



Program Guide
San Mateo, California

Sponsored by:



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STRUCTURE OF THE QUALIFYING PROCESS

The USAVED, in consultation and coordination with the appropriate Department Commission(s) will develop, standardize, implement, evaluate and oversee the qualification process for the BJNC. Within the USAVED, the Department Commissions will assist in monitoring the qualifying process each season through so that it can recommend changes and improvements in the process.

The USAV Events Department, will:

- Have final approval of all formats used at Bid Tournaments.
- Approve the Bid Tournament schedule grid.
- Have final approval of the seeding of “bid offering” division age groups at Boy’s Bid Tournaments.
- Have final approval of the seeding of all divisions of the Boy’s JNC, based on the initial seeding of the Boy’s Competition Committee (BCC).
- Have final approval of at-large bids selected for the Boy’s JNC, based on the recommendation of the BCC.
- Approve all seeding changes made more than 72 hours prior to the start of the first day of the Event.
- Recommend qualifying process improvements to the Junior Assembly, Region Assembly and the BTJ.
- Publish the Boy’s JNC Open division flowcharts through the USAV website three days prior to the event.

Bid Tournaments – Stepping Stones to the BJNC

The primary purpose of the Bid Tournaments is to determine, through Tournament competition, which teams in various age groups will qualify to play in the Open Division at the BJNC. Tournament play at the Bid Tournaments is divided into Open divisions and Club divisions.

Note: This Manual applies only to the qualifying process for the junior boys’ Open Divisions of USAV. Although not all Open Division teams that participate in the BJNC are chosen through the Bid Tournaments, the Bid Tournaments are the first rounds of the BJNC. As such, they are governed by USAV, with sanctioning by USAV rather than by the regions where they occur.

The secondary purposes of the Bid Tournaments are to:

- Promote inter-regional play.
- Provide a high level of competition for teams.
- Showcase junior talent for college recruiters and National Team programs.
- Promote the growth and development of volleyball in a particular geographic area.
- Provide a training ground for officials.

Currently, there are nine (9) Bid Tournaments: Boys’ Atlantic Northeastern Tournament (formerly Northeastern BBT), Boys’ Winter Championships (formerly Great Lakes Festival and Wisconsin Boys’ Festival), East Coast Championships, Florida Fest, Dennis Lafata Gateway Boys’ Festival, Nittany Ninvitational, No Dinx/NCVA Boys’ Bid Tournament, Rochester Can Am, and SCVA Junior Boys’ Invitational..

Open Divisions

The goal of the Open divisions at the BJNC is to identify the best team in the country through rigorous competition in a particular age classification from among the top 36 teams. The Open divisions of the Bid Tournaments are designed to identify and select those top 36 teams.

To compete in an Open division of the Boy’s JNC, all teams, including foreign federation teams must either win a bid at a Bid Tournament or be awarded a bid through the Open at-large bid process. (At-Large consideration requirements can be found under the section “Open Division Bids” on page 5.)

For a team to be eligible for a bid, that team must have completed all entry requirements for the Boy's JNC. If a team has not met the Boy's JNC entry requirements by the deadline date and has previously accepted the bid, that team is no longer eligible for entry and may be subject to additional sanctions. **No leniency will be given on the JNC entry deadlines! Missed entry deadlines will result in the loss of the bid.** Please refer to the BJNC Tournament Manual for specific deadlines and information.

Age Divisions

At the present time, there is a BJNC Tournament held in each of the following age divisions:

18 & Under	17 & Under	16 & Under	15 & Under	14 & Under	13 & Under	12 & Under
Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		
Club	Club	Club	Club	Club	Club	Club

The USAV Events Department may add other age divisions to the BJNC from time to time. The dates determining player eligibility for each age group can be found on the USAV website: <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor/General-Information>

Note: Not all Bid Tournaments host all age divisions. Some Bid Tournaments host competition in age divisions that do not currently have a Junior National Championship (for example, 10 & Under).

BJNC BID PROCESS

Bid Tournaments and Bids

Each of the following Bid Tournaments will be allocated a specific number of bids to award based on the number of teams entered in each age division. In order to award open bids, the Bid Tournament must offer single age group divisions in all divisions that are offered at the Boy's JNC. In addition, open bids will only be awarded at bid events in age divisions that are held over a minimum of two days. The following grid explains the total number of bids allocated for each event based on total number of teams attending in a field:

Bid Tournament	Max # of Bids	Bid Tournament	Max # of Bids
Boys' Winter Championships	6	Boys Atlantic Northeastern Tournament (140, 150, 160)	3
East Coast Championships	3	No Dinx/NCVA Boys' Bid Tournament	3
Florida Fest	3	Rochester Can Am	3
Dennis Lafata Gateway Boys' Festival	3	SCVA Junior Boys' Invitational	10
Nittany Ninvitational (170 & 180)	3		

The number of teams entered in an age division at the entry deadline or the number of teams in an age division at the start of the event, whichever is greater, will be the number used to determine how many bids a Boys' Bid Tournament will receive up to the maximum allocated to that event, according to the following table:

Max # of Bids Awarded	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Min # of Teams in Field	8	12	16	20	22	26	28	32	36	42

The above is subject to annual review and modification by the USA Volleyball Events Department.

