

FOURTH ANNUAL



USA Volleyball[®]

GIRLS 18S JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

CHAPTER IV: RULES & REGULATIONS

**APRIL 26 – APRIL 28, 2019
DALLAS, TX**

LOCAL HOST COMMITTEE:

**DALLAS SPORTS COMMISSION
THE NORTH TEXAS VOLLEYBALL REGION**

**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 2019 Season and for the USA Girls 18s Junior National Volleyball Championships. Participants, coaches and team representatives in the USA Girls 18s 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 2018-2019 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

GJNCs must have an on-site Protest Committee consisting of one (1) to three (3) members, one of which will be the Head Official or Head Scorer 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 (1) 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 rostered 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.

TEAM UNIFORMS & JEWELRY

Team players are required to wear uniforms that are in full compliance with the USAV regulations. If two (2) or more sets of uniforms are used, players are required to wear the identical number for each set of shirts.

- The numbers “0” and “00” are not permitted.
- The numbers must be centered.
- Front numbers must be a minimum of 4” and back numbers a minimum of 6”
- All Libero shirts are required to be numbered and must be clearly contrasting with the non-libero uniform shirts.

Team members need to be in proper uniform when warming up. If an individual competes in a position other than Libero as well, his/her number must be the same as their regular uniform.

TEAM FORFEITURES

A Team that intentionally forfeits a Match at an Event will be excluded from further participation in 18s GJNC.

- The forfeit is intentional unless the Team shows good cause for the forfeit.
 - The Event Arbitrator will determine if good cause exists.
 - The Event or Arbitrator will report any Team that intentionally forfeits a Match to the USAV Events Department.
- Forfeiting Teams may be subject to a fine paid to the Event in the amount not to exceed that as posted by the Event in its pre-Tournament information.
- For all NQs, if a Team intentionally forfeits a Match in a Gold Pool or Gold Bracket in any division Open Division Match the Team's penalty will be:
 - The forfeiting Team is ineligible for participation in that year's GJNCs. ALL Adult Members listed on the verified Event competition roster and the Club Director will be suspended from participating in all NQs, Regional Qualification Events and the GJNCs for the remainder of that season and the following season.

LAST DAY FORFEITS

Teams that enter 18s GJNC are committing to participating in the full Event. Teams have control over their travel plans and those plans should be made so that a Team will not have to forfeit any Matches.

A Team that forfeits a Match for any reason other than illness, injury or emergency is denying another Team a Match. Additionally, in a single elimination format, it is poor sportsmanship to deny a Team the right to move on by beating them and then forfeiting out of the Event. Furthermore, it is even more unacceptable to forfeit and then, as loser of the Match, not to remain and officiate the next Match.

Teams that have no flexibility in their travel plans and know they will need to leave before their division completes play will report to the Tournament Director no later than the end of play on the day prior to the final day of Tournament.

The Event Arbitrator with the input of the Tournament director will decide what forfeitures are needed. Teams forfeiting should recognize that additional penalties may be imposed.

- Teams that refuse to play a Match to determine 3rd and 4th place in the Tournament will both finish 4th, and there will be no 3rd place awarded in the Tournament.
- Teams that forfeit a last day Match are still responsible to officiate the next Match scheduled on their court. Teams playing the next scheduled Match may not be required to begin play early.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Any person listed on the Official Roster who is causing unfavorable situations either prior to, during, or after the USA Volleyball Girls 18s 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.

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

All Junior National Championship Events offer participants the ability to access normal due process channels should their eligibility to participate be in question. Procedures, including appeal options, are outlined above in this manual.

EVENT ARBITRATORS

Event Arbitrators are appointed by USAV and are present for NQs and GJNCs. 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 rules and regulations at a NQ or GJNCs must meet with the Event Arbitrator(s) for resolution.

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 NQ and GJNCs must have an Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee. Each committee has three (3) 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 Event.

If the committee finds that a violation requires further review or more serious discipline, it may file a recommendation with USAV, who shall determine the next course of action.

DUE PROCESS, PROTESTS AND APPEALS

When a penalty(ies) is imposed on a club/Team/individual by USAV, they may file for an appeal. Appeals may be filed with the USAV Ethics and Eligibility Committee by sending all relevant documentation to the USAV Staff Attorney by deadlines outlined in the initial Sanction letter. All appeals shall be accompanied by a non-refundable \$100 fee made payable to USA Volleyball.

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.

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.