



***USA*****Volleyball**

**BOYS JR. NATIONAL**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP**

***2025 EVENT MANUAL***

Minneapolis Convention Center  
Minneapolis, MN | July 3-6, 2025

# WELCOME TO MINNEAPOLIS – 2025

On behalf of USA Volleyball and the Events Department, it is our pleasure to join our hosts to welcome you to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the Minneapolis Convention Center for the 2025 USA Volleyball Boys Junior National Championship. We thank you for your continued support and offer our best wishes to each participant for a successful and enjoyable experience.

First time participants can look forward to a time of fellowship and making new friends; returning players to the renewal of friendships and the making of new ones.

We extend our thanks to the North Country Region of USA Volleyball for helping to host this event. They are already working hard preparing for this big competition.



## USA VOLLEYBALL EVENT DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

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# QUICK FACTS

## DATES OF COMPETITION & ENTRY FEES

<u>OPEN CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>POOL PLAY BEGINS</u>	<u>PLAY CONCLUDES</u>	<u>*FIELD</u>
Boys 18 Open	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	36
Boys 18 USA	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	36
Boys 18 American	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	28
Boys 18 Club	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	64
Boys 17 Open	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	36
Boys 17 USA	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	36
Boys 17 Club	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	48
Boys 16 Open	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	36
Boys 16 USA	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	36
Boys 16 American	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	28
Boys 16 Club	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	64
Boys 15 Open	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	24
Boys 15 USA	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	24
Boys 15 Club	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	32
Boys 14 Open	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	24
Boys 14 USA	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	32
Boys 14 Club	3 July, 2025	6 July, 2025	32
Boys 13 Club	3 July, 2025	5 July, 2025	24
Boys 12 Club	3 July, 2025	5 July, 2025	16

\*Field sizes represent the max number of teams allowed in those divisions. USA Volleyball reserves the right to accept as many or as few teams to round out numbers and create even pool play. The Open & USA division will only accept teams up to an even pool play number (not to exceed the maximum field size); whereas the Club division will accept odd numbers and more than the maximum field size if the format allows and **all entry requirements have been met.**

Note: **All** teams will play at least one match on the last day of your Championship. All Gold medal matches will be played that day on the Championship Court, followed by the awards ceremony.

## ENTRY FEES

Division	Fee
14 – 18 & Under Open, USA, American, Club	\$750.00 (U.S. Currency)
13 & Under Club	\$700.00 (U.S. Currency)

*\*Checks are cashed immediately upon receipt for all Club and At-Large entries received before the deadline. Checks are cashed immediately for all Open and USA entries from teams who have accepted bids. If an At-Large team is not awarded a bid and declines the Club invitation the entry will be refunded using the original payment method (check or credit card).*

## REFUND POLICY

- A team that is denied entry to the USA Volleyball Boys' Junior National Championships by the USAV Events Department shall receive a full refund of their entry fee.
- There will be **NO REFUNDS** if a team removes itself from the event after the entry form deadline of June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- When an individual or a team decides not to attend, or is unable to attend, a USAV-held event for reasons pertaining to acts or threats of war, acts or threats of terrorism, or a health risk alert, USAV shall issue **NO REFUNDS**.
- When a USAV event is canceled or interrupted due to acts or threats of war, acts or threats of terrorism, or a health risk alert, event entry refunds will be made to individuals or teams on a prorated basis once all USAV's out-of-pocket expenditures for the canceled or interrupted event have been settled from such fees.

## DEADLINES

**All Entry Forms and Fees MUST be sent directly to USAV by the established deadline.** Please make copies of **ALL** materials sent and bring them with you to the event.

OPEN & USA DIVISION	
<b>Refund Deadline</b>	<b>June 19 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>On-line Tournament Registration and Roster Submission via AES</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>Entry Form and Fee</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b> East Coast Championships bid earners must have entry & check in by <b>May 20 at Midnight EST.</b>
<b>Results Reporting</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>

OPEN & USA AT-LARGE	
<b>Refund Deadline</b>	<b>June 19 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>On-line Tournament Registration and Roster Submission via AES</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>Entry Form and Fee</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>Results Reporting</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>

AMERICAN	
<b>Refund Deadline</b>	<b>June 19 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>On-line Tournament Registration and Roster Submission via AES</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>Entry Form and Fee</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>Results Reporting</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>

CLUB DIVISION	
<b>Refund Deadline</b>	<b>June 19 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>On-line Tournament Registration and Roster Submission via AES</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>Entry Form and Fee</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>
<b>Results Reporting</b>	<b>May 23 at Midnight EST</b>



ALL DIVISIONS	
Housing (via Team Travel Source)	June 20 at Midnight EST
Foreign Team forms (see Chapters 2 and 3 for details)	June 10 at Midnight EST
On-Line Roster Adjustments without penalty	July 2 at Midnight EST
On-Line Ticket Orders	2 weeks before the beginning of event

### SPECIAL DEADLINE NOTES

- **At-Large Teams – Entries WILL NOT be accepted after the May 23<sup>rd</sup> deadline.**
- **Open and USA Teams – National Qualifier winners WILL FORFEIT your bid if your entry and payment are not received by May 23<sup>rd</sup>.**
- **Club Teams –** Once divisions have been filled, teams will be placed on a waitlist. You may request late application for entry. A Club team must meet the following guidelines to apply for consideration after the **May 26<sup>th</sup>** deadline:
  1. Confirm and provide proof (e.g., letter or email) of Region approval
  2. Contact the Events Department to request consideration and be waitlisted.
- **Applications WILL NOT be accepted if court space and field sizes are filled. There are NO GUARANTEES that a team entry will be accepted after the May 26<sup>th</sup> deadline. Therefore, enter early!**
- **If your Region deems the club or team not in good standing, your late entry application will NOT be considered.**

## TOURNAMENT TEAM CHECK – IN

On-site team check-in is **REQUIRED** and located in the Team Registration room at the Minneapolis Convention Center based on the schedule below. Teams that fail to check in by 9PM on their designated check in day will be subject to forfeiture of their first match of the tournament. Teams are NOT allowed to check in the morning or afternoon of their first competition day. We encourage teams to complete online roster check-in prior to arrival at the event. If you are experiencing roster errors, please email [membership@usav.org](mailto:membership@usav.org).

On-Site Team Check-In Date	Time*	Division
July 2, 2025	2:00 PM – 9:00 PM	All Divisions

\*\*The **online** check-in deadline is July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm. Online check-in is a required step to complete registration and to initiate your coaches QR codes for entry to the BJNC.

\*\*Reminder that both online and in-person check in are mandatory and penalties will be assessed by the Tournament Director if either of these steps are missed. If you have any questions or concerns regarding check in or rosters, please reach out to [membership@usav.org](mailto:membership@usav.org).

- Only one (1) representative or coach should go to the Team Registration room, located at the Minneapolis Convention Center.
- The team representative or coach will receive rosters, credentials and other important team information.
- Staff will be available to assist you with any emergency roster issues. It is requested that these roster issues be sent to [membership@usav.org](mailto:membership@usav.org) prior to arrival.
- Schedules will be available online in AES.

More information on team check-in will be distributed via the team letter (coming soon).

## PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES

Practice Opportunities will now be available at BJNC at the Minneapolis Convention Center. On July 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4-8pm at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Balls and Carts will be available with an ID and Court usage will be available on a first come first serve basis.

## ROSTER ADDITIONS & CHANGE DEADLINES

### Roster Change Penalty Fees

Action	Fee
Addition of participants on-site	\$50
Jersey number change	Free

### Team Representatives:

- **Prior to the July 2<sup>nd</sup>** online roster change deadline, you may edit and make changes to your roster through the AES system: <https://www.advancedeventsystems.com/events/37921>
- **Between June 27<sup>th</sup> and July 2<sup>nd</sup>**, all roster changes will need to be made and each team will need to complete online check in. Please email [events@usav.org](mailto:events@usav.org) for any roster changes if you have already checked in and need to reset the roster access.

## QUALIFICATION PROCEDURES

### BIDS AT REGIONS AND QUALIFIERS

Nine (9) Junior Boys National Qualifiers have been scheduled for 2025. Those tournaments and age classifications are available on our website under the event calendar:

<https://usavolleyball.org/events/?state=&type=120&country=&team=&zip=&start-date=&end-date=>

### OPEN CLASSIFICATION

The goal of the BJNC **Open Divisions** is to identify, through competition, the best Team in each BJNC age group from among Teams that have earned Bids. The BNQ Open Divisions are designed to select those teams.

To participate in an Open Division at the BJNC, a Team must earn a bid from participating in an BNQ Open Division – either winning the bid outright at a BNQ or being selected for an At-Large Bid after competing in a BNQ Open Division (At-Large consideration requirements can be found under the section “Open & USA At-Large Bids”).

### USA CLASSIFICATION\*

The goal of the BJNC **USA Division** is to create more opportunities for teams to play, to provide a second qualification division at the BJNC, and create more manageable field sizes between the Club and USA divisions at the BJNC.

To participate in a USA Division at the BJNC, a Team must earn a bid from participating in an BNQ USA Division – either winning the bid outright at a BNQ or being selected for an At-Large Bid after competing in a BNQ Open

or USA Division (At-Large consideration requirements can be found under the section “Open & USA At-Large Bids”.)

USAV recommends to teams that you pick your playing division at national qualifiers based on your goals for the season. If you know your team is not an Open caliber team, USA may be the division for you. However, if you prefer the more advanced level of play at the Open level, you may choose to continue playing in the Open division knowing that the Club division will be an option for nationals.

## OPEN AND USA AT-LARGE BIDS

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To be considered for an at-large bid to the BJNC, a team must earn a bid at a National Qualifier or be awarded a bid through the at-large process. To be considered for an at-large bid to the BJNC, a team must enter the event through the approved USAV online registration system as an Open or USA team and submit complete and accurate results by all posted deadlines. In the absence of such results, a letter of explanation addressing the reason(s) why such results are not available, and reason(s) why the team should be considered for an at-large bid. The letter is to be submitted to the USAV Events Department by the entry deadline. The teams awarded the at-large bids will be selected by the BCC with final approval of the USAV ED using the following criteria:

1. Must have competed in at least one (1) Boys National Qualifier (in a bid division—Open OR USA)
2. Register your team in the desired At-Large division for the BJNC in AES and send payment and the entry form by the posted deadline (may not register for both Open & USA but if a team is not awarded an Open bid, it will be considered for USA). **\*Please note: If previously registered in club division please reach out to BJNC@usav.org to change divisions to the desired At Large division**
3. Strength
4. Record against Qualified teams
5. Record against At Large applicants
6. Past year’s BJNC finish of the rostered players
7. Date of entry

The boys’ competition committee and the USAV Events Department will rank all Open At-Large and USA At-Large applicants together regardless of the division entered and assign bids by that agreed upon rank. Teams awarded an At-Large bid have up to three (3) business days to accept or decline the bid. If a team declines a bid, the declining bid will trickle down to the next team in rank order. If a team accepts a bid but does not participate in BJNC, the team is subject to sanctions for not using bids.

