

# Lone Star Region USA Volleyball

*February, 2016  
Newsletter*

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# Commissioner's Notes

*Will Vick  
Commissioner  
Lone Star Region, USA Volleyball*



Since this is the first newsletter of the 2016 Season, I'll start with HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all. Registrations seem to be going well. We currently have registered over 18,700 members and still have approximately 170 unpaid members listed in our System. Club directors are reminded to constantly monitor their club database and ensure that all of their members have the membership fee paid. If a club director has someone on their Unpaid list and they have no idea who the member is, please contact me and I will take the necessary action to get the name removed and placed with the correct club. Additionally, club directors should ensure that all of their players are listed on a team roster.

We still have a number of players listed as UNDECIDED and it's a little late in the season to not have a club affiliation. Members who are listed as UNDECIDED can log on to their records and change their club affiliation or contact the Region Office for assistance.

At the beginning of each season, we usually have a number of members who are not satisfied with their choice of clubs and wish to change after having completed their on-line registration. Based on my phone calls and email, this season is no exception. If you are one of these members, and wish to request a transfer, you will need to contact the Region Office. **But, if you have already played with the club, it is very likely that your request will be denied. The Region policy has always been, and remains, that once you have registered with a club and actually played with that club in a sanctioned tournament, you will be expected to remain with that club for the remainder of the current season.** Knowing this, club directors should not play a member if they know the member cannot benefit their club and will not be able to play at the team level. In these cases, directors and coaches should talk with the member and make them aware that at this point, they can transfer to a team more compatible with their level of play. **Don't wait until it's too late and then decide the member cannot make your team.**

**Club directors are again reminded that they should not be changing the information in their club database, without first contacting the Region Office. The club contact information and team names are things that should be changed in the Region Office.** This information cannot be simply updated in the system. In many cases it must be also updated on the insurance policies and on the Region Website. As a club director, you cannot change the team names or anything pertaining to that team, other than adding and deleting players. You can only add new teams, but you cannot delete to old ones. Teams names are supposed to remain constant, and so should the rankings and team codes, associated with those teams.

Finally, many clubs are already considering their options for attending one of the National Championships. The application procedures are different for the 2016 Season. Junior Clubs should go on-line (<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events>) and read the application instructions and download the Pre-Tournament Manual. There will be more information, in this newsletter, regarding the Region Bid Tournament, and how it ties with the Girls Junior National Championships. **These are changes from last season.**

## 2016 USA VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2016 USA Volleyball Open Championships Tournament Manual (Adult pre-tournament package) is available at: [www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor/Adults](http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor/Adults).

All events will be played in Orlando, Florida, May 27-June 1, 2016. Entry information, fees, and entry deadlines are available in the Manual. **All entry forms and checks for the 2016 USA Volleyball Open National Championships are to be sent directly to the USAV Events Department, USA Volleyball; 4065 Sinton Rd STE 200; Colorado Springs, CO 80907.** A copy of the entry form will be provided to the Region Office.

There may have been a few major changes for the 2016 event so be sure to check the 2016 Pre-Tournament Manual. If you have any problems, contact Irina Damy at the USAV National Office: [irina.damy@usav.org](mailto:irina.damy@usav.org) or 719-228-6800.

The **2016 Girls' Junior National Championships** will be held in Indianapolis, IN, and the **2016 Boys' Junior National Championships** in Dallas, TX. Additional information and entry instructions are outlined in the Pre-Tournament Manuals on the USA Volleyball website.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The annual Board of Directors meeting will be held Friday, March 18th, and is open to all members. The meeting will be at the Wyndham Houston West Energy Corridor, 14703 Park Row Blvd, Houston, TX 77079. The meeting is scheduled to start at 8:00 pm. Positions up for elections are:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>INCUMBENT</u>
Vice Commissioner	Hal Naumann
Secretary	Carrie Baehr
Referee Chair	Thomas Hoy
Junior Development Director	Richard Kappel
Tournament Director	Annell Neale
Player Representative (Men)	Thang Nguyen

### AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Austin	Virgie Mallett
Brazos Valley	Walter 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 emailed or faxed (NLT March 12, 2016) to:

**WILL VICK, Commissioner**  
**Lone Star Region, USA Volleyball**  
**1608 Canyon Oak**  
**Schertz, TX 78154-3660**  
**(210) 945-8630 Fax**

# Junior Development News

Richard "Dick" Kappel  
Junior Director  
Lone Star Region, USA Volleyball



## Summary of the 2016 GJNC Divisions

### **Open Division**

The top division of the USA Volleyball Girls' Junior National Championships (GJNC) where teams must obtain a bid to participate. Open Bids are earned through finishing in a "bid" position in the Open Division of a National Qualifier, through a Trickle Down at that Event, or through the At-Large process. Open Bids are not available for allocation through the Regions. The GJNC field size for Open Divisions will be 36 teams.

