



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Springtime Is Prep Time For The 2017 Season

by Julie Voeck  
President

The 2017 collegiate season is still five months away, but spring affords officials the time to start getting ready, beginning with dues payment and NCAA registration, which opened May 1.

That's when officials can join PAVO and their PAVO Affiliated Board. Check out Executive Director Katy Meyer's article in this edition of the *Official Word* to get further details. Full details will also be available on the PAVO website ([www.pavo.org](http://www.pavo.org)) beginning May 1.

*RefSchool* is now in session. This online tool provides hundreds of practice questions, tests your rules knowledge, and provides a great study tool to review and learn new rules. Preparing for the NCAA/PAVO exam is directly related to performing well on the exam. For those of you who get test anxiety, *RefSchool* is a great way to study!

With more than 40 modules, *iREF* online training is another great preparatory tool. The *iREF* 100- through 300-level courses are already available on the PAVO website. Each module focuses on a particular area of the game, so even if you only have a few minutes, you will have time to view a module. These modules provide detailed in-depth training on all aspects of the responsibilities of first and second referees. Training is divided into focused modules to allow for shorter viewing times. Modules include photos, videos, and quizzes to help you learn the concepts that are presented.

Structured like a college curriculum, 100-level modules focus on the basic information for volleyball referees, including major rules, safety, mechanics, and professionalism. At the 200-level, modules focus on more advanced topics such as understanding and tracking player positions, and they provide guidance and training on the application of rules such as ball handling and assessing sanctions.

The *iREF* 300-level modules break down specific first referee and second referee responsibilities during a match, as well as focusing on training referees to make some of the most challenging decisions related to net play and plays involving back-row players.

Of course, there is no substitute for getting into the NCAA rules book. Most of us cannot sit down the night before the test and read the entire book. But spending 15 or 30 minutes a day, several times a week to read one section, will pay off with improved rules knowledge. It is not a rule change year, so there will not be a new rules book for 2017 – so start studying your 2016 book now.

Get started early. Take the time now to be ready for the upcoming season.

See you on the courts!



## OTHER GOINGS-ON AROUND THE ORGANIZATION

by Katy Meyer  
Executive Director

To say that a lot has been and is going on might be an understatement ~ but it's true. However, keeping you informed of the latest happenings is a fundamental responsibility of PAVO. Here is a summary of recent action and topics:

**PAVO Board of Directors Annual Meeting.** In their annual in-person, three-day meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 17-19, the PAVO BOD welcomed PAVO's newest staff addition, Rachael Stringer, and acted on several measures. Implementation of the changes enacted by these measures will occur throughout the year, but here is a quick run-down of actions taken:

- Approved the addition of an Associate Director of NRT to be primarily dedicated to PAVO Line Judge Initiatives.
- Adopted an amendment to require certified National Referees to complete the current online Line Judge Exam as part of their annual maintenance requirements. There will be no minimum score requirement or time limit.
- Adopted amendments to both the PAVO National Referee and PAVO National Line Judge Certification and Renewal category criteria. All changes made are effective immediately and updated versions of the renewal options and criteria sheets will be made available as soon as possible on the PAVO website.
- Adopted amendments to both the PAVO Line Judge and PAVO Scorer Recommendation Forms. All changes made are effective immediately and updated versions of the renewal options and criteria sheets will be made available as soon as possible on the PAVO website.
- Approved the elimination of the National Line Judge Certification based on experience. The only path to National Line Judge Certification will be to attend an NRT site.
- Approved the discontinuation of the use of Line Judge and Scorer year pins.
- Implemented a 2016 approved motion to increase the annual honorarium/general expense reimbursement (\$1,500 to \$2,000) paid to program directors (Director of Camps, Director of Exams, Director of Finance, Director of

NCAA/PAVO Clinics, Director of Membership), and the President of the Board (\$3,000 to \$3,500).

- Approved an 8% increase in the stipend for PAVO NRT Head Raters and Raters.
- Approved an 11% increase in the stipend for PAVO Camp Technical Staff.
- Approved both the FY2017 (FYE February 2018) and proposed FY2018 (FYE February 2019) Annual Budgets.

Additionally, beginning with new certifications in 2018, PAVO National Referee candidates will be required to complete the *iREF* 400 modules prior to their rating site.

The board also approved that the Executive Director should:

- submit a formal letter of interest to Triple Crown Sports to serve as the assigner of officials for the 2017 National Invitational Volleyball Championships (<http://www.womensnivc.com/>), and
- continue discussions with the NAIA to serve as the assigner of officials for the 2017 NAIA National Championships, and
- continue negotiations with ArbiterSports in an effort to ensure the lowest possible Central Hub registration and access fee, while continuing to aid our members with NCAA policy compliance, and
- consider the actions necessary and full ramifications of converting PAVO's RefSchool to a proprietary service.

***iREF.*** PAVO's proprietary, online training and education tool remains a high priority project. Slated for release on June 1, 2017, PAVO is putting the final touches on *iREF* 400 modules. This is the final level to be released in this project; however, there are still a few relevant additions we are looking forward to adding to this already robust training tool. Levels 100 (Apprentice referees), 200 (Local referees), and 300 (State referees) are available now for use and are a complimentary training tool for all current PAVO members.

