

Presidential Reflections – What's Coming Up in 2019?

Julie Voeck, President

It's been a long, snowy winter at home for me. As I write this column, I still have bits of snow in the back yard and front yard. It's April and time for spring and time to say goodbye to winter.

But before I say goodbye to winter, I'd like to reflect back on the beginning of the winter season when the PAVO Convention took place in Minneapolis.

PAVO Convention is held in conjunction with the premier women's collegiate volleyball event of the year—the NCAA Division I Volleyball Championships. The championships featured the top four women's volleyball teams in 2018 and crowned Stanford University as National Champions.

The event also featured some of our top referees and line judges who were selected to officiate the event. Again this year, this group of officials participated in the semifinal analysis session along with NCAA National Coordinator, Steve Thorpe. This group of officials demonstrated excellent officiating during the championships and shared their experiences with the convention attendees during the Friday night session.

The 2018 PAVO convention also featured a number of guest speakers including keynote speaker Richard Coffey, former NBA professional basketball player, who inspired us on what it takes to have goals and addressed what is holding us back.

There were also a number of sessions focused on improving officiating skills including, "Next Time It Could Be You." This highly-entertaining session contained a collection of officiating videos compiled by NCAA Secretary-Rules Editor, Anne Pufahl and Marcia Alterman, a conference coordinator for several Division I conferences.

In mid-March the PAVO Board of Directors met in Chicago for three days to address PAVO business and policy. PAVO welcomed two new board members. Each year the board meeting provides me with considerable energy and excitement as I look forward to continued enhancements in our services and programming for members.

During the last weekend of March, the NCAA/PAVO clinicians met to continue working on modules for the NCAA/PAVO clinics. Each clinician works with another partner to prepare one or more of the clinic modules in advance of the meeting. The final clinic is prepared after the other clinicians review and provide input for all of the modules.

Registration for PAVO membership for the 2019 season is also coming up quickly. Registration opens on May 1, and notifications for registering will begin soon.

PAVO activity doesn't just take place during the collegiate season. Your PAVO staff and board of directors are working throughout the year to make sure programs are ready to go for our members.

Preparations for the 2019 season are well underway.

See you on the volleyball courts.

Goings-On Around the Organization ~ Q1 2019

From your PAVO Executive Director, Katy Meyer

It's April and the 2019 PAVO and Central Hub Registration processes open in just about a month. You'll be hearing much more about this in the coming weeks leading up to our May 1 opening. In the meantime, I'd like to bring you up to speed on several important "goings-on around the organization."

Important reminders as you prepare to register in 2019: *Update your PAVO Member Profile.*

- Review, *The ABCs of Managing your online PAVO Member Profile: Part 1 of 2 – Managing the Visibility of your profile information.* [Click here to review.](#)
- Review, *The ABCs of Managing your online PAVO Member Profile: Part 2 of 2 – Managing your Profile Photo and your Email Address of Record.* [Click here to review.](#)

Having heard from various assigners (NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA) who use the current search capabilities of the PAVO website, your PAVO profile information MATTERS! So, I want to, again, strongly emphasize the importance of ensuring that your PAVO member profile page is current with your preferred contact information and a current professional head shot. Your PAVO profile photo may very well be the first impression to assigners and partners who aren't familiar with you. Make certain you upload a photo that provides the impression you really want to give. Also, the level of visibility YOU select for each element of your member profile information will determine who can see your information, and what they see when they look for you on the PAVO Website.

PAVO Board of Directors Annual Meeting. In their 2019 annual in-person, three-day meeting in Chicago, Illinois, on March 15-17, the PAVO BOD welcomed two new members, Mr. Jeff McKinney and Mr. Ronnie Mutter, and acted on several measures. Implementation of the changes enacted by these measures will occur throughout the year.

- Board actions taken which affect National Certification Application fees:
 - The approval of a motion to increase the application fee for National Line Judge candidates to \$100.00.
 - The approval of a motion to increase the application fee for National Referee candidates to \$250.00.
- Board actions taken which affect National Certification Renewal Points:
 - The approval of a motion to delete the Category III criterion, *First round match of the NAIA National Championships.*
 - The approval of a motion to add *NCAA Men's Conference Championships (Semifinal / Final; any division)* as a Category III point for National Referee Point Renewal.
 - The approval of a motion to allow for a Category III point for National Line Judge Point Renewal by *line judging at least four (4) WOMEN'S or MEN'S collegiate matches in one NCAA Division I conference; matches must be worked on four separate dates. Only one Category III point can be earned per season using this criterion, and the matches must be from a different conference than the matches used for a renewal point in Category I.*

Point renewal documents can be found on the PAVO website.

[Click here](#) for the National Referee Point Renewal document.

[Click here](#) for National Line Judge Point Renewal document.

- Other board actions included:
 - Approving several motions enhancing the fees associated with serving as an NRT Rater and PAVO/NCAA National Clinic Clinician.
 - Approving a motion to establish August 1 as the deadline for a member to request a refund of the current year's dues. Reason for request and other factors remain integral pieces of the refund decision process.
 - Approving a motion to accept the FY2019 budget, pending any mathematical errors.
 - The PAVO Board of Directors also identified several items of priority for FY2019, items that I will be keeping front-and-center as I progress through the fiscal year.

Preparing for a new season of volleyball and educational tools designed to help you get ahead.

iREF. A complimentary member benefit, *iREF* is PAVO's proprietary, online referee training and education tool and it remains a high priority programming effort. All levels of *iREF* ~ 100 (Apprentice referees), 200 (Local referees), 300 (State referees), and 400 (National referees) are available for use. Access is certification dependent (**see reminder below**) and the completion of *iREF* modules are now a condition of new and renewing referee certifications.

