

JUNIOR DIVISION MANUAL



USA Volleyball Puget Sound Region

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The Puget Sound Region of USA Volleyball reserves the right to make changes at any time to the Junior Division, its operation and/or this manual for the betterment of membership participation.

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Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Mission Statement

The Purpose for which this Corporation is organized is to foster the development and growth of amateur volleyball competition by:

1. Teaching the sport of volleyball to children and adults by holding clinics conducted by qualified instructors;
2. Aiding in the development and growth of volleyball throughout the region through player, officiating (referee and scorekeeping), and coaching development;
3. Providing practice sessions, classroom sessions, seminars and clinics;
4. Fostering and conducting area, regional, zonal and national amateur volleyball competitions for both youth and adult player levels throughout the region;
5. Acting as the official representative of USA Volleyball within the area designated as the Puget Sound Region;
6. Selecting and training suitable candidates in the techniques of volleyball in National and International competitions in areas of playing, coaching, and officiating; and
7. Supervising and monitoring conduct of competitions and individuals involved in volleyball within the region.

Vision Statement

To promote, educate, advance and expand the sport of Volleyball in the Puget Sound Region.

To pro-actively create opportunities for athletes to learn Volleyball in both the adult and junior markets at all levels of play.

To increase the access to quality local facilities for tournaments and practice sites.

To develop in volleyball athletes the mental capabilities necessary to compete at a competent level--mental toughness, aggressiveness, ability to accept hard work, goal setting and goal reaching, teamwork and independence.

To work in conjunction with other sports organizations to market Volleyball to governments, schools and private business.

To provide an efficient service oriented and accessible organization for our customers, the Volleyball Community.

Board of Directors & Region Staff

<https://www.psrvb.org/board-of-directors>

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
I. USAV General Membership Information	3
II. Membership Requirements	3
III. USA Volleyball Expectations	3
IV. Puget Sound Region Member Expectations	4
V. Residency Registration Requirement	5
VI. Border Region Transfer Agreement with Columbia Empire Region (junior athletes only)	6
VII. Individual Registration	6
VIII. Liability Waiver Requirement and Code of Conduct Agreement	7
IX. USAV Youth & Junior Volleyball Athlete Medical Release Form	7
X. The Lystedt Law (Concussion Form) and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information	7
XI. USA Volleyball Insurance Information	7
XII. Directors and Officers Insurance (D&O Insurance)	9
XIII. USA Volleyball Disciplines	9
XIV. Clubs	9
XV. Clubs with Multiple Affiliations	9
XVI. Club Licensing Process	9
XVII. Sanctioned Events	10
XVIII. Team Practices	10
XIX. Club Director	11
XX. Teams	11
XXI. Club Personnel (Examples include but are not limited to: club directors, club administrators, coaches, chaperones, team representatives, tournament/site directors, athletic trainers, conditioning coaches)	11
XXII. Rosters (refer to the PSR Tournament Manual for detailed information)	13
XXIII. Boys Playing on Girls Teams	13
XXIV. Recruiting Policy	13
XXV. Tryouts	14
XXVI. Tryout Registration Process	14
XXVII. Signing Process – PSR Letter of Commitment	15
XXVIII. Procedure for Athlete Transfer and/or Release	16
XXIX. Financial Obligations	17
XXX. USA Volleyball Junior Athlete Age Definition	18
XXXI. Age Waiver Process	18
XXXII. USA Volleyball Age Falsification Policy	18
XXXIII. Foreign Individual and/or Team Participation Procedures	19
XXXIV. Alcohol at Junior Events or Where Juniors are Competing	19
XXXV. PSR All Star Program	19
XXXVI. Girls Junior National Events	19
XXXVII. Boys Junior National Events	19
XXXVIII. Complaint Processing	20
XXXIX. Appeals and Due Process	23
XL. Guidelines for Addressing Inappropriate Spectator Conduct	24
XLI. Purple Card Policy	25
XLII. Region Fines and Penalties	28
Attachment 1, Puget Sound Region Club Code of Conduct	30
Attachment 2, Tournament/Site Director Code of Conduct	31
Attachment 3, Spectator/Parent Code of Conduct	32
Attachment 4, Puget Sound Region Map	33

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

I. USAV General Membership Information

- USAV yearly membership begins September 1 and ends August 31. Memberships must be renewed annually.
- The junior volleyball season runs from the first legal tryout date in the fall through the USA Junior National Championships for each division.
- All members, in good standing, are covered by secondary sport accident insurance.
- PSR Manuals and Handbooks are available on the region website – www.psrvb.org

II. Membership Requirements

All participants (may include but is not limited to: athletes, coaches, directors, team representatives, chaperones, athletic trainers, club administrators, club board of directors, conditioning coaches, officials, etc) are required to be registered USAV members who have successfully completed a USAV background screening and SafeSport training prior to participation in any sanctioned events.

Club directors are licensed owner/operators of a named club and are required to be registered USAV members who have successfully completed a USAV background screening and SafeSport training.

Coaches will be registered with a specific team or club. A coach is allowed to have contact with participants in a supervisory role once they have successfully completed a USAV background screening and SafeSport training. If a coach resigns, is terminated, or requests to change clubs during the current season, the original club director must communicate contract completion with the region office prior to any change in club affiliation. In rare situations, a coach may coach different disciplines with multiple clubs. Each club is encouraged to contract the coach for a specific length of time and for specific services.

Athletes will normally be registered with a specific team or club. To become affiliated with a specific club, athletes will be required to complete the PSR Letter of Commitment. If an athlete quits and wants to switch clubs during the current season, after signing a PSR Letter of Commitment, the athlete must follow the region transfer policy. In rare situations, an athlete may receive services from multiple clubs for different disciplines (indoor vs sand). Each club is encouraged to contract the athlete for a specific length of time and for specific services.

III. USA Volleyball Expectations

To be distributed to all Junior Volleyball Participants (Parents, Athletes, Coaches, Club Directors, etc.). Club Directors are responsible for the conduct of all individuals who represent their clubs.

USA Volleyball Governance (including the Coaches Code of Ethics & Conduct)
<https://usavolleyball.org/about/governance>

USA Volleyball Code of Conduct & Junior Club Personnel Code of Ethics
<https://usavolleyball.org/forms-and-information/>

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

IV. Puget Sound Region Member Expectations

Participant Code of Behavior

As a participant, I:

- Will participate in volleyball alcohol and drug free.
- Will use positive verbal and physical behavior, controlling my temper and aggression.
- Will give true information concerning another individual's involvement in or knowledge of an incident relevant to a violation of the rules.
- Will play by the rules of volleyball.
- Will display fair play by treating all those involved in the match with dignity and respect.
- Will treat others as I would like to be treated.
- Will work hard and honestly to improve performance and participation.
- Will maintain a positive image of myself by participating for enjoyment.

The Puget Sound Region supports the American Sport Education Program Bill of Rights for Young Athletes:

- Right to participate in sports.
- Right to participate at a level commensurate with each child's maturity and ability.
- Right to have qualified adult leadership.
- Right to play as a child and not as an adult.
- Right of children to share in the leadership and decision making of their sport participation.
- Right to participate in safe and healthy environments.
- Right to proper preparation for participation in sports.
- Right to equal opportunity to strive for success.
- Right to be treated with dignity.
- Right to have fun in sports.

Parent/Guardian Code of Behavior

As a parent/guardian, I:

- Will be positive in attitude toward volleyball and emphasize the cooperative nature of the sport.
- Will encourage hard work and honest effort which will lead to improved performance and participation.
- Will encourage and respect referees and officials and their integrity.
- Will be supportive of all attempts to remove verbal and physical abuse from organized volleyball activities, including language.
- Will stay away from the playing area during the match.
- Will applaud fair play during matches.

Spectator Code of Behavior

As a spectator, I:

- Will respect the rights of others and treat the visiting team and their spectators courteously.
- Will abide by all applicable federal, state, and local laws while attending any match.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

- Will cheer positively for my team, using socially acceptable language.
- Will respect the integrity and judgment of the officials without taunting or approaching them between games or at the end of the match.
- Will use only designated smoking areas which are clearly posted.
- Will use litter receptacles to properly dispose of trash.
- Will applaud good performances by both teams.
- Will discourage all forms of violent behavior.