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 Apprentice referees
  - NOT open to anyone without a current referee certification
- 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 2017 version of PAVO's RefSchool is now open and coincides perfectly with the women's spring collegiate season. In July, a second update will integrate the 2017 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, 2017, through March 31, 2018. That's a small investment that is sure to provide a big return!

Click [here](#) to learn more about *RefSchool*!



## 2017 NCAA/PAVO CLINIC SCHEDULE

by Anne Pufahl & Joan Powell  
Clinic Co-Directors

PAVO will host 30 clinics this summer over five weekends. The clinic sites and host contact information are listed below. You may contact the site host directly to get clinic start times. The clinic schedule with host information, along with other important clinic details is posted on the PAVO website.

As in previous years, clinic registration will be completed on the PAVO website, beginning Thursday, July 6 at Noon CT. The registration fees for 2017 have not increased – a small raise was planned, but was reversed by the Board of Directors when the increase in the 2017 NCAA registration fees was announced. The fee details are listed below.

<b><u>CATEGORY</u></b>	<b><u>PRE-REGISTERED, PRE-PAID ONLINE</u></b>	<b><u>WALK-IN - \$50 SURCHARGE** (Payable at the door)</u></b>
Current PAVO member	\$25 + local charges	\$75 + local charges
Non-PAVO member, Non-collegiate referee	\$30 + local charges	\$80 + local charges
Non-PAVO member, Women's Collegiate referee	\$75 + local charges	\$125 + local charges

\*\*Pre-registration is highly recommended. Clinics are not required to accommodate attendees who are not pre-registered and will do so on a space-availability basis only.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you at a clinic!

## 2017 NCAA/PAVO CLINIC SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Email</b>
22-Jul	St. Louis, MO	Joe Flanigan	hofvbref@yahoo.com
22-Jul	Savannah, GA	Lester Hayman	lesterhayman.svoa@comcast.net
22-Jul	Fargo, ND	Donna Hutchison	donna.hutchison@gmail.com
23-Jul	Los Angeles, CA	Joan Powell	jpr1r2@msn.com
23-Jul	Murfreesboro, TN	Elaine Mitchell	elainesports@att.net
23-Jul	Louisville, KY	Nancy Funk	nfunk@twc.com
29-Jul	San Mateo, CA	Ray Mink	raymink@aol.com
29-Jul	Rochester, NY	Jeff McKinney	jeff.mckinney@gmail.com
30-Jul	Minneapolis, MN	Robyn Courchane	chair@metroboardofficials.org
30-Jul	Hammond, LA	Angelle Simms	angellesimms@yahoo.com
5-Aug	Pensacola, FL	Kim Wishum	kimwishum@gmail.com
5-Aug	Chapel Hill, NC	Michael O'Connor	boty007@gmail.com
6-Aug	Phoenix, AZ	Norma Carr	ncarr47@gmail.com
6-Aug	Lakeland, FL	Eric Vlahov	evlahov@ut.edu
6-Aug	Hoboken, NJ	Russell Rodriguez	russell.vbref@gmail.com
12-Aug	Chicago, IL	Janelle McDaniel	jmcdaniel@bigten.org
12-Aug	Lansing, MI	David Vander Meer	boardchair@mbvo.org
12-Aug	Omaha, NE	Bill Stanley	hopsinc@cox.net
13-Aug	Cleveland, OH	Brian Hemelgarn	hemelgarn@ovr.org
13-Aug	Abington, PA	Dave Jones	pbcvochair@gmail.com
13-Aug	Atlanta, GA	Bob Hume	bobmhume@gmail.com
13-Aug	San Antonio, TX	Carlos Rodriguez	losref@aol.com
19-Aug	Tacoma, WA	Marc Blau	mhblau@comcast.net
19-Aug	Albany, NY	Mara Wager	mara_97@hotmail.com
19-Aug	Boston, MA	Steve Webster	steve@srwebster.com
19-Aug	Baltimore, MD	Bill Kearney	billk21093@gmail.com
20-Aug	Spokane, WA	Dale Goodwin	goodwin@gonzaga.edu
20-Aug	Wichita, KS	Linda Frazier	linfraz@swbell.net
20-Aug	Dallas, TX	Carlos Rodriguez	losref@aol.com
20-Aug	Denver, CO	Glo Bailey	bailey.glo@gmail.com



## NCAA RULES AND TECHNIQUE CHANGES FOR 2017

by Anne Pufahl, NCAA Secretary-Rules Editor and  
Steve Thorpe, NCAA National Coordinator

2017 is not a rule change year; however, two new rule changes were approved at past NCAA rules meetings that will not be implemented until the 2019 season.

But even with no new rules, there are some technique changes and points of emphasis that will be in place for the 2017 season. These changes will be discussed in full during the upcoming NCAA/PAVO clinics. Also, the most current information about rules and techniques for women's college volleyball will be available on the NCAA Central Hub.

### Uniform Numbers

Rule 7.1.2.4 - Beginning in 2019, the jersey number must be of a color that is clearly in distinct contrast with the color of the jersey, irrespective of any border around the number.

