

Lone Star Region USA Volleyball

*February, 2014
Newsletter*

Inside this Issue

<i>Commissioner's Notes</i>	<i>Pages 2-3</i>
<i>2014 USAV National Championships</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>Board of Directors Meeting</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>Junior Development News</i>	<i>Pages 4-5</i>
<i>2014 GJNC Divisions</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>2014 Junior Qualifier Schedule</i>	<i>Page 7</i>

Commissioner's Notes

*Will Vick
Commissioner
Lone Star Region, USA Volleyball*



I haven't written a newsletter article since last August so I guess it would be appropriate to begin this newsletter with HAPPY NEW YEAR! We closed out the 2013 Season with a final registration of 16,801 members. That was a great year and we have already increased our membership for the 2014 season. As of this writing, we have registered 17,428 members along with an additional 250 Unpaid members having applications in Webpoint. Over 50 of those Unpaid members are listed as UNDECIDED and should log in to their Webpoint record to make an amendment by choosing a club affiliation. Club directors are reminded to monitor their Webpoint club database and ensure that all their members are paid. If a club director sees a name on their Unpaid list that is not part of their club, contacting the Registrar or myself will allow the member to be moved and properly listed in the database. Additionally, club directors should ensure that each member within their club is listed on a team roster in Webpoint thereby assuring that all members are paid for and have met the necessary registration and certification requirements.

At this time each year, we see how well our Region is growing but are also reminded of those members we've lost. Currently on the Home Page of our Website, you may have noticed a short Memorial to honor two outstanding members who tirelessly worked to develop volleyball in Texas. First, Vicki Barnes, one of the three original Board Members for the Lone Star Region, passed on February 2, 2014. Vicki served in many leadership capacities within the Region including her last Board position of Regional Tournament Director. Secondly, we lost Duane Kratzer on February 17, 2014; another longtime member of our Texas volleyball family. Duane was an outstanding player from the Houston Area and had participated in Texas volleyball in the original Region IX – USVBA; followed by the Southwest Region – USVBA; and finally the Lone Star Region – USA Volleyball. Duane last participated in the 2007 Open National Championships with his Texas Yahoo team. He passed away at the age of 76. Vicki and Duane will long be remembered for their many outstanding contributions toward the development of volleyball in the Lone Star Region and Texas.

As always at the beginning of each season, we have a number of members who are not satisfied with their choice of clubs and wish to change after having completed their online registration. In this case, all they need do is contact the Region Office and request the change. However, if they are players and have participated in a tournament with the club, it is very likely that their request will be denied. **The Region policy remains as created, that once a player has registered with a club and participated with that club in a sanctioned tournament, the player will remain with that club for the duration of the current season.** Knowing this, club directors should not play an athlete if they know the athlete will not be able to play at the required team level and benefit their club. In these cases, directors and coaches should have a conversation with the athlete so they are aware a transfer can still be made to a club/team more compatible with their athletic ability. **Don't wait until it's too late and then decide the member cannot be competitive with your team.**

Club directors are again reminded that they SHOULD NOT be changing the information in their club database without first contacting the Region Office. The club contact information and team names are things that should be changed in the Region Office as any amended information must also be updated on the insurance policies, the Region website, and Contact lists held by staff. Additionally, club directors are not to be changing anything pertaining to the team other than adding and deleting players. You are currently permitted to add new teams in Webpoint but you **MUST keep the team names, codes and ranking constant with what has already been created.**

Commissioner's Notes continued next page

Commissioner's Notes continued

Finally, many clubs are already considering their options for attending one of the USAV National Championships. Applications in AES are now being accepted for those events so talk with your club members and make your decisions now. Again this season, only those teams having applications on file for the 2014 Girls Junior National Championships (GJNC) will be allowed to compete in the Bid Division of the Lone Star Junior Regionals. Please take the time to now to read the tournament application procedures from the Tournament Manual available at <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor>. **Entry fees for the 2014 GNJC DO NOT get mailed to the Region Office. This is a change from last season.** USA Volleyball is not requiring payment of the 2014 GJNC entry fees until the team qualified.

2014 USA VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The **2014 USA Volleyball Open Championships** Tournament Manual is available on the USA Volleyball website at: <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor>.

All events will be played in Phoenix, Arizona on May 23-28, 2014. Entry information, fees, and deadlines are available in the Manual. **All entry forms and checks for the 2014 USA Volleyball Open National Championships are to be sent directly to the USAV Events Department, USA Volleyball; 4065 Sinton Rd STE 200; Colorado Springs, CO 80907.** A copy of the entry form will be provided to the Region Office by USAV.

