

# GUIDE TO PLAYING INDOOR JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL IN THE CHESAPEAKE REGION

Updated as of November, 2019

This guide is a summary of procedures and rules for competing in USAV Chesapeake Region Juniors tournaments. It also contains useful information helpful during the season.

The material is based on the *Chesapeake Region Volleyball Association (CHRVA) Handbook* (the Handbook) and policy approved by the Juniors Competition Committee. This document is not intended to replace or supersede either the Handbook or the By-Laws.

**All players, coaches, and club personnel are responsible for adhering to the contents of the Handbook**

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# CHESAPEAKE REGION WEB PAGES

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The CHRVA Region's web pages are the primary means of communications with members of the Region including clubs and coaches. Start at [www.chrva.org](http://www.chrva.org) and look under the Junior's tab.

News, tournaments, results, The Region Handbook, newsletters, forms, and many activities can be found in the various pages.

Visit the web pages often because they are routinely updated with new tournaments and other information.

## THE START

CHRVA sponsored tournaments start late December in and continue through at least the middle of May. Many teams continue to play at one of several large multi-day tournaments over Memorial Day weekend. A few teams go on to USAV Nationals in early July. The High-Performance camps are offered in June.

For Coaches, the most important event is the Fall General Meeting for all Club Directors. This is the introduction to the season presented by Regional Staff and covers a wide variety of topics important to all coaches. Club Directors are responsible for having adequate representation who can share all information with club coaches and players. Experience has shown that most difficulties occur with clubs that fail to attend this meeting and don't distribute the information to all teams and players. The Fall General Meeting is held the first Sunday in October.

## TEAM, COACH, and ADULT REGISTRATIONS

All teams, players, and coaches must be USAV registered before they can participate in the Chesapeake Region. Among other benefits, USAV registration provides secondary liability insurance coverage once a player is registered. It also ensures teams are made up of players meeting the age group requirements and coaches who are background checked and trained. A new registration is required each year even when the team roster doesn't change.

All individuals who support a Junior's team must be registered USAV members including coaches, assistant coaches, officials, or trainers. This includes individuals (adults or siblings) who help the team by working as line judges or shagging balls.

All adult coaches must be IMPACT certified before they can be attached to a team registration. The Region and USAV recommend coaches complete CAP I or higher certification. See the Junior's web page for options to complete this certification by either local held clinic or USAV Webinar.

Chesapeake Region teams should complete the team registration process as early in the season as possible following the Open tryout period. Registration requests or changes received by the Registrar less than 10 days before an event are subject to a late registration fee. The Region's Registrar can be contacted for questions. All full memberships are valid from September 1 – October 31 of each year. Players 8 years of age and younger memberships are free.

## USAV Registration Process

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Players, Coaches, and Teams are required to use the USAV online membership registration called Webpoint. It can be accessed through the [www.chrva.org](http://www.chrva.org) web page. See the Registration Information section of the web page for more information and forms. In general:

- Returning members will be able to access their record from the previous year and update them as necessary.
- Retaining your account password will make renewal or updates easier.
- Participants are responsible for payment via Credit Card. Anyone paying by check is not complete until the Registrar processes the check. Credit card payment is preferred.
- Driver's license number or the last four digits of a social security number is needed for certification of agreement of terms and conditions. This includes [parent](#) approval of Junior members.

Parents/Guardians must renew Junior player registrations. This process also includes agreement to:

- The **USA Waiver & Release of Liability** plus
- The **USAV Participant Code of Conduct**.

Coaches must present a copy of the Webpoint generated team roster at every tournament check-in. See the "Tournament Check-in" section. Team rosters must have a minimum of six (6) players and a Head coach listed.

## Junior Player Registration Process

Players are required to register online before participating in try-outs. Without the registration confirmation number, Clubs cannot allow participation. It is strongly recommended for players to complete the initial registration before showing up at try-outs.

In general, Junior players are recommended to:

- Before try outs, Juniors may apply for the Full membership or "One Event" reduced rate membership. If using the "One Event" membership, after making a team, the remaining cost of a full membership must be paid before a player begins practice. Players that select "full membership" but don't make a team can request a refund.
- Indicate the club as "Undecided" when registering for membership. Once a player obtains an offer to play for a team, the player / adult should go back into the registration system and select the club.
- All juniors will be required to provide birth date.
- Take a copy of the membership card to tryouts. The membership card indicates the age group the junior is eligible to play.

