

OVR The Block

The Official Newsletter of the Ohio Valley Region of USA Volleyball

Volume 22 Number 1,2 → March 9, 2005

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OVR Poised for Spectacular 2005 Season

The Ohio Valley Region is on track to break last season's records for registration, Championships tournaments, and Bid qualifiers.

The OVR directors and officers, as part of their constant effort to improve the quality of play and to expand playing opportunities in the Ohio Valley Region, effected a number of changes for the 2004-2005 season. A few of the most important include:

- grade-level Club play within the OVR
- adults' teams must provide a certified official for pool play
- addition of two new officials' clinics, along with new clinic formats
- identical uniforms for adults' teams
- Women's Open players can now play down to A
- refinement of the Junior Officials' Development Program
- background screening
- use of FIVB rules, as presented by USAV

Some changes were made in direct response to members' requests and suggestions; others were made proactively to promote and sustain quality volleyball. In addition, consistent with USA volleyball, we will use FIVB rules, as presented by USAV. Background screening (www.ovr.org/register/background_screening.php) will be required for all individuals who will interact with juniors in sanctioned activities, including professional officials.

These new rules and policies, as well as others, are detailed throughout this issue of OVR The Block and on the OVR website. Please take some time to read the columns by Ron Wyzynski, Bob Price, Bill Zehler, Brian Hemelgarn, Tom Kohl, Nick Nystrom, Michelle Fox, and other contributors, and watch the OVR website for additional news. And most importantly, enjoy the best season yet in the Ohio Valley Region!

OVR Elections 2005

Each year the OVR elects 5 candidates to the board of directors to serve a term of three years, non-compensatory. Candidates must be OVR members and acquire 25 signatures of currently registered adult members. In addition, aspiring board members should submit a profile stating the reasons they want to serve on the board of directors, how they feel they can help the region, and their relevant backgrounds. The submission deadline is March 31, 2005. Board terms ending on May 31, 2005 include those of Bob Dickenson, Art Faura, Terry Miller, Glenn Purdy, and Bill Zehler.

Those wishing to run for election for the OVR board of directors should submit all candidate materials to Elaine Viney, 2005 OVR Elections Chairperson (viney@ovr.org; Elaine Viney, 857 Creighton Ave., Dayton, OH 45410-2920). The petitions and profile are available on the OVR website (www.ovr.org/elections/).

To assist voters in their selections, background information for all candidates will be published at www.ovr.org/elections/, posted on the bulletin board at the Convention Center at OVR Championship tournaments, and made available at the satellite sites. Online profiles will on April 1 or soon thereafter.

Voting will held at the 2005 Ohio Valley Regional Volleyball Championships on April 16-17 and at the Ohio Valley Region, Inc.-Kaepa® USA 2005 Girls' Volleyball Championships on May 7, 14-15, and 20-22. For those adult members unable to be present at our Championships, a mail-in ballot will be available. Mail-in ballots must be postmarked by May 23, 2005.

Officer terms ending on August 31, 2005 include Commissioner, Men's Tournament Director, Regional Scorekeepers' Chair, and Juniors' Tournament Director. These positions are elected by the board of directors.

Vote

continued on page 8 →

Executive Director's Commentary

Ron Wyzynski, Executive Director & CEO

Dear members,

I'd like to dedicate the first part of my article to Bob Dickenson, an OVR board member who recently passed away on November 27th after a long illness. Bob was a player, a coach, and an official in the OVR for many seasons. As an elected board member, he attended the meetings even during his illness. He performed many duties behind the scenes during this time. Bob's thoughts were always of doing the things necessary for the membership. I'm sure he'll be missed by his many close friends.



Working Together for 2005

Now that the start of the season is fast approaching, a few reminders... Paperwork... Team Representatives, Juniors' Directors, Officials, and any other adults involved in directing or coaching a team/club must real-

ize that certain paperwork must be turned in to the region. An example would be background screening release forms, coaches' code of ethics and waivers for juniors' directors, coaches, officials, and junior players. Adult players should all sign a waiver before participating. You can make a copy from the website. Juniors' coaches should have the medical release information with them, which they can get from their director for both practice and tournaments. If we all work together and get this done before the start of the season, early January for adults and late January for juniors, we can put this task behind us. As good as the website is, it can't do the work that you need to do, so please do your part.

The region office issues individual and group rulebooks as soon as registrations appear on my screen. Every adult player, coach, official, and director should receive a book by mail unless other arrangements have been made. Last season, many coaches told me they never received a book... that will not be the case this season.

Clinics and Courses

On November 28th, the first 2 of 10 officials' clinics took place. Brian Hemelgarn informed me that 87 attended the clinic in Toledo, about half of whom were new individuals. On December 4th in Westerville, approximately 135 individuals signed up for the new officials' clinic on Saturday. We welcome these individuals to the OVR. Also on this same day, the new juniors' club directors participated in ASEP training, hosted by Bill Zehler, and over 100 juniors' coaches participated in IMPACT instruction, taught by Don Burroughs.

It all comes down to another excellent beginning for the OVR. As with any large organization, we don't work for each other, we work with each other. Have a successful season whatever your volleyball related interest.

Ron Wyzynski
Executive Director & CEO
Ohio Valley Region, Inc.

Publisher and Editor
Nick Nystrom
nystrom@ovr.org

OVR The Block is published by the Ohio Valley Region, Inc., 551 Johnson Road, Kent, OH 44240. Publication dates are November, January, June, and September, with possible adjustments to provide optimal coverage of Region information and events. © 2004 Ohio Valley Region, Inc. You may print copies of OVR The Block for use by yourself or by others, but text and/or images may not be reused without permission. The primary distribution channel for all OVR publications is the OVR web site, www.ovr.org. Advertising space is available in OVR The Block and on the OVR web site.

The Juniors' Page

Bill Zehler, OVR Juniors' Program Director

WELCOME TO THE OHIO VALLEY REGION JUNIORS' PAGES.

Juniors' volleyball programs are going strong across the region. Over 900 tournaments are already scheduled. The OVR Power Tournaments and Power Challenge events are filling fast. Clubs are busy filling their teams' tournament schedules.

