

OVR Procedures and Rules for Junior's Indoor Regular-Season Tournaments



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It is the responsibility of each tournament host and director to know the procedures and rules for hosting and conducting a tournament in the Ohio Valley Region (OVR). All necessary information is available on the OVR website, www.ovr.org. Lack of information or help is not an excuse for hosting substandard events. The OVR has a history of sanctioning well-managed tournaments and has faith and confidence that local tournament hosts and directors will help maintain this high standard. Your cooperation and commitment are appreciated.

The following OVR procedures and rules supplement USA Volleyball (USAV) requirements and rules, and are to be used for all OVR-sanctioned juniors' indoor regular-season tournaments during the 2017-2018 USA Volleyball season (September 1, 2017– August 31, 2018). Girls' regular-season tournaments can begin the first weekend in January and end the last weekend in July. Boys' regular-season tournaments can begin the first weekend in September through the last weekend in February and again from the first weekend in June until the last weekend in August.

Tournaments held in large arenas or convention centers, and the OVR National Challenges, American Challenges, Elite Challenges, Regional Challenges, National Bid Qualifier, and Boys' and Girls' Championships may have formats, expenses, and entry fees different from regular-season tournaments.

A copy of this document and the *2017-2019 USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations* are to be available at each tournament site.

For additional assistance, or for questions or requests for clarification of these OVR procedures, contact Tom Kohl, OVR Juniors' Tournament Director (937-773-7273, kohl@ovr.org).

For questions regarding USA Volleyball playing rules, contact Brian Hemelgarn, OVR Referees' Chair (419-410-2291, hemelgarn@ovr.org).

1 Pre-Tournament Sanction Application

1.1 Membership

A completed 2017-2018 membership is required to apply for, and receive, a sanction to host a tournament. Register for membership at www.ovr.org/register/. Your membership is not complete until your registration fee, signed *USA Volleyball Waiver and Release of Liability*, and signed *USA Volleyball Juniors' Club Personnel Code of Ethics* (as needed) are received either electronically or processed by Stephen Donahue, OVR Verification Officer (donahue@ovr.org), and your background screen is complete. Please note that background screens take approximately 7 business days to complete.

1.2 Background Check

Each junior's tournament host, site director, and all other juniors' tournament staff must have a completed USA Volleyball background screen. Background screens through other agencies do not meet this requirement.

1.3 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 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).

1.4 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 sanction 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).

- 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 how we currently handle background checks.

1.5 Tournament Facilities

Tournament sites and playing area must be of high quality. This includes playing surface and equipment (condition and safety), facilities (lighting, cleanliness and safety), and heating and cooling of playing area. Contracts with facilities should include weather-related cancellations.

Adjacent courts may not share a common net post; each court must have its own complete set of equipment. Tournament sites having facilities and equipment considered to be unsafe will not receive an OVR tournament sanction. An *Application for Sanction* will not be accepted if a permanent building for the tournament has not been designated.

Minimum requirements for volleyball courts and equipment can be found in the *2017-19 USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations*. All posts and referees' stands must be padded. Referees' stands are required, and should elevate the referee's head approximately 18" above the height of the net and be clear of any obstacles. Jump boxes, ladders, or other similar equipment that is not specifically designed as a referee stand is not permitted. Support wires must be either eliminated or clearly marked and padded.

Tournament sites that have less than the required minimum two meters behind the end line for the service zone will not be considered for tournaments. There must be sufficient free space around each court. The recommended minimum free zone surrounding a court is 2 meters (6'6-3/4"). Players must be permitted to pursue volleyballs without endangering themselves, other participants, or spectators. The second referee should be able to transition freely from one side of the net to the other, positioned outside the net post, without any obstacles. All court lines must be 2" wide and contrast with the floor surface and any other lines.

If courts are adjacent, they may share this two-meter free zone. In other words, each court does not have to have its own two-meter free zone. The distance between two courts can be exactly two meters, and the rule requirements are considered to have been met. In the situation when adjacent courts share a common two-meter

free zone, coaches, substitutes and team benches are not permitted in the area between the courts. If the adjacent courts have team benches back to back in the shared free zone, and each court still maintains at least two meters of free zone excluding those bench areas, this may be permitted.

Tournament hosts, site directors, or facility managers may not establish local ground rules or modify USAV playing rules, particularly if those ground rules do not take into consideration the safety issues they may present. Referees will establish the ground rules for each court according to *USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations*.

1.6 Certificate of Insurance

Tournament facilities often require proof of insurance. The *Certificate of Insurance* shows that USA Volleyball has liability coverage for every tournament that is sanctioned by the OVR Juniors' Tournament Director, with the approval of the OVR Commissioner. To request the current *Certificate of Insurance*, <https://www.ovr.org/forms/CertificateOfInsuranceRequest.pdf>, contact Stephen Donahue (donahue@ovr.org).

If a club is requesting a *Certificate of Insurance*, please include the club name, the club director's full name, and his or her address, city, state, zip code, e-mail address, and telephone number.

If a facility is requesting a *Certificate of Insurance*, please include the sponsoring club's name, the club director's full name, and his or her address, city, state, zip code, e-mail address, and telephone number. In addition, include the name of the facility that wants to be listed as additional insured, the contact person's full name, and his or her address, city, state, zip code, e-mail address, and telephone number.

If a specific individual, business, or organization is requesting a *Certificate of Insurance*, please include the name of the individual, business, or organization, the contact person's full name, and his or her address, city, state, zip code, e-mail address, and telephone number. In addition, include the name of the facility that wants to be listed as additional insured, the contact person's full name, and his or her address, city, state, zip code, e-mail address, and telephone number.

A tournament host/facility conducting a sanctioned OVR/USAV event in conjunction with a non-sanctioned event must assume the liability for any damages to the facility or injuries to participants or spectators. The OVR/USAV *Certificate of Insurance* applies *only* to OVR/USAV members participating in the sanctioned event. *Participation of nonmembers in the sanctioned event will void all liability coverage provided by OVR/USAV.*

1.7 Scrimmage/Tournament classification

Friendship scrimmage: There are three types of friendship scrimmages: professional officials' ratings, junior officials' ratings, and team scrimmages. Be sure to indicate what type of friendship scrimmage is being requested in your application for sanction or in your scrimmage information.

