

## **AZ Region Policies Manual**

### **CHAPTER III – TOURNAMENT RELATED POLICIES**

#### **A. Facilities**

The Arizona Region is dependent on schools and facilities to host our tournaments. As such our teams, coaches, players and parents of team members must adhere to the rules, standards and policies of the Arizona Region and the facilities we use. Teams, including parents of team members or coaches, not adhering to the rules, standards and policies of the Arizona Region or any of our facilities as reported by the tournament site director, host facility or lead official may be subject to fine, sanction or suspension from further play or attendance by the Executive Board.

##### **1. No Cooking or Heating Allowed**

There is no cooking or heating of any kind allowed at any of the Arizona Region tournament sites. This includes, but is not limited to, sterno heated dishes, crockpots, barbeques, hibachi grills, hot plates, Coleman stoves, fire pits, gas heaters, etc. Anything that requires electricity or produces heat is not allowed. This is for the safety and protection of our facilities.

##### **2. There is no food allowed in any of the gyms. All food must be kept outside in the team camp areas. Coolers are not allowed in any gyms.**

##### **3. Drink for team members and participants must be in containers with screw tops. Some facilities allow only water in closed top bottles. Any other drinks must be kept outside the gym – including coffee and soft drinks.**

##### **4. All team camp areas must be clear of any food and drink debris at the conclusion of the tournament. Each team is responsible to clean up its own team camp area and haul away the trash from the team camp.**

##### **5. No Alcohol or Smoking on the premises of any of our tournaments.**

Arizona State law requires school campuses to be alcohol, drug and tobacco free zones. Arizona Region and USA Volleyball prohibit the use of alcohol by participants or spectators at any volleyball event. This includes the team camp areas. Alcohol and parents are never a good mix at junior events.

#### **B. Pack It In/Pack It Out Policy**

In an effort to reduce waste and trash at tournament events and to reduce the time site directors have to remain after the event to clean up, the Arizona Region has put forth a Pack it in/Pack it out policy. All food/snacks/plastic water bottles/beverage containers/pizza boxes/anything else that is not used or becomes trash at the end of the day should be taken home and recycled or trashed at the home of the person bringing it to the event.

Some of our sites have to schedule extra commercial trash pick-ups just to accommodate the amount of trash left at sites. Many of our site hosts or site directors spend an extra 2 hours following a tournament just picking up and taking trash to the bins. In the end this may help people be mindful of what they bring to events and should keep our costs lower as these sites don't have to schedule additional trash pick-up or spend hours cleaning up after an already long day. We encourage all teams to use refillable water bottles instead of single use disposable plastic water bottles. Hydro-Flasks are not required, just refillable water bottles.

In this age of "green" let us all do our part.

#### **C. Food and Beverages in the Gym Policy – 13 Point Penalty**

Food and Beverages (except water in a closed top bottle) are not allowed in the gym facilities used by the Arizona Region. For any team whose player, coach, club director, spectator, parent or anyone else attending an event that is associated with their team brings food or beverages (other than closed top water bottles) into a gym there will be a 13-point penalty assessed against the team in the first set of their next match. If the policy is violated a 2<sup>nd</sup> time by the same team, there will be another 13-point penalty and a \$200 fine assessed to the team. The fine must be paid before the team can participate further. Notification of penalty will be given to the Region and will be tracked and assessed if the policy is continually violated by the same team.

**D. Concussion Policy**

If a person incurs an injury at an AZ Region/USAV sanctioned event and is thought to have a concussion or fails the concussion protocol, as determined by the coach, they may not return to the event. The player must also be cleared by the club director before they may return to practice and/or competition.

In the event of a misdiagnosis of a concussion, there must be a letter from a doctor clearing the player that explains the misdiagnosis and clears the player to return to the competition the next day of the competition. The letter is to be given to the club director who would clear the player to play. The letter must then be given to the site director allowing the player to return to competition.

CDC Concussion Protocol and Managing Return to Activities are to be the standard when making the determination in the absence of a trainer or other medical professional.

