

## THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL



## GIRLS JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

### CHAPTER II: QUALIFICATION & ELIGIBILITY

**JUNE 25 – JULY 4, 2018**

**DETROIT, MI**

**LOCAL HOST COMMITTEE:**

**DETROIT SPORTS COMMISSION**

**LAKESHORE REGION OF USA VOLLEYBALL**

**PRE-TOURNAMENT MANUAL PREPARED BY:**

**USA VOLLEYBALL EVENTS DEPARTMENT**

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## QUALIFICATION PROCEDURES

### BIDS AT REGIONS AND QUALIFIERS

A “bid” is a berth in the GJNC in a particular age classification. There are bids for the Open GJNC divisions as well as for the National, USA and American GJNC divisions.

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

1. A team can earn a bid in an Open division, the USA division and the American division by finishing in a bid award position at a National Qualifier tournament.
2. The GJNC 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 Divisions. (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 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 GJNC, and from any bids (either National or American GJNC Division bids) not awarded at Qualifiers. These bids become a pool of “reallocation” bids that are then distributed to regions.

\*\* NOTE: For 11s, 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 GJNC Event. In order to be eligible for the GJNC, a team must meet all posted entry deadlines.

### AGE CLASSIFICATION, DIVISIONS & # OF TEAMS ACCEPTED IN EACH

	<b>17 &amp; Under</b>	<b>16 &amp; Under</b>	<b>15 &amp; Under</b>	<b>14 &amp; Under</b>	<b>13 &amp; Under</b>	<b>12 &amp; Under</b>	<b>11 &amp; Under</b>
OPEN Division	36 teams	36 teams	36 teams	36 teams	24 teams*		
NATIONAL Division	48 teams	48 teams	48 teams	48 teams	48 teams	48 teams	48
USA Division	36 teams	36 teams	36 teams	36 teams			
AMERICAN Division	64 teams	64 teams	64 teams	64 teams	64 teams	48 teams	
PATRIOT Division	48 teams	72 teams	72 teams	72 teams			

\* The 13 Open division has a cap of 24 teams with the ability to raise to 32 at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

## 2018 JUNIOR NATIONAL QUALIFIER TOURNAMENTS

Twelve Junior National Qualifier tournaments have been scheduled for 2018. Those tournaments and age classifications are listed below:

2018 QUALIFIERS	DATE	CONTACT	EMAIL WEBSITE	PHONE
Colorado Crossroads Denver, CO	Mar 10-12 March 16-18	Crossroads Qualifier Staff	<a href="mailto:info@tm2sign.com">info@tm2sign.com</a> <a href="http://www.coloradocrossroads.org">www.coloradocrossroads.org</a>	303-345-8796
Disney Volleyball Showcase Orlando, FL	March 16-18	USA Volleyball	<a href="mailto:showcase@usav.org">showcase@usav.org</a> <a href="http://www.disneyvolleyball.com/">http://www.disneyvolleyball.com/</a>	719-228-6800
Mid-East Qualifier St. Louis, MO Indianapolis, IN	March 17-19 March 23-25	Mideast Qualifier Staff	<a href="mailto:smcqueen@capitolsportscenter.com">smcqueen@capitolsportscenter.com</a> <a href="http://www.capitolsportscenter.com">www.capitolsportscenter.com</a>	317-839-5222
Pacific NW Qualifier Spokane, WA	Mar 23-25 Mar 30- April 1	April Stark	<a href="mailto:april@pacificnwqualifier.org">april@pacificnwqualifier.org</a> <a href="http://www.pacificnwqualifier.org">www.pacificnwqualifier.org</a>	509-993-3482
Windy City Qualifier Chicago, IL	March 30-April 1	Windy City Qualifier Staff	<a href="mailto:WindyCityNQ@glrbv.com">WindyCityNQ@glrbv.com</a> <a href="http://windycityqualifier.com/">http://windycityqualifier.com/</a>	630-986-9000
Big South Qualifier Atlanta, GA	March 30- April 1	Big South Qualifier Staff	<a href="mailto:info@bigsouth.us">info@bigsouth.us</a> <a href="http://bigsouth.us/">http://bigsouth.us/</a>	303-345-8796
NorthEast National Qualifier Philadelphia, PA	March 31-April 2 April 6-8	Julie Rife	<a href="mailto:ecvjulie@earthlink.net">ecvjulie@earthlink.net</a> <a href="http://www.neqvolleyball.com/tournaments/northeast-qualifier/overview">http://www.neqvolleyball.com/tournaments/northeast-qualifier/overview</a>	717-764-6229
Show Me Qualifier Kansas City, MO	April 7-9 April 13-15	USA Volleyball	<a href="mailto:showme@usav.org">showme@usav.org</a> <a href="http://showmeng.org/wp/">http://showmeng.org/wp/</a>	719-228-6800
Mizuno Lone Star Classic Dallas, TX	April 7-9 April 14-16 April 20-22	Jonathan Paris	<a href="mailto:jparis@austinsportscenter.com">jparis@austinsportscenter.com</a> <a href="http://www.lscvolleyball.com/tournaments/mizuno-lone-star-classic/overview">http://www.lscvolleyball.com/tournaments/mizuno-lone-star-classic/overview</a>	512-433-5122
Mizuno Northern Lights Minneapolis, MN	April 20-22 April 27-29	Northern Lights Qualifier Staff	<a href="mailto:northernlights@midwestvolleyball.com">northernlights@midwestvolleyball.com</a> <a href="http://www.midwestvolleyball.com/nlj/qualifier.htm">http://www.midwestvolleyball.com/nlj/qualifier.htm</a>	415-550-7582
No Dinx Far Western Reno, NV	April 21-23 April 27-29	Donna Donaghy	<a href="mailto:Donna@ncva.com">Donna@ncva.com</a> <a href="http://www.ncva.com/girlsfarwestern/">http://www.ncva.com/girlsfarwestern/</a>	415-550-7582
Southern California Las Vegas, NV	April 21-23 April 27-29	Ann Davenport	<a href="mailto:ann@scvavolleyball.org">ann@scvavolleyball.org</a> <a href="http://www.scvavolleyball.org">www.scvavolleyball.org</a>	714-917-3595

