

THIRTIETH ANNUAL USA JUNIOR OLYMPIC GIRLS VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS



USA Volleyball

Conducted by:
USA VOLLEYBALL

CHAPTER TWO: ELIGIBILITY & QUALIFICATION PROCEDURES

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The Miami Sports Commission

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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

USAV REGISTRATION AND FIVB FEDERATION REQUIREMENT

All persons whose names appear on the Official Roster, including players, coaches, team representatives, chaperones, trainers, managers, et. al., must be registered with USAV through a USAV Member Organization or their FIVB Federation. This will ensure that all registered USAV players, coaches, team representatives, chaperones, managers, trainers, et. al., possess liability coverage and Sports Accident Insurance (this is an excess coverage plan) at this Event. Specific procedures on injuries and first aid will be covered by the head trainer at the coaches meeting. If a medical emergency arises, athletes and coaches must have all necessary documentation to show proof of medical insurance, primary and / or excess coverage.

TEAM ELIGIBILITY:

- Must register and pay the annual registration fee to the USAV Member Organization (as required).
- Team / club representatives or coach must sign each roster for team registration on site.
- Can play in only one USAV Tournament at the USA Junior Olympic Girls Volleyball Championships.
- May change its name during the season ONLY with the approval of the Regional Commissioner. **Any change must be reported to the Events Department.**
- The current USAV Official Guidebook, in addition to ROD and Member Organization rules, regulations and policies, shall be consulted to resolve any concerns regarding eligibility.
- All persons whose names appear on the Official Roster, including but not limited to team/club representative, coaches, chaperones, managers, trainers and players, must be registered with USAV through their Member Organization.
- **NEW!** A team contact must be identified but will not be considered an official roster position counting against the allowed five (5) staff positions. The team contact can be any one of the already listed staff members. Please note that the team contact will NOT receive a credential or be allowed to sit on the bench unless they are listed as one of the five (5) staff positions as well.
- All uniforms must meet the USAV standards to include: minimum front number size of 4" and minimum back number size of 6". This is MANDATORY. All numbers MUST be of a different and contrasting color to the jersey and the stripe forming the numbers must have a minimum width of 2cm (3/4").
- **Each player is required to wear the same jersey number throughout the entire event** with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications. This applies to ALL PLAYERS in the Libero position. If players share the Libero position from match to match, a player shall wear the same jersey number whenever they play, whether they are or they are not, assigned to the Libero position.
- **No additions or changes to a team's roster are allowed once a team has begun competition.**

NOTE: All club directors, team representatives, coaches, chaperones and trainers must consent and pass a background screening if they intend to register and / or participate with a junior volleyball club or team. Failure to comply with this policy will cause the club and / or team to be ineligible for participation in USAV and RVA tournaments. Any individual who is disqualified by the background screening process will be prohibited from participating in USAV and RVA sanctioned junior activities or events.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

- Be currently registered with USAV through a USAV Member Organization or a citizen of one of the US territories in good standing with their respective FIVB Federation.
- Can play with only one USAV junior team at the USA Junior Olympic Girls Volleyball Championships.
- All players must be in good standing with their respective Member Organization.
- Once a female junior player has participated in a USA JOVC qualifying event, she may not participate in another JOVC qualifying or championship event with a different club.

AGE CLASSIFICATIONS

For eligibility purposes, a player who has just completed a grade in the Spring of 2008 will be considered in that grade just completed.

Athletes need not be currently enrolled in high school except noted below.