Club Director Code of Behavior

As a club director, I:

- Will insist coaches conduct themselves in a professional manner.
- Will provide equal opportunities and equal access for everyone to participate.
- Will insist unruly fans be removed from the premises.
- Will follow the rules and regulations of USAV and PSR to ensure the association's philosophy and objectives are enhanced.
- Will develop programs which encompass fairness to the participants and promote fair play.
- Will positively promote and publicize volleyball.
- Will hire positive role models as coaches for athletes.
- Will assist in the provision of appropriate first aid and injury treatment of athletes.

Officials Code of Behavior

As an official, I:

- Will maintain dignified appearance at all times.
- Will display impartial, consistent and courteous officiating behavior.
- Will display quiet efficiency in the performance of officiating duties.
- Will enforce rule modifications for those special needs.
- Will work with other officiating personnel as an officiating team.
- Will accept officiating feedback positively.

The Successful Coach is One Who Conveys:

- The joy of competition.
- The meaning of effort.
- The worth of character.
- The power of kindness.
- The wisdom of honesty.
- The influence of example.
- The reward of cooperation.
- The virtue of patience.

V. Residency Registration Requirement

- All clubs whose center of activities are based within the Puget Sound Region's geographical jurisdiction are required to register with the Puget Sound Region.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

- The Puget Sound Region jurisdiction encompasses all Washington counties south of the Canadian border, west of the Cascade Mountain Range, and the second line of counties north of the Washington/Oregon border (Attachment 4).
- Participants who commit to a Puget Sound Region club will also be required to register with the Puget Sound Region (see Individual Registration Requirements).
- Participants or teams whose center of activities are closer to adjacent regions may petition, in writing, the Puget Sound Region commissioner for authorization to register with the adjacent region and should state the specific basis for the request. Such authorization must receive the written approval of EACH region's commissioner.

VI. Border Region Transfer Agreement with Columbia Empire Region (junior athletes only)

The Puget Sound Region (PSR) borders the Columbia Empire Region (CEVA) between the first and second counties in Washington. Specifically, Pacific and Lewis counties are considered PSR. Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, and Skamania counties are considered CEVA. (Attachment 4)

This policy only applies to members who reside in PSR or CEVA in the first or second counties named above. The aforementioned members who wish to participate in the adjacent region are allowed to request a transfer of membership outside of the home region under the following circumstances:

- Athlete may have registered in home region
- Athlete may attend tryouts in either region provided the athlete has a current USAV membership
- Athlete will request transfer to the adjacent region
- Athlete will submit a transfer request to remain in adjacent region every membership cycle
- Athlete may transfer back to the home region at the beginning or end of a membership cycle, provided they are in good standing with the releasing affiliated club. The athlete may affiliate with any club in the home region.

To request assignment or transfer to an adjacent region, contact the current region of assignment to request transfer.

VII. Individual Registration

To be a member of the Puget Sound Region, all individuals must complete the online registration process through the USAV Sports Engine Member Management System (MMS). There is a link on the region's website (www.psrvb.org) which will direct the individual to the SE MMS. Once the online registration process is complete the applicant will receive a confirmation email. Each applicant must pay the required registration fees before competing in any USAV sanctioned event. Clubs who allow adults or athletes to participate in a USAV sanctioned event who are NOT properly registered USAV members will be subject to a monetary penalty per occurrence.

The Puget Sound Region offers a variety of membership types. A detailed explanation of the memberships being offered each season may be found at: <https://www.psrvb.org/memberships>

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Organizations or teams that choose to utilize single event memberships for their athletes and coaches within the Puget Sound Region must identify a club director or team representative who is required to have a full season adult club administrator membership.

In order to participate in the PSR Power League and/or the PSR Bid Tournament all participants must have a full USAV/PSR membership and belong to a club that is a properly registered and approved Puget Sound Region club. Single event membership will not be allowed to enter these events.

VIII. Liability Waiver Requirement and Code of Conduct Agreement

Each individual USAV member applicant must electronically sign a waiver and release of liability and a Code of Conduct form which is part of the online registration process.

IX. PSR Player Participation & Medical Authorization Form

Each registered junior member, in combination with the parent or guardian, must complete the PSR Player Participation & Medical Authorization Form. This form must be in the possession of authorized adult team personnel at all sanctioned events. At a minimum this form is to be updated every year when the participant's membership is renewed.

X. The Lystedt Law (Concussion Form) and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information

Each sports league board of directors is required to work in concert with the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) to develop the guidelines and other pertinent information and forms to inform and educate coaches, youth athletes, and their parent(s)/guardian(s) of the nature and risk of concussion, head injury including continuing to play after concussion or head injury, and sudden cardiac arrest. On a yearly basis, a concussion and head injury and sudden cardiac arrest information sheet must be signed and returned by the youth athlete and the athlete's parent and/or guardian to the club prior to the youth athlete initiating practice or competition.

A youth athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or game shall be immediately removed from competition. A youth athlete who has been removed from play may not return to play until the athlete is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussion and receives written clearance to return to play from a licensed health care provider. The evaluation may not be conducted by an immediate family member.

XI. USA Volleyball Insurance Information

USA Volleyball administers a medical and liability insurance program customized specifically for the sport of volleyball. It is designed to respond specifically to the inherent hazards of the sport. Offered as part of the sanctioning program, it is one of the most cost-effective policies available.

A complete copy of the USA Volleyball Insurance Handbook, Insurance Coverage Summaries, Sport Accident Insurance, Extended Officials Insurance, and Medical Claims form may be found at: <https://usavolleyball.org/forms-and-information/>.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Named Insured

- USA Volleyball (“USAV”), United States Volleyball, Inc., United States Volleyball Association, USA Volleyball Foundation
- USAV Regional Volleyball Associations (“RVA”) while acting on behalf of USAV.
- USAV registered clubs, but only with respect to activities sanctioned or approved by USAV or its RVA.
- USAV registered coaches, trainers, athletes and officials, while acting in their capacity as such, but only with respect to activities sanctioned or approved by USAV or the RVA.
- Registered officials are those who have successfully completed the USAV officials’ certification program.
- USAV registered officials for non-USAV sanctioned volleyball competitions who have paid the appropriate premium and whose names are recorded and on file with USAV.
- Event organizers/promoters/event managers while acting in their capacity of such, but only with respect to events sanctioned and approved by USAV or the RVA.

Coverage will not apply for regions and region clubs for events conducted in which all participants are not registered with USAV.

Non-sanctioned fundraising activities, and sanctioned events with foreign athletes who are registered with USAV and/or the RVA for the event(s) may be covered by the insurance.

Definitions

- Registered means: Having a current validly completed and executed individual membership form with USA Volleyball (“USAV”) and/or the Regional Volleyball Association (“RVA”)
- “Sanctioned or Approved” Event: An event for which the First Named Insured or its Regional Association Commissioner has approved or sanctioned as an USA Volleyball event. Events shall but may not be limited to, club tryouts, team competition, practices, sports clinics, or fundraisers conducted or attended as a part of a sanctioned event.
- Participant: Athletes, coaches, trainers, volunteers, committee members, officials, and any other persons who are functioning on behalf of and/or while participating in any event sanctioned or approved by USA Volleyball.
- Participating: Defined as participation in pre-event and post-event activities, as well as officially approved or sanctioned events.

Additional Insured

Facilities used for practice and competition may ask for a certificate of insurance with the facility as the additional insured. Clubs may request a Certificate of Insurance through the region office by completing the request form located on the region website. Once completed, clubs must return the form to the region office for processing. Once the request is processed by the insurance company, the facility will have additional insurance. Completed certificates will be available through the carrier’s website.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

XII. Directors and Officers Insurance (D&O Insurance)

All non-profit organizations should have D&O insurance for their Board of Directors. Coverage is for all directors/officers and committees within the non-profit organization. D&O insurance is available through the USA Volleyball insurance carrier at a reasonable rate. Please contact the region office for further information.