## **GJNC BIDS AWARDED BY A NATIONAL QUALIFIER**

USAV allows each NQ to award a certain number of bids to the top finishing teams in Open, National (11 and 12 & Under only), USA and American divisions. The number of bids a NQ has to award is pre-determined according to the number of teams entered in the NQ division on the NQ's deadline date or the date the division's seeding is finalized; whichever number is larger (see the chart below).

Open: 13's		Open: 14's-17's		National: 11's - 12's		USA 14's-17's		American: 12' – 17's	
Number of Teams	Number of Bids	Number of Teams	Number of Bids	Number of Teams	Number of Bids	Number of Teams	Number of Bids	Number of Teams	Number of Bids
< 8	0	< 8	0	< 8	0	< 8	0	< 8	0
8 – 11	1	8 – 15	1	8 - 128	1	8 - 15	1	8 - 128	1
12 - 48	2	16 - 23	2			16 - 23	2		
		24 - 48	3			24 – 128	3		

The total number of bids distributed among the NQs to award in a GJNC division is determined by the number of teams permitted to play in the division at the GJNC. Some Open bids may be reserved for the At-Large Pool and some National and American bids are reserved for the regions to award (see Age Classifications chart above). Bids awarded at NQs must be accepted in writing at or prior to the time of the bid award, with some limited exceptions (see Rules for Priority of Bid Use and GJNC Bids Awarded Through a Region Process in Championship Manual).

**For a team to use a bid earned in any qualifying process, the team must complete all entry requirements for their region and for the GJNC by the deadline dates.** If a team has not met all the entry requirements by the deadline date, that team may not use its bid and also may be subject to additional sanctions (see Penalties for Not Using a Bid in Championship Manual).

Teams that earn and accept a bid at a National Qualifier will receive an email from the USAV Events Department by the Wednesday following their qualification. This email will detail the requirements for entry into the GJNC.

## **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 2018 Girls Junior National 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.

## **OPEN GJNC 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 National Volleyball Open Tournaments.

In the NQ Open divisions, bids go to the teams that finish the competition in a bid award position.

If one or more teams wins a bid award position at a NQ and previously earned an Open bid at another NQ, the bid(s) can trickle-down to the next highest finishing team, provided the next highest finishing team finished no lower than eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) place in the tournament.

If a team previously or subsequently earns a National, USA or American bid either from a region or a NQ, the team must use the Open bid. The Rules for Priority of Use of a Bid (see section below) determine which team receives the National, USA or American bid.

### **AT LARGE SELECTION FOR OPEN TOURNAMENT TEAMS**

The Events Department, with the assistance of its appropriate Commission, awards some GJNC Open bids as At-Large Bids. An At-Large bid is an Open bid that was not awarded to a team at a NQ because of a trickle-down limitation, or a bid that was reserved for the At-Large Pool. Teams will automatically be considered for an At-Large bid provided that the team must:

- Play in at least one NQ in the same GJNC Open Division age group for which the team is applying; and,
- Comply with the both their region's and USAV's GJNC deadline dates and application processes; and,
- Submit to the Events Department complete, accurate and up-to-date results for all of the team's competition through the last day of the last NQ, not later than the end of business on the Tuesday after the finish of the last NQ.

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

The Events Department will announce the teams winning GJNC Open At-Large bids no later than the second Monday after the last NQ. The Events Department will notify teams awarded an At-Large bid by email, sent to the Coach and Club Director whose emails are included on the GJNC entry application.