Grassroots tournament: For ages 10–14. The events are offered as an alternative to normal, regular-season events and are for teams or members of clubs that need to develop their skills and tactical understanding of the game. The emphasis will be on the educational benefits of the participation rather than the results of the competition. For these events, there will be no hired referees. Coaches from each team will be required to officiate (R1), as outlined in the tournament format for the work team. Entry fees cannot exceed \$85.00. The reduced entry fee results from not hiring referees. All participants must meet OVR/USAV membership requirements. Coaches must have current, clear USAV background screens and must be IMPACT-certified. Pool and tournament formats will follow OVR-approved formats. Grassroots tournament results do not count toward OVR seeding points.

Boys' Tournaments: Boys' tournaments for all age groups are "and under" type tournaments; i.e. there are no National, American, or Regional divisions.

Girls' Tournaments: Tournaments for 10U are Regional. Tournaments for 11s-18s can be "and under", Na-

tional, American (girls' 12s, 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, and 17s only), Elite or Regional, as defined at www.ovr.org/juniors/divisions.php.

Boys are permitted to play on girls' 12 & Under Regional teams

- * Unlimited number of boys on a roster, however, a maximum of THREE boys on the court at a time
- * If team is reduced to fewer than three girls, additional boys may participate to avoid forfeit
- * Co-ed rules do NOT apply; use standard USAV rules

Boys' 10U and 11U teams can participate, respectively, in girls' 10U and 11s tournaments. Boys' 12U and 13U teams will be required to play up a minimum of one age division; e.g. a boys' 12U team is eligible for 13R girls' tournaments. These tournaments will utilize girls' net heights and competition balls. Points will be awarded as Regional points. This rule is for OVR-sanctioned tournaments only.

“And Under” Tournaments: During the months of January and February and the weekend of and after the OVR Bid tournament, girls' tournament hosts may have tournaments that included National, American, and Regional level teams.

“Elite” Tournaments: Girls tournaments for National and American teams.

Tournaments designated as National, American or Regional are limited to teams with that designation.

Exceptions for 2017-2018:

- Elite Tournaments for 18's can include Regional teams.
- American teams may participate in 18 Regional tournaments with the Tournament Director's permission.
- 12 National teams may participate in 13 American tournaments.

A team may play in a higher age group of the same classification; e.g. a 14 Regional team may play in a 15 Regional tournament, and a 17 National team may play in an 18 National tournament.

Tournament hosts may not host tournaments of like age groups and classification the same weekend as the OVR Championship, National Challenges, and National Bid Qualifier tournaments.

Tournament hosts not adhering to the above policies will forfeit their tournament bonds.

1.8 Courts, Pools, and Guarantee of Matches

The maximum number of courts in any division offered by a tournament host is 4. This applies to any single day tournament on a given day or weekend.

Tournament hosts may not advertise multiple tournaments in excess of the number of courts available. Tournament hosts cannot combine teams from unfilled tournaments to create a filled tournament unless they have permission from all club directors involved in that combined tournament. Teams electing not to participate will receive a full refund of the entry fee.

Juniors' tournament pools consist of 4 teams each, with 3-team pools permitted only due to entry cancellations or lack of team entries. Use of 5-team pools on a single court will result in the loss of tournament bond.

A single-day tournament will consist of one round of pool play (guarantee of 3 matches or set equivalent) and a single-elimination tournament. A two-day tournament will consist of at least 2 rounds of pool play (guarantee of 6 matches or set equivalent) and a single-elimination tournament.

1.9 Entry Fees

The maximum entry fee for OVR juniors' regular-season single day tournaments is \$200 per team. The maximum entry fee for OVR juniors' regular-season two-day tournaments is \$400 per team. A higher entry fee

may be requested for multi-day tournaments held in large arenas or convention centers.

1.10 Admission Fees

The OVR will not sanction a regular season tournament that charges, or intends to charge, an admission fee. An exception may be granted for multi-court (minimum 20 courts) multi-day tournaments held in a large arena or convention center. The request to charge an admission fee must be made to the Juniors Tournament Director when making the initial tournament sanction request. The request should include the following information:

1. Tournament Director, Email, Phone
2. Dates of the Tournament
3. Location of the Tournament
4. Facility
5. Number of courts
6. Admission fee per day.
7. Tentative Profit and Loss Statement.
8. Rationale for needing an admission fee

The Juniors Tournament Director will not make any decision concerning the request. The request will be considered by the OVR (Competition Committee, Boys/Girls Program Director, OVR Commissioner/President) on a tournament by tournament basis.

2 Tournament Sanction

Beginning with the third Sunday in September (September 17, 2017), the OVR Juniors' Tournament Director will accept online *Applications for Sanction* for OVR regular-season juniors' volleyball tournaments for the upcoming season. Complete the online Application for Sanction at <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/sanction/index.php>. Send a \$200 tournament bond (check payable to Ohio Valley Region) and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the OVR Juniors' Tournament Director. If a tournament host advertises and/or accepts team entries into a tournament prior to approval of the *Application for Sanction* for that tournament, the *Application for Sanction* will be denied.

2.1 Tournament Sanction Approval

The OVR Juniors' Tournament Director will contact the tournament host by e-mail upon approving a juniors' tournament application for sanction. Once accepted, all requests for changes to sanctioned tournaments are subject to approval and will be processed as time permits.

2.2 Tournament Information and Advertising

Tournament hosts are responsible for publicizing and filling their tournaments. Tournament hosts may use their own resources (phone, e-mail, U.S. mail, their own website, etc.) to contact club directors or advertise after receiving a tournament sanction. Tournament hosts are responsible for the updating of their tournaments' information through the *OVR Juniors' Tournament Schedule*. To review or update detailed tournament information:

- a. Log in to the OVR website.
- b. Click My Account, then choose List my juniors' tournaments.
- c. To update tournament information, click the Tournament Details link in the details column. (One can also navigate directly to the TD's Info and Tournament Details pages directly from the *OVR Juniors' Tournament Schedule*). Review your information and make any necessary revisions.

- d. You can specify numbers of openings for additional teams, pools, officials, etc. Under “Other Information,” you can specify weather or other situation cancellation policy, coaches meeting time, starting time, details of pool play, player and officiating procedures, site-specific rules and information, awards, availability of concessions, and any other details that participating teams and officials will find helpful.
- e. If the tournament site is not already supported on the OVR website, contact support@ovr.org with the site’s address. Include directions only if they differ significantly from the directions that are available through online mapping systems.