Open Division Bids

- In the Bid Tournaments, Open bids will be offered to the teams that finish the competition in a bid award position. See Table below for the furthest a bid may trickle down based on number of Open teams entered in the division (NOTE: Combining Open and Club Divisions does not apply to this table):

Max # of Bids Awarded	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
# Teams = 5-7	2nd									
# Teams = 8-10		3rd								
# Teams = 11-12		4th	3rd							
# Teams = 13-15		5th	4th	5th	6th					
# Teams = 16-20		6th	6th	6th	8th	8th				
# Teams = 21-24		8th	8th	8th	10th	10th	10th			
# Teams = 25-28		10th	10th			12th	12th	12th		
# Teams = 29-31		12th	12th			14th		14th	14th	
# Teams = 32-41		14th	14th			16th		16th	16th	16th
# Teams = 42		16th	16th			18th				18th

- Bids must be accepted or denied at the time the bid is awarded by the tournament director. Bids not awarded at the Bid Tournament will revert to the Open At-large pool.
- If a team finishes in a bid award position and declines the bid, that team will not be eligible for at-large consideration.
- To compete in an Open division at the Boy's JNC a team must earn a bid at a Bid Tournament or be awarded a bid through the at-large process. To be considered for an at-large bid to the Boy's JNC, a team must enter the event through the approved USAV online registration system as an open team, and submit complete and accurate results. In the absence of such results, a letter of explanation addressing the reason(s) why such results are not available, and reason(s) why the team should be considered for an at-large bid. The letter is to be submitted to the USAV Events Department by the entry deadline. The teams awarded the at-large bids will be selected by the BCC with final approval of the USAVED using the following criteria:

Open At-Large Criteria

- Must have competed in at least one (1) bid tournament.*
- Register your team in the OPEN division for the BJNC in AES and send payment and the entry form with the Open At-Large consideration line checked by the posted deadline.
- Strength
- Record against Qualified teams
- Record against At Large applicants
- Past year's BJNC finish of the rostered players
- Date of entry

*Hawaii and Puerto Rico will be given one (1) bid for the 14 and 15 & under age divisions. Each territory will award those bids to a team in each age division by any means they deem appropriate (i.e. a tournament or via an application process). Any other team wishing to receive a bid for the 14 or 15 & under age divisions must attend a bid tournament and apply for an At-Large bid if necessary. **If Hawaii or Puerto Rico choose to award the allotted bids via a tournament, that tournament is not considered a sanctioned USAV bid tournament and does not count towards the required criteria to be eligible to apply for an at-large bid.**

Any team that declines an Open bid at a bid tournament will be ineligible for an at-large bid.

Announcement of At-large Bids

At-large bids must be announced by the USAVED no later than five (5) business days after the BJNC at-large entry deadline. Teams awarded Open division at-large bids will be notified via email from the USAV Events Department to the club director and coach who are listed on the Official Entry form and roster.

In order to be eligible for an at-large bid in the Open divisions, teams applying for at-large consideration must provide complete, accurate, and up-to-date results up to the results/entry deadline as posted in the BJNC Tournament Manual.

Sanctions for Not Using Bids

Teams that earn bids must use their bids or be subject to sanctions according to these policies:

- If a team that earns and accepts an Open bid or an at-large Open bid but does not participate in the BJNC in the division in which it was awarded the bid, the following penalties may apply:
 - 1st offence by Club/Team/Coach: a fine of \$900 will be charged to the club/team/coach. This fine will be collected by USAV.
 - If payment is not received, the Club/Team/Coach will be denied entry to any bid tournament and the BJNC, including subsequent seasons, until payment is received in full
 - 2nd offence by Club/Team/Coach: that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams will be suspended from participating in the BJNC and bid tournaments for the following season.

BID TOURNAMENTS

All Bid Tournaments must adhere to the same competitive format standards when conducting their events. The information in this section of the Bid Tournament Manual applies to *all* Bid Tournaments.

Match Formats

All matches, including bid playoff matches, will be the best 2-out-of-3 sets. The first two sets will be played to 25 points using rally scoring, with one team winning by two points and no point cap. If a third game is necessary, the third game will be played to 15 points using rally scoring, with one team winning by two points and no point cap. USAV rules apply. (Note: Round 1 3-team pools may play 3 sets to 25.)

Tournament Formats

The Tournament format determines the number of pools in a division, the number of teams in each pool and the sequence of play, from pool play through playoffs. A Tournament "flow chart" illustrates the sequence of the format components.

The USAVED with input from the BCC will approve the Tournament formats and flow charts for Bid Tournaments according to the number of teams in a division. The ideal format is to create pools of four teams, but, depending on the number of teams in a division, may create pools of three or five.

A final pool finish will be determined first by match results and then followed by game percentage. A “round” is one complete pool for a division.

For a 2 day event 5 matches or the equivalent number of sets are guaranteed, and a 3 day event will guarantee 7 matches or the equivalent number of sets.

Open Division Formats

- If additional playoff matches are necessary to award a trickle down bid(s), teams will hold their earned playoff bracket seed going into the new playoff bracket. For more information on Bid Playoffs, go to page 14.

Pool Play Sequences

All pool play will follow the sequence listed below unless otherwise approved by the USAVED:

Round	Four-Team Pools	Three-Team Pools	Five-Team Pools on 2 courts
Match 1	1 vs. 3 (ref 2)	1 vs. 3 (ref 2)	1 vs. 5 and 2 vs. 4 (ref 3)
Match 2	2 vs. 4 (ref 1)	2 vs. 3 (ref 1)	1 vs. 4 and 2 vs. 3 (ref 5)
Match 3	1 vs. 4 (ref 3)	1 vs. 2 (ref 3)	Break
Match 4	2 vs. 3 (ref 1)		1 vs. 3 and 4 vs. 5 (ref 2)
Match 5	3 vs. 4 (ref 2)		2 vs. 5 and 3 vs. 4 (ref 1)
Match 6	1 vs. 2 (ref 4)		1 vs. 2 and 3 vs. 5 (ref 4)

In a 3-team pool, where 3 sets to 25 are played and the final finish in the pool is determined by game percentage, there will be a coin flip between sets two and three to determine side, serve, and receive and teams switch sides at 13.