**Note: Any team that declines a bid (Open OR USA) at a National Qualifier will be ineligible for an at-large bid.**

\*In the Open Division(s) Hawaii and Puerto Rico will be given one (1) bid for the 14 and 15 & under age divisions. Each territory will award those bids to a team in each age division by any means they deem appropriate (i.e. a tournament or via an application process). Any other team wishing to receive a bid for the 14 or 15 & under age divisions must attend a National Qualifier and apply for an At-Large bid if necessary. **If Hawaii or Puerto Rico choose to award the allotted bids via a tournament, that tournament is not considered a sanctioned USAV National Qualifier and does not count towards the required criteria to be eligible to apply for an at-large bid.**

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF AT-LARGE BIDS

At-large bids must be announced by the USAV EVENTS DEPARTMENT no later than ten (10) business days after the BJNC at-large entry deadline. Teams awarded Open or USA division at-large bids will be notified via email from the USAV Events Department to the club director and coach who are listed on the Official Entry form and roster.

The boys' competition committee and the USAV Events Department reserve the right to accept as many or as a few teams applying for an At-Large Bid to round out numbers and create even pool play.

**FAILURE TO SUBMIT ANY OF THE REQUIRED INFORMATION WILL RESULT IN THAT TEAM'S ELIMINATION FROM CONSIDERATION FOR AN AT-LARGE BID.**

## AMERICAN CLASSIFICATION

The goal of the BJNCs American Division is to showcase Region Teams and provide the opportunity for more Teams to participate at the BJNCs.

- To participate in an American division at BJNC, a team must earn a bid through their Region's Bid process or earn a bid from their Region through the Re-allocation process.

## CLUB CLASSIFICATION

Teams that have not earned an Open, USA, or American bid at one of the designated Boys' National Qualifiers or applied and did not receive an Open or USA At-Large bid, are classified as Club Teams. Club Teams must register, pay, and submit their entry form by the published deadlines to be accepted. Any team that is late registering, paying, or submitting required forms will be waitlisted. USA Volleyball reserves the right to accept or deny as many teams necessary to round out pool numbers, allowing for space availability, after the deadline.

## FROZEN PLAYER RULES

Once a junior player has participated in a BJNC qualifying event (BNQ), he may not be on the Official Roster of, or participate in, another BJNCs qualifying event with a different club. Example: a player plays on a club in a BNQ in an attempt to qualify. The player's Team does not qualify. That player may not transfer to another club to attempt to qualify.

All teams and players must maintain eligibility compliance within their region and adhere to regional transfer policies when applicable. Violations of the Frozen Player Rule will result in sanctions being imposed on the already qualified team, its club, and/or the individual(s) involved, including the player, the coach and the club director. The USAV Event Department will determine sanctions for violations of the Frozen Player Rule.

Earning and accepting an Open or USA Bid or accepting any At-Large Bid defines the Team as "qualified" for the BJNC. Once a Team is deemed qualified, the players on the qualified Team's Official Roster are frozen to that Team. The players on the Team's Official Roster are subject to the following restrictions.

## FROZEN PLAYER RULES – OPEN AND USA

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All players listed on the roster of a team are “frozen” to that team at the time the team earns a bid at a National Qualifier or accepts a bid invitation from USAV. Accepting a bid defines a team as Qualified. Players from a Qualified team cannot be added to any other team roster submitted for National Qualifiers, the BJNC. This includes teams from within the same club. There are no restrictions on additions to the roster of new players or players from non-qualified teams—up to the limit of fifteen (15) players. All teams and players must maintain eligibility compliance within their region. Violations of the Frozen Player Rule will result in sanctions being imposed on the already qualified team, its club, and/or the individual(s) involved, including the player, the coach and the club director. The USAV Event Department will determine sanctions for violations of the Frozen Player Rule. For a first offense, the sanctions may be a warning, probation, suspension or expulsion.

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## FROZEN PLAYER RULE – AT-LARGE

All players listed on the roster of a team are “frozen” to that team at the time the team applies for an At-Large bid to the BJNC. Applying for an At-Large bid is defined as registering for the BJNC in AES and submitting an entry form and payment to USAV. Accepting a bid defines a team as Qualified. Players from a Qualified team cannot be added to any other team roster submitted for National Qualifiers, seeding tournaments or the BJNC. This includes teams from within the same club. There are no restrictions on additions to the roster of new players or players from non-qualified teams—up to the limit of fifteen (15) players. If a team does NOT earn an At-Large bid and chooses to accept the Club Division invitation, the roster is still frozen. If a team does not earn an at-large bid and decides not to attend the Championship, all players shall be considered released and shall be permitted to be added to another team’s roster from within the same Member Organization (refer to the BJNC Tournament Manual, Chapter 2, Player Eligibility for transfer and release policies for purposes of attending JNCs). HOWEVER, the released player(s) are required to have a signed release from the original team coach, club representative, new team coach AND Member Organization commissioner/designated representative, if eligible.

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## FROZEN PLAYER RULE – CLUB

The Players on the roster shall be considered frozen upon submittal of the Entry Form AND payment to USAV. NO player listed on this roster may participate with any other CLUB TEAM for the purpose of these Championships. If this team decides not to attend the Championship, all players shall be considered released and shall be permitted to be added to another team’s roster from within the same Member Organization (refer to Player Eligibility for transfer and release policies for purposes of attending JNCs). HOWEVER, the released player(s) are required to have a signed release from the original team coach, club representative, new team coach AND Member Organization commissioner/designated representative. All teams and players must maintain eligibility compliance within their region and adhere to regional transfer policies when applicable.

## PENALTIES

### PENALTIES FOR NOT USING BIDS

It is disruptive to the quality of the Event when Bids are returned after being accepted. There are financial consequences, administrative challenges, and logistical delays for Teams, Region administrators and USAV personnel. Inevitably this takes opportunities away from other Teams participating in the qualification process.

A Team that does not use a BJNCs Open or USA bid which it has earned and accepted may be subject to the following penalties:

#### FINANCIAL PENALTIES

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- Payment of entry fee (if a team returns a bid at least 30 days prior to the start of BJNC) OR entry fee plus \$1,000 fine (if a team returns a bid within 30 days of the start of BJNC).
- If the payment is not received for the BJNC Event Entry Fee and/or fines, the club director(s), coaches affiliated with official qualification roster will be prohibited from participating in BNQs and BJNC until the fee is paid in full. Further legal actions may be taken to ensure payment is received.

#### SUSPENSION OF PARTICIPATION

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- Club Director suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNCs for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- Head Coach listed on the official qualification roster suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNCs for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- All members listed on the official qualification roster suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNCs for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- Specific age group from club suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNC for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- Club or specific team suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNC for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- All suspensions will be published and updated on the USAV website.

#### ADDITIONAL PENALTIES

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- USAV reserves the right to impose additional penalties as deemed necessary.
- Regions reserve the right to impose additional penalties to Clubs and/or Teams within their Region.

### PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL USE OF BID

If a Team is deemed ineligible or have ineligible participants (age falsification, frozen player, foreign participation, ethics/eligibility, SafeSport violations etc.) the following penalties may be applied:

#### FINANCIAL PENALTIES

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- Loss of entry fee and a \$2,500 fine.
- If payment is not received for the BJNC Event entry fee and/or fines, the club director(s), coaches affiliated with official qualification roster will be prohibited from participating in BNQs and BJNC until the fee is paid

in full. Further legal actions may be taken to ensure payment is received.

## SUSPENSION OF PARTICIPATION PENALTIES

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- Club Director suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNC for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- Head Coach listed on the official qualification roster suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNCs for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- All members listed on the official qualification roster suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNC for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- Specific age group from club suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNCs for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- Club or specific team suspended from participation in all BNQs and BJNCs for the remainder of the season and the following season.
- All suspensions will be published and updated on the USAV website.

## ADDITIONAL PENALTIES

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- Revocation of past awards, winnings and titles.
- USAV reserves the right to impose additional penalties as deemed necessary (see USA Volleyball Age and Identity Falsification Policy)
- Regions reserve the right to impose additional penalties to Clubs and/or Teams within their Region.

## APPEALS

When a penalty(ies) is imposed on a club/Team/individual by USAV, they may file for an appeal. Appeals may be filed with the USAV Ethics and Eligibility Committee by sending all relevant documentation to the USAV Staff Attorney by deadlines outlined in the initial Sanction letter. All appeals shall be accompanied by a non-refundable \$100 fee made payable to USA Volleyball.



# TEAM AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

### USAV AND FIVB MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

ALL PERSONS WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON THE OFFICIAL ROSTER, INCLUDING PLAYERS, COACHES, TEAM REPRESENTATIVES, CHAPERONES, TRAINERS, MANAGERS, ET AL. MUST BE REGISTERED WITH USAV THROUGH A USAV REGION OR THEIR FIVB FEDERATION. THIS WILL ENSURE THAT ALL REGISTERED USAV PLAYERS, COACHES, TEAM REPRESENTATIVES, CHAPERONES, MANAGERS, TRAINERS, ET AL. POSSESS LIABILITY COVERAGE AND SPORTS ACCIDENT INSURANCE (THIS IS AN EXCESS COVERAGE PLAN) AT THIS EVENT. IF A MEDICAL EMERGENCY ARISES, ATHLETES AND COACHES MUST HAVE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION TO SHOW PROOF OF MEDICAL INSURANCE, PRIMARY AND/OR EXCESS COVERAGE. FOREIGN TEAMS ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE USAV'S SPORT ACCIDENT INSURANCE AT \$100 PER TEAM THROUGH THEIR USAV APPROVAL APPLICATION.

### TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- Must register and pay the annual registration fee to your USAV Region or Member Organization (as required).
- Team/Club representatives or coach must sign each roster for team registration during onsite or online check-in.
- Can play in only one USAV Tournament at the USA Volleyball Boys' Junior National Championships.
- May change its name during the season ONLY with approval of the Regional Commissioner.
- The current USAV Official Guidebook, in addition to RVAA and Member Organization rules, regulations and policies, shall serve as the primary resources to resolve any concerns regarding eligibility.
- The roster may contain up to fifteen (15) players and no more than five (5) staff members, including the required Head Coach position.
- The designated head coach shall have no head coach assignment with any other team concurrently.
- All persons whose names appear on the Official Roster, including but not limited to team/club representative, coaches, chaperones, managers, and players, must be registered with USAV through their USAV Region.
- All persons whose names appear on the Official Roster, and are 18 and older, including but not limited to team/club representatives, coaches, chaperones, and managers, must consent to and pass a background screening and be Safe Sport trained.
- **Chaperones are no longer required to be listed on the official roster for the BJNC.** In place of this requirement, clubs/teams must have a travel policy in place for the season. At check-in, the team representative or coach checking the roster will sign a statement attesting to having a travel policy in place. If the club or team does not have a travel policy, the USAV default travel policy will be used. See the *Travel Policy* section of this chapter for more information and the default policy.

## ROSTERED ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS

### PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

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- Shall be registered with the USAV RVA in the geographical area in which they reside or in which their club/team is registered; or a citizen of one of the US territories in good standing with their respective FIVB Federation; or a citizen of their respective foreign country in good standing with their respective FIVB Federation.
- Can play with only one USAV junior team at the Boys' Junior National Championship.
- A player may participate only on the team in which they were named to the roster once a roster has been submitted to the USA Volleyball Boys' Junior National Championships (see Frozen Player Rule for Open and USA, Open and USA At-Large, and Club).
- All players who are registered in a USA Volleyball Junior National Championship are subject to the rules, regulations and policies of the Member Organization they represent.
- All players must be in good standing with their respective Member Organization.
- Can only participate on a team from within the Region in which the player is registered. Players may not have their registrations transferred to another Region for the purpose of participating in the USA Volleyball Boys' Junior National Championship unless the following applies:
  - If it is determined by the Region that no eligible opportunity is available to the participant, a waiver may be granted by the National Office for that player to participate with another team.
    - The player must get permission and/or a release from its team, club and Region
    - If the situation requires a change in Region, both involved Regions MUST agree to the transaction and contact USAV for final approval and assistance with the roster.