Before receiving a tournament sanction, all tournament information is to have the above information. By January 15, all participating OVR-based teams are to be listed with their team codes. OVR team names are then displayed automatically, along with additional information on standings and seeding. Teams from other regions should be recorded by club name and team 11-character team codes. Tournament hosts that do not have their tournament information updated can have their tournaments unsanctioned until the information is provided.

2.3 Use of OVR E-mail Lists

Tournament hosts may use OVR mailing lists to announce tournament openings and to contact referees. Announcements should include tournament date, location, age group and division, number of courts, entry fee, and any other relevant information. Any tournament host abusing this policy will have his or her tournament sanctions denied.

2.4 Tournament Entry: OVR Teams

Pre-tournament entry includes a check in the amount of the entry fee, 11-character team code (assigned at registration), and team contact. Pre-tournament entries must be received by January 15 or 4 weeks prior to the tournament date, whichever is earlier. A team may be denied entry if the above requirements are not met. Later arrangements require agreement between the tournament host and club directors.

2.5 Tournament Entry: Out-of-Region Teams

Out-of-region teams must complete an OVR tournament entry form. When accepting out-of-region teams for your tournaments, be sure they are of the same classification as your tournament. Other regions’ Open teams can only play in OVR National or “and under” events, and other regions’ Club teams can only play in OVR Regional, American, or “and under” events. Other regions may have different team designation such as Elite or Travel for their top-level teams. Teams from regions not having specific classifications for their teams can participate in any OVR regular-season tournament.

2.6 Tournament Entry: Foreign Teams

For OVR-sanctioned competitions, a foreign team:

- a. May participate if accepted by the Regional Volleyball Association (OVR) in compliance with its regulations and is not representing its country in an official capacity.
- b. Must purchase foreign player insurance, which will be provided by USA Volleyball. The expense shall be debited to the event at cost and shall be added to the entry fee.
- c. A waiver to the foreign player insurance fee shall be granted to Canadians who provide written proof of 24hour health coverage valid in the United States.

For OVR-sanctioned competitions, each foreign team member shall have in his/her possession, and shall have previously filed with the event director, the following documents:

- a. Photo identification (driver’s license or comparable government issued document), and
- b. A signed copy of the *USA Volleyball Waiver and Release of Liability / Code of Conduct*.

Additionally, for juniors' competitions, each foreign player (or all members of a foreign team) must also possess and have on file with the event director:

- a. Copy of birth certificate or government-issued identification with birth date.
- b. *USAV Youth & Junior Volleyball Player Medical Release*, signed by the player's parent or legal guardian.

2.7 Denial of Entry

Tournament hosts may deny entry when any of the following apply:

- a. the tournament is filled;
- b. a club repeatedly exhibits unsportsmanlike behavior or cancellation from events;
- c. a club fails to submit payment and/or required tournament entry information by the deadline;
- d. improper team designation.

3 Tournament Personnel

Tournament hosts are responsible for providing qualified personnel to conduct tournaments and to provide safe and clean facilities. Such personnel can include tournament directors, building/site supervisors, and referees. Coaches and referees may not act as tournament directors if they are actively participating in the actual tournament. Any person (paid or volunteer) provided by the tournament host that comes in direct contact with junior players must have a completed OVR membership and a current, "Clear" USAV background screen. Contact the following OVR personnel if you need help in finding qualified personnel:

- Tournament directors: Tom Kohl, OVR Juniors' Tournament Director, (937-773-7273, kohl@ovr.org)
- Referees, head referees, referee assigners: Brian Hemelgarn, OVR Referees' Chair (hemelgarn@ovr.org)

3.1 Professional Referees

All OVR-sanctioned regular-season tournaments are required to have at least one referee with a Provisional (or higher) rating.

Referees may not officiate at tournaments in which they are acting as coaches for any participating team, or acting as the tournament director or site director for the same tournament.

A Conflict of Interest occurs when a referee has direct (as a coach, club director, etc.) or indirect (as a parent, chaperone, etc.) affiliation with a particular club or team. Should a conflict of interest occur the referee may not officiate matches involving that club or team. In the case of direct affiliation, the referee should not officiate tournaments run by the affiliated club.

Within the OVR, professional referees are classified as International, National, Junior National, Regional, Provisional, and Junior Regional. Junior Regional referees, who are relatively new, are restricted to officiating 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U and 15 Regional competitions for girls or boys. Provisional referees may officiate 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U, 15U, 16 Regional/American, 17 Regional/American, and 18 Regional competitions. Regional through International referees may officiate any level of juniors' competition.

Tournament hosts must hire registered, certified USAV referees with completed, "Clear" USAV background screens. For a 1-court tournament, two referees are required. For a 2-court tournament, three referees are required. For a 3-court tournament, four referees are required. For a 4-court tournament, six referees are required. Due to the number of tournaments sanctioned each weekend, these hiring guidelines should be strictly followed in order to allow all tournaments to have a sufficient number of referees to properly cover their courts.

Use the OVR website (www.ovr.org/officiating/officials.php) to identify and contact certified referees. Brian Hemelgarn (hemelgarn@ovr.org) can also provide assistance in that endeavor, and can provide answers and

interpretations to any questions regarding officiating issues.

Tournament Directors having a history of hiring an insufficient number referees or consistently needing help assigning referees will receive a minimum number of tournament sanctions as determined by the OVR Juniors Tournament Director. Additional tournament sanctions will be considered once all referees have been hired for all the Tournament Director's sanctioned events.

Tournament Directors needing excessive assistance from the OVR Referees' Chair to assign officials to their tournaments will be assessed an assignor's fee by the OVR Referees' Chair.

USAV referees from other regions may only be hired with prior notification of Brian Hemelgarn (hemelgarn@ovr.org), and the visiting referee's regional referees' chair. When non-OVR USAV referees are hired, the names of the referees must be entered in the tournament's "Tournament Information" section. Any non-OVR referee who has attended a pre-season OVR officiating clinic is eligible to officiate OVR events.

The hiring of non-USAV referees or suspended referees will cause loss of the tournament bond.

If, due to cancellation or other circumstances, a tournament has no hired referees, or an insufficient number to cover court assignments, the head coach for each match's assigned work team will serve as the first referee for that match and will be compensated at a rate of \$27.50 per match. This reflects the fee that would have been paid to a certified professional referee.

