PIONEER REGION

2020-2021 Handbook

Pioneer Region WEBSITE

www.PIONEERVB.com

USA Volleyball WEBSITE

https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball

Pioneer Region Office
1820 Taylor Ave.
Louisville, KY 40213

Ron Kordes
Commissioner
1820 Taylor Ave.
Louisville, KY. 40213
502-473-1200 ext – 211
Email –RonKordes@kivasports.net

Nancy Funk
Asst. Commissioner/Registrar
Scorer Chair
7906 Ferndale Rd.
Louisville, KY. 40291
502-239-1818 (Home)
Email-NFunk@twc.com

Don Goodwin
Referee Chair
524 Wilsonville Rd.
Fisherville, KY 40223
502-641-3457(cell)
Email: don.usaref@gmail.com

Table of Contents

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION 4

REGISTRATION 4

DEBT 5

BACKGROUND SCREENING 6

SAFE SPORT 6

TRY OUTS JUNIOR GIRLS 7

JUNIOR BOYS 7

RECRUITMENT 7

TEAM AGE REQUIREMENTS/OPEN & CLUB DIVISIONS 9

USA VOLLEYBALL AGE FALSIFICATION POLICY 9

CLUBS 10

11 DIGIT TEAM CODE 10

DIRECTOR ONLINE ACCESS 10

PLAYER INFORMATION FORM 10

COACHES CODE OF ETHICS 11

MEDICAL RELEASE 12

INCIDENT & MEDICAL CLAIM FORMS 12

INCIDENT REPORT – FILED WITH THE REGION 12

MEDICAL CLAIM FORM FILED BY INJURED PARTY 12

TOURNAMENTS & ENTRY FORM 14

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 15

BID TOURNAMENT 15

CLINICS 15

IMPACT CERTIFICATION 15

CAP CLINICS 15

JUNIOR SCORER AND REFEREE CERTIFICATION 16

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 16

USA VOLLEYBALL PARTICIPANT CODE OF CONDUCT ..... ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE ..... ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

FINES AND PENALTIES 18

USA VOLLEYBALL REFEREE 19

USA VOLLEYBALL SCORER 20

BY-LAWS (UPDATED AUGUST 16, 2020) 21

INTRODUCTION

USA Volleyball is the National Governing Body for Volleyball, as authorized by the United States Olympic Committee, consistent with the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, and is the recognized National Federation to the Federation International de Volleyball (FIVB). The Pioneer Region is a liaison to USA Volleyball (USAV) and is designed to foster and conduct area, state, regional, and national amateur volleyball competition.

The United States Volleyball Association is the governing body for competitive volleyball in the United States. In 1981, it made a commitment to provide opportunities for young players to play outside of their school programs and in 1981 created a division of the USA exclusively devoted to Youth and Junior Olympic Volleyball Development. The USAV states that Junior Olympic Volleyball Programs represented "...the future of volleyball in the U.S. The Junior Program was created to serve as a major building block for scholastic, collegiate, recreational and club play throughout the country."

The purpose of the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Program is to offer youths the opportunity to become involved in a wholesome and beneficial athletic activity, which they can pursue at various skill levels. In many cases it is a chance for all athletes to receive high quality instruction in skills development and team strategy. The program is a co-educational system that emphasizes instruction through the fun of participation. It is a progressive skills program, based on the physical development of young volleyball players by age group.

Junior Program athletes have been so successful that most NCAA Division I, II, and III coaches recruit exclusively from the Junior Program ranks. The reason for this is simple. Coaches can see many solid prospects in a single day at a Junior Tournament, while it is difficult to see more than one prospect a day during the high school season. This becomes even truer with the NCAA rules governing the number of times a collegiate coach can contact or observe in person a given player.

Junior Volleyball is not only for the college bound athlete. Many athletes play to improve their skills in order to make their high school or top-level grade school teams. Junior Volleyball allows players of all skills levels to learn, improve, and progress at a pace they can achieve.

Welcome to the Pioneer Region of USA Volleyball. The birth of the Pioneer Region began with a vote at the 1996 USAV Open Championships to create from a portion of the Ohio Valley Region, the Pioneer Sub-Region. The new Pioneer Sub-Region consisted of the state of Kentucky, and any teams or individuals from the southwestern counties of Ohio within the 513 area code which wished to join the new Sub-Region. Ron Kordes took on the job of being the first Commissioner. The status to become a full region was evaluated by the other 34 voting Regions in May 1997 at the USAV Open Championships in Kansas City and the new Pioneer Region was born.

The region has put this handbook together to help you become a successful program. Please read the information and jot down any questions you may have. Many times, most of your questions can be answered by the USA Volleyball website or the Pioneer Region website. Familiarize yourself with the sites and what is offered so as the season progresses you can refer to them for information. Do refer to them on a regular basis as they offer valuable information about National tournaments and other volleyball related activities. Try to use these sites to answer any questions you may have.

You also may find answers in this handbook. If not, you may contact Commissioner Ron Kordes, or Assistant Commissioner/Registrar, Nancy Funk. Their contact information can be found on the front of this handbook or on the Pioneer Region Website

All forms referred to in this handbook can be downloaded from the Pioneer Region website.

Important Web Address

Pioneer Region - www.PioneerVB.com

Membership Information

Players, coaches, team representatives, chaperons, club directors, and/or anyone actively involved with clubs must register with the Pioneer Region/USA Volleyball prior to participation in a USA Volleyball sanctioned event.

FEES

There are **NO** team fees

Junior Coaches, Officials, adult associated with juniors	$50.00
Junior Player	$50.00
Junior Try-out membership	$10.00
Adult Player only	$25.00
One-Event Player/Official/Special (call registrar)	$25.00
Background Screening	$30.00
Beach/outdoor summer(opens May1)	$10.00
Clinic, League (call registrar)	$5.00

There is a special $5.00 membership for insurance coverage if your club wishes to have a young players training clinic. This will give you insurance for the facility and the participant. Contact Nancy Funk – nfunk@twc.com - for details if you are interested.

- Officials should purchase insurance for an additional fee $6.85.
- PAVO registered officials already have this additional insurance coverage.

Registration

The Pioneer Region uses the USAV online registration system (Sports Engine). Go to the Pioneer Region website www.PioneerVB.com. On the home page you will click on the 'Membership' tab, choosing "Registration". Follow the directions to apply for membership. All required forms are completed and signed on-line by each adult individual and a parent/guardian for a junior participant. All adults will purchase their membership online by credit card. Juniors will purchase an online try-out membership by credit card. The full membership will be complete when payment is received by the region registrar from the club for junior players. They are no try-out membership or background screening fee refunds for any reason.

