

WEVA HANDBOOK

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Commissioner's Greeting

Welcome to USA Volleyball, Western Empire-style. Last season was a very good season for WEVA. Years ago we increased the position of Executive Director to a full time position to carry out the day-to-day needs of the region. This was prompted by the needs of the junior community, commitment to growth, and the desires to better service our members. With the growth and financial health of our Region, I believe we have come a long way. There are always opportunities to improve. If you have any ideas on ways we can continue to service our members better please feel free to call the WEVA office. Also, if interested, please volunteer to serve on one of our junior committees in the region. WEVA completed the season with 3607 members, plus 87 league members for a grand total of 3694 memberships. In 2004 USA Volleyball made mandatory the use of background checks. These checks, although they are more work and have added expense, are there to protect our junior members. To start the 2017-2018 season all those required to have a background check will also be required to complete the Safe Sport certification. Some problems that arise are that some clubs are not requesting the completion of the background checks early enough to enter some events. The background checks take an average of 5-8 days to complete. The AES tournament entry system usually requires coaches and chaperones to be background checked prior to entering the team into an event.

The following will have to have background checks performed and complete the Safe Sport Certification:

- Coaches and assistant coaches
- Club and team reps
- Club and team administrators
- Chaperones and all adults affiliated with a junior club
- All Officials
- All WEVA Board of Directors members

This has meant that all clubs need to fill out, pay for and have cleared background checks and registrations for all the above-mentioned, prior to any contact with junior members. The background checks have to be redone every two (2) years. The 2017-2018 background check rate will remain unchanged at \$18.

WEVA's sole purpose is the promotion of volleyball and playing the game in all of its forms. In addition to developing players and keeping them safe, WEVA has committed resources and volunteers to train coaches, scorekeepers, officials and parent volunteers. Again this year WEVA has committed to provide in region Impact classes to coaches free of charge, other coaching clinics are being planned at a minimal fee or FREE.

You can contact the WEVA Region Office at:

- Cell #: (585) 259-6557 during work hours – 8am to 5pm Monday-Friday
- E-mail: wevajohn@gmail.com
- Web Site: <http://www.wevavolleyball.org>

Get Involved: You are invited to be involved with WEVA. WEVA Board meetings are normally held the second Monday every other month, starting in November. Join us; get involved with the greatest sport in the world - VOLLEYBALL!

John W. Hughes
Regional Commissioner

Introduction

USA Volleyball

USA Volleyball is the national sports governing body for volleyball, as authorized by the United States Olympic Committee, consistent with the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, and it is the recognized US delegation to the Federation International de Volleyball (FIVB).

WEVA

The Western Empire Volleyball Association (WEVA) is a liaison corporation to USA Volleyball and is designed to foster and conduct area, regional and national amateur volleyball competition. WEVA is a not-for-profit organization and a member of the USA Volleyball, serving fifteen counties in the western New York area. Its purpose is to develop and promote the sport of volleyball, through adult, junior, and youth programs.

MEMBERSHIP

To participate in its programs, as a player, coach, manager, club or team rep, chaperone or administrator for a club or team, or official, you must register as a member of WEVA. This registration provides you with coverage under the USA Volleyball Insurance Program during your participation in sanctioned try-outs, practices, clinics, and tournaments, and while traveling as a group directly to and from USA Volleyball sanctioned events. Background checks are mandatory for any adult participating in the junior program. These background checks, although they are more work and an added expense, are there to protect our junior members. The following will have to have background checks performed: coaches, assistant coaches, club reps, team reps, club and team administrators, and chaperones and officials. The background checks will have to be redone every two (2) years.

SAFE SPORT

Safe Sport was introduced by the USOC to all NGB's of all sports. WEVA required all clubs to have at least one trained safe sport contact; all of our clubs were successful in getting this completed. Two years ago WEVA required all of our Coaches and referee's to become certified. Last year, USA Volleyball and WEVA required all adult members affiliated with juniors to be safe sport certified.

SEASON

The year's membership begins on September 1st of that year and ends on October 31st of the following year.

History

USA VOLLEYBALL

USA Volleyball ranks as one of the leading amateur sports bodies in the nation.

The story of the USA Volleyball cannot be told without first looking at the history of the sport itself. William G. Morgan created the sport of volleyball in 1895. He was a YMCA physical director in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Volleyball became popular immediately and by 1900, the rules of play had evolved to the point where it required its own special ball. The "Y" movement took the sport around the world and in 1913; it was included in the Far East Games in Manila, the Philippines.

The American Expeditionary Force brought the sport to Europe during World War I, and is credited with distributing over 1,600 volleyballs throughout the European theatre. The first US National Championship (for men only) was played in 1922 at the Pittsburgh, PA YMCA and was won by the Brooklyn Y.

USA Volleyball, founded as the United States Volleyball Association (USVBA) in 1928 at the Yale Club in New York City, was created for the purpose of representing the sport nationally and internationally, and for conducting an annual national open championship. It has fulfilled this purpose ever since. The following are member organizations of USA Volleyball: National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), National Federation of State High School Associations, National Jewish Welfare Board (NJWB), Catholic Youth Organization (CYO), Armed Forces, and Explorer Division of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA).

USA Volleyball is the nation's volleyball leader. The U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) recognizes it as the National Governing Body for the sport. It is the exclusive representative of the United States to the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) and to a number of other international sport bodies.

In 1949, the USA Volleyball added a Women's Open National Championship, and since then both the Men's and Women's Opens have been conducted concurrently each year. USA Volleyball also conducts the National Championships for Senior Men and Women, for Mixed Sixes (coed), and the USA Volleyball Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships (eight age groups: 11 and under, 12 and under, 13 and under, 14 and under, 15 and under, 16 and under, 17 and under, and 18 and under).

USA Volleyball has divided the nation into 40 regions. Within each region, there are a number of programs conducted, including regular competitions organized by age and/or ability, summer instructional camps, and clinics for the development of coaches, players, and referees. International competitions involving the USA National Team and foreign opponents are also regular occurrences in many of these regions.

In 1975, a full-time national team-training center for women was founded by the USA Volleyball in Pasadena, Texas. This was an American amateur sports innovation. It was followed in 1977 by a similar program for men in Dayton, Ohio, which also included a first-ever jobs program that successfully subsidized over a dozen athletes. The women's program, moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 1978 and then to Southern California. The men's program moved to San Diego in 1981. During 1997 the program moved back to Colorado Springs, and has now moved back to Southern California. The Beach program is located in California.

With the success of the men's and women's Olympic Teams at the 1984 Summer Games in Los Angeles, the USVBA was poised to take this American sport to the pinnacle of international success. With the USA's win at the 1986 World Championships, the American men captured volleyball's Triple Crown. The USA is the only country (besides the Soviet Union) to have won, in succession, the Olympic gold, the World Cup, and the World championships. The men won a second Olympic gold at Seoul, Korea in 1988. The USA Women did not receive a medal at Seoul, but finished third at the 1990 World Championship in Beijing, China, and have steadily improved their world ranking. Both the men and women's teams won bronze medals in the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. In 2000, beach men won a gold medal in Sydney, Australia. In 2004, beach women won gold and bronze in Athens, Greece. In 2008, men won gold, beach men won gold, and women beach won gold and silver in Beijing, China. In 2012, women won silver, beach women won gold and silver in London, England. In 2016, men and women won bronze, and beach won bronze in Rio, Brazil along with the sitting women's team capturing gold. The USA continues to improve their level of play and dominance in the sport of volleyball at both junior and adult international competitions.

