



# THE BADGER BEACON

WWW.BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG | MEMBERSHIP@BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG

## Coaches share their 'a-ha' moments

One of the great things about attending a Coaching Accreditation Program (CAP) clinic is the opportunity to learn from great mentors, collaborate with other coaches and refine your coaching style.

All of the attendees to the Dec. 2-3 CAP clinic hosted by the Badger Region did just that and much more.

All of the coaches were asked what their 'a-ha' moment was throughout the weekend. For some, the clinic opened their eyes to better coaching methods and for others, it strengthened their beliefs in their training philosophy.

Here's a look at some of the 'a-ha' moments that took place throughout the weekend:

**Alec Lannigan:** Break the model. Break tradition. Have a growth mindset. Be the change. Avoid functional fixedness.

\* **Robert "Ryan" Hagan:** If it's happening in a match, it's happening in practice. Coaches need to come out of their comfort zone. I talk too much during practice.

\* **Darin Danelski:** Grill (Game-like drills). Don't drill

\* **Jarrod Luedtke:** Since we are out of system 75 percent of the time, we should train out of system 75 percent of the time.

\* **Samantha Nelson:** Discussing practices with lower number

of players (4-5, etc.). Having small numbers has always been difficult to practice systems and game-like situation. It really helped me be creative and more prepared for those situations in the future.

\* **Ian Hutchison:** Coaches should never hit/serve/toss/bump a ball to start a drill. Let the kids do it.

\* **Michelle Kerr:** Break the game down to more manageable pieces. Win the six games within

a game.

\* **Christie Salmon:** Spend more time training the eyes on what to watch.

\* **Cara D'Amico:** When practice planning, think about structure. Don't stack all technical talk in the first half. I have always planned practice to the minute, but usually stack technical talk in the beginning and my team always starts slow. It makes so much sense to mix it up but it has never occurred to me and my format is slow and boring.

\* **Michael Walsh:** The need to let players initiate drills with game serves. Players do not get enough reps on serve and serve receive and it is often due to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

### INSIDE

- Frisco Mo Apparel.....2
- From a Board member...3
- New beach tour.....3
- From the Ref Stand.....5
- Art of Coaching.....5
- USAV awards.....5
- Serve United.....6
- National Team news...6
- Tournament registration...7
- Competition, improving...8
- SafeSport.....8
- Provisional Plus Refs...9
- Events calendar.....10

### TIPS & TIDBITS

\* Have a great human interest story that you would like to see in the Badger Beacon? Email [brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org) and we will be in contact with you or the other interested parties.

## Sportsmanship program is back

Sportsmanship isn't a suggestion for the way every player, coach and fan should act on and off the court. It is the expectation.

To reward those exceeding expectations, the Badger Region wants to recognize you.

The 2017-18 marks the third year of the "Enthusiastic. Supportive. Positive." program that encourages volleyball enthusiasts, specifically fans in the stands.

Last season, tournament directors throughout the Region distributed close to 500 wristbands at events and tournaments, and we're looking to hand out hundreds more.

Then, at the Badger Region Championships in March and April, anyone who was awarded a wristband throughout the year, will be eligible to win Badger Region gear such as T-shirts, water bottles, mini volleyballs and other cool swag.

So, what do you have to do to get



a wristband? Support your team! Be positive! Show character that would make your mother proud!

Get a little crazy. Go the extra mile. Recognize the good in your team and others. Get excited when even your opponent makes an amazing save or play.

Don't cheer against another team. Don't taunt or heckle officials, coaches or players. Don't give your club or team a black eye with any "in your face" cheers.

Tournament directors, Badger Region staff, referees and board members are watching.

If you get one of our colorful "ESP" wristbands, come to the

Championship Desk at the Badger Region Championships March 17-18, March 24-25 or April 7-8 to be entered in a raffle for the prizes. Anyone with a wristband gets one entry into the raffle. At certain points throughout the day, names will be drawn for the prizes. The only rule: You must have your wristband on at the time of the raffle to receive your gift.

If you are a tournament director running a Badger Region/USA Volleyball-sanctioned event in 2018 and would like to request a package of wristbands for distribution at your event, contact Program Director Brian Sharkey at [brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org).



# SOCKS!

Get ready for tourney season. Socks, tops & hoodies designed by a volleyball family. They're clever, fun, all volleyball and only here. We got tired of other sports getting the cool gear glory. So we did something about it. Check out our sweet designs. Looking for a custom order for your team or club? We'll make an original design just for you. Get to know Frisco Mo!



[FRISCOMO.COM](http://FRISCOMO.COM)

# WVC home to hundreds of athletes

*The Badger Beacon asks each board member to submit an article for publication twice per year to let members know what they envision as best practices for the organization. This week, the Beacon gives this space to Southeast Representative Holly Vogelsang.*

1992 was a great year for Wisconsin and volleyball, as it was when the Wisconsin Volleyball Conference (WVC) was born.

The WVC is the largest intercollegiate volleyball conference in the state and one of the biggest in the country.

The WVC is a volleyball conference home to athletes who choose to continue playing club volleyball in college.



**Vogelsang**

The conference began as a nine-team conference for men, and has grown to include 20 men's teams and 24 women's teams. When I graduated high school I was unaware that collegiate club volleyball even existed, and now, I am the women's division coordinator.

Over the last few years the competition schedule has continued to evolve to meet the needs of the student athletes. Most of the teams that participate in the WVC are from schools in the UW system, but a few schools outside of the state participate as well.

For a full listing of teams please visit: <http://wvcweb.org/teams.html>.