Everyone must apply for membership at the beginning of each season.

a. Every club director, player, coach, chaperone, tournament director, trainers and anyone who is active with your club (in practice, board members) must be a member. This is for insurance coverage.
b. For each Junior participant, a parent (or legal guardian) MUST enter the required information on-line to complete the junior application. All juniors will purchase a $10 tryout membership with a credit card online. The remainder of the fee will be paid by the club.
c. Each adult must enter their own application on-line and pay by credit card for their membership and background screening, if needed, each season.
d. Each individual is only required to pay one membership fee; even if they are serving in more than one capacity (i.e. coach and official) – Fees are non-refundable
e. If a team adds a player or coach during the season, the individual must complete all necessary requirements online and payment made **before they participate. Failure to do so could SUSPEND the team for the season and void all insurance coverage.** If the individual is an adult participating with a junior club the member must have a current background screening, Safe Sport certification and IMPACT if coaching prior to participation.
f. Players may not change clubs after signing a club contract for the upcoming season. Be aware only extreme instances would a change of clubs be allowed. A player may register and

be rostered with only one club. Coaches may coach for multiple clubs with all clubs in agreement. Contact the registrar.

g. Activate your club by filing the 'Club Activation Form' found under 'Forms' tab on the home page and email the information to nfunk@twc.com. The club director will receive all regional correspondence for the club.
h. Adults (this includes officials) associated with juniors must complete a Background Screening and Safe Sport. Coaches must also complete IMPACT. Officials during the online registration process will also accept the region Independent Contractor agreement. The USAV Background Screening is good for 2 seasons. The $50 membership fee and the $30 background screening fee are both paid online.
i. The upgrade membership registration fee is $40.00 per person for juniors. The $10 tryout fee is deducted from the $50membership fee. Clubs pay the upgrade fees for the players associated with their club. The Club Director sends the upgrade fees, **New this year! 2020-21**
    1. A team roster (last name, first name and DOB) of all junior players the club is paying for.
    2. **One club check** made out to "Pioneer Region" for the full amount due for all players. Coaches and all adults pay online for their memberships and background screenings. There are no fee refunds.
    3. Send a list of all coach's names and their DOB so they can be added to the team rosters. They have been paid for online.

Mail to:

Nancy Funk
Pioneer Region Registrar
7906 Ferndale Rd.
Louisville, KY 40291

Have each player make their check out to the club.
The club then sends one check to the region registrar.
***** PLEASE do not mail rosters and checks with receipt requested or signature required.**

Debt

Any player, with a signed club contract that does not fulfill their monetary obligation, may be reported to the Pioneer Region registrar by the club director, prior to the beginning of the next registration season. If the player did not fulfill their financial obligation to a club, they may not do so to the next club. By clubs reporting players leaving a financial obligation the region may assist in notification keeping players from traveling club to club owing a debt. Any player reported for non-payment of fees during a season is placed on "administrative suspension" and could possibly, not be registered for the next season until a settlement/agreement is reached with the previous club.

Due process is available to all members.

Background Screening

USA Volleyball has mandated all adults (18 and older) who work with junior participants must undergo a USA Volleyball background screening. Refer to the "Regional Volleyball Association of USA Volleyball Background Screening Policy" on the Pioneer Region Website under 'Forms' to help answer your questions.

The background screening form must be completed by all club directors, coaches (head & assistants) chaperones, officials, trainers, tournament directors and any adult who will have direct contact with junior participants. The cost for each screening is $30.00 paid online.

Adults connected to a junior team/club may not be added to a junior roster until the background screening is returned as cleared. Anyone refusing a background screening may not participate with junior athletes. Allow 2 weeks for the background screening to be completed. All information will be strictly confidential.

Notification of disqualification (no specifics) will be provided to the Club Director, USA Volleyball national office and the regional registrar. Each disqualified applicant will be contacted personally by the screening company and provided due process, if requested, by the screening company.

Any adult reported as disqualified, by the background screening company, may not work with juniors in USA Volleyball. Club Directors have ultimate responsibility to see that all adults working with their club are registered, have a current background screening and if disqualified that the disqualified adult is not working with their club in any capacity

We must all remember that this is for the safety of the junior participants.

Safe Sport

Safe Sport is a program required by the USOC (United States Olympic Committee) of all NGB's. All members 18 and older are required to complete the Safe Sport program. It is an online education program that must be completed every year by all members 18 or older…this does include players.

The coursework is delivered through USA Volleyball. Accessing the course through your online membership portal is critical to tracking certification and expiration dates. Please access the course exclusively through your membership (not the USOC SafeSport website). To complete the Safe Sport go to your membership portal.

Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP).

These policies outline training requirements and limit one-one-one interactions with minor athletes. The policies became effective June 23, 2019.

MAAPP Summary

The goal of Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies is to limit one-on-one interactions with minor athletes--interactions with minors should be observable and interruptible. Any violation of MAAPP is reportable.

The policy covers six areas:

- Limiting one-on-one interactions, including meetings and individual training sessions
- Massages and rubdowns/athlete training modalities

- Locker rooms and changing areas
- Social media and electronic communication
- Local travel
- Team travel

Questions regarding Mapp should be directed to

https://www.teamusa.org/usa-volleyball/about-us/safesport/

Try outs Junior Girls

****** In the Pioneer Region there are to be no High School Junior Girls club try-outs (15U and above) held until the Sunday of the Kentucky State High School Championship match *******
Specific Try –out dates are published each season by the region office
General dates are;

1. For High school age (15-19) girls' grades 9 – 12 the Sunday of the Kentucky High School State Volleyball Championships is the first day of try-outs.
2. Generally, younger players (14 and under) try outs are the Saturday two weeks prior to the Kentucky High School State Volleyball Championships if all local grade school and middle school championships are completed in the area.
3. All states have high school eligibility rules. Clubs having tryouts that involve players from surrounding states must ensure they abide by all eligibility rules for those states.
4. If you are having try-outs in facilities outside the Kentucky borders be sure you are not breaking rules of the region where the facility is located.

Junior Boys

The season will begin on September 1st, just as the USA season begins. There is a split season due to boy's high school volleyball being scheduled during the spring in most states. When a player signs a contract with a club on or after September 1st, he is obligated to that club until the completion of the USAV Boys Junior National Championships. The Pioneer Region will encourage good sportsmanship. If a player would like to change clubs during the split season and they are in good standing with their current club financially, the change would be granted with permission of the current club director. Currently there are no specific boy's tryout dates due to limited opportunities available.

Recruitment

The open contact period for the Pioneer Region begins after the USA Volleyball Junior National Championships come to conclusion each season. (Usually during the first week of July). After the last day of competition at the USAV Junior Nationals any player no matter of club may be solicited. Prior to that date no club directors or coaches can contact players that do not currently belong to their club.

A club may invite players back from their own club prior to this date. Invites to players outside your club must be during the OPEN CONTACT season. First day invitations are allowed for players to sign a contract (in your club or another) is two days following the last day of competition at the USAV Junior Nationals. Players may accept a

position by signing an acceptance letter with their current club prior to the open recruitment period but not a new club until the open recruitment period.

Once a player signs a contract/acceptance letter with a team/club for the upcoming season they may no longer be actively recruited. Players may accept a position with their current club prior to the open recruitment period but not a new club until the open recruitment period.

The **parents/players** hold responsibility to inform clubs when they have signed a club contract/acceptance letter for the upcoming season.

Players become legally attached to a club for the upcoming season on receipt by the club director of the contract signed by the parent. The date on the signed contract will be the date used as acceptance.

Once a contract is signed, a player should not be talking with or trying out with another club. This is the player/parent responsibility and not the clubs.

Parents/players on contracts issued will have a minimum of 48 hours to accept or decline after try-outs.

Club Directors/coaches…do not interfere with high school teams/coaches during their season of play. Anything that high schools feel as interference with their players could find the state high school associations passing stricter rules.

The development of new junior clubs is highly encouraged, and assistance will be provided. The Region will take action to preclude any unethical practices by a team/club. Additionally, clubs must take every precaution to ensure compliance with existing USAV and respective state high school eligibility rules for all junior participants.

