

THE OFFICIAL WORD

NEWSLETTER

President's Message



from Joan Powell,
PAVO President

"We Must Take Professionalism Seriously!"

After a decade of enlightening speakers, educational and entertaining presentations, and intriguing attractions in other great cities, San Antonio played host to the 2006 PAVO convention. Thomas and Cathy Hoy opened the event as our hosts at the Lone Star Region reception. The room was decorated in a Southwestern motif. We even had Mariachis for a special touch!

According to many of the repeat conventioners, the sessions were some of the best yet.

Mara Wager piggybacked off of one of the National Association of Sports Officials Summit's, topics and presented a session entitled: "Referees and Assigners: Mars and Venus?" This interactive session put a spotlight on things we can do as officials and assigners to be more professional in our work.

We broke into groups and answered three questions, which are reported on elsewhere in this newsletter. I would like to address the last question posed: What is the #1 thing officials do off the court to create problems for themselves?

The responses from the groups could be summarized by one word – *professionalism* – or let us say, the lack of.

Every year the OTP clinicians meet to develop the pre-season clinic curriculum and presentation materials. And every year we attempt to address professionalism, merely as a reminder. By the responses of our colleagues, it looks as though many of our members are just not getting it. We need more than a mention, more than a PowerPoint slide or an icebreaker. We need to clean up our act.

We are all bound by our code of conduct. By virtue of what we do – referee as a non-biased facilitator – we have an

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NOTABLES 2006

MARCH 15

- Application deadline for candidates to PAVO NRT sites
- USAV National scorekeeper candidate application deadline
- Referee/scorekeeper registration deadline for the US Open in New Orleans

MARCH 20 (extended)

- Registration deadline for USAV referee training camps at National Qualifiers

APRIL 1

- Deadline for USAV Junior National and National referee candidate applications

APRIL 15 (extended)

- Referee registration deadline for Girls' Invitational, Boys' JOVC and Girls' JOVC

CAMPS

MARCH 31 – APRIL 1

- Marquette Club Tournament, Milwaukee (Traditional)

APRIL 7 – 8

- Univ. of Michigan Spring Tournament, Ann Arbor (Traditional)
- Univ. of San Diego - FULL

APRIL 12 – 13

- NIRSA Championships, Salt Lake City ((Traditional - Must have a PAVO State or USAV Regional rating to attend)

APRIL 13 – 14

- NIRSA Championships, Salt Lake City (Advanced Camp - see criteria on Camps page 4)

APRIL 21 – 22

- SPRI-hosted DI tournament, Chicago (Traditional)

Update



from Glenn Sapp,
Vice President,
USAV Officials Division

Everyone's season should be well underway! I hope we are all making arrangements to attend as many tournaments as we are able and hopefully all can make New Orleans, Atlanta or Minneapolis. We need the help of those that are able to attend, especially Atlanta. I'm sure the same is true for most of the Qualifiers.

I hope you all are continuing to look for those new officials to help us grow! For those that want to improve and get additional training, please see the new Training Camp Program for Provisional ranked officials through National officials. Kathy and her crew have put together a very nice program.

We have already started our new Mentor Program by going to the NCVA for their early season tournament. Read more about this success later in the Newsletter!

The Division continues to work on the compensation package for USAV National Events. Last year, for those that qualified, free housing was obtained. This year there is a minimal increase in the match fees. The Division will continue to try and improve upon the compensation for attending the National events. Part of that process is to make the Division more professional. In order to do that, this year we will be having officials return commitment forms to the USAV.

The Officials Division will hold biannual planning meeting the weekend of March 3rd, 4th & 5th starting at about 7:00pm on Friday and ending on Sunday at about 11:00am. The meetings will be held in Denver with the site to be announced. The topic from last year which took the entire meeting was the creation of the Officials Division Administration Manual as mandated by USAV.

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BOARD CHAIR ASSEMBLY A THINK TANK OF IDEAS

By Marcia Alterman
PAVO Executive Director

For the second year, the leadership from the local PAVO boards and the PAVO central office met at the PAVO convention for an exchange of information and ideas. I know that I left that meeting feeling energized and enthused, and I hope some of the ideas that were brought to the table had a positive effect on the others who attended, as well.

At the assembly, there were over 30 boards represented. There was productive discussion on many topics. First, the PAVO central office leadership covered a few points and reminders, including:

- Board chairs need to be timely and accurate in their annual report, dues submission and membership information so that the central office can best serve the members.
- The Board Chair Newsletter (via email) will continue to be used as a primary communication tool with the local leadership.
- A "Recruiting and Retaining" brochure is being developed by PAVO this spring and will be made available to all local boards.
- Web site features were reviewed and future plans were discussed. The searchable casebook should be available soon, the on-line election process was a great success, and the exam process will be better in 2006.
- The PAVO insurance carrier provided information on a process for local boards to obtain Directors & Officers insurance at a reasonable cost. Local boards are encouraged to obtain this important coverage. Board Chairs who were not in attendance can contact the PAVO office for this information.
- PAVO is still investigating the possibility of umbrella coverage of non-profit (501(c)3) that could be extended to local boards. Updates will follow.
- As PAVO tries to improve membership services and increase distribution of information with better technology, there is a chance that dues will be increased in the near future. It was emphasized that there will be a year's notice given if such an increase is passed by the PAVO Board of Directors.

The board chairs in attendance had several ideas to offer for improved services from the PAVO staff, as well. These ideas and suggestions will be discussed by the PAVO Board of Directors, and information about any action taken will be distributed to board chairs and other members.

- After purchasing the Line Judge Training and Scorekeeper Training videos, they would like to be permitted to copy those videos and leave them with the schools so that the schools would provide training more readily. If that is not possible, at least increase marketing to schools directly so that those training tools get used by more schools.
- Establish a "listserve" for board chairs, so that they can exchange ideas and concerns with each other via the web.

- Change the database process to clean-up the rosters that are provided to board chairs when dues are paid.
- Allow board chairs access to all database information for their members, even if the member has marked that it is not to be made public.
- Develop a video for "Fundamental Officiating".

This important meeting is one of the best additions we've made to the convention format. It is the one chance that the leaders of our organization have to meet as a group and interact with each other and the PAVO directors and staff. I hope that more boards will consider funding their leadership to attend. We look forward to seeing everyone in Omaha in December, 2006!



• **KLUBNIKIN ELECTED
PAVO DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE**

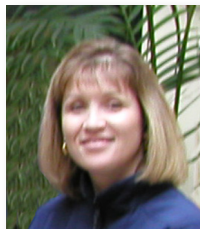
• **VOECK REAPPOINTED
OTP - CAMP DIRECTOR**



Verna Klubnikin

Verna Klubnikin, Downey, Calif., was elected to the PAVO Board of Directors as director-at-large in elections held last fall. Her term will run Jan. 1, 2006-Dec. 31, 2008. There were 870 votes cast overall in the election.

Klubnikin has officiated volleyball for more than 25 years at every level in the U.S. She has worked in seven NCAA Division I conferences, and has officiated in eight NCAA Division I final fours and 20 regional tournaments. She has served eight years as chair of the Southern California Volleyball Officials Association Collegiate Council. She owns and operates Roof Sportswear.



Julie Voeck

"I would like to see volleyball officiating become a career option, especially for those who come out of college and only see coaching as a choice within our sport. This means increasing pay for volleyball officials, and PAVO could possibly play a role in this direction by leveraging the numbers in its membership. With my experience and love of volleyball, I want to see our sport gain in popularity and attendance, along with more television coverage."