Most teams do not have a coaching staff, but are run by a group of officers. As an officer you learn countless life lessons, as you learn how to manage peers while also being



their friend. You also learn how to coordinate schedules between different universities, along with managing a budget.

In addition to providing a conference structure, the WVC honors current athletes and alumni at the Conference Championships. We honor statistical leaders, scholar athletes, graduating seniors, sportsmanship award as well as Scholarship awards, and a Hall of Fame.

Every year the WVC holds Conference Championship event, where teams battle it out to become conference tournament champions. This season the championship event will be held at the Milwaukee Sting Center on April 6 and April 7, 2018.

Five days following Conference Championships many teams attend the national tournament, which is run by the National

Collegiate Volleyball Federation (NCVF). There are upwards of 400 teams from across the country that attends this tournament. At the conclusion of the 2017 season, the WVC is home to 17 national championships and 15 runners-up trophies.

One of the great parts of being a WVC athlete is that you are also a member of USA Volleyball and have the same access to all of the great Badger Region resources (coaching education, officials training, Webpoint, etc.) as junior club coaches and athletes have.

For junior athletes looking to continue their volleyball career without a huge time commitment, the WVC is the perfect fit. As high schoolers are looking toward their future, I strongly encourage both males and females to reach out to the recreation department about club volleyball teams!

## USAV announces unified beach tour for 2018

USA Volleyball and its 40 Regional Volleyball Associations will jointly launch the USA National Beach Tour in 2018. The USA National Beach Tour will serve as "The officially sanctioned beach tour of USA Volleyball" and its RVAs.

The USA National Beach Tour combines the USA Junior Beach Tour (run by USA Volleyball) and the American Beach Tour (run by the Regions) into one sanctioned tour with participation opportunities for juniors and adults.

The USA National Beach Tour will be composed of more than 200 events staged across the country and will culminate with the Beach Regional Qualifiers and Beach Na-



tional Qualifiers, which will offer players the opportunity to earn bids to the USA Beach National Championships.

"I am looking forward to working with the 40 regions of USA Volleyball to roll out the new USA National Beach Tour, and using our resources to enhance the national championship events," USA Volleyball Manager of Beach Events Mark Paaluh said.

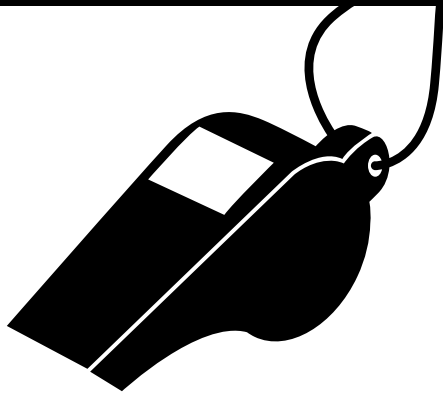
The Junior Beach National Championships (JBNC), which will take place in July, will have three divisions for both genders: National Open (bid), Regional Open (bid) and Patriot (non-bid).

The Adult Beach National Championships, which is anticipated to take place in September, will have divisions for men, women and coed in six different skill levels: Open, AAA, AA, A, BB and B.

USA Volleyball's Beach High Performance plans to conduct Selection Camps before select Beach National Qualifiers, which gives the chosen athletes a path towards representing Team USA in age-group FIVB Beach World Championships and other international competitions.

"This combined programming provides a cost-effective way for players to be identified for National programming and to experience high-level training and elite competition against other top beach athletes from across the country," said USA Volleyball Manager of Beach High Performance Megan Burgdorf.





# Coaches Clinic

Monday Jan 1st • 2018  
4-7pm at ATC

**\$30 when registered by Dec 15**  
(\$50 after Dec 15 or at the door)

To register, email [coachpauers@gmail.com](mailto:coachpauers@gmail.com) and send fee by Dec 15.

Directed by Dave Pauers  
On-court demonstrations by our very own 16-1's  
(Placed 5th at AAU Nationals in 2017)



**Clinic Held at:**

Adversity Training Center (ATC)  
N113 W18750 Carnegie Dr.  
Germantown, WI 53022

**Send Fee to:**

Adversity-Wisconsin VBC  
1422 Trillium Court  
West Bend, WI 53095

**For additional questions or program information, contact:**

**Dave Pauers | 262-707-1003 | [coachpauers@gmail.com](mailto:coachpauers@gmail.com)**

# Happy New Year/New Season

By Jim Momsen  
Badger Region Ref Chair



## FROM THE REF STAND

Happy Winter!?

At 10:28 a.m. Central Time today (Dec. 21, 2017), the Winter Solstice occurred! What's so good about that? A couple of things: 1) The start of the Badger Region 2017-2018 volleyball season is only a couple weeks away, and, 2) The number of daylight hours increases through June 2018!!

What's the outlook for upcoming season?

At our New and Experienced Referee Observation session on 12/16 at Center Court, both Larry Schoenick and I were very encouraged about the quality and receptiveness of the 20 referees that attended, as well as the quality of instruction provided by the mentors in attendance.

We're very excited that the Northern Athletics Conference (NAC) has established an NCAA Men's Division III Conference. Within Badger Region, where Marian, Lakeland, MSOE, and Concordia University will be participating.

The well-respected Wisconsin Volleyball Conference (WVC), including Oshkosh, Marquette, Whitewater, Eau Claire, La-Crosse, Carroll, Platteville, Stevens Point, and others, also has an outstanding USAV Men's Club Conference.

Last, but not least, the Carthage College Red Men are picked first in the MCVL and

will also host the 2018 Men's NCAA DIII National Championships April 27-28 in Kenosha.

Spend an evening and take in some great men's volleyball.