**E. Electronics Policy**

The Arizona Region acknowledges the increased capability and widespread use of smartphones and other high tech electronic devices by players and coaches during their downtime at tournaments. This would include global interactive applications, music, video and games, such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, Pokemon Go, etc.

While these devices and opportunities are great during downtime, they are not good during referee assignment time. The use of electronic devices at the score table during a match can interfere and impede the proper administration and flow of match play and extend the length of the tournament day. Therefore, this Electronics policy strictly prohibits the use of communicative, entertainment or game devices by any member of the officiating team during their ref assignment. This includes the personnel at or near the score table, on the stand, on the pole or on the lines. The exception would be the use of a phone as a timing device only when approved by the Match Referee. The officiating team consists of but is not limited to: club directors, head coaches, assistant coaches, scorers, assistant scorers, libero trackers, second referees, line judges or any other team or club member that is sitting at or near the score table or on the court and is responsible for scoring, line judging, R2, R1 or monitoring any of those responsibilities.

Sanctions:

1. First offense will be a verbal warning to the coach and any team member(s) in violation. All electronics will be removed from the score table before play can resume. A Team Delay Warning is issued and recorded on the match score sheet.
2. Second offense will result in the violating team losing eight (8) points to its next opponent;
3. Third offense will result in the team forfeiting the first set of their next match and the head coach is referred to the Ethics and Compliance Officer.

The First Referee on the court will assess all warnings or sanctions and notify the Site Director and/or Lead Official of each violation for assessment and documentation on the score sheet for the current match, as well as the scoresheet of the violating team's next match.

7/24/16

**F. Music and Artificial Noisemakers at Tournaments**

**1. Music**

The Arizona Region tournaments rarely, if ever, have just one court in a facility. Therefore, if play is scheduled on more than one court in the facility no music is allowed during any part of a match. If there is just one court scheduled and the noise would not affect any other court, music would be allowed during the warm up period only, if both coaches agree.

- 2. Artificial noisemakers, air horns, balloons, mega phones and electronic amplifiers are not permitted at any Arizona Region tournament.**

4/18/18

**G. Tournament Check-in Policy**

All coaches of junior teams or adult team reps are required to be checked in AND attend the Coach/Team Rep meetings held ½ hour before the tournament start time. A team whose coach/team reps have not checked in AND attended the Coach/Team Rep meeting are subject to a penalty of 8 points on their first match of the day. This applies to ALL teams including those that neither ref nor play the first match round of the tournament wave/day.

Requirements at Check In:

1. Coach Photo ID
2. Current SportsEngine Roster. In the event the club's roster(s) are not yet ready in SportsEngine, a copy of the Team Registration Form must be used in its place – no other "rosters" will be accepted.
3. Medical Release Form for each junior player on the roster. For any player that the coach does not have a Medical Release Form in his/her possession that player is not permitted on the court until one is produced.

**H. Weather Related Tournament Attendance**

If a team is unable to attend a seeding tournament due to the roads being closed for weather, the team will be allowed to hold the seed they were given prior to the tournament happening. If the roads are open and they choose not to attend, they will finish last in their division and take the seed number associated with last place.

9/20/16

**I. Late Team Penalties**

Teams that are late to the court to referee or to play will be assessed a point per minute penalty on their next match. The first set is lost at 10 minutes late. The match is lost at 20 minutes late. If the penalty is assessed against the referee team and they have no further matches scheduled that day, the site director will notify the Region Office of the penalty and it will be assessed on the first match of their next tournament. The time starts at the end of the timed warmup.

**J. Team Referee Assignments**

The Arizona Region provides a paid R1 official for each court at all power league and Region Championship tournaments. Each team is required to fulfill referee assignments as part of their play in each tournament. Each team is required to supply a Scorer,

Libero Tracker, Score Flipper and an R2 and two linesmen. The operation of the tournament is dependent on each team fulfilling their referee assignment.