Team Age Requirements/Open & Club Divisions

USA Volleyball Junior teams are divided according to player age.
(See the Junior *Age Definitions* on Pioneer Region website)

In most age levels, competition is divided into divisions. The Open division is for the elite, highly skilled teams. Some tournaments will offer Open and other divisions, while some tournaments are not divided into divisions so are open to all teams that wish to compete. Most new clubs usually do not compete in the Open division.

Players may compete on teams with older players…for example a 14-year-old may play on a 16-year-old team since she is younger than the 16U age limit. A 16-year-old may not compete on a 14-year-old team; he/she is older than the age limit.

All members of the team must meet the age requirements. In some cases, a waiver may be granted for a player to compete – *never* can an age waiver be granted for competition in any National event. Contact Nancy Funk – NFunk@twc.com if any information is needed. (See Pioneer Region website for age waiver request form)

It is highly suggested that club directors have all junior participants submit a photocopy of their birth certificate if you plan to participate in any National event. This should be kept on file by the Club Director, in case a question arises about a participant's legal age.

USA VOLLEYBALL AGE FALSIFICATION POLICY

(Adopted by USA Volleyball Board of Directors, January 19, 2002)

For all USA Volleyball corporate events, any person who alters any document that certifies the age of a participant, or falsifies any statement which lists the age of a participant, will be sanctioned as follows:
Any team representative, coach, program director or responsible adult found to be a party to such action shall:

1. Be immediately suspended from registration with USA Volleyball and barred from further participation in the event; and
2. Be barred from participation in any USA Corporate events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
3. Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to 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 shall:

1. Be immediately suspended from registration with USA Volleyball and barred from further participation in the event; and
2. Be barred from participation in any USA Corporate events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
3. Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to the suspension.

When 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.
The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee may recommend a more severe penalty. The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall file a report of any age violation with the Corporation's Ethics and Eligibility Committee and with the registering Member Organization with its recommendation.

CLUBS

Teams are encouraged to "club" together – merge resources from several teams - to provide additional opportunities for play. This can also prevent a team from forfeiting or withdrawing from a tournament after registration due to a lack of players. In the Pioneer Region players may move from team to team within a club if they meet all age requirements. Waiver players may not move.

Due to the limited number of adult players in the Pioneer Region, adult men and women are all considered to be one "club". They are then divided into teams.

Clubs must have at least one contact listed for information sent from the Pioneer Region. This is the usually the club director or team representative.

Team code

Director Online access

Each club director will have access to the online registration system after their season membership is paid and they have a current background screening. With this access the club director is able to download information about their own clubs' registered members. There is a guide of available instructions on the Pioneer Region website to help learn about the access available. Club Directors will:

1. Set up a Sports Engine HQ for their club.
2. Be required to go online to help form their team rosters.
3. Be able to print a roster for each team registered

When you register online in the AES system for many tournaments the 5-digit code they ask for is the 5(five) letters in the team code (ex. "YOUCL")

As club director keep a copy of the roster and give one to the team coach.
You may attach this roster to tournament entry forms to show all the information about your team that is needed by tournament directors.

Parent Information Form

The Parent Information Form is read and agreed to by the parent/guardian during the online registration process, prior to accepting a place on your club/team for their junior player. The form may be included as part of the contract that your club has the parent/guardian sign.

Part of the information included is to inform the parent that all financial debt must be paid to the club prior to the next season registration.

Coaches Code of Ethics

Any complaints concerning breeches of this code must go to club directors and at their discretion, turned over to the Pioneer Region complaint committee to be heard. All complaints must be first hand, in writing and signed by the athlete and/or parent/legal guardian. Due Process is available to all Pioneer Region members.

USA VOLLEYBALL Pioneer Region JUNIOR CLUB PERSONNEL CODE OF ETHICS

It is the duty and obligation of USA Volleyball affiliated Junior Club Program administrators, directors, coaches and other club personnel to assure the following Code of Ethics is followed and adhered to by all individuals who have an active role in a USA Volleyball Junior Club Program in any Region of USA Volleyball.
In a continuing effort to promote safe, healthy and ethical communication, relationships and treatment of all USA Volleyball players and personnel, all adults associated with a junior club program must read, accept and submit this Code of Ethics before they are eligible to actively participate in a junior club program associated, affiliated, or participating in USA Volleyball.

1. All adult club personnel affiliated with a junior program must be a registered member with a Region of USA Volleyball and USA Volleyball.
2. All adult club personnel including coaches, chaperones, assistant coaches, trainers, etc. affiliated with a junior program intending to participate in USA Volleyball must have an approved and current background screen on file as per USA Volleyball policy. It is intended that the term 'all adult club personnel' be all inclusive and not limited to only those categories identified herein.
3. A head coach or assistant coach affiliated with a junior program must also: be an adult (see Region definition of an adult) and be IMPACT certified according to USA Volleyball and Region policies.
4. If allowed by Region rules, an assistant coach who has not yet met the age of majority in the state of residence must be supervised by a head coach recognized by the Region and must meet all applicable Region and USA Volleyball requirements. Individuals who are registered as junior players and also have an interest in coaching should contact their region regarding coaching eligibility.
5. Responsibilities:

A. Head coach or other equally qualified club personnel must be present at all practices and competitions. A head coach, adult club representative personnel or registered chaperone must be present during team-supervised travel. This individual shall be responsible for the moral, legal, and ethical well-being for each participant during team/club activities.

B. Coaches shall understand the unique power of a coach-athlete relationship. Coaches and all other club personnel shall not exploit athletes and shall avoid any relationships which could compromise the integrity of the learning and participation process, impair their professional judgment and/or take advantage of a situation for their own personal gain or gratification.

C. All club personnel must understand that all forms of sexual abuse, assault or harassment of a current or former athlete are unethical and illegal even when an athlete invites or consents to such behavior or involvement. Club personnel shall not engage in sexual/romantic relationships with current athletes or other participants over whom there is/was authority. See B above.

D. All club personnel shall insure that all individuals have met all Regional Volleyball Association and USA Volleyball membership requirements prior to participation in any club, team and/or Region/National USA Volleyball activity.

E. All club personnel must inform the players and their parent(s)/guardian(s) about any Region and/or USA Volleyball transfer policy. This policy may restrict or prohibit a participant from transferring to another club or team if specified criteria have been met. Likewise, all club personnel must inform the players and their parent(s)/guardian(s) of any rules or policies regarding coaching transfers during a particular season.

F. All club personnel shall abide by and inform the players and their parent(s)/guardian(s) of applicable regional recruiting policies.

G. All club personnel may not participate in, require another individual to participate in, or condone any act considered to be illegal under federal, state or local laws and/or ordinances.

H. All club personnel shall strive to educate their athletes and personnel to respect, honor and adhere to the rules of the facility being used during practices, tournaments or events. In this regard, the rules of the facility shall have priority over the rules of the Regional Volleyball Association.

I. All club personnel shall ensure that all activities are suitable for the age, experience and ability of their athletes.

J. All club personnel shall seek professional medical advice when making decisions regarding an injured athlete's ability to continue training or playing.

