



## Officiating at the Junior National to International Levels

From local officiating, to traveling the world, officiating is another option in volleyball that many move towards. Here is a look at the higher levels... USAV Junior National and USAV National referees are certified by the National Commissioner for Referee Certification & Evaluation and the National Commissioner for Junior National Referee Certification & Evaluation, upon the recommendation of the Certification and Evaluation Committee.

In accordance with Article 8, Section B 1 of the Operating Code, all referees must be registered with USA Volleyball through their local RVA for the current season.

### I. USA VOLLEYBALL JUNIOR NATIONAL REFEREE

A. To become certified as a USA Volleyball Junior National referee a candidate must:

1. File the official application with the National Commissioner for Junior National Referee Certification & Evaluation. Forms, and instructions for filling them out, are available at: <http://www.usavolleyball.org/RulesOfficials/application.asp>. An application fee of \$150.00 must accompany the application, payable to USAV National Referee Commission. The mailing address is found within the instructions and forms.

2. Demonstrate proficiency as a scorekeeper by showing evidence of certification as a Regional, Junior National or National scorekeeper or by successfully completing the written scorekeeper examination if no scorekeeper certification program exists in the candidate's region. During the evaluation process, each candidate will be required to take a practical exam at the event.

3. Attain a minimum score of 90% on Form A or B of the approved USAV written examinations for referees. This test must be taken without the use of the rulebook or other resources (that is, closed-book). The application must be accompanied by the original test, corrected to 100%.

4. Obtain the approval of the Regional referee chair or Regional Commissioner.

**NOTE:** A referee who is currently certified by the Professional Association of Volleyball Officials as a PAVO National referee may, by reciprocal agreement, become a junior national referee, upon recommendation of the PAVO and good standing within his/her RVA without meeting requirement 4 above. The request must be sent to the AVP for Referees by February 1. Upon acceptance by the AVP, the referee is qualified to attend the Junior National Championships in that year without going through the full rating process. S/he must submit to a two match review at the Girls Junior Olympic Volleyball Tournament. S/he must also pay the Officials Division dues for that year, but not the \$150 application fee for rating.

5. Attend the designated USA Volleyball junior tournament and successfully complete all requirements at that tournament. This tournament is typically the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships. These requirements to be completed at the event include:

a. Attend all the pre-tournament Official's Clinics and Candidates' Meetings which takes place the day/night prior to the first day of competition and remain available to work at the event until the completion of the tournament.

- b. Successfully complete the rating sessions.
- c. Forfeit all match fees to the Officials Division of USA Volleyball for the matches on which the candidate is rated during the tournament. Match fees resulting from matches on which the candidate is not rated will be kept by the candidate. Candidates must plan to stay until the end of the tournament.

**NOTE:** *Application Deadline is April 1.*

Responsibilities and entitlements of a USA Volleyball Junior National referee:

1. After certification by the National Commission for Evaluation and Development, a USA Volleyball Junior National referee will be entitled to wear the official USA Volleyball Junior National referee emblem while officiating at USA Volleyball-sanctioned events.
2. A USA Volleyball Junior National referee is authorized to officiate all USA Volleyball-sanctioned competition within any of the USA Volleyball regions, including Junior Olympic Volleyball competition, and is qualified to officiate at the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships. EXCEPTION: Junior National referees may officiate at the USA Volleyball Championships on an exception basis which is determined by the needs of the tournament and the Officials Division.
3. Certification as a USA Volleyball Junior National referee is valid for a period of four (4) years. To maintain certification, the referee must:
  - a. Officiate at the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships in at least two different years during the four-year certification period.
  - b. Officiate at a USA Volleyball Junior Qualifying Tournament, the Starlings tournament, the NIRSA Club Championships, the USA Girls Invitational or the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships once during one of the remaining two years of the four-year period.
  - c. Submit to re-evaluation by the National Commission for Evaluation and Development at any time while officiating at the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships or a USA Volleyball Junior Zonal Qualifying Tournament.
  - d. Each year, successfully complete Form A or B of the approved USA Volleyball written examinations for referees, obtaining a minimum score of 90%, using the closed-book method. USAV Junior National Referees must submit a copy of their answer sheet or have their results sent electronically (if s/he took the test on-line) by January 1 to the Assistant Vice President of the Referees Division.
  - e. Register annually with USA Volleyball and remain an active referee in good standing with his/her RVA.
  - f. Remit annual fees as levied by the Officials Division of USA Volleyball by the date established by that Division. Details about the fee can be obtained at [www.usavolleyball.org/officials](http://www.usavolleyball.org/officials).
4. A USA Volleyball Junior National referee may be absent from all national and zonal competition one year out of each four-year certification period.

5. A USAV Junior National referee encountering unusual difficulty in attending a qualified USAV national event may request, in writing, a one-year extension of certification. The request must be submitted to the Assistant Vice President, National Referee Commission.

