Sports psychologist Colleen Hacker has given scores of motivating messages to high-level athletes as mental skills coach and performance enhancement specialist for U.S. Olympic athletes. Her tenure began in 1995 with the U.S. Women’s National Soccer team, which went on to win the first gold medal awarded in the sport at the 1996 Games in Atlanta. She has coached teams in four Olympic games.

Hacker shared from her great body of research and experience with those who attended the PAVO Officials Convention in Seattle. Here are a few highlights from her inspirational talk, “The Secret of the Slight Edge.”

- **The elevator to the top is broken** – Nothing comes easy – everything takes hard work! While many were born with particular abilities and talents, it takes time to grow and develop those talents to achieve excellence. National referees were not born that way – it took years of practice and experience to achieve that level.

- **Passion** - Follow your heart and the rest of your body will follow. If you don’t enjoy an activity, it will be much more difficult to get motivated to do it well.

- **Preparation** - There is no substitute for preparation. Preparation is an on-going activity. We prepare at the beginning of the season, during the season, for each match and for each rally during the match. Being prepared helps us get the best results.

- **Commitment to Excellence** - Have a commitment to excellence, accept nothing less. As a referee, I have always believed in continual training and practice – and a commitment to excellence and doing my best each time I go out on the court.

- **Power of Belief and Expectation** – You must believe you are capable of a goal before you can achieve it.

- **How do you react to adversity and set-back?** We all will make mistakes – get over them! Quick recovery is important – especially when you are in the middle of officiating an important volleyball match. A fully focused brain and being in the present is necessary to achieve the greatest success. There are mistakes worth making! Extract what is relevant. Failure isn’t fatal if you use it for fertilizer. Respond to mistakes versus just reacting to mistakes.

- **Teamwork** – Move from me to we. Shout your praise, whisper your criticism. As volleyball officials, we depend on our team each and every match to be successful.

I hope you find some of Dr. Hacker’s messages as motivational as I and others at convention did. Look for more on this topic at clinics this summer.
Evaluations from attendees rate “Spikin’ In Seattle,” the 2013 PAVO Officials Convention, as one of the most successful in its 17 year history. But don’t take my word for it. Listen to what your colleagues who attended had to say.

Sports psychologist Colleen Hacker’s opening keynote on performance enhancement received rave reviews: “Outstanding!” “One of the best speakers ever.” “Awesome! Helpful, insightful, and motivational.” “Fantastic! I’ll buy the online convention just for this alone,” and “GREAT-Bring her back!” were just a few of the comments.

Hacker, a professor in kinesiology at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash., serves as the mental skills coach to professional, international and Olympic athletes in a variety of sports including Major League Baseball, the NFL, MLS, NWPS (professional soccer), and USA swimming, crew, speed skating, track and field, and tennis.

Joan Powell, the NCAA National Coordinator of Officials, ran an on-court clinic demonstrating the latest techniques and mechanics. “Joan makes things so understandable!” said one respondent. “I could listen to her for days.” “Best presentation, but way too short,” others said. The pearls of wisdom Joan has to offer are beneficial to all officials at all levels.

Hugh McCutcheon, former head coach of both the U.S. men's and women’s national volleyball teams and the current head coach of the University of Minnesota's women's volleyball team, shared his experiences as an international and collegiate coach. “Super session. What a well spoken and classy speaker with a wealth of knowledge and unique perspective of the game.” Although some felt McCutcheon was controversial because of his strong opinions, his talk was “very frank and honest.”

Kathy DeBoer, executive director of the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA), challenged the group with her visionary approach to attracting more fans to our sport. Her presentation was hailed as “superb”, “passionate and witty” and singled out by one attendee as the greatest strength of the convention. “Kathy DeBoer is a leader of our sport. (She) breaks the shell and expands it.” “Wow-she was amazing! Her perspective was invaluable.”

Steve Thorpe, FIVB International official and professional airplane pilot, explained sleep debt and how to mitigate fatigue. “Steve was really fascinating.” “Great speaker, great information.” “This was awesome.”

Mike Pereira simply told his own story—poignant, intimate, uplifting—and not a dry eye in the room when he finished. “Powerful” “His love of officiating is very obvious and contagious.” “Incredible, personal, touching.” “Best of the convention.” “All I can say is WOW!!”

Marcia Alterman, PAVO's executive director, and Anne Pufahl, NCAA secretary/rules editor, led their annual video-laden sessions on rules and situations. Minor technical difficulties made the pair adlib a bit, but this highlighted their wit and good humor. “Always good, never enough time.”

Alterman and Mike Carter co-hosted the semifinal analysis. “It’s a highlight of the week every year for a reason!” “Best I’ve seen in three years. Very Frank. Not sugar coated.” “One of the best exchanges and interaction that we have had for analysis.”

Of course there’s noting like attending the convention in person, but the next best thing is viewing it all online, at your convenience, as often as you’d like. Visit pavoconvention.com and click on the bundle tab. For only $90, you have unlimited 300 day access.

Save the date for future conventions. Next year we’re in Oklahoma City, Dec. 17-20, 2014. Learn more about Oklahoma City on page 7.
The NCAA women’s volleyball rules committee just finished its yearly meeting in frigid Indianapolis in early February. I cannot share the rule changes that were voted in until the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) reviews the committee’s changes. PROP will review the rules to see how the changes impact the sport. Items PROP looks at are financial issues, player safety and well being of the game.

The committee spent a lot of time reviewing the annual rules survey to get a sense of what rule change needs to be considered. I have listed the results below.

Officials had a good response rate on the survey; 1,520 of 3,057 officials completed it, for a response rate of 49.4 percent.

One question asked about increasing the minimum free space area to 3 meters (9 feet, 9 inches) for facilities constructed after 2016. Eighty-one percent of officials said “yes” while 74 percent of head coaches supported the increased free space.

The committee also surveyed the net fault/center line rule combinations;
• 44.3 percent wanted the rule changed to the USA net fault rule with the NCAA center line
• 30.7 percent of the coaches wanted the USA net fault along with the NCAA Center line rule
• 45.4 percent of the coaches wanted to keep the current NCAA net/center rule while
• 39.1 percent of the officials wanted to keep the current rule

The remainder wanted the NFHS net and center line rule.

The transmission of statistical data from an area not on the bench to the bench was included on the survey. I was surprised to see that the officials still wanted to stay involved with enforcing this rule. About sixty-three percent of officials said not to change the rule and 71.6 percent of the coaches agreed. I added this issue to the survey hoping the officials would vote to either allow it or have no data to be transferred. That would have taken the burden of enforcing this difficult rule off of the official’s plates.

