

# Beacon begins Volume 3

Today's edition of the Badger Beacon marks the start of year three of the newsletter which hits your digital newsstand every other Thursday.

Over the course of the previous 52 issues of the Beacon, we have seen photographs of girls and boys teams at Badger Region tournaments, read some great stories about standout coaches, parents, athletes and officials, and stayed up to date with all the guidelines from Badger Region/USA Volleyball right here at your finger tips.

We're looking forward to the start of the 2016-17 club season, which begins Oct. 1 with the G14-and-under tryouts, and hope you are, too. Registration has already begun and our website has been filled with all kinds of information and forms for the coming year.

As we turn the calendar to fall and the temperature begins to go down, we want you to consider sharing your photos and stories with us for use on our Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram and website. Just email what you got to [brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org).

And if you have any story ideas or topics you want to see addressed, let us know. We'll also be allowing one board member each issue share their vision of the Region and conversations they have with you (their constituents) in column or story (for this week's story, see Page 3).

Thank you for supporting Badger Region and USA Volleyball.

Brian Sharkey  
Program Director

# THE BADGER BEACON

## Region names Meritorious winners

This year, the Badger Region Volleyball Association will honor five individuals with the Robert L. Lindsay Meritorious Service Award.

The award is named in honor of Robert L. Lindsay, the eighth president of the USVBA (1980-1984), a "Frier" award winner, a Legend In Volleyball Award recipient and long-time Referee-Emeritus, who was instrumental in the success of the National Team-In-Residence Program.



Lori Napierala

Winners this year include:

- \* Lori Napierala (Wisconsin Center District)
- \* Brian Schaefer (University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh)
- \* Deb Schulman (University of Wisconsin-Platteville)
- \* Jim Arts (Official)
- \* Rod Wilde (Player, coach, official)

### Lori Napierala, Wisconsin Center

Lori has been the Badger Region event contact at the Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee for the last couple of years for the Region Championships.

She goes above and beyond in her service to the staff and the event to ensure the Region can put on the best possible event for our membership and provide the best experience possible.

Lori always has a smile for every fan, player and coach, and her sense of humor makes long days in the Wisconsin Center so much better.



Brian Schaefer

### Brian Schaefer, UW-Oshkosh

Brian has done so much for putting Midwest volleyball on the map for both boys and girls.

Besides being the head women's NCAA coach and the men's club coach, the many hats he wears include:

- \* Being a tournament director for events run at UW-Oshkosh
- \* Coordinator of training for new, often young officials in the Fox Valley area, many of which are students at UW-Oshkosh.

- \* He also helps grow the game running the first boys

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## '15-'16 NFHS numbers show volleyball continues to grow

491,726.

That is the total number of boys and girls who played high school volleyball nationwide during the 2015-16 school year.

The amount is an increase of 5,132 athletes (1.1 percent) from the previous school year.

On the boys side, the number of programs nationwide increased from 2,287 schools and 54,418 players to

2,333 schools and 55,417 athletes.

On the girls side, the number of programs went from 15,534 schools and 432,176 athletes to 15,755 schools and 436,309 athletes.

In Wisconsin, there were 53 schools participating in boys volleyball representing 1,683 athletes. There were also 472 schools with girls volleyball and 15,141 athletes.

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**BADGER**  
REGION VOLLEYBALL

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# How is the Badger Region Board structured?

The Badger Region Volleyball Association is governed by a Board of Directors that must be elected by members on a regular basis. Area reps serve three-year terms, while members of the executive board(\*) serve four-year terms.

Members, whether they are players, coaches, parents, directors, athletic trainers or officials, are encouraged to communicate with their respective representative if they

think policies or financial decisions in the Region need to be changed.

Some policies enforced by Badger Region come from USA Volleyball, our sport's national governing body, so those can't be changed. But many others can.

The Board is advised by a 11 chairpersons (or experts) in various parts of the game, and five staff members (some of which have multiple responsibilities).

The state is divided into five parts geographically for representation. Plus, there are two at-large board members who you can approach if you don't feel comfortable with your current rep. And there is a rep dedicated just to issues that surround our Junior volleyball clubs and athletes.