### Speaking of Development...

Note that we have one more Referee Classroom clinic scheduled - Jan. 7, 2018, at Center Court in Waukesha.

Given that we have another Classroom Clinic, as well as a number of individuals that were not able to attend previous session, we will be scheduling another observation session in mid-January.

Badger Region is again hosting a USAV Advanced Clinic/National Clinic sequence on Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018. This year we will again be at the Country Inn and Suites in Paul Albright, USAV Director of Officials Development, will be with us providing his insight and instruction on how referees can improve their knowledge, skills, and performance.

Registration is through VolleyballRefTraining.com. Cost to attend is \$20 for non-National officials. It's a small investment to improve your skills.

### R2 Techniques Clarification...

There was some discussion

during the Dec. 16 session about the proper mechanics for administering substitutions when both team request subs. #18 on P.120 of the DCR states, "...For substitutions by both teams during the same dead ball, it is not necessary to whistle each team's request separately..." I'm checking with the USAV Rules Interpreter for clarification.

Until you hear differently, please use the current one whistle for each team technique if you are asked, or if you see the question.

### Background Check Clarification for Junior Officials ...

As you know, more and more Juniors are becoming involved in professional officiating. This is a VERY GOOD thing. We recently received a question regarding Junior Officials and requirements for Background Checks. A Junior Official does not require a Background Check if they are under 18-years old. Once they reach their 18th birthday (even if it is mid-season), they must submit to a background check.

### It's also the holiday season

As we scurry to complete our requirements, launder and iron our uniforms, and shake the rust off of our whistles and scoresheets, please take the time to celebrate your family and friends during the holiday season (and the rest of the year for that matter).

## Coaches now have access to Art of Coaching

The Badger Region Volleyball Association has partnered with Art of Coaching Volleyball to give Region coaches access to the many resources offered by the company.

AOC is known for its library of coaching resources, drills and strategies. It also hosts many clinics around the country with elite-level clinicians that include Russ Rose, John Dunning and Terry Liskevych.

All coaches who have a current membership should have received an email either Sept. 26 or Sept. 27 from AOC with details on how to register an account or renew an existing account.

Some members are reporting that the email is going to their junk or spam folders, so coaches are encouraged to look there before contacting the Region office. There is a code unique to each coach that is in the email that will help them set up their accounts for free.

More details will be available when they sign up for a USA Volleyball/Badger Region membership for the 2017-18 season.

## USAV seeks award nominations

Nominations for the 2018 USA Volleyball Service Awards are now being accepted for those individuals whose efforts in junior volleyball community go above and beyond.

Award nominations are being sought in the following categories:

- \* Outstanding Program Director
- \* Outstanding Female Coach
- \* Outstanding Male Coach
- \* Outstanding Parent
- \* Outstanding Clinician

\* Outstanding Service (This category is reserved for those people who are not eligible for any other of the other classifications.)

\* Outstanding Referee

\* Outstanding Scorer

(Only regionally certified or qualified players, coaches, officials or parents are eligible for the Referee and Scorer awards.)

Last year, Badger Region Scorer Chair Nancy Paulson was honored by USA Volleyball as the Outstanding Clinician at the 2017

awards ceremony held in Minneapolis, Minn., in conjunction with the Adult Open Championships.

The award winners will be announced in 2018 at the Adult Open Championships being held in Dallas, Texas.

Nominations are due to USA Volleyball on Jan. 31, 2018.

For a full nomination form, email Badger Region Program Director Brian Sharkey at [brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org)

## Carthage to host NCAA men's championships

Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis., will host the 2018 Men's NCAA Div. 3 Men's Volleyball Championships at Tarble Arena.

The event will be April 27-28 (Friday and Saturday) and will feature the final four teams.

For more information, visit [athletics.carthage.edu](http://athletics.carthage.edu).

# Serve United parent program back for year two

The groundwork for a new program has been laid to further the Badger Region's mission to have athletes, coaches, parents and officials work together to grow the sport of volleyball and enhance everyone's experience at volleyball events.

The Badger Region staff, its board of directors and its advisory chairpersons see a great deal of benefit in this new program, titled Serve United, that encourages parents to assist with "work crew" responsibilities at tournaments and other duties as the club sees needed.

As part of the Serve United program, parents can register using the discounted Badger Region Serve United membership in Webpoint, get certified as a scorer and also learn about line judging, libero tracking and second referee via the free online tutorials available through the USA Volleyball Academy. While there are no certifications for second referees, line judging and libero tracking, the rostered adult can perform that duty for a team when it is needed at a tournament.

During the season, this parent/adult can contribute to the success of the club and ease some stress on the team if they're able to step in and give a player a break to eat, rehydrate or rest.



The benefits of the Serve United program would include:

- \* USAV/Badger Region parent members are allowed on the playing surface to retrieve balls during warm-ups

- \* USAV/ Badger Region parent members can line judge, score/libero track or serve as a second referee during assigned "work" matches after completing the training module.

- \* USAV/ Badger Region parent members may decide to continue to be involved after their players "graduate" and become USAV Certified Officials – maybe once their son or daughter has completed their career on the junior circuit.

- \* USAV/Badger Region parent would be an additional background-screened and SafeSport-certified adult that would be around for increased child protection and safety awareness.

According to the results of the 2016 State of the Badger Region Survey, parents/coaches/athletes said they would like to see more time in between matches for athletes to recover. While there

are time constraints for tournaments and facilities, this program is one great way for parents to get involved to help keep the tournament moving while also providing additional time for their team's athletes. It's also a great opportunity for parents to step in and know what it's like to have to make the snap decisions that officials and athletes have to make on the court every play. It's always easier to ref from the sidelines – so why not step onto the court where your decisions can have a real impact.

