

Southern Region Volleyball Association



Updated through 8/1/15

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SRVA Board of Directors.....	3
Operating Code.....	4
Membership Classification and Fees.....	4
Registration of Members and Teams.....	5
Central Registration for Tournaments.....	8
Tournament Administration.....	9
Conducting Sanctioned Indoor Tournaments.....	11
Indoor Tournament Scheduling.....	12
Determination of Playoff Teams in Indoor Tournaments.....	13
Awards.....	15
Region Tournaments.....	15
Indoor Region Championships.....	16
Protests, Appeals, Complaints and General Powers.....	18
Ethics and Conduct.....	19
Annual Indoor Referee Certification.....	19
Annual Indoor Scorer Certification.....	20
In Good Standing Policy.....	22
SRVA Sexual Harassment Policy.....	22
SRVA Due Process Procedure.....	23
SRVA Conflict of Interest Policy.....	25

Copies of forms, By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation and other information may be obtained at our web site: www.srva.org.

SOUTHERN REGION VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

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BEACH REFEREE CHAIR: Duane Holben duaneholben@gmail.com

2015-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Updated Information can be found at www.srva.org)

Alabama

Kenneth Cain, Jr.
Jim Kirkpatrick
Apple Kridakorn
Pat Martin
Rose Powell

Georgia

Paul Albright
Colleen Craig
Eric Eberhardt
Kim Fletcher
Michael Fletcher
Suzanne Garland
Bernie Goldfine
Duane Holben
Bob Hume
Kim Kenyon
Steve Kenyon
James Lawson
Brenda McIntosh
Michelle Prater
Jessica Turnbull

Tennessee

Carmen Foster
Anthony Marshall
Keith Weller

PLAYER REPRESENTATIVES

Arleen Hughes
Courtney Wade

**SOUTHERN REGION VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION
OPERATING CODE**

I. MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION AND FEES:

A. MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION: Member classifications for the current season have been established by the Southern Region Board of Directors as follows:

Classification of Members		Fees
REGULAR MEMBER, JUNIOR MEMBER, OR ADULT & JUNIOR TEAM COACH	Fee includes USAV Rule Book (adult only); sports accident/liability insurance; national and region newsletters; participation in sanctioned tournaments and official's clinics upon payment of applicable fees.	\$60.00
JUNIOR BOYS MEMBER	Fee includes Sports accident/liability insurance; region newsletter; participation in sanctioned tournaments and official's clinics upon payment of applicable fees.	\$30.00
FINANCIALLY DISADVANTAGED	Regular membership offered at a reduced fee. An affidavit (available at srva.org) requesting a lower membership fee due to being financially disadvantaged must be filed along with the SRVA membership form in order to be eligible for the reduced fee.	\$30.00
JUNIOR CLUB ADULT	Jr. Club Administrator, volunteer, parent, etc. Fee includes sports accident/liability insurance and auditing of official's clinics.	\$30.00
ADULT OR COLLEGIATE PLAYER, SUMMER/RECREATION/ OUTDOOR	An adult/collegiate player, or an athlete or official in a recreation league who wishes to affiliate with USAV; or who wishes to participate in sanctioned outdoor events. Fee includes sports accident/liability insurance and auditing of official's clinics.	\$25.00
SINGLE EVENT	Single event (one-day or multi-day) membership. Fee includes sports accident/liability insurance. *Only one single event covered, then must upgrade to regular member.	\$8.00
YOUTH MEMBER	10 years old and under junior player	\$30.00
OTHER FEES:		
Recreation League Fee	For a recreation league that wishes to affiliate with USAV and SRVA. Fee includes sports accident/liability insurance.	Contact SRVA
Club Transfer Fee	See II. E. Below	\$50.00
Returned Check Fee	See II.A.	\$20.00
Late Tournament Registration Fee	Charged to any team registering after a tournament deadline	\$25.00
National Tournament Penalty Fee	For any team that fails to register properly for a national tournament with SRVA. See X.A.	\$100.00
Background Check Fee	Required for all individuals associated with Junior activities, such as, Club Directors, Club Administrators, Team Reps, Coaches, Chaperones and Trainers. FREE to SRVA MEMBERS	\$20.00 or FREE
Tournament Director Late Fee	Failure to supply Region with gym locations and directions two weeks prior to the tournament. See IV. D.	minimum \$100.00
Failure to Officiate	Team fails to officiate after their play is completed.	\$100.00
Failure to attend tournament	Team fails to attend tournament without proper notification. See XII . E.	\$100.00

- B. DIVISIONS OF COMPETITION (Indoor & Outdoor): USAV Divisions of sanctioned competition are:
- 1) MEN'S DIVISION: Teams comprised ONLY of eligible male athletes.
 - 2) WOMEN'S DIVISION: Teams comprised ONLY of eligible female athletes.
 - 3) MIXED-SIX/COED DIVISION: Teams comprised of eligible female and male athletes which are consistent with USAV Rules of Competition. Junior players may participate in adult coed tournaments with parent's written permission.
 - 4) JUNIOR OLYMPIC DIVISION: Teams comprised of eligible members in the approved age classifications for male and female members.
 - 5) RECREATION LEAGUE: See above.
 - 6) OUTDOOR: Grass, sand or similar tournaments usually consisting of 2 to 4 player teams and primarily playing during the summer months.

II. REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS AND TEAMS

HOW TO REGISTER

- A. MEMBER/TEAM REGISTRATION: Forms and handbooks may be obtained from the Region at the web site or the address below. To register teams and individuals, mail correct forms and fees to: SRVA, 105 Rounsaville Ct. Roswell, GA 30076; or register on-line at www.srva.org (if available).

Each member must complete, in full, a Member Registration Form each year including the USAV Participant Code of Conduct, and any other forms required by the Region and the USAV, including a club charter for junior teams. All information is requested for record-keeping purposes and is maintained in the strictest confidence, although SRVA reserves the right to post officiating, coaching and background check information. Forms with incomplete and inaccurate information will be returned/refused. Membership is not active until SRVA receives and accepts completed registration material and full payment. Membership is valid from November 1 through October 31. Each team must be comprised of at least six regular members (except adult teams prior to SRVA Adult Regional Championships and recreation/collegiate/outdoor/coed teams) but may also include one day or one event members. Indoor club affiliation is separate from beach club affiliation.

A reduced fee membership is available for those individuals who are financially disadvantaged. An affidavit requesting the lower membership must be filed along with the SRVA Membership Form in order to be eligible for the reduced fee.

All individuals associated with junior activities such as club directors, club administrators, team reps, coaches, chaperones, trainers, officials, and any junior tournament director/site director/on-site tournament administrator/manager must consent to a background screening by completing and submitting the required forms. These forms must be submitted and the applicant cleared before the applicant may participate in sanctioned junior events and/or activities (a minimum of one week should be expected to complete the screening). Line judges do not need to be background checked.

IMPACT or equivalent certification approved by USA Volleyball is required within a reasonable amount of time after participation as a coach in junior level activities, to be effective with the 2007-2008 season. In-person clinics will be free to approved SRVA members effective as of the 2014-15 season.

