

Iowa Region Championships Tournament Manual



WELCOME

Welcome to the Iowa Junior Regional Volleyball Championships. Welcome back to Des Moines for our weekend championship events. We hope you enjoy the tournament!

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

JUNIOR AGE DEFINITIONS 2025-26											
AGE	18 & Under ¹	17 & Under	16 & Under	15 & Under ³	14 & Under ⁴	13 & Under ⁵	12 & Under	11 & Under	10 & Under	9 & Under	8 & Under
JULY*	2007 ²	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
AUG	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
SEPT	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
OCT	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
NOV	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
DEC	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
JAN	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
FEB	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
MAR	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
APR	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
MAY	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
JUNE	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
GRADE	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd
Grad Year	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036

Once a player has been enrolled at a university, college, community college or junior college AND been cleared to participate by that (volleyball) program, he/she is **ineligible** to take part in any regional and national programming, which includes but is not limited to national JNC qualifying and championship events.

Note: These age definitions are used by domestic club programs and are **NOT** the same as the age definitions for the International and Domestic National Team Development programs.

¹ **OR** players born on or after July 1, 2006, **and** a high school student in the 12th grade or below during some part of the current academic year are eligible to compete on 18 and under teams.

² **17 & under Division** – players (female & male*) born on or after July 1, 2007 (who are defined as 18 & under by USAV Age Definition) and are in the 11th grade for the current academic year are eligible to compete in 17 and under.

³ **Male Only** – Players who were **born on or after July 1, 2010** (15 years or younger) who neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than **8th grade** during the current academic year are eligible to play in the **14 & Under division**. Allowed to participate at BJNC.

⁴ **Male Only** – Players who were **born on or after July 1, 2011** (14 years or younger) who neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than **7th grade** during the current academic year are **eligible for a Region approved waiver** to compete in the boys 13's age group.

⁵ **Male Only** – Players who were **born on or after July 1, 2012** (13 years or younger) who neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than **6th grade** during the current academic year are **eligible for a Region approved waiver** to compete in the boys 12's age group.

*The Age Definition Policy was most recently revised by the USA Volleyball Board of Directors on May 27, 2025.

Team Registration/Check-In

Check-in will be online using TM2Sign. All rosters are due on **THREE DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT**. If there are any changes after the deadline, they must go through Carol. Email carol@iavbreg.org.

1. Two copies of your roster will be handed to you at your first match of the day.
 - Verify that all players and coaches are listed and that the jersey numbers for those players who will be in attendance during the weekend are correct.
 - If there are any issues with the roster, notify the official immediately and **THE COACH** must take it to the Championship Desk. The coach will keep both copies of the roster throughout the weekend.
 - Last minute additions will have membership verified before being allowed to compete. You may not add members to the roster after the team has started competing in the tournament.
 - **For Qualifying Divisions:**
 - Teams may borrow any eligible player **from their club**, provided the player hasn't qualified for nationals with another team.
 - If a borrowed player qualifies for nationals at this event, that player may not play on another team at a national qualifier or a qualifying division at another regional championship. That player may play on a team that is in a non-qualifying division. For example, a player qualifies on a team playing in the 18 Qualifying division. That player may also play on a different team in the club in the 18 Gold division.
 - Players cannot play on two teams at the same tournament, regardless of division.
 - The teams in the Qualifying division cannot have junior aged staff members as coaches unless they are 18 years old. Only allowed to be AC in Gold & Silver divisions as region rules allow.
 - Rosters must be verified on TM2Sign.
 - Coaches must always keep their rosters with them. The coach will present the roster to the officials at the beginning of each match, and the officials will verify the rosters.
 - **Gold/Silver Divisions**
 - Teams may borrow any eligible player from their club. Since these divisions do not qualify for National Championships, any eligible player may be on the roster regardless if they have qualified for Nationals with another team.
 - Players cannot play on two teams at the same tournament, regardless of division.
 - Rosters must be verified on TM2Sign.
 - Coaches must always keep their rosters with them. The coach will present the roster to the officials at the beginning of each match, and the officials will verify the rosters.