This program doesn't allow parents to sit on a team's bench unless they are also IMPACT certified. IMPACT is the minimum certification required by USA Volleyball and the Badger Region for all coaches. (For more on IMPACT, see [www.badgervolleyball.org](http://www.badgervolleyball.org).)

The Badger Region will fully reimburse parents who do the following:

- \* Purchase a USA Volleyball/ Badger Region Serve United membership (\$27) between now

and April 1

- \* Clear their first USA Volleyball background screening (\$18), which is good for two seasons

- \* Certify as a scorer via the USAV Academy online referee training (free)

- \* Take the online classes for line judging and libero tracking (free)

- \* Take the junior training for second referees (free)

- \* Take the SafeSport online awareness class (free)

- \* Serve their team at matches in the various capacities

- \* Email Brian Sharkey ([brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org)) that you are starting your certifications

All participants who complete the tasks listed above will receive a "Badger Region — Serve United" T-shirt to help promote the program and encourage more adults to become active in their club's responsibilities to make tournament experiences better.

While this program hopes to grow the number of active adults and potential future referees, not all parents of every player in the Badger Region can be reimbursed. Therefore, we must limit the number of adults who receive full reimbursements to the first 100 parents who sign up (limit of 10 parents from the same club).

## Men's National Team coming to northern Illinois

Iran, Poland and Serbia will join the U.S. Men's National Team for three days of FIVB Volleyball Nations League matches on June 15-17, 2018 at the Sears Centre Arena in Hoffman Estates, Ill.

The FIVB announced the Volleyball Nations League on Oct. 12. The two tournaments (one for men and one for women) replace the FIVB World League (for men) and the FIVB Grand Prix (for women).

In both tournaments, 12 core teams and four challenger teams will play a round-robin format, with each country hosting a weekend of matches. The men's final round is scheduled for July 4-8.

The U.S. Men, ranked No. 2 in the world, will have a challenging weekend in Hoffman

Estates, facing No. 3 Poland, No. 8 Iran and No. 11 Serbia. Each team will play the other three once during the weekend.

"The new tournament format will be a big test for our team before the 2018 World Championship," U.S. Head Coach John Speraw said. "We will play in Hoffman Estates after three weekends in other countries, so it will feel good to be in the United States."

Among the U.S. players expected to compete are 2016 Olympic medalists Matt Anderson, Micah Christenson, Max Holt, Thomas Jaeschke, Aaron Russell, Taylor Sander, David Smith and Erik and Kawika Shoji.

Jaeschke grew up in nearby Wheaton, Ill., and played for Loyola of Chicago. Jeff Jendryk, who is also expected to compete, also

grew up in Wheaton and will finish his career at Loyola in the spring.

Tickets will go on sale Dec. 4 at [searscentre.com](http://searscentre.com).

**Friday – Day 1 (1 ticket for both matches)**

5:30 p.m.: Poland v. Iran

7:30 p.m.: USA v. Serbia

**Saturday – Day 2 (1 ticket per match)**

2 p.m.: Serbia v. Iran

7:30 p.m.: USA v. Poland (Doors open at 6 p.m.)

**Sunday – Day 3 (1 ticket per match)**

Noon: Poland v. Serbia

5:30 p.m.: USA v. Iran

Price level: \$55 / \$48 / \$33 per ticket

All Session - \$275 / \$215 / \$150 (5 tickets)





## Building bonds

Athletes from Lakeshore Storm come together for a little team bonding early in the season by making tie-dye t-shirts. Send your team's photos to [brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org).



## Region-hosted events open Jan. 4 for entry

Registration for three big Badger Region-hosted events opens at 7 a.m. (Central Time) Jan. 4 for club directors.

Those events that open for registration on Jan. 4 include:

- \* The Girls Badger Region Qualifier held Feb. 24-25 for 17s and 18s and March 10-11 for 12s-16s. This event will take place at the Milwaukee Sting Center in Menomonee Falls.

- \* The Badger Region Championships which span three weekends: March 17-18 (G12, G13, G16, B12, B13, B14, B17, B18), March 24-25 (G11, G14, G15, B15, B16) and April 7-8 (G17, G18 and adults). This tournament is at the Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee

- \* The Dale Rohde Memorial Boys Volleyball Tournament taking place April 8 at the Wisconsin Center.

The Badger Region Qualifier is limited to the first 20 teams who enter via AES. The Open Division of the Badger Region Championships is limited to 16 teams. The Club Division of the Championships is limited to 32 teams.

Have questions? Email [brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.org).

### FROM PAGE 1

coaches starting drills with easy free balls.

- \* **Krista Smedema:** Cadre member Marouane Jafir was telling us in classroom about how his team doesn't care if he was a great player. And how he thinks that coaches are thieves and steal touches from their players. Marouane was teaching us swing blocking how to watch hitters and all blockers move together.

- \* **Ashley Davis:** External feedback is more impactful (use of metaphors). Also video loop to provide feedback in training

- \* **Drew Crawford:** Patience and only focusing on one thing at a time instead of overloading them with information.

- \* **Kathy Kampen:** Use pool noodles. I know more than I thought, but I still have a lot to learn.

## “Olivia Ramsfield: Use the net. Question yourself. Use science.”

- \* **Ian Sweet:** Get players and parents out of their comfort zones. Also: Use an elastic band to show middles how far out, away from the setter they should be based on the distance from the setter is from the net. Neat trick.

- \* **Tara Everts:** System 1 – 2 – 3. This is where a perfect pass you have your “1” system of offense. “2” pass is a second system of offense. And a “3” system is when all hell is breaking loose.