Adult and Junior teams are to attend Score/Ref training or by Train the Trainer teach a minimum of three R2 and Linesman and three Scorers per team. The teams are to be trained to proficiency in each of the disciplines.

Teams that do not fulfill all or part of their referee assignments are subject to a \$100 fine for each occurrence which must be paid before the next tournament scheduled. If the team misses more than one referee assignment they may be subject to sanction or removal from the tournament schedule.

In the event that a paid R1 is not provided for each court by the Region, a certified official who is also a coach will be paid for their work as an R1 during their team's referee assignments. If the coach is not a certified referee, the club will be credited \$20 for every match the team had to provide an R1. If the coach refuses to R1 or provide an adult R1 for the match, the coach will be fined \$100 for not fulfilling their ref assignment. The match counts of coaches/clubs receiving compensation must be recorded on the Referee Tournament Report and Pay Sheet of the site for the coach/club to be paid/credited.

**K. Deficient Scorer Policy**

The Arizona Region requires an adult or junior team to be trained in scoring, second referee and linesman disciplines to fulfill the referee assignments at each tournament. Teams that are found to be deficient in scoring impede the flow of the match and extend the tournament day. Therefore the following process will be followed for teams found to be deficient in scoring at a tournament:

1. The Match Official will notify the Site Director and Lead Official of the team deficient in scoring. The Lead Official will take a picture of the score sheet which will be sent to the Officials Division Coordinator and the Scorer Training Director.
2. The Officials Division Coordinator will contact the Club Director and notify them of the deficiency in scoring for their team.
3. The team will be required to be retrained either by contacting an official clinician and having another clinic or by taking the Junior Scorer training modules in the Region Clinics. This must be done prior to the team's next tournament.
4. If the team is found to be deficient in scoring again, the team will be sanctioned 8 points at their next match and the Head Coach will be referred to the Ethics and Compliance Officer.

**L. Late Withdrawal or No Show at a Tournament**

If a team is unable to play in a tournament they have entered, they must notify the Region Office by Thursday before the tournament date to avoid a \$50 late withdrawal fine. If a team does not show up at the tournament or have enough players to play, the team will be assessed a No Show fine of \$100. These fines must be paid in full before the team will be allowed to participate in another tournament. In addition to any penalty fees, tournament entry fees will be forfeited.

Junior teams that pull out of the Region Championships tournament after the tournament schedule has been posted on the Region website will be fined \$150 for late withdrawal. This fine must be paid before any other teams from the club could play in the Region Championships or before the club director could register for the new season.

**M. Teams Playing with an Unregistered Player**

Teams that allow unregistered players to participate in a practice or tournament are subject to fine and/or suspension for the current season. The club director, coach and player will be referred to the Ethics and Compliance Officer for investigation and sanction.

**N. Player Age and Identity**

Each player on a team is to represent only themselves and in their appropriate age division. If there is a question regarding the age or identity of any player or coach the player or coach may be required to show picture identification as proof of identity at any time. Any player playing on a team they are not age eligible for, under an assumed name or with the jersey of another player may be subject to sanction or suspension from the Arizona Region. The club director, team representative, coach, player and other members of the team are all subject to sanction or suspension by the Executive Board for allowing a player or coach to participate under a false identity or in an age group they are not eligible for on the team.

**O. Purple Card Policy**

**1. Purpose of Purple Card Sanction Policy**

The purpose and intent of the Purple Card Sanction policy, is to effectively address and sanction any inappropriate or prohibited behavior exhibited by any AZ Region member (adult or junior), parent or spectator, attending and observing any AZ Region-sponsored Power Tournament. This policy is further intended to preserve order in its activities and maintain the safety and protection of all AZ Region members. This policy outlines the procedural usage of the "PURPLE" card, which supplements the yellow and red sanction cards currently used by match official(s) (as dictated by the DCR). This policy replaces the Penalty Point Sanction policy. The Region Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct policy remains in effect.

