Commissioner. Participating in a sanctioned event restricts an athlete from representing another club for the remainder of that season, even if the athlete leaves his/her initial club.

## 13 Registration of teams and add-ons

Within the OVR, girls' teams are classified as National, American (13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, and 17s), Regional, and Youth (10s, 11 National, 11 Regional, 12 National, 12 American, and 12 Regional). National teams should consist of highly skilled athletes that compete at the highest levels of competition within and outside of the Ohio Valley Region. Regional teams consist of athletes from the beginner to the highly skilled and compete at various levels of competition based on their team's composition. Regional teams do not participate in the OVR National Power Challenge, Power League, or Bid Tournament. Teams in the American division do not desire the travel associated with the National division, but want a stronger level of competition than the Regional division.

## 14 Tournament entry

*All tournament entries must include correct 11-character team codes. If you are entering teams that are not yet registered, promptly supply your team codes to the tournament directors when you register those teams.*

It is the club directors' responsibility to complete their tournament schedules. Club directors can contact tournament directors at any time to inquire about and enter tournaments. Teams registered as National may only play in tournaments sanctioned as National or "and Under," and teams registered as Regional may only play in tournaments sanctioned as Regional events or "and Under" events. Teams in the American division may participate in tournaments classified as American and "and Under" tournaments. Teams may play in a higher age group. Here are the OVR Team Divisions by age and which tournament divisions they may participate in: [https://www.ovr.org/juniors/OVR\\_Girls\\_Divisions\\_of\\_Play.pdf](https://www.ovr.org/juniors/OVR_Girls_Divisions_of_Play.pdf). Please keep the OVR policy in mind should you choose to cancel from a tournament at a later date. If a tournament director has proof of your club's acceptance into a tournament, that is considered to be a contract and your club will be held responsible for the entry fee. Proof can be in the form of a written acceptance, an e-mail message, or a check.

## 15 Entry fee

Do not write checks if there are insufficient funds to cover them. The entry fee for any OVR regular-season tournament cannot exceed \$200 without special permission from the Juniors' Tournament Director. The OVR-sponsored *National Bid Qualifier*, *National Challenge*, and *Regional Championships (\$250.00)* may have higher entry fees. Pre-tournament entry will include a check in the amount of the entry fee, current USAV 11-character team identification number, and team contact. For girls' teams, entry fees must be received by tournament directors by January 15 or 4 weeks prior to a tournament date, whichever is earliest. Boys' regular-season entry fees must be received by tournament directors 4 weeks prior to a tournament date. *Boys' Championships* entry fees must be received by the Boys' Program Director by February 1. Later arrangements can be made by a tournament director and participating clubs.

## 16 Tournament entry procedures

As it is the tournament directors' responsibility to publicize and fill their tournaments. Tournament directors must explain the following:

- a. whether any team in the tournament's classification (National, American, or Regional) can participate
- b. pool play, playoff, and officiating procedures
- c. any unusual procedures
- d. awards
- e. entry fee
- f. entry deadline, which should be no later than 14 days prior to the tournament date

## 17 Team rosters and entry form

Use the OVR website to update your teams' information: sign in, and go to <https://www.ovr.org/dir/club.php> for your particular club's information. Please include uniform numbers, and throughout the season keep your rosters current with the UPDATE ROSTERS link. The website will generate a roster for the tournament directors, including the team's contact information, coaches' certification, and junior officials' certifications. It is the responsibility of the club director to provide a completed, up-to-date entry form listing the team's name, USAV 11-character team code, and roster prior to the coaches meeting if there are changes not reflected in the team's online listings. If there are no changes to the listed roster, you **do not** have to submit a paper entry form.