Julie Voeck accepted reappointment as the Director of OTP-camps. In Julie's first term in this position, she has improved the camp program by increasing the number of camp sites, tried to get earlier confirmation for sites, and worked out reciprocal agreements with USAV to use national junior events for training sites as well.

PAVO President Joan Powell was grateful that Julie accepted a second appointment, saying, "Julie has a tremendous work ethic and dedication to this program. Her work as a Director and enhancement of PAVO's training efforts has been very valuable."



Referees and Assigners:

MARS & VENUS?

By Mara Wager
PAVO Board Delegate



At the PAVO Convention in San Antonio in December, nearly 100 officials participated in an interactive session to explore some of the variables that affect the relationships between officials and their conference assigners/supervisors. The participants were presented with three questions developed by the National Association of Sports Officials (NASO):

1. *What is the number one item assigners/supervisors do to make things more difficult for their officials?*
2. *What is the number one thing officials do during a contest to create problems for themselves?*
3. *What is the number one thing officials do off the court to create problems for themselves?*

The officials worked in small groups of 8-10 people to brainstorm answers to the questions presented. Each group worked diligently to record a number of items in response to each question, talking about the implications of officials' actions on their conference assigners/supervisors. Then each group was asked to present their answers to the large group.

Many of the groups' answers were the same. For the first question, officials found that timely communication, failure to evaluate on a regular basis and inconsistent assigning procedures were some of the things assigners/supervisors do to create challenges for their staff.

Question number two (*What do officials do during a contest to create problems for themselves?*) also provoked much discussion. Acting unapproachable, arrogant or unprofessional, communicating poorly with participants and game managers, misapplying rules/techniques, not knowing rules/techniques, not supporting one's partner, and poor partner communication were several of the responses repeatedly shared.

The last question (*What do officials do off the court to create problems for themselves?*) also provoked much discussion. Answers included unprofessional actions, late arrivals for matches, poor partner and school communication, and gossiping.

It was exciting to see the interaction between officials. The questions helped each of us revisit our own standards of what is professional and what we need to work on to help make our work the best it can be. All three questions presented led to discussions on professionalism and how hard each of us has to work to continue to uphold the standards of being a volleyball official. Our individual growth depends on keeping a pulse on what is expected of us as officials on and off the court.

If you are interested in the results of the NASO online survey, you may email Joan Powell at president@pavo.org.

HONOR AWARD Excellence in Service Nominations Sought

Submissions are being accepted for consideration for PAVO's top award, the Honor Award. Candidates must be at least 30 years old and have worked in promoting officiating through PAVO for at least 10 years. Candidates should be persons of high moral character and personal integrity who, by their leadership and efforts, have made an outstanding contribution through officiating. Honor Award recipients are enshrined as members of PAVO's Hall of Fame. Written nominations should be submitted to past.president@pavo.org, by Aug. 31. Questions? Contact Dale Goodwin at (409) 323-6133.

Submissions are also being accepted for PAVO's Excellence in Service Award, given annually to a PAVO member who has demonstrated dedication, commitment and service to PAVO and/or its members, on a local, regional or national level. Written submissions should be submitted to pavo@pavo.org, by Aug. 1. Questions? Call Miki Kennedy at 888-791-2074.

President's Message . . . Continued from page 1

obligation to adhere to the written and unwritten guidelines. We are sometimes enforcers, many times interpreters. We assist coaches and players with protocol and judge volleyball skills according to the rules. And yet it seems we are not abiding by the regulations that oversee our behavior.

At one time or another we have all been guilty of gossip, complaining and lack of communication. During our convention session, over 100 of our referees referred to these and other behaviors that can cause problems with coaches, teams, partners, families and assigners. It is interesting how cautious we are during rating sessions to perfect technique and remain professional. But as we go about our everyday life as a referee we tend to let our guard down and succumb to unprofessional conduct. It is about doing the right thing, even though you are not being watched.

Let us not forget that being professional is about being trained, certified, proficient, qualified, and an expert; therefore, we have standards and ethics. After all, we are members of the PROFESSIONAL Association of Volleyball Officials. Maybe we need to remind each other of our obligation to continue to make our group even stronger.

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UPDATE . . . Continued from page 1

This year, some of the topics include:

- Completion of updates to the Administration Manual
- Completion of Due Process for the Official's Division
- Officials in Good Standing for the Division and with the RVA's
- Discussions on growth & implementation of new programs
- PAVO/USAV Interface status

The meeting will be open to all who are interested in attending but it will have to be at their own expense. I am taking this opportunity to solicit input on topics the constituents of our Division would like addressed. I can not make any promises but strongly believe that the Division should be attentive to those we represent. If you have issues that you think should be addressed, please contact Emi Vishoot or myself. Again, no promises! With all of us working together we will make our Division better!

PAVO 2006 SPRING CAMPS



By Julie Voeck
PAVO OTP Camp Director

PAVO Spring 2006 Camp Sites

Traditional camps:

March 31 - April 1 – Marquette University (club tournament), Milwaukee WI

March 31 - April 1 – University of Alabama-Huntsville (Division II), Huntsville AL (tentative)

April 7 - 8 – University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI

April 7 - 8 – University of San Diego, San Diego CA

April 21 - 22 – Great Lakes Volleyball Center (SPRI), Chicago IL
Joint PAVO/USAV Camps:

April 12 - 13 – NIRSA Championships, Salt Lake City (Traditional Camp)

April 13 - 14 – NIRSA Championships, Salt Lake City (Advanced Camp*)
Additional sites may be listed on the PAVO website (www.PAVO.org) as they are confirmed.

The purpose of the training camps program is to offer on-court officiating opportunities to the official who desires improvement of skills and career advancement, with constructive feedback from experienced officials.

The PAVO Camp Program coordinates the camps primarily with Division I programs hosting spring tournaments. These camps provide an opportunity to officiate a higher level of play than the camper may have had previously. For the less experienced official, PAVO offers a limited number of camps at Division II and/or Division III events. A limited number of camp scholarships are also available each year – see the PAVO website for more details on scholarship applications.

The camp experience offers the following:

- An opportunity to officiate with officials from other areas of the country
- Evaluations without the intensity of a rating session

- Feedback from seasoned evaluators
- Atmosphere conducive to learning and fun!

When participating in the camp, the camper will:

- officiate as R1 and R2
- be videotaped with audio-feedback
- have the option of having information sent across the country to conference coordinators

*Advanced Camps are intended for current Division 1 referees wanting to enhance their skills and techniques to a higher level of volleyball. For example, PAVO State or USAV Junior National officials who aspire to National referee certification, work higher-level volleyball, or be observed by Division 1 conference coordinators. A very experienced staff is used at the Advanced Camp.

Advanced Camp registrants are selected through an application basis; applications for 2006 camps were due on January 31, 2006. In future years, to apply for an advanced camp, send name and contact information, prior year's officiating schedule, two letters of reference and a \$25 deposit to the Director of OTP-camps. Further details will be announced via future editions of this newsletter and the PAVO website.

Several of the traditional camps still have room for additional campers. If you are interested in attending a camp this year but have not registered, please review the camp registration process:

Registration Process (For all camps except the Advanced Camp* at NIRSA/ Salt Lake City)

- Registrations accepted as of January 1, 2006
- First-paid, first-accepted basis
- May pay by check or credit card
- \$200 PAVO members
- \$225 non-members

Joint USAV/PAVO camp at NIRSA on April 12-13 is \$200 for any USAV or PAVO member

- Call 888-791-2074, PAVO National office to register

**Visit www.PAVO.org for sites to be added and general camp information.

If you have any questions contact PAVO Director, Julie Voeck at (414) 607-9918 or OTP.camp.director@pavo.org

PAVO HURRICANE RELIEF FUND "Taking Care of Your Own!"

