

The Official Word

NEW LAW

PROTECTS

OFFICIALS



Illinois Law Protects Sports Officials

(RACINE, Wis.) — Illinois residents beware. Effective Jan. 1, people who disrupt live sporting, musical and theatrical events face potential prison time and a minimum fine of \$1,000. For sports officials working amateur, interscholastic, intercollegiate or professional games, it's a welcomed relief.

National Association of Sports Officials President Barry Mano notes that the law won't stop all the taunts and abuse directed at officials, but he agrees that such a law can help.

"The intent of this law is to provide for serious consequences when someone crosses the line and becomes physically abusive," says Mano.

Including Illinois, there are now 17 states across the country with similar laws. NASO has been advocating protective legislation for sports officials since 1987.

"It's far too easy for an overzealous fan or parent to point their finger at the official and blame them for their team's misfortune," says Mano. "The problem is really at the youth level where there is little security. Mom or dad gets upset and wants to challenge the official when they leave the court or field. In many instances, the officials working at this level are new and learning as they go along, just like the players. There's going to be mistakes — it's all part of the learning process. But, it's getting

so bad — and people are taking these games so seriously — that many good officials say, 'I've had enough' and quit. It's also having an effect on recruiting young people to become officials. They see the parents and coaches berating the officials and then say, 'It's not for me.'"

The Illinois law was sponsored by Rep. John Fritchey (D-Chicago), last summer after the city was once again embarrassed nationally by a fan charging on to the Chicago White Sox Cellular One field and trying to attack a Major League Umpire.



"Chicago was left with a black eye because of the stupid acts of a couple of people, and we want to prevent any type of follow-up activity," says Fritchey. "The idea of this bill is to serve more as a deterrent than a punishment. Fans whose stunts jeopardize people's safety will have a 'real price to pay,'"

Sen. Mattie Hunter (D-Chicago), who pushed the bill through the Illinois Senate, told the *Chicago Tribune* last summer, "We have so many rowdy fans, and the situation had just gotten really out of control."

The law, which takes effect Jan. 1, created the new offense of criminal trespass to a place of public amusement. It is designed to crack down on anyone who illegally enters restricted areas, such as a playing field, basketball court, stage or locker room.

The crime will be a felony, punishable by up to 3 years in prison, instead of a minor trespassing violation. Along with the minimum \$1,000 fine, an offender could be required to perform 30 or more hours of public or community service.

SIDEBAR: In addition to Illinois, the states with similar laws protecting sports officials are: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas and West Virginia. Minnesota has specific protection for high school officials and both Idaho and Washington have endorsed resolutions calling for an end to physical assaults against sports officials. •

Upcoming Deadlines

February 15, 2004

- ◆ USAV Test Results to AVP for Referees for Nat. and JN referees
- ◆ Request for retirement for USAV officials for 2003-2004
- ◆ Dues to maintain certification for USAV Nat. and JN officials indoor and outdoor

March 15, 2004

- ◆ Deadline for On-line registration for U.S. Open Championships

March 19, 2004

- ◆ Deadline for PAVO fall clinic hosts

April 1, 2004

- ◆ Deadline for USAV National Referee applications to Corny Galdones

April 15, 2004

- ◆ Deadline for USAV JNC on-line registration

President's Message: 'Lead and Do the Right Thing'



By Joan Powell
PAVO President

General Norman Schwarzkopf said that the two most important things in life are to "lead and do the right thing." The PAVO President's message is usually a universal message, not one dedicated to recognizing individuals. However, I would like to share some stories involving three of our fellow referees who have shown tremendous integrity in situations where two of them lost an opportunity for personal advancement because they chose to "do the right thing."

Denis Bergstedt (IL)

Denis (with one "n") is a math teacher and coaches boys' 18s for Second City VBC. He referees high school and collegiate volleyball and just received his PAVO National rating this fall. Early this collegiate season he received his first-ever NCAA Division I letter for post season. He submitted his paperwork, including his schedule and availability to the NCAA. At that time he was assigned to the Mid-Con conference championship, but did not know how many matches he would be refereeing, so he used question marks to indicate the uncertainty.

On Sunday, Nov. 30, Denis received his first-ever NCAA post-season call from Marcia Alterman, NCAA's secretary/rules editor. Denis, without hesitation, explained that he only had nine of the required ten matches. Given the unavoidable nature of the adjustment to Denis' schedule and an understanding that the deletion was through no fault of his, Marcia could have easily just accepted his schedule. (Some of our constituency mistakenly believes that Marcia Alterman actually makes the assignments for NCAA anyway.) Instead Marcia chose to "do the right thing" by calling the NCAA first. NCAA made the decision that Denis did not qualify; therefore, he was not eligible to referee post season.

Denis said he thought that his admission was a no-brainer. "I did not want to mislead anyone," he said.

When I mentioned the fact that there might be some officials who would not correct the situation for fear of jeopardizing their chances, Denis retorted, "I would hope that referees, especially at the National level, would have the integrity to do so. It goes hand-in-hand with the very thing that we do as officials."

Kudos to both Denis and Marcia.

Daphne Nelson (UT)

Daphne is married with kids and just loves to referee volleyball at the collegiate and high school levels in Utah. She was very involved in the high school leadership, serving as president of her state volleyball organization. Her hard work paid off; her state high school association asked her if she would consider serving on the National Federation Volleyball Rules Committee. She attended her first meeting last January and was a positive addition to the committee - a great ambassador. Although Daphne was representing more than just Utah, her state association reminded her that they would be in favor of allowing two out of three game matches. The Federation had voted to require three out of five game matches beginning in 2004.

The Utah High School Athletic Association budget was tight, and they were concerned about paying the referees for three out of five contests. Already ranked #50 in the country in match pay, referees would be asked to give even more and get even less. Daphne heard rumors in Utah about all levels being required to play three out of five, so she

contacted the state association and asked that a memo be distributed that explained that just the varsity were required to be three out of five. She was told that, in fact, all levels **would** be the best of five. Daphne's board of officials met, and a poll was conducted. The results showed that 90 percent of the officials were not willing to work under these circumstances unless their fees were increased.

Daphne began gathering information from other states and USA Volleyball in order to develop a presentation for the Executive Board of the state association. The compiled information was faxed to the state association, but it was never presented. She was told later that the information provided by Daphne was deemed to be false. With the high school season just about to start, there was panic and even media attention. Many officials held firm and did not referee - Daphne, being their leader, was among them. She said, "That's the burden of leadership". She felt that, as an elected officer, she was bound to her constituency.

"A person cannot do the right thing in one department of life while attempting to do the wrong thing in another department. Life is an indivisible whole." ... Gandhi

The marathon season was underway with an eclectic array of referees - retired coaches, some right out of the stands; most matches were covered by one official. Teams were getting home at 1,

2 and 3 a.m. Parents and principals were pleading with the state association to stop the bleeding. Finally, a change was made. Sub-varsity matches went to rally, two out of three, while the varsity implemented an interesting format: games one and two were rally to 25 points with two time outs. Games three, four and five would be rally to 15 points with one time out.