2019 is not a rule change year, so *iREF* did not require any significant edits or maintenance for the coming season. However, in the Summer of 2018, PAVO released 3 new Master Classes, 8 new *REFTalks*, new CRS modules, and 5 "regular" teaching modules:

- Finding errors on Scoresheets
- Position Faults
- Debriefing
- Working with Line Judge 200
- Working with Line Judge 300

In all, 21 new modules were released. 2018 new rules and techniques were integrated into existing modules.

As a **reminder**:

- 100-level courses are open to all current members (any certification)
- 200-level courses are:
 - open to all current members who are certified as Apprentice, Local, State, or National referees; Apprentice referees **MUST** have completed the 100-level courses first, others do not have 100 as a prerequisite
 - NOT open to anyone without a current referee certification
- 300-level courses are:
 - open to all current members who are certified as State or National referees
 - open to current LOCAL referees who have successfully completed the 100- & 200-level courses
 - NOT open to anyone without a current referee certification
 - NOT open to Apprentice referees
- 400 level courses are:
 - open to all current members who are certified as National referees
 - open to current STATE referees who have successfully completed the 200 & 300 level courses
 - NOT open to Apprentice or Local referees, or anyone without a current referee certification

RefSchool. The 2019 version of PAVO's *RefSchool* is scheduled to open on April 8, coinciding perfectly with the women's spring collegiate season. In July, a second update will integrate the 2019 NCAA/PAVO Form A/B exam questions, as well as any updated rules interpretations.

With *RefSchool*, you can opt for short quizzes over a particular rule or take a full exam of sample questions, similar to the PAVO exam format. You will receive immediate feedback on your answers, along with rule references.

The cost of enrollment is only \$10 for PAVO members and provides full access from April 1, 2019, through March 31, 2020. A small investment that is sure to provide a big return!

Keep an eye on your inbox for more details regarding *RefSchool ~ 2019*!

2018 PAVO Honor Award Recipient

Tammy Dotson, Interim Director

The beginning is normally the hardest part of putting together any article. This article I find to be just that, a little challenging—not because of the subject matter or the individual, but due to the fact that this article is about an individual who is one of the most gracious, kind, humble, and gifted teachers that I have had the opportunity to meet. Not to mention, my writing skills pale greatly in comparison. I'm speaking of Cornelio "Corny" Frank Galdones, who is the 2018 PAVO Honor Award recipient.

Most of you will know him through his contributions to the *Official Word* in "Corny's Corner." Corny began writing for the *Official Word* in 2006, establishing an educational column that provided in-depth insight into the fine tuning of skills and the art of volleyball officiating. He is an artist himself with his words. His ability to take a challenging topic or situation and skillfully orchestrate the words into not only an educational message but also an entertaining one is a true gift. He does this with ease in his publications and also in speaking with him. He is a Zen master of communications and a true artist in educating and sharing his knowledge and experiences of officiating. Luckily, for us, he began this journey back in the early 90s.

A little history on Corny begins with him growing up in Hilo, Hawaii (can we just say "Lucky Boy"). He is an alumni of Oregon State University. After this, he was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, and he served his military duty as a computer programmer at the Pentagon. After his military service, Corny continued to work in the information technology industry for the U.S. Federal Government. He retired at the age of 51 as the IT Manager for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, DC. He currently resides in Alexandria, Virginia.

In the officiating world, Corny was a PAVO National Referee from 1996 to 2012, a USAV National Referee since 1991, and USAV National scorer since 1992. During his career, he has served on various training and rating teams through camps for both PAVO and USAV. Corny has served as Head Referee for the Special Olympics Volleyball National Games in 2010 and 2018, the Special Olympics Volleyball World Summer Games in 2011 and 2015, the NAIA National Volleyball Championships in 2005 and 2006, as well as the USAV High Performance Championships from 2006 to 2014 and 2017. In addition to this, Corny served as an NCAA Regional Advisor from 2012 to 2015 and established a formal Referee Development Program in 1997 to train and upgrade referees in the Chesapeake Region for USAV.

Corny continues to contribute to officiating and the educational enhancement of officials as an assigner for various national tournaments and as coordinator for the Atlantic 10 Conference. Most recently, he has accepted a position as an Arbitrator for USAV National tournaments. His impact to volleyball officiating continues to be at the national level benefiting all of those with whom he comes into contact.

When asked why he became an official and some memorable times, Corny provided some fun stories. He began officiating in 1968, and, like many of us, started as a player who transitioned into an official. Since then his goal has been to help educate and inform officials not only on what to do and how to do it, but also why things are done the way they are and the benefits of doing things correctly. Teaching, guiding, and educating has always been his aim. Giving forward with humor is his game. This is evident in his writing for the *Official Word*, where he utilized the opportunity to bring his personal take on our officiating craft. His play on words has been enlightening and entertaining for all. In Corny's own words, "you make the call."

His most treasured memory was in 1997 when he was the first referee in a tense men's adult match between a USA team and a team from Brazil, in which nine former Olympians were playing. At a crucial moment at 13-13 in the deciding set, a ball came rolling onto the court to stop play. In gathering information from his work team, it was determined that a player on the Brazilian bench did this on purpose to prevent the USA team from winning the point. Red card Brazil!

On receiving the Honor Award, Corny stated that it was a total surprise and that he never expected such an honor, and he downplayed his contributions. According to Corny, "I do what I do not for recognition and rewards but because I enjoy sharing with others what I know and seeing them succeed. There are other people whose achievements I felt were just as deserving of the award. Still, I was grateful and pleased to be singled out for my contribution to the betterment of officials".