Volleyball continues to grow;

USA Volleyball, now with a membership of over 358,537, has maintained quality leadership and communications to promote volleyball and provides the membership with volleyball competition at all levels. The junior movement has made great strides and has become a model for other sports programs. The Coaching Accreditation Program (CAP) trains competent leadership across America to guide young people to still higher levels of volleyball.

WEVA

Western New York has been involved with the USA Volleyball for many years...

... since the early 1970's

As part of Region 2, consisting of New York and New Jersey.

... since the 1978 season

With Region 2 renamed as the Garden Empire Region.

... since the 1984 season

With the Iroquois Empire Region (IREVA) splitting off from Garden Empire Region (GEVA). IREVA contained all of New York State except for New York City and Long Island.

... since the 1989 season

Western Empire Volleyball Association (WEVA) was formed from the fifteen western-most counties of New York. In the following three years, it grew from just over 500 members to over 1200. During the 2006-2007 season, our membership grew to over 1643 members.

As of 8/2014, WEVA total full time members was 3031 along with 143 league members for a total of 3174 members despite an 8% unemployment rate in New York.

As of 8/31/2016, the total membership of WEVA grew to 3694.

Board of Directors

The Board consists of seven (7) to eleven (11) Directors at least 18 years of age who were members of WEVA for at least 4 months prior to election. Board members hold office for a term of 3 years. Board members are as follows:

- Elected Officers of WEVA: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- Elected Special Interest Group Representatives: Jr. Boys, Jr Girls, Officials, Adult Rep, Beach Rep and Junior Coordinator.
- Past President: A maximum (3) year term
- Election Three Year Rotation
 - Vice-President, Secretary, Official's Representative
 - Junior Coordinator, Adult Representative, Beach Representative
 - President, Treasurer, Junior Girl's Representative, Junior Boy's Representative

Special Interest Group Representatives:

- Officials: USA Volleyball official who was certified for the preceding 24 months prior to election.
- Boys: Actively involved with USA Volleyball Boys Junior programs.
- Girls: Actively involved with USA Volleyball Girls Junior programs.
- Junior Coordinator: Coordinate Junior matters between the junior representatives (girl's and boy's) and the Board of Directors.
- Adult Rep: Actively involved with USA Volleyball adult programs.
- Beach Rep: Actively involved with USA Volleyball Beach programs.

2017-2018 WESTERN EMPIRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Rocco Lucci, Jr.	(C) 716-481-4817	rocolucci@gmail.com
Vice President	Michael Trznadel	(C) 716-861-5290	michael.trznadel@roswellpark.org
Secretary	Lindsey Schlegel	(C) 716-863-5932	Lschlegel@volleyfx.com
Treasurer	William Page	(C) 585-737-7567	Wpage2@earthlink.net
Officials Rep	Frank Cwiklinski	(C) 716-445-5933	frcwik@msn.com
Junior Coordinator	Cindy D'Errico	(C) 585-261-1803	wevacindy@hotmail.com
Junior Girls Rep	John Crangle	(C) 716-479-1833	jcrangle@hamburgschools.org
Junior Boys Rep	Tom Schneider	(C) 716-310-2781	Tschneid22@aol.com
Beach Rep	Roger Majeski	(C) 585-576-3995	r.jmajeski63@gmail.com
Adult Rep	Dan Johnson	(C) 716-880-0335	Dan.johnson75@yahoo.com
Past President - Vacant			

Administrators

WEVA members hold administrative positions, appointed by the WEVA Commissioner, with no restriction as to the length of membership. Current members of the WEVA Board of Directors may hold these positions.

- Commissioner/Executive Director: The Commissioner shall be the Executive Director of the corporation. He shall be the principal executive officer of the corporation; and, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, shall in general supervise and control all the business and affairs of the corporation. He shall, when available be at all meetings of the Board of Directors. He may sign, with the President or any other proper officer of the corporation thereunto authorized by the Board of Directors, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts or any other instruments which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or by these By-Laws to some other officer or agent of the corporation, or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed; and in general shall perform all duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time. The Commissioner shall also:
 - Oversee all day-to-day functions of the Region activities with the assistance of the Executive Council, independently contracted personnel and employees.
 - Conducts or directs a yearly Regional Championship Event, and/or a National Championship Qualifying event(s) for all Region Members.
 - Administrates all endowment funds and supervises all grant programs.
 - Attends all national/zonal meetings for Commissioners and junior representatives or appoints a replacement.
 - Ensures Due Process for all Region disciplinary events.
 - Ensures compliance to the Board's annual calendar.
 - Be the primary contact for all members to receive the help they may need.
 - The Commissioner/Executive Director, under the general guidance of the Board of Directors, may recruit, train, employ, discharge, and otherwise create a staff of assistants that may be required for the efficient performance of assigned duties, making such financial arrangements with such assistants as deemed appropriate within the available funds allocated to the function by the corporate budget. This staff shall have the following positions: Office Manager, web site manager, Registrar, accounting staff, tournament site directors, and other needed help.
 - All WEVA official documents referenced on the WEVA website are housed in the WEVA Office computer and backed up on a regular basis to an external drive.
- Registrar: The WEVA Registrar receives and processes all applications for Individual, Team and Club membership. He or she assigns the membership numbers, keeps track of the membership rolls and verifies membership status, when necessary.
- Financial Administrator: The Financial Administrator position was established to provide the Executive Director, Treasurer, and tax accountants with the data necessary to complete their functions properly. The Financial Administrator will be responsible for making sure that all income and expenses are properly recorded. The Financial Administrator will assure that all requests for payment are properly requested and documented. The Financial Administrator will need to provide an updated financial activity report to the Board of Directors at each meeting. This report should be available to the Executive Director and the Treasurer one week prior to meetings for their review.