3.2 Volleyball Officiating Contract

Please have all referees complete and sign a *Volleyball Officiating Contract* (www.ovr.org/forms/Officiating_Contract.pdf) for each day they work. Please include all *Volleyball Officiating Contracts* with *Juniors Tournament Report*, pool and tournament brackets, and verified team rosters. If a referee refuses to sign, they may not officiate your tournament. Also send the OVR Juniors' Tournament Director a *Volleyball Officiating Contract* with that referee's name on it and write on the contract "Refused to sign."

3.3 Head Referee at a Local Tournament

A head referee will be designated for each tournament (or each site in the case of multiple venues for a single event). It is recommended that the referee with the highest certification assume this role. If all referees have the same certification level, the most experienced referee should fulfill this responsibility. Junior Regional referees may NOT serve as a head referee. Suggested duties and responsibilities:

- Arrive approximately 45 minutes before the scheduled start time to meet with the tournament director to determine playing formats and ground rules.
- Attend the pre-tournament coaches' meeting to answer questions about the facility ground rules or *USAV Domestic Competition Regulations*.
- Confirm playing ground rules with all referees for each court to ensure the consistent application of the ground rules by the crew of referees.
- Assist referees with court assignments and the referee rotation scheme, and help to ensure that referees are working match levels appropriate for their certification.
- If appropriate, designate referees for any play-off matches (adults) and bracket play.
- Serve as the chair of the protest committee and select its members (see below).
- Remain present at the tournament until the final match has concluded. At least two referees must remain present at the tournament until the conclusion of the final match. They should depart the playing venue together.
- Serve as a liaison with the Referees' Chair in the event that any concerns arise related to the playing facilities, officiating performances or conduct of participants or spectators.
- Recommended: Carry a copy of the *Procedures and Rules for Junior's Tournaments*.
- Recommended: Carry copies of a deciding/non-deciding score sheet, line-up sheet/roster, Libero

tracking sheet, *Incident Report*, and *Injury/Property Damage Report* (all forms can be found on the OVR website).

- Tournament directors shall compensate a head referee, in addition to their base pay as a referee, at the rate of \$5 per court for 1 or 2 courts and \$15 total for a head referee responsible for 3 or more courts.

3.4 Compensation for Referees

Referees are to be paid the final day of a regular season tournament. Referees working a multi-day tournament held at multiple sites, convention centers or arenas are to be paid either the final day of the tournament or within three days of the tournament end. Referees and Tournament Directors may agree to a different pay schedule.

A referee hired/contracted to officiate a juniors' regular-season tournament will be compensated on a tiered pay scale based on certification level:

- Junior Regional: \$165/day or \$27.50/match, whichever is greater
- Provisional/Regional (and Retired Junior National/National): \$180/day or \$30/match, whichever is greater
- Junior National/National: \$195/day or \$32.50/match, whichever is greater

The pay rates for a best 3/5 match are:

Junior Regional	\$41.25
Provisional / Regional	\$45.00
Junior National / National	\$48.75

Seldom will a referee be working a full schedule (six matches) of best 3/5 matches in a day. However, it is not uncommon for a referee to work one or two best 3/5 matches when a tournament has a 3-team pool, or is running a modified playing format. The easiest way to calculate the referee's pay when 3/5 matches are involved is:

- 1) Count the number of best 2/3 matches and multiply by the standard rate (noted above, based on certification level)
- 2) Count the number of best 3/5 matches and multiply by the "best 3/5 match rate" (also noted above)
- 3) Add those two figures together, and
 - a. if the amount is GREATER than the standard six-match pay rate for that certification level, pay the higher amount
 - b. if the amount is less than the standard six-match pay rate, the standard "full day" rate is paid (For example, working four 2/3 matches and one 3/5 match would still result in being paid for six matches.)

The OVR uses six matches as the basis for a "full day". When a referee works more than 6 matches per day, they are paid an additional match fee per match beyond six based upon the per-match fees listed above. If they work less than six matches, they are still paid for a "full day" since accepting assignments is based upon working at least six matches. In the case that a referee works fewer than six matches as first referee, the referee is encouraged to officiate as second referee, particularly on a semi-final or final, to meet the six-match "full day" standard.

It is also acceptable, by agreement of the referee and tournament director, that the referee work on a "per match" basis when it is known in advance that the referee will only work for a part of the day instead of a full day.

A referee acting as the head referee shall be compensated at the rate of \$5 per court (1-2 courts) and \$15 total for 3 or more courts. Referees can be further compensated if they must travel a long distance. A referee who is

unable to complete his or her assignment will be compensated for any completed matches at the appropriate rate stated above. A referee who does not fulfill an assignment should be reported to the OVR Referees' Chair. If there is a shortage of referees, a coach fulfilling that duty will be paid \$27.50 per match.

3.5 Releasing Referees

A tournament director may release a referee if the tournament format changes or if the number of courts is reduced. This should be done with at least one week's notice whenever possible. With ample notice, referees may be able to find another event to work. It is at the tournament director's discretion when releasing a referee, keeping in mind the level of play and the certification levels of the referees.

3.6 Tournament Directors, Building/Site Directors

If the requesting Tournament Director will not be in attendance, they need to email the OVR Juniors Tournament Director the name of the Site Director for the tournament. Please include the Site Director's OVR membership number. Any courts not under the same roof will require a separate Site/Tournament Director.

Tournament and site directors may not officiate during the tournaments they are directing. Coaches for a participating team cannot serve as referees, tournament directors, or site directors. In an emergency, a tournament director or site director with a completed OVR membership, "Clear" background screen, and IMPACT or CAP certification can sit the bench for a team that does not have a certified coach present for a match.

3.7 Compensation for Tournament Personnel

The tournament host should arrange with the tournament personnel a pay rate prior to the tournament date. The generally accepted practice is to pay a tournament director the same daily rate as an official.

4 Pre-Tournament

4.1 Pool Play and Tournament Formats

Formats and other instructions for conducting OVR juniors' tournaments of 4 through 16 teams are detailed in the *OVR Juniors' Tournament Packet* (www.ovr.org/juniors/tournament_packet/).

4.2 Alternate Playing Formats

Tournament hosts wishing to develop and use alternative pool play or tournament formats must obtain permission from the OVR Juniors' Tournament Director prior to the tournament date.

4.3 Playing Rule Modifications

- a. Service Step-in Line: For developmental purposes in 10U, 11s, and 12 Regional competitions, the back edge of the step-in service line is drawn at two meters (6'6-3/4") from the back edge of the end line. A continuous line, 5cm (2") wide, must be laid across the width of the court to denote this service step-in line. After the service, the line is ignored and becomes part of the court.
- b. Underhand serving will be permitted.