K. All club personnel shall, while serving in a professional capacity, avoid any drug, tobacco or alcohol use while in the

presence of athletes.
L. All club personnel shall not supply or condone the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, fireworks, ammunition, firearms, knives or any item or material that can be used as a weapon, to any of the participants or athletes and shall report any athlete using or in the possession of the same.
M. All club personnel shall not allow, encourage, condone or require any behavior that threatens an athlete's amateur status or Regional, USA Volleyball, school and/or collegiate eligibility.
N. All club personnel shall maintain all relationships with other club personnel on a professional and confidential basis.
O. All club personnel must be positive role models. This includes being courteous, respectful and polite to players, parents, other coaches, club directors, event personnel, and officials.
P. All club personnel will not engage in any physical, verbal or emotional harassment, abusive words or actions, or coercion of current and/or former athletes.
Q. All club personnel will immediately report any suspected case of illegal activity, abuse, assault, harassment, or ethical violations of this club personnel code of ethics to the appropriate authorities, including Regional Volleyball Administrators.
Any violation of this Code may result in sanction being issued against the club representative, the individual(s) and the club/team involved. These sanctions may extend to the loss of eligibility of the club representative, the individual(s), the entire club and the team involved.

Medical Release

Player Medical Release Form **DO NOT** SEND THIS FORM ITO THE REGION

This form will provide medical information in case emergency treatment is needed in the absence of a parent or legal guardian.

1. Each junior player should have this form filled out - the parent/legal guardian MUST sign it.
2. **Club Director** – keep THE ORIGINAL of this form, in case of loss (this has happened on more than one occasion). Some tournaments will require that the coach to show the forms as proof that they have them in their possession.
3. **Team Coach** – must always have a copy of this form with them, practice and competition, for every junior player on their team in case of emergency.
4. **Chaperone** – make a copy and give to the team chaperone also. If there is an injury the chaperone may accompany the player for treatment while the coach can remain with the rest of the junior players.

When the form is returned to the club director, be sure it is filled out and signed.
The form may be downloaded from the Pioneer Region website under 'Forms'.

Incident & Medical Claim Forms

The Incident and Medical Claim forms are for use **ONLY** if needed for an injury report.
By being a member of the Pioneer Region and USA Volleyball there is a secondary insurance policy included in the membership fee. Participant excess medical coverage provided under the USA Volleyball master insurance policy is intended to provide up to $25,000 of EXCESS medical coverage for injuries sustained while driving to, participating in, or returning from a USAV sanctioned event. The coverage is not designed to replace existing medical coverage available to a participant. This is a secondary policy that covers after the primary insurance carrier has paid. The sole purpose is to provide reimbursement for covered sports accidents when no other collectible insurance is available or primary limits have been exhausted. These forms can be downloaded from the website.

If any incident occurs that might result in a claim an Incident Report needs to be filed with the region. A claim will not be paid without an incident report on file.

Incident Report - Filed with the region by club

Medical Claim Form - Filed by injured party

Pioneer Region Injury Reporting Protocol
Injuries sustained at any USAV sanctioned event

If injured party is believed to require medical attention

1. Fill out an Incident Report ASAP –form is on the Pioneer Region website – www.pioneervb.com – Go to Forms/Medical Forms/Incident Report Form
   A. The Incident Report **MUST** be filled out by either the Tournament Director/team coach/club director The Incident report is **NOT** filled out by the parent/guardian or injured party.
   B. Give the completed report to the tournament sponsor or club director
   C. The tournament sponsor or club director should keep a copy for their record and is responsible to mail/email a copy of the Incident Report Form to the Pioneer Region:
   Pioneer Region
   Nancy Funk
   7906 Ferndale Rd.
   Louisville, Ky. 40291
   Email – NFunk@twc.com
   D. The report will then be filed by the Pioneer Region with the insurance company to report the incident – until the form is completed insurance cannot be filed by the injured for reimbursement

USA VOLLEYBALL
INCIDENT REPORT FORM
INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE

Submit this form to:

SUBMIT THIS FORM TO YOUR REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL OFFICE (ADDRESS ABOVE)

INJURED PERSON INFORMATION / PROPERTY DAMAGE OWNER

GUARDIAN/PARENT (IF INJURED PERSON IS A MINOR)

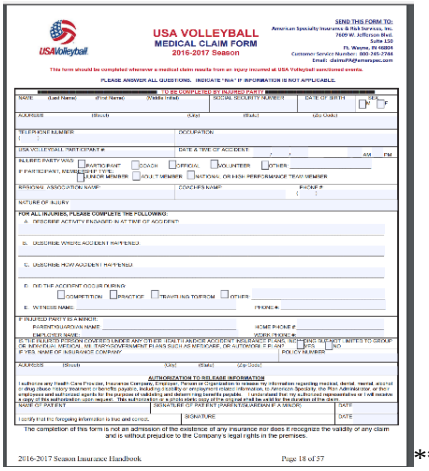
INCIDENT INFORMATION

WITNESS INFORMATION

Tournament Director, Club Director, Coach and/or USA Volleyball Official completing this form:

2016-2017 Season Insurance Handbook Page 17 of 57

2. Give the injured party a copy of the Medical Claim Forms
   A. Medical Forms are on the Pioneer Region website – www.pioneervb.com - Go to 'Forms/Medical Forms/Medical Claim Form
   B. The injured party is responsible to file these forms directly with the insurance company with bills for reimbursement according to the insurance stipulations of the USAV policy.
   C. This form is for completion by the injured party or parent/legal guardian if a medical claim results.
   D. This 2-page form is then turned into the ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FORM. NOT TO THE REGION as this would be a HIPPA VIOLATION.



USA VOLLEYBALL
MEDICAL CLAIM FORM
2016-2017 Season

SEND THIS FORM TO:

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS. INDICATE "N/A" IF INFORMATION IS NOT APPLICABLE.

TO BE COMPLETED BY INJURED PARTY

FOR ALL INJURIES, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

2016-2017 Season Insurance Handbook Page 18 of 57

**Remember all injuries do not result in medical claims

Tournaments & Entry Form

All the Pioneer Region sanctioned tournaments are listed on the Pioneer Region website with contacts for entry. Also check the USA Volleyball website (http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball.aspx) where the National tournaments, such as National Qualifiers are listed. There are links to all the USAV member region websites at the bottom of the Pioneer Region website home page so you can browse for other tournaments to enter.

The Club Director may print a tournament entry form directly from the Pioneer Region website and email it to the listed tournament director in the Pioneer Region.

Many tournaments do their registration by an online system. AES is one of the most used systems. All National tournaments (Adult Open, Qualifiers, Junior Nationals, etc.) do online registration. **Check frequently on the USA Volleyball website for any changes in their guidelines for tournament registration. These guidelines must be followed!**

Looking to stay closer to your home area to participate? Regions close to us are Hoosier (Indiana), Ohio Valley (Ohio & West Virginia), Great Lakes (Illinois), Gateway (St. Louis & Southern Illinois area), Delta (Arkansas & Western Tennessee), Southern (Tennessee & Northern Mississippi). You can link to any of their websites to check out what tournaments they have to offer by going to their website.

Be sure to check that you have been accepted into a tournament. Each tournament should notify you of your acceptance prior to the date of the tournament. If you have not heard from them, they may not have gotten all the required entry materials. Check before you show up, you do not want to make a wasted trip.

Each tournament has its own entry fee. This fee is based on tournament expenses and number of days. Some tournaments may only have one day of play, others can be two, three or more days. Also remember that if there is more than one day of play and you are away from home there will be hotel and meal expenses to cover.