### Conference Logos

Rule 7.1.3.3 - Beginning in 2019, the jersey may contain a single conference logo. The logo may not exceed 3x5 or 4x4 square inches. The conference logo must not obstruct the player's number.

### CRS (Challenge Review System) Inconclusive Signal

Communication about the nature and outcome of the challenge needs to be improved and emphasized. It is important for all match participants—coaches and players, on-site fans, TV viewers, and other members of the officiating team—to know as much as possible about the characteristics of the challenge.

In that effort, a signal has been devised to indicate that the review of the pertinent video was inconclusive, and, therefore, the original call stands. When that is the case, the second referee turns to the court and mimics the first referee's point signal, then the second referee executes the "inconclusive" signal by holding one arm, bent at the elbow with an open hand, across the chest, and then straightening that arm to the side, fully extended.

### Points of Emphasis

#### Protests

The 2016 season brought a dramatic increase in coaches asking to protest. Last year, many seasoned

referees did not handle protests correctly. Some referees simply refused to accept an appropriate protest when asked by the coach or playing captain.

If a coach says the word "protest"—no matter the phrasing—it must be recorded, and the steps outlined in rule 17.2 must be followed. Appropriate mechanics do not require the first referee to come off the stand if the protest can be handled quickly by the second referee using the rules book. If it cannot be quickly resolved using the rules book, the first referee must come off the stand and record the information listed in Rule 17.2.4.

### Second Referee Base Position

The second referee should be within one or two feet of the imaginary extension of the center line. The second referee should work from a position about three or four feet behind the post, rather than backing up to the score table. It is most important to find a position that allows the second referee to perform all required duties.

The intent of this new position is:

- \*Quick transitions
- \*Be in a position to get the best view of the play
- \*Ability to move quickly to the antenna when needed
- \*Be visible to the first referee

### Celebrations

There are two concerns:

- 1 – Location of non-playing team members

Non-playing team members should **not** be approaching the court during play. Referees should continue to apply common-sense judgment in exactly where non-playing team members may stand during play. Be consistent without being overly officious. If non-playing team members repeatedly approach the court during play, a delay sanction **may** result, if deemed necessary. This is **not** a new point of emphasis, but just a reminder of how this situation should be handled.

At the end of a play, a normal, spontaneous response

by non-playing team members should be allowed, up to the sideline extended, as long as they return immediately to the warm-up area. This is a new point of emphasis, allowing for the expression of the excitement of the game, without causing a delay. Use your usual preventive officiating techniques, assessing a delay sanction if needed for repeated non-compliance.

## 2 – Behavior during celebrations

The misconduct rules, as defined by Rule 6.1.1 and 6.1.2, apply to non-playing team members in the same manner as coaches and players on the court. Players in the warm-up area participating in actions (including the use of “props” such as a hat that says “double” or a cane and sunglasses) that display disgust with an official’s decision, or celebrations that display rude

and/or vulgar acts, may be sanctioned with the same discretion applied to any other participant. Do not, however, develop “rabbit ears” or let increased attention on celebrations detract from your most important job of officiating the game on the court.

Often, it will be the first referee that is in the best position to observe both the location and behavior during celebrations. Your pre-game discussion with your partner should include how you will handle these situations.

### **Line Judge Duties**

Line judges may only call service foot faults on the team on their side of the net. They should not call service foot faults on servers on the other side of the net.



## PAVO DUES AND ARBITERSPORTS REGISTRATION THE STORY

### THERE IS MORE TO THE STORY

by Katrina Meyer  
Executive Director

The 2017 PAVO membership year is officially open. It is our sincere hope that you find the online registration process more user-friendly and our related communications relevant and informative.

The journey to opening registration this year has been undeniably influenced by the recent negotiations with ArbiterSports. This is the third cycle for this negotiation process. If you've kept up with member communications that have recently been distributed, then you are aware of one of the most notable outcomes of the contract negotiations ~ a discounted NCAA Volleyball Central Hub registration and access fee of \$90.00 for PAVO Standard Members and \$40.00 for PAVO Associate Members. These rates, by way of the negotiations, are set for the next three membership years. This fee includes the cost associated with the NCAA-commissioned background check. While members pay their Central Hub registration fee during the PAVO registration process, PAVO subsequently forwards this payment directly to ArbiterSports. In contrast, non-PAVO members join the Central Hub directly and at an annual rate of \$175.00; there is no registration fee differential by division worked or position assigned (i.e., referee, line judge, or scorer).

I'll be the first to admit that the negotiating process was an eye-opener for me as a newer executive. Like all negotiations, there were successes achieved and barriers encountered. However, throughout the entire process, PAVO leadership was sure to advocate with the powerful and collective voice of our 3,000+ membership base. To offer a play-by-play of the weeks of discussions that have occurred is simply not possible in this format, but I would like to summarize some of the notable outcomes of the ArbiterSports/PAVO contract negotiations:

- Significant time was dedicated to doggedly researching and exposing the details of the new NCAA background check requirement. What resulted is clarity of the scope, intent, and application of the NCAA's background check pilot program as it relates to volleyball officials.

