

11/15/16

Officials,

Another season of Great Plains Volleyball is here! Time to get ready! Anyone who is receiving this information but wishes to be taken off this list or is not interested, please let me know so I can remove you from this list. If you know anyone who might be interested, have them contact the Region office or you may forward them this email.

#### MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Everyone must register with a Region of USA Volleyball. If you are a returning Great Plains member, log in to your USA Volleyball membership account and renew your membership. The cost is \$40 if you are registering as an OFFICIAL ONLY. If you are going to be affiliated with a junior program (Coach, Club Director, Tournament Director, etc.) you must select the Adult Affiliated with a Jr Program option. Either way, if you are 18 years old or older, you must submit a background screening application. This is part of the member registration. This must be done before you can officiate any sanctioned tournaments by any region or USA Volleyball.

Anyone who is new to USA Volleyball may attend the clinic (see further down in this letter) without registering as a member. If, after the clinic, you decide you want to officiate in the Great Plains, then you must complete your member registration and background screening as soon as possible. To register, go to the Region website ([www.gpvb.org](http://www.gpvb.org)) and Click NEW Member Registration.

#### SAFESPORT

ALL officials are required to be SafeSport certified. To take the course, follow this link then follow the instructions. <https://www.volleyballreftraining.com/SafeSport/index.php> It is approximately a 90 minute online course. If you have any questions, please contact the Great Plains office. Make time to get it done early.

#### ANNUAL ADVANCED REF CLINIC

We strongly encourage everyone to attend our annual official's clinic. This year, the clinic will be held on Saturday, January 7, 2017 at Ralston High School. This clinic will start immediately following the National Ref clinic. We will finish up no later than 5:00PM either way. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. For up-to-the-minute information, see <http://gpvb.org/page/advanced-ref-clinic>

We request that all referees (whether you attend the clinic or not) fill out the registration form so we know how many will be (or will not be) attending. See link.

<http://greatplainsforms.weebly.com/2017-great-plains-referee-clinic-sign-up.html>

#### NATIONAL REFEREE CLINIC

The Great Plains Region will be hosting a National Referee Clinic on Saturday, January 7, 2017. The clinic starts at 8:00am. The Advanced Referee Clinic is immediately following the National Referee Clinic. There is a SEPARATE registration for the National clinic and a small registration fee for anyone who is NOT a national referee. Non-national referees are not required to attend. More information can be found at <http://gpvb.org/page/national-referee-clinic>

#### ONLINE REF / SCORE CERTIFICATIONS

All National officials must complete their respective online national ref/score clinic per the national requirements. These clinics will be loaded into your membership account and you must complete all modules to fulfill your clinic requirements. This is the same as in the past.

All NON-National officials must complete their respective online ref/score clinic. These clinics will be loaded into your membership account (new this year) and you must complete all modules to fulfill your clinic requirements. This is the same as in the past. You will log into your membership account and click any of the red buttons that say USAV Academy. This will take you to your Academy account. You will see the clinic and modules listed. Click the Green GO button to start any of the modules. Follow the instructions. You do not have to watch all modules in one sitting. If you have any issues with the Academy, please let me know. If you do not see the clinic loaded into your account, contact Bill Stanley ([registrar@gpvb.org](mailto:registrar@gpvb.org))

## OFFICIATING REQUIREMENTS

For a list of all officiating requirements for Great Plains referees, go to the region website. [www.gpvb.org](http://www.gpvb.org). Click Officials/Rules tab then click Officiating Requirements link. <http://gpvb.org/page/officiating-requirements>

## AVAILABILITY

In order to make assignments for our region sanctioned tournaments, we must have everyone maintain an availability calendar. This is done through ArbiterSports.com. To enter your availability, you must join the Great Plains RVA group in Arbiter. To do this, you must be invited. If you are not part of the Great Plains RVA already, contact the Region office so we can add you. Anyone needing help with this site can contact the Region office. We will also have a short training session at our clinic on Jan 7.

We have had several new people contact us about being an official for Great Plains. We look forward to working with you. If anyone knows other people who are interested in officiating, please have them contact the Region office. ([registrar@gpvb.org](mailto:registrar@gpvb.org))

See everyone on the court!

Mike Behrens

Representative to Great Plains Board of Directors - Officials Program Board

Ryan Tighe

Great Plains Region - Referee Chair

Eloise Hiemke

Great Plains Region - Scorer Chair

Bill Stanley

Great Plains Registrar