Formats may also differ. Be sure when you enter you are aware of what format they will be playing. Know up front how many matches you are guaranteed.
Some (but not all) formats include –

1. Round robin 4 team pool play with the top 2 teams going to single elimination championship play and the other teams going home
2. Pool play with a re-pooling of teams, then teams being sent into single elimination championship brackets after completion of the second round of pool play.
3. Some tournaments send teams home after pool play if they do not finish in the top of the pool. Most now have play for all teams in mini single elimination brackets to give teams more play.
4. Tournaments may play matches, best 2 out of 3 games to 25points, or shortened 2 out of 3 games to 21 or 19 points

NEVER leave a tournament site until you are sure where and what time you play or officiate again.

Many teams had to forfeit matches because they did not read the schedule correctly. Schedules are not easy to read and coaches who have been doing this for years have made errors. Have one of the team parents' help and everyone confirm what they read. DO NOT be afraid to ask!

Want to have your own tournament? Contact the region for information

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Pioneer Region will accept all registered USAV junior teams in our region to the Regional Championships if entry procedures have been properly carried out by the deadline.

The Regional Tournament Director and his/her committee will seed teams.

Currently there are few registered adult teams in the Pioneer Region so there is no adult regional offered.

Bid Tournament

The Pioneer Region conducts a 'Bid Tournament' to award bids given the region for all girls' junior team age divisions currently offered a National Championship by USA Volleyball. All teams in the region who meet the following criteria may compete:

a. **Do not** already have a bid to the Junior National Championships.
b. The team must be properly registered online according to the USA Volleyball National office guidelines. Check the National USAV website - USAVolleyball.org – for the information handbook.
c. The team must have their entry fee paid into the USA Volleyball National office guaranteeing that the team will attend the National Championships if they win the available bid to represent the Pioneer region.
d. Have sent in their completed entry form to the region tournament director.

The tournament winner in each age division will receive the region National bid to the USAV Junior Championships. If the team winning a region bid is awarded a higher Bid at a National Qualifier the region National bid will be passed down to the next team in the age division with the highest finish in the bid tournament. Any further bids assigned to the region will be awarded to region teams according to their finish in the Bid Tournament.

Pioneer Region enters the Tier 2 drawing for hotel room nights. These rooms will be available for use by the Pioneer Region National Bid winners. If not used by the National bid winner, they will be passed on to other teams in the same age category and then to other teams that are attending the National Championships.

Applications for USA Junior Volleyball Championships - Teams qualifying by winning the Regional Bid Tournament, or any other qualifying event, must complete all entry requirements prior to the cut-off date. Any questions regarding proper procedures should be directed to the Pioneer Region office.

Clinics

Impact Certification

All coaches are required to have a training course called Impact. It is required if they are coaching in any National event. IMPACT is offered free online through the USAV to all current member coaches. You must have a Current membership to take the online course for free.

Reminder: All teams intending to participate in the Junior National Championships, or any Qualifier must have **all** coaches on the bench IMPACT certified... If a coach has been Impact certified this certification is good for life.

CAP Clinics

A schedule and explanation of CAP Clinics can be obtained on the USA Volleyball website.

Junior Scorer and Referee Certification

There are online clinics offered through USAV to train players in proper junior referee and scorer techniques. These online clinics offer both scoring, line judge and R2 training. We encourage you to take the online training at your convenience.

Contact the region, Nfunk@twc.com with any questions.

When attending events, you should have at least one certified scorer and one certified junior R2 on your team – you may have the whole team certified.

A player who is to be newly certified needs to #1 view the scorer clinic online #2 keep score on two matches having a certification form signed by the USA certified officials who are the referee's on the court of the matches they have just scored. After the second match has been scored and an official signature obtained, the coach signs the bottom of the certification form for verification that this player has completed the process and emails the form to the scorer chair. Certifications need to be renewed every 2 years by obtaining one referee signature.

A player who is to be a junior certified R2 needs to view the online junior R2 training, then be the R2 on at least three (3) matches. Have the USAV certified official on the match sign the certification form after each match. The coach will sign the bottom of the certification form for verification that this player has completed the process and sends the form to the referee chair. Certifications need to be renewed every 2 years by obtaining one referee signature.

If a player does not register for a season, they automatically lose their certification and must recertify. Club directors can see all certified players for their club. Certifications are listed for each individual membership on the registration site.

The Junior Scorer Certification and Junior R2 forms may be downloaded from the Pioneer Region website under Officials.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Have a parent/legal guardian meeting at the beginning**
   Before you have tryouts for your teams, or form a team, have a meeting with the parents/legal guardians. Be sure up front that they know what to expect
   - What will the cost be? (USA registration, uniforms- 2 sets, cost of gym rental, tournament entry fees, hotels, etc.)
   - When and how much practice involved?
   - How much travel involved going to tournaments?
   - Playing time per player?
   - Possibility of fund-raising?
   - .
2. **Every club should have a contract**
   Each parent/legal guardian should sign a contract regarding payment of fees. A club should contact an attorney for assistance if necessary. This will give a club some protection if a player does not pay their fees. Give a breakdown of what the payments cover. The region cannot help a club if there is a dispute about payments if there is no contract and nothing to show exactly how much was paid, how much is owed and exactly for what the payments are for.
   Any player who does not fulfill their monetary obligation may be reported at the end of the season and prior to the beginning of the next season to the region office. If they did not pay you, they may not pay the next club and in this way we can hopefully keep players from traveling from club to club owing a debt. Any

player, with a signed contract, reported for non-payment of fees during a season may not be registered in future seasons until a settlement is reached with the previous club. This is why you need the Parent informed with a contract signed and keep a copy in case there is a dispute.

3. Get each coach a folder

See that each team coach has a folder/binder to have with him/her at all times
In this folder/binder place

a. Each team member medical release form – then at practice or at a tournament it is always available if needed in case of emergency
b. Copies of birth certificates that may be needed – if you have a specific player that appears older than her age, the coach will have proof if asked by a tournament for verification
c. Copy of the team roster
d. Print each of the team membership cards – these show their certifications
e. Blank Junior scorer and R2 certification forms for the players
f. Blank Incident Reports in case of an injury

4. Insurance Certificate

Request an insurance certificate for your practice facility from the region office, if needed. Download the form from the website or email the information on the form to NFunk@twc.com. This certificate is merely a written document that provides evidence that an insurance policy is in effect for USA Volleyball. Many practice facilities require this for the use of their facility.

5. Team Parent

Have a team parent that is willing to be a chaperone. Let this parent be responsible for phone calls, collecting paperwork, washing uniforms on trips and being a general help to the coach. This will help the coach concentrate on coaching the team.

6. Is it necessary to give my date of birth when I register?

Yes – there must be a date of birth on all registration forms for adults and juniors. For junior players, so we can be sure they qualify for the age group in which they are being registered to participate. For adults, they must be of legal age to be a head coach (18) and to be a chaperone they must be at least 25. The National office will not accept a registration for membership without a date of birth.

7. We are just starting what do we need?

Use this Pioneer Region Handbook as a starting point.
Also, the Pioneer Region website www.PioneerVB.com
There is an example of a club handbook that you can use as a template for your own club.
Contact the Pioneer Region office for further information and guidance. NFunk@twc.com 502-239-1818

8. Do I have to give my Social Security number?

Only adults that are going to be associated with Juniors will have to enter their Social Security number. This is for the Background Screening company to use for identification purposes. The number is erased after the required screening is complete.