Rostered Athlete Requirements

All rostered players must be FULL MEMBERS of the Iowa Region of USA Volleyball.

Athletes turning 18 during the season will be required to take the Center for SafeSport "Core" training upon turning 18. To prevent any disruption in play, the center will allow athletes who are 17, turning 18 during the season to take "Core" given parental consent. Once a player turns 18, he or she will not be permitted to continue play until "Core" SafeSport training has been completed.

Player's Number on the Official Roster:

For Qualifying Divisions, each player is required to wear the same jersey number as listed on the official roster throughout the entire Event, with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications. If a player is found playing in the wrong numbered jersey, the Commissioner, with the input of the Tournament Director, will determine the penalty(ies) to be imposed. Additional penalties may be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

For Non-Qualifying Divisions, region waivers are allowed. The Tournament Director or Head Official has the final say if a uniform situation is approved.

Penalties for an incorrect number are listed below:

- If the error is discovered prior or after the team's match, the roster may be adjusted, and the player may play once the corrected roster is presented to the referees.
- If the error is discovered during the match, the player may not compete for the remainder of the match, and the roster may not be adjusted until the conclusion of the match.
 - If the player is on the court at the time of the discovery, USAV 7.3.5.3 as listed in the 2025-2027 Indoor Rules Book is applied:
 - If the Team at fault is currently serving, all points scored during that term of service are removed, and the lineup is corrected.
 - If the opponent is serving, the lineup is corrected, and no additional penalty or sanction is assessed.
- No penalty is assessed on previous rounds or matches where the player may have played in the wrong numbered jersey.

Player Missing from the Official Roster:

For all Events, each player is required to be listed on the official roster throughout the entire event. If a player is found participating and is not on the official roster, the following penalties will be imposed:

- If the missing player is discovered prior to the team's first match of the tournament, the player may be added to the roster, and the corrected roster is presented to the referees.
- If the missing player is discovered during the match, the following will occur:
 - Player may not compete for the remainder of the match and Rule 7.3.5.4 as listed in the 2025- 2027 Indoor Rules Book is applied: Where a player is found to be on court but he/she is not registered on the team roster, the opponent's points remain valid, and in addition they gain a point and service. The team at fault will lose all points and/or sets (0:25, if necessary) gained from the moment the non-registered player entered the court, and will have to submit a revised line-up sheet and send a new registered player into the court, in the position of the non- registered player.
 - The team may add the player to the roster after the conclusion of the match, but before the next match.

- Note: the player must be an eligible member within the Club and available to be added to the roster. Please reference the USA Volleyball Age and Identity Falsification Policy for further review.
- If the missing player is discovered after the completion of the match, the following will occur:
 - The team will forfeit the most recent match within the round where the illegal player was found to have played.
 - The player may only be added to the roster after confirming the player is eligible, and the team pays a \$50 roster change fee to be paid to the tournament desk.
 - Note: the player must be an eligible member within the Club and available to be added to the roster. Please reference the USA Volleyball Age and Identity Falsification Policy for further review.

After teams have advanced to the next round of play, no forfeits will be assessed on the previous round where the non-rostered player may have played.

Facility Addresses

Please see the region website for sites and addresses for the tournament.

Doors open at 7:15am

General Tournament Information

The tournament is divided into multiple rounds depending on the pool structure and division. Match start times may be accelerated only if both coaches, officiating teams, and officials agree. For the purpose of determining forfeits, if the court is on time, then the scheduled match time will be the forfeit time; if the court is running late, then the end of timed warmups will be used as the forfeit time. ***All teams are responsible for when they will play or work their next match.***

Results and Schedule Information

Complete posting of the results and next round of play will be done on the Tm2Sign website at www.tm2sign.com. This is the official schedule. There will be no paper posting of pool results at any site. The tournament will be utilizing VolleyStation for Scoring, and scores will be posted live at iowa.volleystation.com.