- Despite repeated efforts to pin down the rationale of the \$25.00 increase in the Central Hub fees, here is what we've been offered from both the NCAA and ArbiterSports leadership:

*From the NCAA we've been notified that the registration fee increase is not tied to the background check, and like the other NCAA sports with ArbiterSports central hubs, the registration fee is increased every 2-3 years. The volleyball registration fee has been the same for the past two years, so increasing the registration fee is consistent with how other sports are handled. As such, the 2017-18 registration fee would be the same with or without the background check. With regard to the background check, all referees who want to be considered for selection to any round of the NCAA Division I, II or III volleyball championships will need to pass the NCAA background check, as does any line judge who wants to be considered for the Division I championships. Additionally, the long-term goal of the background check program (hopefully within the next year or two) is to allow Division I, II and III conference offices the opportunity to review the results of the background checks as well so they can use the information for hiring purposes if they choose to do so.*

*From ArbiterSports we were offered, "We are excited to continue with our partnership with PAVO for NCAA Volleyball registration through the NCAA Volleyball Central Hub. We are working on an updated look and feel to the website that will go live before the start of the season. As an added benefit of NCAA registration, all PAVO members will receive free access to the ArbiterMobile application for smart phones. Details on how to gain access will be posted on the Central Hub. We hope you have a great 2017 season and appreciate all you do for college volleyball!"*

- In early March, as a part of the negotiations process, I made a personal visit to the ArbiterSports Corporate Offices. During this meeting, ArbiterSports was informed of the most common insufficiencies that our members and staff have experienced in the recent past. A portion of my three-hour meeting with ArbiterSports leadership was dedicated to addressing concerns regarding ArbiterSports technical support response times, the quality of that support, and why these must improve.

PAVO leadership remains committed to the betterment of volleyball officiating (in all of its disciplines) and strong advocacy for those who comprise its ranks! At the same time, PAVO strives to maintain a positive working relationship with outside organizations whose actions, decisions, products, and services directly impact our members.

The following was distributed in a member communication on Saturday, April 29th.

**2017 Dues Structure.** As has been the case for the seventh consecutive year, the total amount collected by PAVO during the dues-payment process is made up of three parts – (I) PAVO dues that are retained by the central organization, (II) local dues set by the Affiliated Board that you join, which are forwarded to that board by PAVO, and (III) NCAA registration fee, which PAVO forwards to ArbiterSports on your behalf.

**Part I:** PAVO dues retained by the organization, **Part II:** Affiliated Board dues, forwarded by PAVO to the individual board you join during registration, and **Part III:** NCAA Registration Fee, forwarded by PAVO to ArbiterSports on your behalf: See Below.

One additional reminder about the **2017 NAIA Volleyball Central Hub**. The NAIA continues their efforts to identify and register officials who work NAIA contests. In order to help with accountability and communication, the NAIA also requires referees to register on their Central Hub. In the sport of volleyball, assignors and conferences are expected to enforce the requirement to register on the NAIA Central Hub for any referee who works more than two NAIA regular season dates and/or NAIA postseason play in the 2017 season.

PAVO members will pay an additional \$50 directly to the NAIA for Central Hub registration. These fees are not paid as a part of your PAVO dues, as the NCAA registration is; the NAIA registration fee will be collected directly via the NAIA Central Hub.

Additionally, you may also be aware that the NAIA has developed a unique officials' uniform shirt for NAIA officials. For volleyball, the requirement to wear this shirt for NAIA officiating does not come from the NAIA National Office, but is a decision made by each conference. Be sure to check with the conference(s) you are contracting with to see if the NAIA shirt is required. If it is, there is only one supplier - Honig's Whistle Stop ([www.honigs.com](http://www.honigs.com)).

NCAA Registration (Part III)	PAVO Dues (Part I)	Affiliated Board Dues (Part II)	TOTAL
<b>PAVO Standard Members</b>			
\$90.00	\$75.00	Varies	\$165.00 + Affiliated Board dues
<b>PAVO Associate Members</b>			
\$30.00	\$40.00	Varies	\$70.00 + Affiliated Board dues
<b>NCAA Registration (NON-PAVO MEMBERS)</b>			
All divisions, all registrants			
\$175.00			



**USA Volleyball.**

*by Devonie McLarty  
Chair, Officials Assembly*

## FROM THE OFFICIALS ASSEMBLY

At the end of February, the Officials Commissions conducted their annual meetings in Denver. Although it consisted of many long hours spent in conference rooms, a lot of great work was done for both beach and indoor officiating.

The Officials Assembly Administrative Council met immediately following the Beach and Indoor Commissions. There was much discussion about how to standardize structure between the two Commissions. I confidently believe we are making great strides and progressing down the right path towards better balance between elected and appointed representation not only on the Administrative Council, but also within Commissions.

One of the biggest topics of conversation was: What does the future of officiating look like for USA

Volleyball, both at the Regional and National levels? What are staffing needs for Referees and Scorers at various events? How will the Officials Commissions change if more USAV staff support is provided? These are all great topics that we will continue to discuss over the next Quadrennial under USAV's new CEO Jamie Davis.

I am looking forward to the meeting of the Officials Assembly, which will start at 3:30pm on Thursday, May 25 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. This is our best opportunity to share updates from the Officials Commissions, as well as provide a forum for openly sharing thoughts and gathering feedback. We will also recognize some colleagues and friends for their exceptional accomplishments and contributions to USA Volleyball. If you are in town, I encourage you to attend. See you then!