Coaches' Certifications

Coaches are reminded that they must be IMPACT or CAP accredited to coach for a USA volleyball program in the OVR. Every coach must have one of these certifications. Completed *Juniors' Coaches' Code of Ethics* forms must be submitted by every club for each of its coaches. Each coach must have a background check completed through SSCI, the screening agency contracted by USA volleyball. All clubs must be in compliance with this regulation.

OVR-Kaepa® USA Girls' Volleyball Championships

We will begin accepting registrations for the *Ohio Valley Region, Inc.-Kaepa® USA 2005 Girls' Volleyball Championships* on February 1, 2005. The deadline for entry will be April 1, 2005. Clubs will enter knowing that there will be a financial penalty for withdrawing from the event. Teams entered before the deadline, with checks submitted in a timely manner, will be accepted based on their regional ranking. Teams that enter after the deadline will be accepted only if there are openings. Remember that all registration is done online, unlike local events!

Our Girls' Championships will again be held over 3 weekends this season. We will be using schools in and around Columbus, Ohio on Saturday, May 7, for the 10-and-under and 12-and-under divisions.

The Greater Columbus Convention Center will be the site for the next two weekends (see the Juniors' Tournament Schedule). We will use 40 Sport Courts each weekend at the convention center.

Once again, teams entering this event, then withdrawing, will receive a partial refund (\$25 penalty) if they are replaced up to two weeks before their event. There is no refund if a team withdraws from the tournament within two weeks of its scheduled event. We will use seeding points accrued and reported up to the posting of the pools. We will try to accept every team that registers for this event. We reserve the right to move teams to the Open or Club divisions, or up in age group for this event. The skill level of our top Club teams and our lower Open divisions are very comparable.



Coed 10-and-Under Division

One new concept we are trying to develop this season is to permit boys to participate in our 10-and-under division. Boys may participate on girls' teams or form their own team and play in 10-and-under events (the registration fee for 10-and-under is \$50/member). We encourage all of our clubs to start 10s' teams, regardless of the gender. Permitting boys to be a member of these teams can only increase the number of teams in the division, and it helps start boys' volleyball teams!

Have a great season!

Club Directors: Register for the OVR Girls' Championships and/or Bid tournament today. Simply sign in to the OVR website, then go to your club's page (www.ovr.org/dir/club.php).

Juniors' Tournaments 2005

Tom Kohl, OVR Jrs' Tournament Director & Boys' Program Director



THE 2005 VERSION OF THE PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR JUNIORS' REGULAR-SEASON TOURNAMENTS applies to both girls' and boys' tournaments. Many changes were made to this document to update current rules and to clarify minor abuses that were reported last year. In addition, the formats for the 10-team and 14-team pool play were updated.

Guidance for Club Directors

With the cooperation of many people, the 2005 *Procedures and Rules for OVR Juniors' Club Directors* is now available. This document was a request from the Club Directors' Forum held in December, 2003.

Priorities for 2005

I have six concerns for this up-coming season:

1. Ensure quality of tournament facilities and play.
2. Prompt and thorough online reporting of tournament results.
3. *Power Challenge* and *Bid Qualifier* organization.
4. Expand support documents for boys' volleyball.
5. Greater use of the OVR website by club directors to update their teams' information.
6. Develop increased interest and participation in boys' volleyball.

Application for Sanction

Thank you to those tournament directors that have completed the online process for their Applications for Sanctions for the 2004-2005 season. As of March 13, 2005, we have 996 sanctioned tournaments by 106 different tournament directors. If you'd still like to run one or more tournaments, fill out the online Application for Sanction at www.ovr.org/juniors/sanction/ as soon as you know your plans.

Please be advised that all tournament directors must be members of USA volleyball. Online registra-

tion can be completed at www.ovr.org/register/. Contact Ron Wyzynski (1-888-873-9478, wyzynski@ovr.org) or Nick Nystrom (nystrom@ovr.org) for registration information. Any tournament director not having complete the registration process for the 2004-2005 season and having a completed background check will not have their tournament listed on the OVR website. The full *OVR-Kaepa® USA 2005 Juniors' Tournament Schedule* will be published at www.ovr.org/juniors/tournaments.php at 8AM on December 19.

As I sanction tournaments, I will e-mail copies of the *Procedures and Rules for Juniors' Regular-Season Tournaments* and the *Checklist of Juniors' Tournament Procedures*. Additional forms you need to conduct your tournament can be found in the *Juniors' Tournament Packet* (www.ovr.org/juniors/tournament_packet/).

It is important for all parties involved in an OVR-sanctioned tournament—tournament directors, officials, and coaches—be informed of tournament procedures and rules to ensure consistency of play and reporting of results. Should you have any suggestions, please e-mail me at kohl@ovr.org.

Power Challenge, Boy's Regionals, and Bids

Currently, my emphasis is on the Power Challenge Tournaments, Boys' Regionals and preparing for the Bid Tournaments. The response to the Power Challenge tournaments has again been overwhelming. Teams participating in the six Power Challenge tournaments have increased from 115 teams to 130 teams this year. Many thanks to Art Faura and Brian Hemelgarn for their help in setting up these tournaments.

26 teams, an increase of 6 teams over last year, participated in the *OVR Boys' Regional Volleyball Championships* on March 5-6. Details and results are printed on page 7, and photos will be printed in a subsequent issue of OVR The Block. Thanks to Mark Bula and Steve Brewer for their help.

Registration for the *Ohio Valley Region-Molten® 2005 National Bid Qualifier* was open from February 1-28. Please be sure to follow through with entry feed and JOVC information and registration. Read and follow the JOVC instructions carefully. Continue to check www.usavolleyball.org/Juniors/ for updates. The *USA Junior Olympic Girls' Invitational*

continued on page 7 →

2005 OHIO STATE MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Home Schedule

Jan. 9	Sun.	ST. FRANCIS	3 p.m.
Jan. 14	Fri.	JUNIATA	7 p.m.
Jan. 16	Sun.	SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE	7 p.m.
Jan. 17	Mon.	SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE	7 p.m.
Jan. 21	Fri.	RUTGERS	7 p.m.
Feb. 11	Fri.	BALL STATE	7 p.m.
Feb. 13	Sun.	QUINCY	3 p.m.
March 2	Wed.	CLARKE	7 p.m.
March 4	Fri.	IPFW	7 p.m.
March 13	Sun.	MERCYHURST	3 p.m.
April 3	Sun.	PENN STATE	2 p.m.
April 8	Fri.	LEWIS	7 p.m.
April 9	Sat.	LOYOLA	7 p.m.
April 15	Fri.	FINDLAY	7 p.m.