There have been a number of major changes for the 2014 event so be sure to check the **2014 Manual**. If you have any problems, contact Irina Damy at the USAV National Office: irina.damy@usav.org or 719-228-6800.

The **2014 Girls Junior National Championships** will be in Minneapolis, Minnesota and the **2014 Boys Junior National Championships** in Houston, Texas. Additional information, entry instructions, fees, and deadlines are outlined in the Tournament Manuals on the USA Volleyball website as well as in additional article in this Newsletter.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The annual Board of Directors meeting will be on Friday, March 28th. The meeting is open to all members and will be at the Wyndham Houston West – Energy Corridor; 14703 Park Row Blvd; Houston, TX 77079. The meeting is scheduled to start at 8:00 pm. Positions up for elections are:

INCUMBENT

Vice Commissioner	Hal Naumann
Secretary	Renee Blakely
Referee Chair	Thomas Hoy
Junior Development Director	Dick Kappel
Tournament Director	Annell Neale
Player Representative (Men)	Thang Nguyen

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Austin	Virgie Mallett
Brazos Valley	Wally Simpson
San Antonio	Mar Resendiz

Although only current Board members present at the meeting may vote, nominations can be made by any Lone Star Region member. Not only can you nominate someone for a position on the Board, you may also wish to appear and make a presentation on behalf of the nominee. The only thing that I ask when making the nomination is that you also provide notification, so that time can be made available for a presentation. If you think that one of the Region incumbents is not properly representing you and our Region, now is the time to speak. Nominations should be mailed or faxed (NLT March 26, 2014) to:

**WILL VICK, Commissioner
Lone Star Region, USA Volleyball
1608 Canyon Oak
Schertz, TX 78154-3660
(210) 945-8630 Fax**

Junior Development News

Richard "Dick" Kappel
Junior Director
Lone Star Region, USA Volleyball



2014 LSR Junior Regionals & GJNC Tournaments

Please take note of an important change.

A team must register through AES (Advanced Event Systems) by **March 21, 2014**, in order to play in the LSR Junior Regional tournament.

In order to play in the **BID** division, a team must register through AES for both LSR Junior Regionals and the 2014 GJNC by March 21. After the March 21 deadline, teams will not be accepted for the **BID** Division. .

- ▶ Entries for the Regional tournament will include fee payments which will be sent to the Tournament Host. See the LSR website schedule.
- ▶ Entries and fee payments for the 2014 GJNC will be sent directly to USAV **AFTER** a team has won a bid. **Do not send applications or fees to the LSR office.**

2014 Lone Star Junior Regionals Tournament

Bids for the National and American divisions are earned at the **BID** division of the Lone Star Regional tournament. The **Non-BID** division is for teams competing for the regional championship who do not wish to continue on to the 2014 GJNC.

LSR Bid division information

- In order to play in the **BID** division a team must register for both LSR Junior Regionals and GJNC by **3/21/2014**.
<http://hplcrosscourt.com/ls-regionals/#tournament-information-links> (for LSR 11's, 17's & 18's)
<http://www.austinsportscenter.com/tournaments/lone-star-regional-championships/overview> (for LSR 12's-16's)
<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor/Girls/2014-Girls-JNC> (for GJNC)
<https://www.advancedeventsystems.com/Splash.aspx> (for AES)
- **Note:** It is advised to enter both LSR Junior Regional BID and GJNC tournaments at the same time. **Only teams with a GJNC application will be eligible to compete in the BID portion of the Regional Championships.**
- Update your club information in the USAV Webpoint system, and then download the data to the AES system. This will insure the same info for both systems.
- Teams that have already accepted a bid or have an application on file in the National Office for the Patriot Division are eligible to play in the LSR BID tournament in order to win a higher GJNC bid. There is no need to submit an additional GJNC entry fee.
- After completion of the LSR BID tournament, the LSR region office will notify the National Office of the bid winners qualifying for GJNC National and American divisions. Once qualified, teams will send their GJNC payment directly to the National Office.
- The top teams from the LSR Junior Regional BID Division qualify for a bid in the GJNC Club Divisions as follows:
 - 12's - **One** National Division Bid; **Two** American Division Bids
 - 13's - **Two** National Division Bids; **Three** American Division Bids
 - 14's - **Two** National Division Bids; **Three** American Division Bids
 - 15's - **Two** National Division Bids; **Three** American Division Bids
 - 16's - **Two** National Division Bids; **Three** American Division Bids
 - 17's - **Two** National Division Bids; **Three** American Division Bids
 - 18's - **Two** National Division Bids; **Three** American Division Bids