Additional Options:

Two Four-Team Pools (A & B) on 2 Courts		Five-Team Pools on 2 courts
A 1 vs. 3 (ref B3)	A 2 vs. 4 (ref B2)	2 vs. 5 and 1 vs. 4 (ref 3)
B 1 vs. 3 (ref A3)	B 2 vs. 4 (ref A4)	3 vs. 5 and 2 vs. 4 (ref 1)
A 2 vs. 3 (ref B3)	A 1 vs. 4 (ref B4)	30 Minute Break
B 2 vs. 3 (ref A2)	B 1 vs. 4 (ref A4)	1 vs. 3 and 4 vs. 5 (ref 2)
A 1 vs. 2 (ref B4)	A 3 vs. 4 (ref B1)	2 vs. 3 and 1 vs. 5 (ref 4)
B 3 vs. 4 (ref A1)	B 1 vs. 2 (ref A3)	30 Minute Break
		3 vs. 4 and 1 vs. 2 (ref 5)

Playing Schedules

- All matches will be scheduled one (1) hour apart. Some pools may play on two days to complete the pool (e.g. begin play one day in the evening and finish the next morning).

- The first match of a pool may not begin before its scheduled time. Within a pool and after the first match, a match may begin up to 15 minutes before the scheduled starting time, provided the two teams competing, the officials, work team and the Tournament staff all agree to it and there is sufficient time for the warm-up protocol.
- The last match of a pool may begin more than 15 minutes ahead of schedule provided the two teams competing, the officials and the Tournament staff all agree to it and there is sufficient time for the warm-up protocol.
- Bid Tournament Directors can allow matches to proceed ahead of the published schedule after the second round in pool play. All teams involved must be present and agree.

Court Use

- A Bid Tournament may schedule no more than 13 matches on a court in one day, unless otherwise approved by the USAVED. Tie-breaking sets will not count as scheduled matches.
- Matches may not be scheduled to begin later than 9:00 p.m. with an 8:00 a.m. start or 9:30 p.m. with an 8:30 a.m. start.
- If a division is larger than 64 teams, the first round of playoffs can be scheduled for the second day. Teams must still be given a minimum of one (1) match on the third day.

Warm-up Protocol

The warm-up schedule (2-4-4) for all matches will consist of:

- Two (2) minutes of shared court time for ball handling;
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the serving team; and
- Four (4) minutes of exclusive court time for the receiving team.
- There will be no shared hitting time.
- Officials should inform spectators to leave the end lines during warm-ups to reduce injuries to spectators.
- By rule, when one team has exclusive use of the court, the other team must be at their bench; they may not use balls or be in spectator areas.
 - Note, helping to shag balls for the other team during their warm-up period is permitted and encouraged.

Additional Tournament Procedures

- Match scores and pool results (electronic or printed) should be posted in a central, public place as quickly as possible. Spectators and participants usually appreciate postings in additional sites.
- Playing schedules (electronic or printed) should be posted in a central, public place
- Corrections to any of the printed materials should be posted in a central, public place. Corrections on electronic materials should be noted on the site.
- Bid Tournament staff should be available to answer questions from attendees and participants.

On-Site Registration (Check-In) and Roster Verification

- Prior to beginning play, a coach, team representative or club director must confirm a team's presence at the Tournament by signing the roster. The signing agent is verifying that all the information contained on the roster is both complete and correct. Including all coaches listed on the roster (Head and Assistant(s)) possess a minimum coaching certification level of IMPACT (Entry Level). No roster additions (players or coaches) may be added at a Bid Tournament once a team has commenced match play in that event.
- The signing agent assumes all responsibility for the organization (club) and for any consequence if the roster information is false or incorrect.
- The players for any team earning a bid will be frozen as submitted at registration (Frozen Player Rule). The Bid Tournament will send a copy of this roster to the Events Department following the conclusion of the Bid Tournament as the team's official roster for the BJNC. The team's roster will be posted on the USAV website in concert with the Bid Tournament rankings for each age group.
- For any BJNC event, each player is required to wear the same jersey number throughout the entire event, with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications.
- All rostered event participants (players and staff) must be verified by the Bid Tournament as being currently registered with USAV.
- All adults participating in the Event must be verified by the Bid Tournament as having passed the USAV-approved background screen.
- All adults participating in the Event must be verified by the Bid Tournament as having completed SafeSport certification.

TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

At the conclusion of all rounds of play in a pool, teams in the pool will be ranked according to their match records. If a tie in match records exists among two or more teams, tie(s) will be broken using the USA JNC National Tie Break Formats. The following rules apply to all tie-breaking situations:

- All tie-breaking sets will be played to 25 points, with one team winning by two points and no point cap.
- Teams will switch sides at point 13.
- In a tie breaker situation of three teams or more, if any team leaves the site, the remaining teams will play for position, if necessary. The team(s) that left will be placed lower than the team(s) that remained.
- No time will be given to any team to be located and return to the court. It is the responsibility of the Teams administration to be aware of the potential status of the pool finish. All teams must be present courtside.
- The position of all teams not present on site will be decided following the tie breaker procedure as it pertains to the pool and advancing positions available.
- In pools where no team can advance to win a bid, there will be *no* tie-breaking sets. Ties among teams will be broken as follows:
 1. If two teams are tied in match record, the team winning the Head-to-Head match wins the tie and finishes in the higher position in the pool.
 2. If three or more teams are tied in match record, the tie will be broken using the following steps in order, without repeating any step (Head-to-Head results will not be used at any time in the process for breaking a three way tie):
 - a. Compare Set (Set) percentage (determined by dividing each team's total sets won in the pool by the total sets played). The team with the highest percentage is first. If some or all of the teams have the same percentage, then:
 - b) Compare Point percentage of the teams still tied (determined by dividing each team's total points scored by the total points scored by all the team's opponents in that pool). Of the teams still tied, the team with the highest percentage has either the highest or the second highest finish in the pool (depending on the outcome of Step 1). If two or more teams are still tied, then:
 - c) Coin toss.

Two-way Ties (two teams tied in match record)

The first place team will be the team that won the pool play match between the two tied teams (head-to-head).

This procedure will be used for *all* two-way ties, even when there is an opportunity to win a bid. The rationale is that the tied teams have already determined the better team through head-to-head competition.

Three-way Ties (three teams tied in match record)

There are several situations in which three-ways ties can occur. The resolution for each tie-breaking situation depends on (Head-to-Head results will not be used at any time in the process for breaking a three way tie):

- The number of teams that will advance from the pool.
- Which pool placement finish is at stake for the tied teams?