4.4 Tournament Changes and Cancellations

The OVR Juniors' Tournament Director will cancel tournaments having fewer than four teams entered within one month of the tournament date. If, for other reasons, a tournament is cancelled, contact the OVR Juniors' Tournament Director immediately. Notify all teams entered and assigned referees by phone and through the

OVR website and issue a refund within 72 hours of the cancellation. If a tournament needs to be altered, the tournament director must notify all club directors and referees both by phone and through the OVR website. Hired/contracted referees who are not notified but still arrive at the match site will be compensated a minimum of one match fee.

Due to circumstances beyond a tournament director's control, changes may be necessary for starting time, pool play or tournament formats, and occasionally tournament sites. Tournament directors are still responsible for providing information in sufficient time for club directors and their teams to plan accordingly. Use the OVR website to post all tournament information.

4.5 Team Entry

If a tournament director has accepted more team entries than the tournament can accommodate, the following should occur.

1. Add additional court/s as needed. (Not to exceed 4 for a regular season one day event or 6 for a two day event.)
2. If a tournament director has their own team/s entered, withdraw their own team/s.
3. Withdraw most recent team/s entered.

If the error is not caught within one week of the team entry, each oversubscribed team is due an entry fee.

4.6 Team Cancellation

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 paid team entry 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 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.

4.7 Weather

The OVR position on tournament locations affected by weather conditions is as follows:

- a. Tournament directors should make a timely decision and notify club directors, coaches, and referees of any change to a tournament's status.
- b. If a tournament site is in a location where the local authorities have issued a "no travel" order, the tournament director shall honor that request and cancel the tournament.
- c. A team which originates in a county of a "no travel" order and not in attendance at a tournament with no travel restrictions will be given a full refund of its entry fee.

4.8 Pre-Tournament Information

Tuesday, the week of the tournament, send the pools according to the format specified for the number of teams entered. Through the *TD's Info* page, e-mail the club directors, coaches, and referees with a link to the tournament information or e-mail the following information:

- a. directions to the tournament site
- b. time of coaches' meeting
- c. starting time of the first match and officiating assignments (all OVR juniors' tournaments will start at or before 9:00 am)
- d. pool play format with the schedule of playing order
- e. tournament format

- f. availability of concessions

4.9 Juniors' Team Seeding

The general idea behind creating tournament pools is simple. Essentially, the best teams are separated from one another until the later rounds of a tournament.

Each OVR approved tournament has a format sheet that explains the procedures for that tournament. That information can be found within the OVR Juniors Tournament Packet which is published at https://www.ovr.org/juniors/tournament_packet/index.php.

For OVR tournament purposes, teams achieve a ranking based on results from previous OVR and USAV sanctioned events. At this time, the OVR does not have a way to list head to head results among the teams.

Seeding of a tournament does require some thought and effort. Tournament Directors are to use the weekly rankings to create pools for their tournaments. It is recommended that Tournament Directors wait until Wednesday to create the pools for their tournaments as all results are electrically updated Wednesday morning.

The creating of pools is accomplished using the most recently published team rankings. However problems can occur at the beginning of the season when few team results are available; if tournaments consist of different age groups and divisions; not having teams from the same club in the same pool; and out of region teams.

Regional and American Tournaments

For those tournaments consisting of different age groups within like divisions, nowhere does it say to seed one age group first and then the other age groups. Such tournaments require greater effort by the tournament director in creating the pools due to comparing the success of each team. For such tournaments, please follow these procedures using the “**OVR Champ. ranking**” column found at Juniors Team Seeding page at <https://www.ovr.org/juniors/seeding.php>.

For a Regional team playing in a higher Regional age level, multiple their current seeding average by .75 and then seed them by their new average.

For an American team playing in a higher American age level, multiple their current seeding average by .75 and then seed them by their new average.

For those tournaments consisting of different age groups within different divisions, please follow these procedures:

For an American team playing in the next Regional age level (i.e. 17A playing 18R; SpikeFest), multiple their current seeding average by .90 and then seed them by their new average.

“U” tournaments

For an American team playing in a tournament which also includes National teams (such as Elite or "and Under" Tournaments), multiply the American team's current seeding value by .90 and then seed them with their new value.

For a Regional team playing in a tournament which also includes National teams (such as "and Under" Tournaments), multiply the Regional team's current seeding value by .80 and then seed them with their new value.

For a Regional team playing in a tournament which only includes only American teams (such as "and Under" Tournaments), multiply the Regional team's current seeding value by .90 and then seed them with their new value.

It is important to know that seeding is essentially a guideline, and a team's seed does not always reflect the level of ability for a specific day. At the end of the day, teams have to prove that they are the best on the court

Helpful links:

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

Seeding System: https://www.ovr.org/juniors/seeding_system.php

5 Tournament

5.1 Banned Substances

Use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages is prohibited at USA Volleyball events. This includes gyms, locker rooms, and facilities.

5.2 Forms

Forms for hosting a tournament are in the *Juniors' Tournament Packet*, (www.ovr.org/juniors/tournament_packet/.)

Tournament directors should print copies of the *Release and Waiver of Liability* to have on hand for all tournaments. The *Release and Waiver of Liability/Consent Form* is used in the event that an individual needs to register right before your tournament and has not had the opportunity to register online in Webpoint. The player and his or her legal guardian, if the player is a minor, must sign this form before the player can participate in your tournament. This signed waiver and registration fee (\$62 for juniors, \$37 for chaperones, and \$62 for adult coaches) should be sent to Stephen J. Donahue, 5401 Rochelle Drive, Stow, OH 44224-5512. For each newly registered adults working with juniors, also include his or her complete *Consent and Waiver for Background Screening* and \$20 background screening fee, and for each coach, include his or her completed *Juniors' Coaches' Code of Ethics*.

5.3 Eligibility

All participating coaches, players, and teams must be registered and eligible for participation. Every adult and coach on the team bench must have Concussion and SafeSport certification and be IMPACT or USAV CAP (current or expired). Check the *TD's Info* section of your tournament information for the current membership status of teams, players, coaches and referees participating in your tournament. Prior to the tournament, contact the club directors or referees with incomplete membership or coaches lacking Concussion or SafeSport certification or IMPACT or USAV CAP (current or expired). Also check individual player and team designation to be sure individual player and teams are entered in the tournament by correct age group and classification.