When submitting a tournament entry form or updating a roster, the following information must be provided:

- a. Team name (e.g. Exemplar – 14 Gold)
- b. USAV 11-character team code (e.g. FJ4-EXEMP1-OV)
- c. Team registration number (e.g. OV-FJ-1234)
- d. Individual OVR registration numbers of all participating players and coaches
- e. Players' uniform numbers

Rules defining rosters and their restrictions are detailed at <http://www.ovr.org/juniors/divisions.php>. Other restrictions include:

1. Only players registered on National teams are eligible for regular-season National events.
2. National teams can only play in National or 'Elite' events within the OVR (with the exceptions that 11 National teams can play in 12 American events and 12 National teams may participate in 13 American events). Regional teams can only play in Regional events within the OVR. Example: Teams may play up in age; e.g. a 16 Regional team may enter a 17 Regional tournament. Teams in the 13 American division may no longer participate in 14 Regional events. Teams registered as 17 American may participate in 18 Regional events.
3. Grade-level Regional and American teams must play at the age-appropriate level of their oldest player outside the OVR, Keystone, and Pioneer Regions. Other regions may also honor our Grade-Level classifications.
4. A National player may not play on any Regional or American team regardless of age. An American or Regional player may be moved to a National team with the permission of the respective OVR Girls' or Boys' Program Director.
5. Players may not be on the roster of multiple teams within the same tournament.
6. Clubs may not register phantom or shell teams to provide a vehicle to aid in organizing player movements from team to team; e.g. shifting of complete teams or multiple players from a Regional, American, or National team to the other to permit playing in both competition divisions and/or attending OVR Bid tournaments.
7. A club may not alter any registered team roster by more than three players for major OVR tournaments; e.g. (Bids and championships) without special written consideration from the respective OVR Girls' or Boys' program director.
8. Any division (National, American, or Regional) may participate in age-specific ("and Under") tournaments.
9. Any club or team found violating the competition policies will be sanctioned as if an age violation had occurred following the USA Volleyball Age Falsification Policy.

## 18 Girls' levels of competition

Date-of-birth cutoffs for age-level and grade-level teams are detailed at <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/divisions.php>.

Possible designations of girls' teams are:

- 18 National and Regional
- 17 National, American, and Regional
- 16 National, American, and Regional
- 15 National, American, and Regional
- 14 National, American, and Regional
- 13 National, American, and Regional
- 12 National, American, and Regional
- 11 National and Regional
- 10s

Teams in the American and Regional divisions may participate as grade-level teams. Grade-level American teams may participate in another region's events of their age with the permission of the region involved. The Pioneer and Keystone regions (there are also others) honor our grade level designations. Grade-level American teams may participate in the OVR Bid Tournament Play-In event at the level of their oldest athletes. American teams may participate in age-level ("and Under") events, older American events, and 18 Regional events. American teams are eligible to play in National Qualifiers at the age of the oldest athletes on their team (a 15 American



grade-level team would have to play 16s). A complete list of the divisions of play is at <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/divisions.php>.

USA Volleyball rules for youth teams will be used with any region-adopted modification. The two-meter step in line for Youth competition will not be used for 11 National, 12 National, 12 American, or 12 and Under events. It will be used for 10s, 11 Regionals, 11 and Under, and 12 Regional competition. The VB-Lite will be used for all Youth competition. The net height for 10s is 6' 6" and the net height for 11s and 12s is 7' 0".

## 18.2 Boys' competition and mixed-team tournaments

Possible designations of boys' teams are 18s, 17s, 16s, 15s, 14s, 13s, and 12s. Information concerning boys is available at [https://www.ovr.org/juniors/registration\\_packet/OVR\\_Recruiting\\_Policy\\_Boys.pdf](https://www.ovr.org/juniors/registration_packet/OVR_Recruiting_Policy_Boys.pdf).

