

COACH'S GUIDE TO PLAYING IN THE CHESAPEAKE REGION

This guide is a summary of procedures and rules for competing in USAV Chesapeake Region Juniors tournaments. It also contains useful information helpful during the season.

The material is based on the *Chesapeake Region Volleyball Association (CHRVA) Handbook* (the Handbook) and policy approved by the Juniors Competition Committee. This document is not intended to replace or supersede either the Handbook or the By-Laws.

All players, coaches, and club personnel are responsible for adhering to the contents of the Handbook

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CHESAPEAKE REGION WEB PAGES

The CHRVA Region's web pages are the primary means of communications with members of the Region including clubs and coaches. Start at www.chrva.org and look for the following sections:

www.chrva.org/page/show/102620

www.chrva.org/page/show/106107

www.chrva.org/page/show/134748

Chesapeake Juniors Girls & Boys web page

Referee's web page

DIGS Newsletters

News, tournaments, results, The Region Handbook, newsletters, forms, and many activities can be found in the various pages.

Visit the web pages often because they are routinely updated with new tournaments and other information.

THE NEVER ENDING SEASON

CHRVA sponsored tournaments start early in January and continue through until middle May. Many teams play at one of several large regional tournaments over Memorial Day weekend such as East Coast Championships or the AAU Happy Volley at Penn State. A few teams go on to Nationals early July. The High Performance teams typically play around the end of July.

Around August 15th, most High School players start tryouts and practices with their school teams. Meanwhile Region personnel are busy preparing for the next season. Planning and scheduling activities are typically in full swing during the fall. Clinics for scorekeepers, referees, and coaches need to be arranged and preparations readied for new rules. At the end of High School season, most arrangements are in place and ready for players to start tryouts.

For Coaches, the most important event is the Fall General Meeting for all Club Directors. This is the introduction to the season presented by Regional Staff and covers a wide variety of topics important to all coaches. Club Directors are responsible for having adequate representation that can share all information with club coaches and players. Experience has shown that most difficulties occur with clubs that fail to attend this meeting and distribute the information to all teams.

Automatic invites go out to Clubs that have filled out a Club Contact form. New teams or clubs are encouraged to discuss their situation with the Junior Administrator and work with the New Club coordinator. The ***Guide to Start a New Junior Volleyball Team*** is a useful guide

TEAM, COACH, and ADULT REGISTRATIONS

All teams, players, and coaches must be USAV registered before they can participate in the Chesapeake Region. Among other benefits, USAV registration provides secondary liability insurance coverage once a player is registered. It also ensures teams are made up of players meeting the age group requirements. A new registration is required each year even when the team roster doesn't change.

All individuals who support a Junior's team must be registered USAV members including coaches, assistant coaches, officials, or trainers. This includes individuals (adults or siblings) who help the team by working lines or shagging balls.

All adult coaches must be IMPACT certified before they can be attached to a team registration. The Region and USAV recommend coaches complete CAP I or higher certification. See the Juniors web page for options to complete this certification by either local held clinic or USAV Webinar.

Chesapeake Region teams should complete the team registration process as early in the season as possible. Registration requests or changes received by the Registrar less than 10 days before an event are subject to a late registration fee. The Region's Registrar can be contacted for questions.

All registrations from the previous season expire on October 31 of each year.

USAV Registration Process

Players, Coaches, and Teams are required to use the USAV online membership registration through the www.chrva.org web page. See the Registration Information section of the web page for more information and forms. In general:

- Returning members will be able to access their record from the previous year and update them as necessary.
- Retaining your account password will make renewal or updates easier.
- Participants are responsible for payment via Credit Card. Clubs can't pay.
- Driver's license number is needed for certification of agreement of terms and conditions. This includes parent approval of Junior members.

Parents/Guardians must renew Junior player registrations. This process also includes agreement to:

- The **USA Waiver & Release of Liability** plus
- The **USAV Participant Code of Conduct**.