## UNIFORM UPDATE

### Prototype for new white uniform polo to be unveiled

*by Marcia Alterman*

A prototype for a custom-made new white uniform polo to replace the existing polo with the “Certified Officials” logo is expected to gain approval when the USA Volleyball/PAVO Interface Committee meets in May during the USA Open Championships in Minneapolis.

A thumbs-up will pave the way for the manufacturer to move forward with full production.

The new shirt will replace the current uniform polo, which will be retired in August 2018.

Based on feedback collected from the “2016 Officials

Uniform Shirts - Satisfaction Survey,” the newest addition to the volleyball official’s uniform polo lineup is designed in a fabric more wrinkle, stain, and snag resistant. Like its blue and gray counterparts, the white shirt will feature the new, ‘contemporary’ jointly approved Certified Volleyball Official logo and will be similar in design and sizing.

The Interface Committee meeting is open to all attendees. The date and time will be listed on the USAV meeting schedule when it is released. Following the meeting, details on the committee’s actions and discussion points will be distributed.



**USA Volleyball.**

by Michelle Prater  
Director, Referee Evaluation & Certification

## TROUBLING TECHNIQUES

### ISSUING INDIVIDUAL OR DELAY PENALTY

- Whistle
- Call player (if on court) or captain (if team member not on court or delay) to referee stand
- Explain fault to captain/player; show individual red card or delay penalty;
- Signal team to serve next

### IMPROPER REQUEST

- Second referee signal is a wave off
- First referee whistle at next dead ball period
- Call captain to referee stand
- Explain fault to captain; first referee signal is a hand on the opposite wrist

### SERVED BALL HITS NET OUTSIDE ANTENNA WITHOUT CROSSING NET

- Signal ball out

### SERVED BALL HITS SECOND REFEREE'S ANTENNA

- Served ball outside the second referee's antenna or hits the antenna and goes over the net
  - o First referee whistle
  - o If first referee does not whistle; second referee whistle
- Served ball hits antenna in body of net on second referee side
  - o First referee whistle

### TIME-OUTS

- Second referee must whistle to end time-out even if teams are ready to play

### TIME BETWEEN SETS

- Second referee must whistle to end time interval between sets
- If players are not on the court at 2 min 30 secs, second referee whistles

- o Second referee must also whistle at 3 mins to end timed interval

- If players are on the court at 2 min, 30 secs, second referee checks line-ups and whistles at 3 mins

### DECIDING SET

- 3 minutes starts at end of previous set
- Second referee conducts coin toss
- Notify first referee of results
- If teams need to switch sides, second referee helps administer this process
- There is no whistle from first or second referee

### SWITCH COURTS SIGNAL BETWEEN SETS

- Start with arms at your side and then raise the forearms counterclockwise front and back around the body at waist level, hands closed. (Same as NCAA)

### WHISTLES TO END SET/MATCH

- To end 2nd set and before deciding set
  - o Whistle to end rally
  - o Signal team to serve and signal fault
  - o Whistle; signal end of set; motion teams to bench by making sub authorization signal with both hands at the same time toward benches
  - o Second referee whistles and holds up coin for captains
- To end match
  - o Whistle to end rally
  - o Signal team to serve and signal fault
  - o Whistle; signal end of set; and signal teams to end lines
  - o Whistle; signal players to net to shake hands



## 2017 NATIONAL RATING TEAM SITES ANNOUNCED

*by Mara Wager  
Director , National Rating Team*

PAVO is pleased to announce that National referee ratings will be conducted at four sites this fall:

- August 25-26  
Syracuse University (Syracuse, New York)
- September 1-2  
Ohio State University (Columbus, Ohio)
- September 8-9  
University of Florida (Gainesville, Florida)
- September 15-16  
Baylor University (Waco, Texas)

National line judge evaluations will be held in conjunction with two of these sites, and those sites will be announced soon. Watch for additional announcement emails and information on the PAVO website ([www.pavo.org](http://www.pavo.org)).

Some sites will require a Thursday evening arrival, as matches begin on Friday morning. The complete schedule for each site will be determined as soon as possible.

Application forms and instructions are available on the PAVO website. Please read the instructions thoroughly. Applicants who comply with all instructions and present a professional and complete application will be given consideration for that effort. NRT sites are limited in available space, and typically there are more applicants than available slots. Candidates have until June 15 to submit applications, and the timeline notification of acceptance will be noted on the PAVO website.



## DO FORMER OR CURRENT PLAYERS MAKE BETTER VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS?

*by Donna Carter  
Membership Development Director*

PAVO has surveyed its membership on many topics, but here's one question that has never been asked. How many PAVO and USAV officials are current or former players?

Playing the game is not a requirement to becoming a volleyball official, and there are many good officials who have never played. But when it comes to training and overall development, officials who have spent time as a player tend to progress more quickly than those who have to learn the game.

Even with playing experience, all new officials need to be trained in rules, protocols, mechanics, ball handling, professionalism, working with other officials and support staff, handling coaches, and the "spirit" of the rules.

