

CHRVA GUIDELINES FOR OUT OF REGION TEAMS

Out of region teams are encouraged to apply to Chesapeake Region Juniors tournaments. However there are several Chesapeake Regional rules and practices that may be different than ones used by other Regions.

The "Coaches Guide" found on the Juniors Web Page is a summary of how the Girls program in the Chesapeake Region operates. It is required reading for all coaches and suggested for all parents.

This document summarizes the differences in the way the Chesapeake Region runs tournaments. The ***Coaches Guide to Playing in the Region*** contains more information on many of the topics.

1. Communications

Communications are primarily electronic. The Region's Junior's web site can be found in the Juniors tab at www.chrva.org and contains a variety of information on Region operation. Make sure to look at all ***Related Pages*** since information and documents maybe spread over multiple sections or documents.

For girls, the Age Group Coordinators are the primary tournament focus points. For boys, the Boys Program Director is the tournament focus point. Email addresses are at the bottom of the page or under ***Staff*** listings.

The initial listing under ***Juniors > Tournaments*** is an important overview and current status summary.

2. Tournament Announcements

Tournament announcements start early December and will be found under ***Girls*** or ***Boys Tournaments***. Additional events are added through the season as addition events are scheduled. The CHRVA Coordinators work with the Region's Clubs to add or modify events to meet the scheduling needs for events.

Important fields in the announcements include (discussed below):

- Division: Gender and Age
- Type: Club, Open, or Mixed
- Host Contact:
- Closing Date:
- Officiating Cost: Costs if the team doesn't provide scorekeeper or 1st referee

Very large multi-day events, such as the Capitol Hill Classic or Early Bird are not scheduled through CHRVA. Visit the host web pages for additional information on those events.

Some tournaments don't fill by the closing date. The Tournament Listing includes the status and availability of slots. Available slots after closing will also be shown in the tournament ***Pools*** and generally filled on a first come basis.

3. Application Process

CHRVA works on a Just In Time application and notification system. The closing date (first selection) for applications is generally 3 weeks ahead of the tournament. Complete applications received by the closing date are used to fill the tournament before any late applications.

For Out of Region Teams, there are two activities for applying to a tournament:

- Completing the Tournament Application and paying the tournament fee(s).
- Contacting the Tournament Host requesting priority entry.

A completed tournament application should be mailed to the appropriate Age Group Coordinator.

Many hosts like to encourage out of region teams by delegating slots for these teams. These slots can only be reserved by contacting the Host and the Host communicating the slot reservation to the Coordinator. The Host contact information is usually on the application form. If it isn't, the Club contact is in the online club listing.

4. Tournament Levels

CHRVA doesn't have an official designation of team level. Instead teams earn their ratings throughout the season. CHRVA teams' ratings can be found in the Seeding Index under **Results** after they have played a minimum of 12 matches.

Most of the tournaments are "mixed" with "club" and "open" level teams competing in the same pools.

A few tournaments are targeted at either Open or Club level of competition. Other tournaments are mixed ages: 13/14, 15/16, or 17/18. However, there are no rules preventing any age appropriate team from any "level" entering and playing in any tournament.

5. Tournament Priority of Fill

There is a "Priority of Fill" system for CHRVA tournaments. Tournaments with a higher priority in an age category must be filled (100%) before allowing a lower priority tournament to proceed.

6. Acceptance to a Tournament

Out of region teams should request entrance from the Tournament Director unless the Tournament Invitation indicates out of region slots have been reserved. When the Host has named a specific team or designated slots reserved for out of region teams, the Coordinator may be able to notify the out of region team of their acceptance into a tournament before the closing date.

CHRVA teams are accepted on a last played basis i.e. those that have not played the longest are chosen first.

Out of region teams can be accepted by the Host or Tournament Director. This allows them to define the type of tournament they would like. When the Tournament Director accepts an out of region team, they get priority entry over most CHRVA teams. Otherwise CHRVA teams are taken first and out of region teams are used for any vacant slots.

7. Work Teams

All tournaments require that teams provide work crews. Typically this includes an USAV registered adult, two lines people, a certified score keeper, a score flipper, libero tracker, 2nd referee, and a certified 1st referee.

The Chesapeake Region requires courtside supervision of the work team by an Adult. This Adult can be a member of the work team as the scorekeeper, first referee or second referee. If not one of the officials listed, then an Adult is required at the scorekeeper table to supervise the scoring and work team performance.

Teams are expected to provide both certified 1st referee and scorekeeper. While there is **an expensive** option when a certified individual is not available, this option is difficult on the host club. Individuals that have been approved in their home region to be a 1st referee or scorekeeper are accepted in the Chesapeake Region.

8. Seedings and Work Assignments

Team acceptance and work assignments are posted to the web site under "Pools". Typically accepted teams are posted shortly after closing and work assignments are posted early the week before the tournament so the latest results can be considered in the seedings. Since a majority of teams must be on the court before warm-ups, teams should plan accordingly.

Tournament pools are seeded so all pools are balanced e.g. each pool has an equal mixture of strong and weak teams. Ranking of the teams is based upon the seeding index when available to the Coordinator on the day the pools are seeded. When the Seeding Index is not available, such as early in the season or for out of region teams, the Coordinators use their best judgment based upon any information available. Coordinators may override the seeding index, especially early in the season, when recent results have not been reflected in the seeding index.

Teams must check out with the Tournament Director before leaving a Tournament. Work team responsibilities must be completed even if a team hasn't qualified for playoffs. Teams are also responsible for cleaning up their campgrounds.

9. Paid Referee Assignments

Most tournaments use a mixture of paid and team supplied 1st referees. Normally a team can expect to have a paid 1st referee for 50% of the matches during pool play and all playoff matches. However, if there are insufficient paid referees, the Tournament Director may request a work team to provide a team first referee for a match when a paid referee would normally be scheduled. Team first referees that work matches scheduled for paid referees will be compensated at standard CHRVA rates.

A few larger events will supply all paid 1st referees. This will be indicated in the notes section of the tournament application.

10. Withdrawing from a Tournament

Teams may withdraw without penalty from a tournament up to 11 days before a single day event and 31 days before a multi-day event.

Let the Age Group Coordinator know as soon as possible if you are withdrawing or have other difficulties.

11. Check Processing

Checks are cashed approximately a week before the tournament for those teams accepted into a tournament. Unused checks are shredded.