Coaches must present a copy of the Registrar generated team roster at every tournament check-in. See the "Tournament Check-in" section.

Junior Player Registration Process

Players are required to register online before participating in try-outs. Without the registration confirmation number, clubs can not allow participation. It is strongly recommended to complete the initial registration before showing up at try-outs.

In general, Junior's are recommended to:

- Before try outs, Junior's are required to apply for the "One Event" reduced rate membership. After making a team, the remaining cost of a full membership can be paid. Players that select "full membership" but don't make a team will not be able to receive a refund.
- The club should be marked "Undecided" Once a player obtains an offer to play for a team, the player / adult should go back into the registration system and select the club.
- All junior and adult player fees are the same. All will be required to provide birth dates.
- Take a copy of the registration to tryouts.

After making a team, Coaches will be required to collect copies of the birth certificate and carry them to tournaments to fulfill the requirement to prove age compliance.

More relevant information is contained in the Juniors tryouts section.

Adult Background Checks

Background checks are required of all adults supporting Junior volleyball programs. Important points include:

- All adults working with Volleyball youth must complete the background check.
- The information is submitted online.
- The background check must be completed before the Adult can be attached to a junior team's roster.
- The background check is good for 2 seasons.

Additional information, such as Background Check FAQ's can be found Juniors web page under "Coaches Documents".

SCORE KEEPER AND REFEREE CERTIFICATIONS

All teams are expected to supply qualified referees and scorekeepers. This section describes the CHRVA process for certification. See the **Work Teams** section below and in the Handbook for more information on the make up and responsibilities of the work team.

To be qualified to work as a score keeper or an 1st Referee, an individual must complete the minimum accreditation program process required by the Chesapeake or another USAV Region. The minimum standards for the Chesapeake Region are:

- Scorekeeper: Attending a clinic this season before working as a scorekeeper
- 1st Referee: Attending both a scorekeeping clinic and referee clinic this season before working as a Referee

Junior score keepers and referees can progress through multiple levels of proficiency from a Junior rating to a National rating. Advancing past the entry level rating allows an individual to work adult tournaments as a paid member of the work team.

Regardless of training and experience, the Coach is responsible for ensuring all members of the work team are both able and proficient at their duties.

Score Keeper

The Chesapeake Region program to train and encourage the development of quality scorekeepers starts with a clinic the first year. There are several clinics held each year during December and January. After the clinic, score keepers are expected to practice scorekeeping at a tournament(s) until they are proficient. When ready for certification, score sheets are submitted to tournament referees for review and approval.

If the scorekeeper completes the review process the previous year and is listed on the published list of scorekeepers, they will not need to re-attend a clinic but will need to complete the score sheet review process each year. The list of Junior Scorekeepers that completed the review process last year is located on the Juniors web site.

Referee

The Chesapeake Region program to train and encourage the development of quality Junior Referees provides a progression from "Clinic" level to Junior Level 2. Further development of Referee skills may continue with the adult certification program that is part of the USAV national accreditation program.

A description of the Junior Referee development program can be found on the Officials' web page. The levels are:

- Clinic: After attending a referee clinic at the beginning of the current season, the individual is allowed to referee while working toward a level 1 certification.
- Junior Level 1: Good for 2 years with evaluation each year.
- Junior Level 2 Good for 2 years with evaluation each year and allows working at CHRVA Junior Tournaments and receiving compensation.

Completion of Junior levels 1 or 2 will be recorded in the members USAV Webpoint account.

Adult Certifications

The Chesapeake Adult certification program allows an individual to work any Junior or Adult match. The Juniors certification program only allows the individual to work Junior matches. The Adult certification process is open to all Juniors, starts in October, and is more rigorous. See the Officials web page for more information.

Paid Junior Referees are limited to working age groups 2 or more years older than their current age group.

CHRVA TOURNAMENT APPLICATION

Chesapeake Region use a web based method for applying to tournaments. Use of this online database supports Age Group Coordinators communications with teams and clubs. See the **Junior Online Registration Guide**, located off the Juniors web page under "Tourney Registration", for more detailed information.