Former players already have a good feel for the game and the rules, as well as the concept of teamwork. Officials who have never played volleyball, but have officiated other sports, likely have experience with the professionalism aspects and working with other officials and coaches. In general, it seems that former players tend to develop and progress to higher levels of play more quickly than non-players.

How do we identify volleyball players and then recruit them into volleyball officiating? One way is for our existing members to act as ambassadors for what we do. If you are officiating at a junior's tournament, a college spring play date, a club event, or even local recreational competition, let players know that you enjoy what you do. Let the junior players who are working as part of the officiating team know that officiating is a great way to stay involved with the sport and make a second income. Players who do not go on to play at the collegiate level can officiate recreational, intramural, and high school play and cover some of their college expenses or make some spending money. Where else can a college student make \$20 or more per hour? If you play on a recreational team, let your teammates know of opportunities in officiating.

PAVO hopes to put in place a more formal program in the near future to identify future officials from the ranks of collegiate and collegiate club players and introduce them to officiating. Keep an eye out for an announcement. In the meantime, do your part to help encourage the officials of the future to stay in the game!



**USA Volleyball.**

## NATIONAL AND JUNIOR NATIONAL REFEREE CANDIDATES

*by Michelle Prater, Director, Referee Evaluation & Certification*

*Ross Erickson, Assistant Director, Referee Evaluation & Certification*

This year's referee rating sessions take place at the Girls' and Boys' Junior National Championships.

For the 22 National referee candidates, the rating session takes place at the BJNC in Columbus, Ohio at the [Greater Columbus Convention Center](#) from July 1 - 3. There is a mandatory candidates' meeting on Friday, June 30 at 7 pm, at the playing venue.

For the 56 Junior National referee candidates, the rating session takes place at the GJNC in Minneapolis, Minnesota at the Minneapolis Convention Center from July 1 - 3. There is a

mandatory candidates' meeting on Friday, June 30, at 8 pm at the playing venue.

Junior National referee candidates, and existing Junior National/National referees, may choose to participate in the Premier Training Camp June 28 - 30 at the GJNC prior to the Junior National rating session. There is a mandatory meeting for all campers on June 27th. Camp details are on the VRT website.

Good luck on your quest and we look forward to seeing many of you this summer in Minneapolis and Columbus.



## 2017 NCAA/PAVO EXAMS

by Brian Hemelgarn  
Director of Examinations

Spring is the time the NCAA/PAVO exam committee works to develop the question bank for the Forms A, B, and C rules exams, as well as the line judge and scoring exams.

The committee has already completed the 2017 Line Judge Exam (and Training Manual), which were used during PAVO spring camps. The Line Judge Exam will be available online for National line judges and referees in early summer. Printed copies are already available to Affiliated Boards for pre-season training and testing.

This year's exams will draw attention to specific points of emphasis developed by the NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules Committee and will also focus on current rules interpretations. As you prepare for the fall season and the exams, make sure you have reviewed all 2015 and 2016 rules interpretation bulletins on the NCAA Central Hub!

The exams will also highlight challenging topics from last year's exams, particularly rules that caused confusion for test-takers. Pay attention to the "Most Frequently Missed Exam Questions" segments during this summer's NCAA/PAVO Clinics. Player uniform and equipment rules, location of media personnel and equipment, and delay sanctions will surely be exam question topics--again.

As a reminder, the Form A and B NCAA rules exams

will be accessible only through the Central Hub. They will be available by mid-July. The PAVO Form C rules exam will be available online through the PAVO website for PAVO members only. The Form C exam is intended for new/newer referees or for veteran referees who would like a little extra rules practice before the start of the season or before taking the Form A exam. Watch for an announcement from the PAVO Central Office when the online exams are available.

Lastly, *RefSchool*, one of our most popular training tools, will include the 2017 exam questions once they are finalized. This is an excellent way to prepare for the season, as well as get ready for the Form A or B exams. You can sign up for *RefSchool* online at: <http://www.ruleboxsoftware.com/pavo.aspx>. The cost is only \$10 for PAVO members and \$15 for non-PAVO members.

The exams, *RefSchool*, and attendance at a pre-season NCAA/PAVO Clinic this summer are integral parts of your pre-season preparation. Although 2017 is not a rule-change year, don't jump the gun when taking the exams! Attend an NCAA/PAVO Clinic, complete practice exams in *RefSchool*, and review the training materials on the Central Hub before you dig into the exams.

Enjoy your summer! It will be gone before you know it!



## PAVO 'ROOKIE' FIRST BOARD MEETING WAS AN EYE-OPENER

*by Tammy Dotson  
Interim Director*

Tammy Dotson is the newest member of the PAVO Board of Directors, and when she showed up in Kansas City in March for her first meeting, her initial thought was “how can people spend three days discussing volleyball?”

Her thoughts now: “All I can say is: Rookie.”

The board's annual meeting brings together veterans and newer board members who are at the top of their officiating game and are passionate about discussing the current status of volleyball and how to move the game forward. The board tackled questions such as what is happening now, how we can build educational opportunities for our members, and where we want to be in the future. Dotson now knows why it took three days and why the discussion could have gone on longer.