You'll be hearing from each Board member twice a year in the form of a column in the Badger Beacon. Now, let's meet them:

**Julie Voeck\***  
(Commissioner/President)  
Elected in 2016  
Email: jvoeck@attglobal.net

**Jim Momsen\***  
(Associate Commissioner/VP)  
Elected in 2015  
Email: jkmomsen@yahoo.com

**Anne Slattery\***  
(Treasurer)  
Elected in 2014  
Email: arslatts@gmail.com

**BJ Bryant\***  
(Secretary)  
Elected in 2013  
Email: wivbacademy@gmail.com

**Kim Wudi**  
(Northwest Rep)  
Elected in 2016  
Email: wudikm@uwec.edu

**BJ LeRoy**  
(Northwest Rep)  
Elected in 2016  
Email: 4bjleroy@gmail.com

**Paul Schlomer**  
(Southwest Rep)  
Elected in 2016  
Email: pschlomer@edgewood.edu

**Holly Vogelsang**  
(Southeast Rep)  
Elected in 2016  
Email: hvogelsang15@gmail.com

**Pati Rolf**  
(Metro Milwaukee Rep)  
Elected in 2014  
Email: pati.rolf@gmail.com

**Scott Blackmon**  
(At-Large Rep)  
Elected in 2014  
Email: scottblackmon@gmail.com

**Kelly Lehman**  
(At-Large Rep)  
Elected in 2015  
Email: kellylehman@wi.rr.com

**Heather Curley**  
(Junior Rep)  
Elected in 2016  
Email: revolutionwi@yahoo.com

**Angie Lubach**  
(Independent Rep)  
Appointed in 2015  
Email: Angela.lubach@yahoo.com

Individual chairs and advisors who offer input to the Board of Directors but don't have authority to vote at meetings:

**Financial Chair:** Anne Slattery  
**Junior Girls Chair:** Ruth Leitzke  
**Junior Boys Chair:** Jake Nowak  
**Referee Chair:** Jim Momsen  
**Score Chair:** Nancy Paulson  
**Adult Chair:** BJ LeRoy

**Boys HP Chair:** Brian Sharkey  
**Girls HP Chair:** Paul Schlomer  
**Beach Chair:** Bill Petersen  
**Officials Assigner:** Larry Schoenick  
**Officials Rating/Training:** Julie Voeck

**REGION STAFF**  
**Director of Operations:** Jennifer Armson-Dyer  
**Program Director:** Brian Sharkey  
**Operations Manager:** Ryan Thompson  
**Tournament Director:** Terry Paulson  
**Program Specialist:** Sara Voigt

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league at UW-Oshkosh this fall.

\* He is also an advisory board member of the Wisconsin Volleyball Conference.

## Deb Schulman, UW-Platteville



Deb Schulman

Deb retired from UW-Platteville in May of 2016 after 28 seasons at the helm of the Pioneers' program.

She led 19 of her 28 teams to at least 20 wins per season and ended her career with a 641-380 record. She is second in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in wins on the all-time coaching records list and ranks

among the top 25 nationally in both career wins and winning percentage.

She led six Pioneer teams to the NCAA Division III postseason tournament, including two with Sweet Sixteen finishes.

## Jim Arts, official

Jim has risen through the ranks of Badger Region officiating rather quickly. He received his Regional certification two years ago and received his Junior National patch this summer.

Jim was active throughout the year as an official in all of the major tournaments. He worked the gold finals in both weekends of the Badger Region Championships, a championship match at the Dale Rohde event and the women's final at the Badger Region Adult Championships.

Jim has also been instrumental in the Badger Region Mentoring Program as one of our strongest and most active trainers.

## Rod Wilde, official/player/coach

Rod has been a part of, and a positive influence on, volleyball since the mid-1970s, as a player, coach and now a professional referee.

Rod was one of the top setters in all of men's college volleyball, winning an NCAA National Championship at Pepperdine in 1978. Rod also played with the U.S. National Team from 1982-

84. He was slated to play in the 1984 Olympics, but broke his leg 6 weeks prior to the games.

Rod began his coaching career in 1980 at Arizona, continued at Drake University in 1984, and temporarily replaced Marv Dunphy at Pepperdine in 1986, leading the team to a National Championship while Dunphy coached the U.S. National Team. When Dunphy returned, Wilde head coached at UC-San



Rod Wilde

Diego for three years, was an assistant coach with the U.S. Men's National Team, and became an assistant coach at the University of Wisconsin from 2001-2007 taking the Badgers to the NCAA Tournament all seven seasons.