1. That the USAV Operating Code, Article VIII.C.2 has been amended to read: “**Junior Olympic Volleyball Player.** *Registration required of individuals participating in a USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championship or other event sanctioned by the Corporation and issued to a player who has not participated in a club or varsity volleyball program for a university, college, community college, or junior college who*
 - a. 18 years of age or younger on September 1st of the current season; or
 - b. 19 years of age or younger on September 1st of the current season and is a high school student during some part of the current academic year. This registration shall be reviewed annually through the Membership Organizations approved to administer Junior Olympic Volleyball programs. If the player is otherwise eligible, this registration may be renewed.”
2. That the USAV Operating Code, Article X.E.3.d(1) has been amended to read: “*The following age groups shall be in effect for sanctioned Junior Olympic Volleyball events, unless amended as specified in Article C.E.2.a(3) of this Operating Code. Players need not be currently enrolled in high school, except as noted below. Once a player participates in a club or varsity program for any university, community college, or junior college, he or she is ineligible to play in any regional or USA Junior Olympic Volleyball qualifying or championship events.*”

18 and Under Division:

- Players who were born on or after September 1, 1990, or were high school students in the twelfth (12th) grade or below during the current academic year and who are 19 years of age or younger (born on or after September 1, 1989)

17 and Under Division:

- Players who were born on or after September 1, 1991

16 and Under Division:

- Players who were born on or after September 1, 1992

15 and Under Division:

- Players who were born on or after September 1, 1993

14 and Under Division:

- Players who were born on or after September 1, 1994

13 and Under Division:

- Players who were born on or after September 1, 1995

12 and Under Division:

- Players who were born on or after September 1, 1996

Age group definitions as stated above are binding for the entire season immediately preceding these championships and there shall be no appeal. Certification of age and scholastic status shall be requested at the time of registration at the site of the championships.

USA VOLLEYBALL AGE AND IDENTITY FALSIFICATION POLICY

For all USVBA corporate events, any person who alters any document that certifies the age or identity of a participant, or falsifies any statement which lists the age or identity of a participant, will be sanctioned as follows:

Any team representative, coach, program director or responsible adult found to be party to such action shall:

1. Be immediately suspended from registration with the USVBA and barred from further participation in the event; and
2. Be barred from participation in any USVBA events in any capacity for a minimum of two (2) years; and
3. Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to the suspension.

A junior player who knowingly plays in a lower age classification than he or she is actually eligible for, or an adult player who knowingly plays in a higher age classification than he or she is actually eligible for, or any player who knowingly misrepresents his or her identity shall:

1. Be immediately suspended from registration with the USVBA and barred from further participation in the event;
2. Be barred from participation in any USVBA events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
3. Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to the suspension.

When discovered and confirmed during an event, these penalties shall be the required minimum penalty imposed by the Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Committee.

The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall file a report of any age or identity violation with the Corporation's Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee and with the registering Member Organization with its recommendation.

COACHES ELIGIBILITY

ALL Coaches listed on the roster (Head and Assistant(s)) will possess a minimum coaching certification level of IMPACT (Entry Level). An IMPACT certified coach (head coach or assistant) listed on the Event Roster must be present and on the bench at all times. It is strongly recommended that teams have additional IMPACT certified adults verified on their roster and present at all times. In the event the certified Coach(es) is not present (late, sick, is ejected or disqualified), the team must have another IMPACT certified adult verified on their roster and on the bench for play to begin or continue without forfeit. No additional time will be allowed to comply with the certified personnel requirement to continue play except for unused time-outs and/or time allowed between games.

NOTE: All club directors, team representatives, **coaches**, chaperones and trainers must consent and pass a background screening if they intend to register and / or participate with a junior volleyball club or team. Failure to comply with this policy will cause the club and / or team to be ineligible for participation in USAV and RVA tournaments. Any individual who is disqualified by the background screening process will be prohibited from participating in USAV and RVA sanctioned junior activities or events.

CHAPERONE ELIGIBILITY

Chaperones are expected to assist the coach and players both on and off the court. They must read and sign a chaperone responsibility form at check-in. They are an important part of each team, helping to make the Event enjoyable for all. USAV strongly recommends registering TWO (2) Chaperones per team.