- \* **Kelsey Kunsman:** Tradition is not everything. Challenge everything.

- \* **Julie Riese:** A hitter's elbow doesn't have to be high. (Just not below shoulder)

- \* **Josh Price:** Every point in volleyball starts with a serve. So why not start every drill with a serve?

- \* **Matt Escobedo:** Why are we wasting time with non-game-like warm-ups and drills? Stop stealing contacts from the players.

- \* **Derik Avery:** Warm up with a net. Get out of tradition

- \* **Olivia Ramsfield:** Use the net. Question yourself. Use science.

- \* **Nicole Grieger:** Playing time is the gift. Don't give an out. Always be consistent. Set expectations early on. Play what you practice. I now know how to poop in the woods.

- \* **Tom Shay:** Serve receive is to

focused on the perfect pass. Need to focus on options with each level of pass (1, 2, 3)

- \* **John Garcia:** Overlap only occurs at point of server contact. You can move before that and even after the ref beckons for serve.

- \* **Bill Lawrence:** Moving before the serve. Stats by opponent rotation hits. Training the libero

- \* **Jeff Freitag:** Offense, defense, serve receive and rotations. Train out of system. Systems to connect. Train middles to set.

- \* **Andy Teller:** Serve Receive Variations. We are out of system 75 percent train that way.

- \* **Alexis Johnson:** “Make Space” – so simple and clear. Will really be helpful with out-of-system.

- \* **Shannon Hogan:** Don't steal touches from your kids

- \* **Rachel Smith:** I never realized by me entering balls that we steal touches from our players.

# Competition and improvement

By BJ LeRoy  
IMPACT instructor

Volleyball is about competition. Get two teams, put up a net, serve it up. From a coaching and training standpoint, we take a slightly different viewpoint, as we search for “improvement”.

If you’ve been reading these education articles, you’ll often see suggestions to play more in practice. How do we get improvement while we compete?

As coaches, we’re often hooked on form. Arms do this, feet do that, put your body in this position. Why are we so strict about that? A couple reasons. Most good players eventually use some variation of generally-accepted movements. There are also some movements we want players to use in order to avoid injury. Some coaches may have differing opinions about specific form. Ultimately, the overriding reason seems to be that we want players to improve faster. We want them competing as early as possible, at the highest possible level.

Without getting into specifics, let’s agree that there are some generally-accepted movements, and we want to use them as soon as possible.

During competition, we often do what works while we throw form out the window. Have you seen a middle school team send the ball back over on one, every single time? Sure, because it works. They’re competing, playing to win. They will likely beat the team that uses all three touches. It’s the paradox of our sport; at lower levels, the better team usually loses. That same “over on one” coach may work tirelessly in practice on hitting and setting form, even though the team is simply bumping over ever time. Are those players improving? Hard to tell.

That’s the extreme case, so let’s consider the rest of us. How do we merge competition and



improvement?

Competition is a valuable motivator. The “winning and losing” type of competition seems to come naturally to most, in varying degrees. I think that competitive spirit can be rebranded somewhat, to move toward “improvement.” When you are having a lack of win/loss success, you might be able to use the losing as motivation to want to improve. Unfortunately, when you’re building a skill, you’re going to get worse before you get better. That’s the hard part. Some people won’t take that risk, so the pressure of losing is a downward spiral, when you won’t accept making the mistakes that are inevitable for improvement.

In a recent cauldron I ran, we kept stats on two levels during our practice games. First, we tracked the winners and losers of every

game. That’s the easy part. The harder part was finding alternate scoring methods that invited players to take the risk of making a mistake. Make a good choice, a good movement, score a point. Of course, we scored those “process” points during games, so that they were learning in a specific environment, not a false “drill” environment. It was interesting to note that we had two sets of cauldron leaders; the game winners, and process-improvers. Both were equally rewarded, and I think the process-improvers saw more improvement through the season. They were competitive about their improvement.

Rebranding the competition to be with yourself, the drive to make something better, is where I see coaches doing big things. If you are competing with teammates to get better faster, or competing with yourself to simply improve a skill, that might be a way to use competition in a more positive and productive way. That’s a long way of saying, focus on process. “Focus on process” seems like a trite answer that deserves more depth.

The understanding by each player, knowing what s/he is working on, what is improving, what needs to happen to improve...that’s where I find motivation to be strongest. That takes some detailed work, like a teacher circling a classroom working on individual skills. I think the difficulty of that detail is the reason coaches resort to punishment so quickly. Pushups are easier to dish out than conversations, but I don’t think they’re as fruitful for learning. With my groups of players, we have individual running conversations, sometimes all season or longer, about skills they are improving. We’re also noting what progress is being made, what has slipped, where to look next for improvement. Maybe that’s the biggest value a coach brings; helping them understand individual progress, what’s been accomplished, what’s next, what have they learned and understood.

## SafeSport modules now available for coaches

U.S. Center for SafeSport new course modules (there are three) are now available. All new coaches in the 2017-18 season will be required to take these modules, and all coaches who already have taken SafeSport through the years will be required starting with the 2018-19 to re-take SafeSport every other year.

New coaches for the 2017-18 season should note that SafeSport is no longer included in IMPACT training.

Further, USA Volleyball is able to deliver the

coursework through the USAV Academy. Accessing the course through the USAV Academy is critical to tracking certification and expiration dates. Members will need to access the course exclusively through the USAV Academy (not the USOC SafeSport website).

To register for SafeSport training:

1. Go to <https://webpoint.usavolleyball.org/>.
2. Log in to your USAV account.
3. In the navigation menu, click on USAV Clinics and select USAV Coaching Clinics.
4. Select SafeSport On-Demand: Two-Sea-

son Certification.