Junior Development News continued next page

Notes:

- a) Teams that have qualified previously for the 2014 GJNC tournament in the Open or National Division are not eligible to play in the LS Region **Bid** Division.
- b) Teams that have qualified previously for the 2014 GJNC tournament in the USA or American Division are eligible to play in the LS Region Bid Division in order to improve to a National Division bid.
- c) If a team having a USA Bid wins a National Bid at LS Junior Regionals, then their original USA Bid remains with the Region and will be awarded to the next highest team placement of the LS Junior Regionals tournament.
- d) If a team having an American Bid wins a National Bid at LS Junior Regionals, then their original American Bid is lost by the LS Region and goes back to USAV for reallocation.
- e) After LS Junior Regionals, a team may accept a Qualifier trickle down or Open At-Large bid. If so, then there will be trickle downs for the LS Junior Regionals BID Division.
- f) Teams interested in an Open At-Large bid must be entered in AES by April 23, or they will not be considered.
- g) For teams to play at the LS Junior Regionals, they must:
 - play in their assigned age division (except for Non-BID division).
 - have a coach who has completed the IMPACT clinic.
 - have a certified scorekeeper and a referee.
 - be registered in the Lone Star Region.

Policy for Teams With Bids Playing Up in Non-BID Division

- 1) A team with an Open Bid may play up by one or two age groups in the Non-BID Division.
- 2) A team with a National Bid may play up by one age group in the Non-BID Division (also by two age groups if approved by the Region Office).
- 3) A team with a USA Bid may play up by one age group in the Non-BID Division (also by two age groups if approved by the Region Office).
- 4) A team with an American Bid may play up by one age group in the Non-BID Division.

Penalties for Not Using a GJNC Bid Earned at LS Junior Regionals Tournament

When a team chooses to play in the LS Junior Regionals BID Division and at the conclusion of the tournament does not accept an earned bid for the GJNC tournament, all teams within the club will not be permitted to play in the LS Junior Regionals BID Division for the following season. This exclusion will be determined at the end of the BID tournament and will not apply to teams offered a bid at a later date.



USA Volleyball & SafeSport Committed to Safety for All Participants

The safety of its participants is of paramount importance to USA Volleyball. USA Volleyball has ZERO TOLERANCE for abuse and misconduct.

This includes not only on-court safety, but also off-court safety in any part of USA Volleyball's programs. USA Volleyball is committed to creating safe and fun environments for youth. This includes, but not limited to, providing training, educational materials and resources for our regions, clubs, coaches, parents and athletes.

To report abuse, call **1-855-306-7775** or fill out the [USA Volleyball SafeSport Abuse Reporting Form](#).

Summary of the 2014 GJNC Divisions

Open Division

The top division of the USA Volleyball Girls' Junior National Championships (GJNC) where teams must obtain a bid to participate. Open Bids are earned through finishing in a "bid" position in the Open Division of a National Qualifier, through a Trickle Down at that Event, or through the At-Large process. Open Bids are not available for allocation through the Regions. The GJNC field size for Open Divisions will be 32 teams, except for the 13 & Under Division which will be limited to 24 teams.

National Division

A Division of the GJNC where teams must obtain a bid to participate. National Bids are allocated to the Regions for distribution to its teams. Regions will receive 1-2 bids for this tournament, depending upon enrollment from the previous year. Unused Region bids will be reallocated to other Regions. For the 12 & Under Division only, National Bids will also be distributed at National Qualifiers. The GJNC field size for National Divisions will be 48 teams.

USA Division

A Division of the GJNC where teams must obtain a bid to participate. USA Bids are earned through finishing in a "bid" position in the USA Division of a National Qualifier, or through a Trickle Down at that Event. Should a team that accepted a USA Bid later win an Open or National bid, the USA Bid will remain in the Region of the team that originally accepted the USA Bid. If the Region refuses to allocate this USA Bid, it reverts back to the NQ and follows the trickle down process. The GJNC field size for USA Divisions will be 24 teams.

American Division

A Division of the GJNC where teams must obtain a bid to participate. American Bids are earned through finishing in a "bid" position in the American Division of a National Qualifier or the team's Region, through a Trickle Down at that Event, or through the Reallocation process. Should a team that has won an American Bid later win an Open, USA, or National Bid, the American Bid will be allocated by the process described in the "Reallocation Bids" section of the Girls' National Championship Manual. The GJNC field size for American Divisions will be 48 teams.