### **NATIONAL GJNC TOURNAMENT BID ALLOCATIONS (GIRLS):**

A National Division bid will be awarded now only through the regions qualification process with the exception of the 11 & Under and 12 & under age group. All regions will be awarded 1 National bid.

The pool of National Division bids available for reallocation includes bids from regions that are not awarded. Regions receive these reallocated bids based on how close the region's number of junior female registrations from the prior season based on region size. 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.

#### **National Divisions (11 & Under-12 & Under Only)**

At a NQ, both a National division and an American division will be offered for the 11 and 12 & Under age division

- Each NQ will receive one National bid to award, provided they have a minimum of eight (8) teams registered in the division. A team must accept or reject a National bid in writing upon earning the bid. If rejected, the bid will trickle down to the next eligible, highest finishing team, provided that team finished

no lower than eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) place in the tournament (see GJNC Bids Awarded Through a Region in Championship Manual).

- Should either division fail to receive the minimum number of eight (8) registered teams, the divisions will be combined and will be called the National division.
  - In order for the combined National division to retain both bids, the division must have a minimum of sixteen (16) registered teams.
  - If the combined National division has less than sixteen (16) registered teams, the NQ will award only one National bid.

### **USA GJNC TOURNAMENT BID ALLOCATIONS (GIRLS):**

Teams interested in qualifying for the “USA” Tournaments need to participate in one of the qualifiers listed above and play in the USA Division of that Qualifier. Qualifier tournaments will award 2-3 bids to each of the USA Girls Junior National Volleyball USA Tournaments based on the number of teams registered in the division in the Qualifier.

At a NQ, the USA Division has up to three (3) bids in the 14 & Under-17 & Under age groups & up to two (2) bids in the 13 & Under age group. A USA Division must have at least eight (8) teams to be able to award a bid in that respective tournament.

A team must accept or reject a USA bid in writing upon earning the bid. If rejected, the bid will trickle-down to the next eligible, highest finishing team, provided that team finished no lower than eighth(8<sup>th</sup>) place in a tournament.

Trickle-down scenarios for a USA Bid:

- If a team that wins a USA bid earned an Open bid or accepted a USA bid from a previous NQ, or accepted a National bid from a Regional Bid Tournament, the current USA bid may trickle-down to the next eligible, highest finishing team, provided that team finished no lower than eighth(8<sup>th</sup>) place in the tournament.

### **AMERICAN GJNC TOURNAMENT BID ALLOCATIONS (GIRLS):**

Each Qualifier can potentially award an American Division bid. The bids awarded at the Qualifiers have the potential to “trickle down.”

At a NQ, the American division has one bid. An American Division must have at least eight (8) teams to be able to award a bid in that respective tournament.

A team must accept or reject an American bid in writing upon earning the bid. If rejected, the bid will trickle down to the next eligible, highest finishing team, provided that team finished no lower than eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) place in the tournament (see GJNC Bids Awarded Through a Region in Championship Manual).

Trickle down scenarios for an American Bid:

- If a team that wins an American bid earned an Open bid or accepted a USA bid from a previous NQ, or accepted a National bid from a Regional Bid Tournament, the current American bid may trickle down to

the next eligible, highest finishing team, provided that team finished no lower than eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) place in the tournament. The trickle-down process must be applied at the conclusion of the division's competition.

- If a team earns and accepts an American bid through a region tournament and then earns an American bid at a NQ, the NQ American bid will supersede the region American bid and the region American bid will return to the region it was originally awarded from for reallocation.
- If a team that wins an American bid accepted an American bid from a previous NQ, the current American bid goes to the next eligible, highest finishing team, provided the next highest finishing team finished no lower than eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) place in the tournament. The trickle-down process must be applied at the conclusion of the division's competition.

The pool of 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.

### **PATRIOT GJNC TOURNAMENT NON-QUALIFYING DIVISION (GIRLS)**

A non-qualifying Division of the GJNC where teams may gain access to the tournament by simply entering the Event through the established process (please refer to the Patriot Division Information link on the USA Volleyball website for entry procedures.) The Patriot division will only be offered for the following age groups: 17s, 16s, 15s, and 14s. Teams interested in playing in the "Patriot" Tournaments need to register in Advanced Event Systems (AES). The first 64 teams for 17s-14s that register in AES will be notified that they are accepted by USAV and given further instructions to complete their requirements to play in this tournament. Order of acceptance will be initially based on date and time of entry until the tournament is full. A waiting list will be made for teams who did not make the initial acceptance and teams will be notified in order as slots open up.

### **REGIONAL BID CONSIDERATION CRITERIA:**

Regions, which have a minimum registration of 200 female Junior Olympic athletes, are guaranteed a bids\* at the USA Girls Junior National Volleyball Championships. Bids will be based upon the 2017 junior girls registration, as of July 31, 2017.