5. Complete registration.

6. To access coursework, click on the Log into USAV Academy button. (Highlighted in red)

Should you need to return to your coursework at a later time, log in to your USAV account and click on the Log into USAV Academy button.

For technical issues, while completing the course, please visit: <http://help.usavolleyballacademy.org/>.



# Region offers Provisional Plus referee certification

By Jim Momsen  
Badger Region Ref Chair

What is a Badger Region Provisional Plus Referee?

A couple years ago, Badger Region created the Provisional Plus Referee certification. This certification was created as a stepping-stone to USA Volleyball Regional Referee certification.

It allowed a USAV Provisional Referee to demonstrate advanced skills and indicate his or her desire to advance to USAV Regional Referee status in the future.

What is required to become certified as a Badger region Provisional Plus Referee?

First, you must become certified as a USAV Provisional Referee.

Typically, and depending on prior experience, a new or In-Training Referee will be able to achieve Provisional Referee status in about one year.

The additional, and annual, requirements to achieve/maintain Provisional Plus certification are:

\* Passed an observation/feedback session by a Certified Badger region trainer.

\* Become either Provisional or Regional Scorer Certified – this requires an on-court demonstration and practical application of

Scorer skills.

\* Worked at least 4 assigned tournament dates in the current season – the 2017-2018 season just started.

\* “Give a day” of service to the Region – examples include:

\* Volunteering at Special Olympics

\* Volunteering as a Scorer Monitor at a Badger region Event

\* Etc.

The application for Provisional Plus certification can be found on the BadgerVolleyball.org website under FORMS > Referee Forms > Provisional Plus Application

I would not expect to see applications being submitted until late January at the earliest as we have not yet had any assignable events this season, and you must also certify/re-certify as a Provisional/Regional Scorer.

Thank you again for all of your efforts to make volleyball better and more enjoyable!

*Have a question about reffing? Email brian@badgervolleyball.org and we will contact Jim Momsen to get your question answered.*

## New program gives coaches additional mentoring, training

*“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.

In 2015, I AM Volleyball Club was the first club to take part as a guinea pig in the 3C program. According to Master Coach BJ LeRoy, who is helping write the manual for the 3C program, “The I AM folks were excellent. They wanted all the tips and critiques they could get and were happy to have us there. We all learned some new things last night.”

Mentor information comes from the latest High Performance clinics, and other USA Volleyball Education resources that are hard to attend in person. Please consider claiming a clinic just as the season starts to get underway.

*Contact BJ LeRoy (Abjleroy@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/>*

# Uniform requirements changing in near future

Available now on VolleyballRefTraining.com is a new multi-media module on uniform requirements for USAV events.

The presentation, built through collaboration with the USAV Officials Commission and regional leadership, provides the most current information and examples of pitfalls to avoid.

To view the material (less than 10 minutes long), go to [https://volleyballreftraining.com/rules\\_interpretations\\_indoor.php](https://volleyballreftraining.com/rules_interpretations_indoor.php).

In addition, USA Volleyball has included an accompanying PDF download that can be provided to vendors/designers.

We strongly advise all teams and clubs that are looking to purchase uniforms for the 2017-18 season to consult this resource before finalizing designs. A wise investment of 10 minutes.

Some of the big changes that are coming down the pipeline include:

\* Effective in the 2018-19 season, the entire number, even if outlined, must contrast with the jersey. That means if you have a black jersey, you cannot put a blue number on the jersey outlined with a white border. The jersey number and the number itself must be clearly contrasting.

\* The placement of the number must be centered on the chest (between neck to sternum) on the front of the jersey. On the back of the jersey, the number must be centered on the back. This becomes problematic if the athlete's last name or team name are placed above the number, pushing the digit too low.

\* Color combinations that need to be avoided for libero contrast purposes:

1. Black/navy
2. Red/maroon/burgundy
3. Black/dark green
4. White/yellow
5. Navy/maroon
6. Black/dark blue/dark gray
7. Medium/dark gray
8. Red/orange

If you ever have questions if your jerseys meet the USAV requirements, take a photo of both jerseys in the same photo and make it a black/white (grayscale/monochrome) image and try see if they are easily differentiated.

You can also email any photos to brian@badgervolleyball.org and they will be passed on to the Badger Region Ref Chair for determination for in-Region use.

## Badger Region Volleyball Association

2831 N. Grandview Blvd.  
Suite 221  
Pewaukee, WI 53072

### Staff

**Jennifer Armson-Dyer**  
Director of Operations  
jen@badgervolleyball.org  
414-507-1124

**Terry Paulson**  
Tournament Director  
badgerregiontd@wi.rr.com  
414-588-2665

**Brian Sharkey**  
Program Director  
brian@badgervolleyball.org  
414-313-9055 (cell)  
262-349-9785 (office)

**Scott Spiess**  
Operations Manager  
scott@badgervolleyball.org  
414-303-5624 (cell)  
262-349-9785 (office)

**Sara Voigt**  
Program Specialist  
sara@badgervolleyball.org  
262-349-9785 (office)

**Fax:** 262-349-9971

**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:

Badger Region Volleyball

**Pinterest:** BadgerRegionVol

**Instagram:** BadgerRegionVB

## Badger Region Volleyball Association

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**Royal Volleyball Club did some team bonding by making tied blankets in early December.**

**Jan. 4:** Tournament registration for Badger Region Qualifiers, Championships and Dale Rohde Memorial Tournament open at 7 a.m.