- Referee Chairperson: The WEVA Referee Chairperson coordinates the certification of referees in the WEVA Region and insures that adequate clinic, test sites, and dates are available. He or she assigns qualified officials for tournament Directors and assigns referees for all WEVA Regional events including Region Championships. Keeps all Referee records in the Webpoint system up to date. This includes all junior second referees and scorekeepers.
- Scorekeeper Chairperson: The WEVA Scorekeeper Chairperson coordinates the certification of scorekeepers in the Region and insures that adequate clinic, test sites, and dates are available.
- Sanction Coordinator: The WEVA Sanction Coordinator receives and processes all applications for Sanction of Team Practices and Try-outs. After approval of a sanction request by the appropriate individuals, he or she issues the General Insurance Certificate and coordinates the application for Certificate of Additionally Insured, when necessary.
- Tournament Coordinator: The WEVA Tournament Coordinator receives applications for tournaments in the region and encourages fair distribution in regards to types, levels of play, age groups, and geography. He or she solicits applications for tournaments in under represented areas. He or she coordinates the scheduling of the WEVA Regional Championships.
- Web Master: Maintains the WEVA web site.
- Publicity Chairperson: The WEVA Publicity Chairperson sends announcements of WEVA events and results of tournaments to the newspapers and other notices as he or she sees fit to publicize WEVA. He or she sees that appropriate public persons receive the newsletter.
- Handbook Editor: The WEVA Handbook Editor is responsible for collecting information for the Region Handbook, for its production, and its distribution.
- Eligibility Committee: The WEVA Eligibility Committee meets periodically throughout the season to respond to evaluation requests that have been submitted. WEVA members representing all age groups and levels may request a seat on this committee. The Vice President is the committee chairperson.
- Due Process Chairperson: The Due Process Chairperson heads the committee that handles all instances of Due Process within WEVA.
- Education Director: The WEVA Education Director plans/coordinates all activities for coaching education programs, including but not limited to:
 - a) Planning/scheduling all IMPACT courses and oversees certification requirements of coaches within the region.
 - b) Planning/scheduling all CAP courses within the region and in partnership with other regions.
 - c) Region-wide coaching development.
 - d) Devise/implement strategies for improving level of coaching from novice to expert within the region.
- Newsletter Editor: Creates the WEVA Newsletter in conjunction with the WEVA web site.

- Junior Program Director: Plans and coordinates activities for the junior programs, including but not limited to:
 - a) Oversee activity of the junior committees to the board.
 - b) Set up all WEVA hosted sanctioned tournaments as listed below into AES (www.advancedeventssystem.com)
 - c) Manage the registration, payment and acceptance into the WEVA hosted sanctioned events.
 - d) Request necessary facilities for events with assistance from Executive Director, as needed.
 - e) Coordinate communication to the junior club director's in regards to deadlines, entry fees, on the following tournaments:
 - i) WEVA Festival
 - ii) WEVA BID 18's Qualifier
 - iii) WEVA BID Qualifier 12's thru 17's
 - iv) WEVA Boy's Regional Championships
 - v) WEVA Rally I, II and III
 - vi) WEVA 14's Challenge
 - vii) WEVA 15's Challenge
 - f) Format WEVA hosted events based on number of teams and courts utilized. Circulate pool play and bracket play format, cover letter with team codes and tie-breaker procedures for event.
 - g) Coordinate set-up and tear down of venues, site coordinators for venues, registration assistance for larger events to verify rosters.
 - h) Complete on-line tournament results submission and post updated pool play and playoff brackets to website. Complete the tournament report. Executive Director completes the financial report since invoices are sent to WEVA office for payment.
 - i) Forward any incident reports to Commissioner for reporting to USA Volleyball.
 - j) Review and update the ranking system annually, moving tournaments, if applicable, to a different level based on strength of tournament. Add new tournaments clubs are attending to ranking system.
 - k) Enter all tournament results submitted thru the online submission application into the WEVA ranking spreadsheet set-up yearly based on number of teams within each age group.
 - l) Post Girl's ranking results monthly to the WEVA website for use in seeding teams into tournaments and reported to USA.
 - m) Prepare spreadsheet of ranked teams from registered teams for the Bid Qualifier – average points, total points, head to head results across teams within age group for the junior event committee meeting in April. Facilitate the meeting to finalize the acceptance and seeding of teams into the Girl's Bid Qualifier tournaments.
 - n) Attend the bi-monthly board meetings and junior committee meetings scheduled. Represent girl's and boy's junior members in motions and/or discussions that are junior related.

WEVA ADMINISTRATORS

Commissioner Executive Director	John W Hughes, Sr.	Region Office (C) 585-259-6557	wevajohn@gmail.com
Registrar Office Manager Handbook Editor	John W Hughes, Sr.	Region Office (C) 585-259-6557	wevajohn@gmail.com
Region Safe Sport Representative	Michael Trznadel	(C) 716-861-5290	Michael.trznadel@roswellpark.org
Tournament Coordinator Webmaster	Scott Seabridge	(C) 585-586-4998	wevascott@gmail.com
Sanction Coordinator	Laura Schoenl	(C) 585-321-0049	dschoenl@rochester.rr.com
Financial Administrator	Stokes/Visca		wevajohn@gmail.com
Officials Chairperson Referee Chair	Frank Cwiklinski	(C) 716-445-5933	frcwik@msn.com
Scorekeeping Chairperson	Arthur Chavers	(C) 716-510-7956	Leecarrol54@hotmail.com
Assistant Referee Chair - West	Curt Miceli	(C) 716-397-9805	cmiceli@mac.com
Assistant Referee Chair - East	Mike Russell	(C) 781-315-9254	Mrussell10@rochester.rr.com
Assistant Scorekeeper Chair	Thomas Lomax	(C) 716-200-6769	tslomax@rochester.rr.com
Education Director	Rocco Lucci	(C) 716-481-4817	roccolucci@gmail.com
Impact Clinician – Rochester Impact Clinician - Buffalo	Kyle Salisbury Johnathan Head	(C) 315-331-0442 (C) 716-698-9098	ksalisbury@midlakes.org johnathanhead@hotmail.com
Junior Program Director	Cindy D'Errico	(C) 585-261-1803	wevacindy@hotmail.com
Website Editor	Maureen Turner		wevascott@gmail.com wevajohn@gmail.com
Officials Assignor	John Newland	(C) 585-733-5291	Jnewlan2@rochester.rr.com
Assistant Officials Assignor	Jim Vanderhoof	(C) 585-615-5869	vballhoof@aol.com

Membership

TYPES OF COMPETITION

Regular USA Volleyball: Competition will be held for men, women, boys, girls if a minimum of 4 teams register for the event. All tournaments will follow the 2017-2019 USA Volleyball rules.

- Only players with Regular Adult or Junior memberships may play in Regular USA Volleyball tournaments outside the region. Other adult memberships are not allowed to play outside the region. Other juniors are practice only and not allowed to play in tournaments. 8 and 11 and under youth memberships may not play outside the region.

<u>Level / Type of Play</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Mixed Sixes</u>	<u>Reverse Mixed Sixes</u>
AA (Highest Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
A (Very Good Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
BB (Good Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
B (Entry Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Open (Any level):	YES	YES	YES	YES

<u>Age Group / Type of Play</u>	<u>Junior Boys</u>	<u>Junior Girls</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
18 & under:	YES	YES		
17 & under:	YES	YES		
16 & under:	YES	YES		
15 & under:	YES	YES		
14 & under:	YES	YES		
13 & under:	YES	YES		
12 & under:	YES	YES		
10 & under:	YES	YES		

Leisure USA Volleyball: Competition may be held for men, women, mixed sixes, and reverse mixed sixes teams. All WEVA members, including Leisure Adult, Regular Adult, and Junior, are eligible to compete in any WEVA leisure tournament. All tournaments will follow the 2017-2019 USA Volleyball rules.