**2. Prohibited Behavior**

- a. Prohibited behavior would include, but not limited to, any comment(s) made or action(s) displayed, deemed by others as rude, profane, disrespectful, disruptive or aggressive, which interferes with the normal progress of a tournament match.
- b. Any behavior prohibited by USAV and the AZ Region Code of Conduct policies
- c. Any misconduct deemed contrary to normally accepted behavior, which results in the unnecessary interruption of a tournament match

**3. Those affected by this policy**

This policy applies to the following:

- a. Any AZ Region adult member, i.e. club directors, coaches, rostered adult(s) or chaperones NOT currently participating in the match and has assumed the role of spectator. This policy also applies to these same individual(s) displaying misconduct BEFORE the start of a match, as well as AFTER the match has officially ended.
- b. Any AZ Region junior player displaying misconduct BEFORE the start of a match, as well as AFTER the match has officially ended. (See Section VI for sanction guidelines for junior players)
- c. Any non-Region member, i.e. parent(s) or relative(s) of any AZ Region member
- d. Any attendee or spectator of an AZ Region sanctioned tournament match.

**4. When this policy is applicable**

- a. The use of yellow and red card sanctions will remain in force according to the policies and procedures set by the Domestic Competition Rules (DCR)
  - b. Use of the "Purple" Sanction card may be applied to any situation during a match, where spectator misbehavior occurs and the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee deems it necessary to address the misbehavior.
  - c. For misconduct by anyone before or after a match has ended, the Parent/Spectator Code of Ethics is in effect.
5. Application of the Purple Warning Card
- a. Minor Conduct
    - 1. Minor misconduct offenses are not subject to sanctions. It is the duty of the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee to prevent spectators and parents from reaching the sanctioning level. This can be done in two stages:
      - a. Stage 1: Verbal Warning
      - b. Stage 2: Issuance of Purple and Yellow Card Warning
 

This warning is issued to the team in which the offending spectator or parent is affiliated. The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee shall hold up the Purple and Yellow cards in one hand, initiating this issuance. Both team captains are then summoned to the referee stand. This then is followed by a notification of the team warning, through the game captains to their head coach, that a parent or spectator affiliated with their team has reached the sanctioning level. Once either head coach determines affiliation, that head coach must inform the offender of the warning. This formal warning is not in itself a sanction but a symbol that misconduct has reached the sanctioning level for the match.

        - i. In the event the offender refuses to identify their team affiliation or fails to comply with the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee's request for identification, that offender is subject to a more serious sanction, including expulsion from the playing facility for the remainder of the tournament day.
        - ii. Purple card warnings are assessed to the affiliated team and are in force for the entire match. This means that each team may only receive one purple card warning.
        - iii. Purple card warnings are recorded on the score sheet but have no immediate consequences.
  - b. Misconduct Leading to Sanctions
 

Inappropriate conduct by a spectator or parent toward officials, playing teams, other parents or spectators is classified in three categories according to the seriousness of the offense.

    - a. Rude Conduct: actions contrary to good manners or moral principles
    - b. Offensive Conduct: defamatory or insulting words or gestures or any action expressing contempt.
    - c. Aggression: actual physical attack or aggressive or threatening behavior
  - c. Sanction Scale
 

According to the judgment of the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee and depending upon the seriousness of the offense, the sanctions to be applied and recorded on the score sheet are **Penalty, Expulsion and Ejection/Ban**.