Another surprising result from the officiating cadre was that 74 percent of the officials didn’t want to allow the media timeout even if there is no media present (the coaches agreed at a rate of 73.8 percent). It was surprising to see that the officials still wanted a different protocol from night to night, dependant on where they are working.

When asked about changing the pursuit rule to either eliminate it completely or only allow it outside the net post, 66.5 percent of the coaches did not support this change. Once again, a surprising 63.3 percent of the officials also did not want this change. With the risk of injury and the fact the referees don’t move as fast as the athletes chasing a pursuable ball, it was astounding that the officials didn’t take safety as a factor when answering this question.

Not surprisingly, when asked if the fifth set should be played to 25 points instead of 15, 92 percent of officials did not want to see this change occur (74 percent of the coaches agreed).

I hope this sheds a little light on how the rule changes are reviewed and officials do have a voice on the committee when change is being considered.

by Anne Pufahl
NCAA Secretary-Rules Editor

National Rating Team Sites – 2014

At print time, the National Rating Team sites for 2014 have not been finalized. Please watch your email and the PAVO website for information on those sites, and review the application instructions on the PAVO website as well. After reviewing that information, if you have questions, please contact Mara Wager, NRT Director (NRT.Director@pavo.org) or Miki Kennedy, PAVO Member Services (pavo@pavo.org).
Opportunity is knocking!! Training camps are your opportunity to advance your career through exposure, networking, and advice from seasoned trainers, all in a non-threatening environment.

PAVO will continue its highly successful camp program with offerings spread geographically to make travel easier for officials. Scholarships are available to help defer the costs. And remember, comments made by our outstanding camp staff are forwarded to the assignors of your choice. Take a look at the schedule below:

**PAVO Spring 2014 Camps and Registration Fees**

- **Referee Training Camp:** Marquette University (Milwaukee, WI), Feb 28-March 1. ($150 for PAVO members & non-members) - This camp is full!! Planned staff includes Tim Harlow, Jim Momsen, Nancy Nestor, and Pati Rolf (all experienced Division I referees)

- **Referee Training Camp:** University of Delaware (Newark, DE), March 21-22. ($150 for PAVO Members & non-members) -Space Available! Planned staff includes Corny Galdones (NCAA Regional Advisor, A-10 coordinator), Kathy Ferraraccio (America East & Colonial coordinator), plus Carla Bunner and Michael O’Connor (seasoned Division I referees)

- **Premier/Advanced Joint USAV/PAVO Training Camp:** NCVF Tournament (Reno, NV), April 2-5. ($285 for PAVO Members, $285 for non-members) - Space Available!! Planned staff includes Verna Klubnikin and Daphne Nelson (NCAA Division I referees with postseason experience)

- **Collegiate Camp:** NCAA Division I Camp, Villanova University (Philadelphia, PA) April 11-12 ($240 for PAVO Members, $265 for non-members) -Space Available!! Planned staff includes Marcia Alterman (Conference Coordinator-Big Ten, Big East, AAC, C-USA, Horizon League, MAC), Steve Thorpe (FIVB Referee, former PAVO clinician)

- **Advanced Collegiate Camp:** NCAA Division I Camp, Gonzaga University (Spokane, WA) April 11-12 ($285 for PAVO Members, $300 for nonmembers) - Applications Still Accepted!! Planned staff includes Margie Ray (NCAA Championship referee), Donna Hess (NCAA Division I referee with postseason experience)

- **Collegiate Camp:** University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI) April 18-19 ($240 for PAVO members, $265 for non-members) - Space Available!! Planned staff includes Joan Powell (NCAA National Coordinator, Marcia Alterman (Conference Coordinator-Big Ten, Big East, AAC, C-USA, Horizon League, MAC), and CJ Mcabee-Reher (Division I referee with postseason experience)

- **Collegiate Camp:** University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI) April 18-19 ($240 for PAVO members, $265 for non-members) - Space Available!! Planned staff includes Ann Hutchins, Don Miller (NCAA Division I referees)

**Which Camp is For You?**

**Referee Training Camp – Penn State**. This camp is particularly popular due to combining a camp with the possibility of officiating matches for pay. Video feedback is not a part of this camp. Lodging is provided along with food and other amenities.

**Referee Training Camp – Marquette University and University of Delaware.** These camps are popular because the setting is a Collegiate Club tournament where there are multiple opportunities to work as R1 and R2. Video feedback is not provided at these camps.

**Collegiate Training Camps – University of Michigan and Villanova.** Both of these camps offer an opportunity to see challenging levels of play at the Division I level. Video feedback of both referee

*Continued on page 5*
positions will be provided to campers along with real-time comments made by a staff of experienced officials. Registration is available on the PAVO website in the E-Store.

Advanced Collegiate Training Camps – Gonzaga University. This camp requires an application and should be considered by officials who are looking to be added to top-level Division I Conferences. An application is necessary to ensure officials have the prerequisite experience. To be considered for the Advanced Collegiate Training Camp, register/pay for the camp on the E-store, and then submit the information below to the PAVO Central Office by March 7.

1. Application (available on the PAVO website)
2. Summary of 2013 volleyball officiating schedule including:
   a. Number, level of match (Div I/II/III) and conference
   b. Tournaments (do not list all teams just level/conference of host team)
3. Two letters (e-mails suffice) of recommendation provided by officials, coaches or coordinators who have seen you officiate the past two years. The recommendation should include comments pertaining to growth potential, professionalism and ability to handle difficult situations.

Each applicant will be notified no later than March 21, 2014 whether or not s/he has been accepted for this camp. Campers will attend an evening classroom session on Friday, April 11 (7-10 pm) and participate in on-court training on Saturday, April 12. Campers are responsible for their own travel costs and lodging expenses.

Camp Registration
On-line registration is available on the PAVO website (E-Store). Just click on the E-Store tab on the home page, and then select “Referee Training Camps” from the menu choices. Then select your camp, and have a credit card ready for payment!

Campers may also register by contacting PAVO at: 1-888-791-2074 or email at pavo@pavo.org.