*NOTE: Deadline for submitting extension requests is February 1.*

6. A USAV Junior National Referee, with a minimum of six (6) years of service, who allows certification to expire may:

a. If the referee wishes to re-certify within three years immediately following expiration of the rating, the recertification candidate must:

1) Submit an application and a summary of volleyball activities for the prior three (3) years.

2) Send the application and summary to the National Commissioner for Junior National Referee Certification and Evaluation, who authorizes the candidate to attend a USAV Girls' Junior National Championship for re-evaluation.

b. If the referee wishes to re-certify after the three-year period following expiration of the rating, the recertification candidate must apply to the National Commissioner for Junior National Referee Certification and Evaluation, who authorizes the candidate to attend a USAV Junior Zonal Qualifying Tournament for re-evaluation in order to qualify for attendance and evaluation at the USAV Girls' Junior National Championship in the same year.

*NOTE: Applications for new Junior National referees and existing referees requesting re-evaluation will be given priority over applications submitted under the provisions for expired certifications.*

## **II. USA JUNIOR NATIONAL REFEREE (Retired)**

A. Any USAV Junior National referee, in good standing, with at least six (6) years of service as a Junior National Referee, may apply to the Assistant Vice President, National Referee Commission, for voluntary retired status.

B. To retain certification, a USAV Junior National Referee (Retired) must register annually with USA Volleyball and the appropriate RVA and remain in good standing within. Remaining in good standing within the RVA includes, but is not limited to, satisfying all requirements for recertification as a Regional referee within that RVA.

C. A USAV Junior National Referee (Retired) is authorized to wear the USAV Junior National Referee emblem while officiating at USAV sanctioned events.

D. A USAV Junior National Referee (Retired) is authorized to officiate all USAV-sanctioned regional and inter-regional competition, including junior volleyball competition and Junior Zonal Qualifying Tournaments.

E. A USAV Junior National Referee (Retired) must submit to re-evaluation at any time by the National Commission for Junior National Referee Certification & Evaluation.

F. A USAV Junior National Referee (Retired) may apply for recertification as a USAV Junior National Referee by following the procedures set forth under "Responsibilities and Entitlements of a USAV Junior National Referee - No. 6."

G. Application for retired status must occur either during or immediately after (deadline: February 15 of the following year) a year where the Junior National Referee is in good standing with the Officials Division.. This includes being certified as a Junior National Referee and paying dues for that year.

### III. USA NATIONAL REFEREE

A. To become a certified USA National referee, a candidate must:

1. Have served as a certified USAV Junior National referee for at least one (1) year.
2. Obtain the recommendation of the Regional referee chair and regional commissioner.
3. Demonstrate proficiency as a scorekeeper by showing evidence of certification as a Regional, Junior National, or National scorekeeper, or by successfully completing the written scorekeeper examination if no scorekeeper certification program exists in the candidate's region. Must also get the signature of the region's scorekeeper chair.
4. Attain a score of 90 on Form A or B of the approved USA Volleyball written examination for referees and have the score submitted to the Associate Vice-President of Officials by the deadline. This test must be taken without the use of the rulebook or other resources (that is, closed-book).

Have refereed at the USA Boys' Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships or the NIRSA Collegiate Sports Club Championships within the last year or had this requirement waived by the National Commissioner for National Referee Evaluation and Training. Waiver of the requirement can occur if the candidate demonstrates a prior record of officiating high level boys' or men's volleyball. **NOTE:** *A referee who is currently a PAVO certified National referee may, by reciprocal agreement, become a candidate, upon recommendation of the PAVO, without meeting requirements 1 2, and 5 above .For 2005, the rating of PAVO National Referees as USA National Referees will be done at the Boys Junior National Championships during the 16 and 18 Open session. There is no requirement to previously attend NIRSA or the USA Boys Junior Olympic Volleyball Championship. However, if the PAVO candidate has attended the USA Junior National Volleyball Championships and failed to qualify as a candidate for certification as a USA National referee, that individual is required to obtain the approval of the USAV National Referee Commission before the waivers of the reciprocal agreement will be allowed. The USAV National Commission for Certification & Evaluation, upon evaluation of any PAVO candidate for certification as a USA National referee, may award:*

*a. certification as a USAV National referee;*

*b. certification as a USAV Junior National referee;*

*c. no certification.*

5. Apply to be evaluated at the USA Boys' Junior National Volleyball Championships and successfully complete all the requirements of that tournament. The request should be submitted to the National Commissioner for National Referee Certification & Evaluation and must include a \$100 application fee and a resume detailing the candidate's officiating activities for the most recent 12-month period. The tournament requirements include:

- a. Attendance at the pre-tournament Official's Clinic and Candidates' Meeting.
- b. Successful completion of the evaluations sessions.

c. Assignment of match fees during the evaluation matches (only) to the Officials Division of USA Volleyball.

d. Upon successful completion of these requirements, the candidate will be certified as a USA Volleyball National referee. The process will be completed and the candidate will receive his/her patch the following year at the USA Open event where they will receive their patch at the official's clinic. In addition new National referees will be mentored at their first Open tournament to help finish their training.