FINES AND PENALTIES THAT COULD BE ENFORCED

The Pioneer Region reserves the right to levy fines up to a maximum of $100 to its members for violation of the following;

1. **Failure to show at a tournament** - In addition to the fine, a team that fails to give notice to the Tournament Director that it is not intending to play in the event for which it is entered shall also forfeit their entry fee.
2. **Violation of Tournament Site Regulations** - A team could incur a fine if it violates ANY tournament site regulations included but not limited to those listed below.
   a. There will be NO SMOKING or ALCOHOL in any school or facility used for junior tournaments.
   b. Any player (or parent/guardian/chaperone of junior players) caught by any tournament official with any Alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs inside of any school building or public tournament site, or on any premises which prohibits this usage (i.e., school grounds, parking lots) will not be allowed to continue in the tournament or event from that point on.
   c. Anyone caught causing any detrimental action to players and or officials will be immediately ejected from the event and could face further penalties.
   d. Bringing items posted that there are to be no coolers or food brought into the facility.
   e. Damage to a facility – fines plus cost of repairs
4. **Failure to officiate when assigned** - Any team that fails to perform officiating duties as assigned by the Tournament Director
5. **Player Eligibility Rule** - If it is discovered that a player is participating in a sanctioned tournament that is not eligible, it should be reported to the Region office for disciplinary action from the Region Board.
6. **Bad Check Charge** -

   $30 Fine plus reimbursement of check amount

Fines must be paid prior to entering a tournament in the Pioneer Region if the Commissioner and Board find it necessary to be imposed

USA VOLLEYBALL REFEREE

All referee candidates must be current members in good standing of the Pioneer Region and USA Volleyball.

Each referee must pass an on-line referee and scorer's exam.

Some prerequisite requirements could be waived if the referee certification is being obtained under the conditions of the Certification Reciprocity Agreement between USA Volleyball and the Professional Association of Volleyball Officials (PAVO), the provisions of which are published on the USA Volleyball website.

Provisional, Regional and National Retired referees are certified by the Pioneer Region Referees' Chair, in cooperation with the Region. Junior National and USA National referees are certified by the National Commissioner for evaluation and development upon the recommendation of that Committee.

Provisional Referee

1. Must attend a USAV referee clinic each year.
2. Attain a corrected score to 100% on the approved USA Volleyball on-line test for referees. (open book)
3. Successfully complete the scorers' examination on-line.
4. Demonstrate the ability to officiate by receiving favorable ratings as a 1st and 2nd referee in a practical evaluation. Rater must be the Referees' Chair or a designee of Regional or higher rating.

Upgrade from Provisional to Regional Referee

1. Must have been a Provisional Referee for at least one full season.
2. Must meet the requirements of a Regional Referee.

Regional Referee

1. Must attend a USAV clinic annually.
2. Attain a corrected score of 100% on the approved USA Volleyball on-line test for referees.
3. Successfully complete the scorers' examination on-line.
4. Obtain passing ratings by the Referees' Chair or his/her designee with a Jr. National or above rating as a 1st and 2nd referee.

Junior National Referee Candidate

1. Must have served as a Regional Referee for two years.
2. Obtain the approval of the Regional Referee Chair.
3. Obtain the approval of the Regional Scorer Chair.
4. File the official application fee. Contact the Referee Chair for assistance.
5. Must complete all requirements as outlined by USAV Officials Division.

Junior National and National Referee

See the USA Volleyball website for requirements.

Junior R2 Certification

THIS CATAGORY IS FOR JUNIOR PARTICIPANTS.

1. Must complete the online training Junior R2 clinic
2. Obtain a passing rating on officiating three Junior Level matches and have three USAV certified officials sign the certification sheet confirming the junior player has met the requirement.
3. Every 2 years must complete the certification requirements only needing one certification signature.

USA VOLLEYBALL SCORER

All scorer candidates must be current members in good standing of the Pioneer Region and USA Volleyball**.**

Regional Scorer Certification

1. Must complete the on-line scorer exam.
2. Must correctly keep score on one match, (as either the official or supplementary scorer).
3. A rater approved by the Scorer Chair must observe this match. This requirement must be met every other year.
4. Once requirements are met certification expires every other year at the end of the USAV season.

National Scorer Candidates

1. Must have the approval of Scorers' Chair after the observation of keeping score on a minimum of one match.
2. Contact the Scorer Chair regarding official application and application fees.
3. Must complete application by prescribed date and submit with application fees to USA Volleyball.
4. Must meet the Regional Scoring certification requirements.
5. Must have been a Regional Scorer in good standing for at least one full season.
6. Must meet all requirements set forth on the USA Volleyball website for National scorer candidates.

Junior Certified Scorer

THIS CATAGORY IS FOR JUNIOR PARTICIPANTS.

1. Must complete a Junior online or General Scoring Clinic.
2. Obtain a passing rating on scoring two Junior Level matches and have two USAV certified officials sign the certification sheet confirming the junior player has met the requirement. Certification good for 2 seasons.
3. Must obtain one certification official signature every 2 seasons to retain certification.

BY-LAWS (updated August 16, 2020)

ARTICLE I. NAME.

The name of the Corporation shall be **PIONEER REGION, INC.**

ARTICLE II. OFFICES.

The principle office of the Corporation within the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall be located at 1820 Taylor Ave., Louisville, Kentucky 40213. The Corporation may have such other offices, either within or outside the Commonwealth of Kentucky, as the Board of Directors may designate or as the business of the Corporation may require from time to time.

ARTICLE III. PURPOSE.

The purpose for which this Corporation is organized is to foster national and international amateur volleyball competition. In furtherance of this main purpose, the following sub-purposes are set forth:

(a) To teach the sport of volleyball to children and adults by holding clinics conducted by qualified instructors in schools, playgrounds, parks and other sports facilities;

(b) To provide practice volleyball sessions, classroom lectures, seminars, and panel discussions through which selected trainees may be schooled in competitive coaching, playing, officiating, and scouting techniques;

(c) To foster and conduct area, regional, state and national amateur volleyball competition;

(d) To act as the official representative of the United States Volleyball Association within an area designated as the Pioneer Region;

(e) To select and train suitable candidates in the techniques of volleyball in national and international competition and thereby improve the caliber of candidates representing the United States in Olympic, Pan American, and World Game competitions; and

(f) To foster and conduct amateur volleyball programs in the United States and foreign nations for the exchange and training of suitable candidates in the techniques and practices of volleyball in countries other than their own.

In order to carry out the purposes of this corporation, the corporation shall have the power to receive and hold money or other property, tangible or intangible, real or personal, for any of the purposes of the corporation, from whatever source derived. The corporation shall also have the power to borrow money and to mortgage or pledge real or personal property as security therefore, to use, borrow, or expend the funds and property of the corporation and do all things necessary to carry out the powers granted.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Membership on the Board of Directors shall be open to all persons who are interested in furthering the purposes of this corporation as expressed in Article III of these Bylaws. Any Pioneer Region member in good standing may be included on the docket for election to the Board of Directors by submitting his/her name to the Commissioner of the Pioneer Region on or before a date thirty (30) days prior to the elections of Board Members. Any Director may be removed from the Board by a two-thirds vote of the Directors present and voting at any special or annual meeting at which a quorum is present.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GENERAL STATEMENT. The Board of Directors, in furtherance of the specific and primary purpose of this nonprofit corporation as expressed in its Articles of Incorporation, may perform such acts as necessary to exercise the powers of this nonprofit corporation stated in its Articles of Incorporation, and generally may do or perform, or cause to be done or performed, any act which the corporation lawfully may do or perform in the furtherance of its purposes stated in its Articles of Incorporation.