XIII. USA Volleyball Disciplines

USA Volleyball is the national governing body for two disciplines of the sport of volleyball, indoor and outdoor. In the Puget Sound Region, 6-person indoor play is organized into clubs, which can have one or more teams. Outdoor play (sand & grass) is largely a 2-person or 4-person game. As such, it is an individual sport, and while clubs can exist for outdoor play, there is no restriction on individuals to be a member of a club, and if a member of a club, they can play with whatever teammate they choose and can train with whomever they choose regardless of either member's club affiliation.

XIV. Clubs

Junior volleyball in the region is organized around clubs, which are independent organizations which provide training, coaching, education, and administrative support to the athletes and coaches in their system. To improve the quality of clubs in the region and to provide standards in the delivery of the volleyball experience in the region, clubs are registered to operate under the name of Puget Sound Region and USA Volleyball. This process means the club has met a set of standards and has agreed to abide by the policies and procedures of the region. Clubs will agree to operate according to USAV and Puget Sound Region policies and procedures.

Clubs who operate a USAV sanctioned outdoor program are expected to adhere to policies and procedures of the region as stipulated through the club registration process and the junior division manual.

Clubs are highly encouraged to individually contract each athlete for services provided. Club personnel, depending on the role they fill within the program, will be required to meet the membership requirements stipulated herein.

XV. Clubs with Multiple Affiliations

Clubs who elect to have teams play in more than one volleyball organization are obligated to adhere to the rules and regulations of each of those organizations. When USAV clubs elect to participate in more than one volleyball organization (i.e. AAU/JVA/AVP/Top Court/Three Step/LOVB, etc) the club agrees to abide by the most stringent rules and regulations of the multiple organizations. Only then can they be held to an even playing field with other clubs in the respective organizations.

XVI. Club Registration Process

The official end of the USAV season is August 31st. USAV and/or the region will automatically make clubs 'inactive' in the SE MMS. To re-activate a previously existing club, the club director will need to submit a club registration for the upcoming season. Returning clubs may submit a club registration beginning August 1st to October 15th. Previous season club

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

registrations will be considered lapsed after October 15th. For the purpose of Summer Tryouts, returning clubs will use the previous season club registration.

To start a new club or re-activate a lapsed club contact the region office for support. Detailed information to start a new club may be found on the region website:

<https://www.psrvb.org/starting-a-new-club>. A detailed description of what is required is available for your review.

New clubs who wish to participate in the Summer Tryouts should contact the region office for instructions. New club registrations will be accepted no earlier than May 15th.

Club registration applications will include, but is not limited to, a certification each club will provide the following to their club members: club handbook, due process/grievance procedures, athlete selection process, athlete contract, financial obligations, and club fee payment schedule.

The region office has seven days to process a club registration application. Once approved the region will request the club be activated in SE MMS. Once the club is activated in SE MMS the club is sanctioned to conduct USAV events.

Club registration fees:

- New clubs = \$200.00
- **Clubs who lapse more than one year will be considered a “new” club**
- Clubs renewing = \$50.00
- **Existing clubs who have not renewed or completed the renewal process by October 15th will be assessed the new club fee of \$200.00

XVII. Sanctioned Events

Events hosted by a club (i.e. informational events, open gyms, clinics, camps, tryouts, practices, scrimmages, jamborees, tournaments, etc.) are considered USAV sanctioned events. When these events occur without an approved club registration, they could open the club up to very costly liability issues. Clubs who conduct such events before they have an approved club registration are running non-sanctioned events and may be subject to a sanction. If a 2nd occurrence is discovered during the same or subsequent season, the club may be suspended from operation for one year.

XVIII. Team Practices

Practices may occur when ALL of the following conditions have been met:

- All participants have a current USAV membership
- All participants have executed a completely signed and accepted PSR Letter of Commitment
- Sessions will be conducted on or after the first day of fall tryouts for the respective age group
- Adults who participate in training sessions (of any kind), must have a USAV membership, have an approved background screening, and have completed SafeSport training. In order to be placed on a roster, adults must have completed the aforementioned items as well as an approved USAV coaching certification program.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

XIX. Club Director

Club Directors are the individuals who are responsible for all aspects of club and team management. This is not necessarily the responsibility of the coach. **The club director is the official liaison between the club and its registered teams and the region.** The club director's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Attend the annual club directors meeting.
- Appoint at least one assistant club director or club administrator
- Pay a team registration fee of \$50.00 per team. **This fee will be waived if the club director, assistant club director, or club administrator is present for the entire annual Club Directors meeting normally held in September.**
- Accountability for all matters relating to registration, eligibility requirement, training requirements, and payment of fees for all club personnel and athletes.
- Ensure teams are supervised at all times by a properly registered, USAV background screened, and SafeSport qualified adult. **Juniors serving as assistant coaches or other junior athletes are not authorized to supervise a team.**
- Entry of team(s) into tournaments.
- Eligibility of team for regional and national events which a member team may participate.
- Ensure information shared with the club by the region is distributed to every club member.
- It is also the director or club administrator's responsibility to ensure all necessary information, documentation, monies, etc., are forwarded to the region office in a timely manner.
- Directors should advise the region office of any corrections or errors and provide completed rosters to tournament hosts in a timely manner.

XX. Teams

Clubs are made up of one or more teams. Club Directors are responsible for managing teams in SE MMS. In order for a team to participate in a USAV sanctioned event, **USAV registered adult coach must be present and named on the roster.**

All coaches must be certified as work-team officials. The certification requirements will be posted on the region website. <https://www.psrvb.org/jr-work-team-training>

For in-region competition, all athletes must wear the same top and similar but like colored bottoms. See USAV Indoor Rules Book for specific standards on uniforms. USA Volleyball now has uniform pre-screening process for club directors to utilize when selecting uniforms. Submit requests at: <https://usavolleyball.org/resources-for-officials/>

XXI. Club Personnel (Examples include but are not limited to: club directors, club administrators, coaches, chaperones, team representatives, tournament/site directors, athletic trainers, conditioning coaches)

- Adult staff and board members of a junior volleyball program, must be a registered USAV member, complete a USAV Background Screening, and complete SafeSport training regardless of capacity or contact with a minor.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

- Before any adult may have contact with a junior athlete through a junior volleyball program, serving in **any** capacity, the adult must be a registered USAV member, complete a USAV Background Screening, and complete SafeSport training.
- Before a coach may participate in a sanctioned competition, the coach must be a current USAV member, complete a USAV Background Screening, complete Safe Sport training, and complete an approved USAV coaching certification course (ex. IMPACT).
- Before a coach may be placed on a SE MMS roster the coach must be a current USAV member, complete a USAV Background Screening, complete Safe Sport training, complete an approved USAV coaching certification course (ex. IMPACT), complete region mandated officiating training, and digitally sign the Junior Personnel Code of Ethics.
- All head coaches must be 18 years of age or older AND a high school graduate.
- Juniors under the age of 18 may serve as an assistant coach at region sanctioned events. Juniors must be at least U16 playing age to serve as an assistant coach and there **must** be two playing ages between a junior coach and the athletes being coached (ex: U16 playing age assistant coach may serve as an assistant coach for a U14s team). **Junior assistant coaches are not authorized to supervise a team or team members alone.**
 - Before a junior assistant coach may be placed on a SE MMS roster the junior assistant coach must be a current USAV member, complete Safe Sport training, complete an approved USAV coaching certification course (ex. IMPACT), and complete region mandated coach officiating training.
 - If already 18 years old create a personal SE account, have all their USAV credentials moved from the guardian SE MMS account, *be gifted the appropriate PSR membership*, complete a USAV Background Screening, complete Safe Sport training, complete an approved USAV coaching certification course (ex. IMPACT), and complete region mandated coach officiating training.
- Chaperones must be a minimum of 25 years of age. An adult who serves as a chaperone must be a registered USAV member, complete a USAV Background Screening, and complete SafeSport training. Chaperones will be expected to complete a volunteer consent form, volunteer waiver and release form, and the chaperone responsibilities form located at: <https://www.psrvb.org/pubs-forms>. These forms are to be maintained by the club director for the affiliated club.
- Membership Categories
 - All adults affiliated with a junior program (examples include but are not limited to: club directors, club administrators, coaches, chaperones, team representatives, tournament/site directors, athletic trainers, conditioning coaches, officials) must be registered in the “Adult Affiliated with Junior Program” category.
 - Juniors who serve as assistant coaches will be registered in the “Junior Athlete” category. Once the junior turns 18 years old, they have thirty (30) days to initiate and pass a background screening. Club directors are responsible to contact the region to initiate the screening.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Any club or team utilizing ineligible or uncertified adult personnel will be sanctioned \$500.00 per occurrence and the individual will be removed from contact until the eligibility requirements have been met.

