

WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP OF USAV AND IREVA TO OUTDOOR AND “RELATED SPORTS”? [10/1/2016]

USAV is currently the “National Governing Body” [NGB] under the US Olympic Committee [USOC] for indoor volleyball [6s], beach volleyball [2s], and sitting volleyball [6s]. USAV is responsible for the operation of the US Olympic and developmental teams in those sports. In general, USAV is also responsible for the support and development of those sports and their athletes via member / affiliated organizations [such as the 40 Regional Volleyball Associations [RVAs], NCAA, AVCA, PAVO, AAU, etc.].

Indoor volleyball is of course the starting point of the sport, and for USAV. Indoor volleyball became an Olympic sport in 1964 (Tokyo). USAV recognizes that indoor volleyball has evolved into coed, 2s, 4s, and other variations. USAV is striving to develop those sports, while recognizing its current priority is to the two official Olympic sports. Note that USAV Adult Championships have offered coed, coed/reverse, and u-volley tournaments for a number of years.

Beach volleyball evolved from the indoor sport. Beach volleyball became an Olympic sport in 1996 (Atlanta). It should be noted that USAV’s role as the NGB for this sport was extremely controversial, and it remains so to some degree. USAV is working to develop programs to support this sport on an equivalent footing with the indoor game. USAV beach programs are in a state of flux due to the collapse of the AVP in 2010 and its subsequent revival. USAV is strongly encouraging the RVAs and affiliated organizations to also develop corresponding programs.

USAV also recognizes that beach volleyball has evolved into grass doubles, beach and grass 4s, and other variations. USAV is striving to develop those sports, while recognizing its current priority is to the two official Olympic sports.

Sitting volleyball is relatively new under USAV. USAV is now the NGB for sitting volleyball, which has become a Paralympics sport for both men and women.

Related sports are a growing area of interest, involvement and programming for USAV and the RVAs, potentially including IREVA. This gets a little complicated as a result of the politics and bureaucracy of athletic organizations! Let’s leave it that USAV is strongly encouraging the RVAs and affiliated organizations to also develop corresponding programs, either directly or indirectly. Direct support would mean sanctioned by and operated as a component of the RVA program. Indirect support, by RVAs or individuals, means sanctioned by and operated through related organizations such as the military’s Wounded Warrior program. RVAs and individuals can support by means of organizational / administrative assistance; technical assistance [e.g. coaches and officials]; grants and donations.

Donations are encouraged to USAV and each of the organizations identified here, and are deductible for income tax purposes.

- Paralympics – This multi-sport organization / activity is part of USOC. USAV directly supports this program via sitting volleyball. [Standing volleyball was tried for a while but was not successful.] Support at the local level is encouraged. IREVA has had member[s] participate.
- Deaflympics – [USA Deaf Sports Federation] This multi-sport organization / activity is a member of USOC, but is apparently not supported in the same way as Paralympics. The Deaflympics

organization is an “affiliate member” of USAV. Support at the local level is encouraged. IREVA has had member[s] participate.

- Special Olympics – USOC currently has no direct connection to this organization. Special Olympics is an “affiliate member” of USAV. Support at the local level is encouraged. IREVA has had member[s] participate.

IREVA status 10/1/2016 – subject to change!

IREVA’s Board of Directors would like to identify members who are interested in supporting outdoor and related sports. There are no specific goals at this point, but would be determined with those interested. Given sufficient interest, seats on the BOD would be filled for both outdoor and related sports.

Many IREVA members already play outdoor vb via OCD VBC and other groups. IREVA is interested in developing relationships with current and new outdoor groups. Ideally, IREVA would like to develop adult and junior beach programs, perhaps in collaboration with adjoining RVAs.

Due to our small size, IREVA is not currently prepared to sanction non-traditional events such as indoor 4s and coed play events competing with our traditional indoor 6s competition season.