It goes without saying that Corny has positively impacted officials across this nation and is truly favored by his peers for his dedication and the gifts he brings to the volleyball officiating world. A couple of his peers who know his story, accomplishments, and contributions are Joan Powell and Crystal Lewis, both PAVO Honor Award recipients and Hall of Fame members.

"Corny Galdones is one of those silent leaders, although he would prefer to be called a teammate. He goes about his business quietly and yet touches many lives in his path by making the game of volleyball better and making better those who are the gatekeepers. His writings are spot on – written with common sense, humor, and heart. It has been a distinct honor to have crossed paths with such a charismatic, unselfish, and humble individual," said Joan Powell.

Crystal Lewis shared, "I can't think of anyone else that has impacted referees more than Corny has on and off the court. For me, it's not just the knowledge he has passed down while on the court—his character has also taught me how to be mindful off the court. I admire him so much for all he has done to help others develop as a referee. He is a legend for the sport of volleyball!"

These words ring true to the presence that Corny is and will continue to be to volleyball. Corny noted that the best lesson he learned from volleyball is that denial gets you nowhere. He stated he failed once at being promoted and that he didn't get any better until he stopped blaming others and looked inward at his weaknesses that caused him to fail. This strength and wisdom provided the path to a long and continuing contribution to volleyball officiating. We are all benefactors of his dedication and guidance.

Join me in congratulating Corny on receiving the 2018 PAVO Honor Award. Corny wanted me to add this to the end, he stated, "I am grateful and pleased. It's truly an honor."

PAVO Honor Award Recipients/Hall of Fame Members

2018 – Cornelio Frank Galdones

2017 – Mary Faragher	2007 – Ben Jordan	1997 – Denise Izatt
2016 – Verna Klubnikin	2006 – Pati Rolf	1996 – Milo Moyano
2015 – Terry Lawton	2005 – Patti Barrett	1990 – Ann Casey
2014 – Anne Pufahl	2004 – No recipient	1989 – Brenda Gelston
2013 – Steve Thorpe	2003 – Cathy Davis	1989 – Gale House
2012 – Crystal Lewis	2002 – Marcia Alterman	1988 – No recipient
2011 – Wally Hendricks	2001 – Karen Gee	1987 – Sue Lemaire
2010 – Joan Powell	2000 – Linda Fletcher	1987 – Marty Orner
2009 – Mike Carter	1999 – Pete Dunn	1983-86 – No recipient
2008 – Dale Goodwin	1998 – Ann Fruechte	1982 – Helen Parker

2018 Postseason Assigning and PAVO

Katy Meyer, Executive Director

There are a couple of recognition articles that I get to write each year that are just fun! Sharing with you all the postseason opportunities and success of our members fits right into that category. I realize that these recognitions typically come earlier in the year, but since this issue of the Official Word is our first for 2019, I wanted to be sure and get the information and recognitions distributed.

For a complete listing of all 2018 Collegiate Volleyball Championship Officials, please read, Kudos to Our Postseason Officials, in this edition of The Official Word



2018 National Invitational Volleyball Championship (NIVC) Tournament: For a second consecutive year, PAVO entered into an agreement with Triple Crown Sports to serve as the Assigning Organization for the 2018 NIVC. The 2018 NIVC Tournament commenced its first rounds of competition in late November. The 32- team, DI Tournament culminated on December 11 when the Cyclones of Iowa State University defeated the Green Wave of Tulane to be crowned the 2018 NIVC Champions. And through it all, PAVO Certified Officials (both referees and line judges), along with highly qualified scorers and other support crew, were trusted to ensure a safe competitive environment and fair play for all participants! The assigning process was, in fact, a team effort, with Marcia Alterman serving the process as the Primary Assignor. A collaborative relationship with the National Coordinator was an invaluable tool in making the 2018 assignments; and, Conference Coordinators were offered an opportunity to recommend officials, in addition to those nominated to NCAA postseason. Anyone nominated to the NCAA who was not assigned to an NCAA site was made available to PAVO for NIVC assignment. Those efforts resulted in over 200 referees and 250 line judges in the potential assignment pool. Considering that host sites are announced approximately 48 hours before competition begins and, in most cases, officials are assigned within a driving distance of 300 miles or less, our assigning team really does a fantastic job!

NIVC Assignments by the Numbers:

Total Number of Assignments Made	2018	2017
	62	62

Total Number of Matches Assigned	2018	2017
	31	31

Total Number of Individuals Assigned	2018	2017
	60	58
Men	40	39
Women	20	19

REFEREES by PAVO Certification Level	2018	2017
Referees Assigned	32	30
National Referees	25	27
Other	7	3

LINE JUDGES by PAVO Certification Level	2018	2017
Line Judges Assigned	28	28
National Line Judges	11	13
Other	17	15

Finally, an added thank you to Rachael Stringer for all of her behind the scenes work, to the individuals who agreed to serve on the National Protest Committee (Anne Pufahl, Marcia Alterman, Steve Thorpe, Julie Voeck, and Rachael Stringer), and to the various officials who served as a Crew Chief at each site.



2018 NAIA Women's Volleyball Championship Tournament: Under the continued leadership of Julie Voeck, PAVO accepted the responsibility to assign the referees for the 2018 NAIA Women's Volleyball National Championship Tournament in Sioux City, Iowa. This nearly week-long volleyball journey, which culminated with the Pirates of Park University (MO) claiming its second national title in program history, paired eleven well-qualified PAVO certified referees with some very exciting and challenging collegiate women's volleyball!