Tournament hosts or tournament directors permitting teams with coaches or players with incomplete OVR membership or coaches without Concussion or SafeSport certification or IMPACT or USAV CAP (current or expired) to participate will lose their tournament bond. Tournament hosts or tournament directors permitting teams with an incorrect team classification to participate in a tournament will lose their tournament bond.

Parents or spectators who are not currently registered USAV members with a "Clear" USAV background screen, and who are not listed on a team's roster, may not participate in pre-match warm-up activities.

5.4 Official Volleyballs

Molten® volleyballs must be used for all OVR tournaments. Red-White Blue Molten® Super-Touch™ balls are to be used for girls' 13s'-18s' divisions. Molten® VB Lite™ balls are to be used for girls' 10s'-12s' divisions. Molten® Pro-Touch™ or Molten® Flistatec™ balls are to be used for boys' regular season tournaments by the discretion of the Tournament Director. The Molten® Flistatec™ will be used for Boys' WinterFest and the OVR Boys' Championships these and other volleyballs, as well as volleyball carts, are available at discount prices to OVR members. Molten® volleyballs can be drop-shipped to any address. Visit www.ovr.org/store/ for complete details, and contact Ron Wyzynski (wyzynski@ovr.org) to place an order or for pickup in the Kent, Ohio, area. Alternatively, contact Bob Price (price@ovr.org) or Bill Zehler (zehler@ovr.org) for pickup near Columbus and Dayton/Cincinnati, respectively.

5.5 Team Rosters

It is the responsibility of the club director to provide complete and correct rosters prior to the tournament or during the coaches' meeting. Rosters are available to tournament directors through the *TD's Info* pages linked from the *OVR-Kaepa® USA Juniors' Tournament Schedule*. If any roster information is missing or incomplete, the tournament host must contact the club director. In the absence of current online rosters, an up-to-date entry form must be submitted at the coaches' meeting, prior to the start of pool play. Entry forms should be available at each tournament site. All team entry information should include the following:

- club name/team name (e.g. Exemplar VBC – 14 Titans)
- 11-character team code (e.g. FJ4-EXEMP1-OV)
- team registration number (e.g. OV-FJ-1234)
- registration numbers for all participating players and coaches
- uniform numbers for all participating players

In addition, a written or pre-printed, accurate team roster must be available courtside for referees' use during the tournament.

5.6 Coaches' Meeting

There will be a loss of tournament bond if the coaches' meeting is not held and team rosters are not signed.

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, any member registrations must be completed, and team rosters must be corrected to reflect any player or coaching changes or other team entry information. During the coaches' meeting or prior to the start of pool play, each coach will verify his or her team's roster with a printed name and signature. During the coaches' meeting, the tournament director should review pool play, tournament formats and remind coaches of the OVR policy regarding electronic devices, including cell phones and music players, at the scorer's table or by the officiating team, as well as OVR protocol for support officials. Any changes or alternate formats should be explained at this time. Tournament directors will advise all coaches of the February 15 deadline for each boys' team and April 1 deadline for each girls' team to have an OVR-certified junior scorer and junior second referee as support officials. The head referee will discuss tournament ground rules and clarify any rule or procedure changes. Any questions coaches pose should be answered. Those attending the coaches' meeting should be reminded that all team members, coaches, spectators, and referees must conduct themselves in a professional, sporting, and ethical manner.

5.7 Late Arrivals

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

5.8 Awards

First-place team awards for coaches and players are required for tournaments of 8 or fewer teams. First- and second-place team awards for coaches and players are required for tournaments with 9 or more teams. There is no minimum or maximum cost for prizes. The recommended price range is \$3-5 per award and must be age-appropriate. Awards are required only for the Gold division. Awards are recommended for all division champions below Gold.

6 Pool Play and Tournament

6.1 Pool Play and Tournament Information Display

Pool play, tournament 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.

6.2 Warm-ups

Only registered USAV members with a “Clear” USAV background screen may be in the playing area to assist with warm-ups. Such individuals must also be listed on that team’s roster.

Prior to each team’s first match of the day, juniors boys’/girls’ mandatory warm-ups are to consist of 15 minutes (7 minutes shared, no hitting across net), 4 minutes serving team, 4 minutes receiving team. After each team’s first match, the mandatory warm-up time between all matches is will be 10 minutes, consisting of 2 minutes of shared ball handling on-court, 4 minutes full-court for the serving team, and 4 minutes full-court for the receiving team.

During each team’s full-court warm-up segment, the opposing team must be in their bench area and not interfere with the team using the court. However for purposes of risk management, the “off team” may help with retrieving balls for the team warming up, provided both teams’ coaches agree.

Teams that wish to practice serving during the warm-ups may ask to be informed when they have one minute (or more/less) remaining in their 4-minute period. Shared serving between the two teams is not permitted. This applies to all matches. The time between sets is 3 minutes. Teams may warm up with balls on their respective courts or free zone during the 3-minute set intervals. Spiking at the net is not permitted. Balls may not be used for warm-ups during time-outs.

6.3 Support Officials: Pool Play and Tournament

A coach must be at the scorer’s table if their team is acting as the support team. For pool play and tournament, teams are required to supply the following support officials for pool play and for the playoffs: one second referee, two line judges, one scorer, one assistant scorer/Libero tracker, and one scoreboard operator.

Support officials are to report to their court’s referee as follows: The R2 and Scorer should report to the referee on that court in time to attend the coin toss. If they are not present by the beginning of the first timed four-minute warm-up period, their team will be penalized one point (awarded to their opponent in the first set of their next scheduled match) for every minute that they are late. The rest of the support crew (line judges, scoreboard operator and libero tracker) must report to their court’s referee no later than the beginning of the second timed warm-up, or their team will be penalized one point per minute (awarded to their opponent in the first set of their next scheduled match) for every minute they are late. If no additional matches are to be played in that tournament, the tournament director shall file an incident report with the OVR commissioner and a \$50 fine shall be imposed.

For a work team that doesn't show up for the entire match, they forfeit their next match.

By February 15 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 these deadlines, coaches assume the responsibility as scorer and/or second referee if their teams do not have the OVR-certified second referee or scorer available at the tournament.

6.4 Support Officials: Playoffs

The lowest-seeded team 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 the same distance 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 Commissioner with an *Incident Report*. That team will be fined \$100.