By Marcia Alterman
PAVO Executive Director

We asked you for help, and you overwhelmed us with your answer! The support and caring of volleyball officials for their compatriots who were affected by the recent hurricanes was demonstrated by a generous response to our plea for funds.

The donations totaled \$4352.50! Special thanks are extended to our friends at Sports Imports, who sent a check for \$1500. Special recognition should also be extended to our approved vendors (below), who provided "referee starter kits" at cost or below. The PAVO staff and some members of the Board of Directors worked hard to find out which PAVO members were affected, and made sure they received the starter kits and a pre-funded credit card. All in all, affected PAVO members were provided \$1687.55 in cash and equipment. The balance of the funds collected (\$2664.95) was forwarded to the American Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund.

I knew the PAVO membership would come through, but your generosity surprised even me! Thank you for caring and sharing.

Vendors who provided referee equipment:

- All-American Athletic Sales, Nancy Strader – 877/220-1651 or nsntrusav@earthlink.net
- Great Lakes Apparel, Mary Malpede – 630/691-8170 or mmalpede@aol.com
- The Ref Shop, Michael Hertz – 727/392-7294 or backset@att.net
- Roof Sportswear, Verna Klubnikin – 888/530-7672 or roofsport@aol.com
- Time Out for Sports, Nancy Sommer – 888/594-4884 or nlsommer@yahoo.com



PAVO MEMBER PROFILE

SPRIGGS ON THE SPOT

By Dale Goodwin
PAVO Interim Board Member

Kenny Spriggs, 49, still recalls vividly the faces he felt staring at him, perhaps even piercing him, as he went up to call the girls 17 open gold final in the Northeast Qualifier last spring. Kathy Ferraracio was his down official, Michael O'Connor the scorekeeper, Ray Mink the libero tracker, and Glenn Reid the scoreboard operator. And if that cadre of national officials was not enough, Spriggs' audience included Bill Stevens, Charles Egzibo and Corny Galdones.

By his own admission, Kenny was a tad on the nervous side.

"Apparently, Kathy gave me lift help and I didn't see it," Kenny said. "Then an attacked ball hit the top of the tape and I blew my whistle immediately, not waiting to see if the ball would curl over the net or drop to the floor."

After the match Kenny's mentor and role model, Corny Galdones, came right to the point, as he has a tendency to do.

"I would have failed you had I been rating you," Kenny remembers Corny saying. "That has served as a real inspiration to me to learn from my mistakes every time out, and to get better."

Then Bill Stevens added encouragement. "Don't let anyone scare you," Kenny remembers him saying.

Galdones subsequently sent Spriggs to Kentucky last summer for the USAV Boys Junior Olympics in Louisville, "and I felt very comfortable applying what I had learned," Kenny said. "Corny's critique had lit a fire under me to work hard to do a good job, and I think I did."

Spriggs began officiating in 1994, and now works all divisions of NCAA and junior college matches in the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. areas. He is a member of the PAVO Baltimore Board of Officials for Women's Sports. He's also a member of the Chesapeake Region for USA Volleyball.

One of the more engaging ventures Kenny has undertaken is to serve on the National Federation for High School Sports volleyball rules committee, completing his four-year term Dec. 31, 2005. During his tenure he helped the representatives better understand the rules, techniques and protocol from a referee's perspective, and try to overcome the compulsion of some on that committee to "leave things as they are."

"I represented an eight-state region, and

part of my job was collecting information about our game from people in my areas," he said.

And Kenny took his experience as an official to the meetings, and was helpful in introducing rally scoring and the libero into the high school game, and using mechanics that paralleled the college game.

He expects federation rule makers to continue to talk about libero serving and serve blocking options in the years ahead.

Whether or not Federation rules makers will ever align their rules with collegiate and USA Volleyball will remain a mystery, but Spriggs believes that Federation is slowly moving in that direction.

"I'm an official using three different rule books," he said, "and I would love to see all the rules come together." Amen.

CONVENTION 2005 RECAP



BALL-HANDLING FOCUS DREW OFFICIALS' ATTENTION

By Dale Goodwin
PAVO Interim Board Member

Defining and interpreting ball-handling is about as clear as opaque bathroom glass. And, it was clear from discussions with college coaches at the 10th annual PAVO Officials Convention in December that there is little agreement about what should be called and what should not.

"What about writing the NCAA rules to reflect exactly how you want the game called," Oregon State and former U.S. Olympic Women's Coach Terry Liskevych was asked. His theory of ball-handling would be described by PAVO President and leader of an on-court ball-handling demonstration Joan Powell, as a 'loosey.'

"That'll never happen," he said. "There is too much disagreement among the coaches as to where to set that bar."

Debby Colberg, longtime head coach at Sacramento State, is what Powell called 'a tighty.' She sees too much advantage gained from players being allowed to double-hit and lift the ball.

The on-court session at San Antonio's

Convention Center was just one of three convention presentations that called upon coaches to respond to questions about ball-handling. It was also the most popular because convention goers could see the ball handling (by college assistant coaches who were former players) and how a panel of coaches would want it called. There was little agreement.

A review of officiating prunes and plaudits via video tape was analyzed by PAVO Rules Interpreter Marcia Alterman. An array of officiating techniques, rule interpretations and judgment calls abounded. "Always a good session, always could be longer," was a general consensus from convention evaluations returned.

The panel discussions with college coaches and assigning coordinators, and the semi-final analysis proved popular again this year. At the semi-final analysis, PAVO recognized those members who have attended all 10 of the Officials Conventions to date: Michael Blalock, Linda Fletcher, Janis Matson, Anne Pufahl and Jim Williams, by awarding them free registration to the 2006 convention.

Other sessions included a presentation on peak performance by sports psychologist Paul Salitsky, how to handle our business affairs by tax attorney Steven Ellinger, A View from the Bench provided by a Bradley Coach and former International referee Scott Luster and Utah State Coach and National men's collegiate referee Burt Fuller, Better Officiating Through Technology by Ray Mink and Gloria Cox, and Referees & Assignors: Mars & Venus? by Mara Wager.

The session topics and speakers appeared to be a plus with most convention evaluators, while the location of match tickets for the semi-final and final matches continued to be a sore spot with some.

The Convention committee is busy at work on planning for the 11th annual convention in Omaha. We've taken your concerns and suggestions to heart. Please send any other thoughts, suggestions, or concerns to past.president@PAVO.org. With 10 months left until the 2006 NCAA Division I Women's Championship, the Omaha event is already an official sell-out. PAVO has been guaranteed 100 tournament tickets at this point, and is working to obtain more if possible. Tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-served limited basis with a paid Convention registration (last year PAVO members purchased approximately 130 tickets). So register early to ensure you get tickets to the semi-final and final matches – the atmosphere will truly be electric. Pencil in the dates of the 2006 convention -- Dec. 14-16 in the Big O! – Omaha, Nebraska.



HONOR AWARD . . . recipient Barrett's influence spanned the country!

By Michael Blalock



Pictured (L-R): Mike Carter, Patty Barrett,
Michael Blalock

Just as the specter of Sputnik crossing the evening sky brought fear to some and the potential of possibility to others in 1957, the volleyball career of Patti Barrett began that same year with similar prospects.