- Mixed Sixes: Three women and three men playing on a men's height net with special rules.
- Reverse Mixed Sixes: Three women and three men playing on a women's height net with special rules.

<u>Age Group / Type of Play</u>	<u>Men's</u>	<u>Women's</u>	<u>Mixed Sixes</u>	<u>Reverse Mixed Sixes</u>
AA (Highest Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
A (Very Good Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
BB (Good Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
B (Entry Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Open (Any level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
C (Recreation Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Senior (30 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Masters 35 (35 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Masters 40 (40 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Masters 45 (45 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Golden Masters (50 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES

FEE SCHEDULE AND EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS

Individual Membership Categories:

<u>Individual Type:</u>	<u>Individual Descriptions:</u>	<u>Individual Fee:</u>
Regular Adult:	Players, coaches, club rep's, and officials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secondary coverage liability and sports accident insurance - Covered by insurance when traveling directly to and from sanctioned events - USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Book per team upon request. - WEVA Newsletter and WEVA Handbook - <i>Volleyball</i> USA-USA Volleyball National Newsletter - Participation in WEVA clinics and activities. - Participation in all USA Volleyball sanctioned volleyball tournaments - Junior community involvement requires a background check every 2 years 	\$62
Junior:		\$62.00
Leisure Adult:	Players Only:	\$42.00
Other Juniors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in all USA Volleyball sanctioned Leisure events and activities - Same insurance coverage as Regular Adult - WEVA Newsletter and Player Handbook - Participation in WEVA clinics and activities. 	
Supporter:	An adult interested in promoting volleyball in the WEVA region as team rep, club or team administrator, or chaperone: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WEVA Newsletter and Handbook - Same insurance coverage as Regular Adult - Participation in WEVA clinics and activities. - Junior community involvement requires a background check every 2 years 	\$42.00
One Event:	Allows participation in one event, not to last longer than one weekend.	\$15.00

We have started a special membership for juniors 11 years or younger who only want to play or practice in region of \$15.

We now have a free membership for juniors 8 years or younger who only want to play or practice in region.

WEVA - LEAGUE MEMBERSHIPS. \$15.00

These memberships will have specific names such as WEVA - VFX League or WEVA NFVB League, Please check proper league when registering.

Leagues valid for dates indicated on the left, NOT to exceed 24 hours of play during this time frame, this includes but not limited to practices, clinics, and camps.

This membership covers skill clinics, house leagues, and "practice only" players for the purpose of skill development ONLY.

Changes in Membership:

- All upgrades and changes in membership must be sent with a written change request. See WEVA Fees and Fines document on WEVA website for associated cost information.
- Changes from one club to another must be requested in writing by all parties involved and must be approved by the WEVA Board of Directors (see Transfer Policy). See WEVA Fees and Fines document on WEVA website for associated cost information. Fee to be paid by new club.

Definitions:

- Club: An organization consisting of one or more registered teams that participate in tournaments.

- **Club Representative:** Each club must have only one primary club representative, whose responsibility it is to represent the club in region matters. An alternate club representative is also required in case the primary representative is not accessible.
- **Team:** A group of registered individuals within a club who wish to compete in WEVA tournaments and activities during the season. Maximum members per team: Adult (12) and Junior (15) plus 5 staff.
- **Team Contact:** A registered individual within a club with one or more teams, who will officially handle all arrangements for entry into tournaments for his/her team within the club.

TEAM AND PLAYER CLASSIFICATION

Level of Competition:

- Regular USA Volleyball competition for adult teams normally includes tournaments at B, BB, A, and AA levels, with AA being the most competitive. Leisure competition can be found at C, B, BB, A, and AA levels. The lower levels are intended for teams and players that are just getting started or don't wish to play at such an intensely competitive level.
- Both Regular and Leisure classifications may, on occasion, offer Mixed Sixes and Reverse Mixed Sixes tournaments at all levels.
- Teams may play in tournaments at or above their level, but not below.
- To make clearer distinctions between teams, we use the following guidelines for classification of players and teams. It is our intention that these guidelines make eligibility of players and teams easier to classify. This, in turn, makes competition fairer for everyone.

Player Ratings:

- Individual players are now ranked from AA (highest level) to C (lowest level), with points associated with each level (5 for AA through 1 for C).
- An eligibility committee (consisting of players, coaches, officials, and region administrators) determines final player ratings.
- Players will rate themselves at the beginning of each season and may be adjusted up or down as deemed necessary during the season. The worksheet on page 19 can be used to help players rate themselves.

Team Ratings:

- Teams will be ranked according to the total points for the six highest-ranked players on their rosters.
- During the sanction season, the "Rule of 1" applies.
- During Regional Championships and USA Volleyball Open National Championships, the highest rated player on your roster determines the level of play.

Team Ranking:

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Rule of 1:</u>	<u>Championships:</u>	<u>Description:</u>
AA	26 – 30	10 - 30	Plays at top college level, Open level, or in national tournaments
A	20 – 25	9 – 24	Plays at college, top junior college, top high school, or power league level
BB	14 – 19	8 – 18	Plays at junior college, high school, or advanced league level
B	8 – 13	7 – 12	Plays at high school or intermediate league level
C	6 - 7	6	Plays at intermediate recreation league level

- The ranges of points allowed for each level result in these restrictions during the sanction season:
 - "A" level teams may have only one "AA" level players

- "BB" level teams may have only one "A" level players and no "AA" level players
- "B" level teams may have only one "BB" level players and no "AA" or "A" level players
- Requests for rating changes may be made to the Eligibility Committee.
- Decisions of the Eligibility Committee will prevail in all protest situations.
- Note: These age definitions are used by domestic club programs and are NOT the same as the age definitions for the International and Domestic High Performance programs.

Age Falsification Policy:

- For all USA Volleyball corporate events, any person who alters any document that certifies the age of a participant, or falsifies any statement which lists the age of a participant, will be sanctioned as follows:
 - Any team representative, coach, program director or responsible adult found to be party to such action shall:
 - Be immediately suspended from registration with USA Volleyball and barred from further participation in the event; and
 - Be barred from participation in any USAV Corporate events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
 - Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to the suspension.
- A junior player who knowingly plays in a lower age classification than he or she is actually eligible for, or an adult player who knowingly plays in a higher age classification than he or she is actually eligible for shall:
 - Be immediately suspended from registration with USA Volleyball and barred from further participation in the event; and
 - Be barred from participation in any USAV Corporate events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
 - Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to the suspension.
- When discovered and confirmed during an event, these penalties shall be the required minimum penalty imposed by the Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee.
- The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee may recommend a more severe penalty. The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall file a report of any age violation with the Corporation's Ethics and Eligibility Committee and with the registering Member Organization with its recommendation.

USA VOLLEYBALL JUNIOR PLAYER AGE DEFINITION

Information posted on WEVA website.