### PLAYER'S NUMBER ON OFFICIAL ROSTER

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Each player is required to wear the same jersey number throughout the entire event with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications. This applies to ALL PLAYERS in the Libero position as well.

If a player is found playing in the wrong numbered jersey the Event Arbitrator, with the input of the Tournament Director, will determine the penalty(ies) to be imposed. Penalties should be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Penalties for an illegal number are listed below:

- If the error is discovered prior to or during the match, the player may not compete for the remainder of the match and the roster may not be adjusted until the conclusion of the match.
- If the error is discovered at the completion of the match, the player in question may not play in the following match and the roster may be adjusted prior to the match, but must be noted on the scoresheet that the player is ineligible for that match.
- A \$50 fine and a roster change fee will be imposed to the team by the tournament. For the player to be eligible for play, the penalty must be paid in full. Teams found with the wrong jersey number should recognize that additional penalties may be imposed.

### PLAYER MISSING FROM OFFICIAL ROSTER

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For all Events, each player is required to be listed on the official roster throughout the entire event. If a player is found participating and is not on the official roster, the following penalties will be imposed as listed in the 2024-2025 Indoor Rule Book:

- **USAV 7.3.5.4:** Where a player is found to be on court but he/she is not registered on the team roster, the opponent's points remain valid, and in addition they gain a point and service. The team at fault will lose all points and/or sets (0:25, if necessary) gained from the moment the non-registered player entered the court and will have to submit a revised line-up sheet and send a new registered player into the court, in the position of the non-registered player.

### ILLEGAL PARTICIPANT ON BENCH

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If a person that is not on the official roster for a team, is found on a team's bench during a match, it is considered an Illegal participant. The following penalties will be enforced:

- If caught during a match, the illegal participant will be asked to leave the bench and the team will forfeit the current set they are in.
- If the same individual is caught a second time, then they will be removed from the event and the club will be subjected to a fine at the Tournament Director's discretion. All events must post their fine they are imposing on their tournament information page.

\* The addition of players and/or staff to an official roster is not allowed once a Team has begun Match play in the Event.

### AGE DEFINITIONS

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Once a player participates (including but not limited to practicing, training, attending workouts and/or competing) in a club or varsity program for any university, college, community college, or junior college, he/she is ineligible to take part in any regional and national programming, which includes but is not limited to national JNC qualifying and championship events.

Please visit [AGE CLASSIFICATION \(usavolleyball.org\)](http://usavolleyball.org) for the current age definition policy.

**REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS WILL CERTIFY THE AGES OF PLAYERS REPRESENTING THAT REGION IN THE USA VOLLEYBALL BOYS' JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS. THE AGE GROUP DEFINITIONS ABOVE ARE BINDING FOR THE ENTIRE SEASON IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THESE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND THERE SHALL BE NO APPEAL. CERTIFICATION OF AGE AND SCHOLASTIC STATUS MAY BE REQUESTED AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION AT THE SITE OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS. THE SCHOLASTIC GRADE, FOR PURPOSES OF THESE DEFINITIONS, SHALL BE THAT WHICH IS SIMULTANEOUS WITH THE CURRENT PLAYING SEASON.**

### AGE AND IDENTITY FALSIFICATION POLICY (ADOPTED BY BOD JANUARY 2004)

For all USA Volleyball corporate events, any person who alters any document that certifies the age or identity of a participant, or falsifies any statement which lists the age or identity of a participant, will be sanctioned as follows:

- Be immediately suspended from USA Volleyball registration, RVA membership and barred from further participation in the event;
- Be barred from participation in any USAV Corporate events in any capacity for a minimum of two (2) years; and
- Have a minimum probation of one additional year to run consecutively with the suspension.

A junior player who knowingly plays in a lower age classification than which he or she is actually eligible, or an adult player who knowingly plays in a higher age classification for which he or she is actually eligible, or any player who knowingly misrepresents his/her identity shall:

- Be immediately suspended from USA Volleyball membership and barred from further participation in the event;
- Be barred from participation in any USAV Corporate events in any capacity for a minimum of two (2) years; and
- Have a minimum probation of one additional year to run consecutively with the suspension.

**Any player in question must provide proof of identity and age eligibility, if requested.**

When discovered and confirmed during an event, these penalties shall be the required **minimum** penalty imposed by the Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee. The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee may recommend a more severe penalty. The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall file a report of any age or identity violation with the Corporation's Ethics and Eligibility Committee and with the registering Affiliate Organization with its recommendation.

## **WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE & RULES**

If a team must withdraw from a match, it is the responsibility of the team representative to inform the Competition Director no later than **one (1) hour** after completion of the team's last match.

The Championship Committee will attempt to fill the Finals Match of any flight, and/or determine an alternative action as required.

If a team withdraws from competition after pool play has begun, and prior to the conclusion of subject pool play, all match records shall stand. All un-played matches shall be forfeited per the Rules of Play and counted in the win-loss tabulation accordingly. All other teams in that pool shall be advanced for assignment to the next stage of competition.

Barring injury or emergency, withdrawal from a match will result in the following at the discretion of the Championship Committee:

- Forfeiture of all standing in the tournament (including seeding for future events)
- Recommendation for disciplinary action to the Organization which they represent
- Disciplinary action including suspending participation in future USAV Championship Events

## **GENDER COMPETITION POLICY**

To receive the complete USAV Gender Competition Policy, a gender ruling or ask any questions, please contact the USAV Gender Committee at [ChairGenderCom@usav.org](mailto:ChairGenderCom@usav.org)

For more information, please refer to the USAV website at <https://usavolleyball.org/about/gender-guidelines/>

## COACHES ELIGIBILITY

**ALL Coaches listed on the roster (Head and Assistant(s)) will possess a minimum coaching certification level of IMPACT (entry level) or equivalent.** An IMPACT certified coach (head coach or assistant) listed on the Event Roster must be present and on the bench at all times. **No team will be eligible to participate at the Junior National Championships without meeting the coaching certification requirements.** It is strongly recommended that teams have additional IMPACT certified adults verified on their roster and present at all times. In the event the certified coach is not present (late, sick, is ejected or disqualified), the team must have another IMPACT certified adult verified on their roster and on the bench for play to begin or continue without forfeit. No additional time will be allowed to comply with the certified personnel requirement to continue play except for unused time-outs and/or time allowed between games.

All coaches listed on the roster must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Be registered with a full adult coaching membership category with a USAV Region
2. Must consent to and clear a background screening
3. Must be current in SafeSport training requirements (see SafeSport Training Requirement section of this chapter)
4. Be a minimum of 18 years of age
5. Possess a minimum coaching certification level of IMPACT or equivalent
6. Head Coaches only: Have no head coach assignment with any other team concurrently

## IMPACT REQUIREMENT

The indoor IMPACT course is required for all USA Volleyball junior club coaches. IMPACT is the minimum level coach education requirement for USAV to coach a junior club. Currently, USA Volleyball does not require a renewal of this course, but the coach's region or club may decide to require a renewal or have more stringent requirements. IMPACT is available on-demand through your SportsEngine account.

[How to Complete IMPACT Certification for USA Volleyball | SportsEngine \(intercom.help\)](#)

**IMPACT is free for USA Volleyball members.** IMPACT does not include SafeSport, which is taken separately. There will NOT be IMPACT courses available during the Championships. Please make the necessary arrangements prior to the Championship to become IMPACT certified. Only IMPACT certified adults will be allowed to be listed as a Head Coach and/or Assistant Coach(es) on the roster.

## EQUIVALENTS FOR IMPACT

Equivalents for IMPACT that would be acceptable for USAV sanctioned events:

- USA Volleyball IMPACT In Person
- USA Volleyball IMPACT On Demand
- NFHS Fundamentals of Volleyball
- NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching
- ASEP Coaching Principles

- NCCP Level 1 Community Coach workshop (minimum).
- FIVB Level 1 course (minimum)
- University or college approved “introduction to coaching” course.

## USAV COACH ACADEMY

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We highly recommend that USAV member coaches enroll in the USA Volleyball Coach Academy. The USA Volleyball Coach Academy is an online, interactive learning platform developed for volleyball coaches. It includes a curated content library where coaches can explore learning paths, courses and modules based on the five pillars of the USA Volleyball Development Model. Get access to the tools, knowledge and resources you need to have a successful season and take your coaching skills to the next level, on and off the court. New modules and live sessions are announced monthly to bring you the best content from top volleyball coaches, experts and educators including U.S. National Team coaches. The USA Volleyball Coach Academy has a subscription model featuring three tiers with monthly and annual plans to fit your budget. Learn at your own pace and according to your schedule, whether that means planning for tomorrow’s practice or preparing for your next season. Coursework is available for all levels of experience, giving you the opportunity to build a strong foundation of volleyball coaching skills or access advanced content with world-class strategies and tactics. The Bronze Tier is free to all USAV member coaches. Several Regions have also purchased discount codes that make the Silver and Gold Tiers free to their coaches. Contact your Region to see if they have discount codes available.

Sign up for the USAV Coach Academy here: <https://usav-sport-education.myshopify.com/>

## SAFESPORT TRAINING REQUIREMENT

Participation in nationally sanctioned events will require that SafeSport training be completed by all registered adults (note, foreign teams are exempt but we strongly recommend you take the course). Individual regions may set earlier deadlines for their respective regional events.

### SAFESPORT TRAINING REQUIREMENT:

SafeSport certification is required for adults having frequent contact or authority over athletes. Regions may set earlier deadlines for their respective regional events.

Parental consent is required for minor athletes to register for SafeSport training. Complete the parental consent form in SportsEngine when registering.

1. Sign in and go to "[SportsEngine HQ](#)"
2. In the top right-hand corner click the profile photo (or initials icon if there is no photo).
3. Choose My SportsEngine.
4. Click the Household tab on the left-hand navigation menu.
5. Click the desired Profile to view.
6. Find the desired membership and click View Details.
7. Click the "Membership Name" again to open the drop-down information and view the eligibility requirements.
8. Complete the requirement(s).

MAAPP At-A-Glance Link: [SafeSport MAAPP Policy](#)

Should you need to return to your coursework at a later time, log in to your USAV account and click on the "Log into USAV" Academy button.

For technical issues, while completing the course, please visit: <http://help.usavolleyballacademy.org/>.

To report a concern of misconduct please use the following link:

[Report a Concern | U.S. Center for SafeSport \(uscenterforsafesport.org\)](http://uscenterforsafesport.org)

Safe Sport offers courses for parents and minor athletes which can be found at:

[U.S. Center for SafeSport \(safesporttrained.org\)](http://safesporttrained.org)

## AGE REQUIREMENT OF STAFF ON ROSTER – TEAM MANAGER STAFF POSITION

All staff, with the exception of the Chaperone position, must be a minimum of 18 years old and registered with USAV in an adult level membership category to be placed in any of the allowed roster positions. The Chaperone must be a minimum of 25 years old. No junior level members (members who are registered in a junior level membership category or are under the age of 18) are allowed in a coaching, chaperone or team representative position. If you have a junior level member participating in a non-player capacity, you may place them in the team manager position on the roster.

