

Commissioner's Notes

The 2006 Season is moving along, even with the new on-line registration system. I'm sure many of you will agree that we have had a number of problems getting the initial registrations completed. Many of you thought that because you were registered last year all you had to do was have someone give you the password and user name and you would be good to go. Well, you have to remember that last season we were in a totally different system and there were no user names or passwords. The first thing to be done, when renewing your membership, was to have the computer develop and send you the password and user name. The logical way for the initial renewal was to use your email address as the user name, and use a portion of your personal data for the password. And, that's exactly what they did. Your user name was the same as the email, except when you had more than one person using the same email address. That was one of our first problems, too many people trying to register other members and using their own email address, instead of that of the person being registered. Now, many of the members have an email address listed that doesn't belong to them. Each of you should now go into the system and check your email and make sure it is correct. Another major problem was that many of you weren't getting the initial email, from USA Volleyball, informing you of the user name and password. The messages were being sent, but interpreted by the email server as junk mail or SPAM. Most of us have our system filters set to eliminate as much junk mail as possible. And, that is exactly what was happening.

There were many other problems that could have been, and still could be resolved, by simply call me or Dick Kappel. Both phone numbers are listed in the on-line registration instructions, on our Region Website in the Region Contacts section. **Instructions! What's that?** Yes, we have instructions and examples on the website. As a matter of fact, one individual even printed one of the examples and then used whiteout, and inserted his own information. Other problems were created when we tried registering a member who was in another region last season. We now have it so that we can and make the transfer here in the Region. Initially, we had to send a message to USA Volleyball and they had to initiate all the action. If you know of someone who is having a problem because they were in another region last year, just give me a call and we can get them cleared over the phone. Many people try and resolve all their problems via email. On this end, that doesn't work. I have to ask many questions, and find out what has already been tried before I can try and resolve the problem. And, that can only be done over the phone. So, if you or anyone you know, are have a registration problem, please give one of us a call. We haven't yet failed to get anyone registered.

Club directors, most of you have been activated by USAV as administrators for your club. This means that you can simply log-on to your record (CLUB MGMT area), and have immediate access to all your data. This includes your current members as well as the unpaid ones. It is also your responsibility to create your teams, in your database. You then must add your paid members to their respective teams. This is not done in the Region Office, for either adult or junior teams. You, the club director, must do it. I noticed, when screening the files, that many of you haven't yet created your teams, and/or listed your players. This is something you need to do, immediately. Many of you are going to find yourselves going to tournaments and having players not being allowed to play because they're not on your roster. You should be keeping your data updated and printing new rosters for each tournament. Right now we have almost 1,000 individuals who have registered on-line but are still listed as "UNPAID". This should not be. Each club director should check their Unpaid Members List daily, and see who you have that needs to complete the registration process.

For our junior programs, we have major tournaments and qualifiers starting soon. I have already started getting those Saturday morning calls wanting to know the registration numbers for players who are not listed on the rosters. In many of those cases the players are listed as unpaid. That means the player is not eligible to participate in any sanctioned event. Also, what about that coach who hasn't yet paid? They too are not eligible to participate, even in a practice session. If they are required background screening, it isn't even started until they are paid and the Waiver & Release of Liability is received in the Region Office. As many of you know, in our Regionally sanctioned events we are allowing individual go on-line and register just prior to an event and turn in their waiver and fees at the tournament site. This should be done when you aren't able to get everything to me, at least seven days prior to the event. **In the mail doesn't hack it.** Just remember when presenting the forms at the tournament site, inform the tournament hosts that they must mail the forms to me, immediately after the tournament, and then check your records to make sure that your status is updated within a reasonable time. Sometime we have to go back to tournament hosts and find the registrations. Now, this will not work for out of Region events. There you must have everything done in advance and proof of registration (rosters) with you.

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Deadline for next newsletter April 15, 2006

2006 USA VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The adult pre-tournament package is already on the USA Volleyball web site (www.usavolleyball.org). All events will be played in New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 27 - Jun 3, 2006. On-line entry information and fee are available at the above site. Entry deadlines have been established by USA Volleyball and the Lone Star Region. Deadlines are as follows:

- Adult Nationals: Open; Masters (60, 65, 70, 75, 80); U-Volley; Co-Ed - **In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; Mar 10, 2006**

- Adult Nationals: Club (AA, A, BB, B); Masters & Seniors (40, 45, 50, 55) - **In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; Mar 24, 2006**

The Junior National Championships will be in Atlanta, Georgia and Minneapolis, Minnesota. Additional information and entry instructions are outlined in this issue. Entry deadlines are as follows:

- Girls Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships (all ages) - **In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; Apr 14, 2006**

