

All,

Still so much uncertainty about the upcoming high school & collegiate fall seasons, but at least at this point, it appears we will likely have some sort of season. How it will look remains to be seen.

With that in mind, I'd encourage all of you to prepare as if the season IS going to happen. It may not start until September or October, or maybe even in the spring. So as sports officials, we need to be ready when we're called into action. To me that means renewing your state high school association license and/or your PAVO membership.

I know some of us have been waiting to see what happens before we spend the money, but waiting may also leave us ill-prepared. NCAA/PAVO clinics started last weekend; they're online this year. The information is crucial, so renewing your PAVO membership will ensure you have access to that information, whether it's later this fall or even next spring.

For state high school associations, state & local meetings are starting. Again, most of those meetings are virtual, but that doesn't minimize the important information & rules changes that are being disseminated.

We must keep our volleyball minds sharp! I realize that most of us have been impacted financially by this crisis, but as professional sports officials, we need to find a way to maintain our respective association memberships. It's the right thing to do, and it shows those organizations that we are committed to them and will help when the time comes.

Quite honestly, I think there may be more opportunities to officiate than we are expecting right now -- even if it's in a different season that we're normally used to. Be prepared for that. Join PAVO if you haven't renewed your membership (or become a member if you aren't currently a collegiate official). Make sure your state high school license is ready to go, and fulfill requirements that help you stay in good standing (exams, etc).

If you don't currently officiate collegiate or high school ball, you might consider joining those ranks. With a strong likelihood that college matches will be assigned with more regional consideration this year (i.e., less long distance traveling for officials), it could present opportunities for many of us. And if high school officials are in high demand, they may turn to USAV referees to help fill in the gaps.

Here are some resources that may help you:

<https://www.ovr.org/officiating/howto.php>

These are unprecedented times - that goes without saying. We need to focus on the future and be prepared for whatever it brings!

Hope everyone is safe & healthy,

Brian Hemelgarn
OVR Referees' Chair