From accomplished player to successful coach and a role model for many officials who have strongly influenced the game, Patti had an exemplary 34-year career in volleyball and was honored at the 2005 Convention in San Antonio as the 15th recipient of the PAVO Honor Award, which includes induction into the PAVO Hall of Fame.

As a player on the beach in Southern California from 1957 to 1961 or a member of the back-to-back National Champion Santa Monica Mariners (70-1) in 1959 and 1960, Patti struck fear into the hearts of many opponents. She continued her playing career at San Jose State from 1961 to 1966.

Leaving her playing days behind, Patti began to open the possibilities of other players' potential as a coach at Purdue University from 1967 to 1971 and Southwest Texas State University in 1973 to 1975. Purdue's 1971 squad made it to the AIAW national championships. As it was in those days, Patti served as an instructor in the Physical Education departments during those coaching years. She also was an assistant or head coach for softball, field hockey and tennis.

However, what too few of today's officials and coaches realize is that many of our pioneers in women's sports served as teacher, coach and referee. Fortunately for the future of volleyball officiating, Patti was one of those triple threats. Patti's officiating career began in the late 1950s as a local USVBA official. The advancement of her career as an official paralleled her coaching career.

Patti earned her Division of Girls and Women's Sports National Rating at the National Championships at Indiana in 1973. Patti was also a member of the first National Rating Team at Texas Women's University in 1974 or 1975. This was a unique concept and a bit peculiar in that some candidates served as raters, too. Patti served as a member of the National Rating Team for the next 20 years. Patti joined Sue Lemaire and Marty Orner as the first women to exercise the reciprocity agreement with USVBA during the 1978 USVBA Nationals in El Paso and become a dual National Referee.

During her officiating career, Patti officiated in 25 national tournaments for USVBA, NAIA, AIAW and NJCAA. She officiated in the early rounds of the NCAA tournament, including the regional championships, until her retirement from officiating in 1992. Patti was the first referee when a non-West Coast team, Utah State, captured the national women's championship. In addition to her officiating excellence, Patti served on the Board of Directors, the rules committee, as National Rating Team chair and as the first National Training Team chair for the National Association of Girls and Women's Sports.

This woman's career spanned a period that saw much change in the game and several firsts -- playing with nine players on a side, playing on the first team to utilize a back row setter, and writing the definitions of "round house serve" and "overhead bump." But Patti's

In Remembrance of Kelli Auletta

Written by Garrett K. Oie



My Volleyball Friends:

The following is something I penned Sunday morning as a tribute to my fallen hero: Well, the battle is over. Early this morning around 6 am, Kelli lost her three year battle with cancer. Through the entire ordeal she faced the disease head on and fought with tenacity and bravery. Surgeries. Chemo. Radiation. She would not allow any setbacks get her down. Her spirit and cheerful disposition were never broken. She has been a rock. Unfortunately, even the hardest rocks can be broken and this one finally broke today. And as our rock broke, so will thousands of hearts when this news breaks.

Early in the morning following Kelli's passing, I went for a short walk to get some air. The sun was coming up over the bridge. I had brought the new camera Kelli had given me the weekend before and snapped a shot of the sunrise. I'm calling the photo 'Kelli Smiling.' It just felt like she was smiling down at us all, which would be typical of her.

USAV National Scorekeeper
Chesapeake Region
Passed Away
February 19, 2006

I feel fortunate to have made it up to New York before she passed away. We got to spend her final day together. It was a rough and trying day filled with attempts to make her as comfortable as possible. But there were also instances of real joy. Typically, Kelli was her feisty self wanting things just so and getting annoyed at anything that wasn't perfect. Late in the evening there were laughs. Kelli was in and out of consciousness and we were all sitting around her. She commented that she felt weird being stared at. Later, when she snapped out of it again, we were still sitting around her, she looked around and told us that we were all funny. She found it hysterical when I threw a pillow at her sister Kimberlee. But as the night wore on and she just faded away, I know she knew that she was not alone.

Earlier in the evening we had some time alone. She told me that she was tired of it all and that she couldn't take it anymore. I know she

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NCAA RULES COMMITTEE NEWS

By Marcia Alterman, NCAA Secretary/Rules-editor

Creating an exciting atmosphere for the student-athletes and fans was the foremost reason the Women's Volleyball Rules Committee voted to start allowing the use of artificial noisemakers during matches during its annual meeting January 24-27 in Key West, Florida.

This and all rules-change proposals must be approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) before being implemented into the rules book. The complete list of rules changes will be sent to all NCAA coaches and commissioners for comment before being submitted to PROP for review in March.

While the rules proposal allowing noisemakers would still prohibit the use of electronic noisemakers, air horns, and whistles, the committee believes this will give fans an avenue for positive expression rather than using sexist, profane or racial comments, which in the past may have been their way of getting involved.

"The new language is intended to give institutions and conferences more flexibility to promote the game and enhance excitement at matches," Suzie Fritz, committee chair and head coach at Kansas State University, said.

Bands and sounds systems are still restricted to playing only during dead balls.

The current rules language contains a recommendation that net poles be located at least one meter from the sideline. The committee would like to change this language to require this standard minimum distance for all facilities built or refurbished after 2006 and require it for all facilities by 2010.

The committee will also recommend to PROP again this year that a minimum overhead clearance height of 25 feet be added to the rules. A minimum is not currently listed, and 25 feet is the requirement for NCAA basketball. The rule change was not implemented into the rules last year, because it was flagged by PROP after being passed by the rules committee. The change would be administrative, allowing institutions to mutually consent to playing on a court without the minimum clearance height.

In 2006, the attack line must be extended beyond the court boundary line with five, 15-centimeter lines spaced 20

centimeters apart to 1.75 meters. This new specification was approved and listed in the 2005 rules book as notice that it would be required for the 2006 season.

Because instances of teams not being ready to play at the start of a game have increased, the repercussions have been clarified. A team delay will be assessed to the team that is late at game time. If the delay continues, a team delay penalty will be assessed to the late team and a point will be awarded to the team that is ready to play every 30 seconds for a maximum of five minutes. After five minutes, the game will be forfeited. The previous rule called for forfeit of the game after 1 minute, and the committee believed the penalty was too harsh.

Other major rules change proposals include:

- Any secondary court surface may be up to ½ inch lower than the primary surface. The current rule would allow the secondary surface to be ½ inch higher or lower.
- Any non-playable area should be equitably available to both teams during the timed pre-match warm-up period.
- The rules will specify that only one designated coach from each team may speak to the referee at a time during a game.
- When a coach is disqualified and prohibited from participating in the subsequent match, he or she must leave the court when the referees take control of the match on their arrival at that match.
- An exceptional substitute will not count as a team substitution.
- A player who contacts the net is only guilty of a net fault if the player is reasonably close enough to the ball for their action to be considered "playing the ball." Faking an attack or blocking a faked attack is no longer automatically considered to be playing the ball.
- Line judges may, at the instruction of the referees, avoid a server who moves to the left of the service area by backing down the extended end line rather than the sideline.
- As always, the interpretations, language, and implementation of these rules are in development, so should not be considered final at this time.

Make plans to attend a PAVO OTP clinic in July/August to get the full story.