The Team Manager position is primarily reserved for, but not restricted to, junior level members (members who are registered in a junior level membership category or are under the age of 18) participating with a junior team in a non-player capacity. These members cannot be placed in any team staff position other than “Team Manager”. Junior level staff members must be at least 10 years of age. USA Volleyball and the event arbitrators reserve the right to conduct random ID checks on any staff person listed on the roster at any time.

All roster personnel (non-players) must have completed their regions registration process and cleared the background screening if applicable. Junior level members under the age of 18 do not need to be background screened. Junior members 18 years old and above, serving in non-player capacity on a junior team, must apply for and “clear” a background screening within 30 days of their 18th Birthday.

To add a junior level staff person to a roster, please contact the USAV Events Department ([events@usav.org](mailto:events@usav.org)). To expedite the request, please make sure the junior staff person is in AES, fully verified via the USAV import.



## TRAVEL POLICY

USA Volleyball Junior Clubs are now required to implement a team travel policy. The following is a model team travel policy and is provided to assist USA Volleyball member clubs with developing their own policies. If a Club chooses not to, or is unable to, create a written travel policy, the following model policy will become the default policy for that Club. Once a customized set of policies is developed and approved by the club, the default policy will no longer apply. Each member club has the responsibility for approval and implementation of its own set of travel policies, and to provide these policies to all players, parents, coaches and other adults who will be traveling with a team. It is strongly recommended that a signature by each adult acknowledging receipt of and agreeing to the travel policy be obtained by each Club.

Some travel involves only local travel to and from local practices and events while other travel involves overnight stays. Different policies should apply to these two types of travel. The form of policy below is a sample only but may be modified by the local program to meet its specific needs and travel.

### MODEL POLICY FOR JUNIOR CLUB VOLLEYBALL PROGRAMS

Travel Policy for [insert the name of the club]

[Insert name of the club] has some teams that travel regularly to play in tournaments, has some teams where travel is limited to a few events per season, and some teams where there is no travel other than local travel to and from our own area. [Club] prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the SafeSport Code. [Club] has established policies to guide our travel, minimize one-on-one interactions and reduce the risk of abuse or misconduct. Adherence to these travel guidelines will increase player safety and improve the player's experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

We distinguish between travel to training, practice and local tournaments ("local travel") and team travel involving an overnight stay ("team travel").

#### Local Travel

Local travel occurs when [Club] does not sponsor, coordinate or arrange for travel.

- Players and/or their parents/guardian are responsible for making all arrangements for local travel. The team and its coaches, managers or administrators should avoid responsibility for arranging or coordinating local travel. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure the person transporting the minor player maintains the proper safety and legal requirements, including but not limited to: a valid driver's license, automobile liability insurance, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with applicable state laws.
- The employees, coaches and/or volunteers of [Club] or one of its teams, who are not also acting as a parent, shall not drive alone with an unrelated minor player.

#### Team Travel

Team travel is overnight travel that occurs when [Club] or one of its teams or designees' sponsors, coordinates or arranges for travel so that the team can compete locally, regionally or nationally. Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones will often travel with the players.

Adult Participants, not including athletes that meet the Close-in-Age exception, traveling overnight with Minor Athletes are assumed to have Authority and must comply with the Center's Education and Training Policy.

- Written consent must be obtained annually by the Organization or the Adult Participant for all In-Program lodging. This consent can be withdrawn at any time.
- Lodging arrangements covered under this policy include, but are not limited to, hotel stays, rentals (i.e., Airbnb, VRBO, HomeToGo, etc.), and long-term residential environments, including lodging at training sites and billeting.
- When possible, [Club] will provide reasonable advance notice before team travel. Travel notice will also include designated team hotels for overnight stays as well as a contact person within [Club] or the team. This individual will be the point of contact to confirm your intention to travel and to help with travel details.
- All In-Program Contact during lodging must be observable and interruptible unless an exception exists.
- Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with a minor player (unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player **and** advance written consent is provided to the Organization or Adult Participant for each **specific** lodging arrangement).
- The coach or his/her designee will establish a curfew by when all players must be in their hotel rooms or in a supervised location. Regular monitoring and curfew checks will be made of each room by at least two properly background screened adults. At no time will only one adult be present in a room with minor players, regardless of gender.
- Team personnel shall ask hotels to block adult pay per view channels for player- only rooms.
- Individual meetings between a coach and a player may not occur in hotel sleeping rooms and must be held in public settings or with additional adults present, with at least one of those adults being the same gender as the player.
- Parents/Guardians who wish to stay in the team hotel are permitted and encouraged to do so.
- The team will make every effort to accommodate reasonable parental requests when a child is away from home without a parent. If any special arrangements are necessary for your child, please contact the team personnel who can either make or assist with making those arrangements.
- No coach or chaperone shall at any time be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.
- In all cases involving travel, parents have the right to transport their minor player.
- Prior to any travel, coaches will endeavor to make players and parents aware of all expectations and rules. Coaches will also support chaperones and/or participate in the monitoring of the players for adherence to curfew restrictions and other travel rules.
- If disciplinary action against a player is required while the player is traveling without his/her parents, then except where immediate action is necessary, parents will be notified before any action is taken, or immediately after.

## **Transportation**

- All In-Program Contact during transportation must be observable and interruptible unless an exception exists, or the Adult Participant has advance written consent from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian. This consent can be withdrawn at any time.
- In-Program transportation requirements are met if the Adult Participant is accompanied by another Adult Participant or at least two minors who are 8 years of age or older.
- Written parent/guardian consent is required annually for all transportation authorized or funded by an NGB, LAO, or USOPC. This consent can be withdrawn at any time.

## **Suggested Additional Policies**

The following policies are additional guidelines for developing a travel policy based on the club's preferences and needs.

- Players are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip. Players are not to leave the competition venue, the hotel, restaurant or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission/knowledge of the coach or chaperone.
- When visiting public places such as shopping malls, movie theatres, etc., players will stay in groups of no less than three persons. Athletes 12 and under will be accompanied by a chaperone.
- Safety Policies
  - o Additional guidelines to be established as needed by the coaches;
  - o Supervised team room provided for relaxation and recreation;
  - o Respect the privacy of each other; and
  - o Only use hotel rooms with interior entrances.
- Behavior Policies
  - o Be quiet and respect the rights of teammates and others in the hotel;
  - o Be prompt and on time;
  - o Develop cell phone usage guidelines;
  - o Develop computer usage guidelines including social media;
  - o Respect travel vehicles;
  - o Establish travel dress code;
  - o Use appropriate behavior in public facilities, including language;
  - o Establish two different curfews – in own rooms and lights out;

- o Must stay in assigned hotel room; and
- o Needs and well-being of the team come first.
- Financial
  - o No room service without permission
  - o Players are responsible for all incidental charges
  - o Players are responsible for any damages or thievery at hotel;
  - o Players must participate in contracted group meals; and
  - o Communicate travel reimbursement information and policies.
- General
  - o Establish fair trip eligibility requirements;
  - o Establish age guidelines for travel trips;
  - o Parent(s) responsible for getting player(s) to stated departure point; and
  - o Requirements for families to attend “Team Travel Tournaments.”

### **Code of Conduct / Honor Code**

USA Volleyball strongly suggests clubs to create a Code of Conduct or Honor Code as a companion document to team travel policies.

Recommended:

- a. Team members will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrator, teammates, fellow competitors and the public at all times.
- b. Team members and staff will refrain from any illegal or inappropriate behavior that would detract from a positive image of the team or be detrimental to its performance objectives.
- c. The possession or use of alcohol or tobacco products by any athlete is prohibited.
- d. The possession, use or sale/distribution of any controlled or illegal substance or any form of weapon is strictly forbidden.
- e. Team members are reminded that when competing in tournaments, traveling on trips and attending other club-related functions, they are representing both themselves and [Club]. Athlete behavior must positively reflect the high standards of the club.

For Consideration:

- a. Failure to comply with the Honor Code as set forth in this document may result in disciplinary action. Such discipline may include, but may not be limited to:

- i. Dismissal from the trip and immediate return home at the athlete's expense;
  - ii. Disqualification from future tournaments, either local or traveling;
  - iii. Financial penalties;
  - iv. Dismissal from team; and/or
  - v. Penalties set forth in the USA Volleyball Participant Code of Conduct, which may include a lifetime ban.
- b. Players are to refrain from inappropriate physical contact at team activities.
  - c. Players are to refrain from the use of inappropriate language

## POLICY ON FOREIGN PLAYER AND FOREIGN TEAM PARTICIPATION

### Definitions:

- I. **Foreign Junior Team.** A team of Non-Resident Foreign Participants seeking to participate in a USAV or Region-sanctioned event.
- II. **Resident Junior Foreign Player.** A Resident Junior Foreign Participant is someone residing legally in the United States per the requirements of legal residence and is attending a United States high school.
- III. **Non-Resident Junior Foreign Player.** A Non-Resident Foreign Participant is an individual who does not meet the requirements of legal residence in the United States.

### Policy Statement for Foreign Teams:

- I. Foreign Team Participation for National Junior Competitions (e.g., USA Volleyball Girls Junior National Championship, USA Volleyball Boys Junior National Championship, National Qualifiers, and other qualifying events):
  - a. A Foreign Team (registered with its National Volleyball Federation) may participate if it duly applies for and is accepted in compliance with the Event's regulations, is not representing its country in an official capacity, and the federation of origin grants permission for participation.
    - i. Only Foreign Teams from U.S. Territories with their own national volleyball federation (Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam) are allowed to participate in bid-winning divisions of Girls National Qualifiers and the Girls Junior National Championship.
    - ii. Only Foreign Teams from U.S. Territories with their own national volleyball federation (Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam) AND Canadian teams are allowed to participate in bid-winning divisions of Boys National Qualifiers and the Boys Junior National Championship.
  - b. Foreign Teams must purchase SECONDARY foreign participant insurance for \$100 per team, which will be provided by USA Volleyball.
  - c. Each player listed on the Roster will fit USA Volleyball Age Definitions.
  - d. Foreign Teams must complete ALL steps in the USA Volleyball Foreign Team Approval Process to be considered eligible to participate in any USA Volleyball Sanctioned Event.
  - e. Each member of a Foreign Team shall have in his/her possession(s) the following documents:
    - i. Photo identification (Driver's license, passport or comparable government issued document); and
    - ii. Copy of birth certificate or Government Issue Identification with birth date for those under 18

### Policy Statement for Foreign PLAYERS:

Individual Junior Foreign Participation: Subject to the above Definitions, a Resident Junior Foreign Player may participate in all USAV and RVA events if:

- I. She/He is a duly registered member of a USAV RVA; and,
- II. Follows all event participation policies and registration procedures.