### **National Division**

A Division of the GJNC where teams must obtain a bid to participate. National Bids are allocated to the Regions for distribution to its teams. Regions will receive 1-2 bids for this tournament, depending upon enrollment from the previous year. Unused Region bids will be reallocated to other Regions. For the 12 & Under Division only, National Bids will also be distributed at National Qualifiers. The GJNC field size for National Divisions will be 48 teams.

### **USA Division**

A Division of the GJNC where teams must obtain a bid to participate. USA Bids are earned through finishing in a "bid" position in the USA Division of a National Qualifier, or through a Trickle Down at that Event. Should a team that accepted a USA Bid later win an Open or National bid, the USA Bid will remain in the Region of the team that originally accepted the USA Bid. If the Region refuses to allocate this USA Bid, it reverts back to the NQ and follows the trickle down process. The GJNC field size for USA Divisions will be 36 teams.

### **American Division**

A Division of the GJNC where teams must obtain a bid to participate. American Bids are earned through finishing in a "bid" position in the American Division of a National Qualifier or the team's Region, through a Trickle Down at that Event, or through the Reallocation process. Should a team that has won an American Bid later win an Open, USA, or National Bid, the American Bid will be allocated by the process described in the "Reallocation Bids" section of the Girls' National Championship Manual. The GJNC field size for American Divisions will be 64 teams.

### **Patriot Division**

A non-qualifying Division of the GJNC where teams may gain access to the tournament by simply entering the Event through the established process (please refer to the Patriot Division link for entry procedures). Order of acceptance will be initially based on date and time of entry until the tournament is full. The GJNC field size for Patriot Divisions will range from 24-72 teams in 2016.

<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor/Girls/2016-Girls-JNC/Participant-Info/Patriot-Division>

## **2016 NATIONAL QUALIFIER BID WINNERS**

Teams that win a bid at a National Qualifier must be in contact with the USAV National Office during the week following the bid award. These teams will follow instructions provided by the National Office and submit their entry form and fee directly to the USAV Events Department. A copy of the entry form should also be sent to the Region Office.

## **2016 LONE STAR JUNIOR REGIONALS BID & Non-BID Division Procedures**

In order for teams to participate in the LS Junior Regional event, teams must register through AES by February 17 for 18U Division; March 26 for 11-14U Divisions; and April 1 for 15-17U Divisions.

Send entry forms and fee directly to the tournament host. See the LSR website schedule and/or the applicable tournament host website for additional instructions.

*Junior Development News continued next page*

## *Junior Development News continued*

Be sure to update your club information in the USAV Webpoint system and then download the data to AES. This will ensure the same info for both systems.

The **Non-BID Division** of the LS Junior Regionals is for teams competing that do not wish to continue on to GJNC. There is no required limit on the number of teams in the Non-BID Division because on the top 3 places need to be determined.

Bids for the GJNC National and American Divisions can be earned through participation in the **BID Division** in the Lone Star Junior Regionals.

The top teams from the LS Junior Regional BID Division qualify for a bid in the GJNC as follows:

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

Teams are no longer required to register for the GJNC prior to the LS Junior Regionals BID Division. Instead, within one day after winning a bid at the event, teams must register for the GJNC by submitting an entry form and application fee directly to the USAV Events Department. A copy of the entry form is also to be sent to the Region Office. Do **NOT** send GJNC application or fees until **AFTER** a team has won a bid at the LS Junior Regionals.

