



On Oct. 30, 2023, USA Volleyball and the Gulf Coast Region lost a valued and honored member.

Patrick Loebig, the original "Beach Dog," went to be with the Lord and the Heroes of Faith. For 13 years, Patrick had taught, trained, encouraged, mentored and lived his beach officials in the Gulf Coast Region and across all of USA Volleyball as the Gulf Coast Region's beach officials chair. He named his group of beach officials "the Beach Dogs."

Colleagues from all over USA Volleyball will miss Patrick's inspirational friendship and his loving relationship with volleyball.

In honor of Patrick's service to the discipline of beach and beach officiating, the Gulf Coast Region will rename its annual last of October BRQ the "BIG" Beach Dog Memorial.

Patrick's now legendary statement to beach coaches in his coaches' meetings embodies him and the sport we all love, "coaches, the spirit of the game is 2 players versus 2 players."

Forever missed...forever loved...Patrick "Big" Beach Dog Loebig.

---

## Dear National and Junior National Referees and National Scorers,

As we enter this time of Thanksgiving, we want you to know how much we appreciate all your hard work and dedication to clubs, coaches and teams. We are thinking of you, and we wish you health and wellness through the holiday. Without you, we could not make these amazing events happen.

---

### PAVO Convention

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the PAVO Convention. Below is the schedule. Also, **[check out the convention website](#)**.

- USA Volleyball Officials Chair Meeting: Friday, Dec. 15, 7:45-8:30 a.m.
  - USA Volleyball Sponsored Community Breakfast: Saturday, Dec. 16, 8-9:15 a.m.
  - USA Volleyball Officials Assembly Meeting and National Officials Discussion: Saturday, Dec. 16: 3:30-5 p.m.
- 

### Health and Wellness Inspiration and Information

Resilience is No Coincidence: Leading a Trailblazing Life with Janie Mines – Center for Brain Health, Nov. 14, 2023

#### **Hear the fascinating story of the first Black woman to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy.**

A lieutenant and one of the first women to serve on a Navy ship, Janie Mines earned an MBA as a Sloan Fellow at MIT and developed deep expertise in change management. She shares insights and stories about overcoming challenges with perseverance and resilience.

Center for BrainHealth shows you how to transform your mind to work stronger and faster. The center has easy-to-use, scientifically proven tools to provide you with a proactive path to improve quality of life through brain health. Its research shows that better brain health helps people thrive within the context of their personal lives.

New to The Center for BrainHealth? The Center for BrainHealth, part of the University of Texas at Dallas, is a research institute committed to enhancing, preserving and restoring brain health across the lifespan. Major research areas include the use of functional and structural neuroimaging techniques

to better understand the neurobiology supporting cognition and emotion in health and disease.

This leading-edge scientific exploration is translated quickly into practical innovations to improve how people think, work and live, empowering people of all ages to unlock their brain potential. Visit [centerforbrainhealth.org](https://centerforbrainhealth.org).

---

## Registration for All National Events is Now Open

Your participation is critical to the success of these events.

**MANDATORY: For proper sizing of VIK, please update your profiles in AES and your current certification.**

### [Find online events and register now in AES.](#)

- **2024 Salt Lake Showdown Girls 18s Qualifier**, February 9-11, 2024 – Acceptances will happen within two weeks of registration for junior national and national referees.
  - **2024 Sunshine Qualifier**, March 2-4, 2024 and March 8-10, 2024 - Acceptances will happen within two weeks of registration for junior national and national referees.
  - **2024 Salt Lake City Showdown**, April 6-8, 2024 and April 12-14, 2024 - Acceptances will happen within two weeks of registration for junior national and national referees.
  - **2024 Girls 18s Junior National Championships**, April 26-28, 2024 - Acceptances for GJNC 18s will begin February 19. Only junior national and national referees will be accepted.
  - **2024 Open National Championship**, May 24-29, 2024 - Acceptances for the Open National Championships will be February 1. Only national referees and national scorers will be accepted to Opens depending on registration volume.
  - **2024 Girls Junior National Championship**, (11s-13s) June 21-24, 2024 - Acceptances for GJNC will happen within two weeks of registration for junior national and national referees.
  - **2024 Boys Junior National Championship**, June 26-July 3, 2024 - Acceptances will happen within two weeks of registration for junior national and national referees.
  - **2024 Girls Junior National Championship** (14s-17s) July 3-11, 2024 - Acceptances for GJNC will happen within two weeks of registration for junior national and national referees.
- 

## Indoor National and Junior National Referee and Scorer Credentials

In SportsEngine, you can see your five-year credential in your account under Credentials, and it includes your expiration date. Please log into your

SportsEngine account to verify your expiration. If you need help locating your credentials in SportsEngine, **please use this PDF**. It is listed first.