HOW TO JOIN TEAMS

Fill out Individual Forms:

- Each individual must register on line an “Application for Individual WEVA/USA Volleyball Membership”.
- Included in the “Application for Individual USA Volleyball Membership” is the Waiver and Release of Liability (electronic signatures required).
- Each adult that is affiliated with junior players in any capacity must complete a background check form and the safe sport certification requirements. In addition, each adult serving in a coach’s role must complete the Impact certification. Once all adult requirements have been completed the adult personnel can be added to a webpoint roster. Webpoint will not allow anyone to be added to a roster until all requirements have been met that are applicable to their assigned role for the team.

Players under Age 18:

- Junior players fill out an on line “Application for Individual WEVA/USA Volleyball Membership”, including the “Age” and “School Year”.
- Junior players must fill out the “USA Volleyball Player Medical History and Release Form” (to be kept by the Club Representative). This form is found on line during registration process.
- Parent or legal guardian electronic signature on the “Application for Individual USA Volleyball Membership” and on the printed “USA Volleyball Player Medical History and Release Form”
- All players must pay online via a credit card for the WEVA registration. If a family does not have a credit card available please contact the Executive Director for assistance. All players once registered must print their membership card out and bring with them to tryouts. Clubs will no longer have registration fees included in the tryout fees charged.
- CREDIT CARDS: WEVA is now accepting only Visa and Master Card.
- The inclusion and participation within the WEVA region of boys on a 12 and under team or an 11 and under girls’ team roster is at the discretion and approval of the Commissioner and/or Board of Directors. Decision will be based on but not limited to distance and availability of the nearest boys program to the player’s home address. If approved to occur within WEVA, the team may not be allowed to compete in tournaments outside the region with the boys on the roster. The club would be responsible for seeking approval to do so from the regions Commissioner.

Fill out Team Forms:

- The Team Representative shall keep the club administrator advised of all roster changes. The club administrator shall keep rosters up to date in Webpoint.

Copy Completed Forms:

- The Team Representative must make copies of the Medical History form for club records and a copy must be brought to all sanctioned events, including practices.
- Copies of the Individual membership cards must be brought to all sanctioned events.

Payment: ADULTS ONLY

- Adults affiliated with a club team will have the option of paying on line during the registration process or if the Club is paying the fee may elect not to pay on line.
- For adults not paying on line, due to the club being responsible for making the payment, the club must send a check or money order, payable to WEVA, for the total amount due with a list of the member registrations the payment represents.

- Clubs having checks returned for insufficient funds will incur penalty of \$20 plus bank fees according to the policies of the WEVA Board of Directors.

Inspect Before Mailing:

- Incomplete registration packages will be held or returned to the Club Representative without being processed.
- The club is responsible for utilizing the unpaid report list from the on-line registration system, sending in a copy of the report with the member names highlighted that the payment represents. This list is in alphabetical order, with member names spelled correctly and the amount due per person. No handwritten paperwork will be accepted.
- Junior teams should note additional requirements listed above.

Send to Registrar:

- Mail or drop off the completed unpaid registration list along with check or money order to the WEVA office.

INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM CHANGES

Leisure Players & Unaffiliated Officials:

- Individuals who join WEVA as officials are requested to pay on line but may send check with confirmation form to region office.

Additions to the Roster:

- Roster additions are done by the club administrator on line.

Changes in Membership:

- All upgrades and changes in membership must be requested by the club administrator to the region registrar. A fee must accompany all changes, refer to the Fines and Fees document on the WEVA website.
- Changes from one club to another must be:
 - Requested in writing (e-mail accepted) and accompanied by the applicable fee, if the change is after the member has signed with a club. Refer to Fines and Fees document on website.
 - Adhere to the Transfer Policy and Financial Obligations Policy
 - Approved by the WEVA Commissioner with Board of Directors approval.

Transfer Policy:

- An individual may be allowed to change clubs during a season by submitting a written request signed by the club representatives of both teams, stating the reasons for wishing to transfer clubs as long as all financial responsibilities have been met to the original club.
- If the individual is less than 18 years of age, a parent or legal guardian must sign the letter.
- The letter is then submitted to the Commissioner for consideration. If a Board meeting cannot be held in a timely fashion, the Commissioner can make a decision until the board can approve.

Financial Obligations Policy:

- Any WEVA member (adult, junior, or youth age) cannot become a member of another WEVA club or participate in any WEVA-sanctioned activity until all outstanding financial responsibilities have been settled with the previous club.

- The club must be able to produce financial records to substantiate the indebtedness of the player and must raise this issue to the WEVA Board of Directors.

International Players:

- Anybody who has played in a FIVB member organization during the current season will not be registered without a written release from the National Governing Body of the country they played in and USA Volleyball to be eligible to join a WEVA team.
- The WEVA Commissioner must verify this release at least fourteen (14) days before participation in any WEVA competition.

Tournaments

Please refer to the WEVA Tournament Guidelines for detailed information in regards to sanctioning and conducting a tournament.

PARTICIPATING IN A TOURNAMENT

Registrations:

- Registrations for all WEVA sanctioned/hosted junior events should be completed within the AES system (www.advancedeventsystems.com). Paperwork and payment should be sent to the individual as noted in AES. Teams will be accepted into the events by the WEVA **Junior Program Director** when the payment is received.
- Registrations and payment for adult WEVA sanctioned events should be sent to tournament director as represented on the WEVA website.
- Teams may or may not be accepted based on court availability and timeliness of registration and/or payment to the adult and/or junior events.

Adult Competition:

- If a team loses a player for any reason, the tournament director may allow that team to continue with 5 players if all competing teams agree to these conditions. A loss of rally occurs when the missing person is due to serve. The tournament director must detail these exceptions on the "WEVA Tournament Director's Report" form.
- Any junior player playing on an adult club may play with a junior club of their choice in junior competition; once joining that junior club, they must play with that club in junior competition for the remainder of the season. If transferring between junior clubs, written requests signed by the junior player(s) and their parent/guardian and the junior club representative must be received by the Region Commissioner and approved at least 2 weeks before their first junior tournament.
- A junior player registered on a junior club may play in adult competition with an adult team of their choice, with the following exception: A Junior club that is part of an organization containing an adult club using the same club name must play with that adult club in adult competition. Otherwise, written requests signed by the involved Junior player, their parent/ guardian, and the club representative of the adult club must be received by the Regional Commissioner and approved at least two weeks before the first adult tournament played.
- If a junior player wishes to play in an adult tournament, they must rate themselves as per the registration form (C-AA) and provide that information to the WEVA Registrar.
- Juniors are allowed to play on adult teams only after parents have signed a request. This request must be approved by the WEVA Board of directors; this is not a policy WEVA generally approves of.

Leisure Competition:

- Leisure tournaments for Mixed Sixes (Coed) or Reverse Mixed Sixes (Coed) at B level or higher, 3 players from each gender are required, unless requested differently on the tournament sanction application and approved.
- For C level competition and below, a minimum of at least 2 players of each gender and 6 players total are required on the court at all times, unless requested differently on the tournament sanction application form and approved.
- In Leisure play for men and women's competition at B level and above, only one gender may participate in a given tournament.

