

2015 GREAT PLAINS COACH MODULE

- Welcome to the 2014-15 season for Great Plains Region Volleyball. The following information will hopefully answer many questions you may have as well as fulfill your Ref and Scorer clinic requirements for this season. Do not hesitate to contact the Great Plains Region office if you have any questions.
- www.gpvb.org
- Office Number: 402-593-9670
- Office email: info@gpvb.org
- Great Plains Commissioner: Sue Mailhot, sue@gpvb.org

REGISTRATION

- The start date for the USA Volleyball season is September 1. When you register, you will be able to print your membership card once the membership is activated. Activation is immediate if using a credit card. When paying by cash or check, the membership will not be activated until the money is received. Memberships expire on October 31 (of the following year), regardless of when you registered for the current season.
- ALL individuals are required to register and pay their membership fees directly to the Great Plains Region office. This includes players, coaches, chaperones, club directors & officials. Checks will not be accepted from clubs to pay for multiple players registrations. There are no papers to print or send to the office. If a check is mailed for an individual's membership, the check should include in the member's name in the memo section.

REGISTRATION continued

- Registration categories offered by the Region are:
 - 8 & under – free (in Region participation only)
 - 11 & under - \$25
 - 12 – 18 & under - \$65
 - Boys - \$20

 - Adult Affiliated with a Junior Program - \$65
 - Tournament Director/Chaperone/Parent - \$40
 - Official - \$40
 - Adult Player - \$40
 - College Player - \$15 (Must be currently enrolled)
- During the registration process, each individual has the ability to opt out of receiving emails or mailings from the Great Plains Region, USA Volleyball and/or third parties. If an individual chooses not to receive these emails or mailings, they may not be informed of important region or USAV information.

REGISTRATION continued

- All coaches (regardless of age) are required to sign the National Club Personnel Code of Ethics form when registering. This signature will be processed electronically in the same way as the signature for the Waiver and Release of Liability.
- All signatures required for a background screening are processed electronically. The background screening process will begin as soon as the membership is paid and activated.
- Coach eligibility is not immediate if a background screening is required. A background screening may take from 3-10 business days to process.

CLUB AFFILIATION TERM

- Club affiliation for the current season begins when the player signs a letter of intent or commits to a club after the commitment date and ends after the last day of competition for that age division at the USA Volleyball Girl's Junior National Championships. Membership with the region remains through the end of October of the current season.

USA VOLLEYBALL INSURANCE

- One of the benefits of your Great Plains Region/USA Volleyball membership is liability insurance coverage for players and facilities while participating in a sanctioned USAV event. Sanctioned events can include, but are not limited to tryouts, practices, and tournaments. Travel to and from a sanctioned event is also covered. Injuries that occur at sanctioned events are covered by a **secondary sports accident policy**. This policy normally covers additional costs related to the injury that are not covered by your primary insurance coverage.
- Incident report forms and medical claim forms are posted on the Juniors Forms page of the Great Plains Region website. These forms need to be completed by the club director or tournament director at the time of the incident. Only registered members are covered by these insurance policies.

COACH ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- All adult coaches for junior teams must have a current membership and a current background screening before they can coach/assist at any practice, tryout or clinic.
- All coaches must be IMPACT certified before they are eligible to coach.
 - All junior age coaches must be IMPACT certified before they are eligible to coach.
 - A junior age coach must have an eligible adult coach on the bench at all times.
 - If a junior age coach turns 18 at sometime during the season, all of the coach requirements (including background screening) must be fulfilled.
- An IMPACT schedule will be posted to the Great Plains website. A limited number of in-person region IMPACT clinics are held each year. Plan accordingly.
 - If a coach needs an IMPACT clinic and one is not scheduled in the region, USA Volleyball offers IMPACT webinars and On-Demand clinics. Contact the Great Plains Region office for further information or see the education tab on the USA Volleyball website (www.usavolleyball.org).

IMPACT CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

Increased **M**astery and **P**rofessional **A**pplication of **C**oaching **T**heory

- IMPACT certification is a minimum level coach education requirement. All participants (adults and juniors) who will be coaching a junior club team must be IMPACT certified. IMPACT is a one-time class. Great Plains Region offers these classes through online meetings (Webinars). For more information or to register for an IMPACT class, see the IMPACT Clinics page on the Great Plains website.