Younger boys' team (10-14 year olds) may participate in specially designated mixed team (boys' and girls' teams) tournaments. Boys' teams will be required to play up one age division; i.e. a boys' 12-and-under team must participate in a 13-and-under mixed team tournament). Specifically:

10-and-under boys' teams can play in 10-and-under girls' tournaments

11-and-under boys' teams can play in 11-and-under girls' tournaments

12-and-under boys' teams can play in 13-and-under girls' tournaments

13-and-under boys' teams can play in 14-and-under girls' tournaments

14-and-under boys' teams can play in 15-and-under girls' tournaments

Mixed team tournaments will utilize girls' net heights and competition balls. This rule is for OVR-sanctioned tournaments only. If teams play in other regions, the rule may be different or nonexistent. Coed tournaments may be run by either boys' or girls' tournament directors, extending the boys' 14-and-under season potentially into the spring.

Boys may participate in 10-and-under girls' tournaments on coed or boys' teams. Boys may participate on 11 and Under girls' teams (coed). There is no limit to the number of boys on a team. Boys may participate on 12-and-under girls' teams but there is a limit of three boys on the court at any time (unless the team would need to default due to a lack of female players resulting from an injury).

## 19 Denial of entry

Tournament directors may deny entry when the tournament is filled, or when a club exhibits a habit of unsportsmanlike behavior or cancellation from events.

## 20 Tournament information

At least 14 days prior to the tournament date, you should receive from the tournament director:

a. Directions to the tournament

b. The starting time of the first match and officiating assignments. All regular-season juniors' tournaments will start at or before 9:00 am.

c. A copy of the pool play format with the schedule of playing order, including the names of all participating teams (if available)

d. Tournament format: Due to changes beyond a tournament director's control, it is understood that changes may need to be made to starting times, pool play, tournament formats, and occasionally tournament sites.

Tournament directors still have the responsibility of providing information, in sufficient time, for club directors to relay to their teams so those teams can plan accordingly. Make use of the OVR website to post tournament information. If you do not receive your information, contact the tournament director directly. If not satisfied, contact Tom Kohl ([kohl@ovr.org](mailto:kohl@ovr.org)).

## 21 Team cancellations



A team canceling after the entry deadline, 14 days prior to the tournament date, will forfeit its entry fee. A team canceling prior to the entry deadline does not forfeit its full entry fee if a replacement is found. Phone or other expenses incurred to find a replacement may be deducted from the entry fee refund. A team canceling from one tournament to enter a different tournament on the same weekend will forfeit its entry fee. If a team requests and receives entry into a tournament but does not pay its entry fee, the teams' club will be fined the amount of the entry fee.

## 22 Tournament cancellations

If, for any reason, a tournament must be canceled or altered, the tournament director must notify all club directors and referees both by phone and through the OVR website. All collected entry fees must be returned to club directors within 72 hours of the cancellation, less any justifiable expenses incurred by the tournament director.

## 23 Pool play and tournament formats

Formats and other instructions for conducting OVR juniors' tournaments are detailed in the *OVR Juniors' Tournament Packet* ([https://www.ovr.org/juniors/tournament\\_packet/index.php](https://www.ovr.org/juniors/tournament_packet/index.php)). Pool play, tournament playoff schedule, and order of matches should be posted at a common location at the beginning of the day for viewing by coaches, players and spectators. The tournament director or site manager should regularly update pool play results and tournament schedules for the benefit of coaches, players, and spectators. For tournament playoffs, teams will be broken down into divisions (e.g. Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc.) based on the number of teams participating. Playoffs should start prior to 6:00 pm.

Tournament directors cannot change the pool play or tournament format previously described in tournament mailings or coaches' meetings unless all coaches agree prior to the start of the first match in pool play or playoffs. Tournament directors wishing to develop and use alternative pool play or playoff formats must obtain permission from the OVR Juniors' Tournament Director prior to the tournament date.