NAIA Assignments by the Numbers:

Total Number of Individuals Assigned	2018	2017
	13	13
Referees	12	12
Coordinator of Officials	1	1
Men	7	5
Women	5	7

REFEREES by PAVO Certification Level	2018	2017
Referees Assigned	32	30
National Referees	8	11
Other	3	1

Kudos to Our 2018 Postseason Officials

Katy Meyer, Executive Director

Postseason assignment is a tremendous professional achievement and is the result of the hard work and commitment required to progress so deep into a season. These are earned opportunities and are the result of an entire body of work. It is an honor to recognize the eight individuals who earned selection as referees, line judges, and scorers for the 2018 NCAA DI Women's Volleyball National Championship in Minneapolis, MN. These men and women demonstrated the very essence of officiating professionalism while displaying their confidence, humanity, and humility. CONGRATULATIONS on a job well done!



Championship Officials (L-R)

Dan Swensen, Line Judge
Henry Chen, Line Judge
Michelle Prater, Referee
Ryan MacDowell, Referee
Paul Albright, Referee
Margie Ray, Referee
Rena Smith, Line Judge
Rodante Saballa, Line Judge

Semifinal Match 1 BYU and Stanford

***Referees and
Line Judges***



Paul Albright



Margie Ray



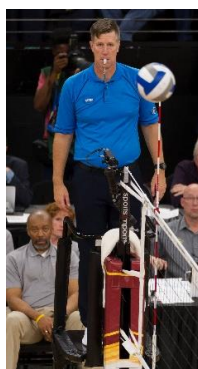
Rodante Saballa



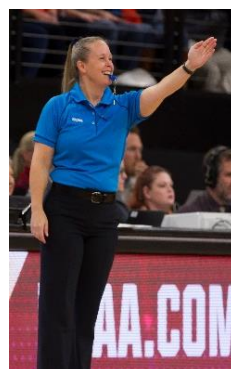
Rena Smith

Semifinal Match 2 Illinois and Nebraska

***Referees and
Line Judges***



Ryan MacDowell



Michelle Prater



Dan Swensen



Henry Chen

2018 Championship Match Officials

Stanford and Nebraska

Ryan MacDowell (R1), Michelle Prater (R2), Rodante (LJ), and Rena Smith (LJ)
Jacky Wilson (Scorer), Tess Rizzardi (Asst. Scorer), Sheryl Raithel (Alt. Scorer), Monica Bryand (Scoreboard Operator)

PAVO would also like to recognize the individuals selected to officiate other 2018 National Championship events (final site). CONGRATULATIONS to:

NIVC Final Match:

Bill Stanley (R1), Todd Karolczak (R2), Ted Moser (LJ), Craig Wiedel (LJ)

NCAA DII National Championship:

Patti Nellis, Head Official

Kurt Fulmer, Nikki Kathol, Luis Martinez, Moises Santiago

NCAA DIII National Championship:

Lori Stahara, Head Official

April Fricke, Gretchen Galloway, Craig Madson, Jeff McKinney

NAIA National Championship:

Jim Momsen, Head Official

Al Cleary, David Dufrene, Linda Kildew, Ray Mink, Dianne Penner, Kelly Peterson, James Phillips, Larry Schwartz, Rachael Stringer, Charlie Tamez, Nathaniel Wagner, Kim Wishum

NJCAA DI National Championship:

Mary Faragher, Head Official

Brian Heaton, Daryl Korinek, Tracy Shadle, Rachael Stringer, Steve Thomas, Nathaniel Wagner

NJCAA DIII National Championship:

Tom Cote, Head Official

Brad Aaberg, Justin Basovsky, Becky Blank, Robyn Courchane, Paul Fowler, Tim Harlow, Brenda Holmgren, Tyler Kiel, Jerry Moews, Darren Reese

It's a Great Time for PAVO Camps!

Suzanne Dodd, Camps Director

We are about mid-way through the 2019 Camps season. As a valuable part of PAVO's mission to train officials, the Camps program this year focuses on training and development of second referees and line judges. Topics for this season's classroom session include how and when second referees should respond to coaches, footwork and discreet signals, and unusual CRS situations. Camps also include a visit from head coaches who share their perspectives on volleyball officiating.

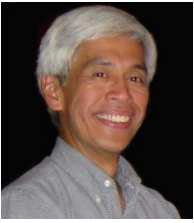
We are also excited about new content developed specifically for line judges. At Line Judge Camps, we use original materials developed by our new Director of Line Judge Training and Development, Dan Swensen. Camps also include evaluation and testing on the 2019 Line Judge Training materials. This year we also utilized a new training apparatus that allowed evaluators to connect with headsets to the working officials. This real-time feedback is proving to be a great learning opportunity!

This year's Camps program includes sites with geographic diversity, a variety of competition levels for officials of all abilities and experience, and a mix of collegiate tournaments, along with one high-level juniors tournament. Camp site selection depends on a number of factors, including location, number of matches, competitive level, date (regional and national juniors events in the area create a difficult challenge), and staffing. Every year we do all that we can to offer camps that our members can attend to gain valuable experiences.

Scholarships are offered to anyone interested in attending a camp, and in most cases, the scholarship amount is enough to cover the registration fee and offset some of the expenses for the camp. Make sure to get your applications completed by April 15. Visit the [PAVO website](#) for additional information.

All of this year's camps have reached capacity, except the **Referee Training Camp at Cal State, East Bay**. If you are interested in attending this camp, please go to [PAVO's E-Store](#) to register.

Thank you for your support. And if you know of any potential camp opportunities for the 2020 season, please let me know!



CORNY'S CORNER

“Ugly” Is Not A Ball Handling Violation ***Corny Galdones***

Ball handling judgment is perhaps the most important officiating skill for a volleyball referee. Ball handling is the core of the game. Every time any player contacts the ball, that's ball handling in one form or another. All through the playing action, a referee must decide on what to call and what not to call. Having a grasp of the ball handling rules and an “eye” to make judgment calls are critical. A referee is expected to call violations on all blatant or obvious ball handling errors. There's some leeway for a referee to judge whether or not a marginal ball handling action should be called. That's a gray area.