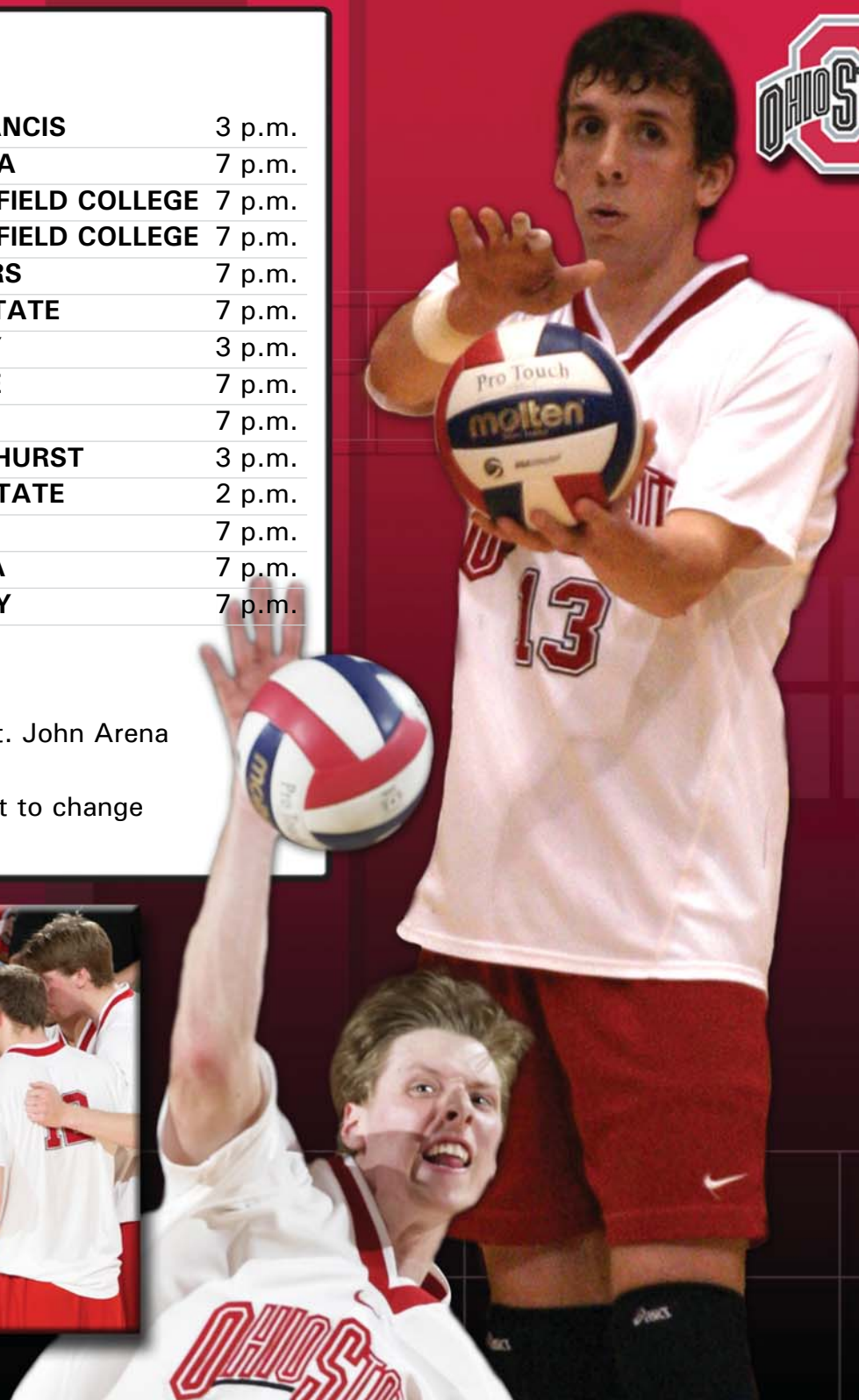
ADMISSION IS FREE

Home matches played in St. John Arena

All times EST

Dates and times are subject to change

ohiostatebuckeyes.com



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**For up-to-the minute booking information,
see the Hotels section of the OVR website:**

www.ovr.org/hotels/

- ✓ **Junior Championships**
- ✓ **National Bid Qualifier**
- ✓ **Regionals**
- ✓ **Boys' Championships**
- ✓ **Power Challenge**
- ✓ **Regular tournaments**
- ✓ **Courses and Clinics**
- ✓ **Meetings**

The following 12 properties are conveniently located for a multitude of tournaments, clinics, courses, and meetings in and near Columbus. Links to those within approximately 30 minutes of OVR events appear throughout tournament and other schedules on the Ohio Valley Region's website, www.ovr.org. The links below provide additional information on each of the Columbus Marriott Market Hotel properties, including directions, distances, and maps to nearby event sites.