COACH OFFICIATING REQUIREMENTS

- All coaches must meet **officiating requirements** each year. These requirements may include attendance at reffing and scoring clinics and/or passing scores on exams. Coaches officiating requirements can be found on the Coaching Requirements page on the website.
- Eligible coaches must wear their name badge at all times when their team is playing/officiating at a tournament.
 - The coaching badge is required so parents, spectators, and officials know who is eligible to coach junior age players. The region feels this is a small safeguard to protect the players.

COACH OFFICIATING REQUIREMENTS continued

- The coach officiating requirement for the 2015 season will be fulfilled upon completion of this module and the Critical Rules Interpretation 2014-15 module. In order to assist your players with their officiating duties, it is advisable for a coach to watch the player officiating clinics, but it is not mandatory. There will be an option this year for players to “test out” of certain modules.
- Coach officiating requirements can change each season depending upon the addition of new rules or new interpretations of current rules. Additional modules could be required in the years when a new DCR (rulebook) is published.

COACH OFFICIATING REQUIREMENTS continued

NEW COACHES

- Although it is not required, it is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** that a new coach watches many of the officiating modules found on volleyballreftraining.com. Most modules are just a few minutes long with the scoring basics module being one of the longest at 27 minutes. If you have the chance to only view a limited number of modules, these would be our recommendations to give you basic information you would need:
 - Scoring Basics
 - You Know Volleyball Rules...Or Do You?
 - First Referee
 - Second Referee
 - Net and Centerline

COACH AND TEAM OFFICIATING REQUIREMENTS

- For all Great Plains sanctioned tournaments, a **rostered adult** (coach, other rostered adult member or USAV certified referee) **must be the R1 or R2** on every match.
 - If the rostered adult is the R1, then a player may assist in other roles.
 - If the rostered adult wants to be the R2, a player may be the R1.
- Each team registered in the Great Plains Region will be required to have **two players that are certified as junior referees and two players certified as junior scorers**.
 - Coach and player certification requirements are posted on the Great Plains website under the Coaching Requirements page.
 - It is the responsibility of club directors and coaches to ensure players have completed their officiating requirements.
 - Only players that have completed their certification, and are noted as such on the roster, should officiate in those roles.
 - It is advisable to complete your officiating requirements as soon as a player is registered and the information is disseminated. It is highly recommended that you do not wait until the holiday break to complete your requirements.

PLAYER OFFICIATING REQUIREMENTS

There is a slight modification to the player clinics/modules for this year's certification requirements. A player may be certified as a referee or scorer or both by completing the clinics. Completion of all modules in the clinic will be noted in a player's membership record and on the roster.

- This year, there is an option to 'test out' of specific modules. A short 10 question quiz will be offered at the beginning of certain modules. If a player passes the quiz with a 90% or higher, the module will automatically advance to the end and credit will be given upon completion of the final instructions.
- Player officiating Clinics needed for certification:
 - **GP15_101 Great Plains Junior Player – Referee**
 - Junior First Referee
 - Junior Second Referee
 - Junior Line Judge
 - Junior Signals
 - **GP15_102 Great Plains Junior Player – Scorer**
 - Scoring Basics
 - Libero Control
- Instructions for player clinic registration can be found on the Coaching Requirements page.

CLUB OFFICIATING RESPONSIBILITIES

The Great Plains Region philosophy is to develop junior athletes as players and officials. The Region requires that all junior teams participating in Region tournaments have trained officials. The emphasis is placed on training the teams to officiate and function as a unit rather than require individuals to be rated and certified. Many National tournaments require that participating junior teams have certified officials. See **Officials Manual** for complete information about officiating.

- Responsibility for training junior players as officials rests with the club directors and coaches. Initial training is required by each team prior to participating in any tournaments. Every coach from a club must complete the officiating requirements prior to the start of the season. The coach then becomes the instructor for the players on his/her team or club.
- Junior club directors and coaches have several resources to assist in the education and training of coaches, players, and parents as referees, scorers, and line judges. The USA Volleyball Officials Training and Education website, www.volleyballreftraining.com, features several resources to assist officials of all levels and experience as well as anyone interested in learning about USAV rules and officiating Great Plains.
- In addition to viewing the modules, clubs and teams should conduct practical sessions on the court with players officiating in game situations.

NEW TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR

- The Great Plains Region would like to welcome **Scott Lowery** as our new tournament coordinator. Scott comes to Nebraska from the Florida Region to take Nathan Wagner's place. We thank Nathan for all his hard work and dedication to the region during his time with us. If you have any questions regarding tournaments, please contact Scott. The email address will remain the same - tournaments@gpvb.org.