Patriot Division

A non-qualifying Division of the GJNC where teams may gain access to the tournament by simply entering the Event through the established process (please refer to the Patriot Division link for entry procedures). Order of acceptance will be initially based on date and time of entry until the tournament is full. The GJNC field size for Patriot Divisions will range from 24-64 teams in 2014.

The Patriot Division

<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor/Girls/2014-Girls-JNC/Patriot-Division>

General Information

- Registration for the Patriot Division will open on January 6, 2014 through the official event registration system, Advanced Event Systems (AES). <https://www.advancedeventsystems.com/splash.aspx>
- The maximum number of teams that will be accepted in each Patriot Age Division will be as follows:
 - 11 & Under Age Division: 24 Teams
 - 14, 15 and 16 & Under Age Divisions: 64 teams each
 - 17 & Under Age Division: 32 Teams
- The first 24* teams (11 & Under), 64* teams (14-16 & Under) and 32* teams (17 & Under) to register, based on date and time of entry in AES, will be notified through email that they have been *tentatively* accepted into this division. In the email, these teams will be given a specific deadline by which their Official Entry Form and entry fee must be received at the USA Volleyball National Office **AND** their housing must be booked through THS, in order to be officially accepted.
 - ▶ **PLEASE DO NOT** mail Official Entry Forms and fees to the USA Volleyball office **UNTIL** you have received notification of acceptance into the Patriot division from USA Volleyball Events Staff.
 - ▶ If teams fail to complete all entry requirements by the given deadline, they will automatically be moved to the bottom of the wait list.
 - ▶ All teams must book their housing through THS in the Patriot Block and abide by the Stay & Play Policy.
- Teams that are not accepted as the top 24 teams (11 & Under age division), the top 64 teams (14 & Under through 16 & Under age divisions), or the top 32 teams (17 & Under age division), will be placed on a wait list based on their date and time of entry in AES. This wait list will be posted on the USA Volleyball website.
- If a team receives a Patriot bid and then later qualifies for a higher division, that team's Patriot bid will be awarded to the next team in line on the wait list (barring any team whose club has already met their team limit) and their entry materials will be transferred to their new division.

***Please note: the Patriot division will be limited to 2 teams per club, per age group in the 14 & Under through 17 & Under age groups. The 11 & Under age group will be limited to 1 team per club. If the age groups are not filled, we will then consider increasing this limit.**

2014 JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL QUALIFIER SCHEDULE

<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor/Girls/Girls-Qualifiers>

Colorado Crossroads	12's - 15's	Mar 8-10
Colorado Crossroads	16's - 18's	Mar 14-16
Mideast Nat Qualifier	12's, 13's, 14's, 15A	Mar 14-16
Mideast Nat Qualifier	15O, 15 USA, 16's, 17's, 18's	Mar 21-23
Pacific Northwest Qual	12's, 13's, 14's, 16USA, 16A	Mar 21-23
Pacific Northwest Qual.	15's, 16O, 17's, 18's	Mar 28-30
Southern California	15O, 16's, 17's, 18's	Mar 22-24
Southern California	12's, 13's, 14's, 15USA, 15A	Mar 28-30
Disney Volleyball Showcase (Orlando, Fla)	All Ages & Divisions	Mar 28-30
Big South	12's - 18's	Apr 4-6
Sho-Me Qualifier	12's, 13's, 14's, 15's	Apr 5-7
Sho-Me Qualifier	16's, 17's, 18's	Apr 11-13
Northeast Qualifier	15's, 16's (Philadelphia, PA)	Apr 12-14
Northeast Qualifier	11's, 12's, 17's, 18's (Philadelphia, PA)	Apr 18-20
Northeast Qualifier	13's, 14's (Gaylord National)	Apr 18-20
Lone Star Classic	10's -11's	Apr 12-13
Lone Star Classic	13's, 14's, 15USA, 15A, 15 Select	Apr 12-14
Lone Star Classic	12's, 15O, 16's, 17's, 18's, Boys (Sat-Sun)	Apr 18-20
Far Western	12's, 13's, 14's, 15USA, 15A	Apr 12-14
Far Western	15O, 16's, 17's, 18's	Apr 25-27
Northern Lights	12's, 13's, 14's, 15's	Apr 18-20
Northern Lights	16's, 17's, 18's	Apr 25-27



Lone Star Region USA Volleyball

February 2013 News-

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