PAVO NATIONAL REFEREE POINT SURVEY



By Mike Carter
PAVO National Rating Team Director

Thanks to Joel Reinford, we are in our second year of our paperless point survey. Prior to the 2004 officiating season, surveys were either mailed or had to be downloaded from the web site. This was both cumbersome and time consuming. Points are now updated by each National referee simply by going to www.pavo.org, clicking "Member Login" and logging in to your information. After log in, the screen takes you to your home page and a line item that says "National Referee Renewal Points." Click that line, and you'll see all the points earned to date in your current four-year term. For points earned prior to 04, I entered each one for you. After each National referee enters all current-year activities, I approve/disapprove each entry as necessary. You then have an up-to-date account of where you stand, accessible at any time, by category for your four-year term.

If you are unsure about what constitutes an earned activity there is a link to the point guidelines page. You may also email me at any time. Some of you have done this and we were able to clarify your questions.

A common misunderstanding/error is points earned for Category One or Three for DI Conference work. The requirement is that you work a minimum of four conference matches in a single conference. Conference matches are defined as matches between conference members. Non-conference matches are not counted. When adding this activity please enter only one match location/date - not four, as this would give you four points. We are on the honor system that you have worked four conference matches. You may earn three Category One points for conference worked, and one point per year in Category Three for a separate set of conference matches.



2005 CHAMPIONSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

Congratulations to all officials who were selected to work in the post-season events! It is indeed an honor and privilege to be involved in any conference tournament or any stage of the championship tournaments – NCAA, NAIA, and Junior/Community College.

NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS

Tracy Brinkley
Kevin Duggan
Michael Rolfes

NJCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

•DIVISION I

Tim Neels, head referee
Art Bowden
Erika Derra
Larry Dolvig
Mike Gibbs
Marty Prochko

•DIVISION II

Peter Meyer, Coordinator	
Edward Vasquez, head referee	
Craig Baker	Earl Capps
Pat Damiani	Jim Feickert
James Gibson	Doug Kiefer
Matt Larsen	Andres Lopez
Bill McManus	Jerry Moews
Larry Neidich	Juli Nuttall
Dale Obermeyer	Alyson Parry
Ron Pelham	Terry Ray
Brad Rinehart	JR Salima
Lisa Startup	Bob Tang
Rusty Wellman	David Williams

•DIVISION III

Julie Voeck, Coordinator
Mike Immel
Travis Karlin
Bill Peterson
Shauna Rhinesmith
Bob Stanek
Malafu Tiatia
Dan Wong

NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS



L-R: Mike Carter, Gale House, Marsha Rupert, Ann Hutchins
Kearny, Nebraska

NAIA CHAMPIONSHIPS



Front Row (L-R): Robert Okamura, Bonnie O'Connor, Barb Strome,
Corny Galdone-head referee, Kathy Rogers, Rich Richardson.
Back Row (L-R): John Cline, Joe Sloate, Arlene Hughes, Brian Brink

NCAA DIVISION I CHAMPIONSHIPS

All of the individuals listed below were referees at a first/second round site; those with one asterisk were selected as a referee at a regional site as well; those with two asterisks were also selected to work the Division I Championship Semifinal and Finals in San Antonio.

Paul Albright*	Eric Asami*
Denis Bergstedt	Mary Blalock**
Michael Blalock*	Wade Brence*
Donna Carter*	Annette Cottle
Gloria Cox	Larry Dolvig
Lara Donaldson	Charles Ezigbo
Mary Faragher*	Kathy Ferraraccio*
Bill Forrester*	Kurt Fulmer
Tom Given	Don Goodwin
Ed Halik	Mike Hamilton
Brian Hemelgarn**	Kent Kitade*
Verna Klubnikin*	Daniel Leake
Crystal Lewis	Patsy Malta**
Keith Murlless	Mark Nash
Rick Olmstead	Bob Oshita
Kim Pickering	Tom Pingel*
Joan Powell**	Marty Prochko
Patty Salvatore	Glenn Sapp*
Wanda Stahl	William Stanley
Ken Taylor	Ed Thornburgh
Barbara Vaughn	Emi Vishoot
Julie Voeck	Mara Wager
Stacey Weitzel	Rick Welch
Kevin Wendelboe	Kim Wishum

NCAA DIVISION I CHAMPIONSHIPS



Front Row (L-R) Line Judges:

Tina Spann, Tom Ulibarri, Chris Tan, Tom Berg

Back Row (L-R) Referees:

Mary Blalock, Joan Powell, Brian Hemelgarn, Patsy Malta

All of the individuals listed below were line judges at a regional site; those with an asterisk were also selected as line judges at the Division I Championship Semifinal and Finals in San Antonio.

Brett Anderson	Scott Baker	Mike Behrens	Tom Berg*	Tom Eagen	Michael Fulk
Glenn Gainley	Ronnie Kaase	Jeff Kushaney	Diana Miller	Gary Ramsey	Chris Saunders
Tina Spann*	Dan Swensen	Chris Tan*	Tom Ulibarri*		

NATIONAL RATING TEAM SITES AND APPLICATIONS

By Mike Carter, PAVO National Rating Team Director

In response to member feedback, the deadline to apply to be a candidate at an NRT site has been changed to March 15, 2006. The deadline in previous years was April 15 and many people felt that was too late to accept other fall assignments that were dependent on candidacy status.


The following rating sites have been selected for 2006:

Aug 25, 26	University of Toledo	5 candidates
Sep 1, 2	University of Hartford	5 candidates
Sep 1, 2	Missouri State University	3 candidates
Sep 7, 8, 9	University of Portland	5 candidates
Sep 14, 15, 16	University of San Diego	4 candidates
Sep 15, 16	University of Miami	3 candidates

The rating site at the University of New Orleans had to be cancelled last year, so more sites were established this year to ensure that the five UNO candidates as well as 20 new candidates will have this opportunity.

Please see www.PAVO.org or the guidebook for application criteria and applications. You may contact me at cartersvb@verizon.net at any time with your questions.

USA Volleyball Officials Complimentary Room Program (OCRCP)

 The Officials Complimentary Room Program is being offered by the USAV Events Department as a reward for those officials who commit the most time and effort to making each national event successful. Officials that meet the minimum criteria will be eligible for a room at no cost.

OCRCP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

USA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Any Official that has been confirmed through the Officials Division application process and has committed to the following:

- Minimum commitment of six competition days
 - Minimum commitment of six matches per day
 - Cannot 'conflict out' of the minimum competition or match commitment (other than for "official meetings" – those listed on the Annual Meeting Schedule)
- Second Session (exclusive to USA Open Championships only)
- Minimum commitment of all four days of competition
 - Minimum commitment of six matches per day
 - Cannot 'conflict out' of the minimum competition or match commitment

USA JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS (Boys & Girls)

Any Official that has been accepted through the Officials Division application process and has committed to the following:

- Minimum commitment of six competition days
- Minimum commitment of six matches per day
- Cannot 'conflict out' of the minimum competition or match commitment

USA JUNIOR OLYMPIC GIRLS INVITATIONAL

Any Official that has been confirmed through the Officials Division application

process and has committed to the following:

- Minimum commitment of all four days of competition
 - Minimum commitment of six matches per day
 - Cannot 'conflict out' of the minimum competition or match commitment
- In addition, any Official confirmed to the following will be granted complimentary room nights for the days between the Invitational and the Boys JOVC if:
- Minimum commitment of six competition days at Boys JOVC
 - Minimum commitment of six matches per day at Boys JOVC
 - Cannot 'conflict out' of the minimum competition or match commitment

USA VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS COMPLIMENTARY ROOM PROGRAM (OCRCP)

Roommate Requests?