After making a team, Coaches will be required to collect and keep copies of the birth certificate and a USAV Medical Release Form. Coach must have these documents with them at all practices and tournaments to fulfill the requirement to prove age compliance.

More relevant information is contained in the Junior's tryout section on the webpage.

## Adult Background Checks and Safe Sport Training.

Background checks and Safe Sport Training is required of all adults supporting Junior volleyball programs.

- All adults working with Volleyball youth must complete the background check prior to attending any tryouts, practices, events, etc.
- The information is submitted online along with payment typically during the membership process.
- The background check and Safe Sport must be completed before the Adult can be attached to a junior team's roster.
- The background check is valid for 2 seasons.
- Safe Sport training registration can be done through the Volleyball Academy button in your Webpoint registration. Safe Sport certification is required to be completed and updated every year.

## SCORER AND REFEREE CERTIFICATIONS

All teams are expected to supply qualified referees and scorers. This section describes the CHRVA process for certification. See the **Work Teams** section below and in the Handbook for more information on the make-up and responsibilities of the work team.

To be qualified to work as a scorer or a 1<sup>st</sup> Referee, an individual must complete the minimum accreditation program process required by the Chesapeake or another USAV Region. The minimum standards for the Chesapeake Region are:

- New Scorer: Viewing an online clinic, passing the test, 2 successful evaluations of a match
- New 1<sup>st</sup> Referee: Completing both requirements for scorer and 1<sup>st</sup> Junior Referee which includes viewing online scoring clinics, viewing online referee clinics, passing both tests, 2 successful evaluations of a match for both scorer and referee
- Recertification: if a junior candidate has completed all requirements the previous year, their membership will reflect the scorer and referee status. To continue their status the candidate must view the clinics every year and complete 1 successful evaluation.

Junior scorers and referees can progress through multiple levels of proficiency from a Junior rating to a Chesapeake Region rating to a USAV National rating. Advancing past the entry level to a Region rating allows an individual to work tournaments as a paid member of the work team when not playing.

Regardless of training and experience, the Coach is responsible for ensuring all members of the work team are both able and proficient at their duties.

The Chesapeake Region program to train and encourage the development of quality scorers starts with a clinic the first year. All scorer clinics are held online during December and January. After the clinic, scorers and referees are expected to practice until they are proficient. When ready for certification, score sheets are submitted to tournament referees for review and approval or a request to the tournament referee for observation for a 1<sup>st</sup> referee evaluation.

Each candidate must register and pay online for the CHRVA Administrative fee prior to seeking evaluations. This fee covers the administration, preparation and evaluation of the candidates.

The Chesapeake Region program to train and encourage the development of quality Junior Referees provides a progression from "Clinic" level to Junior Level 2. Further development of Referee skills may continue with the adult certification program that is part of the USAV national accreditation program.

A description of the Junior Referee development program can be found on the Officials' web page. The levels are:

- Junior Level 1: Allows the candidate to work your own team's matches.
- Junior Level 2: Allows the candidate to work your own team's matches and to work at a CHRVA Junior Tournaments and receive compensation. Candidate will communicate to the Junior Referee Level 2 coordinator listed on the website.

Assignment of a Junior Level 2 Referee to a tournament can start once the candidate is 16 years of age. Junior candidates are assigned to work a tournament where the players are a minimum of 2 years younger than the candidate.

### Provisional or Regional Certifications

The CHRVA Adult certification program allows an individual to work any Junior or Adult match. The Junior's certification program only allows the individual to work Junior matches. The Adult certification process is open to all Junior's, starts in October, and is more rigorous. See the Officials web page for more information.

# CHRVA TOURNAMENT APPLICATION

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The Chesapeake Region uses a web-based method for CHRVA Region teams applying to girls' tournaments. Use of this online database supports Age Group Coordinators' communications with teams and clubs. See the ***Junior Online Registration Guide***, accessed from the Junior's web page under "Tournament Registration", for more detailed information.

The initial preparation of a team may start after tryouts and once the Club Administrator has set teams up in the Webpoint system.