The designated chaperone must meet the following eligibility requirements:

Register with the same Member Organization as the team:

1. Responsible for only one team concurrently
2. A minimum of **25** years of age on the first day of the event
3. Housed with the team
4. Shall not serve in any other participant category concurrently with this or any other team in the event
5. Junior Olympic Volleyball is all inclusive and shall include all USAV approved age group classifications and competition categories.
6. Chaperones must show proper identification for their tournament pass at the registration desk (**ONLY the chaperone will be allowed to obtain their own tournament pass**).
7. We recommend Chaperones attend the Tournament Information Meeting with their coaches.
8. All meetings will be held at the Miami Beach Convention Center.
9. Teams will **NOT** be allowed to begin competition without a registered Chaperone. Please do not hesitate to register your Chaperone with your region and complete Background Screening and the process on-line.
10. Chaperones **CANNOT** register on-site due to the required Background Screening; USAV strongly recommends each team to register two (2) Chaperones.

NOTE: – All club directors, team representatives, coaches, **chaperones** and trainers must consent and pass a background screening if they intend to register and / or participate with a junior volleyball club or team. Failure to comply with this policy will cause the club and / or team to be ineligible for participation in USAV and RVA tournaments. Any individual who is disqualified by the background screening process will be prohibited from participating in USAV and RVA sanctioned junior activities or events.

POLICY ON FOREIGN (NON-USA) PLAYER AND FOREIGN (NON-USA) TEAM PARTICIPATION

DEFINITIONS:

"Foreign Player":	A player who is not a citizen of the United States OR a citizen residing in a U.S. territory having its own National Volleyball Federation with which the player is affiliated.
"Non-Resident" Foreign Player:	A person who is not a citizen of the United States residing outside the 50 United States OR an individual residing in a U.S. Territory having its own National Volleyball Federation with which the player is affiliated.
"Resident" Foreign Player:	A person who is not a citizen of the United States residing in one of the 50 United States and holding "resident" versus "visitor" status.
Foreign Player "Release":	Written approval by a Foreign Player's national volleyball federation of origin for that player to affiliate or participate with USA Volleyball.

For the USA Junior Olympic Girls Volleyball Championships, the following Territories and their associated Federations are eligible to participate by qualifying through one of the nine National Qualifiers:

- Puerto Rico
- US Virgin Islands
- Guam
- American Samoa

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS - JUNIOR

A. Foreign Player Participation in National Junior Competitions (e.g. USA Volleyball Junior Olympic Championships, National Invitational and all events that qualify teams for USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championship Events)

1. Subject to Paragraph I, a **Resident Foreign Player** (residing legally in the United States, e. g. exchange student) may participate if she/he is a duly registered member of a USA Volleyball Member Organization and follows all event participation policies and registration procedures.
2. A **Non-Resident Foreign player** shall not be eligible to participate.

B. Foreign Team Participation for National Junior Competitions (e.g. USA Volleyball Junior Olympic Championships, National Invitational and all Qualifying Events)

1. A Foreign Team (registered with its National Volleyball Federation) may participate if it duly applies for and is accepted in compliance with the event's regulations, is not representing its country in an official capacity, and the federation of origin grants permission for participation.
2. Foreign Teams must purchase foreign player insurance, which will be provided by USA Volleyball. The expense shall be debited to the event at cost and shall be added to the entry fee.
3. A waiver to the foreign player insurance fee shall be granted to Canadians who provide written proof of 24-hour health coverage valid in the United States.
4. Each member of a Foreign Team shall have in his/her possession(s), and shall have previously filed with the Event Director, the following documents:
 - a. Photo identification (Driver's license or comparable government issued document), and
 - b. A signed copy of the USA Volleyball Code of Conduct and Waiver and Release of Liability (provided on page 2 of the Foreign Team Tournament Registration form).

Additionally, for junior-age competitions, each Foreign Player (of a Foreign Team) must also possess and have on file with the Event Director:

- c. Copy of birth certificate or Government Issue Identification with birth date
- d. USA Volleyball's "Consent for Medical Treatment & Release" form, signed by the player's parent or legal guardian.

ETHICS AND ELIGIBILITY VIOLATIONS:

Event Arbitrators: Event Arbitrators shall serve as the first level for hearing and resolving ethics and eligibility issues at a specific event. Teams or individuals accused of committing violations of ethics and / or eligibility rules and regulations at qualifying and / or championship events shall meet with the Event Arbitrator(s).

