

Motion 1. – To more clearly define whom (club or individual) is requesting a sanctioned tournament and to further define the role of Tournament Director and Site Director.

IV. REGION TOURNAMENTS

2. SANCTIONING PROCESS: Sanctioned tournaments shall be requested by any club registered with the NTR. The request should come from the club director. The club director is ultimately responsible for any financial obligations and rule compliance. Any penalties associated with a sanctioned event shall be issued to the club director. Only a club director in good standing and currently having teams participating in the NTR shall be eligible to host sanctioned tournaments.

~~Tournament Directors~~ The club director must submit an “Application for Sanction” form to the Region by the 3rd Tuesday of August. All applications will be accepted provided that the hosting club meets all region requirements to run a tournament and is not under any penalty for other rules violations such that the number of tournaments they are allowed to run is limited. Tournaments without officials are not subject to the Sanction Application deadline.

Each tournament shall designate a Tournament Director (TD). The TD is an employee/contractor of the club who is responsible for the scheduling and running of the event. This may be multiple people, but ultimately one person shall have the designation.

VI. GUIDELINES FOR HOSTING SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

B. TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

4. ~~Tournament directors must be registered members of the North Texas Region and be affiliated with a Region club from the previous and current year to be able to host a sanctioned tournament.~~

G. SITE DIRECTORS: There must be a ~~Tournament Director~~ or Site Director at each site who is responsible for conducting the tournament in accordance with USAV/NTR policies. They must be registered USAV members and who have cleared the background screen and are certified NTR Site Directors. A list of Certified Site Directors can be found on the NTR website. A TD may also be a Site Director.

This motion attempts to modify the wording in the handbook to more accurately define the role of the Club, the Tournament Director, and the Site Directors in running a tournament. This will help administration when dealing with lines of communication and also in possible sanctions. Previously it was vague as to whether or not a club or a tournament director associated with a club was requesting sanctioned events.

Motion 2. – To initiate a process in which TD’s and SD’s must be certified by the region to be a TD or SD.

IV. REGION TOURNAMENTS

2. SANCTIONING PROCESS: ...

(To be added at the end of 2.)

Any TD for any event in the NTR must be a certified TD according to the NTR. A list of certified TD can be found on the region website.

VI. GUIDELINES FOR HOSTING SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

B. TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

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This motion provides language that allows the region to create a certification process for TD’s and SD’s.

Motion 3. – To add a Regional Qualifying Bid Tournament to the schedule.

IV. REGION TOURNAMENTS

(Motion 1)

4. REGIONAL QUALIFYING “BID” TOURNAMENTS: The NTR will sanction ~~three~~ **four** tournaments per year to be designated as Regional Bid Tournaments. Any club may apply to run a Region Bid Tournament.

This motion would add a fourth Regional Qualifying Bid Tournament to the schedule.

Motion 4. – To provide a criteria that can be used to help in awarding tournaments that are bid upon by multiple clubs.

IV. REGION TOURNAMENTS

4. REGIONAL QUALIFYING “BID” TOURNAMENTS:...

(To be added at the end of this section)

The criteria used to determine who is awarded these tournaments is ultimately subjective. The knowledge of the selection committee is likely better than raw data. However, there are significant objective factors that should be considered.

The two most significant considerations for awarding the Bid Tournaments should be as follows:

- History of quality – Has the club making the bid demonstrated a willingness to work with the region and with other clubs to make events of quality that best serve the region clientele? Does the club have a history of bad behavior, rules violations, or poor reputation within the community? Is the club successful at running events?
- History of TD – Does the Tournament Director have a history of running quality events in the region? Does the TD have a history of tournament infractions or have they demonstrated a lack of willingness to follow regional guidelines and policies? Has the TD demonstrated the ability to adjust tournaments in the moment when issues arise and maintain the integrity of the event?

At the end of the day, these two factors should be primary and secondary in awarding the event.

Other factors, whose total impact should not outweigh even one of the above criteria, but may be considered in the case of applicants being absolutely equal, are as follows:

- Ability to secure necessary resources – A club and its TD should be able to demonstrate the ability to secure proper facilities and should have the confidence of the referees and other vendors necessary to complete a quality event. A bid should not go to a club or TD who the referees do not feel comfortable working for, or a club or TD that cannot secure facilities appropriate to the event.
- Cost of Service – All things being equal, a consideration of price should be considered. Cost of the event and willingness to overpay vendors is not in and of itself a paramount concern. Provided the cost bid is within suggested regional parameters, the quality of the event and an understanding of tournaments in this region should take precedent. However, a club willing to do the same quality work for less cost to the consumer and/or more pay to the vendors should be given priority.
- The Extra Mile – While hospitality rooms and extravagant awards are not necessary for a quality event, the club that is willing to go the extra mile in presentation and production should be rewarded, all other things being equal.

