

# REFEREE CHAIR ANNUAL REPORT

## ODRVA Annual Meeting

July 11, 2020

### 1. OFFICIATING CADRE.

- We began the season with 96 referees (13 National; 3 National Retired; 10 Junior National; 1 Junior National Retired; 32 Regional; and 37 Provisional).

- Prior to the season, we lost the following 10 referees:

<i>*Alan Ball</i>	Hampton Roads	Tanner Betts	Hampton Roads
Andre Clemmer	Hampton Roads	<i>*Marissa Collier</i>	Valley
Dustin Crosby	Hampton Roads	Rich Cullinan	Roanoke
CJ Dreyfuss	Peninsula	<i>*Terry Martin</i>	Roanoke
Samantha Stiles	Hampton Roads	Kyla West	Lynchburg

*\*The three folks with an asterisk took the year off and may or may not return next season.*

- We certified 15 new Provisional referees:

Joseph Atkins	Hampton Roads	Jordyn Bonner	Hampton Roads
Greg Bornako	Hampton Roads	Ashley Colon	Fredericksburg
Jerry Farring	Peninsula	JJ Foster	Peninsula
Mackenzie Heath	Peninsula	John Hessey	Hampton Roads
Doug Mabry	SW Virginia	Stacey Matkins	Charlottesville area
Haven McPeck	Hampton Roads	Kim Meagher	Williamsburg
Shelby Owens	Hampton Roads	Joel Slaughter	Lynchburg
Frank Spruill	Peninsula		

We had an additional 43 individuals indicate they were interested in becoming certified referees. But unfortunately, they either never started the process or didn't complete the process because they failed to complete the training or ratings.

- We had one certified referee transfer in at the beginning of the season: Gregory Lane (Provisional from OVR living in Roanoke).
- Due to the shortened season, we were not able to hold an upgrade rating session from Provisional to Regional.
- We ended the season with 102 referees (10 National; 4 National Retired; 10 Junior National; 1 Junior National Retired; 30 Regional; and 47 Provisional). This is a net increase of six from last year and is another all-time record high number of referees in our cadre.

### 2. NATIONAL LEVEL REFEREE UPGRADES.

- Due to the shortened season, USA Volleyball was not able to complete a selection program for new Junior National or National referees. We had two applicants for Junior National Referee (Missy Myers & Kevin Sickinger). They can reapply next season and will be considered for selection along with all other Junior National Referee applicants. We had three referees apply to become National Referees (Barb Besal, Mary Kylander, & Breanna Spain). Breanna & Barb were selected as candidates, but Barb withdrew her name from consideration. Breanna will automatically be selected as a candidate next season if she chooses to apply.

### 3. NATIONAL CLINIC.

- We hosted a USAV National Clinic and USAV Advancement Clinic on Sunday January 12, 2020 in Richmond. Our clinician was Michelle Prater.
- We had 69 folks attend the Advancement Clinic; 84 folks attend the National Clinic; and 65 folks attend both clinics.
- The National Clinic continues to be an excellent training event; is required for all officials who officiate at a national event; is a region imposed requirement for all ODR referees; provides the only opportunity to have all ODR referees in one location at one time; and is an excellent way to start the season prior to region tournaments. We will continue hosting this event each year as long as it continues to provide value to our training efforts.

#### 4. REFEREE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.

- We used the USA Volleyball Academy exclusively for all referee and scorer clinics. This continues to save us over \$1500.00 each year.
- The system was able to handle most peak periods without problems, efficiently interfaced with Webpoint, and continues to be an effective way to train our officials.

Clinic	Registered	Completed	Canceled	Active
New Referee	53	21	32	0
New Scorer	80	20	60	0
Recertifying Provisional Referee < 3 years	30	26	4	0
Recertifying Provisional Referee > 3 years	12	6	6	0
Recertifying Regional Referee < 3 years	15	12	3	0
Recertifying Regional Referee > 3 years	25	18	7	0
Recertifying Provisional Scorer	38	33	5	0
Recertifying Regional Scorer	36	15	21	0
Recertifying National Level Referee	6	5	1	0
Adult Player Referee	6	1	0	5
Adult Player Scorer	7	1	1	5
Cram Session for Exams	102	N/A	7	95

#### 5. JUNIOR OFFICIATING PROGRAM.

- All junior referee and scorer training was accomplished on line using the USA Volleyball Academy clinics. Over 3600 junior players (approximately the same as in past years) registered for one or more clinics in the Academy with slightly over 91% of those clinics being completed which is the same percentage as last season.
- For next season, we will continue to use the Academy system to train junior officials, although there will be a new and different learning management system called LITMOS. While there is certainly a valid argument supporting the human element of live clinics, the value of technological advances outweighs that argument. Using the Academy saves us approximately \$5000.00 each season without a major degradation of our training effort.

