

OVR Procedures and Rules for Juniors' Clubs

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The following Ohio Valley Region (OVR) procedures and rules supplement the 2023-2024 USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations for the 2023–2024 USA Volleyball (USAV) season, which runs from September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024. 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) 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/register/index.php>. The Sports Engine portion of the 2023-2024 OVR Membership Registration will open September 2, 2023. Please note that there are two registration systems involved. The first is Sports Engine. The second is the OVR's registration system. There is an overnight delay between the Sports Engine registration and your completion of the OVR registration. The OVR portion is automatic.

The club director must complete 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 zehler@ovr.org 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 Directors of OVR sanctioned events. All adult coaches, officials, Tournament Directors, and Site Directors need to have their concussion certification ON RECORD with the OVR prior to any involvement with a sanctioned event. Certification may be obtained from the NFHS online class, it is FREE! Instructions on how to complete the online certification may be found at www.nfhslearn.com A certificate will be made available immediately online after course completion. The member may update their certification on their OVR on-line account or email a copy of the certificate to Steve Donahue (donahue@ovr.org).

3 SafeSport Certification and Lindsay's Law Sudden Cardiac Arrest (Lindsay's Law)

The USAV requires all adults associated with minors to complete **The U.S. Center for SafeSport course** every season. All Club Directors and any other adult members that have frequent contact with junior athletes, including, but not limited to, tournament directors, site directors, officials, coaches, staff, and chaperones will need to complete this course. In addition, players who are 18 years old or turn 18 years old during the USAV membership year are required to complete the course. Members may complete their Safe Sport requirement by accessing the following link: <https://www.ovr.org/safesport/course.php>. Once you have successfully completed the SafeSport training course, be sure to follow the directions at the end of the course to download a copy of your certification. Your results are automatically sent to the OVR region office and added to the OVR database. Your SafeSport Certification must be on record with the OVR prior to any involvement with a sanctioned event.

The State of Ohio requires all adults, regardless of state of residence, who have contact with minor athletes who compete in the state of Ohio, to complete the **Sudden Cardiac Arrest (Lindsay's Law) training** each season. This requirement applies to parents of players and club directors, tournament directors, site directors, officials, coaches, staff, and chaperones. The link to information about Lindsay's Law is at https://www.ovr.org/safesport/cardiac_arrest.php.

4 Background Screening

Any individual intending to hire or use registered individuals in any sanctioned juniors' volleyball activities must 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 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. Background screening will cost \$14 annually for all adult members. After your USVA membership is purchased, you will receive an email with your eligibility requirements. Complete the background screen by accessing the eligibility email or through your SportsEngine account.

5 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.

6 Coaches' Membership

All coaches must be current members of USVA. All coaches must complete the USAV IMPACT Coaching accreditation course prior to coaching. All coaches must also have SafeSport and Concussion certifications.

7 Practice Sites

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

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" and vape pens.

9 Early Contract Signing and Tryout Policies

Early Contract Signing: Clubs may offer their current club members an early contract beginning June 1, provided their indoor season has been completed. The club will establish the signing deadline for the early offer. This is the only time a club can establish a deadline for signing. The contract is solely between the athlete's family and the club. The OVR is not part of this agreement. Beginning July 1, clubs may contact athletes from other clubs, provided their indoor season has been completed. However, contracts may not be accepted or signed prior to the start of summer tryouts on July 13.

General Tryout Policies: Clubs having tryouts must sanction these events to use the USA Volleyball insurance. Apply for sanction at <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/tryouts/index.php>. Tryout sessions may be scheduled on consecutive days; however, tryout sessions are limited to one contact per athlete on any two consecutive days of a weekend (for example: Friday and Saturday or Saturday and Sunday). Each tryout session is limited to a maximum of 3 hours and clubs shall not allow an athlete to attend more than one session per day. Any second session or "call back" is limited to a maximum of 3 hours.

No post organizational meetings, uniform sizing or meet the team events are permitted until after the tryout acceptance deadline. This deadline will be established each year by the OVR.

Each participant must receive a copy of the Athlete's Bill of Rights, which is available at [https://www.ovr.org/forms/Athletes Bill of Rights.pdf](https://www.ovr.org/forms/Athletes%20Bill%20of%20Rights.pdf), at the tryouts, and prior to making a commitment with a Club.

Tryouts listed on the OVR website 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.

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 a Certificate of Insurance on request. 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>.

Girls Summer Tryout Policies: Summer tryouts for the 2024-2025 season may begin on Saturday, July 13, through the end of the month. The deadline for accepting or declining a tryout offer occurring on or before July 15, 2024, is 9 PM, Wednesday, July 17. Any athlete attending tryouts on or after July 16, 2024, will have 48 hours, without exception, to accept or decline the offer. It is the responsibility of the Club directors to ensure that the Club and their coaches comply with the NO-CONTACT period established by the athletes' High School Athletic Association (HSAA).