XXII. Rosters (refer to the PSR Tournament Manual for detailed information)

Rosters are the official list of team members. A valid SE MMS roster must be turned in at every Puget Sound Region sanctioned competitive event in which the team plays. Only those members who are on the roster may participate in the event. The roster must be generated from SE MMS.

The only changes allowed to be written on the roster are uniform number corrections.

Clubs with multiple teams may move individual athletes between teams within the club freely, provided they meet age requirements and do not violate the USAV Frozen Roster guidelines. Junior athletes in different age groups may play only in their own age group or in a higher age group.

Individuals may play on two separate teams within the same club in different tournaments on different days of the same weekend. Individuals may not play on two separate teams in the same tournament (this includes multi-day tournaments). Teams may enter two separate events in the same weekend. Athletes may not play on two different teams in the PSR Power League, Puget Sound Regional Championship or the PSR Bid Tournament.

XXIII. Boys Playing on Girls Teams

Boys who are in a U14 or younger age group are allowed to play on a girls team subject to the following restrictions:

- The boy meets the age requirement for the team.
- No more than three boys on any given roster.
- No more than two boys on the court at any given time.
- Uniform requirement for boys on girls' teams: same color shirt/jersey and shorts as the teams' jerseys and spandex.
- Boys are not allowed to compete on girls teams in qualifying events.
- If competing outside the Puget Sound Region contact the local tournament director for approval.

XXIV. Recruiting Policy

Closed recruiting period will be from the date an athlete completes the PSR Letter of Commitment through the end of the athlete's USAV competition schedule.

Open recruiting period will commence once the athlete has completed their USAV competition schedule.

USAV competition schedule will be defined by each athlete's club season as outlined in the club contract.

Clubs may hold clinics, camps, and open gyms whenever they wish. Clubs may invite anyone they wish, provided they do so during the open recruiting period. Clubs may promote these events however they wish.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Clubs may host similar events during the closed recruiting period, provided they **do not** recruit, entice, or personally invite an athlete. Athletes should feel free to attend camps, clinics, open gyms, etc hosted by other clubs with the advanced knowledge they will be free to attend without the pressure to change club affiliations.

An example of a recruiting conversation may consist of encouraging the athlete or family to join a team or club, promising the athlete or family anything if they join the team or club, or any direct sell to an individual.

If a violation of the recruiting policy occurs the offending club could be subject to a monetary penalty and the athlete may not be allowed to play for the offending club for the affected season or subsequent season.

XXV. Tryouts

The philosophy of the region's Board of Directors is to respect high school athletes' ability to finish the high school season, but still make it possible for clubs to form teams prior to the USAV designated January start date.

- U14 & Younger tryouts will begin no earlier than the last Saturday in October **AND** will not start before 8:00 am
- U15 & Older tryouts
 - Summer session: tryouts will begin no earlier than the last Saturday in July and cease the Sunday preceding the first day of the WIAA Girls HS Volleyball season **AND** will not start before 8:00 am
 - Returning clubs will use the previous season Club Registration
 - New clubs who wish to participate in the Summer session must contact the region office for instructions
 - Fall session: tryouts will begin no earlier than the first Sunday following the WIAA 3A/4A state tournament **AND** will not start before 10:00 am
- Boys (all ages) tryouts will begin no earlier than the last Saturday in July
- Clubs must have a CURRENT club registration in order to host tryouts
- Clubs may submit a Tryout Registration form (available on the region website) or send an email to the region office to publish tryouts on the Club Listing page of the region website
- Adult & Junior club personnel assisting with club tryouts must be registered USAV members, complete a USAV Background Screening, and complete SafeSport training PRIOR to assisting with any activity at a club tryout
- Junior club players, U15 and older, assisting with club tryouts must have an eligible USAV membership PRIOR to assisting with any activity at a club tryout
- Clubs may charge a tryout fee, no more than \$50.00 per athlete, to cover the cost of running the tryout

XXVI. Tryout Registration Process

Prior to participating in any club tryouts, the athlete must purchase a USAV membership through the SE MMS.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

PSR recommends new members purchase the PSR Tryout membership. Reference the PSR Refund Policy <https://www.psrvb.org/memberships>.

Once an athlete has decided on a team/club, they must:

1. Submit the following to their club:
 - a. PSR Letter of Commitment
 - b. PSR Player Participation & Medical Authorization Form
 - i. Form does not need to be notarized
 - ii. Form must be for the current season
 - c. Concussion Management & Sudden Cardiac Arrest Acknowledgment
 - d. Any club-related registration paperwork
2. Upgrade the junior USAV tryout membership to a full Junior Membership (if the member doesn't already possess the full Junior Membership). Individual members should do this online. Clubs may not pay the Region for individual junior memberships.

XXVII. Signing Process – PSR Letter of Commitment

The PSR Letter of Commitment applies to all indoor clubs operating in the Puget Sound Region.

A “commitment” is a fully executed PSR Letter of Commitment, accepting a club’s offer made to an athlete/parent/guardian by the Club Director or designee. PSR will not recognize any other agreements or contracts, oral or written, between a club and an athlete/parent/guardian.

Clubs are required to use this document. Each club must give the athlete/parent/guardian 48-hours from the time of the offer to submit the signed PSR Letter of Commitment to the club. Clubs may not rescind the offer prior to the 48-hour waiting period. Clubs may not present the PSR Letter of Commitment prior to the first day of scheduled tryouts.

Athletes/parents/guardians should review all club-specific financial obligations, policies and/or contracts prior to signing the PSR Letter of Commitment.

- The first date a player and guardian are allowed to sign a PSR LOC and/or make a financial payment to a club is the first date of tryouts for their age division.
- Clubs may require participants to sign club-specific contracts or agreements, in addition to this document. PSR is not a party to club-specific contracts and does not have enforcement power over those agreements.
- This document applies only to USAV/PSR sanctioned programming, clubs, teams, and rosters. It does not prevent participation with a non-PSR club, team, or event.
- At no time may a player be required by a club to sign this document before the opening day of tryouts. A player who signs a LOC before the first day of allowable tryouts for their age group is subject to sanction. Clubs who ask players to sign a LOC prior to tryouts are subject to sanction, up to and including suspension of the club director.
- Once a player and guardian have signed a PSR LOC for a club, they are considered a member of that club until the completion of the club season. The PSR Junior Volleyball season runs from tryouts through the player’s USAV competition schedule.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

- A player who signs a LOC with more than one club is subject to sanction. A club who knowingly asks a player to sign a LOC after the player has signed a LOC with another club is subject to sanction.
- If any part of this LOC is falsified, the player is subject to sanction. Club personnel found to be falsifying information on this form are also subject to sanction.
- A verbal commitment is not binding and may be revoked without penalty at any time.
- If the player is less than 18 years old at the time of signing, a parent or legal guardian must also sign this document for it to be enforced.
- This is a binding agreement. The player and parent/guardian are signing this LOC with a club, not an individual or team. If a coach or other player(s) leaves the team/club, the undersigned player remains committed to the club.
- Club is not obligated to assign a player to a team or guarantee a specific coach at tryouts and may determine its own timeline for making such assignments. The player remains committed to the club regardless of team or coach determination or assignment.
- **A player wishing to transfer to another club after signing an LOC is subject to the PSR transfer policy.**

XXVIII. Procedure for Athlete Transfer and/or Release

An athlete may quit their current team at any time. However, the region transfer policy does not govern an athlete/parent/guardian's contractual obligations to their current club and will not interfere with a properly executed contract between club and athlete/parent/guardian.

Athlete/parent/guardian's must fulfill all contractual obligations to their current club **before** pursuing a transfer request. If these obligations have not been met, the region will not approve the transfer request until the contractual obligations have been satisfied. If an athlete/parent/guardian feels the club did not meet its contractual obligations, the athlete/parent/guardian's next step could be a civil or legal action between the parties named in the contract.

