USAV Junior Assembly
MEETING Minutes
May 18-19, 2026

JA Meeting Session 1 Minutes
1:45 p.m. - 3 p.m.

I. Entry- Chris Clauss / Kim Greenback

   A. JA Committee check/email address check

   B. headshots

II. Welcome: Meeting called to order at 2:15 p.m. Central Time (May 18)

   A. Brian- minutes/Kim- tech support
      1. Email any items to brian@badgervolleyball.org
      2. Wifi (USAV_26); PW: orlando26

   B. Terri Puricha and Mike Moffitt online- Michelle or Kim start OWL

III. Roll call (check Quorum, 22, met)

   A. New Reps or "Filling in" Intro
      1. Kevin Huynh (Alaska)
      2. Dawnne (Ipo) Ehia (Aloha)
      3. Joaquin Santa Cruz (Arizona)
      4. Lindsay Callaghan (Evergreen) - absent
      5. Vanessa Volpe-Riviera (Excelsior)
      6. Michelle Carlton (Keystone) - absent
      7. Becca Rose (New England)
      8. Ryan Salmon (North Country)
      9. Kylie Woodruff (Northern California)
      10. Terri Puricha (Pioneer) - absent
      11. Eric Duda (athlete)
      12. Zachary Upp (athlete)

IV. Confirm JA Reps to the USAV Admin Council Committees

   A. Structure & Function
      1. Krista McGivern
      2. Keith Weller
      3. Scott McQueen (Added May 18, 2026)

B. Compliance
    1. Kim Greenback
    2. Heather Koehler
    3. Will remain vacant (May 18, 2026)

C. SafeSport
    1. Bill Doyle
    2. Jody Webber
    3. Will remain vacant (May 18, 2026)

D. Nominating
    1. Chris Clauss
    2. Ryan Salmon (Added May 18, 2026)
    3. Brian Sharkey (Added May 18, 2026)

E. Insurance
    1. Jill Simpson
    2. Kevin Huynh (Added May 18, 2026)
    3. Will remain vacant (May 18, 2026)

F. Athlete Reps Intro
    1. Heather Erickson
    2. Eric Duda
    3. Zachary Upp

V. Elections- all 4 year terms

A. JA Administrative Council Pacific Boys Rep
    1. Motion: Steven Petesch (Puget Sound)
    2. Second: Kim Greenback (Great Lakes)

B. JA Administrative Council Atlantic Girls Rep
    1. Motion: Krista McGivern (Carolina)
    2. Second: Brian Sharkey (Badger)

C. JA Administrative Council Border Boys Rep
    1. Motion: Joaquin Santa Cruz (Arizona)
    2. Second: Gloria Cox (North Texas)

D. JA Administrative Council Border Girls Rep
    1. Motion: Heather Koehler (Delta)
    2. Second: Kailey Bridges (HOA)

E. JA Administrative Council Central Boys Rep

1. Motion: Brian Sharkey (Badger)
2. Second: Kim Greenback

F. JA Competition Committee Chair- Scott McQueen

1. Motion: Kim Greenback
2. Second: Kevin Huynh

G. JA Programming Committee Chair_Brian Sharkey

1. Motion: Brian Sharkey (Badger)
2. Second: Gloria Cox

H. JA Rep to the USAV Board of Directors

1. Nominations: Kim Greenback (Great Lakes) – only nomination
2. Motion: Gloria Cox (North Texas)
3. Second: Brian Sharkey (Badger)

I. JA Associate Chair

1. Nomination: Chris Clauss (Gateway) – only nomination
2. Motion: Kim Greenback (Great Lakes)
3. Second: Charley Stanton (Columbia Empire)

VI. JA Manual Edits (move to GENERAL SESSION 2)

A. Discussion- JA Chair, JA Associate Chair, and JA Rep to the USAV BOD must be current JA Reps (Chris Clauss)
B. Discussion- JA Committee ex officio attendants (Scott McQueen)
C. Discussion- proxy voting not currently in ByLaws