The Online Tournament Registration system includes:

- A database of Team Representatives' and Coaches' e-mail addresses used by the Coordinators to keep teams informed of changes and new information during the season.
- Requests to play are automatically tabulated and provide the Coordinators early insight into dates teams would like to play.
- Team Representatives can see when the check received dates were entered for the team application. Note that the Coordinators record the date when completed applications arrive but may not update the database until a few days later.

## Tournament Entry Process

The Chesapeake Region uses an application process. Closing dates are typically 4 weeks before a tournament and acceptance postings are typically 2-3 weeks before the event. This allows teams to know if they are truly available to play when they apply. Tournaments can be posted as long as the 1<sup>st</sup> priority Host tournament has been filled.

The Online Application can be found in the "Tournament Registration" window under the Junior's page of the [www.CHRVA.org](http://www.CHRVA.org) web site. The first time a team applies each season, they need to use the "First Time User" link to set up the account for the season. The account cannot be setup until the Team Code and Team ID are in hand from the team registration process through Webpoint.

All teams, including host club teams, must apply online and follow up with payment of tournament fee(s) before being accepted into a tournament. Inherent in the application is an agreement to attend the tournament and abide by the Region and USAV rules, if accepted.

In general:

- Applications are not complete until tournament fee(s) are in the hands of the Coordinator.
- Complete applications received by the closing date are selected based upon the **Tournament Priority of Fill** rules. See that section for more information.
- Teams may be moved to another tournament the same weekend if the 1<sup>st</sup> priority host tournament is not filled.
- The application is a contract to field a team and play.
- Teams are expected to contribute to running the tournament by providing work teams, referees, and good sportsmanship.
- While there are (expensive) options for a substitute scorer or team referee, these options are difficult on the host club and should be considered as a last option.

Late entries will be accepted but can be considered only if there are not enough teams to fill the tournament by the closing date. Coordinators often send out e-mails about remaining openings in a tournament.

Application checks are not cashed until the team has been accepted to a tournament and the tournament package sent to the Tournament Host. Typically, they will be cashed the week before a tournament. The remaining checks are shredded. Some host also allow credit card payments.

Teams using a priority entry earned by hosting a tournament must indicate the use of the priority on the appropriate section of the tournament application when it is initially sent to the Coordinator. The priority can be used only once and is considered used regardless of whether it is needed.

Teams may submit more than one tournament application for a weekend. This indicates to the Coordinator that the team just wants to play and isn't concerned about the choice of location. The Coordinator will not place the team in more than one tournament on a weekend unless clearly instructed to do so.

## Team Representative

The team representative is the official contact person for the team. It can be a parent, coach, or club director. This person doesn't have to make decisions for the team but does have to be able to relay the information to the person who does make the decision and respond quickly with answers to questions.

Typically, the Team Representative will need to monitor the web site for pools, tournament changes, and other relevant information. Posting of teams to tournament pools is considered "acceptance" to a tournament. In many clubs, the Team Representative is responsible for requesting entry into tournaments and making sure the Club Treasurer sends the tournament entry fee.

The Age Group Coordinator will normally use e-mail to contact this person. Occasionally phone calls will generally be made when decisions effecting current tournaments need to be made quickly. It is important this person is reachable.

The team representative is also expected to check their Tournament Registration History to make sure checks are posted for all tournaments they enter.

## Withdrawal

There is a significant amount of effort and financial commitment that goes into hosting a tournament. When a team commits to playing, the host is also committing their resources. Other teams make long trips based upon the expectation that all the teams in their pool will also show up.

Coaches are expected to form their teams with enough players so they can show up and play when a few players have injuries, don't feel well, or have other conflicts. Also see the CHRVA Handbook rules for temporary play by age eligible players from other teams in a club.

Teams have a window to withdraw from a tournament without penalty. The following minimal timeframes allow a Coordinator to look for replacement teams:

- For single day tournaments, 28 days before the tournament.
- For multiple day tournaments, 31 days before the tournament

The entry fee check will not be cashed when withdrawal occurs before these cut off times. Withdrawal occurs when the Coordinator receives the request and is able to acknowledge the request.

Withdrawals after the cut off times and teams not showing up to play carry an increasing penalty including sanctions by the Region. Tournament fees are not typically refunded even if a replacement team plays.