Scholarships
PAVO continues to offer a limited number of camp scholarships, open to any member in good standing. To apply, submit the following by March 15 to the PAVO Camp Director at: Camp.Director@PAVO.org:

- Completed scholarship application (available on the PAVO website under Officials Training/Camp Scholarships)
- Letter (e-mail) of Interest; include your officiating goals and why you would be a good scholarship recipient.
- Letter (e-mail) of recommendation. Include one recommendation from your PAVO Board Chair, a PAVO National Official or a Conference Coordinator of Officials. Only one recommendation is needed.

Any additional PAVO Camps questions can be forwarded to PAVO Camp Director, Doug Darling at Camp.Director@PAVO.org.

PAVO now has a Facebook page! If you “like” PAVO on Facebook, you will receive immediate notifications of upcoming opportunities, officiating pix that have been submitted, and other announcements. Stay informed & involved through Facebook!
How is your season going so far? Have you incorporated the new rules and techniques into your officiating?

By now, you should have completed the National-level Referee Curricula, including the National-level Referee Exam, on the USAV Academy website. If you have not already attended a live National Referee Clinic, the final two clinics are on March 13th in Denver and April 3rd in Atlanta.

You are also probably working hard assisting with clinics, training, evaluations, and maybe even officiating in your region. Maybe you have already traveled to a Boys Bid Tournament or another large event somewhere. It seems like the season has just started and now the final Boys’ Bid Tournaments and the Girls’ Junior National Qualifiers are just around the corner.

Remember that as you work through the new rules and procedures, you should always take advantage of the training materials on the USAV Official Training & Education website, or VRT (https://www.VolleyballRefTraining.com), and the USAV Indoor Case Book, which is updated as often as we can get new cases written.

The National Indoor Referee Certification Requirements have been recently revised. The biggest change is that (effective the end of last season) National Referees who complete their current three-year terms will begin new four-year terms. This means that all National-level referees have four-year certification terms. Junior National and National Referees will attend a minimum of one specified National Championship event in two of the four years and another national-level event in one of the two remaining years. Again, you can find all this information on VRT.

Also on VRT, you can find the Junior National and National Candidate applications and National Championship Event registrations. Look for more information in other articles in this publication, and if you have any questions, contact Michelle Prater at praterm11@gmail.com.

On another note, remember that each year USAV may send a maximum of three qualified USAV National Referees as candidates for a PAVO National Referee certification. If you are interested in being considered as a candidate for this fall’s PAVO ratings sites, please submit a letter of application that includes your USAV and collegiate officiating experiences and at least two letters of reference from National referees by April 1st. If accepted you will need to submit a PAVO National Candidate application form and the $150 fee by April 30th. Please send your application and reference letters or any questions to me at usavrefchair@neb.rr.com. Please be aware that USAV is not required to submit three names, so it is not guaranteed that your application will be accepted.

In recent months, the USAV corps of national referees has suffered some losses. Lea Wagner, from the Great Lakes Region, and Dale Rohde, from the Badger Region, passed away recently. They will be missed by their families, friends, and those of us who knew them. Please keep their family and friends in your prayers.

Several of our colleagues have retired their national-level referee certification since last season: George Barrows, Phyllis Coleman, Michael Denardo, Larry Dolvig, Brad Frost, Todd Haverkos, John Kennard, Patsy Neal, Christopher Rentz, Verneda Thomas, David Wester, Cathy Wolfsfeld, and Daniel Wong. They served USAV and their regions for many years. Thank them and wish them well next time you see them.

And finally, the USAV Officials Commission and its component groups will be meeting in Denver the first week of March. We will be discussing many topics and making decisions for next season and the future. Although time will be short leading up to these meetings, I would love to hear your ideas anytime--specific or broad, some immediate need, or a goal to strive for in the next few years. Please contact your elected representatives Donnie Goodwin or Devonie McClarty, me, Michael McPoyle or any of the Commission members.

That is all for now. See you on the court!
The 2014 PAVO Official’s Convention will be held Dec. 17-20 in Oklahoma City in conjunction with the NCAA Division I Volleyball Championships.

The convention hotel will be the Skirvin Hilton. The semi final and championship games will be played at the Chesapeake Energy Arena in the heart of downtown Oklahoma City. Both the hotel and arena are just steps away from a number of attractions and dining options. Enjoy restaurants, dance clubs and more in Bricktown entertainment district’s historic brick warehouses perched along the edge of a meandering canal.

“It’s an amazing way to learn the latest techniques and protocols, celebrate the end of another great officiating season, and experience college volleyball at the highest level,” said board delegate Christina Fiebich. “Whether you are a board chair, a new official or a veteran, the opportunity for personal and professional growth, networking with your peers, and volleyball education is waiting for you.”

Details will be provided in subsequent editions of the “Official Word” and on the PAVO website, www.pavo.org.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2014 PAVO OFFICIAL’S CONVENTION

by Christina Fiebich
Board Delegate

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“Everything a Volleyball Referee Needs!”
Congratulations to all officials who were selected to work 2013 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.

**NCAA DIVISION I Championship Referees**

All of the individuals listed below were assigned as referees at a first/second round site. Those with one asterisk were selected to referee at a regional site as well; those with two asterisks were also selected to referee the Division I Championship semifinals and final in Seattle WA.

Brad Aaberg  
Paul Albright*  
Dan Apol*  
Eric Asami  
Briig Beatie  
Mary Blalock  
Wade Brenc  
Brian Brink  
Carla Bunner  
Donna Carter  
Tony Chan  
Marcia Costley  
Kevin Cull*  
Ross Erickson  
Mary Faragher  
Erik Fisaga  
Nicki Fisaga*  
Bill Forrester  
Burt Fuller  
Sergio Gonzalez  
Dale Goodwin  
Don Goodwin  
Mike Hamilton  
Tim Harlow  
Brian Hemelgarn  
Donna Hess*  
Dan Houser  
Malie Jewkes  
Leisa Jordan  
Tom Joseph  
Todd Karolczak  
Kaili Kimura  
John Kinyon  
Verna Klubnikin*  
Amy Knowles  
Daryl Korinek  
Jim Kuziela  
Nathan Mahaven*  
Patsy Malta**  
Paula Martin  
Jesse Martinez  
CJ McBee-Reher  
Keith Murlless  
Bonnie O’Connor  
Robert Okamura  
Jason Olson*  
Steve Owen  
Jung Park**  
Denise Penzkofer  
Mark Prater  
Michelle Prater*  
Marty Procho*  
Margie Ray**  
Steve Robb  
Rod Rodriguez  
Inga Rzeszutko  
Bill Stanley  
Bill Thorburn  
Julie Vocek**  
Mara Wager**  
Kevin Wendelboe  
Jim Werner

The officials below were selected for participation by the various governing bodies at the events noted. Please remember that the NCAA does not assign line judges for Division II or Division III, or the scorekeeping crew for any of the divisions.