The authority for the Event Arbitrator to act begins with the arrival of a team and individual participants in the Championship city, or 48 hours prior to the first day of competition, whichever is earlier. That authority shall continue for the duration of the Event through its conclusion.

Decisions of the Event Arbitrator shall be conveyed immediately to the affected parties and may be appealed to the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee.

Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committees: An Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall be formed for each qualifying and championship event sponsored by the Corporation. Each committee shall be composed of three (3) members, one (1) of whom shall meet the definition of the Corporation as a domestic player who is at least 21 years of age.

Each committee shall act on appeals of ethics and eligibility decisions that occur during the conduct of the event. The conduct of an event shall commence when an individual or a team arrives at the site of the event, or forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the first day of competition for that event, whichever is earlier. That authority shall conclude with the departure of the individual and / or team from the city in which the event has been held.

If the Committee is of the opinion that the violation is of such a nature that it requires further review or more serious discipline beyond the duration of the National Championship event, The USAV Executive Vice-President will send a report to the Commissioner of the offender's region. That Commissioner will notify the USAV Corporate Ethics and Eligibility Committee outlining which actions (if any) were taken as a result of the report.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Any person listed on the Official Roster who is causing unfavorable situations either prior to, during or after the USA Junior Olympic Girls Volleyball Championships is subject to disciplinary action by the EVENT ARBITRATORS. In particular, use of alcohol or drugs by players and / or officials will bring disciplinary action by the EVENT ARBITRATORS. Plain-clothed off-duty policemen and uniformed / non-uniformed hotel security personnel will be patrolling the halls of the motels / hotels. They must, by law, take a different approach when finding players/officials who possess or consume illegal substances. If a rostered team member is disqualified from a match in a multi court facility, the disqualified person must report immediately to the championship desk (or site manager at an outlying site) until the issue is addressed by the event arbitrator or the team will default the match.

NOTE: Players who have been selected to an All-Tournament team or as a tournament's Most Valuable Player and have received disciplinary action by the Event Arbitrator or other USA Volleyball authorities shall be subject to a forfeit of these All-Tournament recognition honors.

ANYONE DISCOVERED IN POSSESSION OR CONSUMING ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES WILL BE AUTOMATICLY EXPELLED FROM THE CHAMPIONSHIPS. THERE ARE NO WARNINGS FOR ALCOHOL OR DRUG CONSUMPTION BY PLAYERS OR ANY OTHER UNDERAGE PERSON WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THE OFFICIAL ROSTER. IF DISCOVERY OCCURS AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF PLAY FOR THE PLAYER / TEAM, THE USAV CORPORATE ETHICS AND ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE WILL BE NOTIFIED AND THE EXTENSION OF SANCTIONS MAY RESULT IN THE LIMITING OF FUTURE PARTICIPATION WITH USA VOLLEYBALL. ANY HIGH PERFORMANCE, YOUTH OR JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER FOUND IN POSSESION OF ALCOHOL OR ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES MAY BE REMOVED FROM PARTICIPATION WITH THE NATIONAL PROGRAM.

DUE PROCESS, PROTESTS AND APPEALS

The USAV Bylaws, Article XI and the USAV Operating Code, Article X govern protests, appeals, due process and ancillary procedures. Both of these documents are published in the USA Volleyball Guidebook and posted on the USA Volleyball web site. Protests, appeals and due process for this Event are specifically governed by these documents. Protests and appeals at this championship event are a simple one or two step process.

PROTESTS OF THE RULES OF PLAY:

Protests of the playing rules during a set / match must be lodged prior to the next service. A protest shall be handled by a committee of one (1) to three (3) members, each of whom must be a certified USA National referee or scorekeeper, depending on the nature of the protest. The committee shall be composed of the following:

1. **Committee Chair:** The National Rules Interpreter or designee (Head Referee for the Event)
2. The Assistant Vice President for Referees or Scorekeepers, or his / her designee
3. A representative of the USAV National Championships Division to be named by the Assistant Vice President for the Event or designee.