Rod is now a Badger Region/USAV Regional Referee. He helps referees of all skill levels by sharing his playing and coaching insights to help them better understand the game of volleyball. Rod contributes at tournaments whenever and wherever help is needed. He is truly an exceptional asset to Badger Region and USA Volleyball.

# Bryant talks HP, club directing, family

*The Badger Beacon is asking each board member to submit an article for publication twice per year to let members know what they see as best practices for the organization. This week's column is from Secretary/HP Coach/IMPACT clinician B.J. Bryant. Look for past articles on the Badger Region website.*

B.J. Bryant has served on the Badger Region Board of Directors for eight years and as a member of the executive committee since 2013. As a player, coach, administrator and member of the board B.J. has been involved in the sport of volleyball from a very early age.

**Q: How did you get involved in volleyball?**

When I was in fourth grade, I got to be the waterboy for the UWM women's team. My aunt was a student assistant after an accomplished four-year career there. I really enjoyed the sport and the way the team worked together. From there I was hooked.

**Q: You are, effectively, involved in the sport of volleyball full time. Is that something you saw yourself doing early on?**

Certainly not. I got in to coaching after my playing days in the Wisconsin Volleyball Conference came to an end as a way to stay involved. Becoming a club director, getting involved with the region HP program, and collegiate coaching were never on my radar. Now, it's something that I can't imagine my life without. I am very fortunate that my wife has

a terrific job and supports me in my involvement with volleyball. Without her I wouldn't be able to do anywhere near what I am, currently.

**Q: How does being a junior club director impact your experience with the BOD?**

I really feel that it helps me to be a member of the board that is very



B.J. Bryant

focused on the needs and issues facing clubs and our youth membership. Junior members in Wisconsin are the cornerstone of our region. I believe that, as a board, we need to do as much as we can to make sure that policies and guidelines are in place to help make kids' and families' experiences in club volleyball extremely positive. Proposals which we vote on can be controversial and complex. I work to make sure that I take into account the impact decisions may have on club directors in the region as well as how it may impact the junior members.

**Q: What is your favorite Region event or program?**

I am a HUGE fan of the region High Performance program. As a coach over the last eight years with the teams I have had the pleasure of working with some of the regions top talents. I have developed terrific relationships with other coaches from around the state and have been honored to represent Badger on a national level. The HP camp is, by far, my favorite of the summer and something I look forward to each year.

**Q: What is an aspect of the BOD that you feel the region membership could benefit from knowing.**

Our board meetings are open to any and all people. Oftentimes we may be discussing topics or issues that are very important to how our clubs operate during the club year and the offseason. I believe that people have a tendency to assume that their specific thoughts and needs are not being addressed properly. Attend a meeting. See how the process works. Provide feedback to your representative or a member of the executive committee. I think that it's important to make sure that you are communicating on a regular basis with the board member who has been elected to vote on your behalf.

## Sept. 18 date for club open house in Waukesha

Looking for information about the various club volleyball offerings in Southeast Wisconsin?

Then plan to attend the annual Center Court Open House from noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18. Center Court is located at 815 Northview Road in Waukesha.

Clubs from around the area will have tables set up in the banquet hall of the facility with staff on hand to answer questions about their various offerings.

In addition, the Badger Region Volleyball Association will be present to answer any and all questions pertaining to USA Volleyball memberships.

Questions? Contact Tom Jurczyk at tom@centercourtwis.com.



## Number of girls nationally who participate in the following sports:

Sport	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2008-09	8-year %
1. Track and Field – Outdoor	485,969	478,726	478,885	472,939	457,732	+6.17%
<b>2. Volleyball</b>	<b>436,309</b>	<b>432,176</b>	<b>429,634</b>	<b>420,208</b>	<b>404,243</b>	<b>+7.93%</b>
3. Basketball	429,380	429,504	433,344	433,120	444,809	-3.47%
4. Soccer	381,529	375,681	374,564	371,532	344,534	+10.74%
5. Softball – Fast Pitch	366,685	364,103	364,297	362,488	368,921	-0.61%
6. Cross Country	222,516	221,616	218,121	214,369	198,199	+11.87%
7. Tennis	183,800	182,876	184,080	181,116	177,593	+3.50%
8. Swimming and Diving	166,747	166,838	165,779	163,992	158,878	+4.95%
9. Competitive Spirit Squads	125,531	125,763	120,593	116,508	117,793	+6.57%
10. Lacrosse	88,050	84,785	81,969	77,258	69,223	+27.2%



