

Referees,

Infants and children under the age of 10 are not permitted on the team bench/team area at anytime, from warm-ups through the end of the match. This is a USAV policy.

We've had a couple instances where children/infants were permitted on the bench this season, so let's all get on the same page with this.

There should be a USAV rules interp bulletin forthcoming that will address this, and I'll share it with you when it's published.

Currently, USAV has references in their Championship Manual that support this policy:

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Rostered Staff Requirements

All rostered personnel (non-players) must be FULL MEMBERS of a Region of USA Volleyball, be SafeSport trained, and have a current, cleared background screening if applicable.

Junior level staff members must be at least 10 years of age. (NOTE: These members cannot be placed in any team staff position other than "Team Manager.)  
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Regarding a 10-year old on the bench (other than youth teams of that general age level), referees should NOT request any identification or proof of age. Instead, remind the coach that any child/children on the bench must be USAV members, must be at least 10 years of age, and must be listed on the \*tournament entry roster\* as the Team Manager. If the coach confirms this, referees should ask the tournament director to verify this information by reviewing that team's tournament entry roster. If the child isn't listed on the tournament entry roster, he/she cannot be on the team bench.

You can direct any questions in this regard to either me or OVR Commissioner Bob Price ([price@ovr.org](mailto:price@ovr.org)).

Thank you,

Brian Hemelgarn