

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL



GIRLS JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

CHAPTER IV: RULES & REGULATIONS

**JUNE 25TH - JULY 4TH, 2018
DETROIT, MI**

LOCAL HOST COMMITTEE:

**DETROIT SPORTS COMMISSION
LAKESHORE REGION OF USA VOLLEYBALL**

**PRE-TOURNAMENT MANUAL PREPARED BY:
USA VOLLEYBALL EVENT DEPARTMENT**

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RULES OF PLAY

The 2017-2019 Rules & Regulations will be in effect throughout the 2018 Season and for the USA Girls Junior National Volleyball Championships. Participants, coaches and team representatives in the USA Girls Junior National Volleyball Championships are subject to and must obey ALL rules, regulations and policies of USA Volleyball.

The USA Junior National Volleyball Championships play in accordance with the United States Rules-Modified (current USA Volleyball Rulebook can be downloaded or purchased from the USAV web site), as approved by the United States Rules Testing Commission. Key rules are listed below.

- Rally Score to 25, all sets must be won by a margin of two (2) points.
- Deciding sets will be rally to 15 of a 2 out of 3 game set match)
- Twelve (12) substitutions and one or two Libero; the Libero player(s) must be identified prior to each match
- The Roster may contain up to 15 players and no more than 5 staff members.
- Net heights – 2.24 m (7' 4 1/8")
- Each team must play within its own playing area and space. However, the ball may be retrieved from beyond the free zone as stated in Rule USAV 9.
 - If obstructions or other safety concerns prohibit retrieval from beyond the free zone, the player retrieving a ball over a non-playing area must be in contact with the playing surface when contact with the ball is made.
 - Non-playing areas are defined as the: (1) walls, bleachers or other spectator seating areas; (2) team benches and any area behind the team benches; (3) area between the scorer's table and the team benches; (4) any other area outlined in the pre-match conference by the first referee. [Rule 23.2.5].
 - If nets or dividers are separating courts, only the player attempting to play the ball may move the net or divider to play the ball
- Libero Uniform Color – Rule USAV 19.2
 - The libero player's jersey must contrast in color with that of the predominant colors of the jerseys or the other team members. Color combinations such as purple/black, dark green/black, navy/maroon and white/light yellow are not distinctive enough to comply with the rules.
 - A jacket or bib can only be worn by the re-designated Libero. If a jacket or bib is worn by a re-designated Libero, the uniform number must still be visible.
- For the 2017-2018 season, the "Test" rules regarding what happens when an illegal player is found on the court will be in effect—see Rule Book for updated language. (DCR pg. 15).

PROTESTS OF THE RULES OF PLAY

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, one of whom must be a certified USA National referee or scorer (Committee Chair), depending on the nature of the protest. Other members may consist of the Tournament Director or his/her designee, and another qualified person to rule on protests lodged by teams regarding officiating.

- No Protest Committee member can coach a team in the tournament.
- 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. Judgement calls are NOT subject to protest
 - 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.

WARM-UP PROTOCOL

For Junior competition, when one team has exclusive use of the court, the other team must either be at its team bench or out of the playing area. Warming up with balls at the team bench or in the spectator walkways is not permitted. Only USAV members may be on the playing surface to assist with shagging balls during warm-ups. Only USAV members may be on the playing surface to assist with shagging balls during warm-ups.

Primary Warm-up Protocol – (5-4-4): – For all teams in their first match of a round of play.

- Five (5) minutes of shared court time for ball handling; and
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the serving team; and
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the receiving team.
- There will be no shared hitting time.

Secondary Warm-Up Protocol (2-4-4): For all other matches within the round of play.

- Two (2) minutes of shared court time for ball handling; and
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the serving team; and
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the receiving team.
- There will be no shared hitting time.

A crossover match or tie-breaking match that immediately follows pool play is part of that previous single round of play; teams follow the Secondary Warm-Up Protocol set out below.

A crossover match, seeding match or qualifying match that occurs after a scheduled break, after the conclusion of pool play, is a separate round of play; teams in this round follow the Primary Warm-Up Protocol. If all Parties agree, the warm-up time may be shortened.

Only USAV members may be on the playing surface to assist with shagging balls during warm-ups.

TEAM UNIFORMS & JEWELRY

Team players shall wear uniforms that are in full compliance with the United States Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations (see Rule USAV 4.3). If two or more sets of uniforms are used, players will be required to wear the **identical** number for each set of shirts. Shirt numbers must be clearly visible for identification by spectators, selection committees and scorers. The numbers “0” and “00” are unacceptable and will not be permitted. Team members shall either be in proper uniform when warming up, or their jerseys shall be in clear view on the back of the team bench. All Libero shirts shall be numbered. If an individual competes in a position other than Libero, his number must be the same.

Please note that **Rule USAV 4.3.3.1 and USAV 4.3.3.2** will be strictly enforced. This rule specifies that numbers must be of contrasting color (to the jersey) and **centered** with no smaller than 6-inch numbers on the back and 4-inch numbers on the front of the jersey. It is recommended that the numbers be a minimum of 8 inches on the back and 6 inches on the front.