    - a. **Penalty:** Rude or minor offensive conduct in the match by any parent or

spectator is penalized with a point and service to the opponent

- b. **Expulsion** from the facility: Serious offensive misconduct by any parent or spectator is expulsion from the playing facility for the remainder of the tournament day with no other consequences.
- c. **Ejection/Ban** from the facility: Aggressive misconduct, e.g. physical attack, implied or threatened aggression, by any parent or spectator is automatically ejected from the tournament facility and banned from any AZ Region-sponsored event, tournament, practice, or related activity. This ban extends to all USAV/AZ Region affiliated practice or playing facilities for the remainder of the entire current season. No other consequences are applied.

d. Application of Misconduct Sanctions

- a. When Penalty sanctions are issued, it is displayed as Purple and Red cards held up jointly in one hand.
- b. When Expulsion sanctions are issued, it is displayed as Purple and Red cards held up separately.
- c. When Ejection/Bans are issued, no cards will be displayed. The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee immediately stops the match and secures the safety of those in the match. All Expulsions or Ejection/Bans require the notification and involvement of the Lead Official and/or Site Director for the following purposes:
  - 1. Documentation, e.g. Score sheet, Match Comment Form, Incident Reports, Facility forms, etc.
  - 2. Timely notification of the Region Ethics Compliance Officer
  - 3. Secure the removal of the offender from the facility
  - 4. All misconduct sanctions are individual sanctions, remain in force for the entire match and are recorded on the score sheet.
  - 5. Repetition of misconduct by the same parent or spectator in the same match is sanctioned progressively, which means that a more severe sanction is given for each successive offense.
  - 6. Expulsions or Ejection/Bans, due to offensive or aggressive misconduct does not require a previous sanction.

**NOTE: Upon the refusal of the offender to vacate the playing facility, local law enforcement will be notified immediately.**

e. Reinstatement

Parents or spectators sanctioned with an **Ejection/Ban** can only be reinstated, by a recommendation of the Region Ethics Compliance Officer and the approval of the Region Commissioner.

6. Application of Misconduct Warnings and Sanctions Against Junior Players

In the event a participating junior player displays misconduct in a Region tournament as a spectator during a match or before/after a match, the following sanction guidelines shall be applied:

- a. Any misconduct deserving a warning or sanction shall be directed by the Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct.
- b. If a junior player is charged with expulsion or ejection/ban, the player becomes the direct responsibility of the parent(s) or the head coach/club director.
  - 1. Junior players are not to be expelled or ejected from any playing facility individually, but fall under the direct supervision of parent(s) or the head

- coach/club director. No further participation by the player is allowed.
2. A Match Comment Form must be submitted to the Region Office.

## 7. Recording Warnings and Sanctions on the Score Sheet

- a. Issuance of Purple and Yellow Cards jointly (Misconduct Warning)  
Record a PC in the **W Warn** column; record the team at fault, the set number, and the score.
- b. Issuance of Purple and Red Cards jointly (Misconduct Penalty)
  1. Record a PC in the **P Penalty** column, record the team at fault, the set number, and the score at the time of penalty.
  2. If penalty is against the serving team, record the serving team's exit score.
  3. Record the awarded penalty point. Slash and circle the opposing team's next point in the **POINTS COLUMN**
- c. Issuance of Purple and Red Cards shown apart (Misconduct Expulsion)
  1. Record a P in the **E Expel** column, record the team at fault, the set number, and the score at the time of expulsion.
  2. No loss of service or penalty point awarded.
- d. For Purple Ejection, a note on the **REMARKS** Section will give the following information: Purple Ejection, Full Name (If available), team at fault, set number, and the score at the time of ejection (Score of team at fault is first)

## 8. Summary of Misconduct and Card Display

**Warning** (No Sanction): Stage 1 – Verbal Warning  
Stage 2 - symbol Purple and Yellow card held jointly  
Warning recorded on score sheet

**Penalty** (Point and serve to opponent):  
Symbol – Purple and Red card held jointly  
Penalty recorded on score sheet

**Expulsion** (Expelled from playing facility for remainder of Tournament day):  
Symbol - Purple and Red card held separately  
Expulsion is recorded on Score sheet

**(Note: See Section VI for sanction guidelines for junior players.  
AZ Region Match Comment Form and ECO notification is required)**

**Ejection/Ban** (Ejected from facility or removal/Suspended from Region Tournaments for remainder of season):

NO card display - Stop match - Notify Lead official/Site  
Director-Ejection/Bans are recorded on score sheets