Code of Conduct:

- Please refer to the WEVA Code of Conduct.
- Please read the Code of Conduct on the Individual Registration form that you signed.
- At any WEVA-sanctioned activity, any alcohol or illegal substance on the premises (including site, grounds, or parking lot) or in possession of a player is ground for immediate ejection of that player from the tournament and a thirty-day suspension from WEVA activities (This includes alcohol in your car).
- The Board of Directors will handle additional offenses by the same individual on a case-by-case basis. Please note that all elementary through high school properties in our region are no smoking zones (entire grounds).

Supervision of Junior Teams:

- One registered adult (21 or older) must be present with each junior team at all tournaments and is to be responsible for team supervision at all times, including but not limited to practices and tryouts.
- Every junior team must have a coach with them at all times during a match. Coaches must be 18 years or older and active USA Volleyball members. Otherwise, the team defaults or forfeits the game in question.
- All adults involved with the junior community must have a completed background check and have completed the safe sport certification.

Substitution Rule:

- The six-substitution rule applies only to Adult USAV National Championship Open level competition.
- The twelve-substitution rule applies for all other play.
- In Leisure competition, unlimited substitution (individual and team) is allowed.

Uniform Rule:

- Shorts must be similar in length, color, style, and club logo. Small brand logos (Nike, etc.) can be different or absent.
- Shirts must be identical in color and style, but do not have to have the same sleeve length.
- At Leisure tournaments, uniforms are recommended but not required.
- In all regular USA Volleyball competition sanctioned by WEVA, a team found in noncompliance with the current USA Volleyball uniform rule (see USA Volleyball Guide) must pay a fine before being allowed to continue play without forfeiture of all remaining competition (if team continues to wear illegal uniforms). This fine is applicable only for the first event the team plays in during a single season of play. (See Fines and fees document on website). Any additional occurrences will result in

forfeiture of all games in which the team is in noncompliance with the uniform rule and may result in additional WEVA Board action against the team.

- Taped-on numbers are not allowable for regular USA Volleyball sanctioned play.
- It is required that uniform numbers be centered on the chest and on the back. Uniform numbers need to be 4 inches (10 cm) on the chest and 6 inches (15 cm) on the back. It is recommended that numbers be 6 inches (15cm) on the chest and 8inches (20cm) on the back.

Officials Requirements:

- Each adult team attending a Regular Adult tournament must bring a minimum of one USA Volleyball certified scorekeeper and one WEVA qualified second referee. A USA Volleyball certified first referee may act as a second referee.
- Regular adult teams must meet these requirements by the first Wednesday in February of that year.
- All junior teams are required to have at least one 2nd referee and a scorer on their roster for all age groups.
- All junior teams must have this certification complete by the date noted in the fines document posted on the WEVA website. If not in compliance, the applicable clubs will be notified by the WEVA office of the fines they will be responsible for paying WEVA.

Work Teams:

- A team will be penalized 1 point per minute, to be applied to their next match, for the following reasons:
 - A full work team is not available 10 minutes before the first match of a tournament
 - A team isn't playing and causes delay of the start of a match
 - A team not reporting for work within 5 minutes of completion of prior play match.

Playoffs:

- All 2/3 and 3/5 matches will use the 15 point rally-scoring method for all deciding games.
- The lowest finishing team involved in the last scheduled pool play match (includes the two playing teams AND the work team) shall work the first playoff match on that court.
- If two or more teams are scheduled to work the following will be used to determine work team. If both teams are from the same area (city), a coin toss is used to determine the work team. If the teams are from different areas (cities), the team closer to the tournament site (geographically) will be the work team.

REGION CHAMPIONSHIPS

Site / Date Determination:

- The WEVA Junior Coordinator, along with the WEVA Junior Representatives, determines the date and site(s) of the WEVA Junior Region Championships and WEVA Junior National Bid Event.
- The Junior Rep, Junior Coordinator with the assistance of the Commissioner is (are) the Tournament Director(s).
- The WEVA Tournament Coordinator, Adult Representative, and Commissioner are the Tournament Directors for the Adult and Leisure Region Championships; they may select site coordinators as needed.
- The WEVA Board of Directors shall approve the playing site(s) and date(s) of Region Championships and Junior National Bid Event.

Eligibility:

- Eighteen and under girls teams must play in at least one WEVA sanctioned tournament to be eligible for the WEVA Girls Bid event. Thirteen thru seventeen and under girls teams and ALL boy's teams must play in at least two WEVA sanctioned tournaments to be eligible for the WEVA Girls Bid event or the WEVA Boys Region Championships. Teams must play in four events over the course of their season, with exception of the 12's with only two being required to be eligible. All players, excluding those 12 and under, must play the required number of events in the region with their club to be eligible, with exception of athletes that submit an exemption request to the board of directors. A submittal to the board for review, based on injury, must be accompanied by a medical note from the practicing doctor with the noted timeframe that the injury impacted their participation in WEVA events. If for another reason than injury, a detailed explanation of the circumstances causing the individual to miss the requirement must be submitted. The submission must be to the board for approval no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled event so ample time will exist for review of the documentation and communication of decision to approve or deny the request.
- An individual can only play in one age group even if the event spans multiple days for different age groups.
- In order to participate in the Region Championships or Girls BID Qualifier, teams must supply the required USA/WEVA Volleyball certified officials for all matches at the event, or complete the necessary certifications the day of the event. All paperwork signed off by the referee's must be turned in to the site coordinator the day of the event. WEVA's preference is to have all certifications completed prior to the event to assure that all matches have a qualified work team. Teams in non-compliance will be fined per the fines and fees document posted to WEVA website.

Entry Due Dates (all deadlines will be strictly enforced):

- Two (2) weeks, in advance of the tournament date, for all Junior Region Championships.
- One (1) week, in advance of the tournament date, for all Adult and Leisure Region Championships.
- Dropping out of an event later than one week prior to tournament will result in forfeiture of team's entry fee.

Entry Fees:

- The entry fee for all sanctioned Regional Championships and Girls BID Qualifier event are posted to the tournament section of the WEVA website.
- The responsibilities are to have a WEVA certified 2nd referee, a USA Volleyball certified scorer and to complete their work assignments as required by the WEVA Officials and scorers chairpersons.

USA NATIONAL EVENTS

- WEVA will fund ALL BOYS and GIRLS junior team's entry fees that qualify for participation in USA Nationals by winning their applicable age division at the WEVA Boys Regional Championships or the Girl's BID Qualifier. WEVA will pay their entry fee as long as at least 4 teams within the specific age group are represented in the BOYS Region Championship or Girls BID event.
- If a girls junior team qualifies for participation into the USA Nationals at a USA sanctioned qualifier event at the Open level that team will not be allowed to participate in the WEVA Girls BID Qualifier event. Teams qualifying in other divisions can opt out of participating in the BID Qualifier if they desire. If they choose to they will accept the bid earned for the applicable level. That level would be lower than the National level bid awarded at the WEVA BID Qualifier event. As a result of qualifying at the National Qualifier event, their entry fee will be paid to the USA Nationals event. This is applicable to any division of the qualifier event.

