

Referees:

Another note has been shared with club directors. Again, we cover this in our pre-season clinics, but I want to be sure everyone is aware. The memo relates to "migraine piercings" ("daith" piercing), which is in the inner ear cartilage. Please follow the guidelines below to address this when you encounter it.

Thank you,

Brian Hemelgarn  
OVR Referees' Chair

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OVR Club Directors:

There has been a recent trend for people who experience migraines to have an inner ear piercing called a "Daith" piercing. (Google it!) This has been seen among volleyball players over the last year as well.

USA Volleyball and the OVR have taken the position that these will be permitted, following these guidelines:

#1 - A written request from a medical professional must be submitted to the OVR (Bob Price - [price@ovr.org](mailto:price@ovr.org)) stating that the player has a migraine condition and the daith piercing is part of the migraine treatment. NOTE: A written request from a parent does NOT fulfill this requirement.

#2 - Whenever possible, the piercing should be covered when the player is on the court.

#3 - The waiver must be carried by the coach and presented to the referees upon request, prior to the start of a match. The waiver may also be presented to the head referee during the pre-tournament coaches' meeting. That doesn't preclude a referee from requesting the waiver prior to a match.

#4 - If the player does not have an OVR or USAV waiver, the USAV jewelry rule will be enforced: the player cannot participate while wearing the piercing.

Please be diligent in communicating this information to your coaches so that we can be proactive and accommodate any players who wear a daith piercing.