SANCTIONED EVENTS

- Any event may be sanctioned by the Great Plains region as long as ALL participants are registered with the region or a region of USA Volleyball. Events include open gyms, clinics, practices, and tournaments. The Great Plains Region must also be informed of this event. See the Great Plains Region handbook for more information.
 - For insurance purposes, all facilities used by a club/team for practice, open gym, clinics must be listed on the club profile form.
 - Tournaments in the Great Plains Region may not start before 8:00 am and must end by 8:30 pm.
 - There is a section on the website for clubs and facilities to list pre-season clinics, open gyms and tryouts.

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

- A current list of all qualifier and National Championship dates is posted on the Great Plains website tournament schedule and information page.
- **GOLD** tournaments will have region assigned **paid referees**, unless the tournament requests not to have referees. The price per tournament does not change if paid referees are not used. Tournaments not using referees will be noted in advance on the printable tournament schedule.
- Some tournaments will charge an **admission fee**. If a tournament charges an admission fee, the fee will be stated on the tournament schedule.

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES

- Tournament names will remain as Gold, Silver, and Split. See the 2015 Great Plains Region handbook for more detail.
 - **GOLD** tournaments will play match play. **Entry fee - \$180**
 - includes a paid certified official for each match
 - **SILVER** tournaments will play 2 sets of 18 points in round robin pool play. **Entry fee - \$115**
 - **SPLIT SESSION** (Saturday only) tournaments will offer a morning and an afternoon session. **Entry fee - \$85**

ONLINE TOURNAMENT ENTRY SYSTEM (OTES)

- The tournament entry system is used by all teams to enter any sanctioned tournament within the region.
 - For a team to be accepted into tournaments, a club director must:
 - enter club and team information in OTES (see instructions on Tournament Schedule page). A team rep must be added to each team before teams can be entered into tournaments.
 - enter teams into tournament.
 - build a roster in webpoint
- Uniform numbers are required when adding a player to a roster.
 - contact the Region Tournament Coordinator to request team approval.
- Use of this system allows viewing of currently accepted teams in each tournament. There is no additional cost to tournament directors or teams for use of this system. OTES will also allow tournament directors to send group emails to all teams entered. All tournament results are entered online by the tournament director.
- All tournaments in the region will use the same format; i.e., same warm-up procedures, same coin toss procedures, same playing schedule, etc. All tournament rosters must be printed from the online membership database (webpoint). No other tournament rosters will be accepted at tournaments.

GREAT PLAINS REGION CHAMPIONSHIPS

- The **Regional tournament** dates for 2015 are:
 - **Saturday April 11** -- 10's - 14's
 - **Sunday April 12** -- 15's - 18's

Gold, Silver and Bronze levels will be offered.

The deadline to register is Friday, March 20.

GREAT PLAINS BID TOURNAMENT

- The Great Plains **Bid tournament** dates for 2015 are:
 - **Saturday May 3** -- 10's - 14's
 - **Sunday May 4** -- 15's - 18's

Entry fee is \$180. Deadline to register is **Friday April 10, 2015.**

BID TOURNAMENT and TEAMS PLAYING at NATIONALS

- **All teams are eligible to register for the Bid Tournament.** However, only the eight highest ranked teams in the Region that have registered for the Bid Tournament by the deadline will be selected to play.
 - Teams wanting to be considered for possible inclusion in the bid tournament must register by **Friday April 10, 2015.**
 - The eight teams will be selected based on the region rankings on the Wednesday (**April 15, 2015**) following the Friday bid tournament deadline.
 - Teams selected to play in the bid tournament must complete all of the JNC paperwork on-line with AES and must submit copies (along with your check made payable to USAV JNC for the entire entry fee) to the region office by the following Friday (April 24, 2015) after the team is notified.

BID TOURNAMENT and TEAMS PLAYING at NATIONALS

Continued

- The bid tournament format is double elimination.
- **Teams that qualify for the USA Junior National Championships** (whether through the region bid tournament or at a USAV National Qualifier) may receive some reimbursement from the region per the team participation policy. A specific amount has been budgeted. The exact amount each team will receive will be determined based on the total number of teams that qualify. Reimbursements will be sent at the conclusion of the National Championships.

BID TOURNAMENT and TEAMS PLAYING at NATIONALS

Continued

- Teams that participate in the Great Plains bid tournament must be prepared to accept a bid if they should win or are next in line to receive a 'trickle down' bid. If a team does not accept the bid and does not play in the division in which it won the bid, each individual member of that team is subject to the same sanctions as per the USAV National Bid Qualifier Manual (regardless of the club/team affiliation for the next year).