Note there are two important guidelines used by the Chesapeake Region:

- Distance is never considered in any discussions about teams playing in a tournament.
- Signing up for a tournament is considered signing up for a weekend. Priority tournaments get priority of teams playing that weekend. Teams will be moved to fill priority tournaments first.

Let the Coordinator and Tournament Director know as soon as possible of any difficulties. This includes the morning of the tournament.

## Open, Club, or Mixed Tournaments

All tournaments are designated by both age group and level within age group.

Age groups can be single age tournaments (i.e. 13s) or combined ages tournaments (i.e. 13/14s). A tournament with two age groups, such as 13/14, would normally be considered by most 13s and most 14s.

Team level: Open, Club, or Mixed, describes the team strength relative to other teams at their age bracket. Open tournaments are for the stronger and more experienced teams. Club tournaments are for the less experienced teams. A majority of tournaments are designated as Mixed and are likely to have a mixture of team strength playing. CHRVA Region rules allow any age appropriate team to apply to any tournament regardless of the tournament designation.

Extremely strong teams can play up two age groups only with permission of the Junior Administrator and when there are openings in tournaments. This is typically possible during April and May of each year. Requests to the Junior Administrator should occur as soon as possible in order to allow for sufficient time to review.

## TEAM SELECTION FOR A TOURNAMENT

Selection of teams to tournaments is controlled by two sets of rules: **Tournament Priority of Fill** and **Historical Tournament Priorities**.

Out of region teams are selected based upon the Tournament Director's selection criteria. See the **CHRVA Guidelines for Out of Region Teams** for further information. Some CHRVA tournaments have slots reserved for out of region teams. Others do not and require the out of region team to contact the Tournament Director.

## Notification

When a team has been selected to play in a tournament, the official notification is the posting of the team to the pool on the web. The pools can be found under "Girls' Pools" or "Boys' Pools" web links.

Posting is typically a two-step process. Shortly after closing, the Age Group Coordinator will post the teams accepted. Seeding and work assignments will typically be posted by Monday before the tournament. This two-step process allows the latest results to be factored into the team seeding.

Team representatives are expected to actively monitor their e-mail and the pool web pages for items related to their teams.

## Tournament Priority of Fill

When an Age Group (AG) Coordinators receives more applications than a tournament has slots, they use the following guidelines in filling tournaments.

- Host teams (1 per court)
- Teams that use a priority entry earned by hosting a tournament (during the current season)
- Out of Region Teams named specifically by the Tournament Host.
- Teams with the longest time since playing
- Teams with the earliest date of receipt of payment by the appropriate AG Coordinator. (Tie Breaker)

When a tournament fills by the closing date, the teams can normally be processed and seeded quickly. When a tournament doesn't fill or has other issues, there are difficulties and delays in posting of seedings. In this situation, the AG Coordinators will often send out e-mails to team representatives notifying them of the status of the process.

Late applications are welcomed and used to fill any remaining slots. Teams occasionally drop out and the AG Coordinator may also be looking for a replacement team.

## Priority Order of Tournaments

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Tournaments are assigned a priority when they are sanctioned and must be filled in that order. Historical and major tournaments receive the higher priorities. The priority of a tournament can be found along with the tournament listing on the web page. A tournament is considered filled when 80% of the slots are filled. As an example when 8 teams apply to a 10-team tournament, the event is considered filled.

Tournaments must be filled in priority order. If a tournament does not fill, then all tournaments with a lower priority may be canceled.

When a team signs up for the tournament of their choice, they are also signing up for a weekend. They might be requested to move or reassigned to another tournament that weekend.

## Seeding and Work Assignments

Tournament pools are usually seeded so all pools are balanced e.g. each pool has an equal mixture of strong and weak teams. Ranking of the teams is based upon the seeding index available to the Coordinator on the day the pools are seeded. When the Seeding Index is not available, such as early in the season or for out of region teams, the Coordinators use their best judgment based upon any information available. Coordinators will override the seeding index, especially early in the season, when recent results have not been reflected in the seeding index.

Tournament formats that are Power Pools do not have balanced pools. Instead the pools are ordered from strongest to weakest. These will be found in Power Leagues, Fellowships, and some tournaments where there aren't playoffs.

Once the teams are assigned to a pool, they are reordered by distance from the tournament to the team representative's address. Host teams are often assigned to the third slot in a 5 team pool. This makes them available to assist the Tournament Director with last minute tournament setup issues.