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 for qualified teams 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:**

Some teams participate in more than one qualifying process in a season, either through their region, by attending NQs, by applying for an At-Large bid, or by some combination of these processes. If the team earns more than one bid, the following rules apply as to which bid the team must use, and what happens to the other bid(s). Generally, the priority of bid use is as follows:

1. Open
2. National
3. USA
4. American

When an Open bid is the second bid a team earns, from either a NQ or the At-Large Process:

- If a team previously accepted a USA bid, the team must use the Open Bid. The USA bid will remain in the region of the team that originally accepted the USA bid. If the region refuses to allocate this USA bid, it reverts back to the NQ and follows the trickle-down process.
- If a team previously accepted a National or American bid, the team must use the Open Bid. The National or American bid will remain in the region of the team that originally accepted the National or American bid. If the region refuses to allocate this bid, it reverts back to the NQ and follows the trickle-down process.

When a National bid is the second bid a team earns and accepts:

- If a team previously accepted a USA bid, the team must use the National Bid. The USA bid will remain in the region of the team that originally accepted the USA bid. If the region refuses to allocate this USA bid, it reverts to an at-large allocation.
- If a team previously accepted an American bid, the team must use the National Bid. The American bid will remain in the region of the team that originally accepted the American bid. If the region refuses to allocate this bid, it reverts back to the NQ and follows the trickle-down process.

When a USA bid is the second bid a team earns:

- If a team previously accepted a National bid from a region, the team must keep the National Bid. The USA bid will trickle down to the next eligible team (see USA Division Bids for trickle down rules).
- If a team previously accepted an American bid from either an NQ or a region, the team must use the USA bid. The American bid will remain in the region of the team that originally accepted the National or American bid.

A team that does not use a GJNC Open bid which it has earned, or a GJNC National, USA or American bid which it has earned and accepted, may be subject to the following penalties:

- If a team earns an Open bid at a NQ, earns and accepts an Open At-Large bid, or earns and accepts a National, USA or American bid (Regional or NQ) and subsequently does not participate in the GJNC, ALL members listed on the Official Event Roster and the Club Director will be suspended from participating in all NQs, Regional Qualification Events, and the JNCs (both 18's & Summer) for the remainder of that season and for the following season; and,

- The Club must pay USAV the GJNC entry fee for the team.
  - If the Club does not pay the GJNC Event Entry Fee, the suspension from competing in qualifying events will remain in force until the fee is paid in full.

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

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

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

### **PENALTIES FOR NOT USING BIDS**

A team that does not use a GJNC Open bid which it has earned, or a GJNC National, USA or American bid which it has earned and accepted, may be subject to the following penalties:

- If a team earns an Open bid at a NQ, earns and accepts an Open At-Large bid, or earns and accepts a National, USA or American bid (Regional or NQ) and subsequently does not participate in the GJNC, ALL members listed on the Official Event Roster and the Club Director will be suspended from participating in all NQs, Regional Qualification Events, and the JNCs (both 18's & Summer) for the remainder of that season and for the following season; and,
- The Club must pay USAV the GJNC entry fee for the team.
  - If the Club does not pay the GJNC Event Entry Fee, the suspension from competing in qualifying

events will remain in force until the fee is paid in full.

### **FROZEN PLAYER TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Once a female junior player has participated in a GJNC qualifying event (Regional or NQ), she may not be on the Official Roster of, or participate in, another GJNC qualifying or championship event with a different club.

Earning and accepting an Open bid, submitting an Open At-Large bid application or accepting any National, USA, or American bid defines the team as “qualified” for the GJNC. Once a team is deemed qualified, the players on the qualified team’s Official Roster are frozen to that team. The players on the team’s Official Roster are subject to the following restrictions:

- A Frozen Player cannot be on the roster of, or play for, another team in a Regional Qualifier or NQ event, the roster of a team applying for an Open At-Large bid, or another team playing at the GJNC and 18’S GJNC.
- A club may add player(s) to the Official Roster of one of its teams qualified for the GJNC, provided the additional player(s) are members of the club and are not on the Official Roster of another of the club’s teams at the GJNC.
- No player may switch from one qualified team to another qualified team, even within the same club.  
NOTE: A 17 & Under player can switch between a team that has qualified for the 18’S GJNC and another team that has qualified for the GJNC as long as both teams are within the same club.
  - a. EXAMPLE 1: A player in the 17s age division plays on an 18s team at a national qualifier and that team Qualifies for the 18’S GJNC in the Open Division. That player may not play on any other team (e.g. a 17s team trying to qualify for 17 Open) at any National Qualifying events to help that team qualify for the GJNC for the remainder of that club season. She may, however, be added to the 17 Open roster to play in the GJNC within that club.
  - b. EXAMPLE 2: A club has a team that has qualified for the 18 USA Division of the 18’s GJNC, they may add a player from their club who plays on a younger team to play in the 18’s GJNC even if the younger team has qualified for the GJNC.
  - c. EXAMPLE 3: A player plays on club a in a national qualifier in an attempt to qualify. The player’s team does not qualify. That player may not transfer to another club to attempt to qualify

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

The Events Department will determine sanctions for violations of the Frozen Player Rule.