Each *Junior* Olympic team must have an adult coach who is a registered member of the Southern Region and who has passed the background screening process present during all play and officiating assignments. Each junior/adult club director/president (and chaperones at National Jr. events) must be SRVA members.

Once a registration is accepted no refunds or transfer of fees to another member will be allowed.

Any individual/team/club who submits a check or other form of payment that is not honored by any bank, etc., will be charged a \$20 handling fee. The individual/team/club will also be required to replace the original amount of the payment and to reimburse SRVA for any bank fees or other charges incurred as a result. SRVA will not allow participants with an unresolved bounced check to participate in SRVA activities. This would apply to a whole club if the club director bounces the check.

B. **MEMBER/TEAM REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Signed team registration information and appropriate fees must be received by the Region Office no later than two days prior to the tournament in order to be eligible. Member registration information and fees must be received by the Region Office no later than one day prior to the tournament in order to be eligible. Junior teams must be registered before registering for a tournament. Junior tournament registrations will not be accepted for any team until their team has been properly registered and at least six regular individuals from their roster are legally registered (see also Sections II. A. and III. B.).

C. **SPECIAL REGISTRATION AND COMPETITION RULES FOR SRVA TOURNAMENTS:**

1. A Junior Olympic member cannot register and compete with BOTH a Junior and an adult Regular Team. Any junior member who competes on an adult team (except in an adult coed tournament) will not be eligible to play in any junior tournament. In the spirit of grass-roots development, this rule applies only to junior girls and not to junior boys. Junior girls' teams are prohibited from competing in adult tournaments.

JUNIOR TRY-OUT POLICY: SRVA's intent is to allow players to try-out with multiple clubs. Tryouts may begin no earlier than the second Saturday in October for age groups 14 and below, and a 10-day try-out period for ages 15 through 18 will not begin prior to the first day after the completion of each state's high school championship, with no fee greater than \$50 collectible during that period as a try-out fee only. No player may be allowed to make a greater financial or player commitment to a club until the 11th day after the completion of that state's high school championship. Participants should be careful not to violate any high school or collegiate rules that may apply.

It shall not be considered a violation of the tryout policy for a club, following the beginning of the tryout period and prior to the commitment day, to provide a player/parent with a statement that the Club is offering the player a spot on a designated team or the player is an alternate for a spot on a designated team. The Club may not withdraw the offer prior to the established commitment day.

All Club websites must prominently post the SRVA try-out policy or a link to it entitled "Link to the SRVA Try-out Policy" where their try-out information is located.

2. Twelve and under girls teams may play in girls SRVA tournaments/events and the 12 and under club division of the SRVA Junior Regionals with boys participating in no more than two of the six legal positions on the court at any time. This would include a boy who is playing in the libero position. However, boys may not participate with these teams in the power division of the SRVA Regional Championships or at any USAV National Bid Tournament, National Qualifier or National Championship event.

3. Adult or junior Fellowship or recreation Tournament Registration – adults or juniors may pay either a single event or summer/recreation/outdoor fee (for a second or later fellowship or recreation tournament) to participate in any SRVA-sanctioned adult or junior fellowship or recreation tournament, and are not subject to SRVA registration deadline requirements in II. B., or SRVA officiating requirements (see also IX. A.) and are not subject to the matching uniform requirement.

Non-SRVA member participation is also allowed in a SRVA-sanctioned fellowship or recreation tournament if the required SRVA liability insurance is obtained.

4. Non-members may pay a one event registration fee to compete in a separate recreation, collegiate club, outdoor, coed, reverse coed or U-Volley regional championship tournament, and shall not be subject to the SRVA registration requirements in II. B., or SRVA officiating requirements.
5. MULTI-TEAM CLUBS: Volleyball clubs consist of teams organized from the same geographical area, which is limited to a city, county or metro area. Teams in a volleyball club must abide by the following policies:
 - a. Each team must submit registration forms and fees for the current season.
 - b. Players on each team in a club may move laterally and upward in team classification in order to compete with other teams in their club until team rosters are frozen. See Section V. G. re Rosters.
 - c. For the purposes of adult competition, all adults will be considered part of a single “club”, allowing for free movement of players between teams and divisions. Adult teams may still form and compete as a unit, however, rosters must be sent with SRVA Regional Championship tournament entry forms.
 - d. Junior boys playing in the Southern Region will be considered part of a single club if they register as part of the Southern Region Boys’ club, or they may also register as separate clubs.
6. SENIOR/AGE GROUP TEAMS: Members may form conglomerate teams for the purpose of participating in USAV Sanctioned events. A team roster, with the names of team members and a Team Representative, must be submitted to the Region Office for the team to be eligible for competition. Additions and deletions may be made in writing to the Region Office. Questions regarding team and athlete eligibility should be directed to the Region Commissioner.
7. For twelve club in-region tournaments, players may serve from behind the end line or a shorter line whose back edge is no more than 9’ 10” from the back edge of the end line. Within a single term of service, player(s) serving from the shorter line may serve up to three times successfully and if the term of service continues to a fourth service attempt, this serve and all subsequent attempts within that term of service must be from behind the end line. This shorter service line is ignored after each service for the remainder of the rally.

- D. TEAM CLASSIFICATIONS: Classification of **JUNIOR** Olympic teams is determined by the current age group definitions for Junior Olympic volleyball. There will be no exception to the age group rule. Athletes may play upward in age classification if they choose to do so.

JUNIOR clubs having more than one team in an age group classification will identify the teams by using the age group number followed by the order of the team in the club. Example: 181 would indicate the first 18 and under team in a club and 182 would indicate the second team in the club.

- E. **ATHLETE/MEMBER TRANSFERS:** An athlete may represent only one team/club in the same season. After January 15, a junior cannot transfer clubs without the permission of the club director they are leaving..

In the event of change in military or academic status; job transfer; or hardship situation, a written request for transfer may be made to the Region Commissioner. All permanent transfers are subject to all SRVA related fees and USAV rules limiting player participation in qualifiers, Nationals or other tournaments.

Transfers between beach clubs will follow current transfer rules.

III. CENTRAL REGISTRATION FOR TOURNAMENTS

- A. All Tournament Entry forms and entry fees, whether by on-line registration or mail, must be received by the Region Commissioner or his/her designee.
- B. A junior team may not register for a tournament without listing a rostered coach who has passed a background check, and a coach who has passed a background check must accompany every junior team during all tournaments. Violation of this policy will subject the club, club director, club administrator, team rep, coach, chaperone and/or trainer to possible suspension from play and/or monetary sanctions.
- C. **INDOOR TOURNAMENT ENTRY DEADLINES:** The entry deadline for an indoor adult tournament is seven (7) days prior to the tournament date, and the entry deadline for a one-day indoor junior tournament is ten (10) days prior to the tournament date. The entry deadline for ALL multiple-day indoor junior tournaments is fourteen (14) days prior to the tournament date. See Section X. C. for entry periods and deadlines for the SRVA Junior Indoor Regional Championships. An entry received in the Region Office after these dates will be accepted **ONLY** at the discretion of SRVA, and SRVA reserves the right to refuse entries and cancel/combine classifications with less than four entries at any time after the entry deadline. In the event that more entries are received than space is available, teams will be accepted on a first come first served basis based on the date when all entry requirements are met. In the case that multiple team registrations are received on the same date and exceed available space, a coin toss(es) will be used to determine which team (s) is (are) accepted unless electronic means can be used to establish the order in which all of the entries were received.