**NJCAA DI Championship Crew**

BR/ left to right:  Bonnie Apol(SK), Kent Haggard(SK), Candida Mallo(LJ), Glo Bailey, Head Referee, Juli Smaelie, Kim Renquest, Don Pemberton(LJ), Amber Ellis(SK)  
FR/ L to R:  Stephen Arichea, Dave Spencer, Adam Drewry(LJ), Dave Raddatz(LJ), Clark Radcliffe, Anthony Buller(LJ), Dan Lass(LJ), Ryan MacDowell.

All of the individuals listed below were assigned as line judges at a first/second round site. Those with one asterisk were selected to referee at a regional site as well; those with two asterisks were also selected to referee the Division I Championship semifinals and final in Seattle WA.

Mark Akers  
Joe Asis  
David Atkinson  
Mike Behrens  
Thomas Berg  
Kent Brockman  
Bert Casem  
Henry Chen*  
Nakesha Coleman  
Dave Cooper*  
Ray Cordeiro  
Ken Corum  
Suzanne Dodd  
Kurt Donaldson  
Ruchelle Dunwoody**  
Robyn Filimaua**  
Ken Frances  
Dana Fuller  
Ben Goodwin  
Cary Grant  
Lena Gustafson*  
Chris Haworth  
Tony Huber  
John Hunley  
Pat Kekic  
Kent Kocour  
Jeff Kopaska  
Jeff Krause  
Brian Jones  
Kevin Lane*  
Chris Lee  
Matt Lebove  
Scott Lowery*  
Suzanne Lowry**  
Neil Marron  
Andy Martin  
Luis Martinez**  
Kim McCuen*  
Neal Meredith*  
Ted Moser  
Shara Moxley  
Chad Oberholtzer  
Robert Owen  
Don Pemberton  
Jeff Peters  
Heather Pickett  
Adam Pike  
Dean Roble  
Mark Rogers  
Rodante Saballa  
Ryan Sakagawa  
Brian Smith  
Tina Spann  
John Sutton  
Dean Tamura  
Chris Tan*  
Don Tarin*  
Tom Ulbigarchi*  
Summer Vicknair  
Jim Visagits*  
Nathan Wagner*  
Roger Wallenburg  
Michal-Ann Watts

**NCAA DI Championship Crew L to R:** Mara Wager, Margie Ray, Jung Park, Patsy Malta, Suzanne Lowry, Robyn Filimaua, Luis Martinez, and Ruchelle Dunwoody.
## NCAA DIVISION II Championship Referees

All of the individuals listed below were selected to referee at a Division II regional site. Those marked with an asterisk were selected to referee the Division II Championships in Cedar Rapids, IA – BJ Willard, head referee.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division II</th>
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<th>Division III</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keith Aidun</td>
<td>James Esteves</td>
<td>Sharon Harris-Higgins*</td>
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<td>Pi'I Aiu</td>
<td>Fono Fisaga</td>
<td>Ernie Ho</td>
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<td>Carole Burke</td>
<td>Kurt Fulmer</td>
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<td>Rebecca Carstenson*</td>
<td>Fish Gupton</td>
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<td>Stephanie Cruz</td>
<td>Joe Hardiman</td>
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## NCAA DIVISION III Championship Referees

All of the individuals listed below were selected to referee at a Division III regional site. Those marked with an asterisk were selected to referee the Division III Championships at Hope College in Holland Michigan – Jeanne Skinner, head referee.

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<th>Division III</th>
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<td>Debbie Anika</td>
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<td>Deniz Bergstedt</td>
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<td>Tony Slone</td>
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<td>Courtney Goodwin-Stuman</td>
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<td>Sharon Harris-Higgins*</td>
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<td>Darrell Pakele</td>
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<td>Owen Reiley</td>
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<td>Shauna Rhinesmith*</td>
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<td>Stacey Weitzel</td>
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<td>Vicky Wilcox</td>
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<td>Chad Zimmerman</td>
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## NJCAA Championship Referees

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<th>NJCAA I</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glo Bailey*</td>
<td>Rod Rodriguez, Perry Sutherland, Kim Hagan, Jr. Calton (head referee), Tony Stone, Elisabeth McHugh, Betty Near, Terry Bush</td>
<td>Dan Wong*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen Arichea</td>
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<td>Laurie Freund</td>
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<td>Ryan MacDowell</td>
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* Coordinator/Head Official

## NAIA Championship Referees

Wayne Clark* | Mic Huffman | Barb Silvey  
Bob Bayless | Ann Hutchins | Ryan Tighe  
Jay Calvin | Terri Narantic | Nancy Nester  
Christina Fiebich | *Head Referee |  

L to R: Wayne Clark, Barb Silvey, Terri Narantic, Nancy Nester, Ryan Tighe, Jr. Calvin, Christina Fiebich, Mic Huffman, Bob Bayless, Ann Hutchins
Thanks to all those who attended the Officials Assembly meeting in Seattle. Also many thanks to USAV for their support by sponsoring the breakfast and PAVO for helping to make it possible! It was a great turnout, many more than I was expecting. Hopefully we can continue with these types of open-forum meetings in the future, allowing questions, comments, etc. to be addressed and discussed.

Although USAV Officials Commission members have regular conference calls and thousands of emails during the course of the year, I continue to encourage you to contact me with items which you think should be addressed and to keep us moving forward. This is our organization and it takes all of us to make it work.

PAVO unveiled a demo version of its new on-line educational program during the 10th annual Board Chair Assembly held in December in conjunction with its annual official’s convention and the NCAA Final Four in Seattle.

More than 30 board chairs and representatives attended the three-hour session and another 18 watched a live stream online broadcast, which also included information about how boards can tap into the PAVO website and database to better serve their members and the importance of having bylaws and governing documents in place.

In continuing to enhance its web-based training, PAVO showed off the new iRef Learning Management System. The new platform, which is still in development, will provide fundamental education associated with each referee certification level that PAVO offers. A lengthy discussion about its future structure and implementation brought about a robust discussion on how it could become a future educational tool for referee training. Look for more information on the iRef in 2014.

Keith MacFie, a Seattle area attorney with an officiating background, talked about the importance of defining the organizational structure and its responsibilities. He talked about the importance of local associations developing and maintaining current governing documents, such as a constitution and/or by-laws. This session drew a number of questions from board chairs regarding local association issues and how governing documents can aide in addressing those issues.