“After three days, I walked out of the meeting in awe and with a new level of respect for these PAVO board members,” Dotson said. “It was humbling to see these individuals give so much of their time to assist others in learning, advancing their skills, enhancing the game, and the overall PAVO experience. There's truly nothing else like it.”

What awed Dotson was that each board member brought their individual strengths and passions and how they blend their expertise for the continued development of the members of PAVO and the game.

“I have had the opportunity to work with some really wonderful people in volleyball, but I am amazed at the level of commitment, passion, and desire each of these board members brings to the table. It is deep within them to provide not just great volleyball dialogue and a learning experience, but to mentor the generations to come in this ever-evolving game.”

Of course, it was not all work and no play. Arriving early gave Dotson the opportunity to indulge in her second favorite pastime—shopping. She made it to the Harley store, the mall, and even an estate sale, where she made a small purchase to remember her first trip to Kansas City.

“Wow, what a great time,” she said. “I look forward to the next meeting, and I am hopeful to be able to provide support to these individuals as they continue to take the game to the next level.”



**USA Volleyball.**

by *Bill Thornburgh*  
 Director, National Indoor Camps and Training

## USAV REFEREE CAMP UPDATE

The camp season kicked off at the Windy City National Qualifier on April 14. Eight referees and three trainers took to the courts under a new camp format.

- The camp involved campers working as R1 and R2.
- Campers were able to ask questions during matches and sit with trainers.
- The quick and immediate feedback after matches could be easily implemented into the next set of matches.
- At the end of the camp... over two hours of extensive discussion about the day's events, techniques, preferences, and philosophies on the game. Campers and trainers were able to share in this collaborative experience.

According to reports by campers and trainers, although the camp experience was different than others, it was well received and is a promising direction for future camps.

The NCVF tournament was held on the same weekend and a Premier Referee Camp had been

scheduled at that event; however, due to low registration numbers the camp needed to be cancelled. We will be working with NCVF to put this camp back on the schedule for 2018 in St. Louis. If you plan on being a Jr. National or National candidate next year, put this on your calendar and register early!

The final camp of the season takes place at the Girls Junior National Championships in Minneapolis. A pre-camp meeting is to be held on June 27 and the camp takes place from June 28-30. Always a popular camp, over 30 referees have already registered for this camp. Although the camp is officially full, interested referees could still register and be placed on the wait-list in case of referees withdrawing or if a decision is made to accept more referees. The GJNC Premier Camp will include the following:

- Campers working as R1 and R2 over 3 days.
- Campers refereeing matches with members of the National Training Team.
- Campers taking part in other activities to test their skills and help them become multi-dimensional.



## PAVO EMPHASIZES LINE JUDGE IMPORTANCE

*by Brian Hemelgarn, Director of Examinations  
Mara Wager, Director of the National Rating Team*

At this spring's PAVO Board of Directors meeting in Kansas City, the directors discussed the importance of line judges as members of the officiating crew. In response to requests and inquiries from collegiate assignors, conferences, and institutions around the country, PAVO will be emphasizing line judge training, education, recruitment, and retention. As we review our current slate of member programs, we will enhance our current offerings and implement new features that reflect our commitment to nurturing collegiate line judges at all levels.

In this endeavor, we recognize the importance of working through the cadre of referees, since referees play a vital role in line judge development. State and National referees, as well as National line judges, often serve as presenters, clinicians, and observers at line judge training camps and clinics. Likewise, at each match during the season, the referees are responsible for conducting productive pre- and post-match briefings to offer instructions and feedback that will help the line judges continue to improve. With these things in mind, we need to ensure that the instructions and feedback offered by referees are accurate and consistent with current NCAA line judge standardized techniques and best practices.

To help achieve this goal, the PAVO Board of Directors approved a motion to require all PAVO National referees to take the online PAVO line judge exam as part of their yearly certification requirements. For

those who have "test anxiety," don't worry! This new feature for National referees is intended as an educational opportunity, not a hurdle. Here are some key features of the online line judge exam:

- 50 Correct/Incorrect questions
- Convenient online access
- NO minimum passing score requirement
- NO time limit
- NO line judge experience necessary
- NO line judge clinic attendance requirement

By taking the same exam that line judges take each year, referees can stay current with line judge mechanics and techniques. This change also encourages referees to become familiar with the line judge training materials from PAVO and on the NCAA Central Hub.

All referees should set a goal to be current with officiating techniques, protocols, and procedures, including those for line judges. It is important that the feedback offered to line judges during training or during a post-match briefing is consistent from referee to referee. By knowing what line judges are being taught and being familiar with the available training materials and resources, referees can help ensure the success of line judges on the court. This new requirement for National referees will help all of us be better as an officiating team.



## PAVO AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

*by Tammy Dotson  
Interim Director*

PAVO is seeking nominees for the “Honor Award” and the “Excellence in Service Award” for the current PAVO membership year, which ends May 31, 2017. To assist you in your nomination, here are some guidelines for each award.

**“Honor Award”** – This award is given to a PAVO member who exceeds expectations, contributes to PAVO and its members, and exemplifies integrity and high moral character. Also, recipients promote PAVO and the sport of volleyball leadership through committee work, writing or research, speaking or teaching, officiating or rating, and other efforts to promote PAVO. Honorees are enshrined in the PAVO Hall of Fame.

