

CHRVA Juniors Seeding Index Description

PURPOSE

This Seeding Index is used primarily by the Coordinators to seed the pools of CHRVA Juniors' competition. Coordinators are responsible for creating balanced pools from the teams accepted into each CHRVA tournament using a process called "snake seeding" of teams across the pools. (See the CHRVA Handbook or Coaches Guide for more information on the seeding process)

There are several benefits for using the current CHRVA seeding process. A few are as follows:

- It is an effective method when managing a large number of teams. There may be up to 75 teams in the larger age groups. Many will not play each other before Regionals. The Seeding Index is an effective way to relate these teams.
- Unlike most leagues that have a fixed schedule during the regular season, CHRVA Juniors' teams create their own schedule. This creates an imbalance in the number of sets/matches/tournaments played. This seeding method attempts to compensate for this imbalance by "weighting" all competition.
- Teams start play at various times during a season. Some teams start play the 1st weekend in January and others start as late as March.
- Using the Seeding Index, a team's strength may change as they develop and gain experience. The resulting placement of teams, taking into consideration their opponent's current strength is arguably more accurate than a method without this factor.

Method of Calculation

Note: The term "Set" is USAV's replacement for the word "Game". It was adapted starting the 2004 season as part of a general movement to comply with FIBV international conventions.

The Seeding Index is based on team performance (sets win %) and opponents strength (opponents sets win %). For each team, it is calculated by multiplying their win percentage times the average won percentage of their opponents.

For display purposes, the result is scaled for a range of 0 to 200. Scaling results in a number that typically falls in the range 0 to 100 and provides a scale that is familiar to most people. Occasionally a top team(s) will have a Seeding Index exceeding 100.

Interpreting the Index

The Seeding Index provides a relative positioning of teams for tournament placement. Therefore the higher the number, the higher the team is seeded for placement purposes.

It is important to remember that the Seeding Index is only an indicator of how the team has performed in the past. Teams change and their performance is influenced by many factors.

The Seeding Index is only as good as the data used in the calculations. Early in the season, there is not enough data for reliable results. Therefore the Seeding Index is not calculated until a team has at least twelve (12) countable sets. Teams without the twelve minimum countable sets are listed separately by win % until they have the required twelve sets.

The Seeding Index is updated periodically (weekly or so) depending on frequency of tournaments being held and receipt of results from the tournament hosts.

Which results are counted?

Only results between CHRVA teams playing in CHRVA sanctioned tournaments are used for the Seeding Index:

- Each individual set is counted (not match or tournament results) and all sets are considered equal. Total points, point differential or whether pool or playoff doesn't matter.
- Only sets between same age group teams are counted.
- Forfeits are not counted.
- Sets against out of Region teams are not counted.
- Scrimmage or Fellowship tournaments are not counted.

Verification

Based on results data (about 8000 sets per season) for the past few years, the team with the highest Seeding Index wins 75 % to 80 % of the time. Additionally, an analysis of past CHRVA Regional results shows a strong relationship to the seedings.