PAVO web-master and database administrator, Tim Stevens, a Seattle native, answered several questions that board chairs had about using the PAVO database and website to the greatest advantage. He also created a “wish list” of enhancements that the board chairs would like to see.

The Board Chair Assembly has been an integral part of the PAVO Officials Convention, and the number of attendees has grown significantly over the years. Many boards provided funding for their board chairs to attend the meeting, which provides the most effective opportunity for local boards to provide input to the PAVO leadership on their needs and concerns.

If your board doesn’t have a representative attend on a regular basis, consider adding that topic to the agenda of your next business meeting. It is well worth the investment!
For the second year, the NCAA Division I Championship referees didn’t have to worry about a floor crew that was inattentive or uninvolved. A full contingent of floor workers were selected from among the PAVO convention registrants. They served as the speed wipers, ball crew, and mappers, and did an outstanding job. The entire crew came in on Wednesday evening for a practice session, and clearly pledged themselves to being the last thing that the referees had to worry about. The NCAA staff and Division I Championship committee continue to be impressed as well – it appears that this will be a standard procedure for future championships as well.

This year’s crew, supervised by Keith Murlless: Brad Aaberg, Gigi Brenay, Robyn Buck, Earl Capps, Ken Dawkins, Sterling Kaimimoku, Brenda Kirk, Apple Kridakorn, Cheryl Macaraeg, Jennifer McIntosh, Lisa Paull, Chris Saunders, and Morgan Shannon.

Have you seen the new modules on using the ‘Libero Control Sheet’ or ‘Getting Rated’?
Have you seen all the training modules regarding USAV play?

Visit the Volleyball Referee Training Site http://www.VolleyballRefTraining.com/

Do you have a question on a USAV rule?
Do you want to know a correct USAV technique?
Are you wondering if you handled the situation in your last match correctly?
Do you wonder what USAV tournaments there are to work?

Visit the Volleyball Referee Blog http://VolleyballRefTraining.com/usavreftrainingblog/?page_id=2
We’ll do our best to answer your questions and address your concerns. See you there!!!!
Believe in yourself. Never waver from this conviction. Otherwise, why would anyone else believe in you? What’s more, fears or doubts might creep in should the state of affairs in a match turn a bit rocky due to bumps in the road. Try as we might to avoid it, adversity is a natural part of our line of work. It’s critical for us to be prepared and stay positive to succeed in making molehills out of these mountains.

Wouldn’t it be nice to have every match free of issues? Knowing the rules by heart is an excellent start. However, there’s more to officiating, much more. Even if technically correct, enforcing every existing rule stirs up trouble when your disruptive failure to grasp how to run a match upsets either team feeling it’s not getting a fair shake. Each match is unique. Through seasoning and from your mistakes, acquire the smarts to identify when and what to administer to maintain the integrity of any match. Become an affirmative conductor, one who tunes in to both teams and produces sounds that are music to their ears so they will focus on playing and not fret about the officiating.

Stay out of the way but remain alert. Use your head, inserting yourself into the match only as needed and orchestrating the rules like Solomon. If you must make your presence known, exude competence and confidence. Render what’s spot on with calm control, selling it with sharp, assured mechanics. Being a ghost poised and on top of everything puts the teams at ease. Win their trust and you’ll have smooth sailing.

Depending on whether their team won or lost, players, coaches and fans will feel and say what they will. Still, we can influence one human element. We earn respect not only by how well we do but also by what we often overlook, how well we treat others. Whether in uniform or street clothes, body language counts in dealing with people. For instance, holding our arms crossed or akimbo creates a negative tone. And between a smile and a smirk, which would you consider to be friendlier? Another key factor is communication—how open and attentive we listen, how punctual, civil, reasonable and clear we respond. Attitude plays a major role as well. Are we full of good will or full of ourselves? Even if we’re higher up, this doesn’t justify us to go on a power trip or put on airs like we’re better, smarter or more important than everyone around. Regardless if we shine or not at what we do, it’s the character in us that defines who we are.

Who are you? Do you look out for no one except yourself? Do you turn your nose up at those or matters not worth your while? Are you a team of one? Do you put down or throw anyone under the bus for your own sake? Do you chase the limelight? Are your conversations all about you? Do you dismiss input since you have the answer for everything? Are you without a doubt always right? Does your stuff never stink? Are you who you really are or are you trying to sell a bogus image? Nobody’s fooled.

Self-esteem, pride and willpower are fine up to a point. Once you swagger and act as if you’re someone special, your arrogance puts people off. Their view of you will be nowhere close to your inflated opinion of yourself. If they can avoid it, few will put up with your antics, let alone enjoy the company of your ego. This isn’t you, is it? Else, you’re not such a good person. Overbearing, stand-offish or cocky, that would be you. It’s not too late for a change in mentality. Being ever so humble will work wonders.

Confidence isn’t the same as arrogance. Confidence is internal. Arrogance is external. Confidence is quiet. Arrogance is loud. Confidence attracts. Arrogance repels. Of these two traits, remember one thing. Silence is golden.
This is just a quick reminder that all National and Junior National Referee Candidate applications are due by April 1, 2014.

Instructions for referee applications can be found on the VRT website at http://www.VolleyballRefTraining.com/resources_applications.php

This year's rating sessions will again take place at the Girls' Junior National Championships to be held in Minneapolis, MN. The tournament will run for ten days from June 24 - July 3, 2014, with the referee rating processes to take place on separate days of the event.

For national referee candidates, the rating session will take place at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, MN from June 28 - 30. There is a mandatory candidates' meeting on Friday, June 27 at 7 pm. All potential national candidates need to have taken their USAV national-level rules exam by February 15, and received a score of 90% or better.

For junior national referee candidates, the rating session will take place at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, MN from June 30 - July 2. There is a mandatory candidates’ meeting on Sunday, June 29, at 7pm at the playing venue.

Candidate applications must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2014. Candidates will be notified of their acceptance status by May 1, 2014. Please refer to the VRT website for additional information, application forms, and requirements.

National candidates are required to attend a USAV National Referee Clinic by April 3, 2014. For Junior National candidates the USAV National Referee Clinic is available on line or in person, but must be taken by April 3, 2014. Please see the list of scheduled clinic dates and sites at http://www.VolleyballRefTraining.com/events_national_referee_clinics.php. In addition, applicants must complete the certification specific referee curriculum. Please visit https://www.VolleyballRefTraining.com/resources_applications.php for instructions and the specific curriculum required to complete the application process.