The Columbus, A Renaissance Hotel

50 North 3rd Street · Columbus, OH 43215
www.ovr.org/hotels/TheColumbus.php

Courtyard Columbus Dublin

5175 Post Road · Dublin, OH 43017
www.ovr.org/hotels/CourtyardColumbusDublin.php

Residence Inn Columbus Dublin

435 Metro Place South · Dublin, OH 43017
www.ovr.org/hotels/ResidenceInnColumbusDublin.php

Courtyard Columbus Worthington

7411 Vantage Road · Columbus, OH 43235
www.ovr.org/hotels/CourtyardColumbusWorthington.php

Residence Inn Columbus Worthington

7300 Huntington Park Drive · Columbus, OH 43235
www.ovr.org/hotels/ResidenceInnColumbusWorthington.php

TownePlace Suites Columbus Worthington

7272 Huntington Park Drive · Columbus, OH 43235
www.ovr.org/hotels/TownePlaceSuitesColumbusWorthington.php

SpringHill Suites Columbus Airport Gahanna

665 Taylor Road · Gahanna, OH 43230
www.ovr.org/hotels/SpringHillSuitesGahanna.php

TownePlace Suites Columbus Airport Gahanna

695 Taylor Road · Columbus, OH 43230
www.ovr.org/hotels/TownePlaceSuitesGahanna.php

Courtyard Columbus Airport

2901 Airport Drive · Columbus, OH 43219
www.ovr.org/hotels/CourtyardColumbusAirport.php

Courtyard Columbus Downtown

35 West Spring Street · Columbus, OH 43215
www.ovr.org/hotels/CourtyardColumbusDowntown.php

Fairfield Inn & Suites Columbus OSU

3031 Olentangy River Road · Columbus, OH 43202
www.ovr.org/hotels/FairfieldInnSuitesColumbusOSU.php

Residence Inn Columbus North at the Continent

6191 Zumstein Drive · Columbus, OH 43229
www.ovr.org/hotels/ResidenceInnColumbusNorth.php

Ohio Valley Region Boys' Volleyball Championships

March 5-6, 2005

26 teams, an increase of 6 teams over last year, participated in the *OVR Boys' Regional Volleyball Championships* on March 5-6. 16s (8 teams) competed on March 5 at The Hoop in Toledo, and 17s (5 teams) and 18s (13 teams) competed on March 6

at Chagrin Falls Middle School and Hiram College, respectively. Photos, which are still arriving, will be printed in a future issue. Thanks to Mark Bula and Steve Brewer for their help.

—Tom Kohl

16 and Under

Gold

- 1st Cincinnati Attack, Inc. – 16-1
- 2nd Renaissance Volleyball Club – Renaissance 16 Red
- 3rd Beaver Valley Premier – BVP 16-1
- 3rd Cincinnati Attack, Inc. – 16-2

Silver

- 1st Northcoast VBC – Northcoast 16's Gold
- 2nd Dayton Jrs. – DJ 16-1
- 3rd Northcoast VBC – Northcoast 14's White
- 3rd Dayton Jrs. – DJ 16-2

17 and Under

Gold

- 1st Cincinnati Attack, Inc. – 17-1
- 2nd Pittsburgh Elite Volleyball Association – Boys 17 Black
- 3rd Cincinnati Attack, Inc. – 17-2
- 3rd Pittsburgh Elite Volleyball Association – Boys 17 Gold
- 3rd Cap City VBC – 17-Regional Silver

18 and Under

Gold

- 1st Cincinnati Attack, Inc. – 18-1
- 2nd Mizuno Cincy Classics – 18 Red Cincy Classics
- 3rd Pittsburgh Elite Volleyball Association – Boys 18 Black
- 3rd Renaissance Volleyball Club – Renaissance 18 Red
- 5th Cap City VBC – 18-National Blue
- 5th Cap City VBC – 18-Regional Black
- 5th Matchpoint – 18 Red -
- 5th Mizuno Cincy Classics – 18 Black Cincy Classics

Silver

- 1st Northcoast VBC – Northcoast Black
- 2nd Renaissance Volleyball Club – Renaissance 18 Black
- 3rd Foothills VBC – 18 Black-1
- 3rd Northcoast VBC – Northcoast Blue
- 5th Beaver Valley Premier – BVP 18-1

Juniors' Tournaments 2005

... continued from page 4

Volleyball Championships will be on a first-come basis this year, with no qualifying process. Thanks to Al Herbert and Art Faura for their help.

Teams participating in out-of-region tournaments will be responsible for reporting their results. Club directors and coaches can report their teams' out-of-region results at www.ovr.org/juniors/report_oor_result.php, and all out-of-region results are available at www.ovr.org/juniors/oresults.php. Thanks in advance for your prompt reporting of events.

Should you have any suggestions, please e-mail me at kohl@ovr.org. Again, thanks for your help so far this season. I look forward to another successful Juniors' season.

Tom Kohl
OVR Juniors' Tournament Director
OVR Boys' Program Director

IMPACT Coaching Requirement

Don Burroughs, OVR Director of Coaching Education & High Performance



IMPACT is an entry-level coaching requirement of both USAV and the Ohio Valley Region. Individuals who wish to coach a club team in the OVR must be IMPACT certified. If an individual is found negligent of certification, that individual must be immediately replaced with a qualified person. Violations of this requirement may include probation, suspension, fine, or whatever disciplinary action is deemed appropriate by the authorized person, persons, boards, or committees of the OVR. All IMPACT clinics will be 4 hours in length. This time frame is necessary to cover all the required information and adequately explain the various topics covered in the course.

Coaches may attend an IMPACT clinic in another region; however, it becomes that coach's responsibility to ensure that a copy of the certificate is forwarded to Don Burroughs so that it may be recognized by the OVR.

Further, the OVR will be offering several opportunities for the next steps of USAV coaching education. CAP I and CAP II clinics will be offered several times in 2005, possibly in May and December. The OVR website is your best resource for up-to-date and current information regarding all coaching education opportunities in our region.

Training and Certification for Junior Officials

Barb Strome, OVR Junior Officials' Development Director

Any 17 or 18 year old registered player interested in officiating as a first referee for the 10s and 12s within the OVR should contact me as soon as possible. Training sites for Junior Olympic Officials' certification include Synergy Sports and Fitness

(Toledo, Ohio) on February 5, and Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) on February 26. Last year we had 26 girls go through the training, 23 of whom completed the process. We would like to continue to grow the program.



OVR Elections 2005

... continued from page 1

Interested individuals should submit cover letters and resumes relevant to the positions for which they are applying. The application deadline for officer positions is May 15, 2005. The 4-year terms will begin

September 1, 2005 and conclude on August 31, 2009. The OVR board of directors will select individuals for these positions from among the qualified applicants at the August board meeting.