The region discourages club transfers. However, the region understands the club selection process does not always allow for an ideal fit between athlete and club. Approval of a transfer request is not a guaranteed process.

If a transfer is approved, the athlete **may not** be allowed to participate in any competition where a bid to the junior national championship is being awarded (i.e. region bid tournament, other region or USA volleyball sanctioned bid tournaments, or national qualifying events).

To request a transfer the athlete/parent/guardian **must** follow these steps:

- Submit a written request to their club and copy the region office
- State the reason for seeking a transfer during of the season
- Declare intent to contact another club director or coach

The club director may grant the request or defer their decision to the region office. The written response must be provided to the athlete/parent/guardian and copied to the region office.

If the club director defers their decision, the regional commissioner will review the request for transfer. The regional commissioner may approve or deny the request.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

An athlete must have a written approved transfer request and acknowledgement by the region commissioner **before** signing a PSR Letter of Commitment with another club.

The region office will affect the changes to club affiliation in SE MMS once the transfer request is approved.

If a club director initiates contact with an athlete/parent/guardian **before** the transfer has been approved such conduct will be deemed a violation of the recruiting policy. A sanction may be assessed to the offending club and the athlete may not be allowed to play for the offending club for the affected season or subsequent season.

Athletes may not practice or compete with any other USAV sanctioned club prior to being released from their current club. A sanction may be assessed to the offending club and the athlete may not be allowed to play for the offending club for the affected season or subsequent season.

At the conclusion of an athlete's club season, ***provided it is before the end of the official USAV season and after the Regional Championship tournament***, athletes are free to solicit other clubs. However, athletes will not be released until the current club has verified the athlete is in good standing (i.e. completed the terms of their club contract).

Athletes who wish to compete with another club after their season has concluded will contact their current club and request release. If the athlete has completed all contractual obligations to the releasing club, the releasing club will notify the region office. If the athlete has not completed all contractual obligations, the athlete will not be released until such matters are resolved or the current season membership has expired. Once the region office has received notification from the releasing club, the athlete will be affiliated to the new club.

****Per USA Volleyball Championship guidelines: Athletes who have previously competed in a bid or qualifying event with one club *may not* participate in a qualifying event or GJNC/BJNC qualified division with another club.****

XXIX. Financial Obligations

Athletes who fail to meet financial obligations to their current club *may* be subject to local collection procedures at the discretion of the club they have signed a financial contract with. Athletes who fail to meet financial obligations *may* be denied mid-season transfer requests until these obligations have been fulfilled.

Club directors are encouraged to establish policies to collect club dues. Club directors *should* execute financial contracts with families before services are rendered. Club directors are encouraged to collect funds through locally established processes. The region will not intervene in these matters.

Athletes who participate in region-led programming *may* be granted a payment plan. In these rare instances, the athlete will be expected to pay the invoiced fees by the established due date.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

If these invoices are not paid by the established due date, the athlete will be placed on REGION HOLD until the debt is resolved. Athletes placed on region hold will not be able to renew their USAV membership until these matters are resolved.

XXX. USA Volleyball Junior Athlete Age Definition

USA Volleyball age definition may be found at: <https://usavolleyball.org/forms-and-information/>

Once an athlete participates (including but not limited to practicing, training, attending workouts and/or competing) in a club or varsity program for any university, college, community college, or junior college, he/she is ineligible to take part in any regional and national programming, which includes but is not limited to national JNC qualifying and championship events.

XXXI. Age Waiver Process

Athletes may participate in an older age classification but not a younger one. Age waiver requests to play in a younger age division are completed at the discretion of the club director. These requests should be based on the age and/or physical abilities of the athlete concerned. Club directors will use the online application form on the region website to request an age waiver. Age waiver decisions are made by the regional commissioner after consultation with the club director. Club directors may contact the region for further information.

XXXII. USA Volleyball Age Falsification Policy

For all USA Volleyball corporate events, any person who alters any document which certifies the age of a participant, or falsifies any statement which lists the age of a participant, will be sanctioned as follows:

Any team representative, coach, program director or responsible adult found to be party to such action shall:

1. Be immediately suspended from registration with USA Volleyball and barred from further participation in the event; and
2. Be barred from participation in any USAV Corporate events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
3. Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to the suspension.

A junior athlete who knowingly plays in a lower age classification than he or she is actually eligible for shall:

1. Be immediately suspended from registration with USA Volleyball and barred from further participation in the event;
2. Be barred from participation in any USAV Corporate events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
3. Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to the suspension.

When discovered and confirmed during an event, these penalties shall be the required minimum penalty imposed.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

XXXIII. Foreign Individual and/or Team Participation Procedures

Visit <https://usavolleyball.org/forms-and-information/> for information regarding foreign members and/or teams who wish to coach or compete with your club.

XXXIV. USA Volleyball Alcohol Policy at Junior Events

USA Volleyball prohibits the sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages in any space leased for the purpose of conducting USA Volleyball-sanctioned junior events. Additional restrictions and precautions apply to alcohol use in non-leased areas of event venues.

The full policy is available at: <https://www.psrvb.org/pubs-forms>. Contact the region office for further clarification.

Violation of this policy may result in removal of individuals from the event venue, fines or sanctions against clubs or directors, and denial of future sanctioning privileges.

XXXV. PSR All-Star Program (formerly High-Performance Program)

The region will operate an All-Star program each year for girls and boys indoors. Currently there is not an avenue for sand. Should one become available, the region may offer programming.

Region All-Star team selections will begin as early as January. Visit <https://www.psrvb.org/indoor-region-all-stars> for more information.

XXXVI. Girls Junior National Events

USA Volleyball offers many opportunities to compete at higher levels. Visit <https://usavolleyball.org/compete/girls-indoor/> for more information on national-level events and programs.

Support for Qualified Teams. The region will reimburse half of the USA GJNC entry fee to teams who appear in the National, American, USA, Liberty, or Freedom divisions, and will reimburse the entire entry fee for teams who qualify and compete in the Open division. The reimbursement will occur after the team has participated in the USA GJNC tournament.

XXXVII. Boys Junior National Events

USA Volleyball offers many opportunities to compete at higher levels. Visit <https://usavolleyball.org/compete/boys-indoor/> for more information on national-level events and programs.

Support for Qualified Teams. The region will reimburse half of the USA BJNC entry fee to teams who appear in the USA and American divisions and will reimburse the entire entry fee for teams who qualify and compete in the Open division. The reimbursement will occur after the team has participated in the USA BJNC tournament.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

XXXVIII. Complaint Processing

All members agree to abide by the policies, regulations, and procedures of USA Volleyball and the Puget Sound Region. The policies, regulations, and procedures are described in various USA Volleyball Governance documents (<https://usavolleyball.org/about/governance/>), as well as in various Puget Sound Region documents which are available through the region website (<https://www.psrvb.org/pubs-forms>).

Codes

The USA Volleyball Expectations, PSR Member Expectations, Club Code of Conduct, Tournament Director Code of Conduct, and Spectator/Parent Code of Conduct are contained herein.

Enforcement

The commissioner of the region is responsible for enforcing the policies, regulations, and procedures. The process of enforcement has 4 steps: filing complaint, investigation, adjudication, and appeal. Any sanction or penalty levied by the commissioner may be appealed per the procedures set forth herein.

Filing a Complaint

Only members have the right to file complaints against or report misconduct by any member for violating the policies, regulations, and procedures of the region or USAV. Any complaint or report of misconduct, not involving a claim of sexual misconduct, must (1) be filed within fourteen (14) calendar days of the occurrence; and (2) filed using the USAV Incident Reporting Form. Claims involving sexual misconduct may be filed as soon as brought forward by the complainant and must be filed using the USAV Incident Reporting Form or filed directly with the US Center for SafeSport. The US Center for SafeSport has jurisdiction for all claims of sexual misconduct.

USAV Incident Report Form

Complaints involving sexual misconduct or physical/emotional abuse must be filed using the USAV Incident Report Form. The form is online and may be found at: <https://usavolleyball.org/safesport/>.

After receipt of the USAV Incident Reporting Form, USAV will advise the region a report of misconduct has been made and further advise the region whether the region should investigate the allegations further. The region will not investigate any claims unless (1) the claimant has completed the USAV Incident Reporting Form; (2) USAV has notified the region of the complaint; and (3) the region has jurisdiction to investigate the allegations.