A \$25 late entry fee must be paid by any team that enters a indoor tournament after the deadline, or requesting changes after the deadline that are not requested by SRVA. This fee must be paid prior to the indoor tournament and will be retained by SRVA.

SPECIAL ADULT INDOOR TOURNAMENT FEE PAYMENT RULE – Entry fees to adult indoor tournaments may be paid on the tournament date, but an additional amount will be added to the fee for such payments.

Host teams [clubs] may enter their own registered teams in their own tournaments prior to the opening of tournament registration.

BEACH/OUTDOOR tournaments may accept same-day tournament team entries and may charge a larger fee if requested and approved in the tournament sanction request.

- D. A decision on pool assignments for an indoor tournament will be made on Monday prior to the tournament. Classifications with inadequate registration as of the tournament entry deadline will be cancelled.
- E. On Tuesday prior to the indoor tournament, pool and gym assignments and any available directions to assigned playing sites will be posted on the web site (www.srva.org) or otherwise disseminated.

IV. TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION

- A. Tournament Directors must submit an “Application for Sanction” form to the Region either on-line or by mail four (4) weeks prior to the tournament date. The sanction fee will only be waived if the tournament does not occur due to lack of entries or inclement weather. The Region Commissioner may waive the four week requirement. [See also IV. H.]

It is required to disclose on the tournament sanction request form if outside food will be prohibited from events, any policy requiring teams to stay in certain hotels to register for the tournament, and if admission fees will be charged for tournament attendance.

- B. The following materials may be downloaded from the SRVA web site (www.srva.org) by the Tournament Director, or if not on the website will be provided by the SRVA:
 - 1. Additional copies of the Region Handbook, if needed.
 - 2. USAV approved scoresheets; lineup sheets; and team roster forms.
 - 3. Pool play and playoff sheets for the tournament.
- C. The Tournament Director must conduct the tournament in accordance with USAV/SRVA guidelines and the following policies:
 - 1. Teams will register through the central registration process unless waived by the Region Commissioner.

Tournament hosts/directors requesting a multiple-day tournament(s) may request a waiver from using the SRVA central tournament registration system through the region commissioner or his/her designee. They must comply with all other SRVA tournament requirements, including sending in required info/material/reports and posting results of matches between SRVA teams unless waived by the commissioner or his/her designee.

Additionally, to receive this waiver, hosts/tournament directors must agree to:

- [a] Supply the team names and the USAV team designation for all teams accepted or competing in the tournament to the SRVA commissioner or his/her designee by no later than the fifteenth (15th) day after the tournament ends, and
 - [b] pay all required fees as noted in Section IV. H. below.
- 2. Only registered USAV members may participate in the tournament.
 - 3. Only male athletes may participate in the Men’s Division and only female athletes may participate in the Women’s Division.
 - 4. USAV/SRVA approved volleyballs; scoresheets; lineup sheets; team roster forms; pool play and playoff sheet formats must be used. For 12 and under divisions, a Lite ball will be required.
 - 5. SRVA tournament officials who are paid must be in-process or certified. Payments to paid referees must be made within two weeks after the tournament is completed. [See also II. A]
 - 6. For the tournament entry fee charged, the host will provide one suitable game ball per court, properly marked courts and suitable and safe equipment, and proper padding on net supports, cables and referee stands.

7. The Commissioner or his/her designee may amend the requirements of Sections V through VII.

D. Tournament Director deadlines for submitting tournament information to the Commissioner:

1. An indoor tournament director must submit their play site(s) with directions and/or address(es) to the Region no later than two weeks prior to a tournament, with an exception for sites lost/replaced AFTER the deadline, and for failure to do so will be charged a minimum fine of \$100, up to the full amount of the performance bond, to be retained by SRVA.
2. Indoor tournament Directors must post results into the SRVA on-line system or supply results to the Commissioner or his/her designee no later than Monday following the tournament.
For multi-day tournaments ending on Sunday it is recommended that results be posted by the following Monday but are not required to be posted until the second Monday following the tournament.
3. The Tournament Financial Report and signed team rosters must be received by the Regional Commissioner or his/her designee no later than the fifteenth (15th) day after the tournament ends. The first day of the 15 day period is the day after the final day of tournament competition. Tournament score sheets must be maintained by the tournament director until the end of the season and produced if a question arises.

BEACH/OUTDOOR tournament directors must send the commissioner or his/her designee a Tournament Report, a list of attendees, and competition results within the same 15 day deadline noted in this section.

- E. Tournament fees for non-regional championship events will be set by the tournament director. Tournament fee structures will be set at the time the request for tournament sanction form is sent in. A requested change to a tournament fee must be submitted to the region commissioner twelve calendar days before the tournament date. Any team that has registered and paid for a tournament will pay the lower of amount already paid or new tournament fee.
- F. Tournament Directors may mail out promotional materials and information on their tournaments including motel information and maps of gym locations. The central registration requirement must be included in all such materials (unless waived by SRVA).
- G. Indoor tournament entry fees, less a performance bond and sanction fee, will be mailed to the indoor Tournament Director after all tournament entries have been received and pool assignments finalized. If all requirements are met within the established deadlines (see IV. C. 1 and IV. D.), and there are no violations of region policy, or unresolved issues regarding region policy, the Region will return the bond within thirty (30) days after the completion of the tournament; otherwise the performance bond is forfeited to the SRVA in amounts decided by the Region Commissioner (see also IV. H.). Tournament bond reimbursement is forfeited if the required materials are not received by SRVA within 15 days after the tournament date. The indoor tournament director, as established on the sanction request form or sanction approval notice, will be notified of the tournament report requirements at the time the sanction is granted and/or prior to the tournament date, or no part of the bond may be withheld, unless a violation other than failure to file a report has occurred.
- H. SANCTION FEES AND BOND AMOUNTS: Following are the performance bond amounts as well as non-refundable tournament sanction fees for all single day tournaments to be paid to the SRVA.

	<u>Sanction Fee*</u>	<u>Performance Bond</u>
10 teams or less	\$25.00	\$100.00
11 to 20 teams	\$50.00	\$200.00
21 to 30 teams	\$75.00	\$300.00
31 to 40 teams	\$100.00	\$400.00
41 to 60 teams	\$150.00	\$600.00

More than 60 teams \$200.00 \$750.00

BEACH/OUTDOOR SANCTION FEES are:

- \$25 per tournament for events offering 4 or less courts, paid at time of sanction approval.
- \$40 per tournament for events offering 5 or more courts, paid at time of sanction approval.
- A once-per-season \$100 bond will be charged when sanctioning the first event.

*A triple sanction fee will be paid to SRVA by out-of-region tournament directors, and said fee will be retained by SRVA.

An extra \$100 sanction fee and \$200 for tournaments above 60 teams will be charged for multiple-day tournaments.