All rulings of this committee are final and not subject to appeal.

All protests will be settled at the time they are lodged. No match will be allowed to proceed until the protest is settled. Protests can be related ONLY to the rules of play.

Rule 5.1.2.1 Participants must accept referees' decisions with sportsmanlike conduct and without dispute. In the case of doubt, clarification may be requested through the game captain.

What is considered to be an offense that may be protested? **Judgment calls are NOT subject to protest.**

Rule USAV 5.1.2.1

- ♦ misinterpretation of a playing rule,
- ♦ failure of the first referee to apply the correct rule to a given situation
- ♦ failure to charge the correct penalty-sanction for a given fault.

QUALIFICATION PROCESS:

BIDS AT REGIONS AND QUALIFIERS

A "bid" is a berth in the JOVC in a particular age classification. There are bids for the Open JOVC divisions as well as for the National Club JOVC divisions and the American Club JOVC divisions.

Bids are either awarded or earned through one of five processes:

1. A team can earn a bid in an Open division and some Club divisions by finishing in a bid award position at a National Qualifier tournament.
2. The JOVC Competition Commission awards some Open bids to teams from a pool of Open "at-large" bids.
3. Each Region in good standing with 200 or more junior players registered has at least one National Division bid in each age division to award to a team from its own region according to its own process.
4. Regions may receive additional bids based on the number of junior female registrants from the prior season relative to other regions' registration. These added bids will be allocated in the American Club Division. (The regions receiving these bids and the number of bids available per division changes from year to year)**
5. Regions may receive additional ("reallocation"*) bids for the National and / or American Club divisions based on any bids not awarded at a National Qualifier or utilized by a Region.*

* **NOTE:** "Reallocation bids" come from bids a region does not use in a particular age classification, usually because that region does not have a team in the age classification that can attend the JOVC, and from any bids (either National or American Club JOVC Division bids) not awarded at Qualifiers. These bids become a pool of "reallocation" bids that are then distributed to regions.

**** NOTE:** For 12s & 13s, reallocation bids from the pool of National and American Division bids will depend on the number of junior girls registered only in that age group, NOT on the total number of junior girls registered in the region.

***** NOTE:** A bid is only the opportunity to play in the JOVC Event. In order to be eligible for the JOVC, a team must meet all posted entry deadlines.

2009 JUNIOR NATIONAL QUALIFIER TOURNAMENTS

Nine Junior National Qualifier tournaments have been scheduled for 2009. Those tournaments and age classifications are listed below:

2009 QUALIFIERS	DATE	CONTACT	EMAIL	PHONE	FAX
Colorado Crossroads Denver, CO	Mar 14-16 , Mar 20-22	Front Range Staff	info@frvbc.com	303-770-9435	303-331-8204
Pacific NW Qualifier Spokane, WA	Mar 20-22, Mar 27-29	April Stark	png@evergreenregion.org	509-235-6285	
Hoosier Mid-East Qualifier Columbus,OH Indianapolis, IN	Mar 6-8, Mar 27-29	Hoosier Mid-East Qualifier Staff	ccvbc@aol.com	317-839-5222	317-839-5318
Big South Qualifier Atlanta, GA	Apr 3-5	Lauri Dagostino	info@tampabayvolleyball.org	813-837-8115	813-837-1190
Northeast Qualifier Baltimore, MD	Apr 10-12, Apr 17-19	Julie Rife	jubear@earthlink.net	717-764-6229	717-794-7076
Southern California Anaheim, CA	Mar 20-22, Apr 3-5	Ann Davenport	info@scvavolleyball.org	909-296-9595	909-296-9592
Lone Star Classic Dallas, TX	Apr 10-12, Apr 17-19	Evan Bouilly	evan@austinsportscenter.com	512-479-8776	512-479-0080
Show Me Qualifier Kansas City, MO	Apr 3-5	USA Volleyball	showme@usav.org	719-228-6800	719-228-6899
Northern Lights Minneapolis, MN	Apr 17-19, Apr 24-26	Northern Lights Staff	northernlights@midwestvolleyball.com	952-808-0110	952-808-0111
Far Western Reno, NV	Apr 18-20, Apr 24-26	Donna Donaghy	vbball@ncva.com	415-550-7582	415-550-7762