This motion provides language that can be used as a guideline in helping award winners of bids on tournaments and events within the region. While the group making the decision will ultimately decide for themselves, it is suggested that these criteria be used in aiding that decision.

Motion 5. – To award tournaments allocated during the bid process on a three/four year cycle.

IV. REGION TOURNAMENTS

4. REGIONAL QUALIFYING “BID” TOURNAMENTS:...

(To be added at the end of this section)

The awarding of a Bid Tournament will be on a three year cycle. Each year one event will be up for the bid process. Each subsequent year another event will be up for bid, until all three have been bid upon, then the process will repeat. No club may be awarded more than one “Bid” Tournament in any one season.

This motion will keep clubs from having to repeat the bid process on a yearly basis and will allow for clubs to plan for these important events years in advance. Not allowing multiple clubs to bid will keep any one club from dominating the tournament landscape and denies the rightful and logical argument that if there is indeed one best TD or Club Host, then that TD and/or Club Host should win every bid. This motion does not prevent the same TD from being TD for multiple events.

Language should be included that allows for contract to be terminated mid cycle if there are egregious offenses that violate the region rules or policies.

Motion 6. – To incentivize the club divisions of Regional Qualifying Bid Tournaments in the hopes of reducing field sizes.

IV. REGION TOURNAMENTS

6. REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: The Regional Championships will be hosted by the NTR at the end of the season. The Tournament Director will be the Executive Director, or a person appointed by the Executive Director. No other junior tournament shall be allocated officials on the weekends of the Regional Championships.

(Motion 1)

i. Junior Regional Championship: All teams that wish to enter the Junior Regional Championship will be accepted provided enough gym space is available to accommodate the teams. No team playing in the Junior Regional Championship will be allowed to play in the Junior Regional Bid Championship, unless they finish in the top 4 of the Regional Championship. These teams will be allowed to play in the Junior Regional Bid Championships at no additional charge and regardless of eligibility outlined in section ii below.

ii. Junior Regional Bid Championship: In order to be eligible for the Region Bid Championship, a team must have played in at least two (2) Regional Bid Tournament events in club or open. A team gets credit for playing in two events if they play in club for one and open for the other, or they can play the same division in all events.

In addition, they ~~and~~ must have finished in the Gold Bracket (first or second place on Saturday) of an Open Division in at least one of those events, or must have placed in the top four (4) of the Club Division in at least one of those events.

This motion will encourage some teams to play in the club division of Qualifying Bid events. Because they can still qualify for regionals, they may choose club over open. If so, the open divisions will get smaller making them more manageable and the competition will be less one sided on the first day.

Motion 7. – To eliminate the ability to play in the Regional Bid Tournament if one already has a Bid to the USAV GJNC.

IV. REGION TOURNAMENTS

6. REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

All teams must also meet entry requirements for the USA Volleyball Junior National Championship. Teams that qualify for the Junior National Championship previously at National Qualifiers cannot participate in the Junior Regional Bid Championship, ~~unless that team has an opportunity to improve their bid according to the USAV level of divisions and their previous bid would stay in the region should they improve upon it.~~

Previously, there was an age division (13's) where one was unable to reach the highest level of National competition without playing at regionals. Because of this, a provision was put in that allowed teams to play for a bid in our region if they could better their bid AND the bid the forfeited stayed in the region. Since this is no longer the case (because the qualifiers have added 13 Open) the provision is no longer necessary.

Additionally, it is a source of contentment that teams who already have their bid are preventing regional piers from reaching this goal without risking anything.

Motion 8. – To broaden the responsibility of the Host Club and TD when it comes to full disclosure about the details of their event.

VI. GUIDELINES FOR HOSTING SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

B. TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES: The Tournament Director must conduct the tournament in accordance with USAV/NTR guidelines and the following policies:

1. Only registered USAV members may participate in the tournament.
2. Only facilities sanctioned by the region for competition may be used for the event. A list of sanctioned facilities and details concerning them can be found on the NTR website.

E. PRE-TOURNAMENT ~~SCHEDULE~~ DISCLOSURE: There are several pieces of information that must be disclosed by a TD by posting to a website or using the region registration system.