Daphne, in a conversation with an administrator, was told in an "Oh, by

Preliminary OD Meeting Schedule



USA VOLLEYBALL Annual Conference
Thursday, May 27 – Monday, May 31, 2004
Omni Hotel at CNN Center, Headquarters Hotel
Atlanta, Georgia



THURSDAY, May 27

8:00 am – 10:00 am	Referee Administrative Council	Dogwood
10:00 am - 1:00 pm	Scorekeeper Administrative Council	Dogwood A
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Officials Division Administration	International Ballroom ABC
5:00 pm – 5:50 pm	Pre-Banquet Social	International Ballroom Pre-Function

6:30 pm – 9:15 pm “the BOYCE” Banquet

FRIDAY, May 28

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Lauten Scorekeeper Service Committee
7:30 am – 9:00 am	Referees’ Zonal Meetings
8:00 am – 12:00 Noon	Officials Registration
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Referee Emeritus Award Committee
9:00 am – 9:30 am	RVA Referee Commission w/Zonal Reps (CLOSED)
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Rules of the Game Commission
9:30 am – 10:30 am	Referee RVA Development
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Scorekeeper RVA Development
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Scorekeeper National Clinic
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Scorekeeper IRTC Clinic
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Picture – Referees
	Picture – Scorekeepers
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Referees/Scorekeepers w/National Championships Committee
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Officials Division Tournament Procedures
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Referee National Clinic 1 st Session
7:00 pm – 7:30pm	Officials Awards
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Open Referee Instruction
8:30 pm – 10:30 pm	Officials Social

MONDAY, May 31

7:30 am – 12 noon	Player Registration
8:00 am - 9:30 am	Scorekeeper Administrative Council reconvenes
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Referee and Scorekeeper National Clinic, 2 nd session
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Referee Candidate Clinic w/raters, 2 nd session
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Scorekeeper Candidate Practical Session
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Beach Scorekeeper Clinic
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	USAV-PAVO Interface Committee
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Beach Referee Clinic •

the way” manner that she would no longer be representing Utah on the National Federation Rules Committee. In addition, a letter came explaining that her presidency was dissolved. The officials’ association is independent of the state association, but is a recognized organization. She was informed that the state association would be conducting elections for a new president, and only the officials that worked this past season were allowed in the meeting.

Utah volleyball has lost a strong leader; the National Federation has lost a viable committee member with great insight to the game. Daphne Nelson deserves

kudos for standing firm and respecting her fellow referees’ position.

A further note on Daphne – she, too, received that first-ever call from the NCAA in November for post-season play. However, she had already accepted a spot on the NAIA National Championship roster. There are some referees that may have called the first assignor to ask permission to take the “higher” assignment, but not Daphne. She, once again, elected to “do the right thing.”

These officials not only deserve accolades but also challenge all of us to adhere to the principles that are the foundation of our organization. •

OTP Clinic fees Increase by \$5



By Anne Pufahl
 OTP-Clinics Director

At last year’s Officials Training Program clinics, you probably remember your clinician announcing that there would be a \$5 increase (to \$15) for the 2004 OTP clinics. Over the past several years, PAVO has been fortunate enough to receive a grant from the NCAA to help fund the training of volleyball officials. However, the grant funds are not only used to defray the expenses of the 27 national clinics, but also the spring camps and other training programs. The clinic, camp and grant fees combined have not quite covered all of the costs of these programs, so an increase is warranted.

If the NCAA ever decides not to renew the grant, PAVO needs to insure that the OTP Clinic and Camp programs remain available to its members. Although \$15 is a nominal fee for a high-quality product, we want the members to understand the rationale behind the increase. PAVO covers most of the costs associated with the OTP clinics including transportation, housing, clinician stipends and rentals. All local hosts have to do is secure a site, and print and distribute the materials.

PAVO is committed to providing quality training opportunities for officials throughout the country. Members are welcome contact Julie Voeck with questions about the camp program and Anne Pufahl with questions about the clinic program. •



USA-International Referee and Scorekeeper Commissions



Tom Blue, AVP USA-International Referee Commission
Janet Blue, AVP USA-International Scorekeeper Commission

New International Referee Candidates

The USA International Referee Commission was busy this past summer and fall with many assignments to fill with a limited number of referees. Toward crafting a solution to that problem, **Brian Hemelgarn**, Ohio Valley, and **Paul Albright**, Southern, attended and completed an International Referee Candidate Course in Mexico City from October 27 through November 2. Congratulations to them as they move on to completing their required matches to become certified International Referees.

Recent Referee and Scorekeeper Assignments

Brian, as well as **Patty Salvatore**, refereed at the World Military Games in Catania, Italy, in December. Patty was one of three women to referee at the FIVB Women's World Cup tournament in Japan. This marked the first time female referees were used at this top FIVB competition. **Steve Robb** officiated at the FIVB Men's World Cup tournament in November. Just prior to the USA National Women's team departure to the World Cup in October, a tour of exhibition matches was held in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. International Referees **Mary Blalock**, **Steve Robb**, **Ron Stahl**, and **Fred Buehler**, together with National Referee **Kevin Kennedy**, North Texas, handled the refereeing duties for the tour. Scorekeeping duties were handled by **Cathy Hoy**, **Thang Nguyen** and **Ron Stahl**.

Earlier this summer, **Joel Reinfeld** refereed the FIVB Women's Under 20 World Championship in Thailand, where he was honored with the second referee assignment in the Gold Medal Match. **Fred Buehler** was honored with the same assignment when he worked the FIVB Girl's Under 18 World Championship tournament in Poland in August. USA International Referees were honored again when **Ron Stahl** received the first referee assignment for the Gold Medal match at the World University Games in Korea in August.

Steve Thorpe represented the USA as referee at the Pan American Games in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in August. **Kevin Cull** completed most of his required

matches for International Referee certification at the NORCECA Senior Men's Championship in Mexico in September; and **Ken Taylor** represented us at the NORCECA Senior Women's Championship in Santo Domingo in September. **Joel Reinfeld** officiated at the NORCECA Men's Olympic Qualification tournament in Puerto Rico in January.

Referee Candidate Course

In 2004, FIVB has approved an International Referee Candidate Course to be held in conjunction with the US Open Championship in Atlanta in May. USA Volleyball, as host of the course, will be sending five participants.

This course will impact the scorekeeping assignments for this year's Open tournament. As the international referee candidates must also prove their efficiency in the use of the international scoresheet, 16 matches will be unavailable for assignment to our internationally-certified

and qualified scorekeepers. However, every effort will be made to assign as many individuals as possible to matches, excluding anyone who qualified in 2003 and most likely those from 2002 as well.

IRTC Clinic in Atlanta

As in the past, it will be necessary to attend the IRTC Clinic in order to receive an assignment on an Open Match. For the first time in my 20+ year history at the US Nationals, the IRTC Clinic will be held at an optimum time for attendance. It will immediately follow the Scorekeeper National Clinic on Friday, May 28, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. I expect no changes to our current FIVB USA-International Scorekeeper Manual, so please do not forget to bring your manual with you. If you need to purchase a new one, the price will be \$4.

For those interested in attending the clinic for the first time, the fee is \$15 (including the manual) payable by cash or check at the time of the clinic. For those who attended the clinic in the past couple of years but did not complete the requisite two practice



Candidates Brian Hemelgarn (left) and Paul Albright (right) with Course Director Tom Blue at the FIVB International Referee Course in Mexico City



matches, the clinic is free and mandatory if you plan to do your two matches for qualification this year.

New Internationally-Qualified Scorekeeper

2003 IRTC Clinic attendee **Malcolm Grimes**, Bayou, recently completed his practice matches to complete all requirements to become qualified. Congratulations!

High Performance Event

USA Volleyball has also announced the bid winner for the 2004 High Performance event: Austin, Texas. This event, which has served as a training event for possible future international officials, will take place in late July. The 2003 event, held in St. George, Utah, included **Paul Albright**; **Christian Genitrini**, Garden Empire; **Mike Paull**, Western Empire; and **Hansen Leong**, Iroquois Empire, as referees. Internationally-qualified scorekeepers working at the event were **Roger Ozima**, Great Lakes; **Becky Brockney**, Rocky Mountain; and **Nancy Funk**, Pioneer. **Cathy Hoy** and **Doug Wilson** served as the scorekeeper and referee supervisors, respectively. The event has proved to be extremely successful in providing the training needed to make the transition to the international arena.