- If any junior team is interested in participating in another USA sanctioned event in lieu of USA Nationals, the team must submit submission of that event interest to the board prior to the BID Qualifier event. The board will review such request and determine if it will be allowed if they were to win the BID. Typically, this is for the younger age groups when the USA Nationals location is cost prohibitive.

Officials

CERTIFICATION / RECERTIFICATION

- Officials failing to re-certify or failing to attend a required clinic and take a test will be subject to being dropped from the Officials Roster. Test and clinic are an annual requirement.
- The WEVA Board has reduced practical re-certification requirements to one "up" and one "down" rating every three years. The referee chairperson may review referee performance and require practical ratings in less than three years.
- New USA Volleyball official's candidates and re-certifying USA Volleyball officials must attend the required clinic(s) in their entirety in order to be given credit for the clinic.
- WEVA clinicians arrange clinics. See the section on Administration for information about clinicians in your area.
- Pre-registration for all of the clinics is required; all pre-registration forms and fees are due ten days before each clinic. Late registration, including the day of the clinic, requires an additional fee of \$2. Obtain pre-registration forms from your club representative or the Regional referee chair.
- Ratings should be requested of the referee chair at least two weeks prior to a given tournament.

JUNIOR CLINICS

- The suggested club clinic fee is \$5 per person depending on size of the clinic. This is to be arranged with the clinician. Individual club clinic fee with a minimum of \$75 and should not exceed \$100 per Clinician, plus expenses. Maximum clinic size should be no more than 20 students per clinician. Clubs should have assistance from certified individuals within the club for larger clinics to be successful. Clubs may get clinicians certified by the referee chair and score chair.
- Junior clubs may make clinic arrangements with the Scorekeeper and Referee Chairs.
- Junior clinic dates in Rochester and Buffalo will be in the format of a classroom workshop. Juniors may also attend adult clinic dates. Ratings must be obtained at a sanctioned season tournament.
- Juniors wanting first referee certification must attend an adult clinic.
- Clubs may choose to host their own training clinic for 2nd referee and scorekeeping. Attendees must complete the certification at a sanctioned event or a scheduled scrimmage with raters scheduled to be at the event. The signed forms from the officials MUST be sent to the WEVA office for entry into webpoint.
- Up to date rosters from webpoint must be submitted at ALL WEVA tournaments. The "Y" in the columns on the webpoint roster will be indicative if the individual has completed the requirements. All teams must have a scorekeeper and 2nd referee certified – it cannot be the same person.

ADULT CLINICS

- Pre-registration is needed. Six (6) people must register with the clinician or else the clinic is cancelled.
- Candidates for first referee must attend an additional clinic following the initial clinic.

- Rule changes for volleyball are considered at meetings conducted by the FIVB. These changes do not filter down to the USA Volleyball until the season afterwards due to the time needed for rulebook printing and distribution. Rules books are being updated every two years.
- In recognition of this, there will be mandatory meetings (combining refresher clinic and tests) for all officials every year.
- Please note that re-certification mandatory meetings and practical re-certification ratings will probably occur in different years. In most cases, officials who keep up their certification will not have as many meetings, tests or ratings as under the previous system.
- Clinics will be conducted in both the Eastern & Western areas of WEVA for new officials. Consult the WEVA website for these dates.

RATINGS

Juniors, once certified will no longer be required to recertify during the time they remain junior eligible unless there are major rule changes for that competitive season.

- First Referee: New candidates replace a referee who is a Qualified Rater at a regular season match. Rating referee receives the match fee. Re-certification must also occur in the regular season.
- Second Referee: New candidates are rated during a regular season match. Re-certification must also occur in the regular season.
- Scorekeeper: The rating must occur at a regular season match.

SCOREKEEPER

All scorekeepers must meet the following requirements:

- Be a currently registered WEVA member in good standing.
- Attend at least one WEVA Scorekeeping clinic, pay fee, and be rated that season or the following season. Otherwise another "new" clinic is needed.
- Meet the certification or re-certification requirements of their level.
- Be approved by the WEVA Scorekeeping Chairperson.

Junior (Only applicable for junior competition):

To become certified:

- Take the WEVA Scorekeeper test at the clinic.
- Receive a "definite" rating as a scorekeeper using the scorekeeping rules.

Provisional (Applicable for all levels of play):

To become certified:

- Take the WEVA Scorekeeper test at the clinic.
- Receive at least one "definite" rating as scorekeeper for a two-game or longer match (12-substitution) every three years.
- In any of the non re-certification seasons, a provisional scorekeeper must complete the take home exam if directed by the chairperson.

To become re-certified:

- A provisional scorekeeper must attend the mandatory officials meeting when directed and receive one "definite" rating as scorekeeper for a two game or longer match (12 subs) every three years.
- Provisional scorekeepers may elect to become candidates for Regional USA Volleyball Scorekeeper after one full year as provisional scorekeeper. However, a scorekeeper may elect to remain as provisional scorekeeper indefinitely if all the re-certification requirements have been met.

Regional (Applicable for all levels of play):

To become certified:

- Be a provisional scorekeeper in good standing for one season.
- Receive 2 "definite" ratings as a scorekeeper on Boys 18 Elite matches.
- In any of the non re-certification seasons, a regional scorekeeper must complete the take home exam if directed by the chairperson.

To become re-certified:

- A regional scorekeeper must attend the mandatory officials meeting when directed and receive one "definite" rating in a 2-game match every three years.

REFEREE

All first and second referees must meet the following requirements to be in good standing:

- Be a currently registered WEVA member.
- Attend the necessary WEVA New Officials Clinic (both scorekeeping and referee) or the WEVA Re-certification Clinic mandatory for their group.
- Meet the certification or re-certification requirements of their level.
- Be approved by the WEVA Referee Chairperson.
- Must officiate at a minimum of 3 one-day tournaments or 2 two-day tournaments. In addition, an official must be available for 2 of the following tournaments (tournaments may vary):
 - WEVA Festival
 - WEVA National Bid tournament – Girls
 - Can Am Boy's National Qualifier
 - Boy's Region Championships
 - Volley FX Winter Challenge

Junior (Only applicable for junior competition):

To become certified:

- Attain a minimum score of 75% on the approved USA Volleyball Junior Olympic Referee's Exam and correct to 100%. Scoring less than 75% requires retaking the test on another date.
- Successfully complete the Junior Olympic scorekeeper's requirements and become certified.
- Receive at least one "definite" rating as first referee and one "definite" rating as second referee in a minimum of one game each.

To become re-certified:

- Officials must repeat the entire process successfully once every two years.
- There are no requirements the intervening year.

Provisional (Applicable for all levels of play):

To become certified:

- Take the approved USA Volleyball Referee "C" Exam and correct to 100%.
- Successfully complete the provisional scorekeeper's requirements and become certified.
- Receive at least one rating as first referee and one rating as a second referee. Both of these ratings shall meet the USA rating team criteria of being at least a "2" on the scale of 1-3.

To become re-certified:

- All officials must attend an Annual Officials re-certification clinic.