RULEBOOK

- The USA Volleyball Rulebook (DCR – Domestic Competition Rules) is in the second year of a two year cycle. Your rulebook from last season is still current. If you need another copy, please contact the office.

SOLID COLORED UNIFORM REQUIREMENT

- It is now required that the Libero and/or his/her teammates shall wear a solid colored uniform top. For further explanation, refer to page 58 in the 2013-2015 DCR (rulebook). Or see the document on the Great Plains website under the Juniors tab. If there is any doubt regarding the legality of your uniforms, please contact Bill Stanley, the registrar at registrar@gpvb.org.
- A module is available on the officials training site at https://www.volleyballreftraining.com/training_materials_indoor.php
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- A good rule of thumb to use when applying the new rule is:
 - The rule regarding the **contrast** between the regular uniform top and the Libero uniform is still the same.
 - If a team is wearing uniform tops that have multiple colors, then the Libero must wear a solid colored top.
 - If a team is wearing solid colored uniform tops, then the Libero can either wear a solid colored top or a multi-colored top.

NUMBER PLACEMENT ON THE JERSEY TOP

- Last year there was new wording in the DCR regarding placement of the jersey number. The rule says the jersey number must be “centered (both horizontally and vertically) on the player’s chest and upper back”.
- The Region highly recommends NOT placing anything (club name/logo, etc.) above the number on the front of the jersey. This way the number can be placed as high as needed. The back of the jersey can still have a club name or player’s name above the number provided the number is still on the upper back of the jersey.

LIBERO DESIGNATION

- The use of the Libero will remain the same as last year. The following options will be available when designating your Libero(s) for a match:
 - A team may choose to use either two(2) Liberors for the **MATCH OR**
 - A team may choose to designate zero(0) or one(1) Libero per **SET**.
 - The Libero may serve in one position.

CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

The [Nebraska Concussion Awareness Act](#) (LB260) went into effect July 2012. The new law affects public, private, denominational, or parochial schools ([Statute 71-9104](#)), as well as any city, village, business, or nonprofit organization ([Statute 71-9105](#)) sponsoring a sporting activity having athletes 19 years old or younger, where there is a cost to participants or where such costs are sponsored, i.e. club sports, select teams, Parks & Rec programs, Legion, Babe Ruth, YMCA, AAU, Pop Warner, Midget FB, etc.

- Club directors, you are responsible for knowing and administering the information presented in the Great Plains Concussion Management document. The entire document can be found on the Great Plains Region website under the **Juniors** tab.

SAFE SPORT INITIATIVE

USA Volleyball in cooperation with USOC (United States Olympic Committee) has created the Safe Sport Program. The safety of its participants is of paramount importance to USA Volleyball. USA Volleyball has ZERO TOLERANCE for abuse and misconduct.

This includes not only on-court safety, but also off-court safety in any part of USA Volleyball's programs. USA Volleyball is committed to creating safe and fun environments for youth. This includes, but is not limited to, providing training, educational materials and resources for our regions, clubs, coaches, parents and athletes.

USA Volleyball has developed a SafeSport Handbook, intended to be a central location for all of the policies and procedures that are designed to protect its youth participants from all types of misconduct and abuse. It also includes information and education for adults on how to be proactive, to recognize areas of concern and signs of abuse.

SAFE SPORT INITIATIVE continued

- The SafeSport Handbook includes various Policies that apply to all USA Volleyball Member Programs and address the following areas:
 - Sexual Abuse
 - Physical Abuse
 - Emotional Abuse
 - Bullying, Threats and Harassment
 - Hazing

SAFE SPORT INITIATIVE continued

- For more information and to start a SafeSport Program in your club, go to https://www.volleyballreftraining.com/SafeSport/safesport_home.html
- SafeSport training has been added as a component of USA Volleyball Coach's IMPACT training. Any registered USA Volleyball/Great Plains member can complete the free SafeSport Training module located on the website above. Per USA Volleyball, completion of this training is not required at this time, but could be mandatory in the next 2 – 3 years.
- When a coach completes the SafeSport training, it will be noted in their webpoint membership record.

THANK YOU

- Thank you for participating with Great Plains Volleyball. This concludes your officiating clinic requirements for the 2015 season. When the system has updated, you will see a 'Y' under the Ref column on the roster. (You will not see anything under the Score column)
- Good luck to everyone for the season!
- For further questions, contact the Great Plains Region office or refer to the Juniors homepage on the Great Plains website.