Utah/Moscow Games

The Inter-Mountain Region has recently hosted for the State of Utah the volleyball portion of the Utah/Moscow Youth Games using the international format. Referee for the event was **Paul Albright**. The scorekeeper was **Becky Brockney**.



Referees Paul Albright, Hansen Leong, Christian Genitrini and Mike Paull; Scorekeepers Nancy Funk, Roger Ozima and Becky Brockney with Scorekeeper Supervisor Cathy Hoy and Referee Supervisor Doug Wilson at the 2003 Volley Classic High Performance Event in St. George, Utah.

Tour Matches

Several upcoming tours are scheduled prior to the Olympics: Hawaii in March where the women will play Japan; Texas in June and July where the men will play Argentina and Russia as well as compete in a four nation tournament. Referee and scorekeeper assignments will be forthcoming. •

Winter Meetings of USAV



Wally Hendricks, Vice President, Officials Division USA Volleyball

The Winter Meetings for USA Volleyball were conducted in Colorado Springs, January 15-18, 2004. The largest agenda item for these meetings is typically the yearly budget review. The news was generally good this year. It is likely that there will be over a \$400,000 surplus in 2003, which can be partially allocated toward O l y m p i c s expenses this year.



Since this year is the last year of a quadriennium that began with the 2000 Olympics, the Executive Committee for USA Volleyball (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) was up for election. The USA Volleyball Bylaws prohibited any officer from succeeding him or herself. However, the Board of Directors decided to waive this bylaw and allow the previous set of officers to be nominated. In a surprise move, Al Monaco (President) Kevin Twohig (Vice President) and Stew McDole (Treasurer) were all returned to their positions, while Susan True was selected to replace Karen Johnson as secretary (Karen did not choose to be renominated). This also meant that Becky Howard will remain on the Executive Committee in the position of past-President.

Becky Howard, in her position as in-term CEO, presented an aggressive plan for significant increases in Junior events over the next several years. The National Championship Events staff is also planning on the introduction of the new height-restricted competition at our adult championships. These increases will require us to have a plan to expand our officials to meet this demand.

President Monaco will appoint a Vice President for the Officials Division to begin after the 2004 Olympic Games. At that time, the Vice President will choose Assistant Vice Presidents, and an Associate Vice President. The Vice President and these officers will choose the National Commissioners for the next Quad. If you are interested in any of these positions, you should either contact President Monaco or Wally Hendricks. Division officers can succeed themselves (Vice President once), but none of these positions has been decided. •

Oregon's Cathy Davis Recipient of PAVO Honor Award

Indicted into Hall of Fame



By Ann Casey

Cathy Davis was involved in officiating and assigning girls and women's basketball and volleyball in the state of Oregon for over 30 years. As an official she set an example for others who followed; as a commissioner, she nurtured and balanced both the concerns of the institutions and the needs of the officials.

Cathy's sport journey began in 1963 when she began officiating volleyball for the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO). At the time, CYO was the only organization offering competitive opportunities for girls. Within two years, she quickly became the CYO assignor, as she saw the need for officials to be better trained, directed and organized under one umbrella.

In the early 1970s, the Beaverton School District, a suburb of Portland, initiated its junior high and high school girls basketball and volleyball programs. About that same time Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation began offering girls competitive sports. The timing was perfect for Cathy and she was right there offering her time and talent, both as an official and as an administrator. For several years, she was both an official and an assignor, but it soon became clear that her talents as an administrator were needed more. At that time, her main recruiting pool of women were "stay at home moms" - a pool she was acquainted with personally, being a mother of four herself.

In 1971, Cathy's reputation for administration and love of girl's sports brought her further involvement at a different level of competition. She was asked to assist with organizing the Northern Oregon Board of Officials (NOB) which would provide trained officials in volley-

ball and basketball at the collegiate level. NOB was affiliated with the NAGWS Affiliated Board of Officials (ABO), hence Cathy's beginnings with ABO. For the next 25 years until her retirement in 1996, Cathy served as the NOB commissioner and treasurer. Cathy never sought fame, and expressed no desire to climb to greater heights or be recognized nationally. She had enough work to do in Oregon and truly was an example of "serving where you are planted."

During those 25 years, Cathy assigned basketball and volleyball officials for 23 colleges. Additionally, she assigned volleyball officials for 81 high schools organized through the National Federation. During her tenure, she recruited, trained and evaluated over 400 volleyball and basketball collegiate officials for NOB. Her mentoring, encouragement and high standards helped produce seven ABO National officials, two ABO Honor Award recipients, two ABO Hall of Fame recipients, five officials who attended national volleyball championships and two officials who attended national basketball championships. She was always the cheerleader behind the success of her officials, being filled with joy with each and everyone's accomplishments. During her "reign", Cathy had a taste of national recognition as she served as Head Official at the 1984 and 1985 Division II National Volleyball Championships in Portland, Oregon.

Dedicated, committed, professional, fair, supportive, consistent and unselfish are just a few adverbs to describe

Cathy Davis. Cathy set and raised the bar for volleyball officials in the northwest. From the whiteness of their shoes to the fit of their shirt, Cathy expected her officials to appear professional from the moment they entered the gym. It was clear that she expected her officials to handle every situation, even the

more difficult, with grace and with class. The legacy Cathy Davis has left us is evident today in the current PAVO Board, Oregon Collegiate Volleyball Officials Association (OCVOA). OCVOA continues to serve the Oregon collegiate institutions with well-trained and professional officials. Although many of the names and faces have changed, the foundation that



PAVO Honor Award Winner
Cathy Davis

Cathy poured still stands. The gift she gave to women's sports in Oregon was priceless.

If you ask Cathy Davis the reason she dedicated so much of her life to NOB she will simply and honestly tell you, "I really ENJOYED what I was doing. The relationships that developed over the years with many of my officials have become lifelong friendships."

Cathy is married with four children and seven grandchildren. She owns her own Tax Consultant business. She currently spends her free time reading, gardening and helping others. She makes an annual trip to Tijuana to help build homes.

Congratulations to a well-deserving individual. •

2003 Dig It in Dallas Officials Convention Receives Best Reviews Yet



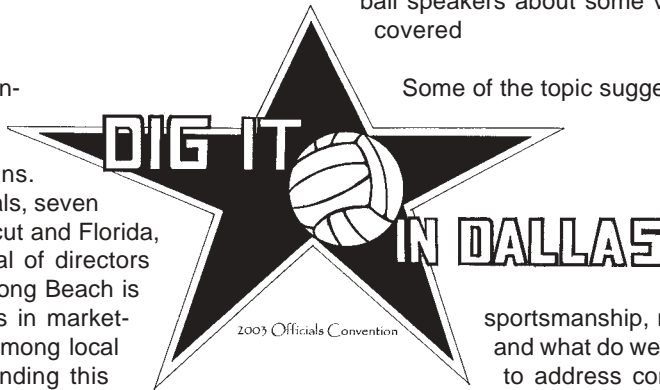
By Dale Goodwin
PAVO Interim Director

The 2003 PAVO Officials Convention was attended by 87 officials, down 11 from the 2002 Convention attendance in New Orleans. Texas was represented by 12 officials, seven from Ohio, six each from Connecticut and Florida, and five from New York. The goal of directors planning the 2004 Convention in Long Beach is to involve more Southwest officials in marketing the event to raise awareness among local officials of the great value in attending this professional development workshop.