Clinic	Registered	Completed	Canceled	Active
Junior R1	3334 (-163)	2943 (88%) (-5%)	108	283
Junior R2	3430 (-34)	3035 (88%) (-4%)	119	276
Junior Scorer	3289 (+36)	2717 (83%) (-4%)	113	459
Junior Line Judge	2590 (+917)	2379 (92%) (-2%)	64	147
Junior Libero Controller	2396 (+990)	2169 (91%) (-1%)	57	170
Junior Coaches Referee Education	90 (+53)	52 (58%) (+2%)	6	32

#### 6. REGION TOURNAMENTS.

- We provided 98 supervising referees (decrease of 97) to Region sponsored tournaments at 45 sites (decrease of 37) held on 153 courts (decrease of 122) for 567 teams (decrease of 466) on 16 dates (decrease of 11). Fifty tournaments (increase of 28) had to be canceled due to lack of entries (21) or termination of the season due to Covid-19 (29).

## **7. REGIONAL POLICY REGARDING SHAKING HANDS DUE TO COVID-19.**

- USA Volleyball suspended all pre-match and post-match handshakes as part of the COVID-19 preventive measures implemented at all USAV tournaments. The following procedures were established at all USAV tournaments in the Old Dominion Region. The policy was approved by the ODR Commissioner on March 10, 2020 and is in effect from March 10, 2020 until further notice for all USA Volleyball tournaments conducted in the Old Dominion Region and sanctioned by USA Volleyball or the Old Dominion Region.
  - At the Captains' meeting, the captains and referees will introduce themselves, but refrain from shaking hands, slapping palms, or doing a fist bump. In other words, they will avoid direct, physical contact.
  - At the end of warm-ups, each team will go to the end line on their side of the court and the R1 will go to the stand.
  - When the R1 blows the whistle directing the teams to take the court, the teams will wave to their opponents from the end line. Teams are not required to pass each other at the net to shake hands. They may still pass each other at the net if they desire to do that, but are to refrain from shaking hands, slapping palms, or bumping fists or elbows and must avoid any direct physical contact.
  - The starting players will go to their starting positions. The remaining players will go to their bench.
  - At the end of the match, the players on the court will wave to the opposing team and then proceed to their bench to gather their belongings instead of passing each other at the net for the traditional end of match handshake. Again, they may still pass each other at the net if they desire to do that, but are to refrain from shaking hands, slapping palms, or bumping fists or elbows and must avoid any direct physical contact.

## **8. REVISED CHANGE OF COURT PROTOCOL.**

- USA Volleyball changed the protocol for changing courts between sets. Both teams will now go directly to their bench to gather their belongings and then proceed directly to their new team bench on the opposite side of the court by passing directly in front of the scoring table.
- Teams may move to the opposite side of the court by passing under the net to avoid creating a hazard with adjacent courts when there is little space between adjacent courts.
- This change only affects the side change between sets. When teams are required to switch courts in a deciding set, the team on the B side of the court is still required to move to the opposite side of the court by proceeding past the R1 stand outside of the court.
- This new protocol became effective on March 10, 2020 and will be incorporated in future editions of the rules book and case book.

## **9. NATIONAL MEETINGS.**

- Although the normal Referee Assembly meetings were not held because the Open Championship was cancelled, the Officials Division of USA Volleyball held a series of on line meetings using GoToMeeting to thoroughly cover several individual important topics.
- The Officials Division now holds a monthly meeting using GoToMeeting for all Referee & Scorer Chairs on the second Monday of each month. This has worked well to keep the regions updated on important information.

## **10. PLANS FOR THE 2020-21 SEASON.**

- Host a National Clinic in January 2021 (probably January 10, 2021).
- Conduct one or more upgrade sessions for eligible Provisional Referees.
- Continue using the USA Volleyball Academy for all referee clinics.
- Continue using the USA Volleyball Academy as the primary method for certifying junior referees.
- Develop & publish procedures for implementing the new Learning Management System (LITMOS) within the new Membership Management System (SportsEngine).
- Create Independent Contractor Agreement for all officials.
- Develop business card to give to potential referees who either may have expressed interest in becoming certified or have levied complaints regarding officiating.
- Update information in the Region Handbook to reflect the new membership management system as it relates to officiating and the new training management system interfaces.

Bob Kyle

ODR Referee Chair

July 11, 2020