



Letter to Juniors' Club Directors

October 13, 2009

Directors,

I am receiving tryout requests daily. Please ensure that your application for sanctioning of tryouts is complete and accurate. The time it takes to approve them will be delayed if you include inaccurate information. Please also write me a short note if you intend on charging more than \$10. A simple justification (i.e. multiple-day tryouts or tryout T-shirt) will suffice. I will do my best to approve these as soon as they are submitted.

We want to strongly encourage all club directors to support teams in the new divisions of 15, 16, and 17 American. If you had teams that finished in the top half of their division of Regional last season, they should play American this season. There will be local tournaments, Power Challenge events, and Championship divisions for these new levels. There will be plenty of opportunities for these teams to play!

American teams may participate in the levels listed at www.ovr.org/juniors/OVR_Girls_Divisions_of_Play.pdf. Teams in the American division can participate in events of their age level (14 American can play 14U or older), older American events (14 American may play 15 American or older), and older Regional events (14 American may play 15 Regional or older). American teams may not participate in National level events. American teams may participate in a National Qualifier. If an American team would qualify for the USAV Junior National Championships at one of these events, they would become a National team! American teams may also be "grade level." The only restrictions for grade level American teams would be participation in a National Qualifier (a 14 American grade level team would have to play 15 Club) and local out-of-region events. The Pioneer and Keystone regions do not restrict our grade level teams. Other regions may require grade level teams to play at the level of their oldest athletes (a 14 American grade level team may have to play 15U).

The *OVR Kaepa-USA 2010 Girls' Volleyball Championships* will likely support American divisions of at least 64 teams. If you look at last year's championships, the 14 National division included 28 teams, the 14 American division had 28 teams, and the 14 Regional division included 184 teams. In 2010, there will be 28-32 14 National teams, at least 64 14 American teams, and no more than 128 14 Regional teams. What will we do if we don't have that many American teams? We will move the top ranked 14 Regional teams into the 14 American division to get to the number of teams needed. For that reason, my 13 Regional team that was ranked 75/183 last season needs to participate in 14 American this season. Please consider this when you form your teams!

Below are two new procedures for support officiating crews excerpted from the 2010 *OVR Procedures and Rules for Juniors' Clubs* (www.ovr.org/juniors/registration_packet/JRP_Procedures_and_Rules.pdf):

- The use of electronic devices by the support officiating crews at our tournaments will not be tolerated. Work teams and their coaches are not permitted to use cell phones or other devices while line judging, keeping score, etc. Teams in violation of this regulation will be assessed a 10-point penalty in their next set that day. There is a financial penalty assessed, payable by the club, if the violation occurs after their last match of the tournament.
- The R2 and scorekeeper should report to the court official at the coin toss. If they are not present by the beginning of the first timed warm-up then one point will be given to their next opponent, and one point will continue to be given for every minute that they are late. The rest of the support crew (line judges, scoreboard operator and Libero tracker) must report to the court official no later than the beginning of the second timed warm up or a point will be given to their next opponent. An additional point will be

given for every minute that the work crew is incomplete for their officiating duties. There is a financial penalty assessed, payable by the club, if the violation occurs after their last match of the tournament.

Please make sure your teams are ready to officiate their assigned matches without their electronic devices.

New club directors are required to attend the ASEP Sports Club Director course at Westerville South High School on December 5, 2009 or to contact me to take the course online. Feel free to contact me with any questions. Good luck in planning for the 2010 season.

Thanks,
Bill Zehler