The initial setup of a team may start once the Registrar has issued the team number.

The Online Tournament Registration system includes:

- A database of Team Representatives and Coaches e-mail addresses used by the Coordinators to keep teams informed of changes and new information during the season.
- Requests to play are automatically tabulated and provide the Coordinators early insight into dates teams would like to play. They can recognize dates that don't have enough slots and sometimes make additional tournament arrangements.
- Team Representatives can see when the check dates were entered for the team application. Note that the Coordinators record the date when completed applications arrive but don't update the database till a few days later.

Tournament Entry Process

The Chesapeake Region uses a "just-in-time" application process. Closing dates are typically 3 weeks before a tournament and acceptance postings are typically 2 weeks before the event. This allows teams to know if they are truly available to play when they apply.

The Online Application can be found in the "Tourney Registration" window under the Juniors page of the www.CHRVA.org web site. The first time a team applies each season, they need to use the "First Time User" link to set up the account for the season. The account can not be setup until the Team Code and Team ID are in hand from the team registration process.

All teams, including host club teams, must apply online and follow up with payment of tournament fee(s) before being accepted into a tournament. Inherent in the application is an agreement to attend the tournament and abide by the Region and USAV rules, if accepted. Submission of this application to play also is required as part of the insurance coverage if the team is accepted.

In general:

- Applications are not complete until tournament fee(s) are in the hands of the Coordinator.
- Complete applications received by the closing date are selected based upon the **Tournament Priority of Fill** rules. See that section for more information.
- Teams may be moved to another tournament the same weekend.
- The application is a contract to field a team and play.
- Teams are expected to contribute to running the tournament by providing work teams, referees, and good sportsmanship.
- While there are (expensive) options for substitute scorekeeper or team referee, these options are difficult on the host club and should be considered as a last option.

Late entries will be accepted but can be considered only if there are not enough teams to fill the tournament by the closing date. Tournament closings will normally be approximately 3 weeks before the play day to allow for postings approximately 2 weeks before the tournament. Coordinators often send out e-mails about remaining openings in a tournament.

Application checks are not cashed until the team has been accepted to a tournament and the tournament package sent to the Tournament Host. Typically they will be cashed the week before a tournament. The remaining checks are shredded.

Teams using a priority entry earned by hosting a tournament must indicate the use of the priority on the appropriate section of the tournament application when it is initially sent to the Coordinator. The priority can be used only once and is considered used regardless of whether it is needed.

Teams may submit more than one tournament application for a weekend. This indicates to the Coordinator that the team just wants to play and isn't concerned about the choice of locations. The Coordinator will not place the team in more than one tournament on a weekend unless clearly instructed to do so.

Team Representative

The team representative is the official contact person for the team. It can be a parent, coach, or club director. This person doesn't have to make decisions for the team but does have to be able to relay the information to the person who does make the decision and respond quickly with answers to questions.

Typically the Team Representative will need to monitor the web site for pools, tournament changes, and other relevant information. Posting of teams to tournament pools is considered "acceptance" to a tournament. In many clubs, the Team Representative is responsible for requesting entry into tournaments and making sure the club Treasurer sends the tournament entry fee.

The Age Group Coordinator will normally use e-mail to contact this person. Occasionally phone calls will generally be made when decisions effecting current tournaments need to be made quickly. It is important this person is reachable.

The team representative is also expected to check their Tournament Registration History to make sure checks are posted for all tournament they enter.

Withdrawal

There is a significant amount of effort and financial commitment that goes into hosting a tournament. When a team commits to playing, the host is also committing their resources. Other teams make long trips based upon the expectation that all the teams in their pool will also show up.

Occasionally difficulties arise. Coaches are expected to form their teams with enough players such that they can show up and play when a few players have injuries, don't feel well, or have other conflicts. Also see the rules for temporary play by age eligible players from other teams in a club.