The Commissioner has the authority to refuse to grant a tournament sanction (approval) due to past poor performance or charge a higher bond up to triple the current bond amount, and SRVA will retain the entire excess bond amount.

Multiple-day tournaments granted a waiver from using the SRVA central tournament registration system shall pay a \$1150 deposit in advance of the granting of the tournament sanction and waiver, and after the tournament will pay the same sanction fee as non-waivered tournaments.

- I. **TOURNAMENT REFUND POLICY:** Requests for refund of tournament entry fees will be honored if received seven (7) days prior to the tournament date for adults, ten (10) days prior to the tournament date for one-day junior events and fourteen (14) days for multiple day junior tournaments. Refund requests received after this deadline date will be paid only if a team is secured to fill the vacancy in the tournament based on teams registered by the Monday deadline as defined in Sections III. C. and D.

V. CONDUCTING SANCTIONED INDOOR TOURNAMENTS

- A. There must be a non-playing and non-coaching adult Tournament Director or non-playing non-coaching adult Court Manager at each site who is responsible for conducting the tournament in accordance with USAV/SRVA policies. They must be registered USAV members.
- B. Pool play, playoff schedules and officiating assignments must be displayed at the gym site and must be explained in the meeting of Team Captains.
- C. Tournament sites and equipment must meet requirements for safe and enjoyable competition. All net supports, cables and referee stands must be padded. Referee stands must be constructed for this purpose.
- D. If necessary, games may be played to 21 points when time is a factor in conducting the tournament. Scores will start at 4-4.
- E. Once pool play begins, it must be completed using the same scoring format.
- F. Team coaches, assistant coaches and managers must be registered USAV members. Persons who are not USAV members may not be on the roster or team bench.
- G. Each Team Captain or Coach must complete a team roster form or update and/or verify the roster supplied by SRVA before competition starts and submit it to the Tournament Director or Court Manager. This is the official team roster and must remain at the Scorekeeper's table during the

tournament. Roster changes that move a player to another team cannot occur within a single tournament.

- H. Double elimination tournaments are not sanctioned because of the limited play potential for teams. Round-robin formats are approved.
- I. When round-robin competition is scheduled, a maximum of five (5) teams will be accepted for each court unless the Region Commissioner waives this policy.

JUNIOR tournaments are divided into Power and Club classifications. Pool play may be either 2 games or 2 out of 3 games to either 21 or 25 points. The Region Commissioner may waive these rules if necessary for the proper administration of the tournament.

- J. Unless otherwise approved, the top two (2) teams in each pool will come out for playoffs.
- K. When four-team pools are scheduled, a championship and consolation playoff format may be used. The recommended format is pool play followed by a single elimination playoff seeded according to pool play records.
- L. Any optional/experimental rule included in the current year USAV Rulebook may be used for a tournament provided it was announced prior to the tournament date and it is applied for the duration of the tournament.

VI. INDOOR TOURNAMENT SCHEDULING

- A. Matches will not be scheduled on a time basis. Matches must be started as soon as possible after completion of the preceding match. Teams must be aware that matches are scheduled in this manner.
- B. Teams must be ready to play or officiate when their assigned matches are sequentially scheduled. Because of the variation of time required for matches, a time schedule will not be posted (see Section XII. B. regarding sanctions for failure to officiate).
- C. If a lunch break is scheduled, it should be scheduled at the completion of a specific match. The time for the coin toss and start of warm-up for the first match after lunch must be clearly understood by teams and officials. If ALL teams in the affected pool agree, the lunch break may be waived.
- D. Approved pool play formats have officiating assignments scheduled. If a team is officiating a match prior to playing the next match, the First Referee must give the team a reasonable amount of time to recover before having the coin toss and starting the warm-up period.
- E. Pool play, playoff schedules and officiating assignments must be explained during the meeting of Team Coaches prior to start of play and must be posted prominently in the gym. Any changes or variations in the format must be approved by the Region Commissioner or his/her designee and cannot be modified by coaches, tournament director or court managers.
- F. In playoff matches, a team just finishing a match must be given a minimum rest period of ten (10) minutes before being required to prepare for their next match.

- G. Warm-up periods will be scheduled with teams on the court separately. Each team will have the court for two (2) minutes of shared ball handling, followed by four (4) minutes each of individual team warm-up, including serving. The serving team will have the court for the first warm-up period.
- H. Team(s) that do not arrive on site or provide notification to the tournament contact or to the Region regarding a late arrival by the time of the first match each tournament day may be removed from the schedule for the tournament if necessary. Playing assignments missed as a result of the late arrival even if proper notification is made, will be treated as forfeits. If the team subsequently arrives without providing proper notification and the tournament schedule was not adjusted, they can participate in the remainder of their matches with any penalties for missing officiating assignments being applied as described in Section XII.B.

VII. DETERMINATION OF PLAYOFF TEAMS in INDOOR TOURNAMENTS

Teams qualifying for the playoffs but tied for position only shall not compete in a playoff set to determine position. Rather, each team's position shall be determined by the priority system described below. However, no teams shall be eliminated from the playoffs based solely upon points or a point system, except for the gold/silver format tournaments. If there are more teams tied for the playoffs than there are positions, the tied teams will compete in a minimum number of playoff sets so that no team will be eliminated from the playoff based on points.

- A. Any one-set playoff necessary to determine which team will make the playoffs will be conducted in accordance with the current year USAV Rulebook. If no specific instructions are included in the rulebook, then a one-set playoff will be to 25 points, switch sides at 13, win by 2 with no cap.
- B. **IF TWO TEAMS ARE TIED FOR TWO PLAYOFF POSITIONS** for the tournament championship, **or when re-seeding four team pools to play extra/cross pool matches to meet the SRVA requirement that each team play at least eight sets per tournament** [Example: two teams advance to the playoffs for a tournament championship and the top two teams in the pool are tied] **NO PLAYOFF SET IS NECESSARY**. INSTEAD, determine the higher-seeded team by:
 1. the result of the match between the two teams, first on sets won and lost.
 2. If the two teams are still tied, use the point percentage process [see below] using the match between the two tied teams. The team with the highest point percentage has the highest finish in the pool.
 3. If the two teams are still tied, the higher seed is determined by:
 - [A] best set percentage record using total sets played, and if still tied
 - [B] highest point percentage using total sets played.
 4. If still tied, a coin toss will determine playoff positions.
- 5. **IF THREE OR MORE TEAMS ARE TIED FOR THE SAME NUMBER OF PLAYOFF POSITIONS** for the tournament championship, use steps 3 and 4 above.

The team with the highest point percentage has the highest finish in the pool, the team with the second highest point percentage is second in the pool, and so on. All teams proceed to the tournament championship based in their finish using steps 3 and 4 above.
- C. **When TWO OR MORE TEAMS are tied for one playoff position for the tournament championship** [Example: two teams advance to the playoffs for a tournament championship, and two or more teams are tied for the second position]:
 1. If two teams are tied for one playoff position, play one 25 point rally point set.
 2. If three teams are tied for one playoff position, the highest team seeding is determined by using the best set record using total sets played. Then if there is still a tie for the highest position, use the point percentage procedure using total sets played to rank the tied teams against each other.