Advancement and Tie-Break Procedures

The Tm2Sign system advances teams out of pool play on USAV Protocol. All ties will be broken using USAV procedures. Tie break procedures are located on TM2Sign for each division.

Check your schedule/results

Before leaving the site, be sure to check your position in the pool on Tm2Sign. Site Directors will NOT be held accountable for miscommunications or schedule interpretations. The official tournament posting on the Tm2sign tournament site is the only source that will be considered should a dispute arise. **These results are updated after the scores have been recorded by the system.**

Warm-Up Procedures

For all matches during the event, warm-up time will be 2-4-4. 2 minutes for shared ball handling, 4 minutes for the serving team to have the entire court, 4 minutes for the receiving team to have the entire court.

Protests of the rules of play:

- Officials on the court will consult the rule book at the time of protest. If the protest cannot be resolved by this method, the Head Official will be notified of the protest.
- All rulings by the Protest Committee are final and not subject to appeal.
- All protests will be settled at the time they are lodged.
- No match will be allowed to proceed until the protest is settled.
- Only protests involving misinterpretation/misapplication of the playing rules, scoring, and incorrect sanction penalties will be accepted.
- Judgement calls are NOT subject to protest. If a protest is related to a judgement decision, the team may be issued a red card (penalty point).

Trainers

There will be trainers available. They will attend to players free of charge. However, each player must provide their own supplies (tape, pre-wrap, etc.). Players are encouraged to talk with the trainers if they have a problem or question. All injuries should be reported to the trainer's station or Site Director's desk, and incident reports filled out by the trainer and signed by the coach or trainer. **Coaches should have their players' Emergency Medical Release Forms.**

Food & Drink in all Sites

Please leave all coolers outside the facilities. We ask that coolers remain in your vehicle. Food may not be allowed on the Sport Court surfaces or court areas at any of the facilities. Teams which violate the facility rule may be removed from the tournament. Spectators who violate this rule may be asked to leave the facility. We want to make sure these sites are available in the future. To ensure future use, team areas and benches must be cleaned after each match. **Please remind your players to clean up any water bottles that may be left behind.**

Awards

Qualifying Divisions: Gold Bracket (1st – 3rd Place)

Gold/Silver Divisions: Gold Bracket (1st – 3rd Place), Silver & Bronze Brackets (1st place Only)

Officiating Assignments

Teams are required to officiate as noted on **TM2Sign**. Teams who are officiating should be on court 10 minutes prior to match time. The tournament will provide the first referees for every match. In the event the tournament provides an R2, there must be an adult courtside from the work crew for every match. Teams need to follow the officiating schedule. Only the Tournament Director or Head Officials may change the officiating schedule.

Work Crews will consist of six members. An eligible USAV ADULT member must be the R2 if one is not provided. Three members at the score table - Two Scorers (one using VolleyStation and one keeping a paper backup) and one libero tracker/visual scorer, and two-line judges. Teams must supply their own writing utensils.

In five team pools where the pool is being played on two courts, the officiating team must supply enough workers for both courts. At a minimum the work crew must have two (2) R2's, four (4) line judges, two (2) scorers for VolleyStation and two (2) Backup Scorers / Visual Scorer. Any adult working must be a USAV member, have passed the membership background screen, and be SafeSport Certified. If a team must supply two R2's, one of them may be a player. If your team cannot fill out all the assignments, please contact the championship desk before play begins.

VolleyStation will be utilized for all scoring at our championships. Please read the attached documents. They supply links to videos for training before the events. The region will supply a tablet for all courts to use for scoring. However, in case the tablet fails, please have the VolleyStation app downloaded to your mobile device to use.

On Sunday, pay close attention to your work assignments. Since most tournament finishes are being played out, either a losing team or winning team may have to officiate the preceding or next match on that court.