Teams have a window to withdraw from a tournament without penalty. The following minimal timeframes allow a Coordinator to look for replacement teams:

- For single day tournaments up to 11 days before the tournament.
- For multiple day tournaments up to 31 days before the tournament

The entry fee check will not be cashed when withdrawal occurs before these cut off times. Withdrawal occurs when the Coordinator receives the request and is able to acknowledge the request.

Withdrawals after the cut off times and teams not showing up to play carry an increasing penalty including sanctions by the Region. Tournament fees are not refunded even if a replacement team plays.

Note there are two important guidelines used by the Chesapeake Region:

- Distance is never considered in any discussions about teams playing in a tournament.
- Signing up for a tournament is considered signing up for a weekend. Priority tournaments get first priority of teams playing that weekend. Teams will be moved to fill priority tournaments first.

Let the Coordinator and Tournament Director know as soon as possible of any difficulties. This includes the morning of the tournament.

Open, Club, or Mixed Tournaments

All tournaments are designated by both age group and level within age group. These targets represent the teams the host is expecting to apply to their tournament.

Age groups can be single ages (i.e. 13s) or combined (i.e. 13/14s). A tournament with two age groups, such as 13/14, would normally be considered by most 13s and most 14s. The weakest 13s and the strongest 14s may want to consider other schedules.

Team level, Open, Club, or Mixed, describe the team strength relative to other teams at their age bracket. Open tournament are for the stronger and more experienced teams. Club tournaments are for the less experienced teams. A majority of tournaments are designated as Mixed and are likely to have a mixture of team strength

playing. Regional rules allow any age appropriate team to apply to any tournament regardless of the tournament designation.

Extremely strong teams can play up two age groups only with permission of the Junior Administrator and when there isn't a waiting line for the older division tournament.

Regionals

Regionals are a premier tournament hosted by the Region for Chesapeake registered teams. They are held over a series of dates starting in late March for both junior and adult brackets. Juniors are single age brackets and are usually scheduled with the expectation of providing enough slots for all teams that apply by the closing day. The Region provides all the 1st Referees.

Regionals are divided into Open or Club Divisions. Club teams are placed into a club division based upon their position in the seeding index. When there are enough teams, multiple club divisions will be used and teams in each division will be relatively the same strength.

The winner of the Open Regional in each age group is the Region Champion. The Region Champions receive an automatic bid to national post season competition. In some years, the Chesapeake Region receives an additional bid in some age groups.

All teams that think they have a possibility of winning the Open Regionals and are prepared to go to national post season competition are encouraged to apply to Open Regionals. The Open Regional application process will include applying to national competition and sending a deposit to cover the entry fee (~ \$900) to the Chesapeake Region Commissioner. Details will be sent out during the season. Teams that are not interested in national post season competition should apply to club level Regionals.

Roster and player identification checks at Regionals will be conducted using procedures similar to those used at Nationals. Details on the following will be distributed as part of the Regional information.

- All team rosters will be checked court side by the Officials. Rosters are frozen for Regionals as of March 15th and will be used to check line-ups.
- Open teams will be subject to random ID checks using birth certificates and student IDs.

Roster changes for Regionals must be completed with the Registrar before March 15th.

TEAM SELECTION FOR A TOURNAMENT

Selection of teams to tournaments is controlled by two sets of rules: **Tournament Priority of Fill** and **Historical Tournament Priorities**.

Out of region teams are selected based upon the Tournament Director's selection criteria. See the **CHRVA Guidelines for Out of Region Teams** for further information. Some CHRVA tournaments have slots reserved for out of region teams. Others do not and require the out of region team to contact the Tournament Director.

Notification

When a team has been selected to play in a tournament, the official notification is the posting of the team to the pool on the web. The pools can be found under "Girl's Pools" or "Boy's Pools" web links.

Posting is typically a two step process. Shortly after closing, the Age Group Coordinator will post the teams accepted. Seeding and work assignments will typically be posted early the week before the tournament. This two step process allows the latest results to be factored into the team seedings.