Commissioner Initial Determination

Upon receipt of the USAV Incident Reporting Form from USAV and authorization to investigate, the commissioner or authorized region representative will review the submission and make the following assessment: (1) determine the complaint is meritless; (2) determine if the claim asserts a violation of the policies, regulations, and procedures of the region or USAV; (3) determine an investigation into the allegations is warranted.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Dismissal

If the commissioner determines the complaint, on its face, is meritless or does not assert a violation of the policies, regulations, and procedures of the region or USAV, the commissioner may dismiss the complaint at any time and notify the claimant and respondent (the party against such accusations were made), of the dismissal. Upon dismissal, the region's duty to investigate any dismissal immediately ceases.

If the complaint is dismissed within seven (7) calendar days of receipt by the region, the region will have no duty to prepare an Initial Disclosure or otherwise notify any party, including the respondent, such a complaint was filed.

Investigation

If the commissioner determines further investigation is warranted, the commissioner may (1) refer the complaint to the club director for further investigation; or (2) retain the complaint and conduct the investigation.

If the commissioner refers the complaint to the club director, the region will expect the club director to investigate the claim(s), report his or her findings, and determine a resolution within twenty (20) calendar days of the complaint being referred. If the complainant is not satisfied with the resolution, the complainant may request redress by the commissioner. A request for redress should be made within seven (7) calendar days of club director resolution. In the event of a redress, the commissioner will follow the region's investigation procedure outlined herein.

If the commissioner retains an investigation, or in the event of a redress, the region will make an initial disclosure to the complainant and the respondent as described below.

Initial Disclosure

Within seven (7) calendar days, the region will notify, in writing, the claimant and the respondent:

- (a) a complaint has been filed;
- (b) briefly summarize the complaint;
- (c) notify respondent they has ten (10) calendar days to respond, in writing, to the complaint and refute the allegations; and
- (d) remind all parties the Initial Disclosure which includes the complaint summary, identities of the involved individuals, and subject of the investigation are to remain confidential.

The commissioner may, if deemed appropriate, appoint an outside investigative agency, legal counsel, or any individual the commissioner deems qualified to conduct all or part of the investigation.

The commissioner, or designated representative, may investigate the claims in any manner the commissioner determines and will do so in the commissioner's reasonable discretion. As part of this investigation, the commissioner may, review any reports, communications, or other

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

documents related to the charges, interview potential witnesses, review video or social media, or take any action the commissioner deems necessary as part of his or her investigation.

The commissioner, or designated representative may, if deemed appropriate, seek additional documentation or evidence from the parties to complete the investigation.

The Commissioner, or designated representative, will endeavor to complete all investigations within thirty (30) calendar days after sending the Initial Disclosure. If an investigation will extend beyond 30 calendar days, the commissioner will notify the parties the investigation is ongoing and provide a reasonable estimation of when the investigation will be finished.

Adjudication

After completing the investigation, the commissioner will render a decision and determine what punishments or sanctions, if any, should be issued. The commissioner will notify the claimant and respondent, in writing, of the commissioner's decision, any sanctions or punishments issued, the decision and punishments issued are to remain confidential. If sanctions are issued, the commissioner will, in its findings issued to the respondent, also summarize the investigation and basis for the decision, including why the region determined such sanction was appropriate. The commissioner will notify the respondent how they may appeal the decision.

Disciplinary Actions

Individuals, groups of individuals or organizations, which violate the USA Volleyball Participant Code of Conduct or rules of the region are subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions:

1. Financial penalty – assessment of a specific monetary penalty, as deemed appropriate by the commissioner.
2. Denial of sanctioning of activities.
3. Probation – a warning further violation of the rules may result in suspension.
4. Suspension – removal of eligibility for participation in some or all sanctioned events and activities for a period not to exceed 12 months.
5. Expulsion – removal of eligibility for participation in some or all sanctioned events and activities for a period of more than 12 months.
6. Other – Any and all other sanctions as the region sees fit.

Violation Report & Conduct Situation Forms are handled differently than the aforementioned types of complaints.

Violation Report Form

This form will be used exclusively to notice the commissioner of suspected violations of region policies (i.e. operating without an approved club license, signing policy, recruiting policy, eligibility rules, tournament no-shows, and tournament site policies). Generally, this form is to be completed by a tournament/site director, club director, coach, assistant coach, or region staff member. The form should be generated at the time the infraction is discovered and sent to the region office for investigation within 72 hours of the incident.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Conduct Situation Form

This form will be used exclusively to notify the commissioner of inappropriate spectator conduct at a region sanctioned event. This form is to be completed by the Tournament/Site Director. Individuals who witness inappropriate behavior by a spectator should report such behavior to the Tournament/Site Director immediately. The form should be generated at the time of the incident and forwarded to the region by the Tournament/Site Director the Monday following the event.

Visit the region website to submit a complaint: <https://www.psrvb.org/filing-a-complaint>. Once the violation report or conduct situation form is received by the region office, the commissioner, or designated representative, will investigate the facts brought forward. If deemed necessary, the investigator will seek additional documentation or evidence from the parties to complete the investigation.

The Commissioner, or designated representative, will endeavor to complete all investigations within ten (10) calendar days after receiving the violation report or conduct situation forms. If an investigation will extend beyond 10 calendar days, the commissioner will notify the parties the investigation remains ongoing and provide a reasonable estimation of when the investigation will be finished.

Adjudication

After completing the investigation, the commissioner will render a decision and determine what punishments or sanctions, if any, should be issued. The commissioner will notify the claimant and respondent, in writing, of the commissioner's decision, any sanctions or punishments issued, the decision and punishments issued are to remain confidential. If sanctions are issued, the commissioner will, in its findings issued to the respondent, also summarize the investigation and basis for the decision, including why the region determined such sanction was appropriate. The commissioner will notify the respondent how they may appeal the decision.

Disciplinary Actions

Individuals, groups of individuals or organizations, which violate the USA Volleyball Participant Code of Conduct or rules of the region are subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions:

1. Financial penalty – assessment of a specific monetary penalty, as deemed appropriate by the commissioner.
2. Denial of sanctioning of activities.
3. Probation – a warning further violation of the rules may result in suspension.
4. Suspension – removal of eligibility for participation in some or all sanctioned events and activities for a period not to exceed 12 months.
5. Expulsion – removal of eligibility for participation in some or all sanctioned events and activities for a period of more than 12 months.
6. Other – Any and all other sanctions as the region sees fit.

XXXIX. Appeals and Due Process

All region members are afforded due process rights to present their side of the story, to receive fair consideration, and to have the region's decision considered by a higher authority based only

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

upon the grounds the appellant was denied due process (complainant or respondent) or the disciplinary action taken was too severe (respondent only).

1. In order to commence an appeal:
 - a. Within ten (10) calendar days of the date of the commissioner's decision, submit a request for appeal in writing to the region office.
 - b. The appeal must state the grounds for the appeal, include any and all documents or arguments the region should reconsider, and cite specifically, how the party was denied due process or how the disciplinary action taken was too severe.
2. Within five (5) calendar days after receiving the appeal, the ombudsperson will determine whether the appellant was denied due process.
 - a. If there is no due process basis to reverse the commissioner's decision, the ombudsperson will notify the appellant the appeal is denied.
 - b. If the ombudsperson determines the appellant has a valid due process objection to the commissioner's ruling, the ombudsperson will return the investigation to the commissioner for further action.
3. Within five (5) days of receiving the appeal the ombudsperson will forward appeals requesting reconsideration of a disciplinary action to the chair of the PSR Board of Directors for action
 - a. The vice chair will assemble an appeals committee to review the submission
 - i. The appeals committee will consist of the vice chair, one (1) non-club affiliated board member, and one (1) club affiliated board member.
 - b. The appeals committee review
 - i. Will have five (5) days to complete their review
 - ii. Review the appellant's submission
 - iii. Review the commissioner's investigative report provided
 - c. If there is no basis to reassess the commissioner's disciplinary action, the vice chair will notify the appellant the appeal is denied.
 - d. If the appeals committee determines to reassess the commissioner's disciplinary action the vice chair will notify the appellant of the committee's decision.
4. Any sanctions decision will remain binding and in full effect unless reassessed on appeal.
5. If the commissioner and/or Board deem it appropriate, a copy of the complaint, findings, sanctions, and appeal decision may be forwarded to the National Office of USA Volleyball.
6. Any further appeal of the region's decision will be in accordance with the rules and guidelines of USA Volleyball.