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513-459-3004**

From the Referees' Chair

Brian Hemelgarn, OVR Regional Referees' Chair

HERE WE ARE AGAIN. It's just amazing how quickly time flies! I'm really excited about the upcoming season, the new rules, and the opportunities that lie ahead. We'll have a record number of officials in the OVR this year – not only a record for us, but a record that no other region in the country can

match! We should be proud of our accomplishments and continue to work hard to not only be the biggest region, but also the best!

Now, some notes for this season... We hosted six clinics this year, and over 600 people attended! That includes the more than 300 existing referees on our roster, plus more than 200 prospective new officials, and at least 100 adult team reps. Our modified format seemed more efficient, and the use of our PowerPoint presentation really enhanced our materials. We're already planning our clinics for

next season, and they'll be better yet.

Although we covered the rules and techniques changes as well as OVR guidelines, there will still be plenty of questions this season, so you can look forward to my normal barrage of e-mails! We'll also have information posted on the website, so it's imperative as professional officials that we utilize the resources our website offers.

We need to strive for consistency this year, regardless of experience level or our rating. We need

to dress sharp, look sharp, and be professional. With our pay increase to \$150 per day (for six matches), the few extra bucks in our pocket might be well served for a new pair of slacks, shoes, or referee's shirt.

With 200 referee candidates, there's a good chance we'll all have the opportunity to work with and mentor these new folks. We must help them, share our knowledge, and teach them the correct way to do things. Consider being a mentor for one or two of our new folks as they enter their first season as a professional referee.

Speaking of new officials, the possibility of having 200 more OVR referees made me realize I needed some help to better serve everyone. We already have a cadre of 300 referees, and working with 500 will be virtually impossible to do alone. As a result, Tom Joseph has been appointed our New Officials' Coordinator, and has already done a tremendous job with our new folks! Likewise, Patty Salvatore is taking on the task of Testing Administrator so that everyone can receive replies regarding test corrections, rule references, or comments about the test questions themselves. Unless you received 100% on the test, I'm sure you'll be hearing from Patty soon!

I'm looking forward to working with everyone again, and as always, if there is something I can do to better serve as Referees' Chair, please let me know. On behalf of the OVR board of directors, thanks for the great job you'll be doing in 2005!



NEW OFFICIATING APPOINTMENTS

OVR NEW OFFICIALS' COORDINATOR

**TOM JOSEPH
JOSEPH@OVR.ORG**

OVR TESTING ADMINISTRATOR

**PATTY SALVATORE
SALVATORE@OVR.ORG**

Adults' Tournaments Needed

Michelle Fox, OVR Women's Tournament Director

WE COULD STILL USE MORE TOURNAMENTS on the schedule for many divisions in some locations. If anyone on your team has access to a facility, check and see if it is available for use to run a USAV tournament. It's easy to run a tournament for your team, and depending on the cost of the facility, you may be able to make a small profit. Check out the Men's and Women's Tournament Packet, www.ovr.org/mw/tournament_packet/, for everything you need to know plus all of the paperwork necessary for running a tournament. If you can get a facility and a tournament date, your OVR Tournament Directors would be happy to add it to the schedule.



Regionals will be held on April 16-17, 2005 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Divisions for each day will be posted on the Men's and Women's Tournament Schedule when approximate numbers of teams are known.



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Any Questions?







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Scorekeeping Updates for 2005

Terry Miller, OVR Regional Scorekeepers' Chair



FIRST, LET ME SAY that the scoresheet is almost unchanged from last year. Three things were changed: a box for the Libero number, “games” were changed “sets”, and there is a line for the R1 to sign after each set. Professional officials must attend a clinic and complete the scorekeepers’ test online before the deadline. Your officiating status will be in jeopardy if these two requirements are not fulfilled. I hope to hear from all of you soon.

On a sad note, I’m such you’ve all heard about Bob Dickenson. The region lost a good friend and worker. I personally will miss him, his good nature, his off-beat humor, and his constant smile. Bob never had a bad word to say about anyone. He will be missed. It would be great if those who knew him would drop the family a note.



National Scouting Report

“The World’s Leading Recruiting Authority”

www.nsr-inc.com

Girls playing High School Volleyball in U.S.....	390,814
High School Volleyball Teams in U.S.	13,761
High School Girls Playing VB In Ohio	19,111
Girls’ High School Volleyball teams in Ohio	980
Colleges that offer Girls’ Volleyball	1,670
NCAA recruiting days allowed	40
Maximum # of Scouts out at the same time	2
Percent that make it to Division 1	1

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Southeast Ohio	Greg Hamilton	614-206-0162	ghamilt@columbus.rr.com
Southwest Ohio	Dave McFeely	937-295-2770	dmcfeely@nationalscoutingreport.org
Columbus, Ohio	Roseyn Reese		rreece@nationalscoutingreport.org
Cincinnati/N. Kentucky	Tom Greco	859-512-1956	tgrec@nationalscoutingreport.org
Pennsylvania	Ron Vrana	724-746-6859	rvrana@nationalscoutingreport.org
West Virginia	Brent Walker	304-541-9664	bwalker@nationalscoutingreport.org
National Office		800-354-0072	

Enabling OVR Members

Nick Nystrom

ENABLING ALL 15,000+ OVR MEMBERS to gain maximum advantage from OVR infrastructure continues as a top priority. Through deep integration of our registration and reporting facilities, web communications, and participation by all members, we strive to bring everyone the information, results, and involvement they need to realize a rewarding and successful season of volleyball in the OVR.

Registration

Registration for the 2004-2005 season is progressing at an unprecedented rate, on track for what appears to be another record-breaking year. The OVR registered 15,052 individuals in 2003-2004, and projections place 2004-2005 at over 15,500.

When registering, please note that it is critical to *complete your registration promptly*. Providing your information through our online registration process is only the first step: you must then follow up by mailing your registration fee, background screening fee (for those working with juniors, including officials), and completed and signed forms to Steve Donahue. Registrations are not complete until Steve Donahue receives and records your fees, forms, and "Clear" background screen. Please note that prompt payment is required because we must forward fees and information to the USA volleyball national office to begin members' benefits and to comply with national requirements.