## THE TOURNAMENT SITE

Once a team is accepted and the schedule posted, the Tournament Director is responsible for most last-minute issues.

Tournaments are rarely canceled. In the event of severe weather or other unexpected events, the Tournament Director will contact the team representatives. It is important that the team representative is reachable and is monitoring their e-mail. In some cases, time critical events may be posted on the Junior's web page.

## Tournament Check-In and Check-Out

The first thing a coach must do when arriving at a tournament is check in at the Tournament Director's table. At this time, the coach will receive any local instructions and last-minute schedule changes.

Coaches must present a copy of the USAV Webpoint generated team roster at check-in. If the Webpoint generated roster isn't presented, the team will not play. Most teams have several people carry copies of the roster so there will not be check-in difficulties.

Coaches will be asked to sign the roster as being complete and accurate. Only uniform changes or deleting players numbers can be made at this time.

Teams are required to check out with the Tournament Director before leaving regardless of how they finished in pool play. There are situations where a team that doesn't make playoffs are required to work the first play-off match. See the Handbook for the rules that determine how play-off work teams are selected.

Tournament Directors are required to directly notify the Juniors Administrator and/or Ethics Chair of any teams that fail to complete their work assignments.



## Team Campgrounds

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Most tournaments provide an area (campground) for the teams to rest while not playing and to store extra belongings that typically can't be brought to the court. Most teams will bring small blankets and lay them out (when space is available). Food usually can be eaten here. Local site rules govern this area.

Many players bring electronics, money and other valuables. While most players are outstanding people and somewhat protective of each other's campgrounds, there is NO security provided and occasionally a problem arises. Obvious items, such as purses, should never be left unattended.

Each team is responsible for cleaning up their area before they leave. There should be no papers or other evidence of the team being there when they leave.

## Food and Drink

Most gyms allow only water in the gym or court side. Please follow the local regulations since the Region is dependent upon the generosity of the hosts for playing sites.

USAV rules require NO water or other refreshments on the court for safety reasons. Even small condensation drips can create a dangerous situation where a player can get hurt.

Some tournaments will have a refreshment stand with a limited selection. The tournament invitation indicates if the host plans to have food available or there are facilities nearby. The Host decides on what food/drink will be permitted to be brought in the facility. All teams are expected to adhere to the rules required by the Host.

Food table setups are prohibited at any site. Violations of this rule are particularly sensitive since they endanger the availability of host sites.

## Serving Lines

When a court doesn't have the required space behind the end of the court to meet the 6-foot minimum serving distance, a serving line inside the court will be placed to provide the minimum 6 foot distance.

12 and under events or younger may provide a serving line inside the court 6 feet in front of the end line. This serving line should be used for all events except events where a team qualifies for national competition such as the 12's Open CHRVA Regional Championships. Coaches should be aware the 12's serving line is a CHRVA accommodation of the limited skills of many younger players and should not expect to see the same in competition outside the Region.

10 and under events or younger may utilize the shorter/alternative court size.

## TOURNAMENT PLAY

Play starts are the posted times. Pre-game activities and warm-ups start 10 minutes before the posted time and include the coin toss and Referee instructions to the work team. Warm-ups are 2-4-4. 2 minutes of ball handling during the coin toss on separate sides, 4 minutes for the serving team and 4 minutes for the receiving team. If a team would like the referee to give them a minute warning during their 4 minutes, they need to let the referee know prior to the start of the 4 minutes. For Junior's tournaments, there is no shared hitting or serving.

During the tournament, Teams must be on the court at the posted time. USAV rules call for the first game to be forfeited at the posted start time and the second game after 10 minutes from match start time. It is important to monitor progress on a court since later matches are usually listed as ASAP and will start immediately after the preceding match.

## Work Teams

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All tournaments require teams to provide work crews. This includes an USAV registered and backgrounded adult, two lines judges, a qualified scorer, an assistant scorer, 2<sup>nd</sup> referee, and a qualified 1<sup>st</sup> referee. All members of the work team must be registered (with an USAV membership number) as either a player or supporting adult position.

Teams are expected to provide both certified 1<sup>st</sup> referee and scorer. Teams who do not provide this requirement must pay the indicated costs per the Handbook.