6.5 Team Benches

The purpose of the roster is to identify the individuals who can participate in a match, including team members who may be on the bench. Once a match has started, the roster cannot be changed to add another coach, player, etc. The roster must be complete prior to the start of warmups.

Exception: A player from the same club may be added to a roster (beyond the parameters above) to prevent a team from forfeiture due to an injury/illness that results in a team having fewer than six players. Proper age/division requirements remain the same.

A club director is permitted to sit on the bench for any of his/her teams. It is not necessary that their name be on the roster, but ideally, it would be listed there. The club director is subject to conduct sanctions by the referees, if appropriate. The club director is not a coach and has no right to intervene in the match or to interact with the officiating crew. They also do not have coaching privileges, and have no right to leave the team bench to stand to give instructions to players on the court, even if no assistant coaching is currently standing for this purpose. The club director may participate in time-outs.

As for other coaches from other teams in that club, they are NOT permitted to join the bench during a match in progress.

6.6 Adjacent Courts

When adjacent courts are being used but one of the courts is not currently scheduled for play (either a break during the day or after play has finished at the end of the day), spectators and other teams may NOT move onto the empty adjacent court to watch the match(es).

Many facility have rules regarding the use of chairs on hardwood floors or Sport Courts, and we can't allow spectators to bring their folding chairs, food or drinks onto these surfaces and risk damaging the floor.

An adjacent court that has no further matches scheduled for the rest of the DAY is a playable area for the teams involved in subsequent matches. If an adjacent court becomes vacant while a nearby match is in progress, the adjacent court will remain a non-playing area for the duration of that match. This assumes there is no break/gap between Sport Courts if playing on that kind of surface. And even if the adjacent court is NOT playable because of the gap/break between the two courts, spectators still cannot be there.

6.7 Unforeseen Circumstances for Tournaments in Progress

If a power outage occurs prior to or during pool play/tournament, it is suggested that the Tournament Director wait one hour before making a decision to cancel an event. If sufficient lighting exists for pool play/tournament to safely continue, then the event shall proceed.

If pool play/tournament needs to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances such as weather or building/equipment-related concerns, the tournament host will determine the number of matches played by each team. Teams that played a minimum of four matches will not receive a refund. Teams that played less than four matches will receive a refund of their entry fee (minus any officiating expenses), pro-rated by number of matches played. The tournament director will pay each official based on number of matches officiated.

6.8 Protest Committee and Handling Protests

Should a protest occur during a local OVR-sanctioned tournament, the following procedure should be applied.

Only valid protests based upon rule 5.1.2.1 of the *USAV Domestic Competition Regulations* (DCR) will be accepted.

The first referee must stop the match and go to the scorer's table to consult the DCR. If it is determined that the referee's decision was in error, the correct ruling will be implemented. In some cases, this may result in a replay.

If the protest cannot be resolved by consulting the DCR, the head referee for the tournament should be consulted, and the tournament protest committee convened. (The committee shall consist of the head referee, tournament director and a designated referee or coach not involved in the match.)

If the protest still cannot be resolved by the protest committee, the head referee and/or responsible referee should contact Brian Hemelgarn, OVR Referees' Chair, at 419-410-2291.

If the OVR Referees' Chair cannot be reached, and the protest cannot be resolved, the match shall resume from the point of protest with the first referee's original decision. At the conclusion of the match, copies of all match score sheets, Libero tracking sheet and line-up sheets (including rosters) must be submitted to the OVR Referees' Chair along with a detailed description of the protest. The complete name of the team, protesting captain and/or coach must be included along with the name of the opposing coach/team.

The associated referees and coaches will be notified of the outcome. If the protesting team subsequently wins the set in which the protest was lodged, the protest will be considered null and void. If the protesting team subsequently loses the set in which the protest was lodged but wins the match, the protest will be considered null and void. In any case, a replay of the protested set will not take place after the conclusion of the tournament. The OVR Girls' or Boys' Program Director will make any determinations with regard to match or tournament results and the related seeding points.

Incident Reports, https://www.ovr.org/forms/OVR_Incident_Report.pdf, should be mailed to the OVR Commissioner (address on form). Any concerns regarding officials should be reported to Brian Hemelgarn (hemelgarn@ovr.org), OVR Referees' Chair, and to Bob Price (price@ovr.org), OVR Commissioner and President.

Mail *Injury or Property Damage Report*, https://www.ovr.org/forms/Injury_Damage_Report.pdf, to the address on the form

6.9 Tournament Tie-Breaking Procedure

Two teams from same pool having the same match record at the conclusion of pool play: head-to-head match results will be used to break the tie.

Two teams from different pools having the same match record at conclusion of pool play (11- and 12-team formats; best third place and/or second-best third place): Set percentage is the first criteria for breaking ties. If any teams are still tied, then points will be the second criteria used to break the tie. If any teams are still tied after set percentage and points, then a coin toss will be used to break the tie.

Three teams from the same pool having the same match record at the conclusion of pool play: Head-to-head results cannot be used at any time to break ties. Set percentage is the first criteria for breaking ties. If any teams are still tied, then points will be the second criteria used to break the tie. If any teams are still tied after set percentage and points, then a coin toss will be used to break the tie.

Three teams from different pools having the same match record at conclusion of pool play (11- and 12-team formats; best third place and/or second-best third place): Set percentage is the first criteria for breaking ties. If any teams are still tied, then points will be the second criteria used to break the tie. If any teams are still tied after set percentage and points, then a coin toss will be used to break the tie.

Coin toss procedures for breaking ties involving two teams: The tournament director will have a meeting with one coach from each team. The tournament director will give a quarter (any same coin can be used) to each coach. The tournament director will call “heads” or “tails”. The coaches will flip the coins into the air at same time and let them fall to the ground. The coach with the coin with the pre-determined “heads” or “tails” will have the higher finish. If both coins land with the pre-determined “heads” or “tails”, then the coaches will toss their coins again until the tie is broken.

Coin toss procedures for breaking ties involving three teams: The tournament director will have a meeting with one coach from each team. The tournament director will give a quarter (any same coin can be used) to each coach. The coaches will flip the coins into the air at same time and let them fall to the ground. The coach with the single “heads” or “tails” will have the highest finish. For the remaining places, the tournament director will call “heads” or “tails”. The coaches will flip the coins into the air and let them fall to the ground. The coach with the coin with the pre-determined “heads” or “tails” will have the higher finish. If both coins land with the pre-determined “heads” or “tails”, then the coaches will toss their coins again until the tie is broken.

