



Junior Officials' Development Program

Alan Herbert, Junior Officials' Development Director

This is my last newsletter article as the JODD for the Region. I have filled the last three years of a four-year term. This August, the Board of Directors will appoint a new JODD. I wish that

individual as much luck and support as I have received.

First, I would like to thank the many clinicians who took time on weekends and evenings to present sessions for individual clubs and teams. It is not easy to explain scorekeeping to a hundred players of various ages while they are spread across a gym floor. These clinicians have been a vital part of the training process. I trust they will continue to offer their services next year.

I would also like to thank all of the officials that have worked hard to rate and certify thousands of junior officials each year. It is a difficult and time-consuming task. At tournaments there is very little time between matches, and I asked the officials to complete rating forms and debrief players during that time. I think that it has been time well

spent. This year alone, 10,000 certification cards were distributed to officials for them to carry with them to tournaments.

As a club director or coach, if you know of any players who have completed the certification rating for a card and did not receive a card, please send me an email note at jodd@ovr.org. Please include the player's names and certified function(s) (scorekeeper and/or second referee) as well as a return mailing address for the card. I will sign a card and mail it.

This is also true for any players who received the two additional ratings required for the OVR Junior Official patch. Send me their names and mailing addresses, and I will put a patch in the mail to them.

I feel that the junior officiating has improved over the years. It is not perfect and will continue to improve. But when you look at the number of new players each year that need to be trained, I think the process is working. I look forward to the new ideas that the next JODD will bring to the program.

Again, my thanks to everyone who has helped to support and improve the training of junior officials within the Ohio Valley Region.

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OVR Championships 2003

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held at Capital University (Columbus), the 10s and 12s divisions of the Girls' Championships were held at Columbus-area schools.

Special thanks to Ron Wyzynski, Bob Price, Linda Logan (Columbus Sports Commission), Bill Zehler, Terry Miller, Emi Vishoot, Brian Hemelgarn, Al Herbert, Michelle Fox, Keith Burke, Art Faura, Hank Trimble, Scott Garver, and countless others who work before, during, and

after these events to pull them off. They dedicate themselves because providing the best in volleyball to OVR members is worth the effort, and the Ohio Valley Region is, we feel, the best in the nation.

This issue of *OVR The Block* commemorates the teams that competed in this year's Championships — it was a great season. Enjoy, and we hope to see you in 2004.