Junior National candidates, and existing Junior National and National referees, may choose to participate in the Premier Training Camp June 27–June 29 at the GJNC prior to the Junior National rating session. There is a mandatory meeting on June 26th. Camp details are on the VRT website.

Good luck on your quest and we look forward to seeing many of you this summer in Minneapolis.

NEW EXAM DEADLINE FOR NATIONAL & POSTSEASON REFEREES

Please make a note on your calendar!!! The examination deadline for PAVO National referees and any referee who wants to be eligible for NCAA postseason assignment (all divisions) was changed in 2013 to SEPTEMBER 1.

Exams will be taken online as in the past – only the due date has changed. Plans are to have the examination available around July 15. More information will be forthcoming!
Each year PAVO considers nominations for its highest award, the Honor Award, which is presented at the annual convention in December.

This award recognizes a PAVO member who goes well above the ordinary in his or her gifts to the organization and its members, conducts him or herself with integrity, and represents high moral character.

Through their leadership, committee work, writing or research, speaking or teaching, officiating, rating, or efforts to promote PAVO, the Honor Award recipient promotes PAVO to the volleyball world. Honor Award recipients are enshrined in the PAVO Hall of Fame. Written nominations need to be received by Aug. 1 via email to past.president@pavo.org. Questions may be directed to Dale Goodwin at this email, or by phone at 1-509-313-6133.

PAVO also recognizes a PAVO member in good standing who has demonstrated dedication, commitment and service to PAVO and/or its members, on a local, regional or national level. The Excellence in Service Award honors a person who has served in a leadership position in the past 12 months, and continues to actively demonstrate support to his or her board. To nominate a worthy candidate, submit a written nomination to PAVO by Aug. 1 at pavo@pavo.org. For more information contact Miki Kennedy at this email, or call 888-791-2074.
UPDATE ON INTERNATIONAL SCORERS

by Donna Wigton
Director, International Indoor Scorers

Soon I will have firm information about summer International tournaments and World League matches. As we finalize plans for these summer tournaments and Open/HP matches, this is a good time for scorers wishing to receive assignments to be planning their preparation and practicing to be ready for those tournaments. With a few modifications, you can practice the international sheet at any tournament – at least re-familiarize yourself with the procedures. You can download the scoresheet and instructions from the web (just Google “FIVB scoresheet” and it pops right up). Please review the instructional PowerPoint Presentation and current USA-International Scorer Manual online. Just go to www.VolleyballRefTraining.com and click on “Resources” (on the tool bar at the top), then to the left under the blue “Official’s Resources” click on “Indoor Scoring Materials,” then click on the block that is titled “International Scorer Manual” and then the block titled “International Scoresheet Clinic,” and finally click on the download button. Also, visit www.dataproject.com for training materials on the eScoresheet.

Those national scorers wishing to become qualified on the international sheet should do the same by following the procedures above to learn the scoresheet and try it out at a match sometime. To understand the steps to become qualified, go to the website above and click on “Certifications” on the tool bar, then click the red “Indoor” square, then under the green “scorer” rectangle click “International Indoor Scorer” and read the “To become qualified… section.” Also plan to attend the International Rating and Training clinic, which is usually presented on the day before the USA Volleyball Open Championships start (definite day and time will be announced by the April newsletter). You will be asked to fill out a short application form at that clinic. There is no fee for candidates since you are required to print out your own manual. Then sometime during the first half of the tournament, you will need to do two practice matches and turn them in for me to review.

Looking forward to seeing most of you at one of the tournaments this summer!

FLEET, POWELL JOIN PAVO BOARD

by Julie Voeck
President

PAVO will see several changes to the board membership in 2014.

Chuck Fleet was elected to the Director-at-Large position and began serving the first of his three-year term on Jan. 1. Fleet is a member West-Penn Ohio Board. He brings many years of experience as a volleyball referee and local leadership to the PAVO board.

Joan Powell has been appointed as Co-Director of the NCAA/PAVO Clinic program. Powell and Anne Pufahl will serve as Co-Directors for a three year-term. Pufahl previously held this position and was reappointed as a Co-Director. The PAVO Board believes that having them serve in these roles will further enhance cooperative efforts between PAVO and the NCAA for the clinic program.

Jung Park was also reappointed as the Director of Finance. He will serve another three-year term.

A complete listing of the PAVO Board of Directors is on the last page of this newsletter, and contact information is available on the PAVO website.
PAVO is not expected to enact any changes in the dues-payment process for the 2014 season, a year after the differences between membership and certification were spelled out.

PAVO membership is open to anyone, and to become a member, one simply has to pay dues and indicate agreement to the waivers and “Conditions of Membership.” Membership is required to be eligible for PAVO certification (see below).

PAVO has three membership categories:

**STANDARD** members are eligible for certification as a referee (any level), line judge (basic or national) or scorekeeper, or any combination. Standard members get full access to the NCAA Central Hub and NCAA registration (including the NCAA Welcome Package consisting of the 2014 NCAA Rules book and NCAA/PAVO Officiating Manual), PAVO insurance coverage, and all other PAVO member benefits. The 2014 dues for Standard members remain at $110 plus local dues, which vary from board to board.

**ASSOCIATE** members are eligible for certification as a line judge (basic or national) or scorekeeper, or both. Associate members get full access to the NCAA Central Hub and NCAA registration, but no Welcome Package. They also get PAVO insurance coverage, and all other PAVO member benefits. The 2014 dues for Associate members remain at $20 plus local dues, which vary from board to board.

**AFFILIATE** members are not eligible for certification as an official of any kind. Affiliate members do not have access to the NCAA Central Hub, nor do they receive a Welcome Package. Affiliate members have no insurance coverage, but do have access to PAVO discounts at member events, and receive PAVO publications. The 2014 dues for Affiliate members remain at $20, paid directly to PAVO.

Other than this change in nomenclature, there are a few reminders to keep in mind:

- Membership in PAVO and/or a local board does not guarantee either a certification or assignments.
- Hiring entities (schools, conferences, independent assignors) make the decision whether or not to require certification for referees, line judges, and scorekeepers. Neither PAVO nor the NCAA can require that schools and conferences hire only certified officials or PAVO members. However, one of PAVO’s missions is the advocacy for PAVO-certification, and the number of conferences that require or recommend certification for officials continues to grow.
- PAVO certification and access to the Central Hub is not intended for just officials who work NCAA matches. The information available on the site is vital to any official who works matches involving NCAA rules and techniques, which includes NJCAA and other junior/community college and NAIA matches.
- PAVO dues also cover the costs of providing certification and training materials to local boards, examination development, overhead costs of PAVO, professional liability insurance, website maintenance, etc.

