



USA Volleyball Junior National Referee Candidate Application Information & Online Course Instructions 2025-2026 Season

1. Candidates must be in good standing in your region from the time of application through the conclusion of the Junior National Referee Candidate Program. A current USAV background screen, SafeSport training, and HIROS Training must be completed at the time of application. A Junior National referee candidate with less than one full season as a Regional referee will not be accepted.
2. Candidates must register in SportsEngine for the Junior National Referee Candidate Program and pay the \$400 application fee by **April 1, 2026, at 11:59 PM Pacific Time.**
3. The Junior National Candidate application material must be uploaded into the USA Volleyball Academy by **Wednesday April 1, 2026, at 11:59 PM Pacific Time.**
 - a) Electronic signatures (candidate, Referees' Chair, and Commissioner) are acceptable.
 - b) Candidates must attend, as a full-time referee without conflict, a minimum of two USAV National Qualifiers and one USAV National Championship, or one USAV National Qualifier and two USAV National Championships or three USAV National Championships (GJNC 10-13 or GJNC 14-17) within the activity period (March 26, 2024 – April 1, 2026).
 - c) Candidates must demonstrate second referee (R2) proficiency and should volunteer to work as a second referee both within and outside the region when appropriate.
 - d) Candidates that attend USA Volleyball Junior National Candidate Camps will gain national level training to assist in their development. Camper numbers may vary based on referee coach availability.
 - Camp 1: 2025 Girls Junior National Candidate Camp, July 8 – July 11, 2025, in Dallas, TX
 - Camp 2: 2026 Sunshine Junior National Candidate Camp, February 27- March 1, 2026, in Orlando, FL
 - Camp 3: 2026 Salt Lake City Showdown Junior National Candidate Camp, May 1 – 3, 2026, in Salt Lake City, UT
 - e) Priority consideration will be given to candidates, who officiate as a full-time referee without conflict, at the National Starlings Tournament, National Collegiate Volleyball Federation (NCVF) Tournament, All Stars, USA Volleyball events, USA Volleyball National Qualifiers, and USA Volleyball National Championships within the activity period (March 26, 2024 – April 1, 2026).
 - f) Please provide the Officiating Activities Report with your application.
 - g) Please provide three (3) Letters of Recommendation.
 - h) Please include a brief letter - "Why I want to be a Junior National Referee" - with your application.
 - i) Please provide a headshot photo.
 - j) Notification of acceptance will be no later than **April 15, 2026**. Applicants not accepted as candidates will receive a refund within two weeks.
4. Failure to meet any of the above-mentioned deadlines or criteria may result in non-acceptance to the Junior National Referee Candidate Program this season.
5. A qualified candidate must be capable of filling out and uploading an application into the USA Volleyball Academy, completing an accurate and detailed activity report, submitting a letter of "why I want to be a candidate", and securing three letters of recommendation.
6. A qualified candidate must demonstrate scoring proficiency using national scoring procedures during the evaluation process by 1) completing a scoring proficiency quiz, and 2) serving as the scorer during a match.
7. Candidates must register for the event in AES. Applicants who are not selected as candidates are still encouraged to

attend the event as a paid referee.

8. The 2026 Girls' JNC will be held in Indianapolis, IN at the Indiana Convention Center, June 25 - July 3. All candidates are required to attend the candidates' meeting on **Sunday, June 29, at 7:00 PM** at the playing venue. Candidates must be available with no schedule conflicts during the four-day program from **June 30 – July 3**. Candidates may schedule departure from the convention center at any time after 7:00 PM on July 3 (this is mandatory). NOTE: Candidates will not be paid for evaluation matches but will be paid for any non-evaluation matches during the candidate program (paid matches are not guaranteed).
9. Candidates may request event housing but will be responsible for paying one-half of the room cost during the Junior National Candidate Program. Alternatively, candidates may secure your own hotel accommodation.
 - a) When registering for the tournament, there will be the option to request event housing.
 - b) To utilize event housing during candidacy, candidates must pay for your hotel room **in advance** by the deadline of April 1, 2026.

Junior National Referee Candidate Online Course

Applicants for Junior National Referee certification are required to complete the online Junior National Referee Candidate Course via the USA Volleyball Academy by **April 1, 2026, 11:59 PM Pacific Time**, along with all other requirements associated with candidacy. Failure to complete this course by the deadline will result in non-acceptance as a Junior National Referee candidate.

For applicants who have already taken the modules or exams for your region's requirements, your records will be verified in the USA Volleyball Academy to confirm completion.

Applicants must complete all available and current USA Volleyball Officials Academy National Clinics by **April 1, 2026, 11:59 PM Pacific Time**.

Instructions for Completing the Junior National Referee Candidate Course

1. The coursework will be added to your USAV Academy within a week of your registration. Log into the USAV Academy from your SportsEngine account.
 - Please contact Matt Podschweit (matt.podschweit@usav.org) if you have any questions.
2. Once in the USA Volleyball Academy, you will see the Junior National Referee Candidate Course. This will contain all the modules and exams listed here:
 - 051_Critical Rules and Points of Emphasis
 - 053_Uniform Requirements & Reminders
 - 106_Scoring Basics Non-deciding Set
 - 305_Preventive Officiating
 - 306_Second Referee Transition & Positioning
 - 307_Second Referee Progressions
 - 309_Alignment Basics: 5-1
 - 310_Art of Assessing Sanctions
 - 321_Getting Rated
 - 324_Professionalism II
 - 401_Referee Interaction with Coaches
 - 610_Scoring – Deciding Set
 - 612_Scoring Special Situations
 - 802_National-level Rules Exam
 - 804_National Scorer Exam
 - US22_503 Video Recording Session 01 Avoiding Tragedies
 - HIROS Harassment Module
3. **All Junior National Referee Candidate modules must be completed no later than April 1, 2026, 11:59 PM Pacific Time.**

If you have any additional questions, please contact Officials at officials@usav.org.

Junior National Referee Candidate Checklist

To apply and be considered as a candidate for USAV Junior National Referee certification, an applicant must complete and submit the following no later than **April 1, 2026, 11:59 PM Pacific Time**:

- ☐ Current USA Volleyball Membership
- ☐ Current USAV background screen, SafeSport training, and HIROS Harassment Training must be completed at time of application.
- ☐ Candidates must register in SportsEngine for the Junior National Referee Candidate Program and pay the \$400 application fee.
- ☐ The Junior National Candidate application material must be uploaded into the USA Volleyball Academy
 - ☐ Completed Application Data Sheet, typed (electronic signatures accepted)
 - ☐ Completed Officiating Activities Summary (**March 26, 2024 – April 1, 2026**), typed, priority will be given to candidates that attend the National Starlings Tournament, National Collegiate Volleyball Federation (NCVF) Tournament, USA Volleyball events, USA Volleyball Candidate Camps, USA Volleyball National Qualifiers, and USA Volleyball National Championships
 - ☐ Candidates must attend, as a full-time referee without conflict, a minimum of two USAV National Qualifiers and one USAV National Championship, or one USAV National Qualifier and two USAV National Championships or three USAV National Championships (GJNC 11-13 or GJNC 14-17) within the activity period.
 - ☐ “Why I want to be a Junior National Referee” Letter
 - ☐ Three (3) Letters of Recommendation
 - ☐ Headshot of candidate
- ☐ Junior National Referee Candidate Course work in the USA Volleyball Academy
- ☐ USA Volleyball Officials Academy clinics up to April 1, 2026

If you have any questions, please contact: Officials at officials@usav.org.