VII. JA Website

A. What do we want to add/edit?
    1. Programming Initiatives
    2. Updated (cleaner) JA manual
    3. USAV manual
    4. USAV AC manual
    5. Vision listed twice- fix
    6. Life of a Motion
    7. Map of how things interact (JA, RVA, OA, Etc.)
    8. Admin Council Terms
    9. Updated members/emails

VIII. Try Volleyball Update- Chrissy Elder

A. Upgraded Host Hit
B. Website & Host Hub
C. Theme Days July 11-19 (Dig Pink, Crazy Sock, Outdoor, Bring your Grown-Up, Stars and Stripes)

D. Chicago Clinic
E. Early Access Reg.
F. Year-Round Vision
G. Process
    1. Pick Date
    2. Host Registration
    3. Get your kit
    4. Open it to kids 1-8
    5. Run the clinic and see the smiles!!!!

JA Programming Committee Agenda Minutes

I. Welcome

II. Confirm agenda and voting process // chair election.

III. Vote on motions / recommendations that came out of previous meetings:

A. **Ceremonial Motion:** USA Volleyball should offer a free TryVolleyball membership to any Region/Region-approved clinic at any time of year. Heather/Gloria Passes unanimous

B. **Motion:** All tournament/rostering systems must require head coaches to be 18 years old with a membership and background screening as a default minimum requirement. Gloria/Bill. Passes unanimous

C. **Motion:** Any incident that takes place after a final whistle of a match relating to sportsmanship or code of conduct violations will go to an arbitrator or tournament desk and is not the responsibility of officials on the court who have already ended the match (Request for a recommendation from Rules of the Game Commission). 60 seconds. Protest. Immediately rectify.

a) Incident mandatory report to the Region

2. 9-3 passes (Bill Motion. Vicky Page second)

D. **Motion**: The official court size for U8 and U9 competition should be as "recommended" in the USA Volleyball DCR (rulebook) and not be used simply as a "recommendation." The motion would be to remove the terms "for developmental purposes" and "may be reduced to" (Request for support from Rules of the Game Commission)

1. a. The playing court is a rectangle measuring 18 x 9 m (59' x 29'6") surrounded by a free zone, which may be a minimum of 2 m (6'6 3/4"). It is not required that the free zone be symmetrical.
2. b. For developmental purposes, the size of the playing court for 10 years & under *may be reduced to* 16m X 9m (52' 6" X 29' 6").
3. c. For developmental purposes, the size of the playing court for 8/9 years & under *may be reduced to* 14m X 9m (46' X 29' 6").

a) Glora/Bill (Unanimous)
b) Keep it as recommended.
c) The Programming Committee has other modifications that will be part of the resource directory.

E. **Motion:** The USAV and NFHS rule sets should be consistent when it comes to centerline violations for education purposes. (Request for a recommendation from Rules of the Game Commission)

1. 15-7 ?????
2. Gloria/Heather (Unanimous)

F. **Motion Follow-up:** USAV Staff Report reflected that the USAV Foundation would consider doing a scholarship for athletes. The JA motions to ask USA Volleyball to come up with its own scholarship program to honor athletes planning to pursue education opportunities past high school. Many Regions already do a scholarship program and would be able to offer guidance to USAV on this topic. (This was motioned and approved in 2024)
   1. usavf.org // grant application
   2. Passes unanimous (Brian/Lindsey)

G. **Motion Follow-u**p: USAV Staff Report said that there was not enough support for a mandatory continuing education requirement. Tracking was an issue. As was what content would be good for this were the reasons in the staff report. (This was supported by Jenny Johnson in 2025 but not by current leadership)

IV. Dispersal of Region bids
   A. Championships?
   B. Separate Qualifier?
   C. Power League
   D. Other?

V. Programming gold stars
   A. Boys playing against girls teams at the youngest age levels (Lone Star)
   B. HP All-Stars and Regional Team Development Program (Iowa & GEVA)
   C. Junior Regional Championships (Iowa)
   D. Incentive Plan (Palmetto)
   E. KidzPower 12U beginners and younger / Funds for new teams (Palmetto)
   F. High School Boys League (Great Plains – modeled after HOA)
      1. School support (hardest part)
      2. Free league
      3. Region assign and pay for officials
      4. Hardship: Having nets that don't raise up
      5. Co-op schools
      6. Trouble: Recruiting
   G. Adaptive Clinic (GEVA)
   A. "Second Chance Tryouts" for girls (Badger)
   B. "Club Volleyball Open Houses" for boys and girls (Badger)