Team representatives are expected to actively monitor their e-mail and the pool web pages for items related to their teams.

Tournament Priority of Fill

When an Age Group Coordinator receives more applications than a tournament has slots, they use the following guidelines in filling tournaments.

- Host teams (1 per court)
- Teams that use a priority entry earned by hosting a tournament (during the current season)
- Out of Region Teams named specifically by the Tournament Host.
- Teams with the longest time since playing
- Teams with the earliest date of receipt of payment by the appropriate Coordinator. (Tie Breaker)

When a tournament fills by the closing date, the teams can normally be processed and seeded quickly. When a tournament doesn't fill or has other issues, there are difficulties and delays in posting of seedings. In this situation, Coordinators will often send out e-mails to team representatives notifying them of the status of the process.

Late applications are welcomed and used to fill any remaining slots. Teams occasionally drop out and the Coordinator may also be looking for a replacement team.

Priority Order of Tournaments

Tournaments are assigned a priority when they are sanctioned and must be filled in that order. Historical and major tournaments receive the higher priorities. The priority of a tournament can be found along with the tournament listing on the web page. A tournament is considered filled when 80% of the slots are filled. As an example when 8 teams apply to a 10 team tournament, the event is considered filled.

Tournaments must be filled in priority order. If a tournament does not fill, then all tournaments with a lower priority must be canceled.

When a team signs up for the tournament of their choice, they are also signing up for a weekend. They might be requested to move or reassigned to another tournament that weekend.

Seedings and Work Assignments

When seedings and work assignments are complete, they are posted to the web site under "Pools". Typically they 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 usually 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 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 will override the seeding index, especially early in the season, when recent results have not been reflected in the seeding index.

Tournament formats that are Power Pools do not have balanced pools. Instead the pools are ordered from strongest to weakest. These will be found in Power Leagues, Fellowships, and some tournaments where there aren't playoffs.

Once the teams are assigned to a pool, they are reordered by distance from the tournament to the team representative's address. Host teams are often assigned to the third slot in a 5 team pool. This makes them available to assist the Tournament Director with last minute tournament setup issues.

THE TOURNAMENT SITE

Once a team is accepted and the schedule posted, the Tournament Director is responsible for most last minute issues.

Tournaments are rarely canceled. In the event of severe weather or other unexpected events, the Tournament Director will contact the team representatives. It is important that the team representative is reachable and is monitoring their e-mail. In some cases, time critical events may be posted on the Juniors' web page.

Tournament Check In and Check Out

The first thing a coach must do when arriving at a tournament is check in at the Tournament Director's table. At this time, the coach will receive any local instructions and last minute schedule changes.

Coaches must present a copy of the Registrar generated team roster at check-in. If the Registrar generated roster isn't presented, even when the online tournament roster is available, the team will not play. Most teams have several people carry copies of the roster so there will not be check-in difficulties.

During check-in, the coach is responsible for making any final roster changes. Coaches will be asked to sign the roster as being complete and accurate. Any last minute changes to the players can be made at this time.

Teams are required to check out with the Tournament Director before leaving regardless of how they finished in pool play. There are situations where a team that doesn't make playoffs are required to work the first play-off match. See the Handbook for the rules that determine how play-off work teams are selected.

Tournament Directors are required to directly notify the Juniors Administrator and/or Ethics Chair of any teams that fail to complete their work assignments.

Team Campgrounds

Most tournaments provide an area (campground) for the teams to rest while not playing and to store extra belongings that typically can't be brought to the court. Most teams will bring sleeping bags and lay them out (when space is available). Food usually can be eaten here. Local site rules govern this area.

Many players bring electronics, money and other valuables. While most players are outstanding people and somewhat protective of each other's campgrounds, there is NO security provided and occasionally a problem arises. Obvious items, such as purses, should never be left unattended.

Each team is responsible for cleaning up their area before they leave. There should be no papers or other evidence of the team being there when they leave.