**Jan. 6:** Professional In-Person Score Clinic at Milwaukee Sting Center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Jan. 7:** Professional In-Person Referee Clinic at Center Court at 9 a.m.

**Jan. 21:** Professional In-Person Score Clinic at KEVA Sports Center in Middleton from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Jan. 27:** Professional In-Person Score Clinic at Viterbo College in La Crosse from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Jan. 27-28:** Professional In-Person Score Clinic at Center Court in Waukesha from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Feb. 4:** Professional In-Person Score Clinic at UW-Whitewater from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Feb. 5:** Badger Region Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the Badger Region Office in Pewaukee.

**Feb. 10:** Professional In-Person Score Clinic River Falls High School from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Feb. 24-25:** Badger Region Qualifier for G17s and G18s (Site: Milwaukee Sting Center) – An in-person scorer clinic will also take place each day.

**March 10-11:** Badger Region Qualifier for G12-G16 (Site: Milwaukee Sting Center) – An in-person scorer clinic will also take place each day

**March 17-18:** First weekend of Badger Region Championships (G12, G13, G16, B12, B13, B14, B17, B18) at the Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee. An in-person scorer clinic will also take place each day of the first weekend.

**March 24-25:** Second weekend of Badger Region Championships (G11, G14, G15, B15, B16) at the Wisconsin Center

**April 7-8:** Third weekend of Badger Region Championships (G17 and G18) at the Wisconsin Center

**April 7:** Adult Badger Region Championships at the Wisconsin Center

**April 8:** Dale Rohde Memorial Boys Volleyball Tournament at the Wisconsin Center

**April 12-15:** NCVF (college club) National Championships in St. Louis, Mo.

**April 27-29:** NCAA Div. III Men's Volleyball National Championships at Carthage College (Kenosha, Wis.)

**April 27-29:** Girls 18-and-under National Championships in Anaheim, Calif.

**May 25-30:** Adult Open National Championships in Dallas, Texas

**June 25-July 4:** Girls Junior National Championships for athletes 17-and-under in Detroit, Mich.

**July 2-9:** Boys Junior National Championships in Phoenix, Ariz.

**July 14-15:** Badger Region Boys High Performance overnight training camp.

**July 24-28:** USA Volleyball's High Performance Championships in Tulsa, Okla.

*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 Assigner (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.



# 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 decision 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

**Kim Wudi**  
(Secretary)  
Elected in 2017  
Email: wudikm@uwec.edu

**Chris Baron**  
(Northwest Rep)  
Appointed in 2017  
Email: csuperiorvb@gmail.com

**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:** Jeff Liker  
**Referee Chair:** Jim Momsen  
**Score Chair:** Nancy Paulson  
**Adult Chair:** BJ LeRoy

**Grassroots Chair:** TBA  
**Development Chair:** TBA  
**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:** Scott Spiess  
**Tournament Director:** Terry Paulson  
**Program Specialist:** Sara Voigt

# A tangled ~~net~~<sup>web</sup> of software and sites

It's not easy keeping track of the variety of websites, software, programs and databases the volleyball world uses to track registrations and certifications for all of its teams, members, officials, players and coaches.

Without the assistance of these multiple electronic tools, managing the pieces of the

volleyball world would be a logistical nightmare and require more paper and filing than we care to even think about.

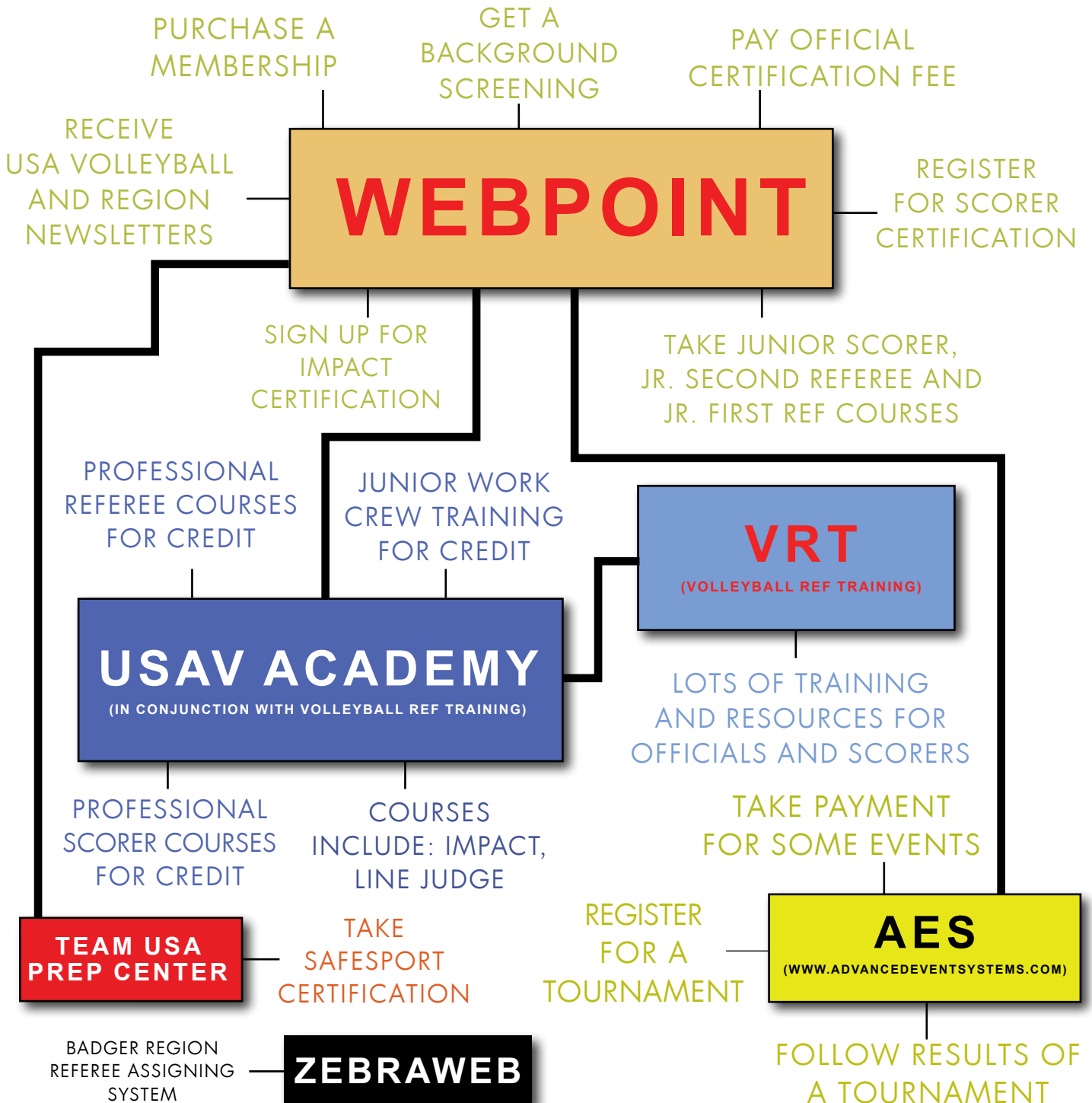
It's amazing how we got along before computers, cellphones and databases. Let alone, Instagram.