---

## Retirement

If you are thinking about retiring, please let us know early so we can have a party. **Let us know your status using this form**.

---

## National and Junior National Requirements for Indoor Referees

**View the updated requirements on our website**. Scroll past Applications and Important Materials for Indoor Referees to Levels of Indoor Refereeing. You will find everything you need to know regarding your certification. For later reference, **download this PDF** for instructions on locating your requirements.

---

## USA Volleyball Membership Registration

For everyone that has already renewed your membership for this year, we appreciate it.

With the 2023-2024 season getting off the ground and so many USA Volleyball events in need, you as USAV National-level officials are the examples of the best in volleyball officiating. If you have yet to renew, please go to your region's website and follow the instructions or contact your region. If you have any health or financial challenges with joining the team this season, please call me at 262-510-6771 or email at [officials@usav.org](mailto:officials@usav.org).

**Background Screen and SafeSport Training:** Reminder that we as officials must be members of USA Volleyball, have our background screening completed, and be SafeSport-trained before we can even step on the floor. Please make sure to have this completed as soon as possible.

**Upload Photo to SportsEngine:** Please upload your picture into your profile as it's helpful for us to know who we are talking to if we ever give you a call or you call or email us. If we could place a face to a name, we would love that. **Upload your photo with these instructions**.

---

## National Official Dues

**Visit the National Officials Dues Portal (indoor officials)**.

Reminder, your dues are paid separately from your membership. **Download this PDF** if you would like to pay your dues at a later date and cannot find this email. It's listed second on these instructions.

- Junior National and National Indoor Referee: \$60
- National Indoor Scorer: \$40
- Dual National Referee/Scorer: \$60

The deadline for paying National Officials dues is **January 12**.

Our Officials Development Education dues are critical to enhancing our learning program for the entire team. It helps support our training modules, learning tools like exams, RISE program for officials, reevaluation/personal coaching program, and certification programs for incoming nationals.

It also covers our new **USA Volleyball Officials Academy Program** and coursework. We will be launching the Academy in January; more information is to come. The USA Volleyball Officials Academy will mirror the USA Volleyball Coach Academy. We think you will find the new programs and coursework to be extremely relevant and engaging.

---

## National Coursework

Depending on your certification, you will see one or both courses in your USAV Academy enrollments. We ask that you please complete this coursework by **January 12, 2023**.

### US24\_501 National & Jr. National Referee Training

- 051\_Critical Rules & Points of Emphasis
- 053\_Uniform Requirements & Reminders
- 212\_Harassment Response and Reporting
- 802\_National Rules Exam

### US24\_601 National Scorer Training

- 051\_Critical Rules & Points of Emphasis
- 053\_Uniform Requirements & Reminders
- 804\_National Scorer Exam

\*Reminder: if you take a module in a course, it will automatically be completed if required for a different course.

---

## Uniforms

The vendor for uniforms did change; however, the website is the same. You can still use **[VBofficialsgear.com](http://VBofficialsgear.com)**.

---

## Candidate Applications

Indoor Referee Junior National and National Candidate applications are available: **[Access all application materials](#)**.

Indoor Scorer Candidate applications are available: **[Access all application materials.](#)**

---

## **Gender Competition Guidelines 2023-24**

**[Access the Gender Competition Guidelines.](#)** The goal of these USA Volleyball (USAV) Gender Competition Guidelines is to permit athletes to compete in the gender with which they identify, while maintaining competitive equity.

---



USA Volleyball  
4065 Sinton Road Suite 200  
Colorado Springs, CO 80907  
719.228.6800 | [digitalmedia@usav.org](mailto:digitalmedia@usav.org)