POLICY GOVERNING THE EXERCISE OF POWERS BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. It shall be the policy of this corporation to budget and disburse each year sufficient funds to carry out its purposes as stated in its Articles of Incorporation. It also shall be the policy of this corporation that this corporation shall not engage in any of the following transactions:

(1) Lending any part of its income or principle without adequate security or at unreasonable rates of interest to contributors, to members of the families of contributors, or to corporations controlled by contributors or members of contributors' families.

(2) Making any part of this corporation's services available, on a preferential basis, to contributors, to members of the families of contributors, or to corporations controlled by contributors or members of contributors' families.

(3) Making any substantial purchase of securities or other property from contributors, members of families of contributors, or from corporations controlled by contributors or members of families of contributors for more than adequate consideration.

(4) Selling any substantial part of the property of this corporation to contributors', members of contributors' families, or corporations controlled by contributors or members of contributors' families for less than adequate consideration.

(5) Engaging in any transaction, which results in a substantial diversion of the income or corpus of this corporation to contributors, members of contributors' families, or corporations controlled by contributors' or members of contributors' families.

(6) The corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributors to which are deductible under Section 170(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

(7) This corporation is not organized nor shall it be operated for pecuniary gain or profit. No part of the net earnings of this nonprofit corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual. No substantial part of the activities of the nonprofit corporation shall consist of carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

SECTION 1. A Board of Directors composed of appointed and elected members shall manage the business, property and affairs of this corporation.

The appointed positions to the Board of Directors shall be Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, Referee Chair.

Elected positions shall be a minimum of One (1) member from each area of the region (at present Louisville, Lexington, Northern KY and Western KY), One (1) member to represent the adult population, and One (1) Junior at large representative.

SECTION 2. Elected directors shall be elected for three (3) year terms or until such time as their successors are duly elected or qualified. One third (1/3) of the Board of Directors shall be elected each year (group #1 Adult population representative and Louisville area representative, group #2 Western Kentucky Representative and Junior Representative, and Group #3 Lexington area Representative and Northern KY representative) in a time frame from August 1 – November 1 to be decided upon by the Board of Directors. There shall be no limit as to the number of terms that a Director may serve. All members elected shall assume office November 1 of that year.

SECTION 3. A vacancy on the Board because of death, resignation, disqualification, or otherwise, may be filled by a vote of the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term by a majority vote of a quorum. Members of the Board of Directors may be removed for cause by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4. The chairman of all standing or special committees shall be appointed by the Commissioner of the corporation from members of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. Regular or special meetings of the Board of Directors may be held upon giving at least three (3) days written or email notice at such times and at such places, as shall from time to time be determined by the Board of Directors or as may be determined by the Commissioner.

SECTION 6. Each Director shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The appointed Commissioner shall be a non-voting Director of the Corporation except in the case of a tie vote. A written (signed) Proxy may occur for elections but must be specific in stating for which **person** they are voting and for which position. Any director who feels they may have a conflict of interest shall recluse themselves from any vote.

SECTION 7. Directors (functioning as private contractors) may be compensated for their services, only with advance Board approval. Directors may be reimbursed for any reasonable expenses incurred in the

performance of their duties to this Corporation with approval of the Board. No person who now is, or later becomes, a director for this nonprofit corporation shall be personally liable to its creditors for any indebtedness or liability, and any and all creditors of this nonprofit corporation shall look only to the assets of this nonprofit corporation for payment.

SECTION 8. In the event of the dissolution of this nonprofit corporation, after its just debts and obligations have been paid or adequately provided for, its remaining assets will be distributed as the current Board of Directors see fit for the express purpose of regenerating interest in amateur volleyball competition, benefiting those persons in the present geographical boundaries of the Pioneer Region, provided the organization continues to be dedicated to the exempt purpose as specified in Internal Revenue Code 501(C)(3)**.**

SECTION 9. The Board of Directors is authorized to adopt an operating code by which the Pioneer Regional Volleyball Association, Inc. shall be governed with regard to more specific decisions and activities.

SECTION 10. Directors shall attend all regularly scheduled meetings and any special meetings, and any member who misses two consecutive meetings is subject to removal. Notice shall be given to the Commissioner when failing to attend any meeting.

SECTION 11. The USAV Operating Code for Regional Operations Division shall be constructed to be an integral part of these By-laws.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. This Corporation shall have as its officers a Commissioner, an Asst. - Commissioner, a Secretary/Registrar, and a Treasurer. In addition, the Corporation may have such other officers as are appointed by the Commissioner and approved by the Board of Directors. Officers shall be elected, at the first meeting of the Board of Directors after the general election, for a 0ne (1) year term of office. There shall be no limit as to the number of terms an Officer may serve.

SECTION 2. Any officer elected or appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors whenever in its judgment the best interests of the corporation would be served.

SECTION 3. A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise, may be filled by the Commissioner for the unexpired portion of the term. The Board of Directors at the first meeting following the appointment must approve all such appointments.

SECTION 4. The Commissioner shall be a director of the corporation. He shall be the principle officer of the corporation: and, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, shall in general supervise and control all the business and affairs of the corporation. He shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. He may sign, with the Assistant Commissioner or any other proper officer of the corporation thereunto authorized by the Board of Directors, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or any other instruments which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or by these By-laws to some other officer or agent of the corporation, or shall be required by law to otherwise signed or executed; and in general shall perform all duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

SECTION 5. The Assistant Commissioner shall be a director of the corporation and act as Secretary. In the absence of the Commissioner or in the event of the Commissioners' death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise inability or refusal to act, the Assistant Commissioner shall perform the duties of the Commissioner, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Commissioner. The Asst.-Commissioner shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Commissioner or the Board of Directors.

SECTION 6. The Secretary shall:

(a) Keep minutes of the Directors meetings in one or more books provided for that purpose;

(b) See that all notices are given as provided for in these By-laws or as required by law;

(c) Be custodian of the corporate records and perform registration duties of the region; and,

(d) In general perform all duties incident to the office of secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Commissioner of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 7. The Treasurer shall:

(a) Have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the corporation, receive, and give receipts for moneys due and payable to the corporation from any source whatsoever, and deposit all such moneys in the name of the corporation in such bank, trust, companies or other depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of these By-laws; and

(b) In general perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasure and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Commissioner of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII. ASSETS

SECTION 1. All bank checks drawn against the corporation's checking account shall be signed by the Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner or Treasurer or by such other person or persons as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine.

SECTION 2. Deeds, mortgages, leases and contracts may be signed by both the Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner and Treasurer or by such other person or persons as the Board of Directors may authorize when necessary.

SECTION 3. No loans may be contracted on behalf of the corporation and no evidence of indebtedness shall be issued in its name unless authorized by a resolution adopted by a majority of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4. All funds of the corporation not otherwise employed shall be deposited as received in the corporation's checking account or in a savings account with such bank or banks or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select. At the conclusion of each fiscal year a complete Financial Report of the Region shall be published in its entirety and provided to all Board members. Any member of the Pioneer Regional Volleyball Association shall be allowed to view this financial report at the Region's main office.