NOTE: In order to alleviate any potential problems, inconvenience and/or extra expense to your team, please ensure that the numbers on each set of jerseys (shirts) are in clear contrast to the color of the jersey, are the correct size and are placed on the jersey as required by the Domestic Competition Regulations. Once competition has begun, all requests for number changes will be denied with exception for blood rules.

- **Libero Uniform Color Rule USAV 19.2 states:**

“The Libero players must wear a uniform (or jacket/bib for the re-designated Libero) which has a different dominant color from any color of the rest of the team. The uniform must clearly contrast with the rest of the team. The Libero uniforms must be numbered like the rest of the team. Color combinations such as purple/black, dark green/black, navy/maroon and white/light yellow are not distinctive enough to comply with the rules.”

For complete description of the rules go to: https://volleyballretraining.com/rules_interpretations_indoor.php.

Rule USAV 4.3.5 states: *“For nationally sanctioned competition, uniforms must be identical with the exception of the sleeve length and the Libero Players”.*

Rule USAV 4.3 states: *“If undergarments, including but not limited to t-shirts, boxer shorts, tights, leotards, body suits, bicycle shorts, sports bras, etc., are worn in such a manner that they are exposed, they will be considered a part of the uniform. In that case, they must be similar and the same color for any team members (except the Libero) who wear such a uniform. Socks and sport shoes are not part of the uniform.”*

Rule USAV 4.5.1 states (in part): *“...A junior volleyball athlete participating in a junior event may not wear jewelry...”*

TEAM FORFEITURES

A team that intentionally forfeits a match will be excluded from further participation in the tournament. If a team forfeits a match, the forfeit will be considered intentional, unless the team shows good cause for the forfeit. The Event Arbitrator will determine if good cause exists.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Any person listed on the Official Roster who is causing unfavorable situations either prior to, during, or after the USA Volleyball Girls Junior National 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 are taking illegal substances.

ANYONE DISCOVERED IN POSSESSION OR CONSUMING ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY EXPELLED FROM THE CHAMPIONSHIPS. THERE ARE NO WARNINGS FOR ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION BY PLAYERS OR ANY OTHER UNDERAGE PERSON WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON THE OFFICIAL ROSTER. THERE ARE NO WARNINGS FOR DRUG CONSUMPTION BY PLAYERS OR ANY PERSON WHOSE NAMES APPEAR 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 POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL OR ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES MAY BE REMOVED FROM PARTICIPATION WITH THE NATIONAL PROGRAM.

If a rostered team member is disqualified from a match, 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.

PROVOCATIVE BEHAVIOR

USA Volleyball conducts USA Championship events, which are primarily domestic in nature, and while teams from other countries may participate, these Events are NOT International Events. Furthermore, domestic teams are representative of USAV Member Organizations, and, as such, do not officially represent a governmental structure within the United States.

Therefore, the following standing policy will apply to all USA Championship volleyball events conducted by USA Volleyball: *“Comments and/or actions by an Event Participant, Team Member (roster personnel) or Spectator, which is deemed to be provocative, or provokes an opponent, other participant(s), team member(s), opponent’s team member(s) or spectator(s) will not be tolerated and shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Event Arbitrator.”*

ETHICS AND ELIGIBILITY VIOLATIONS

EVENT ARBITRATORS

Event Arbitrators are appointed by USAV for each Championship Events. They are the first level for hearing and resolving ethics and eligibility issues at a specific USA Volleyball event. Teams or individuals accused of committing violations of ethics or eligibility rules and regulations at a NQ or GJNC must meet with the Event Arbitrators(s) for resolution of the accusation.

The authority for the Event Arbitrator begins with the arrival of a team and individual participants in the event’s city or 48 hours prior to the first day of competition, whichever is earlier, and shall continue through the duration of the event, through 30 minutes after the conclusion of the final match of the Event.

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 appointed for each event of USA Volleyball.

EVENT ETHICS AND ELIGIBILITY APPEALS COMMITTEE

Each Championship Event must have an Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee. Each committee has three members, one of whom shall meet the USA Volleyball definition as a domestic athlete. “Domestic athlete” refers to a volleyball player who meets the current eligibility standards for participation in the Corporation’s domestic volleyball events.

Each committee acts on appeals of decisions the Arbitrator makes during the Championship Event.

If the committee finds that a violation requires further review or more serious discipline, it may file a recommendation with the Member Organization that the team represents, with the USAV Corporation Ethics and Eligibility Committee, or with both organizations for extended disciplinary measures.

DUE PROCESS, PROTESTS AND APPEALS

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 website. 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.

CONVENTION CENTER RULES & REGULATIONS

- **Coolers and chairs are not permitted to be brought into the Convention Center playing area or hallways. Spectator seating and food concessions are available within the center. Any coolers and/or chairs brought into the convention center will be confiscated.**
- **Ball handling is NOT permitted outside of the playing areas (i.e. permitted on Sport Court only unless an area has been designated).**
- **No artificial noise makers are permitted.**