### **Age Exception for 2018**

- An age EXCEPTION will be granted to a high school junior whose date of birth is prior to September 1 of 2000 to participate in the GJNC. This exception only applies to the GJNC event. It does not extend to National Qualifier events.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

### USAV AND FIVB MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

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 REGION 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. IF A MEDICAL EMERGENCY ARISES, ATHLETES AND COACHES MUST HAVE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION TO SHOW PROOF OF MEDICAL INSURANCE, PRIMARY AND/OR EXCESS COVERAGE. FOREIGN TEAMS ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE USAV'S SPORT ACCIDENT INSURANCE AT \$100 PER TEAM (NOTE: CANADIAN TEAMS ARE EXEMPT FROM THIS PURCHASE WITH PROOF OF COVERAGE VALID IN THE U.S.).

### 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 Girls Junior National 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.
- 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.

**PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

- Be currently registered with a USAV Region 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 per USA Girls Junior National Championships.
- Once a female junior player has participated in a USA GJNC qualifying event, she may not participate in another GJNC qualifying or championship event with a different club.
- All players who are registered in a USA Volleyball Junior National Championship are subject to the rules, regulations and policies of the Member Organization they represent.
- All players must be in good standing with their respective USAV Member Organization.
- Can only participate on a team from within the Member Organization in which the player is registered. Players may NOT have their registrations transferred to another Member Organization for the purpose of participating in the USA Volleyball Girls Junior National Championship.
- For eligibility purposes, a player who has just completed a grade in the spring of 2017 will be considered in that grade just completed.
- Athletes need not be currently enrolled in high school except noted below. For the 2018 season, the following motions recommended by the YJOVD and approved by the USAV Board of Directors will be in effect:
- The USAV Operating Code, Article VIII.C.2 has been amended to read: “Junior National Volleyball Player. Registration required of individuals participating in a USA Volleyball Junior National 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
  - 18 years of age or younger on September 1st of the current season; or
  - 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 National Volleyball programs. If the player is otherwise eligible, this registration may be renewed.”
- 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 National 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 National Volleyball qualifying or championship events.”

***AGE DEFINITIONS***

Once a player participates (including but not limited to practicing, training, attending workouts and/or competing) in a club or varsity program for any university, college, community college, or junior college, he/she is ineligible to take part in any regional and national programming, which includes but is not limited to national JNC qualifying and championship events.

18 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 1999

or

Players who were born on or after September 1, 1998 and a high school student in the twelfth (12th) grade or below during some part of the current academic year

17 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2000

16 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2001

15 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2002

14 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2003

13 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2004

12 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2005

11 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2006

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.

***AGE AND IDENTITY FALSIFICATION POLICY (ADOPTED BY BOD JANUARY 2004)***

Any player in question must provide proof of identity and age eligibility if requested by an Event staff member or a USAV Arbitrator.

For all USAV corporation events, any person who alters a document that certifies the age or identity of a participant, or falsifies any statement that lists the age or identity of a participant, will be penalized as follows:

- Any Team Representative, Coach, Program Director or responsible adult found to be party to such action shall be:
  - Immediately suspended from registration with USAV and barred from further participation in the event; and
  - Barred from participation in any USAV events, in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
  - Placed on a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively with 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 be:
  - Immediately suspended from registration with USAV and barred from further participation in the event; and
  - Barred from participation in any USAV events, in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
  - Placed on a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively with the suspension.

**Any player in question must provide proof of identity and age eligibility, if requested.**

When age or identity falsification is 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 Appeals Committee.

The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall file a report of any age or identity violation, along with a recommendation for penalty, with the Corporation Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee and with the registering Member Organization.

### ***GENDER COMPETITION POLICY***

The vast majority of athletes are expected to compete as the gender noted on their birth certificate. The goal of the USAV policy is to permit athletes to compete in the gender in which they identify, while minimizing and competitive advantage which may accrue. Athletes who wish to compete as a member of the gender opposite that recorded on their birth certificate must duly notify USAV of their intent, and provide appropriate medical documentation of their status to the USAV Gender Committee (GC) at least six weeks prior to the competition in which they wish to participate.

To receive the complete USAV Gender Competition Policy, a gender ruling or ask any questions, please contact the USAV Gender Committee at [ChairGenderCom@usav.org](mailto:ChairGenderCom@usav.org).