NEW ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR TEAMS WHO EARN A BID AT A NATIONAL QUALIFIER

Teams that earn and accept a bid at a National Qualifier will be sent an email by the Wednesday following their qualification from the USAV Events Department. This email will detail the requirements for entry into the 2009 Girls Junior Olympic Championships. These teams will be required to complete their tournament entry in the USAV registration system, Advanced Event Systems (AES), and must send a check directly to USA Volleyball within 10 business days following qualification. The date for arrival in the USAV office will be specified in the email. Teams who earn a bid at a National Qualifier will no longer send their entry form and check to their region office.

JUNIOR OLYMPIC VOLLEYBALL “OPEN” TOURNAMENT BID ALLOCATIONS (GIRLS)

Teams interested in qualifying for the “Open” Tournaments need to participate in one of the qualifiers listed above and play in the Open Division of that Qualifier. Qualifier tournaments award up to 3 bids to each of the USA Girls Junior Olympic Volleyball Open Tournaments.

In the Open divisions of Qualifiers, bids will go to the teams that finish the competition in a bid award position. A bid will “trickle down” to the next highest finishing team if a team winning a bid has won a bid at a previous Qualifier (e.g., to the team finishing third in a Qualifier with two bids to award, or a team finishing fourth in a Qualifier with three bids to award). The bid will trickle down no lower than sixth place.

AT LARGE SELECTION FOR OPEN TOURNAMENT TEAMS

Because teams can participate in multiple qualifier tournaments, the at-large selection process has been established. To be considered for an at-large Open bid a team must:

1. Play in at least one Qualifier in the Open division for which the team is being considered
2. Submit a Roster in AES (the on-line tournament entry system) in the Open Division
3. Check the box on the AES entry form to be considered for an At-Large bid
4. Send the Entry Fee & Form to your Region Office by the region's established deadline
5. Submit team results* using AES or SUTP by the Tuesday following the last Qualifier

"Team Results" is defined as a complete and accurate reporting of all team sanctioned competition through the last day of the last Qualifier."

NOTE: A team must compete in an Open Division tournament at a USA JOVC National Qualifier to be eligible for consideration. All entry fees for those teams denied entry will be refunded.

The JOVC Competition Commission will award the at-large Open bid(s) to the strongest team(s) applying for at-large bid consideration. The Commission will announce those selections no later than the second Monday after the last Qualifier. The Club Director/Team Rep and Coach, of a team selected for an at-large Open bid, as listed of the Official Entry form will be notified via email.

NATIONAL & AMERICAN CLUB JOVC TOURNAMENT BID ALLOCATIONS (GIRLS):

Each Qualifier can potentially award both a National Club Division bid and an American Club Division bid. The bids awarded at the Qualifiers have the potential to "trickle down." The lowest finishing team that may win a bid at a Qualifier is the fourth (4th) place team.

The first awarded bid at a Qualifier in the Club Division for any age classification that meets the entry requirements (see below) will be a National Club Division bid. If a Qualifier meets the criteria for a second bid in that age classification, the second bid will be an American Club Division bid. Both bids are subject to the trickle down process defined below.

National Qualifier Trickle down scenarios:

1. If a team earns a National Club Division bid at two Qualifiers, the second earned bid will trickle down to no more than the fourth place finish in the second Qualifier.
2. If a team earns an American Club Division bid at a Qualifier, then earns a National Club Division bid at a second Qualifier, the American Club Division bid goes to the region re-allocation pool to be awarded by the Events Department.
3. If a team earns an American Club Division bid at two Qualifiers, the second earned bid will trickle down to no more than the fourth place finish in the second Qualifier.

