

From the Referees' Chair

Brian Hemelgarn, OVR Regional Referees' Chair

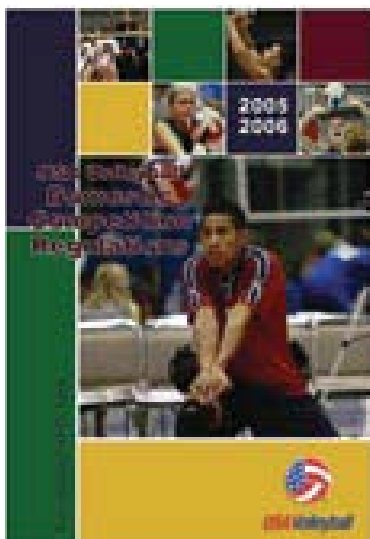
JUST A FEW HIGHLIGHTS and points of emphasis as we make final preparations for the upcoming USAV season:

- The registration deadline for existing officials is November 1. After November 1, there is a 30-day grace period (with late fee assessed) until November 30.
- Officiating clinic dates are Toledo (11/6), Westerville (12/3), Dayton/Cincinnati (12/11), Ambridge PA (1/7), and Cuyahoga Falls (1/8). Details and clinic sign-up are available on the OVR website.
- Rules/Scorekeeping Tests: The exam passwords are distributed via e-mail confirmation when an official registers online and are also available at www.ovr.org/officiating/professional.php. Exams must be completed by February 15, 2006. (This date coincides with the National testing deadline for consistency).
- Three prospective referees' clinics will be held: Toledo (11/27), Westerville (12/4), and Cuyahoga Falls (1/8).
- Three Friendship Tournaments have been set up for training/evaluating prospective referees (1/14, 1/21 and 1/22).

For the past two seasons, we have focused on recruiting, training, and certifying new referees in order to meet the demands of our local tournaments. Now that we have a substantial cadre, this season we will refocus our efforts on providing additional training and feedback to our existing referees. We've neglected this over the past few seasons but we recognize the need to continue developing our veteran officials. More details will be presented at our officiating clinics.

Many of the OVR-sponsored events are now scheduled, and I have begun to make officiating assignments for them. Everyone should keep their availability/closed dates current in their OVR online profile. Remember, officials may not accept tournament assignments until their registration process is complete, including submission of paperwork and fees.

It's going to be another great year, and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again soon!



2005-2006 Rules

The 2005-2006 *United States Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations* are now available. Copies will be distributed to adult OVR members on registration. The regulations, summaries of significant rule changes, comparisons with NCAA and NFHS rules, and the 2005-2006 *Casebook of Approved Rulings* are also available at USA volleyball's website (www.usavolleyball.org/RulesOfficials/).