Scenario One

No. Teams Advancing	Pool Finish	Applications
1	First place	4-team pools: All teams have 2-1 match records 3-team pools: All teams have 1-1 match records

- All three teams will participate in tie-breaking sets. The *seeds* for the tie-breaking playoffs will be determined in this order:
 - Compare Set (Set) percentage (determined by dividing each team's total sets won in the pool by the total sets played). The team with the highest percentage is first. If some or all of the teams have the same percentage, then:
 - Compare Point percentage of the teams still tied (determined by dividing each team's total points scored by the total points scored by all the team's opponents in that pool). Of the teams still tied, the team with the highest percentage has either the highest or the second highest finish in the pool (depending on the outcome of Step 1). If two or more teams are still tied, then:
 - Coin toss.
- Set 1: the #2 seed will play the #3 seed and the #1 seed will officiate. The loser of Set 1 will be third place in the pool and will officiate the next tie-breaking set.
- Set 2: the winner of Set 1 will play the #1 seed and the loser of Set 1 will officiate. The winner of Set 2 will be first in the pool and the loser will be second.

If one or more of the teams in a three-way tied pool leaves the site:

- No time will be given to any team to be located and return to the court. It is the responsibility of the Teams administration to be aware of the potential status of the pool finish. All teams must be present courtside.
- The position of all teams not present on site will be decided following the tie breaker procedure as it pertains to the pool and advancing positions available.

No other penalty will be applied and no tie-breaking set is played.

Scenario Two

No. Teams Advancing	Pool Finish	Applications
2	First place	4-team pools: All teams have 2-1 match records 3-team pools: All teams have 1-1 match records

- The *seeds* for the tie-breaking playoffs will be determined in this order:
 - Compare Set (Set) percentage (determined by dividing each team's total sets won in the pool by the total sets played). The team with the highest percentage is first. If some or all of the teams have the same percentage, then:
 - Compare Point percentage of the teams still tied (determined by dividing each team's total points scored by the total points scored by all the team's opponents in that pool). Of the teams still tied, the team with the highest percentage has either the highest or the second highest finish in the pool (depending on the outcome of Step 1). If two or more teams are still tied, then:
 - Coin toss.
- The #1 seed does not have a playoff set. The #1 seed finishes first in the pool.

- The #2 seed will play the #3 seed and the #1 seed will officiate. The winner will be second place in the pool and the loser of this set will be third place in the pool.

If one or more of the teams in a three-way tied pool leaves the site:

- No time will be given to any team to be located and return to the court. It is the responsibility of the Teams administration to be aware of the potential status of the pool finish. All teams must be present courtside.
- The position of all teams not present on site will be decided following the tie breaker procedure as it pertains to the pool and advancing positions available.
- No other penalty will be applied and no tie-breaking set is played.

Scenario Three

No. Teams Advancing	Pool Finish	Applications
2	Second place	4-team pools: All teams have 1-2 match records

- All three teams will participate in tie-breaking sets. The seeds for the tie-breaking playoffs will be determined in this order:
 1. Compare Set (Set) percentage (determined by dividing each team’s total sets won in the pool by the total sets played). The team with the highest percentage is first. If some or all of the teams have the same percentage, then:
 2. Compare Point percentage of the teams still tied (determined by dividing each team’s total points scored by the total points scored by all the team’s opponents in that pool). Of the teams still tied, the team with the highest percentage has either the highest or the second highest finish in the pool (depending on the outcome of Step 1). If two or more teams are still tied, then:
 3. Coin toss.
 - Set 1: the #2 seed will play the #3 seed and the #1 seed will officiate. The loser of Set 1 will be fourth place in the pool and will officiate the next tie-breaking set.
 - Set 2: the winner of Set 1 will play the #1 seed and the loser of Set 1 will officiate. The winner of Set 2 will be second in the pool and the loser will be third.

If one or more of the teams in a three-way tied pool leaves the site:

- No time will be given to any team to be located and return to the court. It is the responsibility of the Teams administration to be aware of the potential status of the pool finish. All teams must be present courtside.
- The position of all teams not present on site will be decided following the tie breaker procedure as it pertains to the pool and advancing positions available.
- No other penalty will be applied and no tie-breaking set is played.

Scenario Four

No. Teams Advancing	Pool Finish	Applications
3	Second place	4-team pools: All teams have 1-2 match records

- The seeds for the tie-breaking playoffs will be determined in this order:
 1. Compare Set (Set) percentage (determined by dividing each team’s total sets won in the pool by the total sets played). The team with the highest percentage is first. If some or all of the teams have the same percentage,

then:

2. Compare Point percentage of the teams still tied (determined by dividing each team's total points scored by the total points scored by all the team's opponents in that pool). Of the teams still tied, the team with the highest percentage has either the highest or the second highest finish in the pool (depending on the outcome of Step 1). If two or more teams are still tied, then:
3. Coin toss.

The #1 seed does not have a playoff set. The #1 seed finishes second in the pool.

- The #2 seed will play the #3 seed and the #1 seed will officiate. The winner will be third place in the pool and the loser of this set will be fourth place in the pool.

If one or more of the teams in a three-way tied pool leaves the site:

- No time will be given to any team to be located and return to the court. It is the responsibility of the Teams administration to be aware of the potential status of the pool finish. All teams must be present courtside.
- The position of all teams not present on site will be decided following the tie breaker procedure as it pertains to the pool and advancing positions available.
- No other penalty will be applied and no tie-breaking set is played.

Tie Breaking Procedure for 5 Team Pools

In an event where five (5) team pools are necessary and a multiple team Match tie occurs the following process will be followed:

Tie Breaker Set(s) are required for teams tied in Set% where one or more teams would be eliminated. If multiple teams are advancing out of the tie, then only the lowest spot will be played off. (i.e. teams may advance out of the tie without being involved in playing any tie breaker Sets, they may advance based on Point% or Coin Toss). The remaining teams are to be seeded by Point% then Coin Toss if necessary. Those teams will then be placed into a play-off set or bracket depending on the total number of teams still tied for a spot.