- Two officials (that meet the criteria) will be assigned to a room.
- Officials may request a specific roommate provided the roommate meets the same commitment level. If no specific roommate is requested, a roommate of the same gender will be assigned by the USAV Events Department or designee.
- Requests for spouses, family members, friends or any non-assigned personnel will NOT be considered.

Additional Requirements:

- USAV will only cover room rate and tax; all incidental expenses are the responsibility of the Individual(s).
- USAV Official Complimentary Room Program will NOT accommodate requests for 50% cost reimbursement or non-assigned personnel.
- Any abuse of the policy (ie, guests in room that do not fit the OCRCP criteria, etc) will constitute immediate removal from the program.
- Any accumulated room expenses will be extracted from tournament match fees. If there is a balance due, an invoice will be sent to the individual(s) and the Officials Division will be copied.
- Additionally the individual(s) will not be eligible for OCRCP at future events.



2006 USAV REFEREE TRAINING CAMPS

*Brian Hemelgarn, USA Volleyball
Director – RVA Referee Development
bhemelgarn@buckeye-express.com*

The schedule of USAV Referee Training Camps for the 2005-06 season (see below) has been finalized, and with the popularity of last year's camps, the schedule has been expanded to include four Qualifiers, two USAV/PAVO combined camps and a USAV advanced camp! Members of the USAV National Training Team will staff each camp and provide both classroom and on-court practical sessions.

Our traditional camps at National Qualifiers and the Girls' Invitational Tournament welcome referees of any certification level, but will be especially beneficial for Provisional and Regional referees.

The advanced camps at NIRSA and the Girls' JOVC are appropriate for our more experienced referees. Regional referees who will be seeking a Junior National rating in the near future, Junior National referees who aspire to become National referees, or experienced Junior National and National referees will find the training and feedback very helpful.

Additional information can be found on the USAV website at www.usavolleyball.org by selecting the "Rules/Officials" item in the menu column, and then selecting "Training Materials: Training Camps" in the subsequent menus. Referee Chairs can also provide additional camp information and registration forms.

The 2006 training camp schedule includes:

MidEast Qualifier	March 10-11
Pacific NW Qualifier	March 24-25
Big South Qualifier	March 31-April 1
NIRSA*	April 13-14
NorthEast Qualifier	April 14-15
Girls' Invitational*	June 29-Jul 1
Girls' JOVC	June 28-June 30

*Registration information will also be available on the PAVO website:

www.pavo.org

THE JUNIOR NATIONAL REFEREE PROCESS



Charles Ezigbo
Director, USA Jr. National Referee
Certification & Evaluation

All Junior National Referee upgrades, evaluations, and certifications in 2006 will take place at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta Georgia, the home of the 2006 USA Junior Olympic Girls Volleyball Championships. The dates for this tournament are June 28-July 5, 2006. The exact days during this event for the rating process are Saturday afternoon July 1, 2006 through the end of the tournament on Wednesday July 5, 2006. The clinic times are: 4:00 PM [Candidate's Session], 7:00 PM [General Clinic], and 8:00 PM [Tournament Procedures]. NOTE: attendance at ALL clinic sessions is required by ALL candidates, i.e. candidates must make arrangements to attend the first meeting starting at 4:00 PM through the last meeting around 8:00 or 9:00 PM.

It is recommended that potential candidates attend a Qualifier in order to gain experience at that level, and to become accustomed to the procedures used at the Girls' Championships. Candidates who are selected are highly encouraged to apply to officiate or attend the National Training session at the first half of the Girls' Championships. Working as an official during the first half will provide first-hand experience with the environment where the ratings will occur. If a candidate chooses instead to attend the training session, he/she will have the opportunity to receive personalized, last minute instruction from members of the National Training Team – many of whom are also National raters themselves. More on this training can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Application deadline to be considered as a Junior National Referee candidate is April 1, 2006. Candidates will be notified via email of their acceptance by May 1, 2006. The application can be found on the USAV website under the "Officiating" sub-link of "Applications". Acceptance is not automatic however. In order to be considered, a candidate must be recommended by his/her Regional Referee Chair, have the signatures of the Commissioner and Regional Scorekeeper Chair on the application, and include a

fee of \$150 with the application. A copy of the candidate's USAV completed test, corrected to 100% must also be included. All new candidates will be required to complete and pass a practice score sheet at the event.

At the tournament, the candidates will be evaluated for three days, being rated in both the R1 and R2 positions. Those who successfully complete the process will be awarded their Junior National patch before leaving the event. For those who are already Jr. National referees, the Girls' and Boys' National Junior tournaments will continue to be used as opportunities for review. The intent is to continue to provide feedback for improvement and advancement!

Candidates will not receive any pay for matches worked at the second session of the Girls' Championships. This may be another reason for a candidate to attend the first session since they will be paid for all matches worked during this first session. They would also be watched by the head referees of the tournament, and offered advice on techniques to help them in their rating sessions.

If it is your desire to be a candidate for a Junior National referee, it is a good idea to start working now with your regional leadership to make your intentions known. Your Referee Chair can guide and prepare you with the requirements for consideration as a candidate. Then get out on the courts and work, work, work – especially in the R2 position!

Another good place to receive these training opportunities is at a National Training Camp. There are several offered at various locations in the country and these camps are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Those who are applying as a Junior National candidate and have the go-ahead of their Referee Chair can go to the USAV website under the "Officiating" sub-link of "Applications" to apply.

To sum up, here is a time line of events for the candidates:

April 1: Applications must be filled out online by midnight. Mailed applications must be postmarked by this date.

Included in the envelope should be the application with referee chairperson, scorekeeper chairperson and regional commissioner signatures. Also must include the \$150 fee, and a copy of Form A or B of the USAV exam, corrected to 100%.

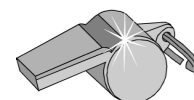
May 1: Candidates are advised of the status of their applications.

July 1: Mandatory meeting for all candidates - Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta Georgia starting at 4PM

June 27: Attendance at the 7pm referees' clinic IF a candidate chooses to work the first session of the national tournament.

June 28 – July 1: First session of the girls' national tournament, IF candidate chooses to work.

July 2 – 5: Mandatory rating session for all candidates at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta Georgia.



REMINDER FOR NATIONAL SCOREKEEPER CANDIDATES

I hope everyone will join us in New Orleans at the USA Volleyball Open Championships!

This is a reminder to all the scorekeeper chairs. The application for your National Scorekeeper Candidates is on the USA Volleyball website. The application and fee must be in to me by March 15, 2006.

Nancy Funk
Director Scorekeeping
Certification & Evaluation

From the Desk of the AVP

Kathy Ferraraccio



It feels as if I have to write the same article each year, and that I should probably save myself a bit of time, and just copy it from year to year. Then see if anyone notices and mentions it to me! But this year, I get to say a few different things, so pay attention as some things have changed.

As you will notice elsewhere in the newsletter, there are some new procedures for registration at the National tournaments that take place at the end of the USA Volleyball season. You still register through the USAV/PAVO data base in the same manner we have done for a number of years now. This is outlined elsewhere so I will not state it again here.

You will note though, that the confirmations will come through the USA Volleyball office, in the form of a contract. To be able to work any of these events, you must sign the contract that will come to you from Colorado. I will be working with the office to ensure that all guidelines set up by the Officials Division are still followed, and that deadlines are met for dues, exams, and registration. Again, you will find these procedures elsewhere in this newsletter.