Accounts and Authentication (Signing In)

As I mentioned in the previous issue of OVR The Block, all OVR members (but no non-members) are eligible for accounts on the OVR website. Accounts are created automatically for all adult members on registration (transferring last season's if possible). If a new account is required, or if details of an existing account are lost, the "Forgot your username or password?" utility on the sign-in lets members regain access immediately using minimal combinations of their username, actual name, registration number, e-mail address. Intervention is required only for cases where account information is lost *and* the member's e-mail address has changed from that which we have on file. Note that the "Forgot your username or password?" even works when we do not have an e-mail address on file. In that case, an e-mail address may be provided, together with some

additional data to ensure data integrity.

Signing in (also known as logging in or authenticating) is required for changing one's address, e-mail address, or phone numbers, for applying for sanction of juniors' tournaments, for reporting tournament results or junior officials' certifications, for using OVR e-mail facilities, for entering teams into the *Girls' Championships* or *Bid* tournaments, and similar tasks where it's important to ensure that person performing them is authorized to do so.

Discussion Forums

The OVR supports two independent discussion forums, one for the OVR community and the other for the national officiating community. Through our forums, it is possible to discuss relevant topics with interested individuals throughout our region at any time, engaging necessary resources and sharing the outcomes with our membership. The forums serve as a valuable complement to pre-season club directors' and tournament directors' meetings, board meetings, and point-to-point e-mail discussions.

The OVR forum, available at www.ovr.org/forum/, includes topics *General*, *Joining the OVR (Registration)*, *Officiating*, *Men's Volleyball*, *Women's Volleyball*, *Juniors' Seeding System*, *Coaching*, *Girls' Volleyball*, *Boys' Volleyball*, and *High Performance*. OVR officers and staff check the OVR forum regularly, commenting on discussions as appropriate.

The *USA Volleyball Officials' Division Forum*, available at nationalforum.ovr.org, hosts discussions on *General Issues*, *Development*, *Techniques*, *Rules and Interpretations*, and *Events* specifically to officiating, with participation by officials throughout the country.

Continuing Improvements

The ultimate metrics of service and utility come from you, the OVR members. To suggest new features or ideas for improvements, send me a note at nystrom@ovr.org.



3 October 2004 Board Meeting Summary

The OVR board of directors, officers, and staff convened on October 3, 2004 at Westerville South High School to finalize planning for the 2005 season.

Present: Ron Wyzynski, Bob Price, Don Burroughs, Troy Dixon, Steve Donahue, Art Faura, Michelle Fox, Tom Kohl, Al Herbert, Terry Miller, Nick Nystrom, Glenn Purdy, Barb Strome, Elaine Viney, Emi Vishoot, Bill Zehler

Not present: Keith Burke, Bob Dickenson, Brian Hemelgarn, Jimmy McKinzey, Patty Salvatore

Boys' Fall League

Due to lack of commitment, the OVR Boys' Fall League is cancelled for October.

The next boys' season can start in November.

Registration

Full SSNs are required for professional officials. For all others, only the last 4 digits of SSNs are now needed.

OVR website accounts are now available only to members.

Background Screening

The new background screening procedure is working well.

7 NGBS are currently doing background screening. The "Protect Act" being considered by congress is likely to extend background screening to all NGBS.

Youngstown State University

With KSU no longer available, Ron secured 4 dates in January (6 courts) and is working on others.

Compensation for OVR Officers and Staff

Ron circulated the pay scale for the FY2005. Only 14.385% of the OVR

budget goes to salaries, which is low for a non-profit corporation.

Work such as setting up the Convention Center is distinct, to be paid hourly as independent contractors.

December Clinics

December 4: new officials' clinic: 9AM (possibly split session)

December 4: ASEP: 9AM-4PM

full day for all new club directors

includes material that would otherwise be in the Club Directors' Forum

1PM for refresher

IMPACT: 1PM-4PM

Don purchased 2 more projectors (1024x768, 2000 lumens).

Barb would like to add a junior officials' clinicians' training session.

Officiating

Provisional-1 officials can officiate adults' pool play in addition to 14s and below.

Boys' Regional Championships

Tom, tournament director of the OVR Boys' Championships, is seeking a site or sites for the event.

Grade-Level Teams

Grade-level teams will be allowed to play in regular-season Open tournaments not to include the Power Challenge or Bid tournament.

Coed 10-and-Under Teams

Teams may be composed of girls, boys, or both.

Tournaments may be offered without professional officials at a cost of \$75-90 per team.

Tournaments hosted prior to April 1st

may allow coaches to reserve balls to allow rallies, although the point will already have been scored. After April 1st, regular rules will come into effect.

Uniform shorts for males and females on the same 10-and-Under team must be identical in color only.

Offering of Early Player Contracts

The OVR may constrain activities that will involve OVR membership. The OVR is not required to accept membership for organizations or individuals who do not follow OVR policies.

Club directors may not offer a contract until the first day for tryouts.

IMPACT

IMPACT instructors must have CAP II + 3 years of coaching experience after CAP II

IMPACT clinics: December 4, 1-4: Westerville; February 19, 9-1: Piqua JHS; Possibly Kent, Lebanon (Cincinnati)

Club-hosted IMPACT clinics are discontinued because they were run poorly and not well attended.

Don suggested cards for IMPACT certification.

The IMPACT manual is down to 60 pages, with the rest replaced by online resources.

CAP

Our next large CAP clinic will be late spring.

We must start offering more clinics, including 1-day clinics where people can meet their module requirements.

continued on page 15 →

3 October 2004 Board Meeting Summary

... continued from page 14

High Performance (HP)

HP head coaches must be at least CAP II, and HP assistant coaches must be at least CAP I.

Don will present a plan for tryout dates and details in January.

The final tryout is likely to be on the evening of Friday, April 8.

Certificates of Insurance

Steve has already submitted requests for sites used last year, but will not have certificates until after November 1.

Bid Tournament

Numbers cannot exceed AI's proposed format due to facility limitations.

AI will send messages prior to the tournament, reminding club directors to check standings.

The tournament will play through 12th place.

13s at Nationals will have National and American divisions, increasing from 64 teams to 48+48.

