

Executive Director's Commentary



"I'd like for you, the members, to assist us in making the region even better."

Dear Members, The OVR during the 2003 season increased our individual registration total almost 1000 members to 13,655 as of this writing. A special congratulations goes to Kaitlin Zehler, who became our 10,000th female junior member this season. The region final team total for adults and juniors was 1324. Our professional referees numbered 326. The region (thanks to Nick Nystrom) started online registration in 2003. The total use of this program was 72.5%. The OVR goal is 90% for next year. Our website, partly due to the online usage in all aspects of our business, will exceed 4 million hits this season, an increase of 99.9% from 2002.

The OVR Adult Championships added a new twist at the Columbus Convention Center in April of 2003. The OVR-Molten® National Bid Qualifier was also taking place in the adjacent hall: together, our tournaments spanned 50 Sport Courts. We hope in the future to continue this format as space and courts permit. The OVR-Kaepa/Molten Junior Championships again was our showcase event, offering 712 juniors' teams an opportunity to participate. This event took place over 5½ days at the convention center, several schools, and the Milano Volleyball Center.

The overall success of these events and the operation of the OVR are direct results of the outstanding efforts of the board of directors, officers, staff, and others who pitched in whenever needed. It's no small task to do what we do to serve our vast membership. What

we've accomplished in the OVR – especially the special events – just doesn't happen in the other 38 regions. I'd like for you, the members, to assist us in making the region even better. First, register online. This gives you immediate registration numbers for your teams and individuals. The second request is for team representatives, club directors, and coaches to register for events before the deadline to avoid late-entry waiting lists. This group has an obligation to players, coaches, and parents, keeping everyone informed and in the loop. That responsibility carries over to travel and hotels, including cancellations.

In August the OVR staff will meet to plan for next season, finalizing as many dates as possible for special events and regular region activities to present to you in a timely manner. As soon as the boys' registration is completed and the teams have successfully entered the national event I'll clean out my home office and get ready to do it again in 2004... and with your assistance, even better! If you need to contact the region office during the summer months, the office toll-free number (888-873-9478), my region e-mail (wyzynski@ovr.org), and my fax (330-673-2514) and always on and checked daily. I guess I'm never really away from the business and our members.

Sincerely,
 Ronald J. Wyzynski
 Executive Director / CEO
 Ohio Valley Region, Inc.
 USA Volleyball

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