If one or more of the teams in a tied pool leaves the site:

- No time will be given to any team to be located and return to the court. It is the responsibility of the Teams administration to be aware of the potential status of the pool finish. All teams must be present courtside.
- The position of all teams not present on site will be decided following the tie breaker procedure as it pertains to the pool and advancing positions available.
- No other penalty will be applied and no tie-breaking set is played.

Non-elimination Scenarios

In pools where no team can advance to win a bid, there will be *no* tie-breaking sets. Ties among teams will be broken as follows:

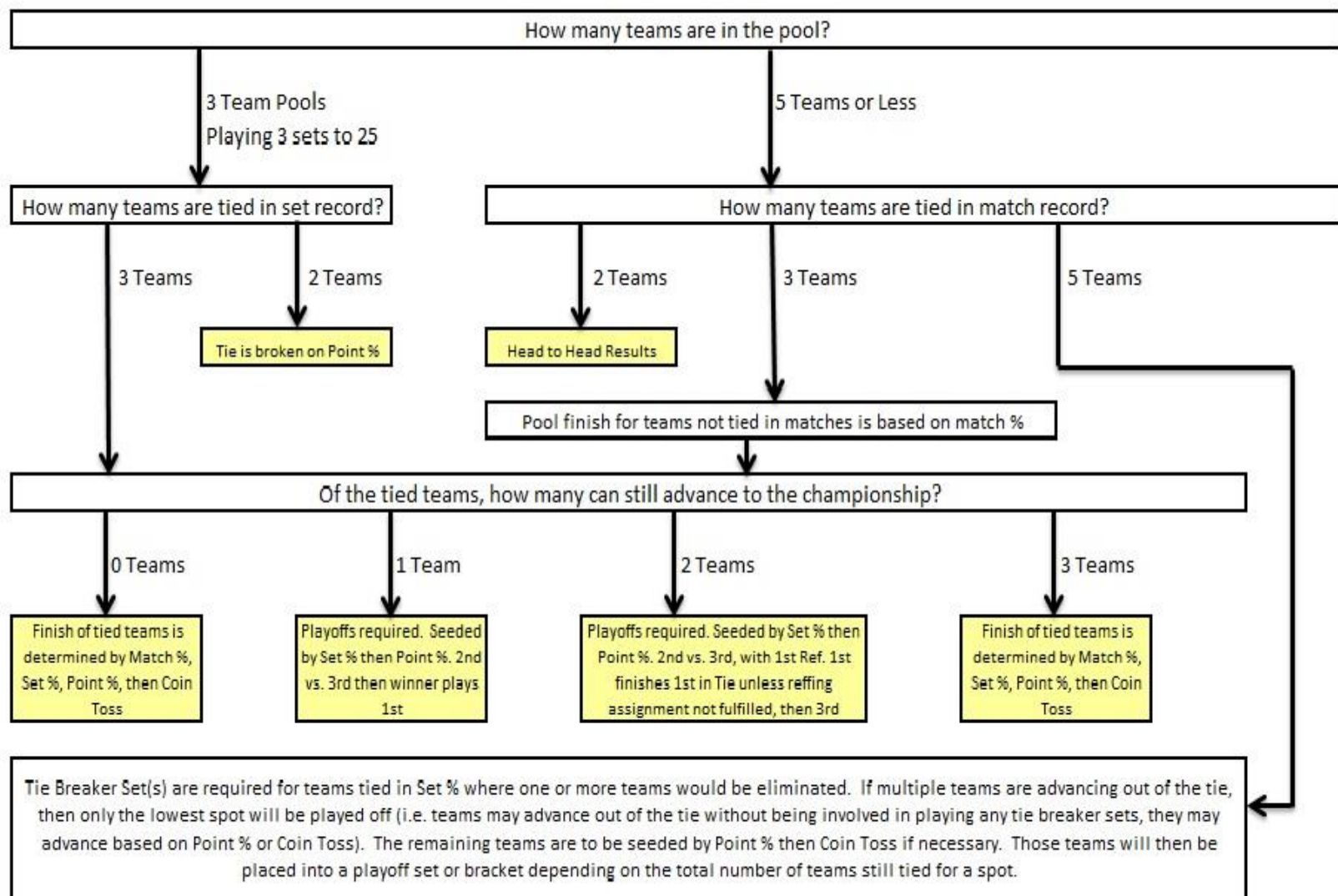
1. If two teams are tied in match record, the team winning the Head-to-Head match wins the tie and finishes in the higher position in the pool.
2. If three or more teams are tied in match record, the tie will be broken using the following steps in order, without repeating any step (Head-to-Head results will not be used at any time in the process for breaking a three way tie):
 - a. Compare Set percentage (determined by dividing each team's total sets won in the pool by the total sets played). The team with the highest percentage is first. If some or all of the teams have the same percentage, then:

- d) Compare Point percentage of the teams still tied (determined by dividing each team's total points scored by the total points scored by all the team's opponents in that pool). Of the teams still tied, the team with the highest percentage has either the highest or the second highest finish in the pool (depending on the outcome of Step 1). If two or more teams are still tied, then:
- e) Coin toss.

Pools of Six or More Teams

Pools of six or more teams are designed specifically for the BJNC event and not for Bid Tournaments. Tie-breaking procedures for pools of six or more will be posted in the Pre-Tournament Information and in the Event Schedules.

USA Volleyball Championship Tie Breaking Procedure



All tie-breaking sets will be played to 25 points, with one team winning by two points and no point cap.

BID PLAYOFFS

Teams Not Eligible:

Teams that do NOT want a bid

Teams that already have a bid

Note: This information should be gathered prior to single elimination bracket play

Format

Single elimination bracket play (best 2-out-of-3 sets; the first two sets will be played to 25 points using rally scoring, with one team winning by two points and no point cap; If a third game is necessary, the third game will be played to 15 points using rally scoring, with one team winning by two points and no point cap)

Seeding

Teams will hold their earned playoff bracket seed going into the new bid playoff bracket.