    1. Food trucks

C. “Badger Boys Series” for U12 and U13 boys (Badger)
D. 14 and under leagues for cut kids. (GP)

JA Competition Committee Agenda Minutes

1. **Motion #1** –Change 14 Open thresholds to get bids to the same as 13 and 18 Open (1 at 8 teams, 2 at 12 teams, 3 at 16 teams).
   Rationale- There were 17 At-Larges given out this year for 14 Open
   Passes 13-0
   Passes unanimously

2. **Motion #2** –Change 13 USA thresholds for getting bids to the same as 13 and 18 Open (1 at 8 teams, 2 at 12 teams, 3 at 16 teams).
   Rationale – There were 10 At Larges given out this year for 13 USA
   Passes 13-0
   Passes unanimously

3. **Motion #3** –Eliminate the 15 minute rule for matches (i.e. not allowing matches to start more than 15 minutes before time
   Rationale -
   a. Teams do not want to stand around and wait for no reason.
   b. Streaming services allow colleges to still be able to see teams.
   c. Almost never happens and delaying courts can only cause more issues later.
   d. Playing teams, ref teams, and refs can still decline but if everyone is in agreement why would we not want to start a match early?
   Keith Weller: if you don't have enough referees, it will impact referee scheduling
   Ted Wade: Will this be an issue for a back to back play team?
   Scott: both play and ref teams have to agree to starting early
   Ryan Salmon: discussion regarding scheduling
   Motion by Scott, seconded by Chris passes 12-1
   Passes w 1 opposing vote

4. Motion #4 –Change the wording from highly recommend to require an up and a down official for Gold Medal Pools in Open divisions, as well as semi finals and finals of all divisions.
   Discussion -

a. Some discussion on is there a lack of officials for this
b. Day 3 is the least amount of matches
c. Highly recommended is not strong enough
d. Can always call Molly for an exception if it's really that bad.
Would change motion for the ability to ask events department for a waiver, as well as change verbiage to include bid matches vs 3rd or 5th place matches
AJ: priority order requested if not enough officials
Molly Crockett: will there be a perfect storm on priority of providing officials (1st place bid vs 5th place)
Scott: qualifiers should set an exceptional standard but the reality is that we might

Amended Motion #4:(page 43 in the champ manual) It is required that there be 1st and 2nd referee for gold level (3rd pool) Matches, semifinal and final Matches and any additional bid mid matches in the Open division, as well as semifinals and finals and any additional bid matches in National, USA, Liberty, and American Divisions.
Any exceptions from this must be approved by the USAV event department in writing.
Motion by Kim, seconded by Kevin passes 12-0
Passes unanimously

5. **Motion #5** –Allow 13-17 Liberty to give out bids similarly to the American divisions (Liberty Red, Liberty Blue, Liberty White?)
    a. AJ: 96 or more would give challenge matches on day 2
    b. Ted: Americans could split into two 48 team divisions, and 96 could be split into 3 divisions of 32
    c. Steven: might be confusing when the same division is smaller than the same division in another qualifier; it would need to be split into 3 divisions
    d. Charley: initial seeding is important, one division could be more competitive
    e. Friendly amendment: Allow 13-17 Liberty to give out bids similarly to the American divisions (Liberty Red, Liberty Blue, Liberty White) with a minimum of 96 teams.

i. Motion by Kevin, Kim seconds Passes 9-2-1
ii. Passes with 2 opposing votes

6. **Motion #6** –On Qualifier events that use electronic scoring, a team that is officiating must fulfill the scoring requirements of having a data enabled electronic device that can handle the electronic scoring system being used by that event.
    a. Motion fails 2-12

7. **Motion #7** -Allow Qualifiers to combine 12 National Division with 12 USA divisions after the registration deadline for a division called 12 Nat-USA. This combined division will award bids based on the following chart:

# of Teams	6-11	12 -15	16-128
National Bids	1	1	1
USA Bids	0	1	2

- Qualifiers must initially offer separate division at the opening of registration
- Anytime after the initial opening of registration, Qualifiers may choose to combine the divisions.
- Qualifier Tournament Directors must notify all accepted teams by email of the combining of the Nat and USA divisions.
- Teams are allowed 72 hours to drop from the event with full entry fee refund. Drops after 72 hours are subject to the existing event policies.
- No additional entry fees may be charged to accepted teams to participate in the combined 12 Nat-USA division.