The highest-rated sessions were: 1) semifinal analysis, 2) ethics by Barry Mano, and 3) Reel Plays by Jay Shaheen and Marcia Alterman. The two lowest-rated sessions were 1) NCAA championships, and 2) off-court behavior, primarily because the presenter did not cover the subject, probably more a fault of the planning committee for not giving the presenter better directions. We've taken note. In our post-convention survey many convention attendees suggested we repeat this program, but cover the subject. The breadth of speakers and content was a plus. Many critiques suggested we better inform our non-volley-

ball speakers about some volleyball nuances that should be covered

Some of the topic suggestions for next year's convention, based strictly upon the surveys, include eye movement and care, professionalism, on-court situational role playing, provide more for the newer refs, ball-handling consistency, PAVO/USAV updates, crowd control/sportsmanship, record keeping/how should it look and what do we keep, and coaches/officials panel to address common concerns.



Great thanks to Marcia Alterman and Joan Powell for their help in bringing the program together, for Miki Kennedy for all the pre-convention planning and preparation, and to Lisa Paull and Julie Voeck for their organization and planning. •

The Connecticut Connection

Tyrone Fuertes, Jorge Limeres, Bhavin Parekh, Pablo Ravizzoli, Tom Waniewski. Thanks for your participation at the PAVO Convention.



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R2 Training at Qualifiers



By Gloria Cox

Do you want the opportunity to share ideas, interact and learn from members of the USA Volleyball Rating Team? Join us at the 2004 Training Sessions, which will be held at several of the Regional Qualifiers this April.

Do you think that calling net and centerline violations is the most important job of the R2? Has a coach yelled about illegal alignment, and you didn't see it? Could the libero be out of alignment? Are you uncomfortable interacting with volatile coaches? Do coaches worry that you won't recognize subs and time-outs? Do you know what to do when your R1 flounders during a match? Are you good enough as an R1 that you don't even need the R2?

If you have never called a match with an excellent, hardworking R2, join us and find out what to expect from your R2 and what you can do to become the consummate R2 yourself.

The 1½ hour interactive training sessions will be held before the officials' meetings at some of the Qualifiers. The Head Referee for each qualifier will have specific information as to the place and time of the sessions. The training is appropriate for all levels of officials. Sign up early and the cost is \$10. Onsite registration is \$15 but pre-registration is highly encouraged.

We recommend that you register for the training and plan to participate in a wonderful learning experience. Please, see the Training Program Registration form, included in this newsletter.

If you have questions, please contact Gloria Cox at gloria-cox@houston.rr.com.

Fruechte Recipient of NAIA's Highest Award



By Dale Goodwin
PAVO Interim Director

Ann Fruechte, Portland, Ore., has spent her adult lifetime officiating volleyball, and contributing to the development of other officials. The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics honored Fruechte Dec. 2 in San Diego at the NAIA national volleyball championships with the Larry Lady Officiating Award, the highest honor bestowed upon officials by that organization.

Fruechte becomes just the third official honored by NAIA, and the first from volleyball. Fruechte officiated women's basketball for 21 years, and worked six NAIA national championship basketball tournaments. She has officiated volleyball for 30 years now, including three NAIA national championship volleyball tournaments.

Lady worked 40 years as a basketball official, 20 in baseball and football, and

he loved working the NAIA. He presented Fruechte with the award. Longtime friend and mentor, Ann Casey from Portland, spoke about the influence Fruechte has had on officials throughout the country. The award requires that the recipient

"must be a person of outstanding quality, high moral character, fine officiating ability and be held in high esteem by their colleagues, administrators and athletes." She was nominated for this award by two college athletic directors in her area.

In addition to a plaque, Fruechte was awarded \$500 to be used by her, a member of her family or family friend who attends an NAIA institution. This award will be issued to the institution of Fruechte's choice in her name. The

Award winner's picture will also be placed in the new NAIA headquarters (Kansas City, KS) in a room dedicated to and named in honor of NAIA officials.

Fruechte also is a member of the PAVO Hall of Fame. •



Award winner, Ann Fruechte with Larry Lady for whom the award is named.

Training Program Registration Form "The Consummate R2"



Name: _____

Email Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt Phone: _____

Region: _____ Qualifier Attending: _____

USAV Referee Rating: _____ Year Certified: _____

PAVO Referee Rating: _____ Year Certified: _____

Send \$10 fee (onsite registration = \$15) and this completed registration form to:
Corny Galdones, 5408 Chieftain Circle, Alexandria, VA 22312-2342

NRT Changes Pending; Goal to Better Serve Members



By Mike Carter
PAVO NRT Director

We expect to see some significant changes in the National Rating Team program in 2004.

Since the 2004 Board of Director's meeting occurs after this article is submitted, but before distribution to you, I will highlight some points that the Board will discuss and possibly change.

The point renewal system will be reviewed, possibly moving some of the current Category Three criteria to Category One, since four points Category One points must be earned in four years. This might include giving Category One credit for other events that use NCAA rules. We also will try to further define the specific events that can earn points in Category Three, Other Volleyball Activity.

Another major discussion item will be the possibility of using four-team tournaments as NRT sites. Currently, it is difficult to secure five-team tournaments at the Division I level, where we can accommodate five candidates. If the budget is feasible, the NRT will begin using some four-team events, which would offer a larger selection of events in a wider array of geographic regions. Moving to four-team events may afford us savings in travel, lodging and per diem costs. There will still be obstacles to overcome, including staffing and scheduling issues, but holding NRT sites at four-team events would allow us to identify events earlier, eliminating some of these concerns.

A change we have already implemented is e-mailing the annual Point Surveys to PAVO National Officials. Miki Kennedy in our National Office e-mailed surveys to all PAVO National Officials on Jan. 14, and at press date (Jan 23rd) we have received over 60 percent of the expected responses. We are aware of instances where officials did not receive the e-mail, but the information was com-

municated to them by other national referees, and we have since received their surveys. This is one good reason to ensure your contact information is current in the Officials' database, which you can access via the PAVO web page. As I receive surveys, I will immediately reply to each official, giving the point total to date and year of expiration for validation. If you are a National official and did not receive an e-mail survey, please check the PAVO web page for the survey or contact me directly.

After the BOD meeting rating sites will be finalized – watch the PAVO web site for those announcements. Board chairs will also be notified. Remember – the deadline to submit applications for PAVO National Referee candidates is **May 1**.

As you can see, we are not static in our efforts to serve our members. Please contact me at cartersvb@verizon.net for information regarding your NRT. •

Lewis also is a PAVO and USAV National referee. She has served as the Emerald Coast Board chair since 1996, and served as the USAV Gulf Coast Region officials chair from 1995-2001. She was recently selected as associate vice president for administration of the Officials Division of USA Volleyball. She assigns officials for seven colleges.



Fono Fisaga

Members Elect Fisaga, Lewis as New PAVO Directors



By Dale Goodwin
PAVO Interim Director

In the fall, PAVO held elections for two new Board positions, Board Delegate and Director-at-Large, expanding the Board to 12 directors, including six who are elected by the membership. Both of these new positions will have terms of Jan. 1, 2004-Dec. 31, 2006. PAVO received six nominees for Board Delegate and three for Director-at-Large. Fono Fisaga, Nebraska, was elected Director-at-Large, and Crystal Lewis from Florida was elected Board Delegate.

Fisaga is a PAVO and USAV National referee and youth sports director at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. He is chapter director and clinician for the National Alliance of Youth Sports and conducts clinics to certify coaches for youth sports in the Omaha area. He conducts clinics to certify sports officials at Offutt. He is serving his second term as at-large member of the Great Plains Board.