Annual membership to PAVO runs from June 1-June 1. Notices will be sent this spring when the 2014 dues payment process begins.

Dues are payable by June 1, and late fees are implemented on July 1 (although local boards can establish earlier and more costly late fees than the PAVO Central Office charges).

You are a business owner – one who “owns” an officiating franchise called YOU! So prepare now to take care of this investment in your own officiating business in a timely manner!
Referees in his area and in his leagues have come to expect early a.m. emails from assigner Marc Blau. He does some of his best work in those early-morning hours.

He’s a referees’ assigner. He doesn’t mince words – he’ll tell you exactly what he thinks. But you always know where you stand. And he is the first one standing in the shadows cheering for his charges as they come off the court. They can’t help but love the guy.

For 40 years Blau has served the Tacoma-Pierce County and Northwest section of North America assigning referees, and lining up some of the best locally-produced officials’ training anywhere. On Dec. 20, Blau was honored by PAVO at its annual convention with its Excellence in Service Award, given to a local leader in volleyball officiating who demonstrates active support of the PAVO mission and objectives, who actively pursues additional training opportunities for members of the local board, and recruits and trains new members.

Past Tacoma, Wash., board chair Robyn Buck said Blau is the man in the background, pushing his officials into the spotlight. When you turn around to say thank you, he’s smiling and waving and giving you a thumbs-up. His love for this sport and his dedication to the players and officials alike is unsurpassed, she said.

He co-founded his local Tacoma board in 1973. He has served as assigning secretary for all but one of the years since, and he’s outlasted every one of those original members. Between nine colleges, nearly 50 high schools and more than 80 middle and junior high schools, he has a lot to assign . . . oh, and he is assigner for the NCAA Division II Great Northwest Athletic Conference, which stretches from eastern Montana to the northernmost “big city” in Alaska.

He is an accomplished referee, but he looks after those officials who work for him far more than he worries about himself. He has served as host to numerous national OTP clinics in his area, and has recruited some of the West Coast’s top referees, clinicians, volleyball coordinators and college coaches to offer clinics for his local officials. In addition, he has arranged for some of these same people to fly to Fairbanks and stage training sessions for the officials up there. Former Fairbanks Coach Phil Shoemaker said Blau has amazing connections and a broad network, and has been a true leader in pulling together a quality group of officials and improving their level of officiating throughout the league. He has been recognized in our sport with a number of meritorious awards over the years.

For 31 years he served as an administrator for the Pierce County Parks and Recreation Department until his retirement in 2004. In 1994, he co-founded the Tacoma-Pierce County Sports Museum in the Tacoma Dome. Since 2005 he has served as chair of the Tacoma-Pierce County Sports Hall of Fame and as executive director of the Washington State Sports Hall of Fame since 2011. He has authored two books on sports history, is an avid wine taster and sports nut. He is a member of the Washington State Softball Hall of Fame.
At 6 feet 5 inches, Steve Thorpe thought he was cut out to be a basketball player until his family moved to Jakarta, Indonesia, during his sophomore year in high school. There, he learned to play volleyball from some very patient players, Thorpe’s wife, Maureen, says.

From that point on, the game was in his blood.

After a long career of serving the volleyball community as a player, national and international referee, rules interpreter and clinician, Thorpe was honored Dec. 20 by PAVO with its Honor Award and induction into the PAVO Hall of Fame.

Thorpe started college at his parent’s alma mater, the University of North Dakota. His father played basketball for UND, but Thorpe had his sights set a little higher -- 40,000 feet higher. He became a pilot and now flies for Merck, a giant pharmaceutical company.

Thorpe had a long and successful career both as a collegiate referee and a masterful PAVO/NCAA clinician. He retired last year from both roles to spend more time watching his daughter, Britta, play libero for her high school and club teams.

The praises are many:

“Steve’s professionalism as both a referee and clinician is beyond reproach.”

“Steve’s contribution to the clinic program has been important and impactful,” said NCAA Rules Interpreter Anne Pufahl. “Steve genuinely believes that the communication of every rule change needs to include the rationale that underlies the reason for the change (and he does it in a very fun, witty way).”

Pufahl also praised Thorpe for the guidance he provided her when she became NCAA Rules Interpreter in 2012.

“He was an amazing mentor regarding potential rule changes and modifications,” Pufahl said. “He always made me think of what the repercussions could be from a particular change. He never said “bad idea or no way” but rather led me down that path to draw my own conclusions.”

Of course, Thorpe has plenty of experience. He had served as USAV Rules Interpreter since 2001, just one of many important services Thorpe provided to the volleyball world.

“He began as a player an Iowa team (Oasis/Quad City), and as he watched all the people running around at USAV Nationals in white shirts & navy pants, he came home and said he wanted to be a part of that,” Maureen said. So, he did, in spades....

Thorpe received his USAV National referee certification in 1993, and his PAVO National certification in 1994. He worked numerous Division I conferences, including Missouri Valley, Big Ten, Big East, and Atlantic-10. On the USAV side, Thorpe received his USAV National referee certification in 1993, and his PAVO National certification in 1994. He worked numerous national-level tournaments as a referee, a rater, and a head referee.

Continued on page 19
Thorpe traveled to Sofia, Bulgaria, for his International Candidate Course in 1998 and was certified as an international referee in 2001. Before retiring last year, he worked several significant international events, including the 2002 VolleyMasters Championship in Montreux, Switzerland, the 2002 World Military Games in Bucharest, Romania, the 2003 Pan American Games in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, the 2005 FIVB Girl’s Youth World Championships in China and the 2008 men’s Pan American Games in Winnipeg, Canada.

In 2001, he was selected as USA Volleyball’s Rules Interpreter and continued in that role for more than 10 years. He received the USAV Gold Whistle Award in 2003, the Glen Davies Service Award in 2012, and the Meritorious Service Award in 2013.

On the PAVO and collegiate side, Thorpe continued to contribute as well. He joined the ranks of the PAVO National Clinicians in about 2003, and his contributions in that group continue to be notable, “I’m sure many of you have attended a Steve Thorpe National Clinic, and enjoyed that experience immensely,” said Marcia Alterman, PAVO executive director.