## Number of high schools nationally that offer the following girls sports:

Sport	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2008-09	8-year %
1. Basketball	17,890	17,653	17,754	17,493	17,582	+1.75%
2. Track and Field – Outdoor	16,508	16,309	16,217	15,962	15,864	+4.06%
<b>3. Volleyball</b>	<b>15,755</b>	<b>15,534</b>	<b>15,672</b>	<b>15,565</b>	<b>15,069</b>	<b>+4.55%</b>
4. Softball – Fast Pitch	15,304	15,115	15,225	15,067	15,172	+0.87%
5. Cross Country	14,698	14,287	14,267	13,918	13,457	+6.17%
6. Soccer	11,676	11,502	11,354	11,351	10,548	+9.22%
7. Tennis	10,122	10,099	10,117	10,005	9,693	+4.42%
8. Golf	10,046	9,824	9,815	9,568	9,344	+7.5%
9. Swimming and Diving	7,559	7,526	7,429	7,249	6,902	+9.52%
10. Competitive Spirit Squads	5,432	5,358	4,919	4,847	4,748	+14.4%



## Wisconsin female participation in the following sports:

Sport	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	8-year %
<b>Volleyball</b>	<b>15,046</b>	<b>15,141</b>	<b>15,191</b>	<b>15,481</b>	<b>15,328</b>	<b>15,751</b>	<b>15,746</b>	<b>15,899</b>	<b>-5.36%</b>
Track and Field	11,371	11,848	12,426	11,759	12,387	11,624	11,781	11,209	+1.4%
Basketball	10,955	11,276	11,206	11,638	11,549	12,263	12,479	12,482	-12.2%
Softball	9,831	10,013	10,272	10,949	11,187	11,040	11,340	11,038	-10.9%
Soccer	9,070	8,983	9,137	9,243	9,364	8,938	9,487	9,613	-5.65%
Cross Country	6,340	6,335	6,490	6,323	5,715	6,141	5,837	5,813	+9.1%
Tennis	5,676	5,461	5,682	5,817	5,939	6,113	6,054	5,967	-4.9%
Swim & Dive	3,606	3,804	3,942	4,314	3,743	3,725	3,772	3,824	-5.7%
Golf	1,878	1,837	1,835	1,813	1,686	1,647	1,627	1,641	+14.4%
Gymnastics	1,296	1,192	1,251	1,340	1,267	1,594	1,452	1,421	-8.8%

## Wisconsin male participation in the following sports:

Sport	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	8-year %
Baseball	12,736	12,766	13,161	12,430	12,062	13,701	13,766	13,445	-5.27%
Basketball	14,448	14,362	14,606	15,228	14,483	16,643	16,956	15,798	-8.55%
Cross Country	6,959	6,983	7,061	7,338	6,228	6,634	6,287	6,249	+11.4%
Football	26,502	26,258	26,680	27,840	28,426	28,495	29,442	30,823	-14.0%
Golf	5,441	5,686	6,105	6,196	6,933	6,317	6,659	6,380	-14.7%
Ice Hockey	2,548	2,770	2,538	2,795	2,682	3,054	3,082	3,462	-25.2%
Soccer	10,322	10,297	9,680	9,817	9,318	10,112	10,001	9,836	+4.9%
Swim/Dive	2,394	2,662	2,775	2,576	2,672	2,870	3,129	3,183	-24.8%
Tennis	4,443	4,603	4,977	5,214	5,612	5,568	5,507	5,223	-14.9%
Track & Field	14,158	14,396	15,243	14,498	15,574	14,603	14,998	14,534	-2.6%
<b>Volleyball</b>	<b>1,615</b>	<b>1,683</b>	<b>1,573</b>	<b>1,466</b>	<b>1,365</b>	<b>1,376</b>	<b>1,398</b>	<b>1,471</b>	<b>+9.8%</b>
Wrestling	6,667	7,074	7,147	7,622	7,399	7,934	7,684	8,337	-20.0%