### **COACHES ELIGIBILITY**

**ALL Coaches listed on the roster (Head and Assistant(s)) will possess a minimum coaching certification level of IMPACT (entry level) or equivalent.** An IMPACT certified coach (head coach or assistant) listed on the Event Roster must be present and on the bench at all times. **No team will be eligible to participate at the Junior National Championships without meeting the coaching certification requirements.** 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 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.

All coaches listed on the roster must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Register in an adult membership category with a USAV Region
2. Must consent to and clear a background screening
3. Must be current in SafeSport training requirements (see SafeSport Training Requirement section of this chapter)
4. Be a minimum of 18 years of age
5. Possess a minimum coaching certification level of IMPACT or equivalent
6. Head Coaches only: Have no head coach assignment with any other team concurrently

**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.

### ***IMPACT CERTIFICATION***

#### **IMPORTANT IMPACT CERTIFICATION NOTICE!!**

Coaches and other adults may attend an IMPACT course through a USA Volleyball RVA or a USA Volleyball Webinar. Once IMPACT certification has been obtained, re-certification is not required unless the Member Organization requires re-certification. Please verify IMPACT certification with your Regional Commissioner or Member Organization's designee prior to submitting your entry for the event. This will eliminate any potential problems prior to registering for the event and checking-in. **(NOTE: RVA IMPACT PART A COURSES DO NOT MEET THE MINIMUM IMPACT REQUIREMENT FOR NATIONAL-LEVEL EVENTS! BOTH IMPACT PART A & B MUST BE TAKEN IN ORDER TO MEET THE REQUIREMENT.)**

There will NOT be IMPACT courses available during the Championships. Please make the necessary arrangements prior to the Championships to become IMPACT certified. Only IMPACT certified adults will be allowed to be listed as a Head Coach and/or Assistant Coach(es) on the roster.

For more information on IMPACT certification, please contact your local RVA. As an alternative, USA Volleyball will be offering Webinars and IMPACT On-Demand throughout the year. For more information, visit the USAV Cap website (<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Education.aspx>) or email for more information at [cap@usav.org](mailto:cap@usav.org).

**FOREIGN TEAMS – IMPACT EQUIVALENT**

IMPACT Certification rating may be met by supplying proof of the following:

1. USA Coaching Accreditation Program (CAP), Levels I, II or III
2. RVA IMPACT course (region or National Office verification required)
3. Canadian Volleyball Associations Levels 1-4
4. FIVB International Courses Levels 1-3
5. Curso de Entrenadores Nivel 1 (Coaches Training Level 1)

**USA CAP LEVEL I, II AND III COURSES**

USA Coaching Accreditation Program courses are available throughout the country before the USA Volleyball Girls Junior National Championships. For more information on course offerings and schedules, contact:

USA Volleyball  
Phone: (719) 228-6800  
Email: [cap@usav.org](mailto:cap@usav.org)

**SAFESPORT TRAINING REQUIREMENT**

Per the NGB Athlete Safety Policy, SafeSport training is required for those individuals the NGB formally authorizes, approves, or appoints (a) to a position of authority over, or (b) to have frequent contact with athletes. **SafeSport training certification is required prior to participating in any USA Volleyball junior programming.**

Additionally, the US Center for SafeSport released new training modules this year. The coursework is delivered through the USAV Academy. Accessing the course through the USAV Academy is critical to tracking certification, expiration dates, and accurate rostering. Please access the course exclusively through the USAV Academy (not the USOC SafeSport website). Certification of the new course is valid for two seasons. Certification through the old course is good through the 2017/2018 season.

To register for SafeSport training:

1. Go to <https://webpoint.usavolleyball.org/>.
2. If you are a new user, click on the “request a login” tab otherwise log in to your USAV account.
3. In the navigation menu, click on USAV Clinics and select USAV Coaching Clinics.
4. Select SafeSport On-Demand: Two-Season Certification.
5. Complete registration.
6. To access coursework, click on the “Log into USAV Academy” button.

Should you need to return to your coursework at a later time, log in to your USAV account and click on the “Log into USAV Academy button.

For technical issues, while completing the course, please visit: <http://help.usavolleyballacademy.org/>.



## AGE REQUIREMENTS OF STAFF ON ROSTER – TEAM MANAGER STAFF POSITION

All staff, with the exception of the Chaperone position, must be a minimum of 18 years old and registered with USAV in an adult level membership category to be placed in any of the allowed roster positions. The Chaperone must be a minimum of 25 years old. No junior level members (members who are registered in a junior level membership category or are under the age of 18) are allowed in a coaching, chaperone or team representative position. If you have a junior level member participating in a non-player capacity, you may place them in the team manager position on the roster.

