



Tuesday 2nd Dec, 2025

RMR Parents;

Welcome to the RMR 25-26 Girls Season!

This year brings with it a number of technological and procedural upgrades at RMR, but also one unpopular new policy. I'm writing to you all here, in anticipation of the many questions that you'll have, as we begin the season!

FIRST, LET ME MENTION THOSE UPGRADES AND CHANGES:

Offer Commitment System (OCS):

Most of you are now familiar with this new online process, since your athletes "signed up" through the OCS Portal this summer. In short, this program helped ensure that RMR athletes and their families had ample opportunity to see and consider ALL offers that might come to them. As with all new programs, we had some issues, and we've learned a lot. But OCS was effective, and widely popular among clubs. We'll certainly use the system for both boys and girls next summer.

VolleyStation

If you've attended a boys event this fall, you may have noticed that "cell phones are at the table.!" That's OK this time, since the guys are using their phones to KEEP SCORE. They're not just digitally "flipping score" either. They are doing the whole *real deal* with subs and timeouts and liberos and everything, just like the guys with paper and pencil next to them. Better yet, VolleyStation reports match results directly to TM2, including "live-score" that you can log into during the game! *It's going great, it's faster and it's the future...* With any luck we'll be "all digital" next year here in the RMR!

EventConnect: Our new Hotel Partner

For the last couple of years we have partnered with a local firm to provide reasonably-priced hotel opportunities to teams and families, especially at the Greeley Showdown. This year we've "moved up" to a new, larger firm that promises to assist at Showdown and in fact across the RMR footprint. They are new, and not local, so we'll have a bit to learn. But please "stay tuned" for more information. One note: *in this system, your Club is invited to capture hotel space after they register for each event.* So those of you that register early, get first crack at the hotel blocks!

RMR Staff at Sites to assist our Site Hosts

This year we will do our best to offer an RMR staff-person *at every site*, whose job will be to "assist the local hosts through the day." Think of these RMR staff as friendly "ski ambassadors" and "security guards" all rolled into one. They'll be wearing bright clothing so that you can find them when you need them, and they are there to take care of business, so that we can all enjoy the game!



SO WHAT IS THAT "UNPOPULAR POLICY" THAT I MENTIONED??

Many of you will have heard by now that *the RMR will charge gate fees this year*. Guest passes cost \$10 per person per day, and include entry and re-entry into all RMR sites playing that day. Multi-day events will offer a multi-day discount, but in general, it's \$10 a day to come into RMR events now. Players and Coaches and kids-5-and-under get in free. *We will not offer other discounts, or refunds.*

Guest Passes are only offered online, with NO CASH SALES at the door. You buy your event pass at the same place that we post all RMR Schedules and Results...at TM2. Go to the [TM2 website](#), search "RMR," and pick the event you are interested in. You'll see two blue buttons there: one representing the event schedule, and one that takes you to that event's guest pass purchase window.

We've been charging gate all fall. Everything has gone fairly well through the boys season, and we've worked out some of the kinks. The ticketing system works smoothly, and *everyone quickly learned to buy their pass before they arrived, so that we don't suffer long lines at the door.*

"Gate Fees" are a first for us, and we understand that no one will love the idea. Frankly, I'm proud that we've made it so many years without "gate," when almost every Region and certainly every major volleyball event... even HighSchool games... have been charging gate for years.

SO WHY THE GATE FEE?

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

The answer is as unfortunate as it is simple. This summer, over half of the sites that we played at last year, came back to us and said "no thanks." They cited several factors that caused them to step away from the RMR; crowding, parking issues, spectator and coach behavior, food/trash, long days that interfered with other events. etc. *In the end the theme was consistent: "it just isn't worth it."*

The answer was as obvious as it has been effective. We raised our court-rental fee by 50%!

Some of you have attended our "Parent Town Hall" zooms. There, you've heard me discuss our annual budget. You may have marveled at my claim that "the RMR doesn't make money on tournaments." (this is true, btw, and very different from most tournaments that you pay to go to)

We're a member-service organization, and a youth sports non-profit organization. We take in each year just about the same amount as we spend. We receive about \$45 per athlete per year, and that's what we work with to staff the office and to offer all of our programming through the year. Almost every event that we host (over 30 per year, plus outdoor stuff) runs at break-even. We charge the clubs team registration fees at each event, and those funds go almost 100% to the court rental fees and referee services for that weekend.

We've taken the extraordinary step of increasing our site payouts by over a half-million dollars, without charging the clubs any extra registration fees.

→ ***Your "guest pass" dollars will directly offset that expense.***



Of course, we don't know how many people will attend RMR events, now that we're "charging at the door." We've taken a leap of faith in committing to that site-fee increase, before we really see any increase in income.. *Fingers crossed!*

WHAT WILL WE DO IF THE GATE FEES EXCEED THE INCREASE IN EXPENDITURE?

Everyone seems to enjoy "counting heads" at our events these days. We're working to keep it simple. We've increased our site fees, but we're still paying our sites a flat-fee. But let's say that we do continue to see large numbers of spectators at our events; *what will we do with all that extra money?*

Remember the "new RMR staff at each site" that I mentioned earlier in this letter? That staffing will represent our second big new expenditure this season. And our new "security guards" aren't just there to keep a rowdy dad in line, or to ask you not to bring your open cup of coffee onto the court. Volleyball is big business these days, and female sports events, unfortunately, can and are targeted by bad people. By bringing guest passes online, and at the same time bringing security staff to bear, we're helping make sure that those bad people... who have no business in our gyms... don't have easy access. The new security guards will be there to help ensure the safety of our athletes, and for that reason, we're committing serious funding to bringing that staff to bear.

Not knowing exactly how much revenue we'll have to work with is part of why I said "we we'll *do our best* to provide an RMR staffer at every site." We'll have to see how this goes. We host at 25 or more facilities, at almost 30 indoor events each year. That's a lot of new staff to take on!

SO THERE YOU HAVE IT:

- * We increased fees so that we'd continue to have places to play, especially given our crazy continued growth!. And it's working; Our old partners are coming around, and lots of new sites are now willing to talk to us.
- * We're bringing new technology online, to improve the Region in many ways (VolleyStation, OCS, and more!)
- * And we're determined to bring extra staffing to bear, to help everyone enjoy the day, and to help ensure the safety of our participants.

—> *Hopefully we can pay for it all!*



I hope this answers many of your questions. For those of you who have more questions, or who would just like to talk about these topics further, please join us at our first 25-26 Parent Town Hall, Monday December 8th at 8pm (Join Zoom Meeting [HERE](#))

Respectfully,

Keith Murlless, for the RMR

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By the way... *the RMR is hiring!*

If you, your spouse, your athletes or your family or friends aged 16+ are interested in officiating or in serving as site-staff at our events, please respond to us at this [StaffingGoogleSurvey](#)

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RMR Volleyball is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: RMR Volleyball's Parent Town Hall, Monday Dec 8th, at 8pm

Date Monday Dec 8, 2025

Time: 8:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting [HERE](#)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83476738294>

Meeting ID: 834 7673 8294

One tap mobile

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