

The Juniors' Page

Bill Zehler, Juniors' Program Director



We did it again!

712 teams competed in the Kaepa OVR Junior Championships over three weekends. Thanks to a great staff, we were able to offer a quality event to all participants. It is to the point that we expect an outstanding event. This year's finish times broke records daily thanks to the

hard work of our officiating and championship staffs. We are already working on improvements for next season!

I would like to thank Juniors' Tournament Director Tom Kohl, Webmaster Nick Nystrom, and Junior Officials' Development Director Al Herbert for all of their efforts the past season. The quality of events hosted in the Ohio Valley Region was outstanding. Tournaments throughout the region were well run. All of us can be proud of the way most teams

in the OVR accept their duties as support officiating crews.

We are continuing our efforts to develop a quality High Performance program. Tryouts were held for Team OVR in the Youth and High Performance age groups. Our Youth team will be practicing at the University of Findlay, and the High Performance group will be at Wittenberg University. The teams will compete in Utah in July.

Two administrative positions will be available for the 2004 season. The position of Juniors' Tournament Results Coordinator is being vacated by Yoon Ha. John Buck is stepping down as Director of our National Bid Events and Junior Championships Compliance. Look for information on both positions later.

The number of teams and the quality of play increase each year in the OVR. This is due to the dedication of the club directors, coaches, officials, officers, and staff of the OVR. All of you should be commended! Let's make it even better next season!

Nominations Needed for OVR Outstanding Service Awards

Have you had the privilege of knowing an exemplary official, coach, club director, player, or volleyball proponent? Nominate him or her for one of the annual OVR Outstanding Service Awards, to be presented at the board meeting on August 8-10 at Mohican State Park. The awards include the *Glenn Purdy Meritorious Service Award*, the *OVR Award of Excellence*, and the *OVR Commissioner's Award*. Brian Hemelgarn, Glenn Purdy, and Elaine Viney serve on the OVR 2003 Awards Committee.

The *Glenn Purdy Meritorious Service Award* recognizes outstanding and exemplary contributions in volleyball officiating and/or scorekeeping. The *OVR Award of Excellence* recognizes excellence in volleyball coaching, program directing, or tournament directing. The *OVR Commissioner's*

Award recognizes outstanding and exemplary contributions and commitment in volleyball officiating, scorekeeping, playing, or administration.

Complete criteria for each of the awards and a convenient nomination form are available at www.ovr.org/awards/. Or, if you'd rather make your nomination(s) by e-mail, send the individual's name, position (official, player, coach, etc.), award for which you're nominating him or her, your reasons for doing so, and your contact information (for possible follow-up) to Brian Hemelgarn, Elections Committee Chair, at hemelgarn@ovr.org. The nomination deadline is August 1. Recipients will be announced on the OVR website and in the November newsletter.