*Exception: A Resident Foreign Participant, who has competed in international competition representing his/her country/federation of origin (i.e. Youth National Team, Junior National Team, Senior National*

*Team, or other "elite" team that has represented that country in international competition) is required to have a written release from that volleyball federation of origin before he/she can become a registered member of a USAV/RVA. Note, once this release is granted and applied to allow for membership with USAV/RVA, this waiver will apply for the remainder of that volleyball season and the Resident Foreign Participant will not be permitted to rejoin their original volleyball federation until the volleyball season has ended on August 31st of each calendar year. This would not apply to a Resident Junior Foreign Player who has been in continuous legal residence in the United States and unaffiliated with a foreign national volleyball federation for greater than two (2) years.*

**Prohibited Actions:**

- I. A Non-Resident Foreign Player shall not be eligible to participate in domestic USAV or RVA events.
- II. Concurrent registration with more than one National Volleyball Federation is prohibited.

# COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

## RULES OF PLAY

The USAV Indoor Rules Book will be in effect throughout the season and for the 2025 USA Volleyball Boys National Championship (see: <https://usavolleyball.org/resources-for-officials/rulebooks-and-interpretations/> to download the 2023-2025 USA Volleyball Indoor Rules Book). Participants, coaches and team representatives in the USA Volleyball Boys National Championship are subject to and must obey ALL rules, regulations and policies of USA Volleyball herein or otherwise written.

Please review the 2025 Critical Rules and Interpretations training material below:

<https://usavolleyball.org/resources-for-officials/rulebooks-and-interpretations/>

The rules of play are as prescribed in the USA Volleyball Rules Book. Below are key editorial corrections, clarifications and new rules pertaining to the 2024-25 season (underlined words, phrases or sentences indicate an editorial correction or rule change).

- New USAV 4.1.2: The Libero can be team or game captain.

### Key rules for all 2-out of-3 matches are listed below:

- Rally Score to 25 points, all sets must be won by a margin of two (2) points.
- Deciding sets of best 2-of-3 matches will be rally scoring to 15 points
- Third sets of matches in designated 3-team pools will be to 25 points and there will be a coin toss between sets two and three to determine “side”, “serve” or “receive”.
- One set to 25 points will be used for any playoff matches to break ties.
- In all third sets of full matches and in all playoff matches, teams will switch sides at eight or 13 points as appropriate.
- Twelve (12) substitutions and up to two (2) Liberos
- If two (2) Liberos are used, they must be identified prior to the start of the match
- If zero (0) or one (1) Libero is used, they must be identified prior to the start of each set
- The Roster may contain up to 15 players and no more than 5 staff members.
- Net heights
- Boys’ 15’s - 18’s: 2.43 m (7’-11  $\frac{5}{8}$  )
- Boys’ 13’s - 14’s: 2.24 m (7’-4  $\frac{1}{8}$ ”)
- Boys’ 12’s: 2.3 m (7’-0”)
- Balls
- The Molten FLISTATIC (V5M5000-3) for the 13-18 & Under divisions.
- The Molten “VB-U12” (red, white & blue) for the 12 & Under division.
- Each team must play within its own playing area and space. However, the ball may be retrieved from beyond the free zone. Rule USAV 9 states:
- If obstructions or other safety concerns prohibit retrieval from beyond the free zone, the player retrieving a ball over a non-playing area must be in contact with the playing surface when contact with the ball is made.
- Non-playing areas are defined as the: (1) walls, bleachers or other spectator seating areas; (2) team



benches and any area behind the team benches; (3) area between the scorer's table and the team benches; (4) any other area outlined in the pre-match conference by the first referee.

- If nets or dividers are separating courts, only the player attempting to play the ball may move the net or divider to play the ball
- The area beyond the edge of the Sport Court is designated a non-playing area due to safety concerns.
- Boys' 14 & Under
- When serving, the ball must be released
- The end line is the legal service line
- A re-serve due to an errant toss will be allowed at this level must be executed within 8 seconds.
- No artificial noise makers are permitted.

## PROTEST OF PLAYING RULES & DUE PROCESS & APPEALS

**Protests of the playing rules** during a set/match must be lodged in a formal manner prior to the next service. Between sets, a protest of the last play of the set must occur within one minute, and also at the end of the match, the protest of the last play of the match must occur within one minute. The protest shall be handled by a committee of two (2) to three (3) persons, one of whom must be a certified USA National referee or scorer, depending on the nature of the protest. The committee shall be composed of the following:

1. **Committee Chair:** The National Rules Interpreter or designee (Head Referee for the Event)
2. A representative of the USAV Championship Committee, USAV Events Department staff or designee to be named by the Event Director.

**All rulings of this committee are final and not subject to appeal.**

All protests will be settled at the time they are lodged. No match will be allowed to proceed until the protest is settled. Protests can **ONLY** be related to the rules of play. **Judgment calls are NOT subject to protest.**

The following are examples of what may be protested:

- misinterpretation of a playing rule
- failure of the referee to apply the correct rule to a given situation
- failure to apply the correct penalty / sanction for a given fault

**Due Process & Appeals:** USAV Bylaws (Article XI) and USAV Operating Code (Article X) govern protests, appeals, due process and ancillary procedures. Both of these documents are available in this link: [Governance - USA Volleyball](#). Protests, appeals and due process for this Event are specifically governed by these documents. Protests and appeals at this championship event are a simple one- or two-step process.

## TEAM UNIFORMS

Team players shall wear uniforms that are in full compliance with the United States Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations (see Rule USAV 4.3). If two or more sets of uniforms are used, players will be required to wear the **identical** number for each set of shirts. Shirt numbers must be clearly visible for identification by spectators, selection committees and scorers. The numbers "0" and "00" are unacceptable and will not be permitted. Team members shall either be in proper uniform when warming up, or their jerseys shall be in clear view on the back of the team bench. All Libero shirts shall be numbered. If an individual competes in a position other than Libero, his number must be the same.

Team players are required to wear uniforms that are in full compliance with the USAV regulations. If two (2) or more sets of uniforms are used, players are required to wear the identical number for each set of shirts.

- The numbers “0” and “00” are not permitted.
- The numbers must be centered.
- Front numbers must be a minimum of 4” and back numbers a minimum of 6”
- All Libero shirts are required to be numbered and must be clearly contrasting with the non-libero uniform shirts.

Team members need to be in proper uniform when warming up. If an individual competes in a position other than Libero as well, his/her number must be the same as their regular uniform.

Please note that **Rule USAV 4.3.3.1 and USAV 4.3.3.2** will be strictly enforced. This rule specifies that numbers must be of contrasting color (to the jersey) and **centered** with no smaller than 6-inch numbers on the back and 4-inch numbers on the front of the jersey. It is recommended that the numbers be a minimum of 8 inches on the back and 6 inches on the front.

**NOTE:** In order to alleviate any potential problems, inconvenience and/or extra expense to your team, please ensure that the numbers on each set of jerseys (shirts) are in clear contrast to the color of the jersey, are the correct size and are placed on the jersey as required by the 2023-2025 USA Volleyball Indoor Rules Book. Once competition has begun, all requests for number changes will be denied with exception for blood rules.

- **Libero Uniform Color Rule USAV 19.2 states:**
  - “The Libero players must wear a uniform (or jacket/bib for the re-designated Libero) which has a different dominant color from any color of the rest of the team. The uniform must clearly contrast with the rest of the team. The Libero uniforms must be numbered like the rest of the team. Color combinations such as purple/black, dark green/black, navy/maroon and white/light yellow are not distinctive enough to comply with the rules.”

For complete description of the rules go to: <https://usavolleyball.org/resources-for-officials/rulebooks-and-interpretations/>

**Rule USAV 4.3.5** states: “*For nationally sanctioned competition, uniforms must be identical with the exception of the sleeve length and the Libero Players*”.

**USAV 4.3a:** A player’s uniform consists of a jersey and shorts or athletic/sport pants. When undergarments, including but not limited to T-shirts, boxer shorts, tights, leotards, body suits, bicycle shorts, sports bras, etc., are worn in such a manner that they are exposed, they will be considered a part of the uniform. In that case, they must be similar and the same color for any team members (except the Libero) who wear such an undergarment. Socks and sport shoes are not part of the uniform.

**USAV 4.3.1:** The color and design for the jerseys and shorts or athletic/sport pants must be uniform for the team (except for the Libero).

**NEW USAV 4.5.1:** It is forbidden to wear hats or casts (even if padded). Braces, prosthetic limbs or other headgear that may cause an injury or give an artificial advantage to the player must not be worn. If a brace, prosthetic limb or headgear is used, padding or covering may be necessary. Jewelry may be worn provided its nature does not present a concern for safety, such as extremely long necklaces and/or necklaces with large medallions, or large hoop earrings.

## WARM – UP PROTOCOL

For Junior competition, when one (1) Team has exclusive use of the court, the other Team must either be at its Team bench or out of the playing area. Warming up with balls at the Team bench or in the spectator walkways is not permitted. Only rostered USAV members may be on the playing surface to assist with shagging balls during warm-ups.

**Primary Warm-up Protocol – (5-4-4):** – For all Teams in their first Match of a round of play.

- Five (5) minutes of shared court time for ball handling; and
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the serving Team; and
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the receiving Team.
- There will be no shared hitting time.

**Secondary Warm-Up Protocol (2-4-4):** For all other Matches within the round of play.

- Two (2) minutes of shared court time for ball handling; and
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the serving Team; and
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the receiving Team.
- There will be no shared hitting time.

A crossover Match that immediately follows pool play is part of that previous single round of play; Teams follow the Secondary Warm-Up Protocol set out below.

A crossover Match, Seeding Match or qualifying Match that occurs after a scheduled break, after the conclusion of pool play, is a separate round of play; Teams in this round follow the Primary Warm-Up Protocol. If all parties agree, the warm-up time may be shortened.

## TEAM FORFEITURES

A Team that intentionally forfeits a Match at an Event will be excluded from further participation in BJNC.

- The forfeit is intentional unless the Team shows good cause for the forfeit.
  - The Event Arbitrator will determine if good cause exists.
  - The Event or Arbitrator will report any Team that intentionally forfeits a Match to the USAV Events Department.
- Forfeiting Teams may be subject to a fine paid to the Event in the amount not to exceed that as posted by the Event in its pre-Tournament information.
- For all NQs, if a Team intentionally forfeits a Match in a Gold Pool or Gold Bracket in any division Open Division Match the Team's penalty will be:
  - The forfeiting Team is ineligible for participation in that year's BJNCs. ALL Adult Members listed on the verified Event competition roster and the Club Director will be suspended from participating in all NQs, and the BJNCs for the remainder of that season and the following season.

## LAST DAY FORFEITS

Teams that enter BJNC are committing to participating in the full Event. Teams have control over their travel plans and those plans should be made so that a Team will not have to forfeit any Matches.

A Team that forfeits a Match for any reason other than illness, injury or emergency is denying another Team a Match. Additionally, in a single elimination format, it is poor sportsmanship to deny a Team the right to move on by beating them and then forfeiting out of the Event. Furthermore, it is even more unacceptable to forfeit and then, as loser of the Match, not to remain and officiate the next Match.

Teams that have no flexibility in their travel plans and know they will need to leave before their division completes play will report to the Tournament Director no later than the end of play on the day prior to the final day of Tournament.

The Event Arbitrator with the input of the Tournament director will decide what forfeitures are needed. Teams forfeiting should recognize that additional penalties may be imposed.