7 Post-Tournament

Failure to do the following will result in loss of the tournament bond and any remaining sanctioned tournaments will be unsanctioned. Retain copies of all tournament results until the end of the OVR Championships.

7.1 Post-Tournament Procedures

Post-tournament procedures are as follows:

Monday, after the tournament, post the tournament results, www.ovr.org/juniors/results.php.

Tuesday, after the tournament, mail, e-mail or fax a *Juniors Tournament Report*, Official contracts, verified team rosters, pool play and play-off brackets to the OVR Juniors’ Tournament Director (Tom Kohl, 955 East Snodgrass Road, Piqua, OH 45356, kohl@ovr.org, 937-615-9377).

A tournament site found to be unsafe or not meeting minimum standards after a completed tournament will forfeit the tournament bond and will not be permitted to host further OVR tournaments until all conditions are corrected.

7.2 Return of Tournament Bonds

By June 15, tournament bonds will be returned by U.S. mail to those tournament directors who included a stamped, self-addressed envelope with their *Applications for Sanction*. All other tournament bonds will be shredded.

8 Miscellaneous

8.1 Food and Coolers

Tournament hosts determine whether outside food and drink is permitted or not permitted inside a tournament site. Tournament hosts that provide concessions should offer food choices that are fresh and healthy. Tournament hosts are not responsible for providing meals to referees, but may do so at their discretion. Tournament hosts permitting outside food must abide by the following OVR rules:

Coolers are prohibited in and outside facilities hosting OVR-sanctioned events.

Setting up tables and/or cooking by teams or their support staff, fans, coaches, or parents are prohibited at OVR-sanctioned events. Tournament directors and site managers do not have the discretion to grant permission to the above rules. If a club does not comply amicably with a tournament director's or site director's request, an *Incident Report* will be sent to Bob Price, OVR Commissioner, resulting in up to a \$250 fine and a team/club suspension.

The use of food and drinks ON the scorer's table is not permitted. We realize that sometimes breaks are short and the athletes need time to eat something and to stay hydrated. With the Tournament Director's permission, the work crew can have food/drinks at the table while working, but their drinks need to stay on the floor (capped) and food needs to be on the player's lap.

8.2 Vandalism

The Ohio Valley Region promotes a high standard of conduct among its athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators. This includes respect for the playing facilities throughout the OVR. Players, coaches, and spectators are expected to support the participants and officials in a positive manner, and adhere to all facility regulations. Any coach, player, or spectator that demonstrates a continued disregard for facility usage rules at an event will result in removal from the competition site. Any acts of vandalism will result in an *Incident Report* 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 have not detained the individuals. This can include the removal of an entire team from the tournament. Teams that fail to follow facility guidelines and rules as set forth by the site and tournament director will be sanctioned accordingly. A pattern of facility abuse will result in \$250 fine/sanction to the associated club or team.

8.3 Sportsmanship/Spectator Behavior

Tournament directors are expected to support officials, coaches, players, and other tournament personnel during an event. The Ohio Valley Region promotes a high standard of sporting conduct ("sportsmanship") among its athletes, coaches, referees, and spectators. Taunting, offensive cheers or gestures, profanity, racial or sexist comments, or other intimidating words or actions directed at officials, athletes, coaches, or team representatives will not be tolerated. Any unsporting actions, including but not limited to those mentioned above, will result in an *Incident Report* being filed with the OVR and a warning being issued by the OVR Commissioner. Subsequent unsporting behavior by the same individual or team at the same event will result in removal from the competition site. A pattern of unsporting behavior will result in \$250 fine/sanction to the associated club or team.

8.4 Video Recording, Photography, and Other Electronic Devices

The use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS, Drones) indoors is not permitted during OVR events.

Flash photography is prohibited during play.

Use of video recorders and cameras is limited to the team with which the person using the device is directly associated. Local Tournament hosts decide whether they will allow a team to mount a GoPro/NetCam on the net post. If a GoPro/NetCam/video camera will be attached to the net post, it must be firmly secured so that there is no risk it will fall off during the match. The video device cannot obstruct or impeded the work of the referees. A video device placed near the first referee may not obstruct the referee's view or prevent the referee from signaling. ONLY the two competing teams may use a video device on the net. There can be no delay during the match for a coach or other team personnel to adjust the camera, etc. Once it is mounted, it stays there for the duration of the match. The coach/team may NOT review or access during the match at any time-including time-outs or the interval between sets. The video device cannot transmit video to any other source during the match. The owner of the video device takes FULL RESPONSIBILITY for the equipment in the case of damage, etc. If a video device is damaged during the match or knocked off the net post, the team is at risk for a delay sanction if the situation interrupts the continuation of the match.

Possession of phones, musical devices, and other electronic devices (excluding medical devices) is strictly prohibited by support officials. This includes coaches at the scorer's table. Referees have been instructed to offer a reminder ("warning") the first time a work team uses electronic devices. For any additional occurrence the support team shall be penalized ten points in the first set of their next match, awarded to their opponent. This is to be administered by the tournament director. If no additional matches are to be played in that tournament, the tournament director shall file an incident report with the OVR commissioner and a \$50 fine shall be imposed.

8.5 Violations

Any regular-season tournament not in compliance with USAV and OVR rules and procedures stated within this document will cause a loss of tournament bond and any remaining sanctioned tournaments will be unsanctioned.

- **First Violation:** *Incident Report* filed and tournament bond will be sent to the OVR Commissioner to be cashed. Any remaining tournaments sponsored by that tournament host or organization will be unsanctioned until a \$400 tournament bond is received by the OVR Juniors' Tournament Director. In addition, that tournament host must describe, in writing, the measures that will be taken to assure that such mistakes will not be repeated.
- **Second Violation:** *Incident Report* filed and tournament bond will be sent to the OVR Commissioner to be cashed. Any remaining tournaments sponsored by that tournament director or organization will be unsanctioned for the remainder of the current season. Tournament hosts or organizations that have two violations within one season will not be granted tournament sanctions for the following season. Tournament hosts or organizations that show a habit of being late in their responsibilities will not be granted tournament sanctions for the following season.

A tournament director may appeal to Bob Price, OVR Commissioner (614-882-2468, price@ovr.org). A tournament director may appeal to Bob Price, OVR Commissioner (614-882-2468, price@ovr.org).