This motion makes it clearer that the TD is responsible for disclosing more than the schedule. The location of events, the circumstances of the tournament, its format, and other items should be included in their information where possible.

Motion 9. – To eliminate the sanctioning of tryouts and the restrictions on the tryout window by age group.

III. TRYOUTS

...(Strike this entire section of the hand book and replace it with the following)

III. ACCEPTING A CLUB OFFER

On October 1st of each year, all previous year's club affiliations are reset by USAV. On October 1st, any member of USAV who is registered with the NTR may choose to join a club by going into the USAV registration system (WebPoint) and selecting that club. The player should then go into WebPoint and select their club. Once the club assigns that player to a team, the NTR will consider that player to be affiliated with that club for that season.

Regardless of any money that changes hands or any dealings that may have occurred between the player or player's family and the club or any representative of that club, no releases or transfers will be granted without the expressed written consent of behalf of the player and the club.

Clubs may host any number of events prior to October 1st. If an offer is discussed at one of these clinics, then please know that nothing is binding from either party until October 1st. These offers are considered verbal offers and are not, by the NTR, considered binding.

This motion allows clubs and players to commit to one another and to have that commitment acknowledged by the NTR on the first day after the previous 13 year commitment acknowledged by USAV. The rationale about removing tryouts is partly based on the inability to police a system that doesn't need policing and falls outside the jurisdiction of the NTR. It is no business of the region what business the clubs have with their clients. In addition, the rules that were put into place were frivolous, unenforceable, and only led to accusation and animosity between clubs.

This motion is also intended to reflect what is already happening in practice within the region. It is the case that the majority of girls know what team they will be on before the current system's tryouts. There is no need to make the athlete and the club wait to acknowledge this.

This system will take the responsibility and workload of policing unnecessary policy off of the region staff's shoulders and has the added benefit of freeing up the membership to commit at an earlier and more rational date.

Motion 10. – To provide guidelines for Tournament Directors on how to deal with dangerous weather.

VI. GUIDELINES FOR HOSTING SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

- J. From time to time, bad weather will interfere with the running of an event in the NTR. When such cases occur, it is recommended that the TD contact the region and follow these guidelines.

These are the only conditions that shall be considered grounds for cancellation of events or matches and grounds for refusal to participate on the part of vendors and teams: Severe Thunderstorms, Ice Storms, Flash Flooding, or Tornado Watches/Warnings, predicted Icy Conditions. If one of these situations arises in the county of an event location, it is at the discretion of the TD what course of action to take. It is not necessary to have a universal policy; each facility should be considered individually for the purposed of making a decision. However, the decision at a particular facility should be consistently applied to all matches, pools, and brackets. For example, a match may be cancelled at Regionals at one site, and the tournament may continue at a different site. But if one match is cancelled at Regionals at the Region Facility, then all subsequent matches are to be cancelled at the Region Facility for that day.

In the case of a predictive condition, a tournament may move the start time of a tournament back provided that it could still run its course and finish before the curfew. In these situations, an email is to be sent out to the participating clubs no later than 12 hours prior to the original start time.

In the case of weather that arises after the tournament has started or weather that is predicted after the event has started, several factors must be taken into account. If it is deemed by the TD that it is unsafe to continue, then it is permissible to cancel any number of matches. If pool play is cancelled before the fourth match of pool play is completed in all pools, then it is recommended that the tournament be cancelled. If the fourth match of pool play has been completed in all pools, then pool play may continue on the next day followed by a truncated single elimination bracket. If any part of bracket play is cancelled, then the tournament will be considered finished and all teams in each tier shall be considered tied for the place represented by the last fully completed tier of the bracket.

A partial refund shall be given to all teams based on the number of matches short of the guaranteed match total that team missed. The refunded amount shall be \$15 a match. The only exception to this is teams who submitted in writing that they were not attending the tournament due to weather even though the tournament had not been cancelled. These teams shall receive no refund, but should not be subjected to penalties. Referees whose match total was reduced due to a cancellation of matches shall be paid for the matches that they did work and shall be awarded a \$5 a match stipend for the number of matches they would have worked based on the schedule created by the head referee/site director. Referees who chose not to attend an event that was not cancelled are not owed this stipend. Facilities and host clubs should negotiate among themselves what is a fair payout for partial usage due to weather.

Announcement of any cancellations should be submitted in writing to the club director's email of each affected club in a timely manner.