**Do NOT send the GJNC or LS Junior Regionals application or fees to the Region Office.**

### **Additional Notes:**

- A) For AES rankings explained, go to the provided link below. Update your results if needed.  
<https://www.advancedeventssystem.com/rankings/about>.
- B) Teams that have qualified previously for the 2016 GJNC tournament in the Open or National Division are not eligible to play in the LS Junior Regionals **BID** Division.
- C) Teams that have qualified previously for the 2016 GJNC tournament in the USA or American Division are eligible to play in the LS Junior Regionals BID Division in order to improve to a National Division Bid.
- D) If a team having a USA Bid wins a National Bid at LS Junior Regionals, then their original USA Bid remains with the Region and will be awarded to the next highest team placement of the LS Junior Regionals tournament.
- E) If a team having an American Bid wins a National Bid at LS Junior Regionals, then their original American Bid is lost by the LS Region and goes back to USAV for reallocation.
- F) After LS Junior Regionals, a team may accept a Qualifier trickle down or Open At-Large Bid. If so, then there will be trickle downs for the LS Junior Regionals BID Division.
- G) Teams interested in an Open At-Large bid must play in the Open Division of at least one National Qualifier (NQ) and submit to the USAV Events Department the complete, accurate, up-to-date results for all of the team's competition through the last day of the last NQ. Results must be submitted no later than the end of business on the Tuesday after the finish of the last NQ
- H) For teams to play at the LS Junior Regionals, they must:
  - be registered in the Lone Star Region.
  - have a coach who is IMPACT certified.
  - have a certified scorer and a referee.
  - play in their assigned age division (except for Non-BID Division).

## **Policy for Teams With Bids Playing Up in Non-BID Division**

- 1) A team with an Open Bid may play up by one or two age groups in the Non-BID Division.
- 2) A team with a National Bid may play up by one age group in the Non-BID Division (also by two age groups if approved by the Region Office).
- 3) A team with a USA Bid may play up by one age group in the Non-BID Division (also by two age groups if approved by the Region Office).
- 4) A team with an American Bid may play up by one age group in the Non-BID Division.

*Junior Development News continued next page*

## Penalties for Not Using a GJNC Bid Earned at LS Junior Regionals Tournament

- 1) For BID Divisions 12-17U: When a team chooses to play at the Lone Star Regional Bid tournament and at the conclusion of the tournament does not accept an earned bid for the GJNC tournament, all teams within the club will not be allowed to play in the LSR Regional Bid division for the following tournament. This exclusion will be determined at the end of the Bid tournament, and will not apply to teams offered a bid at a later date.
- 2) For BID Division 18U: A team may choose not to accept a bid earned at the LS regional tournament. If the bid is declined, then it will be offered to the next highest placed team. Remember that GJNC for 18 Open, National, & USA Divisions is scheduled for April 29-May 1 in Milwaukee, WI. The GJNC for 18 American Division is scheduled for June 28-July 1 in Indianapolis, IN.

## *From the Referee's Stand*

Thomas Hoy  
Referee Chair  
Lone Star Region, USA Volleyball



### Solid-Colored Jersey Rule

On February 25, 2016, the Rules Commission of the United States Volleyball Association (USAV) made a major rule change and the wording of USAV 19.2.a. in the *2015-2017 Domestic Competition Regulations* (DCR) was revised to read:

**“The Libero(s) must wear a uniform which clearly contrasts with the rest of the team.”**

The Rules Commission of USAV also approved on February 25, 2016, that this rule change would take place immediately.

We are waiting for official interpretation of this rule change by the USAV Rules Interpreter so training can be changed, but until then it is our current understanding that the following will prevail:

- That DCR rules under 4.3 have not changed (Arabic numbers 1-99, 4-6” number centered on chest and 6-8” number centered on upper back, number color must contrast with jersey color, uniform design is identical for team but not Libero, etc.).
- The first referee of the match determines if the Libero uniform clearly contrasts with the rest of the team or not.
- This is a judgment call based upon the ability of the first referee to clearly see the jersey contrast in color with other teammates. Like other judgment calls, the head referee should advise first referees if their ‘calls’ are overtly too strict or too loose.
- That any team that currently has legal uniforms for Liberos and teammates would still be able to use those uniforms.
- That if a team has been compliant with USAV 19.2, they are still compliant in wearing what they have and there is no need to make new purchases.

We will update you when additional information and interpretations are available.

Thomas Hoy  
Referee Chair, Lone Star Region



# **Lone Star Region USA Volleyball**

## **February 2016 Newsletter**

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