Again this year, there will be an Officials Complimentary Room Program in place for the National tournaments. I would like to expound a bit on the OCRP. This is a great program that has been introduced by USA Volleyball to reward those who are willing to give so generously of their time and expertise. I believe it will be better this year, as we have had more time to get it into place, and iron out some details. It will continue to improve over the years as we work together to make the National events a professional and enjoyable experience for referees, staff and participants. If you have any comments or concerns about this program, please notify myself (kferrac@comcast.net) and/or George Egan (george.egan@usav.org) at the USAV office. We want to make sure that all understand the program that is in place for this year.

We have anticipated some questions, and hopefully can answer them here.

What if I am a Junior National candidate at the Girls JOVC tournament in Atlanta?

- If you plan on working the tournament for the entire 8 days, your room will be covered by the OCRP for the entire tournament, even though you are a candidate for the second session.

- If you are working only the second session as a candidate, then your room is not covered, since you are not fulfilling the minimum requirements of the OCRP.

What if I am a National candidate at the Boys JOVC tournament in Minneapolis?

- Since you are already a Junior National referee, the requirements of the OCRP are as stated elsewhere. You must work 6 days of the event to be eligible for the OCRP.

What if I am a camper at the Girls Invitational tournament in Minneapolis?

- If you commit to work the entire four days of the tournament, you will be eligible for a room under the OCRP, even though attending the camp and possibly not a nationally ranked referee.

What if I have to cancel from the tournament due to an emergency, and have a room reserved under the OCRP? Or what if I have to leave the tournament early due to an unforeseen situation?

- If an emergency arises, and you find you cannot attend the tournament or need to leave early, you must let me (kferrac@comcast.net) and George Egan (george.egan@usav.org) know of this as soon as you are aware of the situation. Not doing so can jeopardize your future in the program. We understand that emergencies arise, and there will be no penalty, as long as there is communication to us about this. If you are at a tournament and must leave early and cannot find those mentioned above, let the workroom staff know of the situation immediately, and they will make sure that the appropriate people are notified.

What if I would like to stay in a different hotel, or use points from the hotel? Can I do this and receive a reimbursement from USA Volleyball for my room elsewhere?

- If you are eligible for the OCRP, you must stay in the hotel and room assigned. There will be no reimbursements under any circumstances.

What if my spouse will be attending the tournament as a spectator? Will they be able to stay in the room provided by the OCRP?

- No, they would not. If your spouse is not participating in the tournament under the requirements of the OCRP, they may not stay in an OCRP room. Your roommate must be an official who meets the requirements of the OCRP.

If there are any other questions about procedures for registration for any national tournaments or the OCRP, please let me know and I will do my best to answer them.

In other news, the exams should be in

by now, or you are past the deadline. Also, dues plus any late fees should have been paid by this time. If this has not occurred, your rating will be revoked on March 1, 2006.

All of you have received the new procedures manual for becoming and remaining a National or Junior National referee. Please read through and make sure you understand your obligations to the Officials Division to remain in good standing at this level. Again, if there are any questions, just let me know.

Our sport continues to grow by leaps and bounds. We have many players joining the sport each year, which are eager to learn, and eager to get on the court and test their abilities. The Officials Division and USA Volleyball are working together to make sure that the corps of referees grows at a greater level than in the past. We must keep up with the growth of the sport by bringing in more referees, and starting them on the officiating path much earlier.

We are introducing more camps this year, for both beginning referees and veteran referees. We ask the regions to work with us in this endeavor and inform referees in your area to take hold of these opportunities and learn as much as they can. Encourage all level of referees to take advantage of these camps, which can assist them in attaining a higher level of officiating much faster.

The National office has taken over some of the chores that volunteers have done in the past. By doing the tasks of updating the data base, sending out mass emails, and working on contracts for the national tournaments, it makes time for those volunteers to work with the regions, setting up programs that will benefit referees from all levels of play.

Each National and Junior National referee must do their part also. Not only in attendance at events, and fulfilling obligations to the Officials Division, but by mentoring a younger referee. Is there a collegiate player in your area who shows an aptitude for blowing a whistle? Getting them involved at the recreational level can prepare them for higher level of plays.

If you have any ideas of how the Officials Division can help all of us gain more referees, please let me know. I am always open to suggestions to help us improve our job.

I wish all of you a successful season, and I look forward to seeing each of you at an event sometime before the end of the summer. *Happy whistling!!*

REGISTRATION PROCESS OF VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS FOR CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS



OFFICIALS

- Go to <http://www.vbofficials.net/onlineadb> by deadlines
 - Adult Open Championships – March 15, 2006
 - Girls Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships – April 15, 2006
 - Girls Invitational – April 15, 2006
 - Boys Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships – April 15, 2006
- Select “Register for USAV Tournament”
- Log in with Username and Password
- Select “Register for a 2006 USAV Tournament or Event”
- Select which tournament you will attend and which session(s)
 - Provide Arrival Date (1st day that you are available to work)
 - Departure Date (the last day that you are available to work)
 - Number of Matches willing to work per day
 - Select the role that you will be performing at the event (i.e., Referee, Scorekeeper, Dual)
- Official will receive an email notification that your registration application has been received.
- The USAV Events Department will confirm information by email.
- Only applicants who have met Officials Division requirements will be eligible
- After coordinating with the Officials Division to determine good standing and eligibility, the USAV Events Department will send the following by email:
 - Contract
 - W-9
 - Travel confirmation form
 - OCRP (Officials Complimentary Room Program) application form for those who qualify and wish to participate)
- Application is not complete until the Events Department has received the following:
 - Signed contract
 - Completed W-9
 - Travel confirmation form to include actual travel information (example: flight numbers and times)
 - Completed OCRP application form (for those who qualify and wish to participate)

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INFORMATION – OFFICIALS HOTEL ROOMS 2006 USAV NATIONALS EVENTS



DISCOUNTED ROOMS

If you are an official and are NOT eligible for the OCRP (Officials Comp Room Program – details are on the USAV website in the Rules/Officials section, under Applications), you are still eligible for a special room rate at the designated officials hotel at each USAV National Event.

In order to get this special rate, you must be registered, confirmed and accepted to work the specific event. (See application procedures for Championship Events).

Once contracted you will be contacted by Sue Mailhot (sjmvb@glx.net) to make your hotel reservation. This rate is not available to teams or anyone that is not working an event as an official.

Deadlines: USA Open Championships - April 14
All USA Junior Olympic Championship Events - May 12

OCRP (Officials Comp Room Program)

Deadlines: USA Open Championships - April 14
All USA Junior Olympic Championship Events - May 12

Additional information about each hotel can be found on the THS website at www.ths-usav.com.

OCRP Rooms – Room & Tax covered starting the night prior to the start of the tournament and the last night of the tournament.

NEW ORLEANS – deadline for OCRP and the officials rate is Friday April 14
Rooms are available for the special rate, as well as those that have applied for OCRP.

ATLANTA – deadline for OCRP and the officials rate is Friday May 12
Rooms are available for the special rate, as well as those that have applied for OCRP.

MINNEAPOLIS – deadline for OCRP and the officials rate is Friday May 12
Rooms are available for the special rate, as well as those that have applied for OCRP.

Any abuse of this program by an official is subject to a higher rate to be deducted directly from your paycheck from the event.