XL. Guidelines for Addressing Inappropriate Spectator Conduct

The Puget Sound Region has experienced unruly and unsportsmanlike behavior by spectators at volleyball matches during past seasons. The following region guidelines will be used at all PSR Sanctioned Events.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

A spectator's invitation to attend a PSR Sanctioned event may be revoked for extremely belligerent behavior or any act of physical violence. The individual may be asked to leave the facility immediately. If the individual refuses to leave, contact the authorities (911). If any type of physical violence occurs, immediately contact the authorities (911).

Any situation where a participant or spectator is given more than a single verbal warning to correct their behavior must be reported to the region office. Tournament/Site Directors will fill out the Conduct Situation Form with as much detail as possible. Should there be any situation which needs to be reported immediately, contact Dragan Karadzic (206) 291-8977, Robyn Williams (210) 286-6770, or Cindy Compoc (850) 890-6812.

To assist Tournament Directors with Spectator Management the Region implemented the Purple Card Policy in October 2023.

XLI. Purple Card Policy

The rules of volleyball allow officials to address on-court behavior from players or coaches by issuing sanctions and point penalties (yellow cards, red cards). The purpose of the Purple Card Policy is to give officials and tournament staff another tool to address behavior from spectators. The goal of this policy is to help preserve a respectful, positive, safe, and fun playing environment and keep the focus on the athletes. This is in addition to all other tournament- and facility-specific policies in place at PSR-sanctioned events, including the Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct.

Prohibited Behavior

- Comments made or actions displayed that are deemed by others as rude, profane, disrespectful, disruptive, or aggressive, which interfere with the normal progress of a tournament match.
- Inappropriate actions or comments directed at members of an officiating crew. This includes comments directed at the score table, line judges, R1 or R2. Remember, it is the playing team's coach who is responsible for monitoring the score and bringing any discrepancies to the attention of the work team.
- Behavior prohibited by USAV and/or PSR Codes of Conduct.
- Misconduct deemed contrary to normally accepted behavior, resulting in the unnecessary interruption of a match.

Applicability

This policy applies to the below-listed groups at PSR-owned and/or sanctioned events:

- Any member of the PSR region (e.g., club director, coach, rostered adult, player, chaperone) not currently participating in a match who has assumed the role of a spectator. This policy applies to individuals displaying misconduct before the start of the match, as well as after the match has officially ended.
- Any non-region member, such as parents or relatives of a region member.
- Any attendee or spectator at any PSR-sanctioned event.

Yellow & red card sanctions may still be used for match participants, in accordance with the USAV Rules Book and are their own sanctioning scale, separate of Purple Card sanctions.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

The Purple Card is applied to any situation during a match where spectator misconduct occurs, and the on-court official and/or tournament staff deems the misconduct serious enough to be addressed. A PSR official and/or tournament staff may issue a Purple Card either from the stand or while overseeing the court.

Misconduct occurring before or after a match is handled through applicable policies, such as the Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct.

Sanctions – Stage 1

It is the duty of the on-court officials, other PSR officials on site, team coaches, and the tournament staff to utilize all intervention tools/methods and work collaboratively to prevent spectators from reaching the sanctioning level. This is done first through a verbal warning, then through the issuance of a Purple Card.

After a verbal warning is issued, if the behavior does not improve, the following happens:

- Purple Card & Yellow Card are displayed in one hand, as a warning to the team with which the spectator is affiliated.
 - The referee shall direct an individual from the officiating crew to find and alert the tournament staff to come to their court if not already there.
 - Both team captains are summoned to the referee stand and will then notify their head coach that a spectator potentially affiliated with their team has been sanctioned.
 - Once the affiliation of the spectator is determined, the head coach will inform the offender of the warning.
 - If the offender refuses to identify their team affiliation, they may be subject to more serious sanctions, including expulsion from the facility.
- A Purple Card/Yellow Card warning is assessed to the team and is in force for the entire match. A team may only receive one such warning per match.
- Purple Card/Yellow Card warnings are recorded on the scoresheet but have no immediate consequences.

Sanctions – Stage 2

Further misconduct by spectators affiliated with the same team (even if the misconduct is from a different individual(s) that led to the Purple Card Warning) may be sanctioned as follows:

- Purple Card & Red Card are displayed in one hand by the official. Sanction is penalized with a penalty point and service to the opponent.
 - The referee shall direct an individual from the officiating crew to find and alert the tournament staff to come to their court if not already there.
 - Both team captains are summoned to the referee stand and will then notify their head coach that a spectator potentially affiliated with their team has been sanctioned.
 - Once the affiliation of the spectator is determined, the head coach will inform the offender of the warning.
 - If the offender refuses to identify their team affiliation, they may be subject to more serious sanctions, including expulsion from the facility.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Discretion of Official and/or Tournament Staff

Depending on the seriousness of the offense, an official and/or tournament staff may ask for a spectator to be removed from the facility, with or without a warning. No cards will be displayed.

- The referee and/or tournament staff stops the match and secures the safety of the match participants.
- The referee consults the tournament director, facility staff, and head coach of the team to ask the spectator to vacate the facility.
 - If the spectator refuses to leave the facility in a timely manner, law enforcement is notified immediately.

Recording of Sanctions

- Purple Card & Yellow Card (Warning)
 - Record “PC” in the “W Warn” column, along with the team identifier (A or B), set number, and score at which the sanction was issued.

D=Delay A=Asst Coach #=Player T=Trainer C=Coach M=Manager		IMPROPER REQUEST					
TEAM (A) : TEAM (B)							
S A N C T	W	P	E	D	(A)	SET	SCORE
	Warn	Penity	Expel	DisQ	(B)		
	PC				B	1	20:22
							:

- Purple Card & Red Card (Penalty)
 - Record “PC” in the “P Penalty” column, along with the team identifier (A or B), set number, and score at which the sanction was issued.
 - If the penalty is against the serving team, record the serving team’s exit score. Record the penalty point for the opponent by slashing and circling the opponent’s next point in the “Points” column.
 - If the penalty is against the receiving team record the awarded penalty point by slashing and circling the serving team’s next point in the “Points” column.

D=Delay A=Asst Coach #=Player T=Trainer C=Coach M=Manager		IMPROPER REQUEST					
TEAM (A) : TEAM (B)							
S A N C T	W	P	E	D	(A)	SET	SCORE
	Warn	Penity	Expel	DisQ	(B)		
	PC				B	1	20:22
		PC			B	2	9 : 11

Reporting

Officials will report any Purple Card issued to the tournament staff who will be asked to complete the Conduct Situation form on the PSR website. Officials will report any Purple Card issued on their Officials Daily Report form.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

When a Conduct Situation Form and an Officials Daily Report form are submitted to the office, a formal notice will be sent to the club who was reported. Clubs will have the option to respond to this notice and the information submitted *may* be used to determine the validity of the sanction.

Consequences

- Individuals who receive a second Purple Card in the same season must complete the *Elevate Respect* course from Officially Human and submit a certificate of completion to the PSR office BEFORE attending a subsequent PSR-hosted or sanctioned event.
- Individuals who receive a third Purple Card in the same season may be subject to a suspension from PSR-hosted or sanctioned events for the remainder of the season.
- All Purple Card sanctions and subsequent consequences are subject to appeal to the PSR Commissioner.

XLII. Region Fines and Penalties

The commissioner will determine fines and penalties. Fines must be paid within 10 days of issuance. Failure to pay a fine in the allotted time period may result in a suspension from all USAV sanctioned events until the matter has been resolved.

Adult Eligibility Rules – \$500.00 fine

If it is discovered any adult, including a coach, is participating in an PSR Sanctioned Event who is not eligible (i.e. not registered, no cleared USAV background screening, not IMPACT certified, not SafeSport trained), a \$500.00 fine may be assessed to the offending club. If this is a subsequent infraction, the commissioner may assess further disciplinary action.