**(Note: See Section VI for sanction guidelines for junior players.  
AZ Region Match Comment Form and ECO notification is required) 9/20/2017**

## P. Weapons Policy

1. In order to ensure a safe environment for all USAV/AZ Region members and guests, our Region prohibits the wearing, transporting, storage, or presence of firearms or other dangerous weapons, ammunition, fireworks or any other materials which by commonly accepted principals would be considered harmful or a hazard to another person at any Region sanctioned practice, tournament or other event. Any person in possession of a firearm or other weapon while on our facilities/property or while otherwise not fulfilling official law enforcement



responsibilities may face disciplinary action, which may include suspension, expulsion, or up to revocation of USAV Region membership.

Any person who violates this policy may be removed from the playing facility and reported to law enforcement authorities. Possession of a valid concealed weapons permit authorized by the State of Arizona is not an exemption under this policy.

2. Definition

Firearms or other dangerous weapons mean:

- Any device from which a projectile may be fired by an explosive
- Any simulated firearm operated by gas or compressed air
- Sling shot
- Sand club
- Metal knuckles
- Any spring blade knife
- Any knife which opens or is ejected open by an outward, downward thrust or movement
- This includes any other object or device not mentioned above, that can be used as a dangerous tool or implement, which poses a reasonable risk of bodily harm or injury or death

3. Exemptions

This policy does not apply to:

- Law enforcement personnel engaged in official duties;
- Security personnel engaged in official duties;
- Any person engaged in military activities sponsored by the federal or state government, while engaged in official duties

4. Notification

“No Firearms or other Dangerous Weapons” signs shall be conspicuously posted within all sanctioned AZ Region playing facilities and in parking areas and grounds surrounding our facilities. These signs will clearly indicate that firearms and other weapons are not to be carried, while attending any Region sanctioned event or activity.

5. Reporting

Site Directors and /or Lead Officials shall request any Region member or visitor found in possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapon to remove the weapon from the facility/grounds and upon refusal or failure to comply, local law enforcement authorities shall be immediately notified.

6. Special instructions for AZ Region Members

Any Region member concerned about personal safety may request an escort (e.g., to a parking lot off premises) or other appropriate intervention by authorized Region personnel. Any action involving the threat of or the action whether direct or implied, should be reported immediately to the Site Director or other authorized Region personnel and law enforcement authorities notified.

Site Directors shall promptly complete a Match Comment Form and submit it as soon as possible to the Region Office. Any bonafide complaint may be directed

in written form, by postal or electronic mail, to the Region Ethics Compliance Officer.

4/18/12

**Q. Photographers/Videographers**

The Arizona Region considers safety of our athletes as a primary concern. Understandably there are parents and others that want to video tape or take photographs of their child participating in a volleyball match. The Arizona Region policy on videographers/photographers will be the same as the USAV policy.

The playing area of the court will be buffered by a free zone that is a minimum of 5 meters from each sideline and 8 meters from the end lines per FIVB guidelines. (FIVB Rules of the Game 1.1)

Photographers/Videographers/Parents are NOT permitted inside this free zone while the match is in progress (warm-up to completion of the match, including time-outs). Further, the free zone cannot be entered if it is within the free zone of adjoining court(s).

Any Photographer/Videographer/Parent within the free zone during play will be given one warning and removed from the free zone. If a second infraction occurs, the photographer/videographer/parent will be escorted from the facility.

**R. Lightning at Outdoor Tournaments**

The Arizona Region will follow the 30-30 Rule when it comes to lightning at or near our outdoor events. This can feel like a long time but it is not negotiable. The 30-30 Rule is this:

1. The first 30 refers to the flash-to-bang of lightning to thunder. If lightning is followed by thunder within 30 seconds, everyone should evacuate the area immediately and seek shelter. Safe shelter is in a building or car. Do not stand under trees or other tall objects that could attract lightning.
2. The second 30 refers to game resumption. The participants should not return to the area of play until 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder is heard or last flash of lightning is seen.