Crystal Lewis

Thanks in large part to the electronic voting

mechanism set up by Marcia Alterman, this election drew more than 400 votes, compared to about 190 votes the last time elections were held for at-large positions. •

USAV National Scorekeeper Commission



By Sue Mailhot, AVP
Scorekeeper Commission

Need to Attend

The following people need to attend the 2004 National Adult Championships in Atlanta and keep score on a minimum of 6 matches or you will lose your National Scorekeeper certification. If you are encountering an unusual situation that will prevent you from attending, you must contact me immediately. I realize that some of you might not be continuing your National rating and if that is the case, I apologize for including your name.

- Marci Bowers – AZ
- Katy Meyer – AZ
- Joe Arkin – BA
- Tim Stubbs – CH
- Dana Voight – FL
- Patricia Hanlon – IE
- Michael Mack – IE
- Clare Lopez – LS
- JR Allgood – NT
- Jim Davis – NT
- Jeanine McMahon – NT
- Kathryn Van Loon – NC
- Jeff Quinn – OV
- Joe Salak, Jr – OV
- Vonnie Roach – OD
- Tamara Shaffer – OD
- Rory Arisumi – SU

Retirements

Over the past year, we have had the following retire their National Scorekeeping certification.

- Jerry Glenn – RM
- Beth DiPirro – WE
- Dan DiPirro – WE
- Kathy Ferraraccio – NE
- Steve Robb – NT
- Donna Matthias – GL

We thank all of them for their many years of outstanding commitment and service to the National Scorekeeping corps. If I have missed anyone, I apologize for the omission.

2004 Scorekeeper Monitors

Any National or Junior Scorekeeper that is interested in working as a scorekeeper monitor at one of the USA Junior National Volleyball Championships needs to complete an application and return it to

Sue Mailhot by the Feb 15 deadline. Applications are available on the USA Volleyball web site (www.usavolleyball.org). The application must be printed, completed and preferably mailed by the deadline. An alternate method of completing an emailed form is available if you email a request to Sue at sjmvb@glx.net

The 2004 Girls Junior National Championship will be held in Houston, TX from WE June 23- WE June 30. Scorekeeper monitors and staff will need to be in attendance by noon on TU June 22 and may leave no earlier than 6:00 pm on WE June 30. All monitors and staff will be required to be in attendance at a staff meeting at 2:00 pm on TU June 22.

The 2004 Girls Invitational and Boys Junior National Championship will be held in Austin, TX from TH June 24 – WE July 7. Scorekeeper monitors and staff will need to be in attendance by noon on WE June 23 and may leave no earlier than 6:00 pm on WE July 7. All monitors and staff will be required to be in attendance at a staff meeting at 2:00 pm on WE June 23.

All applicants need to be aware that since the two tournaments this year vary widely in the amount of time required to be in attendance, everyone might not get their preferred choice of tournament location. So it is imperative that you review the selection criteria for monitors. If we have more applications for a site or than we have available positions, the following criteria will be used to determine the final selections:

1. National Scorekeeper (scorekeeper "onlies" will be given priority over "duals")
2. Junior National Scorekeeper
3. Years of prior service at the Junior National Championships as a scorekeeper or monitor
4. Assistance with scorekeeping events in the region
5. Willingness and ability to relate to junior players in a teaching/ assistance role

Other requirements of a scorekeeper monitor include:

1. Assisting with player scorekeeper clinics
2. Assisting other tournament staffs with various duties
3. You will be assigned to work an 8 hour shift each day. If you are also certified as a referee, you might be able to referee a maximum of 2 matches per day, but are not guaranteed any matches.
4. Arrival at the tournament at least by noon on the day prior to the tournament.
5. Departure can be no earlier than 6:00 pm on the final day of the tournament.
6. Possible assigned scorekeeper matches

In return, for agreeing to the above requirements, the following will be provided:

1. transportation to and from the tournament will be paid
2. ½ of a hotel room to be shared with another monitor or staff member
3. a daily honorarium
4. a daily per diem
5. officials VIK

Working at one of the Junior National Championship events is another excellent opportunity for National Scorekeepers to participate. We would love to have you at one of these tournaments this summer.

This year, we will be rating junior players as National Junior Scorekeepers. National Scorekeepers are needed to help with ratings. Since we are just re-starting this program, there might not be much pay available, but your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Application forms for National Junior Scorekeepers are available on the USAV web site.

New National Junior Scorekeeper

We'd like to congratulate our newest National Junior Scorekeeper – **Rocky Nissen** of Phoenix, AZ. Rocky was in attendance at the Boys National Championship last summer in Phoenix. Along with volunteering to keep score on many matches, he also worked intensely to become one of the first National Junior Scorekeepers in the newly reinstated program. See the USAV web site for further information on the National Junior Scorekeeping certification,

PAVO 2004 Spring Camps



By Julie Voeck, PAVO Director

The following locations have been confirmed for PAVO camps in 2004:

February 27-28

SUNY
Courtland, NY

March 26-27

University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI

April 2-3

University of Texas
Austin, TX

April 16-17

Univ. of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN

Advanced Camp

April 16-17

Univ. of Illinois
Champaign, IL

April 23-24

Idaho State University
Pocatello, ID

** Advanced camp for current Division I referees wanting to enhance their skills/techniques to a higher level of volleyball. Appropriate participants are State or Jr. National referees who aspire to become National referees, work higher-level volleyball, and be observed by Division 1 conference coordinators. Very experienced staff!!!*

Purpose of training camps: To offer on-court officiating opportunities to the referee who desires improvement of skills and career advancement, with constructive feedback from experienced officials,

The PAVO Camp Program coordinates the camps primarily with Division I programs hosting spring tournaments. These camps provide an opportunity to officiate a higher level of play than the camper may have had previously. For the less experi-

enced official, PAVO will try to find sites for a limited number of camps at Division II and/or Division III events – watch the PAVO web site for further information. A limited number of camp scholarships are also available each year.

The camp experience offers the following:

- Opportunity to officiate with officials from other areas of the country
- Evaluations without the intensity of a rating session
- Feedback from seasoned evaluators
- Atmosphere conducive to learning and fun!

When participating in the camp, the camper will:

- officiate as R1 and R2; be videotaped with audio-feedback
- have the option of having information sent to conference coordinators across the country

Registration Process (For all camps except the Advanced Camp at Illinois)

- Accepting registrations January 15, 2004
- First-paid, first-accepted basis
- May pay by check or credit card
- \$200 PAVO members, \$225 non-members
- Call 888-791-2074, PAVO National office

Please note: Advanced Camp registrations are handled separately and were due on February 14, 2004.

Visit www.pavo.org for sites to be added and general camp information.

If you have any questions contact PAVO Director, Julie Voeck at (414) 607-9918 or member.at.large2@pavo.org.

Requirements for Becoming a Candidate for USA Volleyball National Referee



By Mary Blalock
National Commissioner,
Referee Certification and
Evaluation

For those existing Junior National Referees who feel they are ready to become a candidate for USA Volleyball National Referee the following steps must be taken:

1. Fill out appropriate application form and \$100 certification fee by deadline. Signature page and check must be postmarked to Coryn Galdone by the deadline (April 1). Incomplete applications will not be accepted. (Application is available on the USAV web site.) Applications may be sent to: maryholly@aol.com
2. Fill out the biography, including matches worked – we are looking for candidates who have refereed boys or high level men's collegiate ball over the last few years.
3. Is a referee in good standing in their region – meaning you fulfill the requirements for their region plus have paid their dues and taken their test.
4. Successfully complete the rating process at the 2004 USA Volleyball Boys National Championships to be held in Austin, TX June 29- July 2, 2004.