Officials Meeting Times for National Tournaments

Adult Open Championships in New Orleans, LA

- May 27 through June 3, 2006
- First Session – May 27 through May 30, 2006
- Second Session – May 31 through June 3, 2006

• • • • •

Officials Division Meetings (For Referee/ Scorer Chairs and Administrators), Thursday, May 25

- Scorekeeper Administrative Council – 8am
- Referee Administrative Council – 10am
- Officials Division Administrative Council – 2pm

• • • • •

First Session Meetings, Friday, May 26

- Scorekeeper RVA Development (For Scorer Chairs and Administrators), 8am
- Referee RVA Development (For Referee Chairs and Administrators), 11am
- Scorekeeper IRTC Clinic – 12:30pm
- Scorekeeper National Clinic – 2pm
- OD Tournament Procedures (For all Officials Working the Event) – 3pm
- Referee and Scorekeeper Pictures – 4:30pm

- All officials with National Championship Committee – 5pm
- Referee National Clinic – 6pm
- Open Referee Instruction – 7:30pm
- Officials' Social – 8pm

• • • • •

Second Session Meetings, Tuesday, May 30

- Scorekeeper Candidate Clinic and Practical – 2pm
- Beach Scorekeeper Clinic – 6:30pm
- Referee and Scorekeeper National Clinic – 7pm
- OD Tournament Procedures (For all Officials Working the Event) – 8pm
- Beach Referee Clinic – 8pm

• • • • •

Girls JOVC in Atlanta, GA

- June 28 through July 5, 2006
- First Session – June 28 through July 1, 2006
- Second Session – July 2 through July 5, 2006

• • • • •

First Session Meetings, Tuesday, June 27

- Referee National Clinic – 7pm
- OD Tournament Procedures (For all Officials Working the Event) – 8pm
- Campers/Trainers Session – 9pm

• • • • •

Second Session Meetings, Saturday, July 1

- Junior National Referee Candidate Meeting – 4pm

- Referee National Clinic – 7pm
- OD Tournament Procedures (For all Officials Working the Event) – 8pm

• • • • •

Girls Invitational Championships in Minneapolis, MN

- June 29 through July 2, 2006

• • • • •

Meetings, Wednesday, June 28

- Referee National Clinic – 7pm
- OD Tournament Procedures – 8pm
- Campers/Trainers Session – 9pm

• • • • •

Boys JOVC in Minneapolis, MN

- July 5 through July 12, 2006
- First Session – July 5 through July 8, 2006
- Second Session – July 9 through July 12, 2006

• • • • •

First Session Meetings, Tuesday, July 4

- Referee National Clinic – 7pm
- OD Tournament Procedures (For all Officials Working the Event) – 8pm
- National Referee Candidate Meeting – 9pm

• • • • •

Second Session Meetings, Saturday, July 8

- Referee National Clinic – 7pm
- OD Tournament Procedures (For all Officials Working the Event) – 8pm

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WILEY RECIPIENT OF PAVO SERVICE AWARD

By Keith Murlless



Ray Wiley, 72, Jacksonville, NC, is one of those 'ordinary guys' who for has helped get the job done, regardless of the size or shape of the task, for more than 20 years while serving as the PAVO local board secretary, treasurer, and ratings chair, as well as USAV referee chair. That's a lot of hats and a lot of work.

For his dedication and service to PAVO North Carolina Volleyball Officials Board and its members, Wiley was named the 2005 PAVO Excellence in Service Award winner at the San Antonio Officials Convention.

Ray grew up on Long Island. He played basketball at Cortland (NY) State Teachers College. But his 'career' move came in 1957 when he married Glo, "a very happy day," he says.

Ray became a U.S. Marine Corp aviator in 1956. It was during his first tour of duty in Japan in 1959 that he was introduced to volleyball.

Rays' favorite volleyball story: In Japan he played with 3 Hawaiians and 3 Samoans. Everyone knew that ball handling calls were made based on the sound of the contact. The habit quickly evolved that whenever one player made his contact, the rest of the team would clap their hands to confuse the ref! That was all funny to Ray until he blew out his knee, and was told: "White boy... now you da' ref!"

After two tours in Vietnam, Ray retired from service in 1976. Not wanting to put

his teaching background to waste, Ray transferred his 20-year-old credit hours to UNC-Wilmington. He finished his "senior" year of 50 credit hours in record time, and finally got his crack at bending the minds of our impressionable youth.

While teaching, Ray became involved in coaching, and then officiating, four sports. White hats, championships; Ray's done it all.

Ray credits his professional advancement in volleyball officiating to Charlie McAllister, one of the USAV "gurus" down here in humble North Carolina. To date, Ray's been to more JOs and Opens than I can count; two Special Olympic World Games, and the Armed Forces Championships. But most importantly, Ray has been a dedicated servant to our north Carolina officials. Our hats are off to you, Ray.



2ND ANNUAL REFEREE CHAIR ASSEMBLY

Brian Hemelgarn, USA Volleyball
Director – RVA Referee Development
bhemelgarn@buckeye-express.com

The second annual USAV Referee Chair Assembly was held at the site of the 2005 NCAA Women's Division I Volleyball Championship in San Antonio, Texas, in December. The RCA provides regional referee chairs with the most current, up-to-date rule interpretations, techniques and training materials to get started on the coming season.

As with last year, the RCA was well-attended by referee chairs and other delegates from more than 25 of our 40 USAV regions. Thomas Hoy, Lone Star Region referee chair, and his wife, Cathy, also threw a welcoming social on Wednesday evening as RCA and PAVO Convention attendees arrived. A warm "Thanks" to Thomas, Cathy and the Lone Star Region for their hospitality, and also a "Thank You" to PAVO for allowing us share their convention facilities!

In addition to our Friday morning USAV assembly, many participants also chose to attend sessions during the PAVO Convention, which is held in conjunction with the AVCA Convention and the Women's Final Four. It was a weekend full of volleyball activities, and San Antonio was a great host city!

We'll look forward to another great

RCA next season as the country's most passionate volleyball fans welcome everyone to Omaha, Nebraska, and the Great Plains Region!

... Kelli Auletta, continued from page 6

absolutely hated having to rely on so many people. Kelli was stubbornly independent and it pained her to trouble anyone by asking them for help. Conversely, she would offer her help to anyone - sometimes whether she knew them or not. Her tremendous heart and generosity will be sorely missed by too many to count. Having this conversation with her, I knew it would be over soon. It was hard, but I told her it was alright to give up the fight. I hope that eased her mind.

Today is my birthday and it is a difficult one. But I am choosing not to see this as a tragedy and a day to dread. While we are all sad and grieving because we all recognize what a loss this is, I think we are all relieved that she's not suffering anymore and that it didn't last for an extensively long time. As is her way, Kelli gave me a wonderful birthday gift. Having nothing left to give she still managed a gift to remember. She fought and lasted until my birthday, wished me a Happy Birthday, flashed me a smile, gave me a kiss and then passed away. With her she took all of our worries about her. This afternoon our sorrow is immeasurable, but this is partly because of our own selfishness. We wanted her to stay with us. Eventually, our sorrow will diminish as we realize that she is better off.

As I look back on this three year saga it may be too soon to really put it into perspective. It may be the most difficult thing I've ever done and at times, I know, I didn't want to be involved, but I am glad that I was able to see her through to the end. I am grateful for the time we were able to spend together. As with so many others that I know and many whom I don't, there will be a huge hole in our lives. Her influence on people she met was broad and deep and cannot be replaced. I hope I was able to bring some happiness to her all too brief life. I believe I am a better person because of her. I know I am richer for being lucky enough to have had her in my life.

I Miss & Love You Kelli- G

**The Kelli Auletta Fund for
Ovarian Cancer Research**

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