Ball Handling Criteria. On a team's first ball contact in any attack, the ball cannot come to rest or be held. On the second or third contact, the ball cannot be double contacted, come to rest or be held. Make sure you see two separate contacts or the ball being caught or thrown before calling a violation. It does not matter what the player or the ball does before the contact is made or after contact is completed. All that matters is what happens while the player is in contact with the ball. “Ugly” is not a ball handling violation. Nor is inferior talent, poor technique, bad body position, contact sound, or ball spin. If the player or the ball does something unusual or surprising, that is not necessarily a ball handling error. Once you understand these concepts and incorporate them into your decision-making, you have a sound base to judge ball handling.

Judgment Standard. What is legal and allowed for ball handling is left to the referee's discretion. Some referees call it tight or by the book. This standard does not leave much room for judgment error, especially at the higher competition levels where a ball handling action may seem illegal but is executed legally because of the better playing skills. Other referees call it loose and let the players play. This standard is more apt to get complaints from those coaches and players who favor tighter calls. Most referees call it somewhere between these two limits. No one is wrong. Each referee established a correct ball handling standard that's personally comfortable to use.

Consistency. In any given match, the teams and players will adapt to whether it's called tight or loose, so long as there is consistency. Trouble starts when similar play actions are not called the same way. Observe the teams during warm-ups. Watch for peculiarities of the setters and tendencies of the hitters. Determine a correct standard you'll be at ease in using that is in line with the players' abilities. Set your standard to the skill level of the better team. Whatever standard you start the match with, stick to it for the entire match.

Judgment Technique. Ignore how the ball handler is positioned to the ball. Zone in on only the player's body parts making actual contact with the ball. Evaluate what happens **during** (not *before* or *after*) the entire contact. If the ball comes to a stop, it's a held ball violation. If the player stays in contact with the ball for a long time or distance, *i.e.*, not quick, it's a held ball violation. The length of contact allowed should be the same for all types of ball handling action. If the player starts the ball one way then changes direction, it's a held ball violation. If a player bobbles the ball or two body parts of the player touch the ball at separate instances during the team's second or third contact, it's a double hit violation. Anticipate a violation, but keep your whistle in check. Practice the three R's. **Ready. Read** the ball handling action. **React** to whistle a violation.

Call only what you see. Don't guess. If you get screened from the action, get visual help from the second referee. Once the ball is released and the contact is considered legal, do not track the ball after it goes above your eye level. Instead, look ahead to the court area where the ball will end up. Identify the next ball handler and watch the hitters and blockers get into position. This will give you a better overall picture of the coming action and more time to get ready.

Keeping Up With The Action. The better the players, the faster the action. There will be less time between ball contacts to prepare. Do not follow a moving ball. Zoom forward with rapid eye and head movements to where the next contact might occur. During an attack, quickly shift your view from attacker to net to defense. Observe all of the hitter's attack. Then skip to the net for possible contacts of the ball by the blockers. After the ball goes by the blockers, find the defensive player who will be playing the ball. Get there before the ball. If your eyes are still moving and not focused at the moment of contact, you can miss a call.

Situations. The ball may be handled in countless ways. Here are rough sketches of more common situations. The live action may differ.

- The ball may slip off or out of the hands of a player receiving the ball with a setting motion. On the second or third contact, it's probably a double hit violation. On the first contact, it may be sloppy for being mangled or poorly controlled, but it's legal. However, if the ball is "massaged" or over-controlled in this instance, then it's a held ball violation.
- When the ball immediately pops off a one-hand set, a double hit violation is very unlikely even if the ball is imparted with lots of spin. Call a lift violation if the hand stays in contact with the ball for a long duration in time or distance.
- When a spike is blocked, the deflected ball can fly anywhere. The quickly reacting players will do anything to keep it in play. Expect the unexpected. If the ball comes down at the net, get visual help from the second referee for a possible ball handling violation. If the player pins the ball against the cable or net, it's a held ball violation. The blocked spike may bounce back into the attacker. If the attacker has any body part above the height of the net when this happens, it is considered a block. If the attacker is entirely below the top of the net, it is considered the first team contact.
- On a power block the ball is pushed straight down with force in any direction by the blocker's hands. The initial contact must be made in front of the blocker and not directly over the head. If not, the blocker more than likely started the ball forward then changed its direction down, which is a held ball violation.
- On a power tip the ball is propelled forward with force by the finger tips of the attacker. The attacker's hand must already be moving forward before contact is made. If not, the ball was stopped upon contact with the stationary hand then projected forward, which is a held ball violation. Be alert for a throwing motion, palming of the ball, change in direction during contact, or a long distance in which the attacker stayed in contact with the ball. Any of these actions is a held ball violation.
- A player could do a "deep dish" set, staying in downward contact with the ball then releasing it upward. The contact must be brief. If not, the contact probably will be long in either distance or time, thus being a held ball violation.

There is a lot of subjectivity involved in ball handling calls because of their general criteria. Understanding and putting into practice the spirit of the rule and its nuances is hard for some volleyball referees to master, easier for others. Regardless, developing competency in ball handling judgment is essential for all referees. This officiating skill cannot remain static, however. It must evolve to keep up with any rule changes or advances in the game. The keys are to call all obvious ball handling errors and to find a correct, flexible standard for borderline ball handling actions that you are comfortable with and can apply with consistency throughout a match.

PAVO Board Member Changes

Julie Voeck, President

There are a few changes to the PAVO Board of Directors for 2019 that I would like to share with you.