## Boys volleyball participation numbers:

	Wisconsin	National
15-16	1,615 (-4.0%)	55,417
14-15	1,683 (+7.0%)	54,534
13-14	1,573 (+7.3%)	52,149
12-13	1,466 (+7.4%)	50,353
11-12	1,365 (-0.7%)	49,467
10-11	1,376 (-1.6%)	50,016
09-10	1,398 (-4.9%)	50,467
08-09	1,471 (+8.1%)	49,346
07-08	1,361	46,780

### More information

For more information on the data that appears on Page 1 and Page 4 of today's Badger Beacon newsletter, go to [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org) and click on the "Participation Statistics" story on the home page of the website for the National Federal of High Schools.

# Boys leagues start Sept. 18 in Kenosha, Oshkosh

The Badger Region is partnering with two men's volleyball powerhouses to help grow boys volleyball in the state of Wisconsin.

Carthage College (NCAA Div. III) and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh (NCVF Div. I) men's volleyball teams are working with the Badger Region for this unique opportunity to get more boys playing volleyball at the middle school level.

The Badger Region sees this as a great opportunity because the Kenosha and Oshkosh areas do not have middle school volleyball, and in Oshkosh there is no high school volleyball.

However both cities are home to two of the best NCAA Div. III and College Club teams, respectively, in the country.

Both leagues that are being organized for this fall offer one hour of instruction, in addition to a minimum of two games played each night of the league.

Players and staff from Carthage and UW-Oshkosh men's



Carthage coach LJ Marx offers instruction at the 2015 Carthage Middle School League in Kenosha.

volleyball team will serve as instructors, coaches and officials for each of the dates.

All participants must have a Badger Region/USA Volleyball membership to participate. These memberships are only \$15 and can be found at [www.badger-volleyball.org](http://www.badger-volleyball.org) and then click on "membership." Please sign up for a "summer membership" for this opportunity. The \$15 membership is the ONLY cost for players

or families for this league.

If players already have a USA Volleyball membership from playing club volleyball throughout the 2015-16 season, they do not need to purchase a separate membership.

This year, the UW-Oshkosh League will run 5 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 18, Sept. 25, Oct. 2 and Oct. 9 in the Kolf Center at UW-Oshkosh.

The Carthage College League

will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on Sept. 18, Sept. 25, Oct. 2 and Oct. 9 at the Tarble Athletic Center, 2001 Alford Park Drive, Kenosha.

Space is limited to the first 60 athletes who sign up for the league.

Participants can go to the home page of Badger Region ([www.badgervolleyball.org](http://www.badgervolleyball.org)) to register for either the Carthage or Oshkosh leagues. In addition to filling out the online middle school league sign up forms, participants should also make sure they have a membership while on the site.

Funding for these leagues is thanks to a grant the Badger Region Volleyball Association received from USA Volleyball at the start of 2016.

Last year, close to 60 boys participated in the first-ever league at Carthage College.

Have questions? Contact Brian Sharkey at [brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org) or call the Badger Region office at 262-349-9785.

## Changes coming to Region qualifiers, championships

The Badger Region Qualifier and the Badger Region Championships are going to be undergoing some formatting changes to accomplish multiple things in the coming year:

- \* Keep all teams under one roof at the Badger Region Championships

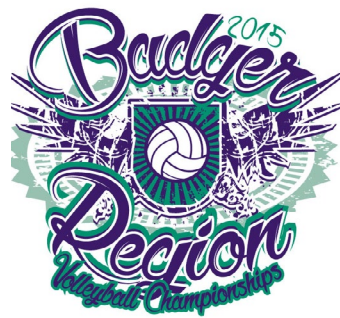
- \* Prevent teams from play six or more matches in row.

- \* Prevent refs from officiating more than eight matches in a day.

- \* Allow for teams to play more than one opponent at the Badger Region Qualifier

- \* Prevent tournaments from going late into the evening on Sunday nights.