## 24 Coaches' meeting

Prior to the start of pool play, the tournament director and a designated head referee will conduct a coaches' meeting. During this meeting, any needed entry forms should be collected, rosters verified or updated, and any member registrations must be completed. A team may not participate unless an accurate, completed team roster is verified prior to the start of pool play. During the coaches' meeting or prior to the start of pool play, each coach will verify his or her roster with a signature. (Coaches must also provide a roster at the scorer's table for each match.) During this meeting, the tournament director should review pool play and tournament formats. Any changes or alternate formats should be explained at this time. Tournament directors will advise all coaches of the deadline for each team to have an OVR-certified junior scorekeeper and junior second referee as support officials. The head referee will discuss tournament ground rules and clarify any rule or procedure changes. Any coaches' questions should be answered. All team members, coaches, spectators, and referees must conduct themselves in a professional, sporting, and ethical manner.

## 25 Eligibility

Coaches, players, and teams must be registered and currently eligible for participation.

## 26 Late arrivals

A team arriving late for its first match has a 10-minute grace period after pre-match warm-ups before its first set is forfeited. This is followed by an additional 10-minute grace period before that team forfeits its second set. However, the match is not delayed if six players from that team are present at any time during this delay period.

## 27 Warm-ups

Only current USAV members may be in the playing area to assist with warm-ups.

Prior to each team's first match of the day, the warm-up will consist of 15 minutes: 7 minutes of shared court with no hitting, 4 minutes of full court for the serving team, then 4 minutes of full court for the receiving team. The mandatory warm-up time between all other matches is 10 minutes: 2 minutes shared ball handling, 4 minutes full court for the serving team, and 4 minutes full court for the receiving team. Teams can ask to be informed when they have one minute (or more/less) left to serve,

During each team's full court warm-up period, the opposing team must remain in their bench area and not interfere with the other team's warm-up. However, if both coaches agree, it is acceptable for each team to retrieve balls while the other team warms up at the net.

The time between sets is three minutes. Teams may warm up with balls on their half of the court during the three minute interval. Hitting across the net is not permitted. Practice balls may not be used during timeouts.

## 28 Support officials

Teams are required to supply the following support officials during pool play and playoffs: one second referee, two line judges, one scorer, one assistant scorer/Libero tracker and one scoreboard operator. By February 1, each boys' team must have an OVR-certified junior scorer and junior second referee to serve as support officials. By April 1, each girls' team must have an OVR-certified junior scorer and junior second referee to serve as support officials. After the deadlines above, coaches assume the responsibility as scorekeeper and second referee if their team does not have the OVR-certified second referee or scorer available at the tournament. A coach or adult chaperone knowledgeable in scoring must be present at or near the score table while their team is officiating. The second referee and scorer should report to the first referee at the coin toss. If they are not present by the beginning of the first timed warm-up then one point will be awarded to their next opponent for every minute that they are late. The rest of the support crew (line judges, scoreboard operator, and Libero tracker) must report to the first referee no later than the beginning of the second timed warm up or a point will be awarded to their next opponent. A point will be awarded for every minute that the work crew is incomplete. There is a financial penalty assessed, payable by the club, if the violation occurs after their last playing match of the tournament.

*The use of electronic devices by the support crews at our tournaments will not be tolerated. Work teams and their coaches are not permitted to use cell phones or other devices while line judging, keeping score, etc. Teams in violation of this regulation will be assessed a 10-point penalty in their next set that day. There is a financial penalty assessed, payable by the club, if the violation occurs after their last playing match of the tournament.*

## 29 Support officials: playoffs

The lowest-seeded teams in each division that is not playing the first round of the playoffs will officiate the first playoff match. After the first round of the playoffs, all losing teams must stay to provide support officials for the next match. A tournament director may permit the first-round losing team to leave and have the winning team provide the next match's support officials. This must be explained at the pre-tournament coaches' meeting. When semifinal rounds are played simultaneously on two different courts, the last losing team in the semifinals will

stay to provide support for the final match. If the semifinal matches end at the same time or nearly the same time, the losing team that is closest to the tournament site will stay to provide support for the final match. This is a matter of courtesy and should be stated at the coaches' meeting prior to the beginning of pool play, and again prior to the beginning of tournament play. If both teams are equidistant from the site, then the team to lose last should stay. *Failure of any team to fulfill these officiating duties will be reported to the OVR Juniors' Tournament Director, and that team will be fined \$100.*

### 30 Awards

First-place awards are required for tournaments of 8 or fewer teams. First- and second-place awards are required for tournaments with 9 or more teams. There is not a minimum or maximum cost for prizes. The recommended price range is \$3-5 per player. Awards must be age-appropriate. Awards are required only for the Gold division. Power Challenge events with more than 4 courts may want to consider awarding prizes to teams losing in the semi-finals.