If still tied, two coin tosses will determine the bye, with the two teams listed highest on the original pool sheet taking part in the first coin toss, and the winner of the first toss takes part in the second coin toss with the team listed third on the original pool play sheet, and that second coin toss winner receives the bye.

Then, two 25 point rally point sets are required. The highest seeded team receives a bye, and plays the winner of a 25 point rally point set between the other two teams to determine the team that advances to the playoffs for the tournament championship.

3. If four teams are tied for one playoff position, the team seeding is determined by using the best set record using total sets played. Then if any ties remain, use the point percentage procedure using total sets played to seed the remaining tied teams against each other.

If still tied, three coin tosses will determine the ranking for the tiebreaker sets. The two teams listed as the lowest teams on the original pool sheet take part in the first coin toss and the loser of that toss is #4. Then the first toss winner takes part in the second coin toss with the team listed second on the original pool sheet and the loser of that toss is #3. Then the winner of the second coin toss takes part in the third coin toss against the team listed as the highest team on the original pool sheet, and the winner of that coin toss is #1 and the loser is #2.

Then, three 25 point rally point sets are required. Team 1 plays team 4 in one 25 point rally point set, and team 2 plays team 3 in one 25 point rally point set. The two winners play one 25 point rally point set to determine the team that advances to the playoffs for the tournament championship.

Note: **Officiating support teams are provided by** the lowest seeded non-playing team for the first playoff match, then the loser of the previous playoff match for all subsequent playoff matches.

D If three, four or five teams are tied for two playoff positions:

1. determine the seeding among the tied teams using the best set record using total sets played. The highest ranked team is awarded the first position in the playoffs for the tournament championship.
2. if any or all teams are still tied, use the point percentage procedure using total sets played.
3. if four or five teams were originally tied, and any are still tied after applying 1. and 2. above, a coin toss will determine the schedule below for the playoff positions for the tournament championship.
4. [A] when three teams were originally tied, the two remaining lower seeded teams play one 25 point rally point set to determine which team receives the second playoff position for the tournament Championship.
[B] when four teams were originally tied, team 3 plays team 4, then team 2 plays the winner of the 3 vs 4 set, using single 25 point rally point sets. The winner of this second set receives the second playoff position for the tournament championship.
[C] when five teams were originally tied, team 2 plays team 5, team 3 plays team 4, and the winners play each other, using single 25 point rally point sets. The winner of this third set receives the second playoff position for the tournament championship.

Note: **Officiating support teams are provided by** the lowest seeded non-playing team for the first playoff match, then the loser of the previous playoff match for all subsequent playoff matches.

E If more than five teams are tied for two positions:

- [1] Same procedure as D. 1. through 3. above. The highest ranked team is awarded the first position in the playoff for the tournament championship.
- [2] The remaining teams play the minimum number of 25 point rally point sets to determine the second position.

Note: **Officiating support teams are provided by** the lowest seeded non-playing team for the first playoff match, then the loser of the previous playoff match for all subsequent playoff matches.

Note: **Point percentage** is determined by dividing each team's total points scored by the total points scored by all the team's opponents in that pool using all sets played. The team with the highest point percentage has the next highest finish in the pool.

Set percentage is determined by dividing the sets won by each team by the sets lost by that same team using all sets played.

VIII. AWARDS

For the tournament entry fee charged, the host will provide appropriate awards for First Place in each classification in which there are four or more teams. If two classifications are combined, separate play-offs and awards are not required.

IX. REGION TOURNAMENTS

A. **FELLOWSHIP SEASON:** Fellowship tournaments may be sanctioned from the last weekend in October to the first weekend in December. Players must be registered with the SRVA and such tournaments must be sanctioned by the SRVA in order to provide event insurance (see Section II.C.3 re non-member events).

B. **SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS:**

The **ADULT** sanctioned indoor season begins on November 1 and ends on August 31 of the current season. The **JUNIOR** sanctioned indoor season begins on January 1 and ends at the conclusion of Junior Nationals. During this period, all tournaments conducted by USAV/SRVA teams must be sanctioned by the Southern Region and conducted in accordance with region tournament guidelines. Summer/outdoor, coed and reverse coed tournaments may be sanctioned by the Southern Region but will not be required to follow the indoor officiating and jersey number rule.

C. **OFFICIATING RESPONSIBILITIES:** Since a minimum of six persons are needed to officiate a volleyball match, it is a team responsibility. Teams entered in sanctioned tournaments must abide by the following:

1. Only certified Referees and Scorekeepers, or "In-Process" Referees and Scorekeeper candidates, may officiate in sanctioned tournaments. Adult teams participating in sanctioned tournaments **MUST** have at least one (1) certified or In-Process Referee and at least one (1) certified or In-Process Scorekeeper on their team roster who **ARE PRESENT AND OFFICIATING** or the team may bring with them non-playing Certified or In-Process officials that will meet the SRVA officiating requirements. In an adult tournament where a first referee and scorekeeper are provided, the teams do not have to provide an in-process referee and scorekeeper. To compete in SRVA adult regional championships a team must have one certified or in-process referee and one certified or in-process scorekeeper, or the team may bring with them non-playing, certified officials.

JUNIOR referees and scorekeepers can officiate in junior events if they become **QUALIFIED** by attending an SRVA officiating clinic each year. A first referee must be at least 15 years of age. All junior players under the age of 15 who show potential as a referee and are approved by the referee chairman to be an R1 will have the opportunity to referee with their coach assisting on the floor. An adult coach must be present during all officiating assignments. Junior Olympic Adult members who attend an SRVA clinic become qualified to officiate in junior events only. To become an in-process or certified official, adults must be regular members.

2. Failure to meet the above requirements will result in sanctions which could include suspension and/or fines.
3. The Tournament Director is not responsible for providing officials for teams. It is a team responsibility and the team must secure the necessary officials for the tournament.

D. **UNIFORM RULE:** During the sanctioned season, all junior teams must abide by the USAV uniform rule and for local tournaments, the same color shorts must be worn, regardless of style, cut and trim. For adult tournaments, matching shorts are not required.

1. Tournament Directors **MAY NOT** suspend or modify the uniform rule. A team not meeting the uniform rule will be allowed to play its scheduled pool play matches, but must forfeit all games played while out of uniform.
2. It is the responsibility of the First Referee and the Tournament Director to enforce the uniform rule and to notify the offending team that all games played while out of uniform will be forfeited.

X. INDOOR REGION CHAMPIONSHIPS

A. **QUALIFICATION OF TEAMS FOR INDOOR REGION CHAMPIONSHIPS:** A junior team must have participated in at least two sanctioned regular season SRVA indoor tournaments to be eligible to compete in the applicable indoor regional championship. Teams bumped from an indoor tournament due to court space limitations or cancellation of an indoor tournament by SRVA will count as a tournament if the team has registered by the tournament registration deadline.

For region championship registration purposes only an exception to the two tournament requirement will be made for teams that are composed of two or more players from Hamilton or Bradley County Public Middle Schools in Tennessee provided they have participated and/or are registered for a minimum of two SRVA tournaments.

Participation in SRVA indoor tournaments and USAV Junior National Qualifiers will be considered in seeding of SRVA regional tournaments.