- Teams that refuse to play a Match to determine 3rd and 4th place in the Tournament will both finish 4<sup>th</sup>, and there will be no 3<sup>rd</sup> place awarded in the Tournament.
- Teams that forfeit a last day Match are still responsible to officiate the next Match scheduled on their court. Teams playing the next scheduled Match may not be required to begin play early.
- A crossover match or tie-breaking match that immediately follows pool play is part of that previous single round of play; teams follow the Secondary Warm-Up Protocol set out below.
- A crossover match, seeding match or qualifying match that occurs after a scheduled break, after the conclusion of pool play, is a separate round of play; teams in this round follow the Primary Warm-Up Protocol. If all Parties agree, the warm-up time may be shortened.

## DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Any person listed on the Official Roster who is causing unfavorable situations either prior to, during, or after the USA Volleyball Boys Junior National Championship is subject to disciplinary action by the EVENT ARBITRATORS. In particular, use of alcohol or drugs by players and/or officials will bring disciplinary action by the EVENT ARBITRATORS. Plain-clothed off-duty policemen and uniformed/non-uniformed hotel security personnel will be patrolling the halls of the motels/hotels. They must, by law, take a different approach when finding players/officials who are taking illegal substances.

If a rostered team member is disqualified from a match, the disqualified person must report immediately to the championship desk (or site manager at an outlying site) until the issue is addressed by the event arbitrator or the team will default the match.

## TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES

### PROCEDURES For Breaking Ties to Determine Pool Finish

At the conclusion of a pool, the pool finish position of the teams is determined by their pool match records.

If there is a tie in match record among 2 or more teams in the pool, tie(s) are resolved using the Tie Break Rules, even in 3 team pools where all 3 sets are required to be played.

### TIE BREAK RULES

Ties in Matches are broken by the following steps:

#### TWO TEAMS TIE IN MATCHES

Always broken head-to-head. No exceptions.

#### THREE-OR-MORE TEAMS TIE IN MATCHES

1. Head-to-head results are used to determine pool finishes for teams that are tied in Match Record.
  - a) A team that beats all the other teams with which it is tied in Match Record will finish ahead of the other teams in the pool.
  - b) A team that has lost to all the other teams with which it is tied in Match Record is placed behind the other teams in pool finish.
  - c) If there are only two teams tied in matches after steps 1(a) and 1(b) have been applied, the head-to-head winner of those 2 teams earns the higher pool finish.
  - d) If after applying steps 1(a), 1(b) & 1(c), teams remain tied, then the ranking of those remaining teams follows the procedure in step 2.
2. Set percentage is the 2<sup>nd</sup> level of breaking ties and is used to rank a pool in which teams remain tied after applying the rules in step 1.
  - a) Teams with a higher set percentage finish ahead of teams with a lower set percentage.
  - b) If only two teams are tied in both match percentage and set percentage, the team that won head-to-head receives the higher finish in the pool.
  - c) If three teams (or more) are tied in match percentage and set percentage after applying steps 2(a) & 2(b), the tie breaking procedure followed is based on whether a team is eliminated from advancing to the Gold at BJNC/GJNCs or earning the Qualifier Bid to BJNC/GJNCs using Steps 2(d) and 2(e).
  - d) If no team is eliminated from advancing to the Gold at BJNC/GJNCs or earning a Bid to BJNC/GJNCs, pool finish among the teams tied in Match percentage and Set percentage is determined by Point percentage. If two teams are still tied in point percentage, the head-to-head winner finishes higher.

- e) If a team would be eliminated from advancing to the Gold at BJNC/GJNCs or earning a Bid to BJNC/GJNCs, the remaining teams that are tied in match percentage and set percentage have Playoff Tie Breaker Set(s) played as defined in step 3.
3. Playoff Tie Breaker Sets are played if 3 or more teams remain tied after applying steps 1 & 2. Girls National Qualifiers/Boys National Qualifiers and the BJNC/GJNCs have different protocols and are defined below.

***Girl's National Qualifiers and Boys National Qualifiers:***

To determine pool finish position, tied teams are ranked by their point percentage from the pool. Tie Breakers Sets, if required, are played as 1 set to 15. There may be brackets of 2, 3, or 4 teams. Tie Breaker sets are only played for the last spot leading to a Qualifier Bid.

- a) If there is 1 pool position available for a team to advance to play for a bid position, all teams participate in the Tie Breaker Sets. The sequence of play offsets is structured so that the teams with the highest point percentages have the fewest number of Tie Breaker Sets to play.
- b) If there are two pool positions available for a team to advance to play for a bid position, the team with the highest point percentage is ranked the highest and receives one of the advancing positions. remaining teams participate in the Tie Breaker Sets. The sequence of playoff sets is structured so that the teams with the highest point percentages have the fewest number of Tie Breaker Sets to play.
- c) If there are three pool positions available for a team to advance to play for a bid, the two teams with the highest point percentages each receive one of the advancing spots. The remaining teams participate in the Tie Breaker Sets. The sequence of play offsets are structured so that the teams with the highest point percentages have the fewest number of Tie Breaker Sets to play.

Following the rules set out above, it is possible for one or more tied teams to advance without having to play in a Tie Breaker Set, as only the last pool position is played off. It is possible that teams will be eliminated from the GOLD bracket in a National Qualifier as the Tie Breaker is played to determine the chance to play for a Qualifier Bid, NOT for the Gold Bracket.

***USAV Girls Jr National Championships (GJNCs) and USAV Boys Junior National Championships (BJNC):***

Tied teams are ranked by their point percentage from the pool. Tie Breakers Sets are played as 1 set to 15 and may be brackets of 2, 3, or 4 teams. Tie Breaker sets will only be played for the last spot leading to the GOLD Bracket.

The Tie breaking procedure is the same as outlined in the above steps 3(a), 3(b), & 3(c).

It is possible for one or more of the tied teams to advance without having to play in a Tie Breaker Set as only the last spot is played off.

## PROVOCATIVE BEHAVIOR

USA Volleyball conducts USA Championship events, which are primarily domestic in nature, and while teams from other countries may participate, these Events are NOT International Events. Furthermore, domestic teams are representative of USAV Member Organizations, and, as such, do not officially represent a governmental structure within the United States.

Therefore, the following standing policy will apply to all USA Championship volleyball events conducted by USA Volleyball: *“Comments and/or actions by an Event Participant, Team Member (roster personnel) or Spectator, which is deemed to be provocative, or provokes an opponent, other participant(s), team member(s), opponent’s team member(s) or spectator(s) will not be tolerated and shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Event Arbitrator.”*

## ETHICS AND ELIGIBILITY

All Junior National Championship Events offer participants the ability to access normal due process channels should their eligibility to participate be in question. Procedures, including appeal options, are outlined above in this manual.

### EVENT ARBITRATORS

Event Arbitrators are appointed by USAV and are present for BNQs and BJNCs. They are the first level for hearing and resolving ethics and eligibility issues at a specific USA Volleyball Event. Teams or individuals accused of committing violations of rules and regulations at a NQ or GJNCs must meet with the Event Arbitrator(s) for resolution.

The authority for the Event Arbitrator begins with the arrival of a Team and individual participants in the Event’s city or 48 hours prior to the first day of competition, whichever is earlier, and shall continue through the duration of the Event, through 30 minutes after the conclusion of the final Match of the Event.

Decisions of the Event Arbitrator shall be conveyed immediately to the affected parties and may be appealed to the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee appointed for each Event of USA Volleyball.

### EVENT APPEALS COMMITTEE DUTIES

The committee must meet as promptly as possible following the filing of an appeal or after an arbitrator’s recommendation of a sanction which would continue beyond the term of the event. The committee must conduct a full, fair, and objective hearing. Upon completion of the hearing, the committee should confer and render one of the following four decisions:

- **Uphold the decision** of the arbitrator(s).
- **Rescind the decision** of the arbitrator(s).
- **Modify or amend the decision** of the arbitrator(s). The amendment can be restrictive than the arbitrator’s decision.
- Rescind the decision of the arbitrator(s) *and* **render a new judgment**.
- The decisions of the Event Appeals Committee are final with respect to eligibility or privileges at the event; no further appeal is available at the event.

## EVENT APPEALS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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The Event Appeals Committee should meet as soon as possible after an appeal is filed.

For all USAV Championship events, the committee consists of three individuals (age 21 or older), as follows:

- A person appointed by the Event Director.
- A person who is or has been an elected or appointed USAV layleader.
- A person who meets the definition of a domestic athlete.
- For all qualifier and bid events, the committee consists of three members (age 21 or older), as follows:
  - A committee chair appointed by the Event Director.
  - Two other persons (one a domestic athlete) who have no connection to the persons involved in the incident. All coaches on the event roster are ineligible to serve on this committee.



# GENERAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

## CONVENTION CENTER RULES & REGULATIONS

- Coolers and chairs are not permitted to be brought into the Convention Center playing area or hallways. Spectator seating and food concessions are available within the center. Any coolers and/or chairs brought into the convention center will be confiscated.
- Ball handling is NOT permitted outside of the playing areas (i.e. permitted on Sport Court only unless an area has been designated).
  - No ball handling is permitted on the concrete surfaces or hallways of the facility
- No artificial noise makers are permitted.

**ANYONE DISCOVERED IN POSSESSION OR CONSUMING ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY EXPELLED FROM THE CHAMPIONSHIPS. THERE ARE NO WARNINGS FOR ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION BY PLAYERS OR ANY OTHER UNDERAGE PERSON WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON THE OFFICIAL ROSTER. THERE ARE NO WARNINGS FOR DRUG CONSUMPTION BY PLAYERS OR ANY PERSON WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON THE OFFICIAL ROSTER. IF DISCOVERY OCCURS AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF PLAY FOR THE PLAYER/TEAM, THE USAV CORPORATE ETHICS AND ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE WILL BE NOTIFIED AND THE EXTENSION OF SANCTIONS MAY RESULT IN THE LIMITING OF FUTURE PARTICIPATION WITH USA VOLLEYBALL. ANY HIGH PERFORMANCE, YOUTH OR JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER FOUND IN POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL OR ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES MAY BE REMOVED FROM PARTICIPATION WITH THE NATIONAL PROGRAM.**

## SEEDING FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Seeding for the USA Volleyball Boys' Junior National Championships is determined by team results throughout the year as submitted by National Qualifiers and other tournaments identified throughout the season.

According to these results, the top quarter of all participating teams in a tournament (first seeded teams in the first round of pool play) are seeded numerically by strength. For example, the strongest 16 teams in a 64-team tournament are determined from the entire field and then are seeded accordingly by strength from seed No. 1 to seed No. 16.

Next, the second quarter of all remaining teams is determined based on information from the Results Reported. These teams, however, are seeded in a different manner than the first quarter teams. They are primarily seeded in such a way that regional conflicts are avoided and secondarily seeded according to strength. In the same manner, the third and fourth quarter teams are determined.

Then they are seeded first and foremost in the pools where regional conflicts do not occur, and then with stronger teams seeded higher.