The Invitational will no longer be constrained by a Bid process.

Girls' JOVC: Salt Palace, Salt Lake City; Invitational: Louisville.

The Bid schedule is as posted on the OVR website.

Adults' Tournaments

Micki is pursuing additional sites.

Regionals: 16 courts per day.

The region will be flexible this year with the rule requiring certified officials for adults' pool play.

Juniors' Seeding System

Tom circulated the point allocations to all club directors and received no feedback.

1st place in Club should be ~50% of Open.

JODP

Potential clinicians must contact Barb by November 1.

Clinicians' training will be held from 1-2PM, following officials' clinics.

Clinicians and raters will send lists to Barb.

Either clinicians and raters or Barb will enter the information online.

Awards

There will not be an awards dinner for 2005.

Future Board Meetings

- January 16, 2005, 9AM: Kent
- August 12-14, 2005, 8PM: Columbus



Volleyball, Carts, and Floor Tape at Special Region Prices

<p>Molten® Super-Touch™ \$35 Required for OVR men, women, and girls of age 13-18.</p> <p>Molten® Pro-Touch™ \$35 Required for OVR boys.</p> <p>Molten® VB Lite™ \$25 Required for OVR 10s & 12s.</p>	<p>Molten® Tall Ball Cart \$145 This wheeled cart will hold over 30 volleyballs.</p> <p>Specialty Tapes Safe-Off 290 WH \$17 Approved by USA Volleyball.</p> <p>Baden® 15-o Lexum™ \$38.95 The official volleyball of OHSAA.</p>
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Free drop shipping available for Molten® products. Volleyball pick-up available in Kent, Columbus, and Dayton/Cincinnati. Cart pickup in Kent and Columbus. Otherwise, prices do not include shipping. Prices subject to change: see www.ovr.org/store/ for current prices and additional information. To order or for more information, contact Ron Wyzynski at the Region Office: toll-free at 888-873-9478, or by e-mail at wyzynski@ovr.org.

16 January 2005 Board Meeting Summary

The OVR board of directors, officers, and staff convened on January 16 in Kent, Ohio. Just prior to the meeting, the date was rescheduled from the 17th to use the "off" day following the YSU tournament on January 15; however, the late change precluded attendance of several directors and staff.

Present: Ron Wyzynski, Bob Price, Don Burroughs, Troy Dixon, Steve Donahue, Brian Hemelgarn, Al Herbert, Jimmy McKinzey, Terry Miller, Glenn Purdy, Patty Salvatore, Barb Strome, Emi Vishoot

Not present: Keith Burke, Art Faura, Michelle Fox, Tom Kohl, Nick Nystrom, Elaine Viney, Bill Zehler

Ron Wyzynski — OVR CEO/ Executive Director

Ron provided a brief synopsis of 2005 membership numbers and status of the registration process.

The OVR's contract with Molten® will continue to provide valuable cost savings.

At the Jan. 15 YSU tournament, none of the teams present (14 Men's A, 4 Women's Open) had significant complaints about the player officials for pool play, and teams felt the pace of the officiating during ratings was much slower than if players had officiated. This is inconsistent with complaints Bob and Al heard during 2004 at many tournaments; Ron will poll teams next weekend to determine their preferences.

By April 16, 2005, an adult team's players must have identical uniforms (jerseys and uniform bottoms). Team whose players are not in identical uniforms, per Rule 4.3.1 and USAV 4.3.4 of the 2004-2005 Rulebook, shall not be permitted to participate in the OVR Adult Regional Championships.

Bob Price — OVR Commissioner/ President

The region purchased an 18' trailer to store and transport the equipment needed for our large events.

Bob discussed various problems dealing with club tryouts,

Bob presented possible facilities for future tournaments.

Bob presented Nick's report to the Board (sent via e-mail to Board members)

Juniors' Issues

Barb reported that as of the Kent clinic last weekend, she had certified 60 juniors' clinicians.

The Form D test for juniors is online. Currently, 915 junior tournaments have been sanctioned.

Tom Kohl was congratulated for the tremendous work he's doing with the boys' program.

The OVR's investment in the Charleston tournament, which is now being organized by the local club, was worthwhile.

Don Burroughs — Director of High Performance and Coaching Ed.

USAV is likely to redefine the CAP certification levels. As part of this revision, USAV may require juniors' teams that participate in the National events to have at least one CAP I certified coach. The OVR training and certification program is putting us on good footing to meet this future requirement.

Don suggested laminated business cards or plastic cards, which coaches must show at each tournament (plus government-issued photo ID) to prove their compliance. Coaches may be required to wear the card on a lanyard during tournaments.

Don bought two LCD projectors for OVR use and will purchase two more projectors (increasing the total to 5).

Brian Hemelgarn — OVR Regional Referees' Chair

610 individuals attended our officiating clinics, including approximately 300 existing officials, 210 new officials (even with the \$70 clinic fee), and 100 adult players.

Existing officials include 38% women and 62% men.

Tom Joseph will assist Brian as the New Officials' Coordinator, factoring in candidates' volleyball background and experience to group individuals during the evaluation process.

Brian received useful (mostly positive) feedback about the clinic format and revised rating/evaluation process.

Brian discussed contrasting jersey color for Liberos, clarifying that a contrasting vest over the uniform jersey is not authorized for the libero unless the player is a redesignated Libero due to injury.

Out-of-region officials must pass background screening before working in the OVR.

Regional Championships

Prizes were discussed, with emphasis on a design commemorating the event.

2005 GCCC Events

For April 8-10 (Bid weekend), officials will be housed at the Marriott on I-680 due to the Frozen Four event having booked all downtown rooms.

Contracts for set-up and tear-down are in place.

Future Board Meetings

• August 12-14, 2005, 8PM: Columbus

OVR Board of Directors, Officers, and Corporate Staff

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Board of Directors' (BoD, above) terms expire:

5/31/05: Faura, Miller, Purdy, Zehler
5/31/06: Dixon, Donahue, Salvatore, Viney, Vishoot
5/31/07: Hemelgarn, Herbert, McKinzey, Nystrom, Price

Officers' terms expire:

8/31/05: Commissioner, Men's Tournament Director, Regional Scorekeepers' Chair, Juniors' Tournament Director
8/31/06: Registrar, Junior Officials' Development Director, Juniors' Program Director
8/31/07: Regional Referees' Chair, Women's Tournament Dir.