### 31 After the tournament

It is the tournament director's responsibility to post tournament results on the OVR website (<https://www.ovr.org/juniors/results.php>, with individual events also linked from the OVR Juniors' Tournament Schedule). Club directors and coaches should check the website for correctness. If the posted tournament results are incorrect, contact the tournament director first through the e-mail link on the Results page or by phone. If not satisfied, contact Tom Kohl ([kohl@ovr.org](mailto:kohl@ovr.org)). Seeding points will not be awarded for any OVR juniors' tournament not in compliance with OVR rules.

### 32 Unpaid fines, entry fees, etc.

Clubs that have not paid fines imposed by the OVR or entry fees due tournament directors will not be permitted to participate in any OVR-sanctioned tournaments until all financial responsibilities are resolved. Clubs that have not paid fines imposed by the OVR or entry fees due tournament directors will not be permitted to register for the following season until all financial responsibilities have been resolved.

### 33 Sportsmanship and vandalism

The OVR promotes a high standard of sporting conduct (sportsmanship) among its athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators. Taunting, offensive cheers or gestures, profanity, racial or sexist comments, or other intimidating words or actions directed at officials, athletes, coaches, spectators, or team representatives will not be tolerated. In addition, the OVR has a "zero tolerance" policy regarding spectator conduct. Repeated unsporting behavior by the same individual at the same event will result in removal from the competition site. A team exhibiting a pattern of unsporting behavior will result in \$250 fine/sanction to the associated club or team.

OVR members must respect all playing facilities and properties throughout the Region. Failure to follow facility guidelines and rules as set forth by the site and tournament director will be sanctioned accordingly. Likewise, after being instructed to correct the problem, any continued disregard for facility usage rules at the same event, will result in removal from the competition site. A pattern of facility neglect will result in \$250 fine/sanction to the associated club or team.

Any acts of vandalism will result in an *Incident Report*, [https://www.ovr.org/forms/OVR\\_Incident\\_Report.pdf](https://www.ovr.org/forms/OVR_Incident_Report.pdf), being filed and a warning being issued by the OVR Commissioner. The local police will be contacted. All known individuals responsible for the acts of vandalism will be expelled from the tournament and competition site after they have been reported to the local police if the local police do not detain the individuals. This can include the removal of an entire team from the tournament.

We request your cooperation by supporting the participants and officials in a positive manner, and by respecting local tournament facilities and adhering to their regulations. Any actions, including but not limited to those mentioned above, will result in an *Incident Report* being filed with the OVR office, and a warning or penalty being issued by the OVR Commissioner.

### 34 Food

Setup of tables and the cooking of food by teams or their support staff, fans, coaches, or parents is prohibited at all OVR-sanctioned events. Tournament directors and site managers do not have the discretion to grant special permission. If a club does not comply amicably with a site director's or tournament director's request to correct a violation of our policy, an Incident Report is to be submitted to the OVR Commissioner. Violation of this directive will result in a \$250 fine and a team/club suspension.

### 35 Uniforms and the Libero

When ordering uniforms, the numbers on jerseys are required to be centered on the front and the back of the jersey. The actual rule is USAV 4.3.3.1a: "Uniform numbers must be clearly visible and centered on the chest and back. Each jersey must use the same color and number height for all players except the Libero. Also, USAV 4.3.3.2 states "The height of the number is a minimum of 4" on the front, and 6" on the back. It is recommended that numbers are 6" on the front and 8" on the back. The line forming the numbers should be at least 3/4" wide."