- A practical rating is needed every three years with one "definite" rating up and one "definite" rating down.
- In any non re-certification season, you must complete the scorekeeper's take home exam if directed by the Scorekeeper chair.
- Provisional referees may elect to become Regional Referees after two years and successfully officiating as a full time referee for a minimum of four USA Volleyball tournaments. However a referee may remain Provisional indefinitely if re-certification requirements are met.

Regional (Applicable for all levels of play):

To become certified:

- Be a provisional referee in good standing for two years and successfully officiate as a full time referee for a minimum of four USA Volleyball tournaments.
- Take the approved USA Volleyball Referee "A" Exam and correct to 100%.
- Successfully complete the regional scorekeeper's requirements and become certified.
- Receive at least one rating as first referee and one rating as a second referee. These ratings shall take place at any of the following: 18 and under boys tourney, 18 and under girls tourney, or a sanctioned regular season adult "A" tourney. All of these ratings shall meet the USA rating team criteria of being at least a "2" on the scale of 1-3.

To become re-certified:

- All officials must attend an Annual Officials re-certification clinic and take a test. Also, a practical rating is needed every three years with one "definite" rating up and one "definite" rating down.
- In any non re-certification year, you must complete the scorekeeper's take home exam if directed by the Scorekeeper chair.

Upgrades to Junior National and National:

- To be considered by the Referees Chair for recommendation for Junior National candidacy, an official must demonstrate an ability to consistently facilitate 18 Open girls and 16 Open boys. This necessarily means demonstrating player, coach and bench control. The referee's chair will use a selected tournament and will 'invite' those regional officials the chair feels can qualify for this candidacy.
- To be considered by the Referees Chair for recommendation for National candidacy, an official must demonstrate an ability to consistently facilitate any 18 Open boys and Men's exhibition matches.

WEVA Qualified Second Referee (Applicable for Adults and Juniors):

To become qualified:

- Take the WEVA Second Referee's Exam and correct to 100%.
- Successfully complete the provisional scorekeeper's requirements and become certified.
- Receive a "definite" rating as second referee.

To become re-qualified:

- Attend the annual re-certification clinic and take a test if directed to by the Referees Chairperson.
- Receive a practical rating every three years with only one "definite" rating required.
- In any of the non re-certification years, complete the scorekeeper's take home exam if directed by the Scorekeeper Chair.

WEVA Conflict of Interest Policy

Board of Directors, Committee Members, Selectors, and Exempt Level Staff

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

This Conflict of Interest Policy (the “Policy”) provides a framework of integrity for interactions with or on behalf of the Western Empire Region of USA Volleyball. However, given the unique makeup of WEVA, more in-depth questions may arise regarding conflicts of interest. For this reason the following guidance is provided:

- WEVA defines a conflict of interest as any personal or financial (both direct and indirect) relationship, including relationships of family members (see definition below), that could influence or be perceived to influence your objectivity when representing or conducting business for, or on behalf of, WEVA or participating in a WEVA selection process.
- WEVA defines “family” for these purposes as follows: spouse, parent, child or spouse of a child, brother, sister, spouse of a brother or sister, a cohabiting companion, or any other individual with a significant familial or familial-like relationship. Both parent and child shall include step-parent and step-child.
- Because the appearance of impropriety can be just as damaging as actual impropriety, conduct that appears to be improper must be disclosed so that the appropriate WEVA entity may determine whether such substantial appearance of a conflict is deemed to be a prohibited conflict of interest. WEVA defines a substantial appearance of a conflict of interest as whenever others may reasonably infer from the circumstances that a conflict exists. For these reasons, an individual must recuse himself/herself from participating in the WEVA activity giving rise to the substantial appearance of a conflict of interest unless and until it is determined that no conflict exists.
- Each WEVA Board member, committee member, selector, and exempt employee shall fulfill his obligation to disclose any conflict by signing the “Western Empire Region of USA Volleyball Yearly Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form”, This must be done within 14 days of acceptance of the position and prior to the individual participating in any relevant meetings or activities, or else the individual cannot participate in any relevant meetings. Once an individual has signed this Policy, it is incumbent upon him to update the Exhibits as appropriate to disclose any new or updated conflicts. This is a continuing obligation upon the individual.

If a dispute arises as to whether a particular situation is indeed a conflict of interest, then the interested committee (the committee which is impacted by the potential conflict of interest) shall make the determination. The question is posed to the committee and a majority vote prevails. The individual at issue must excuse himself during the discussions and vote on the issue.

If personal or financial interests exist with any person or concern with whom the WEVA Region has a business or other relationship or you have a personal or financial relationship with a candidate for a team or individual chosen by a selection procedure or a substantial appearance of a conflict of interest exists (see definition above) and the other relationship or interest could influence or be perceived to influence the objectivity of your decisions, or if a committee determines that a conflict of interest exists, or if a duality of interest exists, you must:

- Disclose the Conflict. The individual with the conflict of interest shall immediately disclose the existence of a conflict when the issue for which the conflict exists is brought up at the meeting.

This disclosure should include the nature of the conflict and why the individual believes it is a conflict;

- Disclose Information. The individual with the conflict should then download to the board or committee any information relevant to the subject that he might have;
- Leave Meeting. The individual with the conflict may need to leave the meeting and not participate at all in the deliberations on the matter and any vote that might be taken. If, after the person has left the room, the deliberating body has questions that he could answer, he can be brought back into the meeting for the sole purpose of answering those questions. Once the questions have been resolved, he/she may need to vacate again until the deliberations have been completed and the vote has been taken;
- Deliberation and Vote. The remainder of the committee or board should conduct the deliberation on the matter at hand and, if appropriate, proceed to a vote.

At all times, the conflicted person does count for determination of a quorum.

Inappropriate hospitality or gift giving between individuals can also create a conflict of interest. Gifts, cash, travel, hotel accommodations, entertainment or favors are neither to be given nor received except those of nominal value exchanged in the normal course of business. Favors or other assets or gifts may be accepted if they are part of open and generally accepted practices and serve to promote the best interest of WEVA and would not embarrass the individual or WEVA if publicly disclosed and do not compromise the objectivity and integrity of the recipient or donor. Alternatively, if an asset or a gift is of significant value, and accepting the gift individually would not be appropriate, the asset or gift may be accepted on behalf of WEVA, in which case the asset or gift will be turned over to WEVA promptly.

ENFORCEMENT

Any person who violates or condones the violation of this Policy is subject to disciplinary measures, which may include termination of membership and expulsion from the board, working group, committee, or task force. Allegations of violations should be submitted to the WEVA Executive Director who will review the matter and, where appropriate, refer it to the Ethics Committee for an investigation and report. If the Ethics Committee deems it appropriate, the matter must be referred to the Hearing Committee for determination of what, if any, disciplinary action should be taken. The Ethics Committee's reports must remain confidential.

Any questions concerning this Policy should be addressed to the WEVA region at the following email address, cell phone or office location:

www.wevavolleyball.org

wevajohn@gmail.com

585-259-6557 (Cell)

Western Empire Volleyball Association Office

John Hughes

58 Meadowlark Drive

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