To do that, a tournament committee comprised of Terry Paulson (chairman), Brian Sharkey, Kelly Lehman, Scott Blackmon, Larry Schoenick, Paul Schlomer, Ryan Thompson, Ted Schulte



and Sara Voigt put together the following:

### Badger Region Qualifier

**Date No. 1:** Feb 25/26: G18s, G17 (at the Milwaukee Sting Center)

**Date No. 2:** March 11/12: G16s, G15s, G14s, G13s, G12 (at the Milwaukee Sting Center and Center Court)

**Tournament entry date:** Jan. 4.

**Tournament close date:** Feb. 3 (G17/18s) or Feb. 18 (G12-G16).

**Maximum number of teams per division:** 20

**Format:** One-day tournament for divisions with 2-9 teams. Two-day tournament for divisions with 10-20 teams.

### Badger Region Championships

**Date No. 1:** March 18/19 — All Boys, G14 Club, G14 Open, G16 Club, G16 Open. This weekend is also March Madness (NCAA Men's Basketball in Milwaukee and the big St. Patrick's Day Parade.)

**Date No. 2:** March 25/26 — G11s, G13 Club, G13 Open, G15 Club, G15 Open

**Date No. 3:** April 1/2 — G12 Club, G12 Open, G17 Club, G17 Open, G18 Club, G18 Open

**Tournament entry date:** Jan. 4.

**Tournament close date:** Feb. 18

**Maximum number of teams per division:** 16 in Open, 32 in Club, unlimited in Badger divisions. The Badger Division is new this year and is reserved for third-tier teams and teams who register late for the club division. The Badger Region Championships is not being capped. All teams entered will get in. To guarantee yourself in the division your team belongs, club directors must register as soon as possible and get their checks in as soon as possible, too.

**Format:** Teams are guaranteed three matches on the first day of competition. Some teams will only get two matches guaranteed on day two, but others (depending on the number of teams in their divisions) will get three matches on day two.

# Fans: Wear your sportsmanship with pride

"I love to watch you play."

They're the six most important words you can tell your son or daughter about the sports they play. It sends the whole message: Enthusiastic, Supportive, Positive.

And to help spread these good words, the Badger Region Volleyball Association has come up with a way of rewarding fans who elicit the true meaning of having sportsmanship in the stands.

You may see wristbands around our region with the ESP program's message (Enthusiastic, Supportive, Positive). We have one for you, if you can live by these three words as you cheer for teams, coaches and officials in our region.

As a matter of fact, we have two of them for you; one for your wrist, and one to give away when you



catch a different team's fan using ESP. In fact give them both away, we will get you another one. Or two.

How does this work?

A handful of tournament directors from the Badger Region have requested a specific number of wristbands the Region has on hand to give out (it's a finite number here, people, not enough for every parent or fan).

They will hand out the wristbands at their tournaments to the parents and fans they see modeling

themselves in an "Enthusiastic, Supportive and Positive" manner.

They will receive two wristbands, one for themselves and one for some that parent or fan deems worthy of ESP wristband.

People who show up to the Badger Region Championships wearing the ESP wristband will receive a special gift for being a positive role model for the young athletes in the gym.

Just don't make us have to take the wristband away from you. That

would be embarrassing.

These wristbands are for fans, not players. Let's take our cheering and our region up a few notches:

\* Get a little crazy.

\* Go the extra mile.

\* Support your team with positive cheering.

\* Recognize the good in your teams and others.

\* Get way off the chain and clap when the other team makes a great play.

\* We need good opponents to get better. Be that good opponent.

Put away the in-your-face cheers, actions and yelling, and hold others to the same standard.

Club directors can contact Brian Sharkey ([brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org)) to request a few of the remaining wristbands for the 2015-16 season.

## Refreshers from IMPACT: Identifying 'eye focus errors'

By BJ LeRoy

Badger Region Board Member

In this section, we often say, "We get what we train." If we train players without a ball, what do they look at? Probably the thing you are working on (feet, hands, steps).

This ties in nicely with a new section for IMPACT 2017, intrinsic vs. extrinsic feedback, based on a life's work by Dr. Gabriele Wulf [<https://www.amazon.com/Attention-Motor-Skill-Learning-Gabriele/dp/073606270X>]. Dr. Wulf's research shows that by using extrinsic cues and/or metaphors, we are far more likely to have players looking at the game, rather than their own hands or feet. For instance, rather than saying to a setter, "Put your feet like this," consider saying, "Open up to the passer." Retention is higher according to Dr. Wulf, and your players are looking in the right place to read and react to the game.