A team with more than one USAV/SRVA sanction will not be eligible for any Region Championship. Only regular members may participate in the Adult Regional Championships. Limited members (one-day, one-event) will not be allowed to participate without first upgrading to full regular member status except those members competing in a separate collegiate club, recreation, outdoor, coed, reverse coed or U-volley regional championship tournament (see Section II.C).

The champions of the Region indoor adult tournament and power junior indoor tournament will be the region representatives to the National Tournament, if at least six players on the roster at the indoor region championship are also on the roster for the indoor National Championships. Any reimbursement of entry fees will be based on proper fulfillment of tournament play schedule and officiating requirements, and will be denied if there are any disciplinary problems (including but not limited to disqualification or expulsion from competition) or, in the case of junior competition, failure to follow the Impact certification policy.

Only the champion or runner-up in each indoor classification will be eligible for reimbursement of their national entry fee, but at the region commissioner's discretion a lower finishing team may receive the region bid without reimbursement. All adult teams that attend the indoor USAV Club National Championships will be eligible for monetary support from the Region on an equal basis, not to exceed \$900.00 or the team's entry fee for Nationals. Age division, u-volley, coed, and

reverse coed teams will be eligible for reimbursement if two-thirds of that team's roster at the indoor National Championship are SRVA members. In order to qualify for the monetary distribution, a team must register and participate in the SRVA Adult Regional Indoor Championships if three or more teams register in their division.

The Region reserves the right to forfeit any region championship title and/or withhold authorization for any individual and/or team to participate in any national championship or invitational event if the team or any player on that team is found to have violated SRVA or USAV policies. Teams are responsible for any financial losses incurred.

Acceptance of a bid to Nationals must be submitted in writing or by e-mail sent to the region office by the club director (for multiple team clubs) or the adult team rep or junior club coach for single team clubs. \$100 will be deducted from any reimbursement if proper forms are not submitted to the region office.

Any junior team with no available competition in their classification for an indoor regional championship must have participated in two sanctioned regular season SRVA indoor tournaments to be eligible for reimbursement if entry/play was offered by the region during the year.

B. **ADULT** CHAMPIONSHIPS

All teams that wish to enter the Adult Regional Indoor Championships will be accepted provided enough gym space is available to accommodate the teams. If gym space becomes a limiting factor, teams will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

C. JUNIOR REGION INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS:

1. Teams may not register to play in the SRVA Jr. Regional Indoor Championships until March 1 and entry into Jr. Regionals is not guaranteed. The tournament entry deadline for SRVA Junior Regional Indoor Championships is four weeks prior to the tournament date.
2. In order to qualify for the Region Indoor Championship for power teams, a team must compete in the power division of indoor tournaments during the season.
3. If the club region indoor championship is held first, the winners in each age group will qualify for the power indoor championship. If the winner cannot attend, the runner-up may enter.
4. In the Club division of the SRVA Junior Regional Indoor Championships, teams finishing third and fourth will be placed in separate playoff brackets with no tiebreaker to determine playoff position.
5. In the Club division of the SRVA Junior Regional Indoor Championships, pool adjustments are allowed to prevent teams from the same club from being placed in the same pool on the first day of competition.

- D. Region Indoor Championships will be scheduled for all classifications on the same date in the same city, if at least two teams enter. Sites will be chosen by the Region Championship Committee. Acceptance of teams may be limited based on lack of gym space. A regional championship may be a two day tournament if approved by the SRVA Board or Region Championship Committee(s).

Entry fees for Region Indoor Championships will be determined by the Region Championship Committee(s). Paid First Referees will be provided for the ADULT and JUNIOR POWER region

indoor championships (if available), and every effort will be made to provide paid first referees for the JUNIOR CLUB region indoor championships. Teams must provide all necessary officials not supplied by the tournament.

- E. The Tournament Director will be the Region Commissioner, or a person appointed by the Commissioner and will be assisted by the Region Championship Committee(s).
- F. In the power divisions of the SRVA Junior (Indoor) Regional Championships, if a division has more than 24 teams entered, the fourth place team in each pool on the first day will be placed into a separate (silver) playoff bracket. The teams finishing in the top three positions of each power division pool will advance to the championship division playoffs and only these teams will be eligible for the region bids to the USAV National Championships. Should two or more teams be tied in matches won and include the fourth place position in the pool, the minimum number of playoff sets will be played to determine the team in fourth place. If two teams are tied, a single playoff set to 25 points with a court switch at 13 points will be played. If three or more teams are tied, the affected teams will be seeded based on set winning percentage for all matches played and then by total point percentage for all matches played. The teams found to be in the third and fourth place positions will play a single playoff set to 25 points with a court switch at 13 points and the second place team will officiate the match.

At Power Regional Championships we play down to 8th place.

XI. PROTESTS, APPEALS, COMPLAINTS AND GENERAL POWERS

- A. **TOURNAMENTS:** Protests arising with respect to rules interpretation by officials during sanctioned competition must be decided by a Tournament Protest Committee composed of 3 certified officials (if available), appointed by the Tournament Director or Court Manager.
- B. **SRVA POLICIES:** Participants and organizations desiring to participate in SRVA sanctioned events must abide by the rules, policies and guidelines of the Southern Region and USAV.
- C. **APPEALS:** An individual to whom membership is refused, or who has membership suspended in part or whole, or a team that has registration refused or team eligibility suspended in part or whole, may appeal for a review by following the Due Process Policy adopted by the Southern Region Board of Directors.
- D. Complaints concerning tournament administration must be received in writing within three weeks after completion of the event. SRVA reserves the right not to take action on any complaints filed after that time period.
- E. The commissioner or his/her designee is authorized to make all decisions and promulgate all policies not specifically covered in this Handbook, including fees to be charged for region services and the amount of all fines against individuals and/or teams for violation of SRVA/USAV or other rules, laws or statutes.
- F. This Handbook is the operating policy for the SRVA. At the discretion of the Commissioner, with the approval of the Officers, he may alter the guidelines established herein. Any action taken will be reported in a timely manner to the Board.

XII. ETHICS AND CONDUCT

- A. Members and teams are prohibited from using, without permission, words or symbols associated with the United States Olympic Committee, the International Olympic Committee, or Olympic Games. Members and teams may not use the name or symbols of the Corporation, such as: USVBA, USAV, USA Volleyball, USA Team, USA National Team, United States National Championship, or any combination thereof.
- B. Teams failing to honor their officiating or other commitment for a tournament after that team's play is completed will be fined \$100.00, to be retained by SRVA, provided the Tournament Director reports the violation promptly to the Region Commissioner or his/her designee.

Teams failing to honor their officiating or other requirements before that team's play is completed shall be assessed a one point penalty for each minute from the end of the warm-up period for which they do not have a complete officiating team, up to a loss of one set, and those points will be given to their next opponent.