Additionally, USAV has clarified the uniform requirement for the Libero. "The Libero player(s) must wear a uniform (jersey or top) which has a different dominant color from any color of the rest of the team. The uniform must clearly contrast with the rest of the team. The Libero uniforms must be numbered like the rest of the team. Also, see the NOTE in USAV 19.2a.

"The Libero jersey must contrast in color with that of the predominant color(s) of the jerseys of the other team members. Color combinations such as purple/black, dark green/black, navy/maroon, and white/light yellow are not distinctive enough to comply with the rules." *This means the Libero shall wear a uniform top that is immediately recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team. NOTE: The rule requiring the Libero and his/her teammates to wear a solid colored uniform top has been RESCINDED by the USAV Volleyball Rules Commission, as of their February 2016 meeting. The "solid-colored jersey rule" is no longer in effect.*

### 36 Insurance

Secondary sports accident insurance covers accidental injury that occurs while participating in USAV-sanctioned events. This insurance covers all members registered with USA Volleyball including but not limited to athletes, coaches, trainers, volunteers, committee members, and officials while functioning on behalf of or while participating in a sanctioned event. See <http://www.ovr.org/insurance.php> for complete information and instructions on filing a claim.

## 37 OVR Juniors' Teams: Suggested Timeline

September 2, 2019 online registration opens for club staff, who should register prior to holding tryouts, and for professional officials, who must renew by October 31.

January 15, 2019 Girls' tournament entry fees can be deposited.

February 8-9-10, 2019 Ohio Valley Region 18s National Qualifier Greater Columbus Convention Center

February 16-17, 2019 *Ohio Valley Region Boys' Volleyball Championships*

March-April, 2019 Girls National Qualifiers for teams seeking to earn spots at the national championship tournaments in Open, USA, and American divisions.

March 17 (18s) and April 13-14, 2018 *Ohio Valley Region-Molten® 2018 National Bid Qualifier*

*Ohio Valley Region Sports Imports 2019 Girls' Volleyball Championships :*

April 14 (18 National) and April 27-28, 2019, May 4-5, May 11-12, and May 18-19, 2019

April 26-28, 2019 Girls 18 National Championships in Dallas, TX

June 27 –July 8, 2019 *USA Girls' Junior National Volleyball Championships* Indianapolis, IN

June 30 –July 7, 2019 *USA Boys' Junior National Volleyball Championships* Dallas, TX

Morning of tournament: If your team's information on the OVR website is out of date or if you changed it within 24 hours of the tournament, supply an updated entry form with current team and roster information.

Tuesday after your tournament: Check your team's results at <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/results.php>. Report any errors to the tournament director. If not satisfied, contact Tom Kohl ([kohl@ovr.org](mailto:kohl@ovr.org)).

## 38 OVR Juniors' Teams: Documents, Forms, and Actions

*USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations* : Provided to club directors with OVR adult memberships. Rulebooks are published every two years.

*OVR Juniors' Registration Packet* [https://www.ovr.org/juniors/registration\\_packet/index.php](https://www.ovr.org/juniors/registration_packet/index.php)

Application for Sanction of Juniors' Tryouts <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/tryouts/index.php>

*OVR-Kaepa® USA Juniors' Tournament Schedule* <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/tournaments.php>

Tournament results <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/results.php>

Team seeding <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/seeding.php>

## 39 For Additional Information

*Please be advised: not knowing the procedures and rules for operating a club is not an excuse. Make use of the OVR web-site, [www.ovr.org](http://www.ovr.org), to obtain the necessary information, or contact the OVR Girls' Program Director, Bill Zehler ([zehler@ovr.org](mailto:zehler@ovr.org), 513-726-6739) or OVR Boys' Program Director, ([mattmihelic@gmail.com](mailto:mattmihelic@gmail.com) 724-591-1967, ), for*

*additional assistance. Your cooperation and help are appreciated!*