The Chesapeake Region requires an USAV registered and backgrounded adult member to be court side for all Junior work teams and can be an active member of the work team or just the monitor for the work team. The adult is responsible for keeping the work team focused. They should also monitor the behavior of everybody on the work team to make sure they stay focused on the game.

Teams must check out with the Tournament Director before leaving a Tournament. Work team responsibilities must be completed even if a team hasn't qualified for playoffs. Teams are also responsible for cleaning up their campgrounds.

## Pool Play

Most tournaments are setup with 4 or 5 teams per pool. In the classic format, the top two teams in each pool advance to the playoffs or all teams go to playoffs.

Many hosts are running a modified 4 team pool format where the top 2 teams in each pool advance to the Gold playoff bracket and the bottom two teams advance to the Silver playoff bracket.

## Playoffs

Playoffs cannot start until all teams have completed pool play.

Teams losing in playoffs often are usually required to work the following match. In playoff rounds where there are two losing teams, the Tournament Director makes assignments based upon travel distance to the team representative's home as listed on the Team Distance Report. Teams must check out with the Tournament Director before leaving a Tournament.

## Posting of Results

The complete pool play and playoff results are posted at the tournament site by the Tournament Director.

Tournament results are posted on the Web after being posted by the Tournament Director, or by the Results Coordinator after receiving them from the Tournament Director. The Seeding Index will be updated when the results from all weekend tournaments have been received.

## Weather and Canceled Tournaments

Very few tournaments are canceled. Weather is occasionally a problem especially during January and February. Many sites will stay open if the local conditions allow facility staff to get to the site. In the situations where conditions discourage a team from traveling but the tournament isn't canceled, the team will not be penalized if they notify the Tournament Director. However, the event will count as a play date for the team.

When a tournament is canceled before the tournament's closing date:

- 1) The canceled tournament does not count as a play date for any team scheduled to participate.
- 2) Tournaments on the same and following weekends will be reseeded when time permits.
- 3) The host club retains the priority of entry.
- 4) Entry fees are refunded 100% (or the check is not cashed).

This means there can be last minute changes to both the teams playing and the pools. Typically e-mails will be sent to all team representatives alerting them to the changing situation.

# PLAYER MOVEMENT WITHIN A CLUB

This section summarizes the basic rules for the two types of player movement between teams within a Club

See the Handbook for movement of players between clubs during the season.

## Temporary Play within a Club

When a team is short a player, they may borrow a player from another team within the same club as long as the new player is age eligible. This provides a method for a team to continue to play when it is short players. Uniform rules still apply so most Clubs have at least one common jersey.

Note that any team additions for the tournament must be accurately reflected in the roster signed at tournament check-in.

## Permanent Movement between Teams within a Club

In general, Junior players can make permanent movement when these guidelines are followed: See the Handbook for procedures.

- Movement can occur between teams within the same club.
- Once a player has participated in a USAV/Region/CHRVA tournament with one club, they cannot move to another club.
- The Handbook should be consulted for details.

For Open Regional Championships, players are frozen o their roster 7 days prior to the regional event. A player may only participate in one regional championship event.

## TRY OUTS AND RECRUITING

The CHRVA Recruiting Policy is available on the web page under Documents on the Junior's webpage of the CHRVA website. In general, the CHRVA policies are intended to allow players and their parents to make informed decisions about selecting a club without the influence of aggressive or early pressure to commit. The Recruiting Policy specifies when tryouts are to be held. Tryout dates for member clubs can be found on the Junior's page prior to the tryout period. First weekend in Second weekend in check the exact info in CHRVA Handbook

Tryouts require pre-registration with USAV to obtain a membership. See the above section on membership. **No membership, no tryout, no play.**

## Recruiting Guidelines

All Clubs, Coaches, and persons representing potential teams are responsible for the contents of the **CHRVA Juniors Recruiting Policy**. It can be found on the web site and as an appendix to the Region Handbook. The timelines are defined as:

- Open Period: Clubs may contact players but cannot hold tryouts nor make offers
- Tryouts: Clubs may hold tryouts
- Competition: No recruiting contacts shall be made to any players

All coaches and team representatives are responsible for any recruiting guidelines that affect a player's eligibility to play on school teams. The organizations that may issue rules that can affect or limit players' eligibility include:

- NCAA rules that limit contact between a player and any college coach
- State high school athletic organizations that limit the number of players a high school coach may have on their club team.
- High School organizations that mandate priority of any school activity over club sports.
- CHRVA guidelines that control the recruiting process within the Region.