The Team Manager position is primarily reserved for, but not restricted to, junior level members (members who are registered in a junior level membership category or are under the age of 18) participating with a junior team in a non-player capacity. These members cannot be placed in any team staff position other than “Team Manager”. Junior level staff members must be at least 10 years of age. USA Volleyball and the event arbitrators reserve the right to conduct random ID checks on any staff person listed on the roster at any time.

All roster personnel (non-players) must have completed their regions registration process and cleared the background screening if applicable. Junior level members under the age of 18 do not need to be background screened. Junior members 18 years old and above, serving in non-player capacity on a junior team, must apply for and “clear” a background screening within 30 days of their 18th Birthday.

To add a junior level staff person to a roster, please contact the USAV Events Department ([events@usav.org](mailto:events@usav.org)). To expedite the request, please make sure the junior staff person is in AES, fully verified via the USAV import. Note, you do NOT need to manually add the junior staff person to your list of staff members in AES. Either just run the import to import them or manually add them to the player list and then run the import.

## TRAVEL POLICY

### **MODEL POLICY FOR JUNIOR CLUB VOLLEYBALL PROGRAMS**

USA Volleyball Junior Clubs are now required to implement a team travel policy. The following is a model team travel policy and is provided to assist USA Volleyball member clubs with developing their own policies. If a Club chooses not to, or is unable to, create a written travel policy, the following model policy will become the default policy for that Club. Once a customized set of policies is developed and approved by the club, the default policy will no longer apply. Each member club has the responsibility for approval and implementation of its own set of travel policies, and to provide these policies to all players, parents, coaches and other adults who will be traveling with a team. It is strongly recommended that a signature by each adult acknowledging receipt of and agreeing to the travel policy be obtained by each Club.

Some travel involves only local travel to and from local practices and events while other travel involves overnight stays. Different policies should apply to these two types of travel. The form of policy below is a sample only but may be modified by the local program to meet its specific needs and travel.

Travel Policy for [insert the name of the club]

[Insert name of the club] has some teams that travel regularly to play in tournaments, has some teams where travel is limited to a few events per season, and some teams where there is no travel other than local travel to and from our own area. [Club] prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Volleyball SafeSport Handbook. [Club] has established policies to guide our travel, minimize one-on-one interactions and reduce the risk of abuse or misconduct. Adherence to these travel guidelines will increase player safety and improve the player’s experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

We distinguish between travel to training, practice and local tournaments (“local travel”) and team travel involving an overnight stay (“team travel”).

### **Local Travel**

Local travel occurs when [Club] does not sponsor, coordinate or arrange for travel.

- Players and/or their parents/guardian are responsible for making all arrangements for local travel. The team and its coaches, managers or administrators should avoid responsibility for arranging or coordinating local travel. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure the person transporting the minor player maintains the proper safety and legal requirements, including but not limited to: a valid driver’s license, automobile liability insurance, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with applicable state laws.
- The employees, coaches and/or volunteers of [Club] or one of its teams, who are not also acting as a parent, shall not drive alone with an unrelated minor player.

### **Team Travel**

Team travel is overnight travel that occurs when [Club] or one of its teams or designees’ sponsors, coordinates or arranges for travel so that the team can compete locally, regionally or nationally. Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones will often travel with the players.

- When possible, [Club] will provide reasonable advance notice before team travel. Travel notice will also include designated team hotels for overnight stays as well as a contact person within [Club] or the team. This individual will be the point of contact to confirm your intention to travel and to help with travel details.
- Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with a minor player (unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player).
- The coach or his/her designee will establish a curfew by when all players must be in their hotel rooms or in a supervised location. Regular monitoring and curfew checks will be made of each room by at least two properly background screened adults. At no time will only one adult be present in a room with minor players, regardless of gender.
- Team personnel shall ask hotels to block adult pay per view channels for player- only rooms.
- Individual meetings between a coach and a player may not occur in hotel sleeping rooms and must be held in public settings or with additional adults present, with at least one of those adults being the same gender as the player.
- Parents/Guardians who wish to stay in the team hotel are permitted and encouraged to do so.
- The team will make every effort to accommodate reasonable parental requests when a child is away from home without a parent. If any special arrangements are necessary for your child, please contact the team personnel who can either make or assist with making those arrangements.
- No coach or chaperone shall at any time be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.
- In all cases involving travel, parents have the right to transport their minor player.
- Prior to any travel, coaches will endeavor to make players and parents aware of all expectations and rules. Coaches will also support chaperones and/or participate in the monitoring of the players for adherence to curfew restrictions and other travel rules.

- If disciplinary action against a player is required while the player is traveling without his/her parents, then except where immediate action is necessary, parents will be notified before any action is taken, or immediately after.

### **Suggested Additional Policies**

The following policies are additional guidelines for developing a travel policy based on the club's preferences and needs.