Molly: Possibility of adding 12 open, moving 12 national to regional qualification only;

AJ: incentivize 12 national division by adding more bids to the division

Ted: If you meet the threshold you would have enough teams to not have to split divisions

Reasoning: Frequently, 12 Nat divisions hover around low numbers (8 to 12 teams). Inevitably teams want to move “down” to USA or drop creating very low accepted 12 Nat teams and sometimes even below the min threshold of 6 teams for 1 bid. Qualifier tournament directors need some

flexibility to provide a quality format for teams. There is an argument that the USA teams will be upset to have to now play against Nat division level teams (understandably). However, in reality, when there is not enough teams to field a stand alone 12 Nat division at a qualifier, the Qualifier will ask those teams to play 12 USA or drop and now have to play those same teams for just a USA bid. This will at least provide an additional Bid for the combined division and allow the qualifier to award the National Bid.

Tabled

8. **Motion #8** –Allow 2-7 Non JA Reps to be JA Competition Committee voting members.

   Rationale – To allow more voices to be heard from coaches and club Directors.

   Tabled.

9. **Motion #9** –Allow Qualifiers to not tape boundary lines if the tile color is an obvious contrasting color.
   a. AJ: Center and attack lines still need to be taped, but lines are straighter, saves time and money, cuts labor costs, longevity of tile and cuts damages; other events than qualifiers don't tape and no teams seem to mind
   b. John Paul: From officiating standpoint it may decrease confidence in making hard line calls; lines are a necessary part of the game
   c. Keith: This may need to go to officials committees or rules of the game commission
      i. 0-12-1

10. Failed motions –

    Motion A –Do away with 3 team tie- breaks for first as we're not eliminating anyone based on points. Seed the 3 teams on points as we currently do. #1 is first and then take the head to head result of the remaining. Tie- breaks for 2nd would remain as is.

    Motion B –Play D2 pools on day 2 to 21 for first 2 sets and still 15 in

3rd . Lots of courts are going past 10 PM and sum to nearly 11 PM. Discussion was that teams have different goals at qualifiers and not everyone is there to get a bid. All teams paid the same amount and should be subject to the same rules.

11. Discussion Topics
    - Nationals should no longer be run in Vegas or Reno due to family decisions and an outcry from clubs from across the nation.
    - May graduation dates for 18s could become a problem (states?)
    - JNC Event Dates 3 years out
    - Timeline to get to 16 Girls Qualifiers – what are the vetting choices for this (date, location)
    - Banned spectator list
    - Deaf interpreter timelines and requirements for memberships
    - Frozen Player & waiver rule in regard to National to Club Championships
    - Junior Athlete to College Participation Rule

    2027 National Championship Dates
    a. 18s – Minneapolis May 7-9
    b. Adults – Chicago May 28-June 2
    c. Girls Clubs – TBD
    d. 11-13s – Chicago June 18-21
    e. 14-17s – Vegas June 27 – July 5 (14s-15s play June 27-30 and 16-17s
    July 2-5)
    f. Boys – STL June 19-22

Motion to adjourn by Kim, Seconded by Jill

JA Meeting Session 2 Minutes
(Tuesday, May 19 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM)