Girls Fall Tryout Policies: Clubs may not host tryouts for athletes of high school age until the day after the volleyball championships of athlete's state of residence. Athletes from surrounding states are not permitted to attend tryouts in another state until the day after the state tournament in their state of residence has concluded. Club directors are responsible to be aware of, and ensure that they comply with, any state restrictions. Failure to adhere to state regulations may jeopardize the eligibility of the athletes and will result in a penalty to the offending Club.

Athletes and their families that receive an offer to participate on a team (ages 10-18) shall have until 9PM on the respective Acceptance Date Deadline date set forth in the table below, or a minimum of 48 hours of receipt of an offer, whichever is later, to accept or decline the offer.

2023-24 Fall Tryout Dates and Acceptance Deadlines (All levels)

<u>Ages</u>	<u>Tryout Dates Starting</u>	<u>Acceptance Date Deadline</u>
10s-12s	October 20	October 25 at 9 PM
13s-14s	October 27	November 1 at 9 PM
15s-18s	November 12	November 15 at 9 PM

Athletes attending a tryout on or after the Acceptance Date Deadline shall have a minimum of 48 hours from the date of the Club's offer to accept or decline the contract.

Boys Fall Tryout Policies: Please see the Ohio Valley Region Boys' Club Recruiting Policy, [https://www.ovr.org/juniors/registration_packet/OVR Recruiting Policy Boys.pdf](https://www.ovr.org/juniors/registration_packet/OVR_Recruiting_Policy_Boys.pdf)

10 Tryout Participants

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. It is inappropriate for any member of a Club (director, coach, or athlete), to try to recruit an athlete that has already signed a contract with another program. Clubs may respond to anyone interested in their program.

Failure to comply with these regulations may result in sanctions by the OVR.

To participate in a tryout, the athlete must be a current member of USA Volleyball and the OVR or obtain a tryout membership through Sports Engine. Membership with any specific Club in the Ohio Valley Region lasts from the date of the signed contract to the beginning of the Summer Tryout period of the following season. The term of the USAV membership year runs from September 1 to August 31.

11 Club Tryout Fees

Any nonrefundable club tryout fee should not exceed \$20. Multiple day tryouts should not cost more than \$30. 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 Selection

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 promptly accept a club assignment from that club, upgrade their tryout USAV membership on SportsEngine, if necessary, and pay any remaining USAV and OVR membership fees once the functions for these processes are available on SportsEngine for the applicable season.

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

Within the OVR, girls' teams are classified as National and Regional (18s), National, American, Regional (13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, and 17s), 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 Tournaments. 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.

Club directors are no longer required to contact the tournament director to enter events. 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, Elite, and "and Under". Teams in the American division may participate in tournaments sanctioned as American, Elite, and "and Under". Teams registered as Regional may only play in tournaments sanctioned as Regional, Select, and "and Under". Teams may play in a higher age group. OVR Team Divisions by age and in which tournament divisions they may participate is found at https://www.ovr.org/juniors/OVR_Girls_Divisions_of_Play.pdf.

15 Tournament Entry Fees

The maximum entry fee for OVR juniors' regular-season single-day tournament is \$235. The maximum entry fee for OVR juniors' regular-season two-day tournament is \$470 per team. A higher entry fee may be required for multi-day tournaments held in large arenas or convention centers. The OVR-sponsored events, such as the *National Bid Qualifier*, *National Challenge*, and *Regional Championships*, may have higher entry fees. Pre-tournament entry must include a check (or other form of payment as specified by the tournament director for the tournament) in the amount of the entry fee, the current USAV 11-character team identification number, and a team contact. Please see the OVR Procedures and Rules for Junior's Indoor Regular-Season Tournaments for more information.

15.1 Spectator Admission Fees

Tournament hosts are permitted to charge spectator admission fees. The recommended fee is no more than \$10/day for adults 19 years of age or older. Permission must be granted by the Boys/Girls' Program Director and Juniors Tournament Director to charge more than this amount.

16 Tournament Entry Procedures

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) may participate
- b. pool play, playoff, and officiating procedures
- c. any unusual procedures
- d. awards
- e. entry fee

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 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. 11-character team code (e.g., G14EXEMP10V)
- c. Individual OVR registration numbers of all participating players and coaches
- d. 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. Only National teams may play in National events within the OVR. Only American teams may play in American events in the OVR (with the exceptions that 11 National teams may play in 12 American events and 12 National teams may participate in 13 American events). Only Regional teams may play in Regional events within the OVR (with the exception that teams registered as 17 American may participate in 18

Regional events). Teams may play up in age with their division (e.g., a 16 Regional team may enter a 17 Regional tournament).

3. National, American, or Regional teams may participate in age-specific “and Under” tournaments; National and American teams may participate in age-specific “Elite” tournaments; and American and Regional teams may participate in age-specific “Select” tournaments.