Lately, many coaches are adding "reading" as potentially the most important skill. With that in mind, what eye-focus errors are you working on in practice, and what are your cues to change the error?

Here are a few eye-focus errors that we might be training:

- Underhand tossing, rather than passing/

setting to target.

- Hitting a stationary ball, rather than a moving one.
- A coach tossing to him/herself, rather than receiving a set to hit.

### Eliminate 'dead' time

The principle is, have less standing around, fewer speeches, more players playing, and fewer players doing non-volleyball actions. Court time is pretty precious, by most accounts.

What are you doing to eliminate "dead time" when you are on the clock?

Some suggestions:

- Arrive early to set up.
- Post your practice plan, so the players know what's coming next.
- If you have equipment, get your assistant working on the next drill before the current drill is over.
- Eliminate drink breaks; tell them to get a drink when they like, even during a drill. They will hustle back, and there is no standing in line.

Figure out ways to maximize your precious court time, and leave the talking for before and after practice.

## Program gives coaches more tools

*"The best way to learn is through a good mentor."*

Over the next few years, the Badger Region will help deliver information to coaching mentors throughout the region, to help the next generation of coaches get better, faster. We want to help place our experienced coaches in a position to share their knowledge, see new coaches in action, and guide coaches toward proven methods.

The region has five FREE mentor-training clinics to give away. At each two-hour clinic, all club coaches participate, while three coaches are trained to be mentors by an Advisor Coach. We have done a good portion of the work for the new mentors.

Mentor information comes from the latest High Performance clinics, and other USA Volleyball Education resources that are hard to attend in person.

Contact BJ LeRoy ([4bjleroy@gmail.com](mailto:4bjleroy@gmail.com)) or the Badger Region Office for more information. For the full 3C website being started by the Region, go to: <http://badgervolleyball.org/coaches-coaching-coaches/>



## Badger Region Volleyball Association

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**The Badger Region Volleyball Association promotes initiatives for safe, structured and fun life-long volleyball experiences!**

If you (or you or your organization) would like to advertise in a future Badger Beacon, contact Brian Sharkey at the phone number or email address above.

**More online:**  
[www.badgervolleyball.org](http://www.badgervolleyball.org)

**Twitter:**  
@BadgerRegionVB

**Facebook:**  
BadgerRegionVolleyball

## Badger Region Volleyball Association

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 18: Start of middle school boys leagues at UW-Oshkosh in Oshkosh, Wis., and Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis. Sign up at [www.badgervolleyball.org](http://www.badgervolleyball.org).

Sept. 18: Center Court Open House at the Waukesha facility located at 815 Northview Road.

Sept. 18: Junior Club Director meeting in River Falls for clubs located in northwest Wisconsin. For more information, contact Ryan Thompson at [ryan@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:ryan@badgervolleyball.org).

Oct. 1: First day clubs can hold tryouts for Girls 14-and-under in the Badger Region. Returners commitment date: Oct. 11. Newcomers commitment date: Oct. 13.

Oct. 1: First day club directors can enter their teams into two-day tournaments or qualifiers that become available today.

Nov. 6: IMPACT-Plus clinic for coaches at Center Court in Waukesha.

Nov. 12: First day clubs can hold tryouts for Girls 15-and-over in the Badger Region. Returners commitment date:

Nov. 15. Newcomers commitment date: Nov. 17.

Nov. 18: First day clubs can hold tryouts for Boys 14-and-under in the Badger Region.

Nov. 19: First day clubs can hold tryouts for Boys 15-and-over in the Badger Region. Returners commitment date:

Nov. 22. Newcomers commitment date: Nov. 23.

Nov. 25: First day club directors can enter their teams into one-day Badger Region tournaments.

Dec. 11: IMPACT-Plus clinic at Center Court in Waukesha.

Feb 25-26: Badger Region Qualifier (Girls 17 and Girls 18) at Milwaukee Sting Center

March 11-12: Badger Region Qualifier (Girls 12-16) at Milwaukee Sting Center and Waukesha Center Court.

March 18-19: Badger Region Championships weekend No. 1 (All Boys, G14s, G16s) at the Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee

March 25-26: Badger Region Championships weekend No. 2 (G11s, G13s, G15s) at the Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee

April 1-2: Badger Region Championships weekend No. 3 (G12s, G17s, G18s) at the Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee

April 9: Dale Rohde Memorial Boys Volleyball Tournament at Kettle Moraine High School and Waukesha Center Court.