Procedure

1. Determine how many bids are available
2. Determine trickle down (see Page 5, Max Bids Awarded chart)
3. Determine number of eligible teams
4. Seed bracket based on earned playoff bracket seed
5. Single elimination bracket play until all bids are awarded or trickle down is exhausted

Possible Scenarios

# of Bids	# of Teams	Format	Notes
1	2 and more	Single Elim Bracket	
2	3	Special Playoff	#1 vs. #2, winner receives bid, loser plays #3
2	4 and more	Single Elim Bracket	
3	4	Single Elim Bracket	#1 vs. #4, #2 vs. #3, winners receive bids, losers play for 3 rd bid
4+	5 and more	Single Elim Bracket	

TEAM AND PLAYER POLICIES

Special Note: No artificial noise makers are permitted at any National Qualifier or Bid Tournament.

Team Forfeitures

A team that intentionally forfeits a match will be excluded from further participation in that Bid Tournament. If a team forfeits a match, the forfeit will be considered intentional unless the team shows good cause for the forfeit. The Bid Tournament Arbitrator will determine if good cause exists. The Bid Tournament will report any team that intentionally forfeits a match to the USAV Events Department.

If a team intentionally forfeits any matches due to choosing to leave a tournament early, and the Event Arbitrator deems no good cause exists for the forfeiture, the following penalties may be imposed by the tournament director or USAV:

- A fine to be paid to the Tournament Director equal to the cost of hiring certified officials for all of the scheduled matches not played
- Suspension from that team or club's participation at that tournament for the following season (this would more likely be levied against repeat offenders)
- Possible suspension from participating at the BJNC for the current season

Team Officiating Duties

Teams are responsible for providing an officiating/work crew for matches in which they are not scheduled to play. Those work assignments can be found in the official play schedule. For planning purposes, be prepared to provide the following officials:

- Second Referee
 - A rostered adult for all 14 and younger age division matches
 - or player (if certified) whose name is on the Official Roster for any 15 and older age division match
- Certified Scorer (PENALTIES NOTED BELOW)
- Scoreboard Operator
- Libero Tracker
- 2 Line Judges

NOTE: A rostered adult must be present at the score table during his/her team's officiating assignment. If an adult is serving as the second referee, the score table requirement is considered fulfilled.

A player may be permitted to function as the Second Referee, for 15 and older age division matches, if the player can provide proof of referee certification or that the certification is verified by their Regional Volleyball Association (RVA) Commissioner. Non-rostered personnel may be allowed to work on the officiating team provided they can provide documentation that they are registered with a region of USAV and have the appropriate certifications.

- A team's failure to have a complete officiating crew—including a rostered adult for that team—available and on time for an officiating assignment could result in the team having to forfeit the first game of its next match.
 - For every minute an officiating team is late to fulfill its assignment, one point will be awarded to that team's next opponent in the first game of the next match for up to 25 points. No more than 25 points will be awarded to the team's next opponent, even if the team designated to officiate misses the entire match. The time that determines how many penalty points are assessed begins at the start of the receiving team's warm-up.
 - A team will forfeit its entire next match for failing, a second time, to have an officiating crew available on time for an officiating assignment.

Missed Officiating Penalties

- For missed assignments during the tournament, see the three bullet points directly above, under Team Officiating Duties.
- For a team's last assignment, if a team leaves before completing their last work assignment, the tournament director has the right to impose the following penalties on that team and/or club as determined by the tournament director:
 - A fine to be paid to the Tournament Director equal to the cost of hiring certified officials to fill in for any work assignments not fulfilled by the assigned team
 - A ban from that team or club's participation at that tournament for the following season (this would most likely be levied against repeat offenders)

Note: It is strongly suggested to all teams that you check out with the TD before leaving the venue, after your last match of each day, to avoid any unnecessary penalties.

Missed Officiating Penalties with Regards to Three-Way Tie Breakers

Scenario 1: After the determination of a tie breaker and all three teams are present for the first tie break. If a team misses an officiating assignment for the match following the tie-break, then all penalties for missing an officiating assignment apply.

Scenario 2: If one or two team(s) are missing for the tie break matches. The team(s) that does not show up will not be penalized any further than the lost opportunity by not being present for the tie-breaker. No further penalties will be applied.

Waived Players – Club and Open Divisions

Teams **MAY NOT** use players who have a waiver from their region for age requirements.

Exception for Boys 14 & under Division: Regionally waived boys teams in the 14 & under age group will be allowed to participate at National Bid Tournaments and the Junior National Championships using the following age/grade definition:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2002

Or

Players who were born on or after September 1, 2001 (15 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the eighth grade (8th) during the current academic year. (This exception is based on the net height difference of 7'4 1/8" to 7'11 5/8" between the 14 and Under Division to the 15 and Under Division.)

Team Rosters

All coaches listed on the roster (Head and Assistants) will possess a minimum coaching certification level of IMPACT (Entry Level). An IMPACT certified coach, listed on the roster, must be present and on the bench at all times.

It is strongly recommended that teams have additional IMPACT certified adults verified on their roster and present at all times. In the event a Coach(es) is not present (late, sick, ejected or disqualified), the team must have another IMPACT certified adult verified on their roster and on the team bench for play to begin or continue without forfeit. No additional time will be allowed to comply with the certified personnel requirement to continue play except for unused time outs and/or time allowed between sets.

A team may have a maximum of 15 players and five (5) additional personnel on their roster, one of which must be listed as the Head Coach. The other four roster positions may be any combination of the following:

1. Assistant Coach
2. 2nd Assistant Coach
3. Chaperone One
4. Chaperone Two
5. Team Representative
6. Team Manager

In the event the team elects not to designate a Team Representative, the Head Coach will fill that role.