So, here's a quick look at some of the big

digital apps we use to help manage all of this information that is vital to the well being of the Badger Region and USA Volleyball.

Want links to any of these resources?

You can find everything you need at [www.badgervolleyball.org](http://www.badgervolleyball.org) and it's all sorted for you in our tabs there.



# Where do membership fees go?

One of the common questions we hear from new members is, “What is the \$50 membership fee we pay to Badger Region/USA Volleyball used for?” Well, here are your answers:

## \$27.50 of the \$50

Full junior or adult membership stays within the Badger Region. For a collegiate membership, \$4.50 of the \$27 stays within Badger Region. This cost helps pay for:

- \* **Coaching education**
- \* **Officials education**
- \* **Administration**
- \* **Region promotion**

The Badger Region is a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization.



**\* Coaching Education** – Each coach who is involved with USA Volleyball is required to have a baseline coaching education course which goes into volleyball-specific areas but also areas like risk management and child protection. Badger Region has a cadre of coaches around the state who conduct these six and a half hour IMPACT courses, and also covers facility rental and course materials, which are also partially subsidized by course attendees. The Region also runs various coaching clinics throughout the year at minimal to no cost to participants.

**\* Officials Education** – Each certified (professional) official who works within Badger Region is required to have yearly training to review rules and procedures, and also be updated on points of emphasis and new rule changes. Cadre around the state also run clinics for professional referees and junior clubs to prepare them for the new season. A very successful program that the Badger Region has implemented that is also covered by membership costs is an Officials Mentorship Program, which pairs an experienced official with an up-and-coming official to help the newer official hone their skills and work on areas of improvement.



This, along with a score monitor program, which provides scoring assistance and oversight at junior tournaments, are both fully covered by membership fees.

**\* Administration** – The Badger Region employs a staff of five (please see the Badger Beacon from July 8 to see staff responsibilities) and has an office based in Pewaukee, Wis., to serve our membership. Membership costs help cover the running of the Region on every level, including staff and administrative costs, board of directors meetings and costs and junior club director meetings and costs. The staff helps implement the policies and procedures set forth by USA Volleyball and the Badger Region Board of Directors, as well as works with club directors to help them with various aspects of club management and implementation, and communicates with our membership on a wide array of topics.



**\* Region Promotion / Growing The Game** – The Badger Region mission is to “promote initiatives for safe, structured and fun life-long volleyball experiences.” In order to do that, membership funds are utilized to help promote the sport throughout the state with various events and meetings, creating promotional materials and signage for our member clubs and tournaments to display (for example, the Code of Conduct banner that each tournament director has), and running tournaments and other events that showcase our sport and our Region within the state and throughout the country.



All of the above-mentioned services are used by Badger Region as the backbone of our individual organization. For a more detailed look into the relationship between USA Volleyball and Badger Region, please see the Badger Beacon from July 21.

*We at Badger Region do all we can to keep membership costs low while providing a comprehensive environment to excel in the sport of volleyball.*

## \$22.50 of the \$50

Full junior or adult membership, or the Badger Region Collegiate membership, goes to the USA Volleyball National office. This cost helps pay for:

- \* **Sport accident/liability insurance**
- \* **Membership tracking program**
- \* **Online officiating tools**
- \* **Advanced coaching education**
- \* **SafeSport training**

**\* Sport accident and liability insurance.**

Every club who sanctions their club and facility with Badger Region receives up to \$1,000,000 in liability insurance for their facility in case of accident or injury. In addition, every membership comes with secondary sport accident insurance in case of injury to the member. For more on insurance coverages, please see the “Forms” page of the Badger Region website.



**USA Volleyball.**

\* USA Volleyball has developed a unique and **integrated membership program** for tracking any and all certifications within the country, including coaching education, officials education and SafeSport. This national database also includes event and clinic registration and management, background screening tracking and is essentially a clearinghouse for anything membership related within the USA Volleyball system, also collecting electronic documents to alleviate paperwork stress on clubs and Regions.

\* **VolleyballRefTraining.com** is a free tool produced by USA Volleyball for training and education of officials, players and