- C. SRVA reserves the right to eject or otherwise sanction any person engaging in disruptive, abusive or offensive behavior from any SRVA tournament, event or activity. This sanction may remain in effect for the duration of the tournament, event or activity. Neither the SRVA, its tournament or administrative staff, nor any tournament director or convention center staff shall be liable for any damages caused by the exercise of this right.
- C. **MEMBER RESPONSIBILITY:** Any individual assuming the identity of another person or any individual or team using the membership card of another person in a fraudulent manner shall be suspended from USAV competition. All members are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the USAV Participant Code of Behavior which they must read and sign when applying for membership.
- D. Teams that fail to participate in tournaments without notification to the region prior to the tournament will be charged an additional \$100 fee to be paid prior to participation in the next regional tournament and this fee will be retained by the region. Exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis.

XIII. ANNUAL INDOOR REFEREE CERTIFICATION

- A. To achieve Provisional Referee:
 - 1. Attend Southern Region Referee Clinic.
 - 2. Receive passing grade on written/on-line examination. (all exams must be corrected to 100% with rule references)
 - 3. Receive at least three (3) ratings from National, Junior National or Regional Referees. One rating may be received as Second Referee and the second rating as First Referee must be a passing rating.
 - 2. First year in Referee certification is considered "In-Process" year.
 - 3. Must be an SRVA (and/or USAV) regular member.
- B. To Retain Provisional Referee:
 - 1. Attend Southern Region Referee Clinic as scheduled by Referee Chair.
 - 2. Receive passing grade on written/on-line examination. (all exams must be corrected to 100% with rule references)
 - 3. Receive one (1) passing rating as First Referee and one (1) passing rating as Second Referee from National, Junior National or Regional Referee.

2. Must be an SRVA (and/or USAV) regular member.
3. Failure to complete the above listed requirements by the published ratings and test date may result in the forfeiture of your Provisional rating.

C. To achieve Regional Rating:

1. Serve one year as Provisional Referee.
2. Attend Southern Region Referee Clinic as scheduled by Referee Chair.
3. Receive passing grade on written/on-line examination. Regional candidates will take the “A Test” (all exams must be corrected to 100% with rule references)
4. In the process of successfully retaining Provisional rating, receive a recommendation to the Region Referee Chair as a Regional candidate.
2. Prior to attendance at regional rating tournament, receive one rating as Second Referee from a National or Junior National Referee.
3. Attend and successfully complete the Regional Rating Tournament.
4. Must be an SRVA (and/or USAV) regular member.

D. To Retain Regional Rating:

1. Attend Southern Region Referee Clinic as scheduled by Referee Chair.
2. Receive passing grade on written/on-line examination. (all exams must be corrected to 100% with rule references)
3. Receive one (1) passing rating from National or Junior National Referee.
4. Give a day rating Provisional Referee candidates as scheduled with Region Chair; assist in conducting an Adult or Junior clinic; submit eight (8) ratings of Provisional candidates; or referee at Adult or Junior Regional Championship as approved by Region Referee Chair; or other service to the Region as approved by the Regional Referee Chair.
5. Must be an SRVA (and/or USAV) regular member.
6. Failure to complete the above listed requirements by the published ratings and test date may result in the forfeiture of your Regional rating.

E. Schedule for Referee Certification:

1. Attend a Southern Region Referee Clinic as scheduled by Referee Chair.
2. Test corrections completed and postmarked/e-mailed prior to the published ratings and test date. This date will be set yearly and will be prior to Adult Regionals.
3. Ratings completed and postmarked/e-mailed no later than the published ratings and test date. This date will be set yearly.
4. Certifications issued/posted by Referee Chair.
5. In-process status begins with attendance at an SRVA ADULT Referee clinic and the completion/submission of the written/on-line exam.
6. In-process status ends on the published date. This date will be set yearly. An individual who does not meet the certification requirements outlined in Section XIII.A. may not officiate after this date.

XIV. ANNUAL INDOOR SCORER CERTIFICATION

A. To Achieve Provisional Scorer:

1. Attend a Southern Region Beginner Scorer Clinic.
2. Take the written/on-line examination.

3. Correct test to 100% with rules references (i.e. T, R6.1.1) and submit to Scorer Chair via e-mail or fax.
4. Receive and submit two (2) ratings, last of which must be passing.
5. Must be an SRVA/USAV regular member.
6. First year in scorer certification process is considered “In Process” year and starts once clinic is attended and test is completed.

B. To Retain Provisional Scorer:

1. Attend a Southern Region Advanced Scorer Clinic, if required.
2. Take the online/written examination.
3. Correct test to 100% with rules references (i.e. T, R6.1.1) and submit to Scorer Chair via e-mail or fax.
4. Receive and submit one (1) passing rating.
5. Must be an SRVA/USAV regular member.
6. Failure to complete the above listed requirements by the published ratings and test date may result in the forfeiture of your Provisional rating on that date.

C. To Achieve Regional Scorer:

1. Attend a Southern Region Scorer Clinic if required by Scorekeeper Chair.
2. Serve one (1) year as Provisional Scorer.
3. Pass written/on-line test with score of 85% or better.
4. Correct test to 100% with rule references (i.e. T, R6.1.1) and submit to the Scorer Chair via email or fax.
5. Receive recommendation from approved rater or from Scorer Chair during the process of successfully retaining the Provisional rating.
6. Complete other requirements as prescribed by the Scorer Chair.
7. Must be an SRVA (and/or USAV) regular member.

D. To Retain Regional Scorer:

1. Attend a Southern Region Advanced Clinic when required by Chair.
2. Pass written/on-line test with score of 85% or better.
3. Correct test to 100% with rule references (i.e. T, R6.1.1) and submit to the Scorer Chair via email or fax.
4. Perform one or more of the following services to the Region: (1) Give-a-day rating provisional scorekeeper candidates as scheduled with the Scorer Chair; (2) Submit eight (8) ratings of provisional candidates; (3) Conduct/assist an Adult or Junior Scorer Clinic as scheduled by the Scorer Chair; (4) Assist in conducting an Adult or Junior Olympic Region Championship as scheduled by the Scorer Chair; or (5) Perform other service to the Region as approved by the Scorer Chair.
5. Must be an SRVA (and/or USAV) regular member.
6. Failure to complete the above listed requirements by the published ratings and test date may result in the forfeiture of your Regional rating on that date.

E. Schedule for Scorer Certification:

1. Attend a Southern Region Scorer Clinic, when required, as scheduled by Scorer Chair.
2. Test corrections (if required) completed and postmarked/e-mailed prior to the published ratings and test date. This date will be set yearly and will be prior to Adult Regionals

3. Ratings completed and postmarked/e-mailed no later than the published ratings and test date. This date will be set yearly.
4. Certifications issued/posted by Scorer Chair.
5. In-Process status begins with attendance at a SRVA Adult Scorer Clinic and the completion and submission to the Scorer Chair of the written/online exam.
6. In-process status ends on the published date. This date will be set yearly. An individual who does not meet the certification requirements outlined in Section XIV. A. may not officiate after this date.