A. Welcome

B. Motions from programming committee

- **Ceremonial Motion:** USA Volleyball should offer a free TryVolleyball membership to any Region/Region-approved clinic at any time of year. (Passes Unanimous)
- **Motion:** All tournament/rostering systems must require head coaches to be 18 years old with a membership and background screening as a default minimum requirement. (Passes Unanimous)
- **Motion:** Any incident that takes place after a final whistle of a match relating to sportsmanship or code of conduct violations will go to an arbitrator or tournament desk and is not the responsibility of officials on the court who have already ended the match (DOES NOT PASS: 0-26)
    a) *Please ask Rules of the Game to have the end of match defined first before voting on this.*
- **Motion:** The JA recommends keeping the court "recommendations" as written in the rule book for U8, U9 and U10 (Passes Unanimous)
- **Motion:** The USAV and NFHS rule sets should be consistent when it comes to centerline violations for education purposes (Passes 15-7)
    a) Note: Please encourage USAV take the lead and do what is right for the sport when it comes to this rule.
- **Motion:** The JA motions to ask USA Volleyball to come up with its own scholarship program to honor athletes planning to pursue education opportunities past high school. (Passes Unanimous)

C. Motions from competition committee

- Motion 1 (see competition committee notes for wording and voting results)
- Motion 2 (see competition committee notes for wording and voting results)
- Motion 3 (see competition committee notes for wording and voting results)
- Motion 4 (see competition committee notes for wording and voting results)
- Motion 5 (see competition committee notes for wording and voting results)

D. New Business

- Discussion- Should JA Chair, JA Associate Chair, and JA Rep to the USAV BOD be required to be current JA Reps? (Chris Clauss)
    a) JA Manual currently says “The Chairs/Associate Chairs must meet USAV membership requirements, and it is recommended that they have been active in USAV Junior volleyball activities”
    b) RVAA manual says “strongly recommended”
    c) Chris **motions** that the positions of the chair of the junior assembly, the associate chair of the junior assembly and the rep of the Junior Assembly to the USAV Board of Directors be a member of the junior assembly. Kailey seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

- Discussion- Proxy voting is not currently allowed in JA ByLaws, but should it be? (Kailey Bridges). No absentee or proxy voting is currently allowed, but we frequently have regions that send “fill-ins” and we welcome their contributions and (at times) need their vote to meet a quorum. Commissioners have the ability to determine reps as often as needed, if someone is sent unexpectedly Chris will notify the commissioner to determine if the rep who is present is acceptable.

- Discussion: Does JA get Zonal topics? How do we get JA topics on Zonal Agendas
    a) The JA will reach out to the RVAA on this topic.

- Chairs for the subcommittees:
    a) This will be discussed at USAV Admin Council

E. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn: Kevin Anderson
- Second: Heather Koehler

JA Administrative Council Meeting
(Tuesday, May 19 3:45-5:15 PM)

A. Welcome
B. New Business
    a. JA zonal topics to zonal joint sessions
        i. How do we get our JA topics added to the zonal topic agenda
    b. Ron Pelham (ex officio) confirmed that USAVF grants can be for individuals
    c. Send motion tracker to JA reps once it is received from Steve M
    d. Schedule
        i. MMS training needs to be an option, but we need enough time for JA sessions and committees to meet (we were rushed this year)
        ii. RVAA communicating to JA reps about what sessions they need to attend
            1. Kailey send email to JA to remind them of the *important* sessions they need to attend, plus the suggested/optional
        iii. Need more time for committee meetings- maybe start around 4pm on Sunday with committee meetings?
            1. This would allow time to make committee meetings back-to-back rather than concurrently AND the opportunity to discuss topics within a time frame to add those topics to zonal joint session agenda
    e. How do we let juniors know that they DO have a voice at USAV?
        i. Presenting to the RVAA about the JA- what we do and WHY
        ii. Social media presence
            1. Creating content to send to Jen Barber for the Regions FB/Instagram
        iii. Best practices on our website- Sharkey

iv. Juniors council in each region
v. Suggestion box on website (form)
vi. USAV website (under choose region) we need the JA reps listed
    1. To unite the 3 assemblies
    2. New REPS goes to Associate Chair for phone calls to confirm
vii. Presence at NQs (a JA rep present)
    1. In person or a printed list of region reps w/ emails
viii. Mandate the JA rep be listed on their region website

f. JAAC to attend the October meetings

C. Adjourn
a. Motion: Chris/Kim