The pool of National and American Club Division bids available for reallocation includes bids from regions that are not awarded, as well as Qualifier bids that are not earned. Regions receive these reallocated bids based on how close the region's number of junior female registrations from the prior season is to the next membership "benchmark," relative to other region's proximity to their next benchmark. These benchmarks are established each year according to the number of junior females registered in each region. The Events Department will prepare the reallocation formula, determine the list of bids available in each age classification and notify eligible regions of any additional bids available to them.

REGIONAL BID CONSIDERATION CRITERIA:

Regions, which have a minimum registration of 200 female Junior Olympic athletes, are guaranteed a bids* at the USA Junior Olympic Girls Volleyball Championships. Bids will be based upon the 2008 junior girls' registration, as of October 31, 2008.

Regions will receive consideration on a pro-rata distribution of the remaining bids based upon their percentage of the total registration. Please understand that there are a limited number of bids available.

USAV Regional Volleyball Associations (Regions) cannot guarantee regional bids. All entries must be received by the USAV Event Department at the National Office prior to the deadline for a team to be accepted. DO NOT WAIT for your regional qualifying event or the last National Qualifier to think about entering. Team registration(s) WILL NOT be accepted after your Regions' established deadline.

This will enable regions in line to receive an additional bid(s), from any that may be returned, and to receive quick confirmation for their properly entered team(s). In previous years, regions have returned / declined berths. When this occurs, the region closest to meeting the next membership benchmark will receive the additional bid.

REQUIREMENT TO USE BIDS:

As a general rule of thumb, the following applies to all Bid Awards:

- Open bid supersedes National and American Club Divisions bid
- Qualifier bids supersedes Region bid
- National Club Division bid supersedes American Club Division bid

Once a team earns an Open bid, that team must take the Open bid over any other bid earned.

When a team earns and accepts an "American Club" bid at any National Qualifier (NQ) and then attends another NQ and wins a "National Club" bid, the team must take the "National Club" bid. The original "American Club" bid will go to the region re-allocation pool to be awarded by the Events Department.

If a team earns and accepts a "National Club Division" bid at a qualifier and earns a Region's "American Club Division" bid, the team must take the "National Club Division" bid. The "American Club Division" bid will stay with that region and its bid process.

If a team earns an "American Club Division" bid at a National Qualifier and earns a Region's "National Club Division" bid, the team must take the "National Club Division" bid. The "American Club Division" bid will go to the region re-allocation pool to be awarded by the Events Department.

If a team earns either a "National Club Division" or "American Club Division" at a Qualifier and an OPEN bid, either from a NQ or through the "at-large" process, the team must use the OPEN bid. The National Division bid will be offered to the team holding the American bid at the NQ. If no team from the NQ accepts the bid, it will be returned to the pool of Region bids to be reallocated. The American bid will go to the region re-allocation pool to be awarded by the Events Department.

If an OPEN team that earns a bid or is awarded an "at-large" OPEN bid does not participate in the JOVC in the division in which it won the bid, that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams will be suspended from participating in all national qualifying events during the following season.

If a team accepts a National or American Club JOVC Division bid at a Qualifier and does not participate in the JOVC in the division in which it won the bid, that team will be subject to sanctions imposed by USA Volleyball. The team shall forfeit their entry fee. Additionally, there may be added financial penalties and potentially additional suspensions of that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams from participating in all national qualifying events for the following season.

If a team accepts a National or American Club JOVC Division bid from a Region and does not participate in the JOVC in the division in which it won the bid, that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams will be

subject to sanctions imposed by USA Volleyball and may face additional sanctions from their Region. The team shall forfeit their entry fee. Additionally, there may be added financial penalties and potentially additional suspensions of that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams from participating in all national qualifying events for the following season.