Food and Drink

Most gyms allow only water in the gym or court side. Please follow the local regulations since the Region is dependent upon the generosity of the hosts for playing sites.

USAV rules require NO water or other refreshments on the court for safety reasons. Even small condensation drips can create a dangerous situation where a player can get hurt.

Most, but not all, tournaments will have a refreshment stand with a limited selection. The tournament invitation indicates if the host plans to have food available or there are facilities nearby.

Food tables are prohibited at any site where the host or the facility offers food. Violations of this rule are particularly sensitive since they endanger the availability of host sites.

Serving Lines

When a court doesn't have enough space behind the end of the court to meet the 6 foot minimum serving distance, a serving line inside the court will be placed to provide the minimum 6 foot distance.

12 and under events shall provide a serving line inside the court 6 feet in front of the end line. This serving line should be used for all events except events where a team qualifies for national competition such as the 12's Open Regional's. Coaches should be aware the 12's serving line is a CHRVA accommodation of the limited skills of many younger players and should not expect to see the same in competition outside the Region.

TOURNAMENT PLAY

Play starts are the posted times. Pre-game activities and warm-ups start 15 minutes before the posted time and include the coin toss and Referee instructions to the work team. Warm-ups are 2-4-4. 2 minutes of ball handling during the coin toss on separate sides, 4 minutes for the serving team and 4 minutes for the receiving team. If a team wishes to serve, it must come out of its 4 minutes. For Juniors tournaments, there is no shared hitting or serving.

During the tournament, Teams must be on the court at the posted time. USAV rules call for the first game to be forfeited at the posted start time and the second game after 10 minutes from match start time. It is important to monitor progress on a court since later matches are usually listed as ASAP and will start immediately after the preceding match.

Work Teams

All tournaments require teams to provide work crews. Typically this includes an USAV registered adult, two lines people, a qualified score keeper, an assistant scorekeeper, down referee, and sometimes a qualified up referee. All members of the work team must be registered (with an USAV membership number) as either a player or supporting adult position.

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.

The Chesapeake Region requires an adult to be court side for all Junior events and will be located at either the score table or behind the Referee stand. The adult is responsible for keeping the work team focused. They should also monitor the behavior of everybody on the work team to make sure they stay focused on the game.

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.

Pool Play

Most tournaments are setup with 4 or 5 teams per pool. In the classic format, the top two teams in each pool advance to the playoffs.

Some tournaments have modified formats. As an example, many hosts are running a modified 4 team pool format where the top 2 teams in each pool advance to the Gold playoff bracket and the bottom two teams advance to the Silver playoff bracket.

Playoffs

Playoffs can not start until all teams have completed pool play.

Teams losing in playoffs often are usually required to work the following match. In playoff rounds where there are two losing teams, the Tournament Director makes assignments based upon travel distance to the team representative's home as listed on the roster. Teams must check out with the Tournament Director before leaving a Tournament.

Posting of Results

The complete pool play and playoff results are posted at the tournament site by the Tournament Director.

Tournament results are posted on the Web by the Results Coordinator after receiving them from the Tournament Director. The Seeding Index will be updated when the results from all weekend tournaments have been received.

Weather and Canceled Tournaments

Very few tournaments are cancelled. Weather is occasionally a problem especially during January and February. Many sites will stay open if the local conditions allow facility staff to get to the site. In the situations where conditions discourage a team from traveling but the tournament isn't cancelled, the team will not be penalized if they notify the Tournament Director. However the event will count as a play date for the team.

When a tournament is cancelled after the tournament's closing date:

- 1) The cancelled tournament does not count as a play date for any team scheduled to participate.
- 2) Tournaments on the same and following weekends will be reseeded when time permits.
- 3) The host club retains the priority of entry.
- 4) Entry fees are refunded 100% (or the check is not cashed).

This means there can be last minute changes to both the teams playing and the pools. Typically e-mails will be sent to all team representatives alerting them to the changing situation.

PLAYER MOVEMENT WITHIN A CLUB

This section summarizes the basic rules for the two types of player movement between teams within a Club

See the Handbook for movement of players between clubs during the season.

