

## Executive Director's Commentary



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*Dear Members,* The cold days of January and February are here, and that means that OVR volleyball is in full go. A special thanks to all team representatives, junior directors, and individuals who used the OVR online registration system. The region goal was 90% by 2005, and I'm sure we'll reach that total this season.

Since the adults always start their competition first, the region needs to address the following issues. Men's teams... *shorts!* The rulebook states "5.1.2 Uniforms must be similar, clean and of the same color" (except the Libero rule). So far this isn't the case, and it needs to be addressed by the teams. National competition requires *identical* uniforms... we might need to go back to the old way if the shorts keep getting worse. Next: jewelry is legal only in a few rare cases, and no, you may not tape over it. Everything you need to know is in the USAV rulebook. All tournaments need to start on time. This usually isn't a problem with juniors since paid officials are on duty all day. This includes the officiating team.

Since adults officiate pool play, it has been brought to our attention and suggested that a paid official might solve the officiating concerns during the pool play matches. If this is what the adults teams would like, then a higher entry fee would be required (as for the juniors). The teams would still have to provide a support crew for every match. The other option is that every team is required to have at least two qualified player referees on

each team. A commitment and attendance at a meeting would be the result. It's up to you, whatever the outcome.

Our juniors' tournaments always have a large following. Tournament directors, please discuss taking care of the facility at your meetings prior to competition. This usually solves most issues with trash being left behind.

As the season moves ahead, please use the website for information and registration of all region-sponsored events. I'm sure one or two individuals on every team can lend assistance to the others who may not have access at home or work. At this point in time the region has registered more than 11,500 individuals, and I'm sure that the online system had much to do with that early high total. I sincerely hope that your OVR volleyball experience during the 2004 season is enjoyable as a player, director, coach, or official. Please contact the region office for assistance. If I can't answer your question I'll put you in touch with someone on the OVR staff who can.

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

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