First, I would like to thank Christina Fiebich for serving as Board Delegate for two terms. Christina was a major contributor to the PAVO Convention each year. Her leadership on the Convention planning team, particularly in identifying and selecting speakers for Convention, was outstanding. The Board Delegate position is limited to two consecutive terms.

I would also like to thank Bill Thornburgh for serving as Director-At-Large for two terms. Bill's officiating experience and relationships with officials nationwide provided a great perspective for the board. The Director-At-Large position is also limited to two consecutive terms.

This year PAVO welcomed two new board members. Ronnie Mutter was elected as Board Delegate, and Jeff McKinney was elected as Director-At-Large during the PAVO 2018 elections. Each began their terms on January 1, 2019, and both attended their first PAVO Board Meeting in March.

The PAVO board also approved reappointments of the following board members for another term:

- Mara Wager was reappointed as Director of National Rating Team (NRT)
- Brian Hemelgarn was reappointed as Director of Examinations
- Tammy Dotson was reappointed as Interim Director

For more information about the PAVO Board of Directors, check out the [PAVO website!](#)

PAVO Now Accepting Nominations for Board Delegate

Tammy Dotson, Interim Director

The PAVO Board of Directors is accepting nominations through July 1 for a Board Delegate position. PAVO members will vote online in August 2019.

Currently, this position is held by Chuck Fleet, who has served in this position for the maximum of two terms. We would like to thank him for his tireless efforts in advancing the education of officials both locally and nationally through his service as a member of the PAVO Board of Directors.

Qualifying nominees must have held a leadership position with their Affiliated Board within the last five years. Primarily, this position serves as a liaison between the PAVO Board of Directors and the leaders and members of local PAVO Affiliated Boards, provides articles for *The Official Word*, serves on various committees, and assists with PAVO Board activities, as needed. This Board of Director position holds voice and vote and will serve a three-year term beginning January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2022.

PAVO members may nominate themselves or another member. An accepted nomination requires a volleyball résumé and a letter of application explaining why the nominee would be a good candidate.

Nominations should be submitted via email to interim.director@pavo.org **no later than July 1**. Questions about the nomination process or election may be directed to the nominating committee chair, Tammy Dotson, at (630) 796-5754 or interim.director@pavo.org.

The Line Judge's Corner

Improvement Happens All Year Ken Corum, PAVO National Line Judge

Even though the women's collegiate volleyball season is several months away, it is never too soon to begin preparing to line judge next fall. If you haven't already, now is the time to plan how you are going to train yourself to be in mid-season form right from the first match.

Line judging has come a long way. Instead of the commonplace practice many years ago of pulling people out of the bleachers minutes before a match to call lines, the vast majority of institutions now recognize that line judges are vital to a well-officiated volleyball match and desire professionally-trained line judges.

With that in mind, the necessity for professional line judges to continuously hone their skills increases as well. It is no longer good enough for a line judge who works their last match in November or December to wait to pick up a flag again until a pre-season scrimmage the next August. Unfortunately, the opportunities to line judge are fewer and farther between, so it is important to seize those occasions when they arise.

The best way to get ready for fall is to register for one of the PAVO Line Judge Training Camps that occur in the spring and summer. At these camps, you will be exposed to high level competition, receive feedback from seasoned evaluators, and have opportunities to discuss fundamentals in a classroom setting. These camps also provide great advice in the event you are looking to attend a National Rating Team session this fall to obtain a National Line Judge certification. New for 2019, there will be four NRT rating sites for National Line Judge Candidates, under the direction of Dan Swensen (PAVO Director of Line Judge Training and Evaluation). Continue to check the [PAVO website](#) for dates and sites for all of these PAVO events.

With the increase of schools that offer men's and boys' volleyball, there are more opportunities to work matches in the spring. More and more high schools and colleges are fielding teams, and they are often looking for professional line judges to work matches. Most schools will pay; however, if the institutions in your area do not offer match fees, you may want to consider volunteering your time to work on improving your skills.

If you choose to seek them out, there are many other volunteer opportunities to polish your skills in the spring and summer. Women's college teams often have spring season tournaments where you would be able to line judge on your own time, and some may find a small way to compensate you. If you referee during the USA Volleyball season, another great way to get some practice in is to hop on a corner during one of your off-times. In addition, many high schools and colleges in your area will have team camps, leagues, and scrimmages during the summer where you may be able to get some reps. There are many chances for you to improve, as long as you take the time to pursue them!

Lastly, from a professional standpoint, this is also the time of year to consider other items that may enhance your standing when autumn arrives. Before everyone else starts a backlog of orders right before the fall season begins, you may want to order new equipment now. Make sure your uniform fits properly and your flags are in good shape, for instance. Checking those responsibilities off your list in an efficient manner today will provide a less stressful start to the women's collegiate season later.

Today's volleyball players are faster, stronger, and more athletic than ever before. They are training year-round in order to be at their best for their first matches of season. Shouldn't the same be true for line judges? Let's all do our parts to make each other and the cadre of line judges across the country the best we can possibly be!

Now Accepting Nominations for PAVO Honor Award and Excellence in Service Award

Tammy Dotson, Interim Director

PAVO is seeking nominees for two of our highest recognitions, the PAVO Honor Award and the Excellence in Service Award. Nominations for these separate awards are due by August 1.

Honor Award – This award is the highest recognition from PAVO. The Honor Award recognizes a PAVO member who epitomizes integrity and high moral character who have made an outstanding and noteworthy contribution through officiating by their leadership and efforts.

Candidates must be at least 30 years of age and have worked in promoting officiating through PAVO (or through his/her local affiliated board) for at least ten years.

