

Enabling OVR Members

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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.