## **CHRVA Consolidated Tryout Listing**

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Club tryout schedules will be available on the CHRVA Juniors web page starting around October 15<sup>th</sup>. The intent is to provide players with a common place for tryout information. Club tryouts are organized and run by the individual clubs. Questions about a club's specific tryout process or policies should be directed to the individual club directors.

Clubs that maintain a web page will also contain additional information on how they will hold tryouts. Some clubs charge a fee for tryouts, you should check the club's website before attending.

### **Club and Team Philosophy**

Club and Team Philosophy vary widely among the Region's clubs. Most clubs post this information on their web page and/or hold informational meetings.

Topics that are included in each team's philosophy include playing time, team size, coaching experience, level of play, practice schedule, club fees, travel costs, uniforms, tournament plans, and training approach. Players and parents are happier when they know what to expect when joining a team.

### **Player Acceptance**

When a player is offered a position on a team, they don't need to accept immediately. A player has until the end of the Open Tryout Period to accept or decline the offer. A detailed tryout matrix can be found on the CHRVA.org website. Club volleyball is a significant commitment of time and resources and this period is intended for players to consider all options.

Before the Open Tryout Period, players are encouraged to investigate clubs and their philosophy before tryouts so they can make informed decisions. Individual club website links can be found on the CHRVA website.

### **CHRVA Girl's Regional Championships (Regionals)**

Regionals are a premier tournament hosted by the Region for Chesapeake registered teams. They are held over a series of dates starting in March. Junior regionals are single age bracket. The CHRVA Regional Championships entries fill up quickly so teams are encouraged to apply early.

Regionals are divided into Open or Club Divisions. Club teams are placed into a club division based upon their results of in-region play. When there are enough teams, multiple club divisions will be used and teams in each division will be relatively the same strength.

The winner of the Open Regional in each age group is the Region Champion. The Region Champions receive an automatic bid to the USAV National Championships post season competition. In some years, the Chesapeake Region receives an additional bid in some age groups. CHRVA is awarded bids each year based on the number of junior members in each age group compared to other regions. In 2020, CHRVA has two bids for each age group to the USAV National Championships except 11's..

All teams that think they have a possibility of winning the Open Regionals and are prepared to go to USAV National Championships post season competition are encouraged to apply to CHRVA Open Regionals. The CHRVA Open Regional application process also includes applying to the USAV National Championships and sending a deposit to cover the entry fee (~ \$1000) to the Chesapeake Region Commissioner by the deadline. Details will be listed on the CHRVA website. Teams that are not interested in the USAV National Championships should apply to club level Regionals.

Teams wishing to compete in Open Regionals must play in at least one designated "OPEN" CHRVA appropriate age Tournament in addition to at least one other in-Region tournament. This requirement helps to improve the seeding of teams in Open Regionals. Seeding of the CHRVA Open Regionals consists of reviewing in-region play, USAV Qualifier results, and other major USAV tournaments.

Roster and player identification checks at Regionals will be conducted using procedures similar to those used at Nationals. Details on the following will be distributed as part of the Regional information.

- Open team rosters will be checked court side by the Officials. Rosters are frozen 7 days prior to the event date and will be used to check line-ups.
- Open teams will be subject to random ID checks using birth certificates and student IDs.

When a team wins a bid to the USAV National Championships either through the CHRVA Regional Championships or a USAV Qualifier, the team's roster is then frozen. See the USAV website for more information on frozen rosters. Currently, CHRVA reimburses the team entry fee for any team who has completed the CHRVA two in-region requirement and who has won a bid and plays in the USAV National Championships.

## **CHRVA Boy's Regional Championships (Regionals)**

Regionals are a premier tournament hosted by the Region for CHRVA registered teams. They are held typically in March. Junior Boy's Regionals are single age tournaments. Currently, any CHRVA boy's teams who wish to play in the USAV National Championships may apply. Teams wishing to play at the Open level of the USAV National Championships must win a bid at the Open level at a USAV Boy's Qualifiers. Boy's teams who have played in the minimum required 1 in-region tournament and plays in the USAV National Championships may be reimbursed the USAV National Championships entry fee.