To nominate someone you believe meets these criteria, go to the [PAVO website](#) and download the **PAVO Honor Award nomination form**. Along with this application, a supporting letter providing a detailed volleyball résumé of past duties and accomplishments is needed.

Send your nominations to the PAVO Central Office via email to pavo@pavo.org or by mail to PAVO Honor Award, PO Box 780, Oxford, KS 67119. ***The application and supporting documentation must be submitted no later than August 1.***

Excellence in Service Award – This award recognizes a PAVO member who demonstrates commitment, dedication, and generous service to the PAVO Board and/or PAVO members locally, regionally, or nationally.

Qualified candidates are PAVO members who have served either locally or nationally in a leadership position within the past twelve months and continue to serve and provide support to their local board by advancing educational skills of officials through mentoring or training programs, seeking new members, and actively demonstrating PAVO objectives and standards.

PAVO Excellence in Service nomination forms are on the [PAVO website](#). Complete the application and provide two letters of recommendation in support of the nominee. Submit this information via email to pavo@pavo.org or by mail to PAVO EIS Award, PO Box 780, Oxford, KS 67119. ***The application and all supporting documents must be submitted no later than August 1.***

For more information on either of these awards, visit the [PAVO website](#) or contact Miki Kennedy at pavo@pavo.org or (888) 791-2074.

Uniform Update

USAV is working with PAVO/NCAA to make the referee uniform guidelines as consistent and user-friendly as possible.

- The preferred, **Formal Uniform** for USA Beach Volleyball events is the short-sleeve royal blue ADIDAS polo shirt, black shorts, and a white ADIDAS ball cap.
- The **default uniform** for all beach referees (all venues) is a generic white polo, black shorts and white cap, plus plain black “rain jacket and pants” in poor weather.
- For cold weather conditions, solid white or solid black jacket, sweater, and/or vests are also allowed, and in any combination. Of course, high presentation-value matches (Championships, TV matches, etc.) may require the Formal Uniform.
- The NCAA may require the blue (indoor) “certified official” polo at the National Championship. Other specific site-hosts may provide and require sponsor-driven polos for the referees during their event. Wear what they give you!

Protection from the elements is important to all beach officials. USAV has updated its beach uniform guidelines for 2019 with an eye to these health concerns, as follows:

*Long Sleeve (generic white) polo tops are allowed

*White “safari-style” hats are allowed (not in Formal)

*Black rain boots, warm caps, and/or gloves are allowed in cold weather

To ensure a professional presentation for our sport, please note the following:

- All cold weather outerwear should be black
- Long-sleeved undergarments, if worn, should not be visible (wear a L/S polo)
- Footwear (either black flops or “mostly white” tennis shoes) is mandatory at all times

Lastly, in everything except formal presentation, **match officials do not have to be identically dressed**. If one official is cold natured, or one person is more sensitive to the sun, each official can wear the uniform combination that works best for him or her.

New Initiatives

The Department is actively investigating new ideas to help recruit, educate, employ, and retain officials for all three modalities: sitting, indoor and beach. Here in the beach group, we are working to:

- Identify new officials and increase recruitment efforts
- Reduce entry-costs and administrative difficulties for new officials
- Improve RVA outreach to increase cooperation and opportunity at grass root levels
- Increase online at-home module-based training through VRT
 - New training modules to include court management and e-scoring!
 - Offer “new rules, points of emphasis and officiating techniques” quizzes online
- Increase visibility and accessibility of:
 - Camp and clinic opportunities
 - High performance events, leading to “international development pipeline”
 - Professional (work) opportunities

- Improve accessibility and opportunity for all officials nationwide
- Implement online registration for training events and working assignments
- Offer more/better surveys for improved feedback from member officials
- Improve technological support (tablets, radios, etc.) for hosted events
- Improve support from Member Services Division:
 - Membership, mandatory course work, lifetime match count reporting
 - Event enrollment and eventual payroll
- Increase consistency of referee management across all three disciplines

Opportunities

Opportunities to work as a beach official continue to grow, particularly if you live in the warmer climates of the U.S. We see continued expansion of Collegiate Beach Volleyball, and where there are scholarships, juniors club programs follow closely behind. The professional beach tours are energetically adding juniors scheduling. Junior beach events are expanding through almost the entire calendar year, and many hire beach referees and monitors.

Both the domestic professional beach tours and the FIVB are hosting events in the US in 2019. These events are looking to hire line judges and scorers, which will provide an excellent way to “earn your spurs” in the professional ranks. If you are interested in working these FIVB events, please contact us at the email address listed above, or by utilizing our [Beach Availability Survey](#).

If you are currently a certified Zonal or National Beach Volleyball official, you are eligible to officiate NCAA Collegiate Beach Volleyball. A list of assignors and their basic geographic area served is available [here](#), under “Beach Volleyball Officiating Assignors.” Please reach out to specific assignors if you are interested in assignments at their schools. All officials interested in working for USAV beach events should contact the Officials Department (beachofficials@usav.org) or the specific Region hosting the event.

Here are some upcoming USAV Beach Training Opportunities:

National Beach Official Camp and Evaluation event:

- USAV Beach Pairs Championships, May 8-11, Los Angeles, CA

Zonal/Local Camp and Evaluation events:

- Boys’ National Qualifier - St. Louis Memorial Day Weekend, May 24-27
- USAV NBT Championships, July 18-23, Los Angeles, CA
- USAV Beach HP Championships, July 29-31, Los Angeles, CA

More information will be provided on VRT.com shortly, along with registration links.

For now, send an email regarding your interest to <mailto:beachofficials@usav.org>.

How to Get Involved

If you are interested in becoming certified as a Beach Volleyball Official, please go to VRT.com for the most up-to-date camp info and training modules. Our introductory letter and “how to get involved” checklist can be found [here](#).