- Players are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip. Players are not to leave the competition venue, the hotel, restaurant or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission/knowledge of the coach or chaperone.
- When visiting public places such as shopping malls, movie theatres, etc., players will stay in groups of no less than three persons. Athletes 12 and under will be accompanied by a chaperone.
- Safety Policies
  - o Additional guidelines to be established as needed by the coaches;
  - o Supervised team room provided for relaxation and recreation;
  - o Respect the privacy of each other;
  - o Only use hotel rooms with interior entrances;
- Behavior Policies
  - o Be quiet and respect the rights of teammates and others in the hotel;
  - o Be prompt and on time;
  - o Develop cell phone usage guidelines;
  - o Develop computer usage guidelines including social media;
  - o Respect travel vehicles;
  - o Establish travel dress code;
  - o Use appropriate behavior in public facilities, including language;
  - o Establish two different curfews – in own rooms and lights out;
  - o Must stay in assigned hotel room; and
  - o Needs and well-being of the team come first.
- Financial
  - o No room service without permission
  - o Players are responsible for all incidental charges
  - o Players are responsible for any damages or thievery at hotel;
  - o Players must participate in contracted group meals; and
  - o Communicate travel reimbursement information and policies.
- General
  - o Establish fair trip eligibility requirements;
  - o Establish age guidelines for travel trips;
  - o Parent(s) responsible for getting player(s) to stated departure point; and
  - o Requirements for families to attend "Team Travel Tournaments."

### **Code of Conduct / Honor Code**

USA Volleyball strongly suggests clubs to create a Code of Conduct or Honor Code as a companion document to team travel policies.

Recommended:

- a. Team members will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrator, teammates, fellow competitors and the public at all times.
- b. Team members and staff will refrain from any illegal or inappropriate behavior that would detract from a positive image of the team or be detrimental to its performance objectives.

- c. The possession or use of alcohol or tobacco products by any athlete is prohibited.
- d. The possession, use or sale/distribution of any controlled or illegal substance or any form of weapon is strictly forbidden.
- e. Team members are reminded that when competing in tournaments, traveling on trips and attending other club-related functions, they are representing both themselves and [Club]. Athlete behavior must positively reflect the high standards of the club.

For Consideration:

- a. Failure to comply with the Honor Code as set forth in this document may result in disciplinary action. Such discipline may include, but may not be limited to:
  - i. Dismissal from the trip and immediate return home at the athlete's expense;
  - ii. Disqualification from future tournaments, either local or traveling;
  - iii. Financial penalties;
  - iv. Dismissal from team; and/or
  - v. Penalties set forth in the USA Volleyball Participant Code of Conduct, which may include a lifetime ban.
- b. Players are to refrain from inappropriate physical contact at team activities.
- c. Players are to refrain from the use of inappropriate language.

## POLICY ON FOREIGN PLAYER AND FOREIGN TEAM PARTICIPATION\*

**Only U.S. Territories (American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands) and their associated Federations are eligible to participate in qualification divisions of the NQs and the GJNC.** Beginning in 2014, foreign teams may be eligible to participate in the Patriot Divisions of the GJNC if they fulfill the requirements outlined below. Foreign teams will be accepted into the Patriot Division beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>, or sooner, depending on space available.

<b>Definitions</b>	
"Foreign Participant"	A participant 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 participant is affiliated.
"Non-Resident" Foreign Participant	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 Participant is affiliated.
"Resident" Foreign Participant	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. Proof of "Resident" status includes providing documentation substantiating enrollment and attendance in an educational institution in the United States (excludes on-line courses) OR proof of employment in the United States AND a corresponding physical residence address (excludes a P.O. Box or "care of" address). A copy of a current student or work visa is required for the duration of eligibility.

Foreign Participant "Release"	Written approval by a Foreign Participant's National Volleyball Federation of origin for that person to affiliate or participate with USA Volleyball.
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For the USA Girls Junior National Volleyball Championships, the following Territories and their associated Federations are eligible to participate by qualifying through one of the ten National Qualifiers:

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

### **NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS - JUNIOR**

- 1) Foreign Player Participation in National Junior Competitions (e.g. USA Volleyball Junior National Championships and all events that qualify teams for USA Junior National Volleyball Championship Events)
  - a) 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.
  - b) A Non-Resident Foreign player shall not be eligible to participate.
- 2) Foreign Team Participation for National Junior Competitions (e.g. USA Volleyball Junior National Championships and all Qualifying Events)
  - a) 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. (This only applies to US Territories for the GJNC)
  - b) 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.
  - c) 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:
    - i) Photo identification (Driver's license or comparable government issued document), and
    - ii) 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).
- 3) Additionally, for junior-age competitions, each Foreign Player (of a Foreign Team) must also possess and have on file with the Event Director:
  - i) Copy of birth certificate or Government Issue Identification with birth date
  - ii) USA Volleyball's "Consent for Medical Treatment & Release" form, signed by the player's parent or legal guardian.