When you have successfully completed the rating process at the Boys tournament, you will receive an invitation to be rated at the NIRSA Club Championships in 2005 (to be held in Kansas City, MO April 14-16). If you are successful at the Club Championships, you will be required to attend the second session of the 2005 National Open Tournament (May 31-June 4, 2005 site TBA) to finish the rating process.

Candidates need to know that they will not be paid for any matches they work at the boy's tournament during the evaluation process. They may work after the process is over and receive compensation for that.

Good luck to all!! •

National Scorekeeper Candidates

The National Scorekeeper Administrative Council has changed the time frame for National Scorekeeper rating certification. Candidates will be rated during the A/AA sessions, which this year will be from WE June 2 through SA June 5. A tournament information meeting and clinic session

with the raters will be held on TU June 1. The application for National Scorekeeper is available on the USAV web site. The deadline for applications is March 8, 2004. Application and further information can be obtained from Cathy Hoy, National Commissioner for Training and Evaluation at 210-657-0854 (evenings).

Mexico Welcomes International Referee Candidates!



By Brian Hemelgarn

Last fall, Paul Albright and I were selected as USA International referee candidates for the clinic held in Mexico City, Mexico. We joined 15 other candidates from China, Mexico and the Caribbean, and it was an experience neither of us will forget! We know that our USAV training and the International Referee Candidate Course (IRCC) instruction have prepared us well for what lies ahead.

We arrived in Mexico City on Sunday, October 26, to be greeted by representatives of the Mexican Volleyball Federation. They took care of our transportation, housing arrangements, tournament organization, and served as Spanish translators and tour guides throughout the event. They were very accommodating, and without them, we wouldn't have had the success that we experienced!

We were taken to the Comite Olimpico Mexicano, which is the Olympic training facility in Mexico City. We checked in to receive our meal tickets and room arrangements, and then we had to meet with the course instructors: Klaus Fezer from Germany, and our very own, Tom Blue! We were given an oral English test since English is the official language of the FIVB. Fortunately, Paul and I passed this segment fairly easily! (Although we were happy to see Tom there, there was actually even more pressure for Paul and me to perform well since we had been trained by him!) We received our schedule for the week, and we settled in as the other candidates arrived.

Monday morning, we had our technical meeting to start the IRCC – coat and tie required! (Although a few of the candidates were without because their luggage was lost!) We spent time discussing the history and progress of the sport of volleyball, as well as a few rule points and the psychological aspects of refereeing. We also took a mock FIVB rules exam to help us prepare for the “big” test on Friday!

For day two of the course, scorekeeping and rule discussion filled the day. For the next four days, we had morning sessions to discuss rules, protocol/techniques, officiating philosophies, scorekeeping, and the history of the sport and of the FIVB. We also spent time recapping each previous day's matches. The afternoons were devoted to officiating at the Mexican National Championships (similar to our US Open)! The tournament was played at the Juan de la Barrera Olympic gymnasium, where the 1968 Summer Olympic volleyball matches were held.

Our tournament assignments included one match as R1, one as R2, one in each of the four line judge positions, and a scorekeeper and assistant scorekeeper duty. As for our refereeing skills, we had one shot in each position to put our best foot forward – no warm-ups and no re-evals! As luck would have it, I was assigned to the first match of the tournament, so

I was feeling a bit of pressure to set the standard! In the end, I think I did ok!

Our group of referees was pretty diverse, but Paul and I jumped in feet first to get to know the folks with whom we'd be spending the coming days. Since English is our native tongue, our fellow candidates adopted us as interpreters and translators. Late Monday night after our first class, there was a tapping on our door, and it was one of the Chinese referees, who needed some help with English. The resulting domino effect led to many hours each night discussing rules and situations, and just getting to know each other. In the end, being “English tutors” opened the door for the whole group to gel, and some great friendships have been established with our counterparts around the world!

The tournament ended on Saturday night, so some of our hosts from the Mexican Volleyball Federation took us to dinner to celebrate and to see some of the nightlife in one of the largest cities in the world – population 21+ million! There is non-stop traffic 24/7, and it's bumper to bumper! What an interesting, amazing and wild place!



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- MIKASA LINE JUDGE FLAGS

Finally, Day 8 of our trip was the culmination of our hard work: each candidate, one by one, met with Klaus and Tom to find out the results from their practical and theoretical evaluations. There were lots of nerves, a few tears, and finally... of our class of 17, there were 15 FIVB Attestations that we were International Referee Candidates!

We polished off the tournament with a social on Sunday night at the Olympic Training Center compound. For what it's worth, don't believe it if a Mexican ever tells you that tequila in Mexico is like drinking Coca-Cola in the US. That stuff is rocket fuel, although it makes you very fluent in Spanish!

Plenty more stories about the trip, and Paul and I will be happy to share them when we see you at a tournament! •

VB Official's Tournament "Bulletin Board"



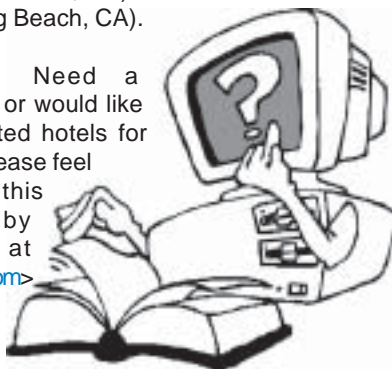
By Crystal Lewis, USAV AVP-Administration

As you know, each year there are a number of national and regional events that require significant expenditures for travel and lodging, yet leave those expenses entirely up to the participating officials. What we hope to do is assist officials in minimizing these expenses as well as just making these trips a more cooperative endeavor. Dave Greenlee, a National Referee in West Palm Beach, FL; has offered to be our contact person. We are calling this service our "BULLETIN BOARD"!

Dave Greenlee is not and will not function as a travel agent. Rather, he will attempt to identify travel bargains and facilitate communication between officials who wish to get together in an effort to minimize costs. These efforts may include identifying potential roommates, inexpensive, lodging, and/or ride-sharing opportunities.

We hope to initiate this effort with a few specific events in 2004, and if it proves to be worth the effort, expand it to others. If we find a real need for officials hooking up with others for these events, We may even turn it into a web page at some point. Upcoming events we will be covering for 2004 include: NIRSA (Charlotte, NC), U.S. Open (Atlanta, GA), JO's (Houston & Austin, TX) and the PAVO Convention (Long Beach, CA).

Sound interesting? Need a roommate, need a ride or would like to get info on discounted hotels for the tournament, then please feel free to participate in this cooperative effort by contacting Dave at cdrgreenlee@mindspring.com or (if you do not have e-mail) phone 561-744-2278. •



Peter Meyer bestowed with 2003 Board Chair of the Year Award



At the Dallas PAVO Convention, Peter Meyer from Arizona was honored as Board Chair of the Year. Peter has been involved with volleyball as a coach, player, and official since the mid 1970's – 30 years of influence! His involvement with national-caliber officiating began in 1989, when the new Cactus Region sent him as a Junior National candidate. He received his ABO (PAVO) National and USAV National certifications in 1994, Beach Nation certification in '96, and USAV National Scorekeeper certification in '95. He has served as the referee chair for the Cactus Region since its inception, and revived the local ABO (PAVO) board in about 1996. Via those leadership roles, he has served as mentor and role model for a great number of individuals, resulting in 25 nationally certified referees and scorekeepers in Arizona today.

These awards normally include this kind of litany of accomplishments, but PAVO also received numerous accolades from people whose lives have been touched by Peter. Our ceremony in Dallas was dedicated to what Peter's constituents had to say.