The volleyball world is enriched by Thorpe’s many efforts, and the PAVO Hall of Fame welcomes him!

PAVO SEEKS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

by Julie Voeck
President

With the goal of providing for a smooth transition for the next PAVO executive director, PAVO is accepting applications for the newly-created position of deputy executive director, the organization announced this month.

The new part-time position is designed to allow the successful applicant to transition into the position of executive director over a 12- to 24-month period. That position is currently held by Marcia Alterman.

“Marcia will work very closely with the deputy executive director with the expectation that person will ultimately become the next executive director at PAVO,” said PAVO Board President Julie Voeck.

Alterman has dedicated many years to PAVO and wants see the organization maintain its current level of service in the future and thus supports a well-planned transition, Voeck said.

Full details and the job posting is at NCAA Market: http://ncaamarket.ncaa.org/jobs/5992138/deputy-executive-director and on LinkedIn: http://www.linkedin.com/jobs2/view/11487221?trk=vsp_jobs_res_name&trkInfo=VSRPsearchId%3A3A376408631391701126703%2CVSRPtargtId%3A11487221%2CVSRPcmpt%3Aprimary. Information also is available by calling the PAVO office at 1-888-794-2400.

PAVO SEEKS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR continued from page 18

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The volleyball world is enriched by Thorpe’s many efforts, and the PAVO Hall of Fame welcomes him!

USAV Premier Referee Camp at 2014 GJNC

A Premier Referee Camp for USAV will be held at the Girls Junior National Championships (GJNC) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, prior to the beginning of the Junior National Referee Candidates rating session. The camp will be held starting the evening of June 26, 2014, and will continue through June 29, 2014, until around 4:00 p.m. For registration information, please visit www.VolleyballRefTraining.com and use the “Events” tab for training camp details.
4-2-2 NOTE New f
Clarifies placement and size of mascot reference and/or player’s name that may be placed on solid-colored jersey by allowing a single mascot reference and/or school name of 4 by 4 inches or 3 by 5 inches to be placed on the sleeve(s).

Rationale: Clarifies placement and size of mascot reference and/or the school name being placed on the sleeve(s) of a solid-color uniform top. A school should be permitted to include its mascot on the uniform for team spirit, yet not disrupt the integrity and purpose of the solid-colored uniform top.

5-5-3b(1)
The second referee has the responsibility to signal for a ball out-of-bounds for an antenna fault on his/her side of the net.

Rationale: The second referee is in a good position on his/her side of the net to initiate a call for a ball out of bounds for antenna fault. Increases the fairness in this type of fault in this area of the court.

5-5-3b(12)
The second referee should whistle to end a time-out if both teams are ready to play prior to 60 seconds and the audio signal has not sounded.

Rationale: Addresses proper mechanics for ending a time-out and use of whistle by the second referee.

5-9-2a NOTE
The first referee may direct the line judge on the serving team’s side to move in line with the extension of the end line until the ball is contacted to gain a better view when a server serves from the left third of the service area.

Rationale: Moving back and in line with the left sideline does not always give the line judge a clear view of the end line, especially during jump serves or when players move back a considerable distance from the end line. This positioning allows the line judge a clear view of any line violations for which he/she is responsible and he/she can efficiently move back into position following the contact of the ball for serve.

2014-15 VOLLEYBALL MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES
When a fault is whistled by the second referee, the first referee will indicate only the result of play followed by the player at fault, if necessary.

Rationale: It is not necessary for the first referee to duplicate the second referee’s indication of the nature of the fault.

2014-15 VOLLEYBALL EDITORIAL CHANGES
New 9-2-3c, 10-2-5a, Informal Signals

2014-15 VOLLEYBALL POINTS OF EMPHASIS
1) Marking of court boundary lines
2) Hand signals for player numbers
3) Informal signals from second referee to first referee for situations out of view of first referee

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Double duty is a term that many of us as officials know all too well. We balance officiating with the demands of family, friends and work.

For many of us, it’s as simple as asking for a vacation day or some personal time off work. That is not so easy for fellow official Chief Master Sargent James McDonald, a 30 year veteran of the United States Air Force.

McDonald, known by his friends as “Doug,” has seen the world over during his 30 years in the military, a career that will come to an end when he steps down March 31.

But for three decades, McDonald has relocated numerous times and with each move to a different region of the country he has had to start over. He has spent time in Arizona, Florida, the Saint Louis area and currently in the Chesapeake area.

In the world of officiating, this creates obstacles that he has had to overcome. With each move, “Doug” has been able to pull off the double duties of his military commitment and officiating.

It hasn’t been easy, but McDonald believes that because of the understanding and support from his many PAVO board chairs and USAV regions, he has been able to overcome that challenge.

He holds a PAVO State rating and has been a USAV National referee and scorer since 2004.

“Moving from area to area is hard in the world of officiating,” he said. “Just as you start getting established you moving and have to start all over again.”

McDonald started officiating in 1996 in Arizona. While there, he worked at the junior college level as an official and as a line judge in the PAC 10, know the PAC12.

After moving to Florida, McDonald started calling Division II matches along with men’s college matches. His next move took him to the Saint Louis where he began to work Division I matches in the Missouri Valley and Atlantic 10 conferences as well as Division III and men’s matches. His last move took him to the Chesapeake area.

In each case, McDonald said he is grateful to the PAVO boards and USAV regions that have taken him under their wings and supported and mentored him.

“Building relationship and friendships is tough moving from place to place,” he said.

The small world of volleyball has helped him each time. He recalled that while stationed in Saint Louis, several of his friends from the Gateway Region attended a promotion service of his.

“That really meant a lot to me,” he said.

During a phone interview, McDonald mentioned that he had the late Bill Stevens as a mentor.

“I played volleyball for the Armed Forces team and Bill was one of the officials,” he said. “Bill took me under his wing and helped me in the officiating world.”

McDonald started playing the game at 16 while attending Carrick High School in Pittsburgh.


“1982,” McDonald said.

“Wow I played at Farrell High School during that time, we played against each other.”

With that common bond, I asked what he will do when he has one less “double duty” when his military career comes to an end.

“Don’t know yet, I am going to take some time to see how things go,” he said.

One place I think we will still see “Doug” is on the volleyball court even more.

So I say this to you Doug, “Thank you for your service, enjoy your retirement, oh and Farrell beat Carrick in 1982.”