## TOURNAMENT CREDENTIALS

1. The roster is limited to 15 players and 5 staff personnel.
2. **The roster must identify a Head Coach.** *Optional* personnel to be identified can be an Assistant Coach(es), Team Representative(s), Chaperone(s), and Team Manager(s).
3. ALL team personnel (players and staff) are to be registered with their Member Organization and verified on the roster by the required deadlines.
4. Those persons whose names appear on the verified roster receive credentials for admission and are permitted to sit on the bench. Credentials will be issued to verified personnel only. Rostered staff's credentials will include a bag tag for players and a lanyard credential for other rostered staff. Duplication of personnel from one roster to another **WILL NOT** result in additional credentials.
5. The player credentials are NOT VALID for adults or parents of the players.
6. **ALL CREDENTIALS ARE NONTRANSFERABLE AND WILL BE CONFISCATED IF MISUSED.** The Championship Committee reserves the right to conduct random and periodic ID checks during competition.
7. **Credentials will not be replaced if lost or stolen.** It is highly recommended that an adult control the credentials when the players are inside the playing area of the venue, and that players write their names on the back of the credentials. Tickets will have to be purchased for players and staff who do not have their credentials when entering the venue.
8. Teams must have ID (copies of driver's license, birth certificate, passport or state/federal ID—photo ID is preferred if available) for EACH playing and non-playing participant on the roster at all times during competition. It is to be shown upon request to any authorized representative of the Championship Committee, USAV Staff, Arbitrator or the Event Security Staff.

## UNIVERSITY ATHLETE & COLLEGE RECRUITING INFORMATION

University Athlete is the official college coach's communication tool for the Boys Junior National Event.

All player data is extracted from Advanced Event Systems (AES) and supplied to colleges on their PDAs. Teams that submit incomplete player information are putting their athletes at a disadvantage for recruiting purposes. It is the responsibility of the Team Representative/designee to input the data into the registration system (AES) accurately and completely for all players. Player information will be supplied to colleges for 15-18 age divisions only.

University Athlete is an important tool for all participants, parents and coaches. Most colleges obtain important information on student-athletes from data collected by University Athlete. For more information on University Athlete please visit their website at [www.universityathlete.com](http://www.universityathlete.com).

## OFFICIALS & OFFICIATING

USA Volleyball will assign the first referees and if available R2s for all matches.

Teams are responsible for providing an officiating/work crew for Matches in which they are not scheduled to play. Those work assignments can be found in the official play schedule. For planning purposes, be prepared to provide the following officials:

- Second Referee (BJNCs provides R2)
- Must be a rostered adult for **ALL** age division Matches
- Certified Scorer (PENALTIES NOTED BELOW)
- BallerTV Score Operator & Libero Tracker
- 2 Line Judges

Non-rostered personnel may be allowed to work on the officiating Team, with the exception of the R2 position, provided they can provide documentation that they are registered with a Region of USAV to include a current membership, cleared background screening, and is SafeSport trained, as well as have the appropriate certifications. Appropriate paperwork would need to be provided for Foreign Team personnel.

### MISSED OFFICIATING DUTIES

- A Team's failure to have a complete officiating crew—including a rostered adult for that Team—available and on time for an officiating assignment will result in the Team having to forfeit the first game of its next Match.
- For every minute an officiating Team is late to fulfill its assignment, one (1) point will be awarded to that Team's next opponent in the first game of the next Match for up to 25 points. No more than 25 points will be awarded to the Team's next opponent, even if the Team designated to officiate misses the entire Match. The time that determines how many penalty points are assessed begins at the start of the official timed warm-ups or 10 minutes before the scheduled match time, whichever is earlier.
- A Team will forfeit its entire next Match for failing, a second time, to have an officiating crew available on time for an officiating assignment.

## STAY & PLAY POLICY

### WHAT IS USAV'S STAY AND PLAY POLICY?

The 2024-2025 USA Volleyball Season includes Stay and Play events, meaning that to be eligible to compete in the tournament, your team must book in one of the official room blocks set up by Team Travel Source. All reservations must be made through the official link below or through the link provided by Team Travel Source to your housing contact.

**HOUSING CONTACTS:** Please ensure your parents know NOT to call the hotels directly or book with a direct hotel website. These reservations, as well as third party bookings (Expedia.com, Hotels.com, etc.), will not be counted toward your team's compliance with the Stay and Play policy.

Team Travel Source guarantees the lowest group rates available (exclusions include unconfirmed room types, non-cancellable rates, employee rates, government rates, advanced purchase rates, AAA and AARP rates). Team Travel Source will work with any club or team that may have a special situation (please see Exemptions).

### WHY IS THERE A STAY AND PLAY POLICY?

When an event is deemed "Stay and Play," the event producer can prove the economic impact they bring to the city. As an event producer, the first step to ensuring a successful event year after year is showing a host city that you are a good partner. With a Stay and Play tournament, all room nights can be tracked and reported to the city, proving the tournament's economic impact via hotel stays as well as restaurant and attraction traffic.

Other benefits to implementing a Stay and Play policy include the below:

- **MORE ROOMS FOR TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS.** A hotel is far more willing to set aside a block of rooms for a tournament – even at a group rate – if they know the tournament is Stay and Play and can provide records of the rooms booked from previous years. Because of Stay and Play policies, hotels are more confident that the rooms will be sold, and when hotels are more confident that the rooms will be sold, they are more likely to contract larger blocks at the most desirable properties. In addition, we are able to work with all hotels to make sure their rates are in line with one another and appropriate for the location and time of year for the event.
- **GUARANTEED ROOM TYPES.** The room rate contracted GUARANTEES the room type you reserve. You will not book a double room and arrive to find that only king rooms are available.
- **THERE IS A HIGHER LIKELIHOOD THAT YOUR TEAM/PROGRAM WILL BE ABLE TO STAY IN THE SAME HOTEL.** With larger blocks, there is a much better chance that we will be able to keep your group together, which in turn allows coaches the ability to hold team meetings or to contact individual team members or parents more easily.
- **IT PROVIDES CONSISTENT, AFFORDABLE GROUP RATES FOR EVERYONE PARTICIPATING.** Hotel rates have increased across the country since 2013 (according to [www.statista.com](http://www.statista.com)). From year to year, a Stay and Play event will see hotel rates increase at approximately 50% the normal percentage increase. TTS contracts room blocks at confirmed, non-variable rates. There will be no movement in room rates based on supply and demand, whether you book several months in advance or much closer to your arrival date. The consumer is GUARANTEED THE LOWEST POSSIBLE GROUP RATE over the event dates.

## ARE THERE ANY EXEMPTIONS FROM THE STAY AND PLAY POLICY?

The following exemptions are permitted but must be verified as explained below. Please request an Exemption Form by emailing [volleyball@teamtravelsource.com](mailto:volleyball@teamtravelsource.com). Your subject line should read: USAV (Event Name & Year) EXEMPTION REQUEST.

Please note, each approved exemption request will **count for two room nights** toward your team's total requirement, and a **max of two exemptions** (four room nights) are permitted per registered team per event.

**#1 – USING POINTS FOR A FREE ROOM** - If you have enough points to redeem them for an entirely FREE stay, you are allowed to do so. Please book the room through the hotel directly and attach a copy of your reservation showing that points were used to book your entire stay to the Exemption Form. Please note that just 'receiving hotel reward points' for staying at a hotel does not qualify for an exemption.

**#2 – LIVING IN CLOSE PROXIMITY** - If a player's home address is within 75 miles of the venue, you may request an exemption from the housing requirement. Please attach the player's name, team and proof of address to the Exemption Form. (Note: if the club's address is within 75 miles of the venue, club will be marked "Local" by USAV. Please do not submit individual exemption requests.)

**#3 – MILITARY OR GOVERNMENT DISCOUNT** - If you have access to a lower rate with a military or government discount, you may request an exemption from the housing requirement. Please attach a copy of the reservation that was booked with the discount and the athlete's name and club to the Exemption Form. Please note, the hotel will require the military or government ID to be presented upon check-in.

If you have any questions, please contact Team Travel Source's dedicated team of Volleyball Event Specialists, who are available to guide teams through the booking process and requirements.

### Team Travel Source Contact Information:

Team Travel Source  
12910 Shelbyville Road, Suite #215  
Louisville, KY 40243  
Phone: 502-354-9103  
Fax: 502-354-9093  
Email: [volleyball@teamtravelsource.com](mailto:volleyball@teamtravelsource.com)  
Web: [www.teamtravelsource.com](http://www.teamtravelsource.com)

## AIR TRAVEL INFORMATION

Minneapolis Saint Paul International Airport (MSP) is located approximately 12.5 miles from Minneapolis Convention Center and downtown.

Web address is: [Minneapolis Saint Paul International Airport | Minneapolis Saint Paul International Airport \(mspairport.com\)](http://mspairport.com)

### Domestic Airlines

The following airlines serve the Minneapolis Saint Paul International Airport:

Airline Carriers			
	1-800-433-7300	<b>FRONTIER</b>	1-800-432-1359
	1-800-538-2583	<i>Alaska Airlines</i>	1-800-252-7522
	1-800-325-1999	<b>UNITED</b> 	1-800-864-8331
	855-728-3555	<b>Southwest</b> 	1-800-435-9792

### **WEBSITES**

Minneapolis Convention Center: [Minneapolis Convention Center](#)








ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEING: [Minneapolis Hotels, Restaurants, Events, Things to Do & Shopping](#)

## GROUND TRANSPORTATION

### RENTAL CARS

Rental car counters are located near the south of the airport.

Departing Passengers: Return your car to our Rental Center

	800-GOALAMO	<a href="http://www.goalamo.com">www.goalamo.com</a>
	800-331-1212	<a href="http://www.avis.com">www.avis.com</a>
	800-527-0700	<a href="http://www.budget.com">www.budget.com</a>
	800-800-3665	<a href="http://www.dollar.com">www.dollar.com</a>
	800-261-7331	<a href="http://www.enterprise.com">www.enterprise.com</a>
	800-654-3131	<a href="http://www.hertz.com">www.hertz.com</a>
	801-258-5239	<a href="http://www.paylesscar.com">www.paylesscar.com</a>
	800-CAR-RENT	<a href="http://www.nationalcar.com">www.nationalcar.com</a>
	800-THRIFTY	<a href="http://www.thrifty.com">www.thrifty.com</a>

### GROUND TRANSPORTATION

[Ground Transportation | Minneapolis Saint Paul International Airport \(www.mspairport.com\)](http://www.mspairport.com)

[Public Transportation | Minneapolis Saint Paul International Airport \(www.mspairport.com\)](http://www.mspairport.com)

## SPORTS MEDICINE

A taping / training area and trainers will be available. Taping supplies will NOT be furnished. You must provide your own tape and / or bandage or you will be charged for your needed supplies. Hospitals are located near the playing venue / headquarters hotel and emergency transportation (to hospitals only) will be provided if needed. The training staff will be available free of charge to any member listed on the Official Roster. Their purpose is to support, evaluate and assist in athlete injuries and medical emergencies. The trainers' facility will be located on the Convention Center floor in a central location near the Championship Desk.

## AWARDS

It is the obligation of the head coach to be aware of his/her individual State High School Association rules regarding the acceptance of awards. If necessary, present the properly signed papers as required by your State High School Activities Association. This will prevent a delay in the actual presentation of the awards at the Event. The top three finishers in each National Tournament will receive a team trophy plus individual medals. Players named to the All-Tournament Teams will receive an individual award. In divisions in which All-Tournament selections are made, a Most Valuable Player will be presented. Only USAV-approved awards will be presented at the Championship.