Harold Cranswick, the Arizona Regional Commissioner stated, "There is no one in the history of the Arizona region who personifies the spirit of the game of volleyball better than Peter Meyer. As a player, coach and official, Peter has always done whatever he could to promote the game he loves. As the Officials' Chair, Peter's positive energy can be found in all facets of the officiating phase of the game. His tireless energy, his constant encouragement, positive reinforcement and wacky humor have resulted in literally dozens of people becoming highly qualified officials. Were it not for the efforts of Peter to educate and encourage other potential officials, he would still be the only national referee in the Arizona Region. The Arizona Region owes a huge debt to Peter Meyer for all he has done for players, coaches and officials alike."

As Beverlee Nielson wrote, "Peter has always been involved . . . He is a promoter of youth officials and the betterment of this organization. Peter started things from the ground up and has made it organized so that all involved can be the best they can be."

On a more personal note, Julie Nutall added, "There hasn't been anyone who has been a kinder, more positive mentor or as supportive of my development as an official."

And finally Becky Hudson reminds us of how Peter "gives back" to the sport. Becky stated, "Peter Meyer also has a heart of gold, the size of his barrel chest. He has been the Head of Officials for the Starling National Championships for the past three years. . . he has a loyal following or not less than ten referees each year that make the trek across the desert to San Diego to work a four-day tournament with fourteen hour days and then he gives back some or all of their wages to the Starlings Organization. He is always the last to leave the gym. To top off the day, he fixes us gourmet tacos while we format the tournament for the next day. I don't know if I have a more loyal friend and comrade."

Congratulations to Peter and thanks for all of your efforts in Arizona and nationally as well. •

Junior Nationals Rating Program



By Charles Ezigbo
National Commissioner for
Junior National Ratings and
Certifications

As I start my first season in my new role, I am quickly becoming aware and appreciative of the countless hours of work that those in their respective positions within the Official's Division (OD) give on a routine basis. With any position comes responsibility and accountability. What is not readily evident to the casual observer is the intensity of numerous tasks that must be performed to be successful in one's role. It reminds me of the old saying: "I love my job; it's the work I hate". Well, whatever the feeling, I knew what I was signing up for and I am excited about pushing ahead in order to do my part to enhance the overall program.

Before I go any further, I wish to take a moment to offer a deep felt thanks. Although there are a number of people that deserve credit for helping throughout the years in the OD, two people deserve a special mention. Corny Galdones, who introduced me to the National OD environment, and C.J. McAbee-Reher who mentored me for this position for the last few years. Thanks to both of you.

Already, I have experienced what I had always assumed: that the cadre of raters is a solid, professional, and friendly group to work with. They have been more than helpful in helping me staff the qualifier rating sessions at Far Western, Mid East, North East, and Lone Star, as well as the Junior National Girl's Championships (JNG) in Houston. At some of the qualifiers, they will be conducting a pre-tournament training session (see separate article "R2 Training at Qualifiers"). Many thanks go to Gloria Cox for managing the training aspect of the program.

At Girls, there will be (re)evaluation of several existing officials to keep us all on our toes and aware of the latest in techniques and procedures. It is our goal to review as many officials as practical each year. If you are selected for review this year, please keep an open mind and realize that not only is the goal to improve the corps of referees as a whole, but also to provide each referee with more tools so as to be able to improve their skills.

This year we will not be conducting a Regional Rating Education session (previously known as the Rater Intern Training program) at the Girl's tournament, however the program still exists. In fact, there is a plan for discussions on how to expand the program so that many more participants can be involved. Keep your ears open for news on this.

We are expecting a full slate of Jr. National candidates this year so our old-timers will no doubt observe some new faces at the qualifiers and JNG. When you see them, recall what it was like to go through the process. Remember they can use your help. How? A simple smile and encouragement goes a long way! •

CORRECTION

The story in our October (Vol. 5, No. 5) 2003 issue of The Official Word, Special Olympics Reminds Us Why We Do What We Do, was written by Southern California referee Terry Lawton, who participated as an official in last summer's Special Olympics in Ireland. The Official Word mistakenly gave credit for the story to another author.

USAV Officials Division 2003-2004 Budget



By Wally Hendricks
Vice President, Officials
Division USA Volleyball

Our 2004 budget was approved as submitted by the Finance and Budget Committee. There was little change between this budget and last year's budget. Most of our expenses are for ratings. We still have about a \$12,000 loss on ratings and evaluations that is covered by our dues. We did fund a couple of new items:

- \$1500 for items for officials at the 3 summer tournaments.
- \$1200 for a more secure and responsive web site
- \$650 to send a representative to the NASO meetings (shared with PAVO)

A final review of last year's budget has shown that we spent about \$1200 more than we earned. This shortfall will be covered by the approximately \$19,000 that we were credited from income over 2001-2002.

The USA Volleyball Board of Directors voted to increase per diem to \$35/day for staff after our final budget had been turned in. That will impact everyone who is traveling on OD business as well. This will increase our expenses by \$2840 with no offsetting income. If this leads to a shortfall for the current year, we have agreed to have this funded from our 2001-2002 accounts as well.

If you would like to see a detailed budget for the OD, please contact Wally Hendricks •

USAV Referee Commission News



Kathy Ferraraccio
AVP Referee Commission

It is hard to believe that once again, it is time to begin preparing for the USA Volleyball National tournaments that begin at the end of May. But it is time to reverse our signals, stop shoveling (don't I wish), and get ready for a trip to warmer weather down south. Can I leave now?

As some of you know, registrations have begun for the slate of tournaments, 2004. The first tournament will be the USA Volleyball Adult Championships to be held in Atlanta from Saturday, May 29 through Saturday, June 5. There will be two sessions, both four days long. From May 29 – June 1, the play will consist of A/AA Co-Ed and Reverse Co-Ed, Special Olympics, Open Championships, B/BB, and the 5's age groups. From June 2 – June 5, we will see B/BB Co-Ed and Reverse Co-Ed, A/AA, Disabled, and the 0's age groups. In both sessions, we will also see the new championships for U-Volley, which consists of females 175 cm or shorter and males 185 cm or shorter.

The Girls Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships will be held in Houston from June 23 through June 30. The first session, which runs from June 23 – June 26 will see play in the 12 - 15 age brackets in both Open and Club ball. The second session will run from June 27 – June 30, and will include play in the 16 – 18 age brackets in both Open and Club ball.

The Girls Invitational Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships and the Boys Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships will be held in Austin. Junior National-girls tournament will run from June 24 – June 27, with all age brackets competing. Junior National-boys tournament will run from June 30 – July 7, with two completely different sessions this year. The first session will run from June 30 – July 3, with play including the 13 Club and 16 and 18 age brackets in both Open and Club ball. The second session will run from July 4 – July 7 and will include play in all other divisions.

To register for any of these tournaments, it is actually quite simple. Go to usavolleyball.org and place your cursor on rules/officials. A drop down box will appear from which you should choose "officials division". Another drop down box will appear, and this time you should click on "update data base". When the new screen appears, you will see two selections at the top of the page. Click on search for officials, and a new screen will appear asking for your user name and password. When you enter this information, you will enter the database, where you can choose an option to register for a tournament. It is that easy!!!!

Some time after you register, you will receive a confirmation from me letting you know the status of your registration. If you have paid your dues, turned in your exam, have registered before the deadline, and are in good standing within your region, you will be confirmed for the tournament. This will mean that you are guaranteed a minimum of 6 matches per day for the first three days of a session, and for 2 matches on the fourth day of a session. If you are not working a full session, you are only guaranteed the number of matches needed to maintain your certification.

Any applications that come in after the deadline will be accepted. This means that you are welcome to attend the tournament, but you are not guaranteed any matches, other than those needed to maintain your certification. We are trying very hard to reward those referees who get their paperwork done on time, so get your registrations done if you want to be confirmed for the tournament.