To nominate a candidate for the Honor Award, please submit a written nomination to Tammy Dotson

([interim.director@pavo.org](mailto:interim.director@pavo.org)) no later than **August 1**. If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Dotson at the email above.

**“Excellence in Service Award”** – This award honors a PAVO member who demonstrates dedication, commitment, and service to PAVO and/or its members on a local, regional, or national level. Nominees must have served in a local or national leadership position in the past 12 months and continue to actively demonstrate support to their Affiliated Board.

To nominate a candidate for the “Excellence in Service Award,” please submit a written nomination to PAVO at [pavo@pavo.org](mailto:pavo@pavo.org) no later than **August 1**. For additional information or questions, please contact Miki Kennedy at [pavo@pavo.org](mailto:pavo@pavo.org) or (888) 791-2074.



## NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD DELEGATE DUE JULY 5

*by Tammy Dotson  
Interim Director*

The PAVO Board of Directors is accepting nominations through July 5 for a board delegate position. Members will vote on nominees in an online election in August.

Nominees for the board delegate position, currently held by Donnie Goodwin, must have held a leadership position on their local board within the past five years. Board delegates serve a critical role in the overall governance and structure of PAVO. Some of the important duties of a PAVO board delegate include:

- Serve as a liaison with Affiliated Board leadership,
- Solicit concerns, issues, questions, opinions, and feedback from members and Affiliated Boards.
- Monitor member and Affiliated Board trends.
- Communicate regularly with Affiliated Board leadership to ensure local compliance with PAVO procedures, policies, and guidelines.

- Write articles for the PAVO newsletter as requested by the President.
- Assist with special projects assigned by the President.
- Support other Directors with program-related projects.

This position is elected to serve a three-year term from 2018 through 2020.

PAVO members may nominate themselves or another member by submitting a volleyball résumé and a letter of application indicating why the candidate would be a good board member.

Nominations must be submitted to Julie Voeck, President, via email ([president@pavo.org](mailto:president@pavo.org)). Questions about the nomination process or election may be directed to Tammy Dotson ([interim.director@pavo.org](mailto:interim.director@pavo.org) or 630-796-5754).



## “SIMULTANEITY” OR “HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE RULE 14.3.2.2”

by Mike Paull  
PAVO member

“A joust, or not a joust?” That is the question. What does Rule 14.3.2.2 mean for line judges?

Consider this scenario: The ball is coming down in the plane of the net. Two opposing players go up for the play, and they both contact it simultaneously (or not). Each attempts to make the ball contact the other, and the ball ends up sailing out of bounds. Rule 14.3.2.2 clearly covers this situation, both when the opposing players' contacts are simultaneous and when they are not.

To get the call right, a line judge must know the difference between a “joust” and a “wipe”. A “joust” is where two opposing players contact the ball simultaneously and for equal duration (Rule 14.3.2.3). A “wipe” is where one of the players contacts the ball noticeably before the other, making it contact the opponent's hands, and then the ball is sent out of bounds.

If Player A and Player B contact the ball in the plane of the net, simultaneously – a.k.a. a “joust” – and the ball goes out on Player B's side, then the rally is awarded to team B (the team on the side where the ball landed out). Player A is judged to have contacted the ball last, causing it to land out of bounds. If the contact is **not** simultaneous – for example, Player A touches the ball first, pushes it (without catching or throwing it) into Player B's hands, and then the ball lands out on Team B's side, the rally is awarded to Team A, as Player B touched the ball last.

What do these tricky scenarios have to do with line judges? The answer is that each of the plays described above requires a different line judge signal.

In the first instance, the “joust”—when the contact is deemed simultaneous, and the ball immediately proceeds out of bounds—the line judge should signal “OUT.” If the line judge determines that Player A was the last player in contact with the ball before it landed

out on Team B's side, then it is like any other ball sent over the net that lands out of bounds: “OUT.”

In the second instance, the “wipe,” when one player is deemed to have touched it first before causing it to touch the opponent prior to the ball landing out of bounds, the proper line judge signal is “TOUCH,” just like any ball that touches a Team B player before going out on B's side.

A third possibility is Player A “wiping” Player B, but instead of the ball going out on B's side, it lands out of bounds on Player A's side. The line judge simply signals “OUT” in this situation. The ball was last touched by B and then landed out of bounds on A's side.

Confused? Wait, there's more!

What if the scenarios above were modified, with an end result of the ball hitting the antenna? Again, there are two different signals for two possible results. If the contact by the opposing players that sent the ball into the antenna is deemed simultaneous, the line judge would signal an antenna fault with no further indication. Assuming the referees saw the play the same way, Rule 14.3.2.2 is applied, and the result is a replay.

If the contact by the two opposing players that sent the ball into the antenna is NOT deemed simultaneous, the line judges would signal an antenna fault and be prepared to follow up with the secondary signal indicating the team at fault, if needed.

These different scenarios and related line judge signals used to indicate the result are often differentiated by a split second. Focusing on the contact and when contact is made is necessary to get these calls right. As with most calls that line judges are required to make, it is not simply a case of **where** the ball ended up, but also **how** it got there.

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