



To our Great Plains Region Club Directors,

The following changes have been approved by our Board of Directors and will be in effect for the 2025-26 season.

2026 Memberships

GPR x USAV Memberships come across as two transactions: a portion of the membership fees go to USA Volleyball and the other to Great Plains Region that we use to fund our officials, programming and other staff members. USA Volleyball has increased their portion of the membership by \$5 for full memberships effective this season. That means the 2025-26 full season memberships fees will increase by those amounts this year. GPR will not increase their portion of the fee. Short-season and one-event memberships will remain the same price as last season.

Gold Tournaments Increasing to \$210

In an effort to grow the game through our officials, we will be increasing our Gold Tournament fee from \$190 to \$210. The extra \$20 will go towards increasing pay for our officials (which has not been done in 5 years). Silver tournaments will remain at \$120 as there are no officials fees.

Regional Championship and Bid Tournaments Increasing to \$250

In conjunction with our Gold tournaments, we will be increasing the price of our Bid and Regionals Tournament to continue providing a high-quality experience for all teams through a convention center atmosphere and having officials present at nearly every court for the Silver/Bronze Divisions. The Great Plains Regionals will be held at CHI Convention Center April 11-12. Registration will open in AES on November 1 at the latest.

April 11: 10-14s Divisions

April 12: 15-18s Divisions

2026 Great Plains Bid Tournament

We listened to your feedback regarding the following:

1. Schedule
2. Ranking
3. Dates

NEW 2-DAY FORMAT:

The Bid Tournament will be a 2-day format IF there are more than 8 teams signed up in the age division. The first day will be pool play. From there, the top 8 teams from the pool will make it to the Gold Bracket on the second day and are eligible for a Bid. These teams will play the games out to 6th place, meaning each team will play minimum of 2, maximum of 3 games on the second day. The remaining teams will play in a "Club" bracket the second day and are not eligible for a Bid.

NOTE: We will only be able to play a "Club" bracket the second day of play IF there are at least 11 teams in a division (top 8 go to "Bid", bottom 3 play round robin in "Club").

REQUIREMENT TO PLAY IN TWO GOLD GPR TOURNAMENTS TO “QUALIFY” TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BID:

Because this is a REGION Bid, we are requiring each team who wants to play in the GPR Bid Tournament to participate in 2 GPR GOLD TOURNAMENTS prior to the Bid Tournament. This will serve as a requirement to play in the GPR Bid and your team will not be accepted into the Bid until we are shown proof that your team is registered for two GPR Gold Tournaments within the 2026 season. This is not limited to an age division, a team can compete in any aged GPR Gold Tournament to meet the requirement.

RANKING SYSTEM:

We are attempting to regain access to the old tournament entry system (Online Tournament Entry System – OTE) as it does a better job than AES calculating ALL tournaments, including ones outside of your age division. This is not a guarantee, but will give us a more accurate ranking system if we are able to use it this season. We will keep you updated on the status of this.

BID DATES:

The two national qualifiers we try to take into our decision on dates are Show Me and Northern Lights. We understand many coaches from your club coach multiple teams and have to make a decision on which to attend, as well as families within your clubs. We also try to work around the calendar as much as possible, not interfering with basketball season, Easter weekend, and having the Bid at a time that is not too early, but not too late for USAV housing purposes. That all being said, we as a Region have to factor in what makes sense financially (having the Bid during our CHI rental) and logistically for our staff. After much discussion with our staff and Board, we have decided on the following dates for our 2026 Bids:

NOTE: WILL ONLY BE 2 DAY FORMAT IF MORE THAN 8 TEAMS REGISTER FOR THE BID. IF 8 OR LESS, WE WILL ONLY PLAY ON SUNDAY. THESE WILL SHOW UP AS A 2-DAY EVENT IN AES.

Girls 18s: February 21-22 (Location: TBD)

Girls 11-14s: April 11-12 (Location: CHI Health Center)

Girls 15-17s: April 18-19 (Location: TBD)