**NOTE :** *The deadline for submitting an application April 1. Candidates will be notified by May 1.*

#### **IV. USA NATIONAL REFEREE (RETIRED)**

A. Any USA National referee in good standing, with at least five years service as a USA National referee, may apply to the Assistant Vice President for voluntary retired status.

B. To retain certification, a USA National referee (retired) must register annually with USA Volleyball and the appropriate RVA and remain an active referee in good standing with his/her RVA. Remaining in good standing within the RVA includes satisfying all requirements for recertification as a Regional referee within that RVA.

C. A USA National Referee (Retired) is authorized to wear the USA National referee emblem while officiating at USA Volleyball-sanctioned events.

D. A USA National Referee (Retired) is authorized to officiate all USA Volleyball-sanctioned regional and inter-regional competition, including Junior Olympic Volleyball competition, and is qualified to officiate the USA Volleyball Junior Zonal Qualifying Tournaments.

E. A USA National Referee (Retired) may also remain qualified to officiate at the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships by officiating at that tournament at least once every three years and submitting to re-evaluation by the National Commission for Junior National Certification & Evaluation at any time while officiating at the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships or a USA Volleyball Junior Zonal Qualifying Tournament.

F. A USA National Referee (Retired) may apply for recertification as a USA National referee by following the procedure listed under "Responsibilities and Entitlements of a USA National Referee - No. 7."

G. Application for retired status must occur either during or immediately after (deadline: February 15 of the following year) a year where the National Referee is in good standing with the Officials Division. This includes being certified as a National Referee and paying dues for that year.

#### **V. PROVISIONAL USA INTERNATIONAL REFEREE CANDIDATE**

To become a Provisional USA International referee candidate, the referee must:

A. Be a currently certified USA National referee and have held certification for no less than two consecutive years.

B. Be currently active in Regional and USA Championship Events.

C. File the official application, containing the approval of the appropriate regional commissioner, with the Assistant Vice President, USA National Referee Commission. These forms are available from the Assistant Vice President, USA National Referee Commission, the chair of the Evaluation and Development Committee, or the Assistant Vice President of the USA-FIVB International Referee Commission.

D. Obtain the approval and recommendation of:

1. The Regional Commissioner of the referee's region;
2. The Evaluation and Development Committee of the USA National Referee Commission;
3. The Assistant Vice President, USA National Referee Commission; and
4. The Assistant Vice President, USA-FIVB International Referee Commission.

E. If accepted, be available to:

1. Travel to the National Team center for a clinic and practical experience with the USA national volleyball teams.
2. Travel on one or more domestic tours with the national volleyball teams serving as a second referee for exhibition matches.

## **VI. PROVISIONAL USA INTERNATIONAL REFEREE**

This certification is a USA Volleyball certification and not an FIVB certification. To become a Provisional USA International referee, the referee must:

- A. Fulfill requirement as stated in no. VIII. above to become a Provisional USA International referee candidate.
- B. Have been extended the opportunity to fulfill requirement as stated in VIII. E. as stated above and have successfully complete that requirement.
- C. If accepted, be available for assignment, as first or second referee as required, to one or more domestic tours and/or exhibition matches involving the USA national volleyball teams.

Upon certification as a Provisional USA International referee, the referee will be assigned a priority position for attendance at an approved FIVB international referee clinic in accordance with a system established by the National Referee Commission Evaluation and Development Committee.

## **VII. CANDIDATE FOR INTERNATIONAL REFEREE**

To become a candidate for international FIVB referee certification, a referee must:

A. Meet one of the following requirements:

Be a currently certified USA National referee, have held certification for no less than three consecutive years, and have filed the official application with the Assistant Vice President, USA National Referee Commission. These forms are available from the Assistant Vice President, USA

National Referee Commission, the chair of the Evaluation and Development Committee or the Assistant Vice President of the USA-FIVB International Referee Commission; or

Be certified as a Provisional USA International referee and have held certification as a USA National referee for no less than three consecutive years.

B. Not have attained the age of 40 when attending the approved FIVB international referee clinic.

C. Be nominated by any of the following and recommended by all:

1. The Regional Commissioner of the referee's region.

2. The Assistant Vice President, USA-FIVB International Referee Commission.

3. The Assistant Vice President, USA National Referee Commission Evaluation and Development Committee.

4. The Vice President, USAV Officials Division.

D. Be currently active in Regional, U.S Open and Junior Olympic championship tournaments.

E. Attend the approved FIVB international referee clinic and successfully complete the clinic, testing and rating requirements.