Athlete Eligibility Rules – \$250.00 fine

If it is discovered an athlete is participating in an PSR Sanctioned Event who is not eligible (i.e. not registered, wrong club, wrong division, etc.), a \$250.00 fine may be assessed to the offending club. If this is a subsequent infraction, the commissioner may assess further disciplinary action.

Failure to Show at a Tournament – Current Tournament Entry Fee

If this is a subsequent infraction, the commissioner may assess further disciplinary action.

Operating without an Approved Club Registration – \$500.00 fine

If it is discovered a club director is operating a USA Volleyball club without an active or approved club license a \$500.00 fine may be assessed. If this is a subsequent infraction, the commissioner may assess further disciplinary action.

Returned Check Fee – \$35.00

Violation of the PSR Letter of Commitment – Suspension

If it is discovered a club or an athlete has violated the terms set forth within the PSR Letter of Commitment the club director or an athlete may be subject to a one-year suspension. If this is a subsequent infraction, the commissioner may assess further disciplinary action.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Violation of the Recruiting Policy – \$250.00 fine

If it is discovered a club director has violated the recruiting policy the offending club may be assessed a \$250.00 fine. The athlete may not be allowed to play for the offending club for the affected season or subsequent season. If this is a subsequent infraction for either party, the commissioner may assess further disciplinary action.

Violation of the Signing Policy – \$250.00 fine

If it is discovered a club director or an athlete has violated the signing policy (i.e. withdrawn an offer before the authorized time period, signed athletes prior to the authorized time period, etc.) a \$250.00 fine may be assessed. If this is a subsequent infraction, the commissioner may assess further disciplinary action.

Violation of Tournament Site Regulations – \$100.00 fine

A team may incur a fine if it violates ANY tournament site regulation such as those listed below.

- There is absolutely NO SMOKING, NO TOBACCO USE, or NO CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL in every facility we use for PSR sanctioned tournaments.
- Any athlete, parent, or coach caught by any Tournament/Site Direct with ANY alcoholic beverage (i.e. beer) or illegal drugs inside any school building or public tournament facility, or on any premises which prohibits this usage (i.e. school grounds or parking lots), will not be allowed to continue playing in the tournament. The team may be fined \$100.00, and the offending party will not be allowed to participate in any sanctioned event in the Region for ONE CALENDAR MONTH following the violation.
- Teams who bring banned or unauthorized items into the facilities (i.e. crockpots, chairs, balloons, **animals**, etc.) may be fined \$100.00. If this is a subsequent infraction, the commissioner may assess further disciplinary action.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Attachment 1

Puget Sound Region Club Code of Conduct

Note: this form must be submitted with your club license request form

1. No club can participate, require or condone any act considered to be an offense under federal, state or local laws/ordinances.
2. No club may contact an athlete who has committed to another club, either verbally or in writing, for the purpose of persuading them to leave the club to which they have committed. This does not prohibit anyone from giving any athlete, their parents or guardians information about their club tryouts, practices, organization or cost if it is requested by the athlete, their parents or guardians.
3. Clubs will not allow athletes to play in USAV sanctioned events or attend practices without being full USAV members. It is the clubs responsibility to ensure all members of their club who participate at tournaments be registered with USAV. Clubs will not allow athletes to tryout for their club without being at least a one-event USAV member or provide alternative liability insurance prior to participating in any tryouts.
4. All clubs must inform both their athletes and the athlete's parents/guardians they risk bodily injury, including paralysis, dismemberment and death, as well as loss or damage of property.
5. All clubs must inform their coaches, athletes and the athlete's parents/guardians they must sign a USAV "release and waiver liability" before they can become USAV members.
6. All clubs must inform the members of the club, the parents and or guardians of USAV membership and tournament fees.
7. It is the club's responsibility for payments of all tournament entry fees.
8. It is the club's responsibility for the conduct of athletes, coaches, parents and spectators from their club at all tournaments and *to* take appropriate action in the event of any misconduct by above-mentioned individuals.
9. It is the club's responsibility to ensure all paperwork, (membership, entry forms, etc.) is completed and meets deadlines.
10. It is the club's responsibility to adhere to the age group classifications, *and to verify all athlete's ages before assigning them to teams.*
11. It is the club's responsibility to inform coaches, parents/guardians and athletes of schedule, formats, deadlines, sanctions for not meeting a deadline, and requirements of being a club in the region.
12. It is the club's responsibility to read and adhere to all policies set forth in this handbook, including those on recruiting, and athlete/team commitment.
13. It is the responsibility of the club director to ensure each adult member (coaches, tournament directors, chaperones) are successfully registered and have passed the USAV required background screening and complete SafeSport training before they are allowed to participate in youth programs and represent their club.

Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Attachment 2

Tournament/Site Director Code of Conduct

Note: this form must be submitted with your tournament request form

1. All tournament directors must be pre-qualified by the Operations Director before they can host a tournament. Should the TD be awarded a tournament, and not take the time to pre-qualify, their sanction will be removed.
2. All tournament directors must be registered USAV members, current USAV Background screening, and complete SafeSport training.
3. Tournament directors cannot participate, require or condone any act considered to be an offense under federal, state or local laws/ordinances.
4. Tournament directors cannot supply or condone the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, fireworks, ammunition, firearms, weapons or any items or material can be used as a weapon or which may be hazardous or harmful to other persons.
5. Tournament directors will not allow any athlete is not a USAV member to participate in their sanctioned events.
6. It is the tournament director's responsibility to inform coaches of PSR policies.
7. It is the tournament director's responsibility to ensure all paperwork is completed and meets deadlines for submission.
8. Do not advise the coach on how to coach.
9. Do not drink alcohol at tournaments or arrive at a tournament having drunk alcohol.
10. Be in control of your emotions.
11. Thank coaches, spectators, parents and athletes who have assisted in any way.
12. Know the rules.
13. Follow the rules and guidelines set by the region for the tournament.
14. Physical or verbal intimidation of any individual is unacceptable.
15. Do not show favoritism to individuals, athletes, coaches, teams or clubs.
16. Arrive at least 45 minutes before the tournament.
17. It is the tournament director's responsibility to enforce the rules of the facility.
18. Be approachable.
19. Support the Puget Sound Region.
20. It is the tournament director's responsibility to leave the facility clean and neat.
21. Be prepared to run your tournament with the proper supplies.
22. Submit results in a timely manner to the proper persons.



Current as of 15 October 2018

Spectator/Parent Code of Conduct

NOTICE

ENTRY INTO THIS PRIVATELY SANCTIONED EVENT IS A PRIVILEGE AND A COURTESY.

If you enter/attend this event, or any other Puget Sound Region sanctioned event, you agree to abide by the following code of conduct:

I WILL:

- ✓ Abide by the rules of the game and policies of USA Volleyball.
- ✓ Honor the rules of the host and the host facility.
- ✓ I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials, and other spectators.
- ✓ Teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- ✓ Demand my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
- ✓ Acknowledge effort and good performance, remembering all the players in this event are amateur athletes.
- ✓ If I witness any illegal or dangerous activity, notify the Tournament Director immediately.

I WILL NOT:

- ✓ I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct or yelling at any official (esp. player official), scorekeeper, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
- ✓ Coach my child from the bleachers/sidelines unless I am the coach of his/her team.
- ✓ Ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- ✓ Bring, purchase or consume alcohol at any PSR Events.
- ✓ Bring or possess fireworks, ammunition, firearms, knives or any item or material which can be used as a weapon at any PSR Events.

I understand if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action which could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning by the official, coach, tournament director
- Parental tournament suspension for remainder of current season

The reason for this code is preserve the integrity of the athlete, the coaches, the opponents, referees and our region. Failure to abide by this code will result in you being asked to leave the site/facility and may result in you being ban from attending future Puget Sound Region sanctioned events. The Tournament Director and/or the Facility Owner have the final say regarding their individual event. Local law enforcement will be contacted if necessary to resolve any disputes or altercations.

Questions may be directed to the Puget Sound Region office. 425-673-4103



Puget Sound Region – USA Volleyball

Attachment 4

PUGET SOUND REGION MAP