The Team Manager position is primarily reserved for, but not restricted to, junior level members (members who are registered in a junior level membership category or are under the age of 18) participating with a junior team in a non-player capacity. These members cannot be placed in any team staff position other than "Team Manager". Junior level staff members must be at least 10 years of age. USA Volleyball and the event arbitrators reserve the right to conduct random ID checks on any staff person listed on the roster at any time.

All roster personnel (non-players) must have completed their regions registration process and cleared the background screening if applicable. Junior level members under the age of 18 do not need to be background screened. Junior members 18 years old and above, serving in non-player capacity on a junior team, must apply for and "clear" a background screening within 30 days of their 18th Birthday.

Frozen Player Rules

Frozen Player Rule – Open

All players listed on the roster of a team are “frozen” to that team at the time the team earns a bid at a Bid Tournament. Accepting a bid defines a team as Qualified. Players from a Qualified team cannot be added to any other team roster submitted for Bid Tournaments, seeding tournaments or the BJNC. This includes teams from within the same club. There are no restrictions on additions to the roster of new players or players from non-qualified teams—up to the limit of fifteen (15) players. All teams and players must maintain eligibility compliance within their region. Violations of the Frozen Player Rule will result in sanctions being imposed on the already qualified team, its club, and/or the individual(s) involved, including the player, the coach and the club director. The USAV Event Department will determine sanctions for violations of the Frozen Player Rule. For a first offense, the sanctions may be a warning, probation, suspension or expulsion.

Frozen Player Rule –Open At-Large

All players listed on the roster of a team are “frozen” to that team at the time the team applies for an Open At-Large bid to the BJNC. Applying for an At-Large bid is defined as registering for the BJNC in AES and submitting an entry form and payment to USAV. Accepting a bid defines a team as Qualified. Players from a Qualified team cannot be added to any other team roster submitted for Bid Tournaments, seeding tournaments or the BJNC. This includes teams from within the same club. There are no restrictions on additions to the roster of new players or players from non-qualified teams—up to the limit of fifteen (15) players. If a team does NOT earn an Open At-Large bid and chooses to accept the Club Division invitation, the roster is still frozen. If a team does not earn an at-large bid and decides not to attend the Championship, all players shall be considered released and shall be permitted to be added to another team’s roster from within the same Member Organization (refer to the BJNC Tournament Manual, Chapter 2, Player Eligibility for transfer and release policies for purposes of attending JNCs). HOWEVER, the released player(s) are required to have a signed release from the original team coach, club representative, new team coach AND Member Organization commissioner/designated representative.

All teams and players must maintain eligibility compliance within their region and adhere to regional transfer policies when applicable. Violations of the Frozen Player Rule will result in sanctions being imposed on the already qualified team, its club, and/or the individual(s) involved, including the player, the coach and the club director. The USAV Event Department will determine sanctions for violations of the Frozen Player Rule. For a first offense, the sanctions may be a warning, probation, suspension or expulsion.

Note: It is each club/team’s responsibility to know and follow their Region’s player transfer and Regional Frozen Player rules.

Note: A bid is the only opportunity to play in the Open Division of the BJNC. In order to be eligible for the BJNC, a team must meet all posted entry deadlines.

Policy on Foreign Player and Foreign Team Participation

Definitions	
“Foreign Participant”	A participant who is not a citizen of the United States OR a citizen residing in a U.S. Territory having its own National Volleyball Federation with which the participant is affiliated.
“Non-Resident” Foreign Participant	A person who is not a citizen of the United States residing outside the 50 United States OR an individual residing in a U.S. Territory having its own National Volleyball Federation with which the Participant is affiliated.

<p>"Resident" Foreign Participant</p>	<p>A person who is not a citizen of the United States residing in one of the 50 United States and holding "resident" versus "visitor" status. Proof of "Resident" status includes providing documentation substantiating enrollment and attendance in an educational institution in the United States (excludes on-line courses) OR proof of employment in the United States AND a corresponding physical residence address (excludes a P.O. Box or "care of" address). A copy of a current student or work visa is required for the duration of eligibility.</p>
<p>Foreign Participant "Release"</p>	<p>Written approval by a Foreign Participant's National Volleyball Federation of origin for that person to affiliate or participate with USA Volleyball.</p>

For the USA Volleyball Boys' Junior National Championships, the following Territories and their associated Federations are eligible to participate: American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands

Policy:

I. Concurrent registration with more than one National Volleyball Federation is prohibited.

- A. A **Resident Foreign Participant**, who has competed in international competition representing his/her country/federation of origin (i.e. Youth National Team, Junior National Team, Senior National Team, or other "elite" team that has represented that country in international competition) is required to have a written release from that volleyball federation of origin before he/she can become a registered member of a Regional Volleyball Association.
- B. This would not apply to a participant who has been in continuous legal residence in the United States and unaffiliated with a foreign national volleyball federation for greater than two years.

Foreign Player Eligibility

Subject to the above Table of Definitions, a **Resident Foreign Participant** (residing legally in the United States, e.g. exchange student) may participate if she/he is a duly registered member of a USA Volleyball Regional Volleyball Association (RVA) and follows all event participation policies and registration procedures.

A **Non-Resident Foreign Player** shall not be eligible to participate.

Foreign Team Eligibility

Foreign Team Participation for National **Junior** Competitions (e.g. USA Volleyball Junior National Championships, National Invitational and all Qualifying Events):

- 1. A Foreign Team (registered with its National Volleyball Federation) may participate if it duly applies for and is accepted in compliance with the event's regulations, is not representing its country in an official capacity, and the federation of origin grants permission for participation.
- 2. Foreign Teams must purchase foreign participant insurance, which will be provided by USA Volleyball. The expense shall be debited to the event at cost and shall be added to the entry fee.
 - (i) A waiver to the foreign participant insurance fee shall be granted to Canadians who provide written proof of 24-hour health coverage valid in the United States.

Non-USA Team Registration

This applies to **ALL NON-USA** Volleyball members or Member Organizations (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, Canada, Mexico, etc.)