ARTICLE VIII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of this corporation, which shall consist of the elected officers of the corporation.

SECTION 2. The Executive Committee shall have and exercise such control of the affairs and business of the corporation as may be directed to it from time to time by the Board of Directors, except such matters which by these By-laws or by the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky must be reserved by the Board of Directors or the membership of the Corporation, or both.

ARTICLE IX. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of this corporation shall begin on January 1, and shall end on December 31.

ARTICLE X. MEETINGS

Annual meetings of this corporation shall be held yearly. A meeting shall be held in August (exact date to be determined each year) to discuss the past and upcoming season and such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting. In addition, the Board of Directors shall have the power to call for a special meeting to discuss matters of importance, which cannot wait for the Annual meeting.

ARTICLE XI. SEAL

A corporate seal is not required for this corporation.

ARTICLE XII. WAIVER OF NOTICE

Whenever any notice is required to be given to any member or Director of this corporation under the provisions of these By-laws or under the Article of Incorporation, a waiver thereof in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, or by telegram sent by them, weather before or after the holding of the meeting, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

ARTICLE XIII. QUORUM

One half of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE XIV. COMMITTEES

The Commissioner, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall have the authority to appoint committees as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE XV. AMENDMENTS

These By-laws may be amended, altered or repealed and new By-laws adopted by a two-thirds vote of Board of Directors present at any regular or special meeting; provided however, notice of the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Commissioner and Secretary in writing at least ten (10) days prior to said meeting.

ARTICLE XVI. RULES OF PROCEDURE

In all cases, not otherwise provided for by these By-laws, this Corporation shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE XVII. DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED

Pioneer Regional Volleyball Association shall not, nor shall anyone acting on behalf of the Association, discriminate against any person or group of persons on the basis of age, race, creed, or nationality.

Update 8/16/2020

PIONEER REGION
Due Process Procedure

Some actions or alleged actions by individuals or teams result in automatic sanctions in accordance with the USAV Bylaws or Pioneer Region Handbook (e.g., failure to fulfill officiating responsibilities, use of alcohol or controlled substances at a tournament, failure to appear at an event for which a team is pre-registered, etc.). The appropriate officer of the Region Board (e.g., the Referees Chairman may prohibited an official from officiating if he/she has not met requirements.), or the Commissioner, after considering the evidence of wrongdoing, may administer such automatic sanction. If there is no clearly appropriate Board officer, the Commissioner shall administer the automatic sanction.

The Commissioner, after considering the evidence, shall have authority to impose sanctions for routine wrongdoing by Region members not otherwise provided for by the Region Handbook (e.g., minor damage to facilities or equipment).

The first level of appeal from sanctions for routine matters shall be the Commissioner, who may request that such appeal be in writing. The Commissioner may either rule on the appeal or delegate the appeal to the Review Board (see below) for formal consideration. If the Commissioner rules on the appeal and the relevant person or team wish to appeal further, such appeal shall be to the Review Board.

Review Board - A Review Board consisting of three Pioneer Region Board members shall have responsibility for action on alleged wrongdoing of a serious nature by Region members or for appeals from sanctions for wrongdoing otherwise deemed routine. The Commissioner shall chair the Review Board, unless felt there is a conflict of interest, and shall be a voting member unless he/she ruled on the first level of appeal from a sanction for routine matter; in the later case, the Assistant Commissioner shall be the administrative chair of the Review Board. One member of the Review Board shall be a Region Board member selected by the accused individual or team representative. The other member of the Review Board shall be such Board member as is most appropriate to the situation. If more than one Region Board member is unwilling or unable to serve if selected under any of the above described methods, the Commissioner and accused may agree on a method for selecting a Review Board member from among the Region's general membership.

For matters to be considered by the Review Board, notice shall be provided to the accused in writing as soon as reasonably possible. Oral notice may precede written notice for expediency. Written notice; shall include a copy of these due process procedures and shall describe the alleged wrongdoing, the range of possible sanctions, and shall suggest a date, location, and method (in person or by telephone conference if acceptable to accused) for the hearing. The date and location shall be established as much as reasonably possible to accommodate the accused. If the accused does not cooperate in establishing such date and location, the Review Board shall schedule the hearing at its convenience and the accused shall be so advised in writing.

The exact format of the hearing may vary as arranged with the accused, but it generally shall include an initial statement summarizing the allegations, presentation of evidence of the alleged wrongdoing, and presentation of evidence of innocence or of mitigating circumstances.

After the hearing concludes, all interested parties shall be dismissed and the Review Board shall consider and discuss the evidence. As soon as possible after the hearing (but not necessarily the same day), the Review Board shall reach a decision, which it shall formalize in writing delivered to the accused. A decision of a majority of the Review Board members shall control and any dissent shall be noted in the written decision.

Final Appeal - Appeals from decisions of the Review Board shall be to the entire Region Board. An appeal hearing to the Region Board shall follow the same format as described above for the Review Board. The administrative chairman of an appeal hearing shall be such Board member as is selected by mutual agreement of the accused and Commissioner. If no agreement can be reached, the administrative chairman shall be such Region Board member as is selected by blind lottery. An accused must provide written notice to the Commissioner of an intention to appeal a Review Board decision within sixty days after such decision has

been mailed by certified or registered mail or delivered by hand delivery to the accused. Otherwise, the accused shall not be entitled to an appeal.

An appeal hearing shall occur within thirty days after notice of intent to appeal has been mailed unless the appellant and Commissioner agree otherwise. Any decision and sanction of the Review Board shall remain in effect until the appeal hearing. For the appeal hearing to be effective, it shall be necessary that a quorum of Region Board members be physically present, proxy votes will not be permitted.

Hearings may be conducted by virtual meeting.

Miscellaneous - The Region Board is not a court of law but, rather, a non-profit, private group of volleyball players, coaches, and organizers duly elected to administer volleyball within the Region. It is the duty of the Region Board to strive to obtain just and fair results when a Region member is accused of wrongdoing relevant to volleyball within the Region. As a private body, the Region Board does not follow the Federal Rules of Evidence but shall accord weight to evidence based on its substance and on common sense.

Note that the Review and Region Boards have the authority to suspend membership privileges for more than one year.

For serious matters, unless the safety of Region members is at risk, physical or other substantial injury has resulted, or the accused was clearly caught in the act of a serious wrongdoing relevant to volleyball, no penalty, sanction, or fine shall be imposed against the accused without a hearing by the Review Board. In the instances cited, however, a temporary sanction may be imposed by the Commissioner after careful consideration of the evidence and situation; any such action shall be stated in writing delivered to the accused.

The United States Volleyball Association now provides that the only appeal from a decision of the Region Board shall be to the United States Volleyball Association National Ethics and Eligibility Committee and only for a determination of whether the accused received due process.

If an individual moves into the Region, or a team attempts to register in the Region, subject to the sanctions of another Region, which has a procedure for appealing from sanctions, the Pioneer Region shall respect and observe the other Region's sanction for the balance of its term (regardless of whether the individual or team exercised such appeal process).

NOTE: Major misbehavior (e.g. verbal or physical abuse of a child, sexual harassment, etc.) may subject the violator to immediate lifetime ineligibility for USAV registration or Pioneer Region membership.

**** Appeals may be made in accordance with procedures set forth in the bylaws and operating code of USA Volleyball**

Update Aug. 2020