Check the schedule carefully to see if you are the assigned team to work before you play on Sunday. It is typical on Sunday for the losing team to stay and work the next match on the court. It may be a different age or bracket. Unless told otherwise by tournament staff expect to work the next match. Sometimes the software does not advance the correct officiating team so if there is any doubt contact the official on court or championship desk.

Missed Officiating Duties

A team's failure to have a complete officiating crew, including an adult, for that team, available and on time for a match officiating assignment will result in the team losing 1 point per minute for up to 25 points, and will be awarded to the team's next opponent, even if the team is to officiate misses the entire match. The clock begins to run at the end of the receiving team's warmup time. The maximum penalty is 25 points – meaning loss of set 1 – even if the team misses the entire officiating assignment. A

team will forfeit its entire next match for failing, a second time, to have an officiating crew available for an officiating assignment. This rule does not apply to teams that are currently playing or working on another court. The match will be delayed until the work team shows up, or a replacement crew is found.

This penalty does not apply to a team that misses a 3-way tiebreak because of leaving a site before the determination that a tiebreak is necessary, unless the team misses an officiating assignment for the match following the tiebreak, or a team leaves after playing the first tiebreak game but before officiating the second tiebreak game. Losing the opportunity to advance by not being present for the tiebreak is considered the penalty for the team.

If a team leaves the competition early before fulfilling their final work assignment, the team will be charged \$250 unless approved to leave by championship staff.

Bids to Junior Nationals (Qualifying Divisions Only)

The Iowa Region receives:

Girl's Divisions:

11u

- 1 National Bid
- 1 American Bid; 12th in Reallocation (NEW Division)

12u

- 1 National Bid, 10th in Reallocation
- 2 American Bids, 13th in Reallocation

13u

- 1 National Bid, 17th in Reallocation (*9th since 1-8 already awarded)
- 2 American Bids, 27th in Reallocation (NEW: added 2nd American bid)

14u-17u

- 1 National Bid, 17th in Reallocation (*9th since 1-8 already awarded)
- 2 American Bids, 29th in Reallocation (NEW: added 2nd American bid)
- 2 Freedom Bids (NEW: added 2nd Freedom bid, no reallocation)

18u

- 1 National Bid, 17th in Reallocation (*9th since 1-8 already awarded)
- 1 American Bid, 12th in Reallocation
- 1 Freedom Bid, 24th in Reallocation (*15th since 1-9 already awarded)

Boy's Divisions: Iowa receives (1) USA Bid.

14u: 1 USA Bid

15u: 1 USA Bid

16u: 1 USA Bid

17u: 1 USA Bid

18u: 1 USA Bid

Things to Note:

- The bid(s) can trickle down to the next highest finishing team if the higher finisher denies the bid or has earned a higher bid at a Qualifier. If a team turns down a bid, either at region championships or through re-allocation, the team will no longer be considered for bids the region receives for this season.
- Teams that have received an Open bid prior to the Regional Championship will not be allowed to participate.
- Here is the order of Divisions at Nationals (highest-lowest):
 - **Open** –
 - These bids are earned only in a National Qualifier
 - **National** –
 - These bids are earned only in a Regional Qualifier (*11s & 12s have some bids at Qualifiers)
 - **USA** –
 - These Bids are earned only in a National Qualifier
 - **Liberty** –
 - These bids are earned only in a National Qualifier
 - **American** –
 - These bids are earned at both a National & Regional Qualifier
 - **Freedom** –
 - These bids are earned at only a Regionals Qualifier
 - **Patriot** – (18s Only)
 - No bids awarded for this division; any team can sign up to participate.

Girls' Junior Club Championships (GJCC) 10s-17s **NEW: Replaces Patriot** (separate event)

***Teams may only compete in one of the two USA Volleyball national championship events — either the GJCC or the GJNC, not both.** If a team registers for the GJCC and later earns a qualifying bid to the GJNC, they must withdraw from the GJCC to participate in the GJNC. This policy ensures a clear and fair separation between the two events and allows USAV to optimize scheduling, space, and competitive integrity across both championships.