XV. IN GOOD STANDING POLICY FOR INDOOR NATIONAL REFEREES AND SCORERS

To maintain good standing as a nationally certified official (national referee, national scorer or junior national referee) you are responsible for meeting the following requirements each year:

- A. Be a regular member of the SRVA.
- B. Submit a copy of your graded exam to the appropriate officials' chairman.
- C. Provide service to the Region by completing one of the following every year:
 1. Conduct an SRVA clinic.
 2. Referee at any of the three regional championships as scheduled by the referee's chairman.
 3. Serve as a scorer monitor at any of the three regional championships as scheduled by the scorekeeper chairman.
 4. Submit 8 ratings of regional, provisional or in-process officials.
 5. Give-a-day rating officials as scheduled by the appropriate officials' chairman.
 6. Serve as a member of the SRVA Regional Rating Team.
 7. Alternative forms of service which do not appear on this list may be substituted with prior approval of the appropriate officials' chairman.

Note: Failure to complete agreed upon commitments may result in the loss of an officials' good standing with SRVA and may be reported to the appropriate national committee.

XVI. SOUTHERN REGION VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

The Southern Region Volleyball Association is committed to providing an athletic environment that is free from sexual harassment and/or unwanted sexual attention.

Harassment can occur between any combination of volleyball members: Coaches, players, officials, parents or organizers.

Sexual harassment may involve:

Suggestive comments about physical appearance.

Use or display of inappropriate printed material.
Sexual teasing; jokes with sexual themes.
Unwanted physical contact.
Promises or rewards in return for sexual favors.
Sexual assault.

Southern Region members may not engage in sexual harassment; make unwelcome or unwanted sexual advances or requests for sexual favors; or engage in verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature such as jokes, gestures, pictures, posters or writings. Touching or other physical contact may constitute sexual harassment when:

1. Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for participation or team selection affecting the individual.
2. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a person's opportunity to participate in volleyball events or results in creating a hostile, intimidating or offensive environment.

Members encountering behavior perceived as harassment may seek to resolve the matter in direct conversation with the person who has engaged in this behavior or report the allegation in writing to the Southern Region Office. In the case of Junior members, it should be taken directly to the Club Director. If this approach is thought not to be effective or if such approach has been taken and failed, a written report should be filed with the Southern Region.

The procedures outlined in the SRVA Due Process Procedure Policy will be used to investigate any sexual harassment complaint and to invoke any sanction or remedy. A report of sexual harassment will remain confidential unless investigation of the report of harassment, eliminating or remedying any sexual harassment found to have occurred, or preventing future harassment requires dissemination of information.

Southern Region Volleyball Association may restrict from sanctioned events any member alleged to have committed sexual harassment, pending an investigation of the sexual harassment report.

Any member who engages in sexual harassment, who fails to cooperate in an investigation of sexual harassment charges, or who violates or acts in a manner inconsistent with this policy, may be immediately dismissed as a member of the Southern Region Volleyball Association.

XVII. SOUTHERN REGION VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE

If an individual or a team is accused of wrongdoing where a sanction or penalty may be necessary, due process involves the right of the accused to confront his/her accusers, to present his/her side of the story, to receive fair consideration in a timely fashion, and to have the decision reconsidered by a higher authority.

SCOPE – This procedure is designed to handle serious situations such as those that could lead to sanctions imposed under the SRVA Operating Code, or the appeal of simple procedural decisions, such as not completing referee or scorekeeper qualification/certification requirements, failure to follow tournament guidelines, etc. There are three basic types of incidents/accusations: [1] those incidents requiring immediate action (before and without a hearing) that generally involve considerations of safety (child molestation, violence, significant property destruction, etc.), [2] those incidents requiring prompt action (before the next

SRVA Board meeting) that generally involve considerations of finance (individual has paid for future tournament(s) or for improper uniforms, etc.), and [3] those incidents which can wait until the next SRVA Board meeting or appropriate committee meeting.

NOTICE CONTENT AND PROCEDURE - A notice of accusation should include the following items:

- Summary of accusations
- Statement that the individual has a right to respond and an explanation of how to respond
- Description of any immediate actions (sanctions) taken
- If sanction invoked, explanation of any appeal process
- Date, time, location and description of any hearing or conference scheduled
- Statement that a penalty or sanction may be imposed/upheld/reduced/increased as a result of the hearing

The initial notification of accusation(s), decision(s) and/or sanctions imposed may be made orally (either in person or by phone) or by e-mail, but all decisions that impose a sanction that includes an individual suspension from participation must be followed by written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, with a duplicate copy sent by regular first class mail. Notification of any sanction(s) should clearly explain the terms and reasons for the sanction(s) and any appeal process. The complaining party will get a copy of the decision and will have the right to appeal it.

APPEAL PROCESS – All appeals must be filed within 30 days of the date of the prior decision. Appeal of any procedural decision not made by the SRVA Commissioner will first be made orally [followed by written appeal] or in writing to the SRVA Region Commissioner. Appeal of any sanction or procedural decision made by the SRVA Region Commissioner will be made in writing to the SRVA Review Committee by contacting the SRVA Vice-President or the SRVA Secretary if the SRVA Vice-President made the decision being appealed or will be a witness in the hearing. Appeal of any sanction or procedural decision of the Review Committee will be made in writing to the Board of Directors by notifying the Region Commissioner and, if different, the person presiding at the Review Committee hearing. The SRVA Board will only consider whether the appealing party was accorded due process. Any appeal beyond the SRVA Board shall be in accordance with the USA Volleyball Guide.

COMPOSITION AND FUNCTION OF REVIEW COMMITTEE - The Review Committee is composed of the Region Commissioner, Vice-President, Secretary, Junior Olympic Chair, Scorekeeper Chair and Referee Chair. The Vice-President (or Secretary if the Vice-President made the decision being appealed or will be a witness in the hearing) will schedule and preside at the hearing. If all three SRVA officers previously made the decision being appealed or will be witnesses in the hearing, the remaining Review Committee shall select a presiding officer who shall schedule and preside at the hearing. Review Committee members who made the decision being appealed or who will be witnesses in the hearing shall not take part in the deliberations of the Committee and shall not cast a vote. A quorum of the Review Committee shall be a majority of the above-listed members who are neither involved in the decision being appealed nor witnesses, and decisions of the Review Committee are made by a majority vote of the Committee members present (in person or by conference call/electronic hookup) who are neither involved in the decision being appealed nor witnesses. If non-involved membership of the Committee falls below three members, the remaining Review committee members will appoint additional Board members to bring the total members of the Committee to three.

HEARING PROCEDURES - Hearings of the Review Committee may be either live (meaning in person), by conference call/electronic hookup, or a combination of the above as decided by the presiding officer after consultation with Review Committee members who were neither involved in the decision nor witnesses. Conference call/electronic hookup costs and reasonable administrative costs of all hearings shall be paid for by the SRVA. The presiding officer will make reasonable efforts to schedule the hearing/conference call/electronic hookup at the convenience of the accused. The hearing will include presentation of the accusation and evidence supporting the accusation; and response, defense, or counter-argument of the accused.

The Review Committee and the SRVA Board may deliberate and make a decision in private and outside the presence of the accused, witnesses, and all persons who made an earlier decision during the appeal process.

Board members not involved in the appealed decision will select a presiding officer and use the same procedures as above except that the only issue considered will be whether the accused was accorded due process.

XVIII. SOUTHERN REGION VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

All individuals who participate with SRVA will disclose to the SRVA Commissioner or person designated by him/her, the nature and extent of an actual or potential conflict of interest when it occurs.