- For each age classification, the rank of requiring acceptance of bid from highest to lowest is as follows:

	<u>18s</u>	<u>17s</u>	<u>16s</u>	<u>15s</u>	<u>14s</u>
1)	18 Open	18 Open	18 Open	18 Open	18 Open
2)	18 National	17 Open	18 National	18 National	18 National
3)	18 American	18 National	18 American	18 American	18 American
4)		17 National	17 Open	17 Open	17 Open
5)		18 American	16 Open	17 National	17 National
6)		17 American	17 National	17 American	17 American
7)			16 National	16 Open	16 Open
8)			17 American	15 Open	16 National
9)			16 American	16 National	16 American
10)				15 National	15 Open
11)				16 American	14 Open
12)				15 American	15 National
13)					14 National
14)					15 American
15)					14 American

IF YOU WIN	AND THEN YOU WIN	REQUIRED TO ACCEPT
A Team wins Age Classification in Open	One (1) Age Classification higher in Open	Highest Open Bid Earned
A Team wins Age Classification in Open	One (1) Age Classification higher in Club	Teams Age Classification in Open and denying Club bid ON-SITE
A Team wins Age Classification in Open	Two (2) or more Age Classifications higher in Open	Highest Open Bid Earned
A Team wins Age Classification in Open	Two (2) or more Age Classifications higher in Club	Teams Age Classification in Open and denying Club bid ON-SITE
A Team wins Age Classification in Club	One (1) or More Age Classifications higher in Open	Highest Open Bid Earned
A Team wins Age Classification in Club	One (1) or More Age Classifications higher in Club	Highest Club Bid Earned

FROZEN PLAYERS

At the time the team earns a bid in a Qualifier, applies for a bid in an at-large process, or receives a bid through its regional process, the players on that team's roster are frozen to that team. A frozen player **cannot** play for **Note:** A bid is only the opportunity to compete in the JOVC Event. In order to be eligible for the JOVC, a team must meet all posted entry deadlines.

All players listed on the roster of a team that is qualified for the JOVC may not be on the roster of or play on any other team attempting to qualify for the JOVC. This rule applies regardless of whether the qualifying attempt is in a Qualifier, at a regional event that determines which team(s) is awarded the region's Club bid(s), or through an at-large process.

Switching a player from the roster of a qualified team to the roster of a team attempting to qualify will result in sanctions being imposed on the already qualified team, its club, and/or the individual(s) involved. Likewise, no player may switch from one qualified team to another qualified team, even within the same club.

Frozen Player Terms and Conditions

- Under the Frozen Player Rule, a club may add player(s) to the roster of one of its qualified teams for the JOVC, provided the additional player(s) are members of the club and the team from which the players are switching has not qualified for the JOVC.
- A club may not switch players between two teams that are both qualified for the JOVC.
- All players added to a roster must be on the roster submitted for an at-large bid consideration. The roster is then frozen as of submission for bid consideration.
- Once a female junior player has participated in a JOVC qualifying event (Regional or National), she may not participate in another JOVC qualifying or championship event with a different club.
- For all Qualifiers and the JOVC, each player is required to wear the same jersey number as listed on the event roster throughout the entire event, with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications.

Violations of the Frozen Player Rule will result in sanctions being imposed on the already qualified team, its club, and/or the individual(s) involved, including the player, the coach and the club director.

USA Volleyball will determine sanctions for violations of the Frozen Player Rule. For a first or subsequent offense, the sanctions may be a warning, probation, suspension or expulsion.

SEEDING FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Seeding for the USA Junior Olympic Girls Volleyball Championships is determined by team results throughout the year as collected by USA Volleyball and entered into Advanced Event Systems using team codes. According to these results, the top quarter of all participating teams in a tournament (first seeded teams in the first round of pool play) are seeded numerically by strength.

For example, the strongest 12 teams in a 48-team tournament are determined from the entire field and then are seeded accordingly by strength from seed No. 1 to seed No. 12. Next, the second quarter of all remaining teams is determined based on information from Results Reporting. However, these teams are seeded in a different manner than the first quarter teams. They are seeded primarily in such a way that regional conflicts are avoided and secondarily seeded according to strength.

In the same manner, the third and fourth quarter teams are determined. Then they are seeded first and foremost in the pools where regional conflicts do not occur, and then with stronger teams seeded higher.