OVR Calendar 2005

Registration

OVR-USAV memberships run from November 1 through October 31.

Registration for the 2004-2005 season opened on September 1 for renewing professional officials and for juniors' clubs wishing to apply for sanction of tryouts and tournaments, and on November 1 for all others.

Registration Packets

Juniors' Registration Packet www.ovr.org/juniors/registration_packet/

Adults' Registration Packet www.ovr.org/mw/registration_packet/

Juniors' Competition

OVR Juniors' Forum

December 4, 2004: Westerville South HS (tentative).
Other dates and sites may be announced.

Tryouts www.ovr.org/juniors/tryouts/
Applications for Sanction of Tryouts ... accepted beginning September 1

OVR Tournaments

Juniors' Tournament Packet www.ovr.org/juniors/tournament_packet/

Applications for Sanction of Juniors' Tournaments ... accepted beginning September 1 www.ovr.org/juniors/sanction/

OVR-Kaepa® USA Juniors' Tournament Schedule
Regular-season tournaments will be published on December 19 at 8:00AM.
www.ovr.org/juniors/tournaments.php

Power Challenge Tournaments www.ovr.org/juniors/power_challenge/
18s: March 5-6, Maumee 17s: March 12-13, Maumee
15s: March 12-13, Oxford 13s: March 19-20, Toledo
16s: March 12-13, Toledo 14s: March 19-20, Mason

Ohio Valley Regional Championships

2005 OVR Boys' Regional Championships www.ovr.org/juniors/boys/
February 27, 2005, site TBA

Ohio Valley Region, Inc. Kaepa®-USA www.ovr.org/juniors/championships/
2005 Girls' Volleyball Championships

Dates and divisions are tentative, subject to numbers of entries:
10s and 12s May 7, 2005, Columbus schools
13s and 14 Open May 14, 2005, GCCC
14 Club May 15, 2005, GCCC
17 Club & Open, 18 Club & Open May 20-21, 2005, GCCC
15 Club & Open May 21, 2005, GCCC
16 Club & Open May 22, 2005, GCCC

High Performance www.ovr.org/juniors/hp/
Tryout dates and sites TBA

Nationals

National Qualifiers www.usavolleyball.org/Juniors/nat_qual.asp
March 18-April 24, 2005 (see web listing for complete details)

Ohio Valley Region-Molten® 2005 National Bid Qualifier www.ovr.org/juniors/bid/
15s-18s: April 9-10, GCCC 12s: April 16, GCCC
14s: April 16-17, Toledo 13s: April 17, GCCC

2005 USA Junior Olympic Girls' Volleyball Championships
June 29-July 6, 2005, Salt Lake City www.usavolleyball.org/Juniors/

USA Junior Olympic Girls' Invitational Volleyball Championships
June 30-July 3, 2005, Louisville, KY www.usavolleyball.org/Juniors/

2005 USA Junior Olympic Boys' Volleyball Championships
July 6-13, 2005, Louisville, KY www.usavolleyball.org/Juniors/

Men's and Women's Competition

OVR Tournaments

Adults' Tournament Packet www.ovr.org/mw/tournament_packet/

To host your own tournaments, contact
Micki Fox, OVR Women's Tournament Director (fox@ovr.org) or
Keith Burke, OVR Men's Tournament Director (burke@ovr.org).

OVR Men's & Women's Tournament Schedule www.ovr.org/mw/tournaments.php

2005 Ohio Valley Regional Volleyball Championships
April 16-17, 2005: Greater Columbus Convention Center
www.ovr.org/mw/regionals/

Nationals

2005 USA Volleyball National Championships
May 28-June 4, 2005, Denver, Colorado www.usavolleyball.org/Adults/

Club Directors' and Coaches' Development

ASEP Course www.ovr.org/juniors/coaching/asep.php
December 4, 2004, 9AM-4PM, Westerville South HS, Westerville, OH

IMPACT Clinics www.ovr.org/juniors/coaching/impact.php
Dec. 4, 2004 1:00-5:00 Westerville South HS, Westerville, OH
Jan. 9, 2005 9:00-1:00 East Palestine HS, East Palestine, OH
Jan. 15, 2005 9:00-1:00 Premier Volleyball Academy, Toledo, OH
Jan. 16, 2005 1:00-5:00 Lexington HS, Lexington, OH
Jan. 29, 2005 9:00-1:00 Marshall University, Huntington, WV
Jan. 30, 2005 9:00-1:00 Elyria Park South Facility, Elyria, OH
Feb. 5, 2005 9:00-1:00 Mount Union College, Alliance, OH
Feb. 12, 2005 9:00-1:00 Super Fitness Health Club, Toledo, OH
Feb. 19, 2005 9:00-1:00 Piqua JHS, Piqua, OH
Feb. 20, 2005 11:00-3:00 Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH
Feb. 26, 2005 9:00-1:00 Clippard Family YMCA, Cincinnati, OH
Mar. 5, 2005 9:00-1:00 Westerville South HS, Westerville, OH

CAP Courses www.ovr.org/juniors/coaching/cap.php
Dates and sites TBA

Officiating

Registration / Renewal www.ovr.org/register/
All returning professional officials must register by October 31.

New Officials www.ovr.org/officiating/new_official_signup.php
Sign-up for a clinic to begin the process.

Professional Officials' Clinics www.ovr.org/officiating/clinics.php
November 28, 2004 Toledo
December 4, 2004 Westerville South HS (new officials only)
December 5, 2004 Westerville South HS
December 11, 2004 Charleston, WV
December 12, 2004 Dayton/Cincinnati
January 8, 2005 Kent or Youngstown

Administrative

OVR Board Meetings www.ovr.org/executive/
August 13-14, 2005, 8PM, Columbus

Publications

Next issue of *OVR The Block*: November 2004 www.ovr.org/newsletter/
Submission deadline: October 20 editor@ovr.org