The Pewaukee boys volleyball team poses for a photo after a match at the Wisconsin Youth Volleyball League.

*Have a great story idea or person you want featured in the Badger Beacon?  
Email Brian Sharkey at [brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org).*

# One big volleyball family

Playing for your local volleyball club makes you a part of a MUCH, MUCH bigger network of volleyball players, coaches, directors, officials and more. Take a look of how we're all connected:

## USA Volleyball



USA Volleyball (USAV) is the National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport of volleyball in the United States and is recognized as such by the Federation International de Volleyball (FIVB) and the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). The vision of USA Volleyball is to be acknowledged as the world leader in volleyball. USA Volleyball uses its 40 regions (like the Badger Region) to help implement its vision to players, coaches, sitting athletes, officials and other administrators of the sport.

USA Volleyball operates girls, boys, adult, High Performance and beach nationals to accommodate athletes of all ages and ability levels. It is also the source of numerous education resources such as IMPACT, CAP, SafeSport and officials training that is filtered down to the various member regions.

USAV is a separate organization from both the Junior Volleyball Association (JVA) and the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU). However, many (not all) of the athletes/coaches in JVA and AAU are also members of USAV.

USA Volleyball also oversees the teams that compete at the Olympics (men's, women's, sitting, beach).

## Badger Region Volleyball Association

Badger Region Volleyball Association is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to providing a high-quality volleyball experience to its members. As seen in last week's Badger Beacon newsletter, the Badger Region is made up of a Board of Directors elected by its members, five staff members and numerous advisory board members. The Board votes on and enforces the policies enacted by USA Volleyball and those unique to the Badger Region.

The Badger Region staff works to develop programming to enhance the experience of the junior clubs, adult clubs, officials, tournament directors and other members that the Region serves. The Badger Region staff works as a liaison between the various members and USA Volleyball, helping with registration (via Webpoint) and education (for coaches, players and officials). It also looks for opportunities to assist in the growth of the sport, especially among under-served groups.

The Badger Region also operates its own High Performance team (that competes against National High Performance teams) and its own Premier Volleyball League (PVL) team that competes at the Adult Championships.



## Junior/Adult Clubs

In the 2015-16 season, there were over 150 junior clubs registered in the state of Wisconsin (with about 20 of them being satellites of another club already established somewhere in the Badger Region) and about 20 adult volleyball clubs.

Each club is its own entity or business — many of which are non-profit organizations or other recognized IRS group. Philosophies on coaching, playing time, tournaments attended and costs to participate in a club are set at the club level.

The various clubs throughout the state are required to have IMPACT certified coaches with current background screenings, SafeSport trained coaches and have all athletes prepared to score-keep, linejudge and officiate matches if needed.

Directors work with tournament directors to relay schedules and other tournament information (i.e. costs, parking, concessions, etc.)

Costs for jerseys, tryouts, travel and such are often determined by a club's board of directors, president or other administrators set up by the organization. Clubs must file the correct paperwork with Badger Region to be a region-recognized group.

With an athlete or coaching membership in Badger Region, you get full access to all the great resources mentioned on this page.

## Officials

Every official at a Badger Region-sanctioned tournament must be a member of USA Volleyball and have a current background screening.

Officials work closely with tournament directors and coaches to ensure that events run smoothly in accordance with the rules published in the Domestic Competition Regulations, the rulebook established by USA Volleyball.

Officials are assigned by the Region's Officials Assignor (Larry Schoenick) and work with the Officials Chair (Jim Momsen) and Officials Rating/Training Chair (Julie Voeck) to get the proper training to ref the tournaments in the Badger Region.

There are multiple levels of officials within each Region, ranging from Provisional all the way up to International.

## Tournament Directors

Tournament directors organize, market and facilitate events throughout the state. To be a recognized Badger Region-sanctioned event, the director must ensure the tournament operates according to Badger Region tournament guidelines (see our website). Tournament directors must be members of the Region and have background screenings to perform their duties.

Tournament directors report to the Badger Region Tournament Director (Terry Paulson) with results, problems and highlights from their respective competitions.