Required Individual Forms

- 1. Players and Staff: Foreign Participant Registration Form, which includes the Code of Conduct on page 2

2. Players and Staff: Copy of photo ID (i.e. Passport)
3. Players Only: Medical Release and Liability Form (without notary unless the event is held in Florida)
4. Players Only: Copy of Birth Certificate (note, a passport will also fill this requirement)
5. Proof of IMPACT or equivalent certification for each named coach (head and assistants)
 - a. IMPACT Certification rating may be met by supplying proof of the following:
 - USA Coaching Accreditation Program (CAP), Levels I, II or III
 - RVA IMPACT course (region or National Office verification required)
 - Canadian Volleyball Associations Levels 1-4
 - FIVB International Courses Levels 1-3
 - Curso de Entrenadores Nivel 1 (Coaches Training Level 1)

Required Team Forms/Fees

1. Entry Form
2. Foreign Summary Team Participation Form
3. \$100 US Dollars for Insurance (Canadian teams exempt with proof of coverage)
 - a. For each additional player and/or staff person that is added to future rosters, including the BJNC roster, 10 US Dollars per person is owed to USAV for insurance coverage.
4. A letter of good standing from their volleyball federation (Puerto Rico is exempt)
5. Results: Foreign Teams should provide the results from any U.S. tournaments they've attended for the current season. In the absence of such results, the team should submit a letter explaining the team's strength and current record in their federation.

Foreign teams are required to complete the paperwork and pay the insurance fee only once during the current season. Paperwork must be submitted prior to on-site registration.

TOURNAMENT REQUIREMENTS

Officials

- All pool play and playoff bracket matches will have a USAV-certified official as the first referee. It is highly recommended that these officials have National, Junior National or Regional certification.
- For all third pool matches in Open divisions, Gold brackets in Open divisions, and semifinal and final matches of Gold Level Club divisions, it is recommended that USAV-certified first and second referees be provided.
- It is recommended that first and second referees be provided for Gold Level quarterfinals in Club divisions.
- Participating teams will provide second referees for all matches not requiring a certified official as second referee, as well as line judges, a scorer (scorekeeper), and an assistant scorer (visual scorer and libero tracker) according to a published referee assignment schedule. A rostered adult must be present at the scorer table while any members of the team are officiating.
- Non-rostered personnel may be allowed to work on the officiating team; provided they can provide documentation that they are registered with a region of USAV and have any required certifications at BJNC events.
- The Bid Tournament will appoint a head official for the Tournament, who will be part of the Protest Committee. The head official will instruct all officials to enforce the Coaching Standards outlined in the USAV Rule Book.

Awards

Each Bid Tournament will give a team plaque or trophy to each first, second, and third place team in the Gold level of each Open and Club division. In addition, the Bid Tournament will give an individual award of minimal value (non-merchandise such as a plaque, trophy or medal) to each player on each first and second place team in the Gold level of each Open Division. Third place individual awards will be given at the tournament director's discretion (they are not required). The Bid Tournament may give additional awards.

Bid Tournaments will not select All-Tournament teams.

Trainers

Each Bid Tournament will provide athletic trainers during all hours of competition and for at least 45 minutes prior to the beginning of competition each day.

Protest Committee

Each Bid Tournament will have an on-site Protest Committee consisting of the head official, the Bid Tournament director and another qualified person. No committee member can be coaching a team in the Tournament. The Protest Committee will rule on protests lodged by teams regarding officiating.

Ethics and Eligibility

Event Arbitrators

Event Arbitrators shall serve as the first level for hearing and resolving ethics and eligibility issues at a specific event. Teams or individuals accused of committing violations of ethics and/or eligibility rules and regulations at qualifying and/or championship events shall meet with the Event Arbitrator(s).

The authority for the Event Arbitrator to act begins with the arrival of a team and individual participants in the Championship city, or 48 hours prior to the first day of competition, whichever is earlier. That authority shall continue through the duration of the Event through its conclusion.

Decisions of the Event Arbitrator shall be conveyed immediately to the affected parties and may be appealed to the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee appointed for each qualifying and/or championship event of the Corporation.

Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee

An Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall be formed for each qualifying and championship event sponsored by the Corporation. Each committee shall be composed of three (3) members, one (1) of whom shall meet the definition of the Corporation as a domestic player who is at least 21 years of age.

Each committee shall act on appeals of ethics and eligibility decisions that occur during the conduct of the event. The conduct of an event shall commence when an individual or a team arrives at the site of the event, or forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the first day of competition for that event, whichever is earlier. That authority shall conclude with the departure of the individual and / or team from the city in which the event has been held.

If the Committee is of the opinion the violation is of such a nature that requires further review or more serious discipline beyond the duration of a National Championship event, the Committee will send a report to the chair of the Corporate Ethics and Eligibility Committee for further action. If the chair is unavailable, then the Associate Chair of the Corporate Ethics and Eligibility Committee will be given the report. The Chair (or Associate Chair if necessary) will notify the USAV Events Department outlining what action (if any) was taken as a result of the report.

USA Volleyball Age and Identity Falsification Policy (BOD Approved 01/2004)

For all USAV corporation events, any person who alters any document that certifies the age or identity of a participant, or falsifies any statement that lists the age or identity 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 be:
 1. Immediately suspended from registration with USAV and barred from further participation in the event; and
 2. Barred from participation in any USAV events in any capacity for a minimum of two (2) years; and
 3. Placed on a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively with the suspension.
- A junior player who knowingly plays in a lower age classification than he or she is actually eligible for, or an adult player who knowingly plays in a higher age classification than he or she is actually eligible for, or any player who knowingly misrepresents his or her identity shall be:
 1. Immediately suspended from registration with the USAV and barred from further participation in the event; and
 2. Barred from participation in any USAV events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
 3. Placed on a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively with the suspension.

When age or identity falsification is discovered and confirmed during an event, these penalties shall be the required minimum penalty imposed by the Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee.

Note: Any player in question must provide proof of identity and age eligibility if requested.

The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall file a report of any age or identity violation, along with a recommendation, with the USAV Events Department and with the registering Member Organization.