New this year: registration for both training events and professional (work) opportunities will be managed online, through VRT.com and the USAV Webpoint system.

Thanks

We'd like to offer our THANKS to the many volleyball people who have worked to make the USAV family so strong. We thank PAVO and the NCAA for their cooperation in volleyball administration. Also, we're excited to see the commitment and enthusiasm from USAV (Officials, Events, Payroll and Membership departments). We are very thankful for the far-reaching support offered by our primary sponsor, Adidas. Let's have our "eyes wide open" for the challenges that we face as we prepare to host the Olympic Games in Los Angeles in 2028. With enthusiasm and coordinated effort, we eagerly look forward to the challenge.

Your Challenge

What can you do to make the best of your opportunities with USAV Beach Volleyball? Work to stay current! Focus on your membership requirements and deadlines. Stay current with your background screens and your SafeSport training (SafeSport coursework now required every two years). Find a mentor, work with them, and implement what they offer. And of course, stay involved! There's nothing better for an official than to get up on the ladder, and no better place than out on the sand... so get out there!

We'll see you on the sand!

Pati Rolf, Director Officials Development
Joel Wyman, Coordinator Officials Development
Keith Murlless, The Beach Team

USA Volleyball State of the Beach: March 2019

Welcome to USAV Summer 2019! This newsletter marks a new beginning and a fresh outlook for volleyball officials both indoors and out. We are excited to be working with you. It's going to be a busy year on the sand!

News

USAV is currently making major changes to its internal structure, and the officials' group is changing with that movement. Integration, consistency, approachability and enthusiasm are all hallmarks of the new structure. Pati Rolf leads the Officials Development Department and is responsible for everything about rules and refereeing for *all three modalities* of our sport. Also joining the USAV officials' office is Joel Wyman, our new Officials Development Coordinator. Originally from Southern California, Joel previously worked with the USAV Coaching Education department. He will oversee referee related administrative tasks, focusing on beach volleyball.

Beach Officials Advisory Committee

A new Beach Officials Advisory Committee has been formed to work as the liaison between officials and USAV Leadership. The members of the committee are: Thang Nguyen as the Chair (LoneStar Region), Kirsten Boessneck (Palmetto), Greg Clark (Northern California), Katy McCormick-Meyer (Arizona), and Gigi Prieto (Arizona). The Advisory Committee will have monthly phone calls and would love to hear all of your ideas and concerns.

The Usual Suspects

Some familiar faces are still active in beach officials' leadership. This "working group" includes Keith Murlless, Ryan MacDowell, and Suzanne Lowry. Keith Murlless is USAV's independent contractor and will assist the Officials Department in developing training modules, updating the latest rules and techniques, planning and implementing training camps, and assigning officials to events. If you're interested in adding your energy and skills to our program, please let us know. We're always on the lookout for fresh faces and new ideas!

New Email Address for Beach

The beach officials department can now be reached via a single email address: <mailto:beachofficials@usav.org>. Please use this address for your USAV beach-related correspondence and inquiries! Keith, Pati, and Joel will all receive copies.

Background Material for your 2019 Season

2019 is not a rule change year in Beach Volleyball. As always, US referees should stay familiar with the Rules and Training documents posted at volleyballreftraining.com, as well as the NCAA documentation at ncaa.org/playing-rules.

FIVB's recent focus has been on defining the qualification process for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. There have been updates to clarify the details of the FIVB beach challenge system and discussion regarding ball handling ("keep the ball flying"). Of great value to our officials are the documents posted by the FIVB, in particular the Referee Guidelines and Beach Casebook posted under Beach Volleyball Refereeing at www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Refereeing.asp.

On the NCAA side, this year's rule changes have been largely administrative in nature (team uniform particulars, home/away jersey schemes, and referee stands now required).

Most of you will have received complete newsletters on these topics from both Katy Meyer (NCAA) and Keith Murlless (USAV). *If you didn't receive those emails, please let us know so that we can update your email address in our systems.*

US Beach Assignors

These persons may be contacted regarding potential opportunities to professionally officiate beach volleyball. Of course, there may be other opportunities close to you; contact your home Region (map of Regions: [LINK](#))

In all cases, please be professional in the timing, phrasing, and frequency of your inquiries. For best response, include your current certification level and a brief Volleyball-Bio, along with your current contact information and home address.

USA Volleyball *(beach referee training, certification, administration)*

Director:	Pati Rolf	pati.rolf@usav.org	(719) 228-6800
Coordinator:	Joel Wyman	beachofficials@usav.org	(719) 228-6800
Assigning:	Keith Murlless	beachofficials@usav.org	(828) 280-7170

NCAA Contacts:

ASUN Conference	Steve Kenyon	steve@rightcall.org	(770) 329-7823
Fla. & Small-College	Dave Carstenson	dcars@carchase1.com	(727) 639-3905
SoCal, various	Tony Chan	tony@beachcommission.org	(805) 822-2855
SoCal - BigWest	John Martin	jmbigwest@aol.com	(702) 205-2547
Arizona	Peter Meyer	ktnpt@msn.com	(928) 380-1491
Southeast	Keith Murlless	kmurlless@beachcommission.org	(cell above)
NorCal & Northwest	Ray Mink	raymink@aol.com	(510) 684-5988
Pepperdine, LMU	Rick Olmstead	bumstead_22@yahoo.com	(805) 689-6251
Houston, Kingsville	Carlos Rodriguez	losref@aol.com	(512) 762-4258

PRO Contacts:

AVP & AVP1st	John King	kingeravp@gmail.com	n/a
P1440	John Rodriguez	jrod@p1440.com	n/a