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Commissioner's Notes

The 2008 Season is moving along, and we now have over 11,000 members registered. We currently have 10,705 paid members, with 497 still listed in the system as Unpaid. Club directors are reminded to monitor their Unpaid List and get their payments in to the Region Office. We also have a number of Unpaid members who are not affiliated with a club. These are officials, and members who are still undecided about their affiliation. If you are in either of these categories you need to get your fees paid, before we start deleting these records from the system.

Club directors are also reminded to get their teams created, and their players listed. Remember, these team names are stable entries in the club database. You can not delete the old team and create a new one. If you wish to do that, then you must contact the Region Office, because we are the only ones who can make the changes in the team data. This is why we asked each of you to create a system for naming your teams, so that we would not be required to make changes to the team names, each year. You should not incorporate the coaches names into the team name. What happens when the coach move up, next year, with the players? Now you will have to create a new team with the coaches name at the next level. Eventually, some of the larger clubs will have a great number of inactive teams, which is nothing but junk in the club database. If you develop a numbering system, or a color system, for your teams all you need do the next season is add the members' names to the teams and, you're not creating excessive junk in your system.

Another thing club directors can do to help with the overall development and accuracy of the system is to use the group email capabilities that are built into the system. This way you can keep track of your members who have valid email addresses, as well as those who do not. Those with invalid email addresses can then be contacted and the necessary corrections made, in the system. The group email is a great way of communicating with your members.

As we get close to the National Qualifiers, Regional Championships, and National Championships, we need to start reviewing our Region Rules. Remember, each team must have at least one fully certified referee and one scorekeeper to compete in these championships. Also, the junior teams must have IMPACT Certified coaches. Officials' and IMPACT Clinics are now listed on our schedule, and club directors should ensure that their people get themselves certified.

Finally, it's time to start considering your options for attending one of the National Championships. On-Line applications are now being accepted. Talk with your people and make your decisions, now. As a number of teams now know, once you've gone to the Regional Championships and finished high enough to get a bid, it's too late to submit then. Log on to the USA Volleyball web site and get all the particulars, make your decision, and get your entries into the system.

2008 USA VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The adult pre-tournament package is already on the USA Volleyball web site (www.usavolleyball.org). All events will be played in Atlanta, Georgia, on May 24 - May 31, 2008. On-line entry information and fee are available at the above site. Entry deadlines have been established by USA Volleyball and the Lone Star Region. Deadlines are as follows:

- Adult Nationals: Open; Masters (60, 65, 70, 75, 80); U-Volley; Co-Ed - **In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; Mar 10, 2008**
- Adult Nationals: Club (AA, A, BB, B); Masters & Seniors (40, 45, 50, 55) - **In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; Mar 24, 2008**

The Junior National Championships will be in Dallas, Texas and Sandy, Utah. Additional information and entry instructions are outlined in Pre-Tournament Manual on the USA Volleyball web site. Entry deadlines are as follows:

- Girls Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships (all ages) - **In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; Apr 25, 2008**
- Boys Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships (all ages) - **In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; May 23, 2008**

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The annual Board of Directors meeting will be on Friday, April 4th. The meeting is open to all members and will be at the Holiday Inn - Emerald Beach; 1102 S. Shoreline Blvd; Corpus Christi, TX; (361) 883-5731. The meeting is scheduled to start at 8:00 pm. Those positions up for elections are:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>INCUMBENT</u>
	Vice Commissioner Hal Naumann
	Secretary Regina Daniel
	Referee's Chairman Thomas Hoy
	Junior Development Director Dick Kappel
	Tournament Director Vicki Barnes
	Player Representative (Men) Pat Johnston
Area Representatives	
	Austin Virgie Mallett
	Brazos Valley Wally Simpson
	San Antonio Mar Resendiz

Although only current Board members present at the meeting may vote, nominations can be made by any Lone Star Region member. Not only can you nominate someone for a position on the Board, you may also wish to appear and make a presentation on behalf of the nominee. The only thing that I ask when making the nomination is that you also provide notification, so that time can be made available for a presentation. If you think that one of the Region incumbents is not properly representing you and our Region, now is the time to speak. Nominations should be mailed (NLT March 7, 2008) to:

WILL VICK, Commissioner

Lone Star Region, USA Volleyball

1608 Canyon Oak

Schertz, TX 78154-3660

Fax (210) 945-8630

REGINA DANIEL, Secretary

914 South Hill

Alvin, TX 77511

Fax (281) 824-0220

FROM THE REFEREE STAND

This year the rule changes/additions/deletions are minimal, but watch out for big changes after the olympics next year. Here is a summary of the changes for this season (07-08) regarding the more significant rules:

- 1) Player's jerseys must be numbered in a permanent manner from 1 to 99, and the numbers must be clearly visible and centered on the chest (minimal 4 inches) and back (minimal 6 inches).
- 2) Assistant Coaches must remain on the bench but can give instruction to the players from the bench.
- 3) We are no longer testing the joust rule, so now it is USAV rule that if simultaneous hits by opponents above the net lead to extended contact of the ball, play continues.
- 4) It is now written, the Libero is designated for the set and must be indicated on the line-up sheet each set. The re-designated Libero must remain as the Libero for the entire set.
- 5) As usual, the Libero uniform must be contrasting in color (not just different colors) and color combinations such as purple/black, dark green/black, navy/black, or navy/maroon are not distinctive enough to comply with the rules. I would add that yellow/white, beige/white, and light grey/ white are also examples that are not distinctive enough.
- 6) Team Captains and the Second Referee are not required to sign the scoresheet.

[Reference: 2007-2008 USAV Domestic Competition Regulations]

There are additional editorial clarifications on page xviii of the 2007-2008 USAV Domestic Competition Regulations and everyone is encouraged to review and read the playing regulations. Remember rule 20.1.1!

Thomas Hoy

FROM THE SCOREKEEPERS' CHAIR

Use the Lone Star Region web site (<http://lsvolleyball.org>) to always get the most up to date information on anything relating to your Region.

From that web site: The season is past the half way point now and a number of you have not completed your certifications yet. We have conducted over 75 clinics in 25 cities around the Region. NO EXCUSES if you have not attended one!

Remember, the requirements for certification are:

1. Attend a clinic
2. Take and correct the test
3. Submit completed scoresheets from two sets (games)
4. Submit a scorekeeper application
5. Register in the Lone Star Region
6. Pay applicable fees

The following season only steps 4-6 are required, then the process repeats.

Scorekeeper info cont...

From the Scorekeeper's Chair Cont...

On checking your status:

Your current official's status is part of your USAV registration. To check that status, [login](#) to your record. If it says Current, you have completed the requirements for this season.

If you completed certification last season, you need to **RENEW** this season. To confirm, [login](#) to your record in the USAV database. Click on the tab marked "*Other Info*" then click on the "*Official Info*" tab about half way down the page. If the Certification Date is 10/31/06 or newer then mail a Renewal application and the \$10 fee to the address on the form.

If the date is prior to 10/31/06 you will need to attend a clinic and submit ratings.

All forms are available in the **Reference** section of this site.

Regionals are closer than you think! Get it done!

C.L. 'Steve' Crane

Junior News

Dick Kappel, Jr. Development Director

ADULT CONDUCT

Recently there have been several incidents at Lone Star region tournaments involving adults using harsh and inappropriate language with young players and officiating crews. In order to discourage such behavior, the region has been compelled to impose disciplinary actions against some offenders. This is never a pleasant situation; however, the increase in abusive behavior within the region must be stopped.

Coaches, parents, and other players must be more attentive to the language they use during practice sessions and tournament games. It is the region's wish that the matter of individual conduct be handled within each club, whenever possible. Club organizations must make it explicitly clear that abusive language and actions are NOT permitted. If it becomes necessary in the future for the region to become involved in these matters, harsher measures may have to be taken.

Let us all keep in mind the reasons for our work and do all that we can to keep the environment of our tournaments wholesome and positive for everyone.

Continued...