4. 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 and/or specific USAV non-bid events (i.e. Select Division) may also honor our Grade-Level classifications.

5. 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.

6. Players may not be on the roster of multiple teams within the same tournament.

7. 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 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).

8. 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.

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 Levels of Competition

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

Girls Divisions: 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, American, and Regional
- 10s

Teams in the American and Regional divisions may participate as Grade-Level teams at OVR non-bid events. Grade-Level teams may participate in another region’s events of their age/grade level with the permission of the region involved. The Pioneer and Keystone Regions currently permit grade level designations for regular tournaments (other regions may likewise permit “grade-level” or “waiver” teams in their region or at specific events). Grade-Level teams are eligible to play in USAV National Qualifiers at the age of the oldest athletes on their team (e.g., an OVR 15 American grade-level team would have to play 16s). It is the Club Director’s responsibility to determine the players’ and team’s eligibility for any specific tournament.

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, or 12 American events. It will be used for 10s, 11 Regional, 11-and-under, 12 Regional, and 12-and-under competitions. The VB-Lite

ball will be used for all Youth competitions. The net height for 10U teams is 6' 6" and the net height for 11U and 12U teams is 7' 0".

Boys' Divisions: Designations of boys' teams are 18s, 17s, 16s, 15s, 14s, 13s, and 12s. Boys' teams for all age groups are "and Under" teams; there are no National, American, or Regional divisions for boys teams.

Boys' teams may participate in 10-and-Under and 11 Regional designated girls' regular season tournaments. Boys may participate on girls' 10-and-Under, 11 Regional, and 12 Regional teams. There is no limit to the number of boys on a team. No more than three boys may be on the court for a team at one time. Regular USA Volleyball rules for Youth teams will be used with accepted region modification.

Mixed-Team Tournaments: Younger boys' teams (10–14-year-old teams) may participate in specially designated mixed team (boys' and girls' teams) tournaments. Specifically:

10-and-under boys' teams can play in 10-and-under mixed-team tournaments

11-and-under boys' teams can play in 11-and-under mixed-team tournaments

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

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

14-and-under boys' teams can play in 15-and-under mixed-team 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, this 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.

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).

21 Team Cancellations

To ensure a tournament is assigned the correct number of points based on the number of teams entered the week of the tournament, the tournament director may use the following procedures.

When a team withdraws during the week leading up to the tournament weekend, if the withdrawal is not weather-related and no team is found to replace the withdrawing team, the team's code will be placed in the last place of the tournament results bracket. If a team does not show up for the tournament, that team's

code will be placed in the last place of the tournament results bracket. If more than one team fails to show up for the tournament, those teams will be tied for last place in the tournament results bracket.

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. 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 Junior 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.

By the start of the second 4-minute segment (the receiving team's use of the full court), the entire work team, including the coach, must be present. (It is recommended that the second referee be present for the pre-match coin toss.)

Teams that are late to their officiating assignment will be assessed a penalty of one point per minute, up to 10 points, until the work team is complete. If the work team is still incomplete, the team will forfeit the first set of their next match. If they do not have any more matches that day, their club will be fined \$100.

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 Junior Support Officials: Playoffs

The lowest-seeded teams in each division that are 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. If 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 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 eight or fewer teams. First- and second-place awards are required for tournaments with nine 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 four 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). 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 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 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 a \$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 a \$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 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.*

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 3, 2023 - online registration opens for club staff for the 2023-2024 season.

February 2-3-4, 2024 - *USAV 18s Qualifier* at the Greater Columbus Convention Center (GCCC).

April 12, 13, and 14, 2024- *Ohio Valley Region-Molten® 2024 National Bid Qualifier* at the GCCC.

April and May 2024 - *Ohio Valley Region Mizuno 2024 Girls' Volleyball Championships*, GCCC, Cedar Point (NW Ohio), and Spooky Nook (Hamilton, OH).

April 26-28, 2024 - *USAV Girls 18 National Championships* in Baltimore, MD.

June 21-24, 2024 – *USAV Girls' Junior National Volleyball Championships* in Dallas, TX for 11s, 12s, and 13s divisions.

July 3 to July 11, 2024 - *USAV Girls' Junior National Volleyball Championships* in Las Vegas, NV for 14s to 17s divisions.

June 26-29, 2024 – *USAV Boys' Junior National Volleyball Championships* in Dallas, TX for 11s, 12s, and 13s divisions.

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>. Please report any errors to the tournament director. If not satisfied, contact Tom Kohl (kohl@ovr.org).

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

USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations provided 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

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

OVR- 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 website, www.ovr.org, to obtain the necessary information, or contact the OVR Girls' Program Director, Bill Zehler (zehler@ovr.org, 513-726-6739) for additional assistance. Your cooperation and help are appreciated!

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