Temporary Play within a Club

When a team is short a player, they may borrow a player from another team on the same club as long as the new player is age eligible. This provides a method for a team to continue to play when it is short players. Uniform rules still apply so most Clubs have at least one common jersey.

Junior players may not play with more than one team per weekend.

Note that any team additions for the tournament must be accurately reflected in the roster signed at tournament check-in.

Permanent Movement between Teams within a Club

In general, Junior players can make permanent movement when these guidelines are followed:

- Receipt of notification and acceptance by the Registrar. See the Handbook for procedures.
- Movement can only occur between teams within the same club.

For most teams, the permanent movement of player(s) will be used for final alignment of team rosters for Regionals. All team roster changes for Regionals must be completed with the Registrar before March 15th.

TRY OUTS AND RECRUITING

The CHRVA Recruiting Policy is available on the web page under Coaching Information. In general, the CHRVA policies are intended to allow players and their parents make informed decisions about selecting a club without the influence of aggressive or early pressure to commit.

CHRVA Juniors tryouts start on:

- November 1st for Girls teams 13 and under
- November 15th for Girls teams 14 and over (10 days before Thanksgiving)
- October 10 for all Boys teams

Tryouts require pre-registration with USAV to obtain a temporary membership. See the above section on membership. **No membership, no tryout, no play.**

Recruiting Guidelines

All Clubs, Coaches, and persons representing potential teams are responsible for the contents of the **CHRVA Junior Girls Recruiting Policy**. It can be found on the web page and as an appendix to the Region Handbook. The time lines are defined as:

- Open Period: Clubs may contact players but can't hold tryouts nor make offers
- Tryouts: Clubs may hold tryouts
- Competition: No recruiting contacts shall be made to any players

All coaches and team representatives are responsible for any recruiting guidelines that effect a players eligibility to play on school teams. The organizations that issue rules that can affect or limit players eligibility include:

- NCAA rules that limit contact between a player and any college coach
- State high school athletic organizations that limit the number of players a high school coach may have on their club team.
- High School organizations that mandate priority of any school activity over club sports.
- CHRVA guidelines that control the recruiting process within the Region.

In general, all NCAA and State athletic organization violations will result in a disqualification of a player. Thus CHRVA considers this an ethics issue and will sanction any team or club personnel involved. Any winnings or benefits incurred while a team uses an illegal player will typically be forfeited.

CHRVA Consolidated Tryout Listing

Club tryout schedules will be available on the CHRVA Juniors web page starting around October 15th. The intent is to provide players with a common place for tryout information.

Clubs that maintain a web page will also contain additional information on how they will hold tryouts. As an example, some clubs charge a fee for tryouts while others don't.

Club and Team Philosophy

Club and Team Philosophy vary widely among the Region's clubs. Most post this information on their web page and/or hold informational meetings.

Topics that are included in each teams philosophy include playing time, team size, coaching experience, level of play, practice schedule, club fees, travel costs, uniforms, tournament plans, and training approach. Players and parents are happier when they know what to expect when joining a team.

Player Acceptance

When a player is offered a position on a team, they don't need to accept immediately. They have 72 hours from the 1st tryout to accept or decline the offer. Select volleyball is a significant commitment and this period is intended for players to consider all options.

If a decision hasn't been made at the end of 72 hours, the team may (but isn't required to) withdraw the offer. Players are encouraged to investigate club and it's philosophy before tryouts so they can make informed decisions.

HIGH PERFORMANCE TEAMS

The Chesapeake Region will again run two high performance teams; one for 14's and one for 16's. These teams will travel and compete in the USAV high performance tournament during the summer. These teams are for high caliber players looking for national exposure.

These high performance teams are part of the USAV national pipeline for developing talented players. Players may also consider other venues such as the National Team tryouts that are held at most national bid tournaments.

More information on these two teams will be posted on the Juniors web site later in the season. Additional information will be posted the USAV web page.