Junior News

Dick Kappel, Jr. Development Director

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

1. The 2008 USA Junior National Championship (JOVC) Tournament in Dallas will host both Club and Open divisions with two subdivisions in Club – National and American. The Lone Star Junior Regional tournament on May 3-4 will qualify one team for the National Club division and three teams for the American Club division for ages 13-18. The 12-year-old division will qualify one team for the National Club division and two teams for the American Club division. The Open division will be composed of teams that win bids at national qualifying events.

2. Please note that the application date for the Junior National tournament is PRIOR to the Lone Star Junior Regional tournament.

Important Note: No LS regional team can be accepted to Junior Nationals unless the team representative has submitted all Junior National entry materials to Will Vick by **April 25**. There are no exceptions.

3. Teams should make every effort to use the on-line entry system as outlined in the 2008 pre-tournament manual. See USA Volleyball website www.usavolleyball.org/Media/Juniors/08GJO/08GJOVC-PTM-COMPLETE.pdf

4. List of important dates:

April 2 – deadline to register for LS Junior Regional Tournament

April 23 – National Office deadline to apply for open-at-large bid

April 25 – LS region deadline for application to attend Junior Nationals

May 3-4 – LS Junior Regional Tournament

May 23 – Boys LS region deadline for application to attend Junior Nationals

June 26-July 5 – Girls USA Junior National Tournament

July 2-9 – Boys USA Junior National Tournament

2008 LONE STAR JUNIOR REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

The 2008 Junior Regional Championship tournament will be held on May 3 – 4 in Austin, for ages 15-18 and in Houston, for ages 12-14.

NEW!!! This year there will be **TWO** divisions in each age group
NATIONAL Division and **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP** Division.

The **NATIONAL** division in each age group is for teams who are attempting to earn a bid to the Junior National Championships in Dallas, TX. All teams participating in the National Division at LS Regionals are required to have completed and submitted to the Lone Star Region office all necessary application and paperwork for Junior Olympics no later than April 25th, 2008. If these forms have not been received by the Region office, you will not be allowed to participate in the National Division.

Continued...

The top teams from the LS Junior Regional National Division qualify for a bid in the JOVC Club Divisions as follows:

- 12's - **One** National Division Bid; **Two** American Division Bids
- 13's - **One** National Division Bid; **Three** American Division Bids
- 14's - **One** National Division Bid; **Three** American Division Bids
- 15's - **One** National Division Bid; **Three** American Division Bids
- 16's - **One** National Division Bid; **Three** American Division Bids
- 17's - **One** National Division Bid; **Three** American Division Bids
- 18's - **One** National Division Bid; **Three** American Division Bids

A reminder of the conditions that must be met in order for entries to be considered for the participation in the LS Regional National Division. Teams shall -

- A) not have qualified previously for the Jr National Tournament
- B) have application and fee on file to play at Jr Nationals
- C) play in their assigned age division
- D) have a coach who has completed the IMPACT clinic
- E) have certified scorekeeper and referee
- F) be registered in the Lone Star Region

Since all application deadlines for Junior Nationals are scheduled BEFORE the LS Junior Regional tournament, remember to submit all entry materials for Junior Nationals according to the requirements of the LS Region and the USA National Office.

The **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP** divisions in each age group are for those teams who wish to participate in the Regional Championships but who do not want to compete for a bid for Nationals.

2008 USA JUNIOR NATIONAL GIRLS' CHAMPIONSHIPS (JOVC)

Host City: Dallas, TX

Competition Dates: June 26 – July 5

Age Classifications & Dates:

- 12 and 13 National & American: June 27 – June 30
- 14 Open, National, & American: July 2 – July 5
- 15 Open, National, & American: June 30 – July 3
- 16 Open, National, & American: July 1 – July 4
- 17 Open, National, & American: June 28 – July 1
- 18 Open, National, & American: June 26 – June 29

Please Note:

In years past, some teams have seen their applications disqualified when they submitted late materials and failed to meet national deadlines. To avoid this disappointment, send entry materials (forms & fees) to Will Vick by **April 25**.

However, if a team wins a bid at a National Qualifier Tournament, entry materials are due no later than 10 days after the qualifying event.

Pre-Tournament Manual

www.usavolleyball.org/Media/Juniors/08GJO/08GJOVC-PTM-COMplete.pdf

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February, 2008



Newsletter

Will Vick, Commissioner
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