The registration deadline for the adult tournament is March 15, and the registration deadline for the junior tournaments is April 15. Any registrations after that date will be on an accepted basis.

The mandatory clinic for the first session of the adult championships will be held early afternoon the day before play begins. The mandatory clinic for all other sessions of each tournament will begin at 7 pm the night before play begins. This clinic is mandatory each year, and you must attend before being allowed to officiate at any of the national tournaments. You only need attend the clinic once per year. If you attend the national clinic at the Open tournament, you will not be required to attend for any other tournament you attend during the summer.



However, I do ask that you attend the meeting that is held at 8 pm, following the national clinic. This meeting will cover all rules that are tournament specific. If you do not attend this meeting, you MUST meet with the head referee on duty before you will be allowed to officiate at the tournament. To keep the extra time for the head referees to a minimum, please attend the 8 pm meeting if you are at all able.

The training and rating of officials will continue this year in full force. You will find members of the rating team at 5 Qualifier tournaments, the adult Nationals, and both the girls and boys JOVC. This crew does a tremendous job keeping all officials up to date with techniques and rules. Please thank them when you see them, and ask any questions you may have to help you improve your game. Don't be worried if you were reviewed last year, and find yourself being reviewed at a tournament this summer. This can only help us all to be on the same page, and to continue to raise the bar of officiating.

I look forward to seeing each of you at a tournament this summer. Please stop and say hi, and offer any suggestions that you may have to help the Officials Division in serving all officials. Enjoy the next few months, and I'll see you soon. •

Ball Control - My View



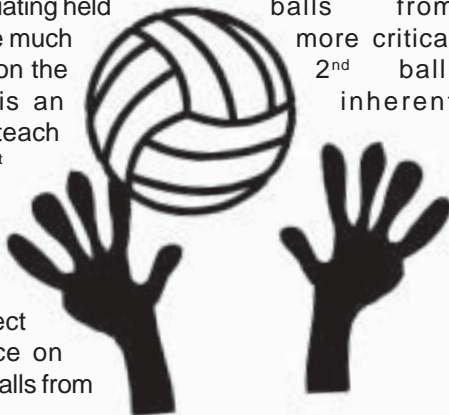
Wally Hendricks
Vice President, Officials Division USA Volleyball

The key concept that is now (or should be) taught is “over control” versus “under control” of the first pass. If the ball is **over** controlled (like many beach sets) it should be called a held ball. For example, if a player takes a very low ball with the hands in an ugly way but the ball goes straight forward or down, then it shouldn’t be called. If, instead, the player is able to catch the ball (it might look pretty to beach players) and use his/her wrists to make a nice pass the setter, it should be called a held ball.

Forget about trying to differentiate between multiple contacts and “rolling” - it can’t be done (if we had super-slow motion, we would see all the balls that “roll” up the arm as a series of contacts). This will tell you exactly what to do with balls like “broom balls” (ball is contacted high and it goes backwards) - legal (**under** control): multiple contacts. (the uglier the better for multiple contacts.)

The problem that we face is that our mind will tell us “too long” but our eyes are often not good enough to discern multiple contacts from a prolonged contact. On second and third balls, it doesn’t matter. Both multiple contacts and holding the ball too long are illegal. Thus, the R1 should be very careful about calling (a ball that the mind says was there too long) a held ball on the 1st contact without a really good view (check with the R2 when the player is not facing you). On second and third, there was surely a fault and you need to call it - it only matters to the referees which fault was called.

I have heard officials indicate that the teaching of the rating teams and the clinicians is not consistent with each other. We have been told that held balls should be called on the first ball, but the rating team often criticizes candidates for calling the ball too tightly. The problem is that errors in judgment in differentiating held balls from multiple contacts are much more critical on the 1st ball than on the 2nd ball. Therefore, there is an inherent problem when we teach people to judge 1st contacts in the same way that we judge 2nd contacts. This is wrong. We simply cannot expect consist performance on distinguishing held balls from



multiple contacts when we know that our eyes are not good enough to differentiate “rolling” from multiple contacts.

If you use the “under control over control-method”, you can be very consistent. Try to drop “lift” and “rolled” and replace them with “held.” You can explain this judgment well to players/coaches who criticize your calls. We need to be much more consistent from official to official on 1st ball calls. This, in my judgment, is the way to do it. •

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College Championship Assignments 2003



Congratulations to all officials who were selected to work in the post-season events!

It is indeed an honor and privilege to be involved in any conference tournament or any stage of the championship tournaments – NCAA, NAIA, and Junior/Community College.

The following officials were selected for participation at the events noted:

NJCAA Championships

DIVISION I

Tim Neels, Head Referee
Erika Derra
Mike Gibbs
Mike Hamilton
Gary Kufahl
Marty Prochko

DIVISION II

Ray Mink, Head Referee
Steve DiBacco
Fusako Hines
Ann Hutchins
Tom Joseph
Jimmy McKinzey
Terry Miller
Kristine Mullen
Mike Mullin
Owen Nakamura
Joe Salak, Jr
Barb Strome

DIVISION III

Mark Skoglund, Head Referee
Jose Jones
Todd Karolczak
Jane Mutchler
Shaunna Rhinesmith
Jolene Swaim
Dan Wagner

NAIA Championships

Gale House, Head Referee
Brig Beatie
Beth DiPirro
Mike Hamilton
Lyman Johnson
Paula Martin
Jesse Martinez
Peter Meyer
Daphne Nelson
Thang Nguyen

NCAA DIVISION III Championships

Jose Jones
Mary Malpede
Larry Schwartz

NCAA DIVISION II Championships

Donna Carter
Janis Matson
Ann Fruechte
Marsha Rupert

NCAA DIVISION I Championships

All individuals listed below were referees at a first/second round site; those with one asterisk were selected as a referee at a regional site as well; those with two asterisks were also selected to work the Division I Championship Semifinal and Finals in Dallas.

Paul Albright*
Inga Balzaras
Mary Blalock**
Michael Blalock
Richard Bleau
Tracie Brinkley
Syd Church*
Annette Cottle*
Gloria Cox
Kevin Cull*
Mike Denardo
Charles Ezigbo

Mary Faragher*
Mike Farish
Kathy Ferraraccio**
Bill Forrester
Kurt Fulmer
Lydia Godshall
Dale Goodwin

Steve Thorpe
Julie Voeck*
Rick Welch
Kim Wishum

All individuals listed below were line judges at a regional



Officials working the 2003 NAIA National Volleyball Championships in San Diego at Pt. Loma Nazarene University were (L to R): Thang Nguyen, Beth Di Pirro, Paula Martin, Lyman Johnson, Gale House (Head Referee), Daphne Nelson, Peter Meyer, Brig Beatie, and Mike Hamilton. Jesse Martinez is not pictured.

Don Goodwin
Fish Gupton
Marvin Hall
Tim Harlow
Virginia Hayes
Fusako Hines
Ann Hutchins*
John Kinyon
Kent Kitade
Verna Klubnikin*
Crystal Lewis
Hansen Leong
Patsy Malta**
Tana Martin
Mickey Matthews
Kim Norman
Tom Pingle**
Joan Powell*
Marty Prochko*
Robert Okamura*
Margie Ray
Glenn Sapp
Peggy Schaefer*
Ron Stahl
Barb Strome

site; those with an asterisk were also selected as line judges at the Division I Championship Semifinal and Finals in Dallas.

Vigen Abrahamian
Mark Akers
Tom Berg*
Donna Carter*
Darren Chun
Dickson Chun
Kevin Chun
Mike Farish
Chris Hermosilla
Jeff Krause
Greg Leung
Kim Pickering
Michelle Prater*
Dean Tamuro
Tom Ulibari*
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