

USA VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL OFFICIALS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

National Officials Development Program (NODP) Overview

The **MISSION** of the National Officials Development Program (NODP) is to identify, recruit, and accelerate the development of high-potential referees for the purpose of strengthening our Regions and our National and International referee programs to achieve sustained excellence.

NODP is the USAV Training and International evaluation program for officials pursuing National-level and International certifications. The efforts of NODP Referee Coaches are focused on helping our officials be the best they can be and assisting the Officials Development Team in placing officials in USAV-owned Qualifiers and National Championship events where they are exposed to the highest level of play.

Officials in attendance at designated USAV-owned Qualifiers and National Championships are eligible to receive referee coaching, as well as work with other top-level referees. This includes evaluations conducted by a head official at USAV-owned Qualifiers and National Championships.


NODP Referee Coach Reviews use a targeted evaluation form comprised of four sections that define the acronym “RISE”:

REFLECT - Events/situations from the match where philosophical and/or preferred techniques may be used for reflection by the referee during the debrief and applied in future matches.

IMPLEMENT – An indication of the referee’s professionalism, knowledge of the rules, ability to control the match and how the referee implemented these skills while conducting the match.

SET GOALS – Referees should continuously be setting goals for themselves. This section identifies current areas of strength as well as opportunities for improvement.

EVALUATE – For those pursuing a National-level official, the expected standard for the evaluated categories in this section is “Good” for all matches. The referee’s performance in that particular match dictates whether the evaluation moves to one side or the other of column 3.

		Name <input type="text"/>		Review Date <input type="text"/>	
Certification <input type="text"/>		Match Level <input type="text"/>			
Observer <input type="text"/>					
Event/Level <input type="text"/>		ID # <input type="text"/>			

REFLECT		
Identify situations for reflection and growth opportunities	Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall thoughts on the match Communication with crew members during the match Challenges during match Preferred techniques to handle situations 	

IMPLEMENT		
Overall tone of the match	Influence on Match <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Increasing Difficulties <input type="checkbox"/> No Significant Influence <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Difficulties 	Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interactions with teams, coaches, work team Inspire confidence Focus and Recovery Court Awareness, match tempo

SET GOALS		
Areas of Strength	Opportunities for Improvement	Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanics and Positioning Knowledge and Application of Rules Match Protocol and Time Management Consistency and Decisiveness

EVALUATE							
<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Referee	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Referee	1	2	3	4	5	Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs Work 1. Insufficient 2. Needs Works Strengths 3. Good 4. Very Good 5. Outstanding
Professionalism				✓			
Organization				✓			
Signals/Mechanics/Techniques				✓			
Match Management				✓			
Judgment				✓			
Future Nominations <input type="text"/>							

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Purpose:

The NODP provides feedback and coaching to current Provisional, Regional, Junior National, and National Referees that will lead to a stronger officiating foundation. Regional, Junior National, and National referees will have a pathway to possible advancement and certification. The NODP will serve as USA Volleyball's NORCECA and FIVB International Referee Pipeline.

Criteria:

- NODP referees must register with USA Volleyball, complete SafeSport Training, pass a background screen, and be in good standing with their USA Volleyball Region.
- NODP referee coaching may take place at any USA Volleyball-owned event.
- NODP referee coaching evaluations will be both as an R1 and R2.
- NODP referee coaches will work directly with NODP candidates providing on court feedback while officiating.

Age Limits:

- National referee must be a maximum age of 40 upon entering the program.
- Junior National referee must be a maximum age of 38 upon entering the program.
- Regional and Provisional referee must be a maximum age of 36 upon entering the program.

Process:

- Candidates must be invited to the program by The USAV Officials Development Department—a maximum of 40 individuals will be invited. They will stay with NODP team until they chose to exit or are released.
- Invited referees submit an online application.
- A USAV Provisional, Regional, Junior National, and National NODP referee will be given priority for coaching and mentoring, when possible, as both a 1st and 2nd referee at USA Volleyball-owned events they attend.
 - The referee coach or head official will conduct a formal debrief as soon as possible depending on the availability of the referee and the coach.
 - The NODP referee mentors will work directly with the NODP candidates during the match and provide an after-match debrief when and if possible.
- All opportunities to receive coaching and mentoring are viewed as times for growth.
- For Junior National/National certification: Once an NODP referee has been approved by the NODP coaches' committee, they will be invited to the next certification event (GJNC 18s or GJNC 14s-17s).

Fees:

- One time registration fee of \$250 when entering the program. Each subsequent year \$100. Your match fees when paired with a National or Junior National Referee coach will be deducted from your pay at all USAV owned events, all other match fees will be paid to the NODP referee.

USA VOLLEYBALL

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2025-2026 NODP Camps

- 18s Salt Lake City Qualifier January 23-25, 2026, Salt Lake City, UT
- Opens National Championship May 22-27, 2026, Orlando, FL
- GJNC 11-13s National Championship June 19-22, 2026, Minneapolis, MN
- Boys Junior National Championship July 8-11, 2026, Phoenix, AZ