



**OHIO VALLEY
REGION**
Advancing the Sport of Volleyball
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Ohio High School Boy's Volleyball Grant Program

Administered by the Ohio High School Boy's Volleyball Association
with funding from

USA Volleyball (USAV)

Ohio Valley Region of USA Volleyball (OVR)

Ohio High School Boy's Volleyball Coaches Association (OHSBVA)

Ohio Boy's Scholastic Volleyball Coaches Association (OBSVCA)

General description of the grant program

Volleyball is one of the most cost-effective sports a high school can offer, yet boys volleyball is only sponsored at present by approximately 65 high schools in Ohio. This grant program has been developed to increase opportunities for boys to participate in scholastic volleyball.

This grant offers up to a \$1,830.00 award to OHSAA institutions that establish and sustain a boy's volleyball program for at least three years. Since these grants are being offered to encourage the growth of Ohio scholastic boys volleyball, a selection committee – Ohio Boy's Volleyball Council – comprised of representatives from the sponsoring organizations, will be guided by that objective in making its award decisions.

The grant program is an initiative developed and sponsored by these organizations:

- The Ohio High School Boys Volleyball Association (OHSBVA), which manages the state championship tournament and oversees compliance to Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) rules until the sport receives official recognition to become an OHSAA-sanctioned sport.
- The Ohio Boy's Scholastic Volleyball Coaches Association (OBSVCA), is the organization dedicated to the advancement of the profession of coaching boy's volleyball and improving the level of play throughout Ohio.
- USA Volleyball (USAV), also known as the United States Volleyball Association (USVBA), is the official national governing body for the sport as recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC).
- The Ohio Valley Region (OVR) of USAV, which administers USA Volleyball activities for adults and youth in Ohio, West Virginia, and western Pennsylvania. The OVR has more than 17,000 members making it the largest region within the USAV organization of 40 regional associations. .

Purpose and rationale

As the national governing body for the sport of volleyball, USA Volleyball has great interest in the overall welfare of men's and boys volleyball. Our goals include growing the sport of boys volleyball at the high school and middle school level.

In the 2004-2005 school year, 42,498 high school boys played volleyball for 1, 816 teams in 22 states. This represents an increase of 6% in players and almost 8% in teams from the previous 12

months. Twelve of the National Federation of High School (NFHS) state athletic associations sanction end-of-season championships. (New York City has a championship separate from New York State; separate championships are conducted for northern and southern California.) Eleven states, including Ohio, conduct state championships that are not sanctioned by the state NFHS organization.

Following the success and explosive growth of women's volleyball, USAV is focusing on improving the USA men's national volleyball team population base, men's collegiate volleyball and volleyball programs for boys ages 7-18.

- The USA Men's National Team & Men's Collegiate Volleyball – as the administrative body responsible for the welfare of the USA Men's Team, USAV is extremely interested in encouraging the growth of boys high school varsity volleyball programs nationwide.
- Volleyball Programs for Boys 7-18 – USAV sponsors a variety of programs for developing players including High Performance Camps, clinics, exhibitions, tournaments, as well as National Team Programs for Youth (under 18) and Junior (under 20) age groups.
- The Ohio High School Boy's Volleyball Grant Program – this is a pilot program, the first of its kind, designed to stimulate the increase of teams at high schools and middle schools.

Benefits of starting a boy's program

1. Low start-up and operating cost (with existing girl's programs)
2. Additional opportunity for boys to experience an interscholastic sport
3. Opportunity to compete for an additional league championship
4. Opportunity to compete for a state championship
5. Opportunity to provide a varsity sport that your students want
6. Grant assistance (which may be used in any manner to offset team program expenses)
7. Spectator and community interest is high
8. Opportunity for additional revenue-generating spring sport

Who may apply?

This program is available to high schools and middle schools. Grant requests are primarily solicited from any OHSAA member school NOT already sponsoring a varsity boys volleyball program. In special circumstances, exceptions to this request guideline may be considered.

Requirements

A school receiving a grant is required to sign a simple agreement indicating its intention of the following:

- To begin sponsoring boys volleyball as an interscholastic sport, (normally, during the subsequent academic year).
- To continue sponsoring boys volleyball, as an interscholastic sport, during at least the next two scholastic seasons (for a total of no less than three consecutive seasons).
- To participate in the OHSBVA-sponsored state tournament (high school teams).
- To require its head coach to join the OBSVCA (the Ohio Boys Scholastic Volleyball Coaches Association).
- To submit a brief end-of-season report to the Ohio Boys Volleyball Council.
- To be willing to work with USAV and OHSBVA to develop boys volleyball in its area.
- To return a pro-rated portion of the money if the terms of the grant are not met.

Preferences and considerations

The Ohio Boys Volleyball Council, in an effort to ensure the best possible circumstances for success of this program, will look to those geographic areas that will best foster growth of the game. Schools from the same athletic conference that apply collectively will receive more favorable consideration

than schools applying independently. Grants also include incentives for schools systems that apply to start both a middle school and high school program.

Application procedures

To be considered for an Ohio High School Boy's Volleyball Grant, the applicant should submit the Grant Program Application form to Ohio High School Boy's Volleyball Association (address shown below), as soon as possible, indicating interest in receiving a Grant. The application must:

1. Be signed by the director of athletics or building principal;
2. Clearly state the institution's wish to be considered for a grant and indicate the initial year of competition planned for the new program.
3. Verify that the applicant did not sponsor boys volleyball previous to the proposed grant period. Or if an exception is granted, indicate the dates and length of time that the school has sponsored boys volleyball as an interscholastic sport.
4. Identify the institution's athletic conference(s) membership(s) and the member schools.
5. Indicate the institution's willingness to meet the following conditions, if a grant were awarded:
 - A. Sponsor boys volleyball as an interscholastic sport for at least three consecutive years.
 - B. Register and participate in the OHSBVA state championship tournament (\$75 entry fee).
 - C. Register the head coach as member of the Ohio Boys Scholastic Volleyball Coaches Association (\$35).
 - D. Send the Ohio Boy's Volleyball Council (c/o OHSBVA) an annual report that includes:
 - a. A copy of the letter notifying the OHSAA that the institution is sponsoring boys volleyball.
 - b. An end-of-season report that includes the team roster and coaching staff, match schedule, and season match record that lists opponents.
 - E. Work with USAV, OVR, the OHSBVA, and the OBSVCA to encourage the development of boy's volleyball in the surrounding communities.

The Ohio Boys Volleyball Council will provide documentation to USAV, OVR, OHSBVA, and OSBVCA to indicate the Grant institutions have made efforts to develop boy's volleyball. The Ohio Boys Volleyball Council will review any questions of noncompliance on the part of a Grant recipient.

Ohio Boys Volleyball Council members

- designee of the USAV
- designee of the OHSBVA
- designee of the OVR
- designee of the OBSVCA

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