<b>Gold Flights (Team &amp; Individual Awards)</b>	<b>Bronze Flights &amp; Above (Team Awards Only)</b>
Champions	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Runners-Up	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	

### ALL-TOURNAMENT SELECTION

The All-Tournament Committee was established to recognize outstanding athletes during their participation at the Junior National Championships. Individuals will be honored for:

- Playing effectiveness and court leadership in the tournament
- Demonstration of good sportsmanship, leadership, general attitude and conduct both on and off the court
- The best individual players with some regard for position
- Advanced skills and all-around ability
- Those selected shall come primarily from “Gold Division” teams (the committee reserves the right for exception), the MVP may or may not be selected from the first-place team
- Any player who has received behavioral sanctions from a referee, the Event Arbitrator or other USA Volleyball authorities during the current JNC event WILL NOT be considered for All- Tournament Team selection

All-Tournament and Most Valuable Player (MVP) awards will be given in the following age divisions: 14-18 Open, USA, and American divisions (Club Division does not receive All Tournament Team honors).

- Fourteen players in each division will be named to the All-Tournament Team. In addition, a MVP will be awarded. Team selection is made without regard to player position.
- The committee makes selections with input from coaches, college scouts, and referees.
- Players who have been selected to an All-Tournament team or as a tournament’s Most Valuable Player and who have received disciplinary action by the Event Arbitrator or other USA Volleyball authorities prior to leaving the host city, shall be subject to a forfeit of these All-Tournament recognition honors.
- If a coach is not professional, meaning they receive a red card and are removed from the tournament, all players for that team are not eligible for All Tournament team



## TOURNAMENT ADMISSIONS

Tickets will be available on our website and will be live about 2 weeks before the event.

<https://usavolleyball.org/event/2025-boys-junior-national-championship/>

Coaches will be issued a QR code for entry and the athletes must have their credential/bag tag for entry into the venue.

**\*Please Note:** Only those registered coaches or rostered staff are permitted to use the designated coach pass QR code. The coach pass QR codes are nontransferable and will be confiscated if misused. This rule will be strictly enforced as it is a safety precaution for athletes and spectators as the registered coaches and rostered staff are background screened and SafeSport trained. NO EXCEPTIONS

Any team caught violating this policy will have the QR code confiscated. In addition, USAV reserves the right to impose additional penalties including, but not limited to, a **\$5,000 fine per occurrence and team disqualification from the BJNC**. We take the safety and well-being of athletes and spectators seriously and we appreciate your strict adherence to this policy.

## EVENT MERCHANDISE

Event merchandise sales will be held at the Convention Center during the USA Volleyball Boys Junior National Championships. Merchandisers will include the official event merchandiser, Lucky Dog, Mizuno, Molten, Texas Star Photos and more!

## EXHIBITOR LICENSING & RESTRICTIONS

Under the terms of the contractual agreement between USA Volleyball and the Convention Center, there are strict regulations and specified restrictions as to the sale of merchandise and other items in all areas of the playing venue.

USA Volleyball also has regulations specific to the sales of event-specific merchandise. This notice is posted for your information.

Violations of these conditions by a Member Organization or registered individuals, and made known to USA Volleyball, are subject to disciplinary and possibly legal action by USA Volleyball.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: PERMISSION TO SELL:** Sales of merchandise, services, apparel and equipment, souvenirs, publications, food or drink and all other items at the playing venue is strictly prohibited unless prior written license is received from USA Volleyball specific to this Event and the Convention Center, as applicable.

## JERSEY TRADING



It has come to USAV's attention that the traditional jersey trading that occurs during Junior Nationals has turned into a profit-making operation versus a good-will trading experience. USAV had no intention of policing the jersey trade because it has been admired as unique to the BJNC and a great show of camaraderie and sportsmanship. However, with the new developments resulting in the exchange of goods for money, USAV must now step in.

Exchanging any item for money defines you as a vendor, and without permission from USAV to sell goods at the National Championships, your actions violate the policies outlined in the Pre-tournament Manual. They also put USAV in direct breach of contract with our Sponsors, Merchandiser and the venue itself.

Continuing in 2025, exchanging jerseys or items for money will be treated with the harshest of penalties. Any player, parent, coach, etc., caught exchanging items for money, selling trading space or paying individuals to trade on their behalf at Junior Nationals will be disciplined. This discipline could range from being suspended from participation for the day to being suspended for the remainder of the event. Depending upon the severity of the incident, penalties could extend to the individual(s) and club for future National Championships and National Qualifiers.

# ENTRY & REGISTRATION PROCESS

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

**ALL** teams (Open, At-Large, American, USA and Club Divisions) are required to meet **EACH** of the following entry requirements to be eligible to participate at the BJNC:

1. Register each team in [ADVANCED EVENT SYSTEMS](#) (AES) for the BJNC in the appropriate division by the specified deadline (see Chapter 1 for details).
  - a. You **MUST** submit a roster for each team in AES at time of event registration.
    - i. The roster must identify the following: Head Coach and a minimum of six (6) players.
      1. Optional staff to be identified can be an Assistant Coach(es), Team Representative(s), Chaperone(s), and Team Manager(s), not to exceed the maximum of five staff including the Head Coach.
        - a. Note, please see Chapter 2, *Age Requirements for Staff on Rosters* if you have any junior-level staff members that need to be added to the roster.
    - ii. The roster must be **100% verified via the USAV Import (Non-Canadian Foreign Teams are exempt)**
      1. Regional verifications will only be accepted on a limited case-by-case basis.
2. Submit the Official Entry Form from AES along with the entry fee to USAV (one entry form and one check/payment per club is acceptable)
  - a. Paying by check or money order: mail Entry Form and payment to USAV (mailing address is provided on the entry form or in Chapter 1)
    - i. **Make checks payable to: USA Volleyball**
      1. See note under [Entry Fees](#) for USAV check cashing procedures.
    - ii. PRINT team name and division on the memo line of your check
  - b. Paying by credit card: either email ([bjnc@usav.org](mailto:bjnc@usav.org)), fax (719-228-6800) or mail (refer to entry form or chapter 1 for address) signed entry form to USAV
3. Contact Team Travel Source, the approved housing company, to arrange hotel accommodations for the team(s).
4. Enter results into AES by the specified deadline (see Chapter 1 for details).

**For At-Large** consideration these additional requirements must be met:

5. Register for the Open division OR USA division (choose desired division)

**For Non-USA/Foreign Teams**, these additional requirements must be met:

6. Foreign participants must fully complete the USAV Foreign Team Approval Applications by the posted deadline (see Chapter 1). Please reach out to [membership@usav.org](mailto:membership@usav.org) for more information.

**Teams WILL NOT be accepted if they have not met all the requirements by the posted deadlines.**

## REGISTRATION CHECKLIST

Complete all items in this section by the posted deadlines for a successful and accepted entry.

- Register team for the 2025 USA Volleyball Boys Junior National Volleyball Championship in Advanced Event Systems (AES) [2025 USAV Boys Junior National Championship - AES \(advancedeventsystems.com\)](https://www.advancedeventsystems.com)
  - Roster includes Head Coach and at least 6 players
  - Roster is 100% verified (U.S. teams only)
- Once a team has **QUALIFIED** either through a National Qualifier, or awarded through Open & USA At-Large, print the “Official Entry Form” from AES.
  - Teams that would like to be considered for Open and USA At-Large if applicable must register in AES and have their results submitted in AES by May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- PAYMENT: there are 2 options for payment for the BJNC
  1. If paying by Check: attach the Entry Fee check, made out to *USA Volleyball*, to the Official Entry Form and mail to USA Volleyball
    - PRINT the team name and division on memo line of the check
    - **ONE ENTRY FORM and ONE CHECK PER TEAM not Club**
  2. If paying by Credit Card: log on to AES and go to My Events, choose the event and click on My Teams, there should be a “Pay Now” option at the bottom of the screen.
- Send Official Entry Form and Entry Fee check to USA Volleyball if paying by check. Scan & Email to [bjnc@usav.org](mailto:bjnc@usav.org) or Fax to 719-228-6899 the Official Entry form to USA Volleyball if paying by credit card.
- Foreign participants must fully complete the USAV Foreign Team Approval Applications by the posted deadline (see Chapter 1). Please reach out to [membership@usav.org](mailto:membership@usav.org) for more information.
- USA Volleyball has implemented a [Stay & Play Policy](#) for the Boys Junior National Volleyball Championships. Please contact Team Travel Source to make housing arrangements: [https://www.teamtravelsource.com/usavolleyball\\_lander/usav-championships/](https://www.teamtravelsource.com/usavolleyball_lander/usav-championships/)
- Enter complete results into AES by May 23<sup>rd</sup> for Open & USA At-Large teams
- Bring a valid form of ID for each individual on the roster.
  - Valid forms of ID include: birth certificates, driver licenses, passports, or State/Federal issued IDs
- Any roster additions on the day of registration will be accompanied with a \$50.00. Proper verification will be required or changes will be denied.
- RESOURCE PUBLICATIONS: In order to be aware of required information per the USAV Bylaws, Operating Code, the other policies and procedures and the current Rules of Play, we recommend that every team representative or coach have in their possession a current copy of the USA Volleyball Guidebook and United States Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations. These resources will be supplemented by the information listed in this manual. These publications can be downloaded or purchased from the USA Volleyball website ([www.usavolleyball.org](http://www.usavolleyball.org)).

# RESULTS REPORTING

## INSTRUCTIONS

The USAV Boys' Junior National Volleyball Championships will use AES for reporting team results. AES has an option to import a CSV format excel file. An example of the spreadsheet and a screen shot of the AES Results Import are below. Please ensure your values match the AES import format requirements.

Import Team Results

Notes

- Please import files with format CSV.
- To save as CSV open your results file, click save as, change file type to CSV (comma delimited) - save, close file and try the import process again.
- DO NOT REPORT TIE BREAKING MATCHES/SCORES. These are used to determine pool rank.

Upload File

Select File

No file chosen

Match Import file format

FIELD	REQUIRED	SPECIAL NOTES
Opposing Team Name	Yes	Max length of 21 characters.
Opposing Team Code	Yes	Length of 11 characters.
Event Name	Yes	
Event Date	Yes	
Outcome	Yes	Undecided, Won, Lost, Won By Forfeit, Forfeit, Tie
Score 1	No	Score format Example: 25-10
Score 2	No	Score format Example: 25-10
Score 3	No	Score format Example: 25-10
Score 4	No	Score format Example: 25-10
Score 5	No	Score format Example: 25-10

### Q: Who has access to update results?

A: AES users who have club director access will be able to update results for all teams in their club. Coaches can access only teams which they have been placed on an event roster in AES. Coaches will need to have a login; the club director can initiate a login on AES under User Management.

## FAILURE TO SUBMIT RESULTS

Any team not submitting their results in AES will not be seeded in the BJNC based on competition experience. Rather, if there are berths for the team(s) in the tournament, the teams who fail to comply with the reporting requirement may be seeded together into the same pool(s) at the discretion of the Seeding Committee. **Any team applying for an At-Large Bid and fails to submit their results in AES will automatically NOT receive consideration for an Open or USA position.**

## REPORTING FACTS FOR NON-USA/FOREIGN TEAMS AND NEWLY FORMED TEAMS

Boy's teams from Guam, Puerto Rico, Canada, American Samoa, US Virgin Islands, Hawaii, etc., and newly formed club teams are permitted to submit factual information, along with competition results, if available, to justify their placement in the Open Division at the JNC's if applying for an At-Large bid; and to ensure a fair, even field of competition in the Open, USA and Club divisions. This information can be submitted to USAV ([bjnc@usav.org](mailto:bjnc@usav.org)) and it will be forwarded to the At-Large Selection and Seeding Committees.