- Boys Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships (all ages) - **In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; May 26, 2006**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The annual Board of Directors meeting will be on Friday, April 7th. The meeting is open to all members and will be at the Woodward Hotel (IH-35 & Woodward); 3401 S. IH 35, South; Austin, TX; (512) 448-2444 or 1-800-966-3927. The meeting is scheduled to start at 8:00 pm. Those positions up for elections are:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>INCUMBENT</u>
Vice Commissioner	Hal Naumann
Secretary	Regina Daniel
Referee's Chairman	Thomas Hoy
Junior Development Director	Dick Kappel
Tournament Director	Vicki Barnes
Player Representative (Men)	Pat Johnston
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 (NLT March 7, 2006) to:

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

or

REGINA DANIEL, Secretary
914 South Hill
Alvin, TX 77511
Fax (281) 824-0220

From the Scorekeepers Table

We have had at least 26 clinics as you are reading this. Time is running out...! For those of you who have made the clinic, good job!...now it's time to get those scoresheets in to finish up. If you wonder what your status is go to our website (<http://www.lsvolleyball.org>) click on Officials, then Scorekeeper Status. If you have finished you will have received a card and letter from me, if not, check the "Application on file not complete" link. Look for the missing items and get it done.

See you at Regionals,

Steve Crane
Scorekeeper Chair

FROM THE REFEREE STAND

There have been different interpretations of rule 11.1.2 floating around this season and I wanted to clarify this rule. First, rule 11.1.2 is a change for this season. Next, the change is--it is a violation when a player's hand (hands or fingers) pass beyond the plane of the net, contacting the ball in an attempt to direct the ball back into the player's own playing space. A player can follow through on an attack to the opponent's playing space as long as they have initiated the contact on the player's side of the playing space. A player can block over the net and in the opponent's playing space as long as the contact does not "interfere with the opponents' play before or during the latter's attack hit." The block and attack are played the same way as we have allowed play for years.

Again, in a "set or save" situation any player that breaks the plane of the net, at any time during the attempt to bring the ball back to their playing space, will be called for a violation (signal #24). Be sure to get to a clinic soon in order to cover this rule in others for this season.

Thomas Hoy, Referee Chair

Junior News

Dick Kappel, Jr. Development Director

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

1. The 2006 USA Junior National Championship (JOVC) Tournament in Atlanta will host both Club and Open divisions with two subdivisions in Club - National and American. The Lone Star Junior Regional tournament on May 6-7 will qualify one team for the National Club division and three teams for the American Club division for ages 13-18. The 12-year-old division will qualify three teams for the National Club division only. The Open division will be composed of teams that win bids at national qualifying events.

2. Please note that the application date for the Junior National tournament is PRIOR to the Lone Star Junior Regional tournament.

Important Note: No LS regional team can be accepted to Junior Nationals unless the team representative has submitted all Junior National entry materials to Will Vick by **April 14**. There are no exceptions.

3. There is also the Invitational Tournament. Applications for this tournament must be submitted separately and will be accepted on a "first-come-first-serve" basis. If a team enters, accepts and commits to the Invitational tournament, that team is no longer eligible for a bid to the Junior National Championship. A team may submit an early entry without incurring obligation. That entry will be time stamped and placed on a list in order of submission. Commitment to the Invitational may be made at a later date if space is still available. Regions no longer hold bids for this event.

4. Teams should make every effort to use the on-line entry system as outlined in the 2006 pre-tournament manual. See USA Volleyball website <http://www.usavolleyball.org/>

5. List of important dates:

- March 1 – Entry opens for Invitational Tournament
(entry closes for Invitational when filled or on May 8)
- April 5 – deadline to register for LS Junior Regional Tournament
- April 14 – LS region deadline for application to attend Junior Nationals
- May 6-7 – LS Junior Regional Tournament
- May 26 – Boys LS region deadline for application to attend Junior Nationals
- June 28-July 5 – USA Junior National Tournament
- June 29-July 2 – USA Junior Invitational Tournament
- July 5-12 – Boys USA Junior National Tournament

2006 Lone Star Junior Regional Championship Tournament

The 2006 Junior Regional Championship tournament will be held on May 6 – 7 in Houston, for ages 15-18 and in Austin, for ages 12-14.

Teams that have already qualified to play at Junior Nationals will be allowed to “play up” in age division at the regional tournament.

The regional tournament will provide paid R1 referees, but each team must have a certified scorekeeper and referee (one person minimum for each team).

The top winners of each age division qualify to play at the Junior National Championship tournament in the "National Club and American Club" divisions (with properly and timely submitted entry materials).

The top teams from the LS Junior Regional Tournament qualify for a bid in the Club Divisions of the National Division and the American Division as follows:

12's	National: 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd place	American: n/a
13's-18's	National: 1 st place	American: 2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th place

Since all application deadlines for Junior Nationals are scheduled BEFORE the LS Junior Regional tournament, remember to submit all entry materials for Junior Nationals according to the requirements of the LS Region and the USA National Office.

2006 USA Junior National Girls' Volleyball Championships (JOVC)

Host City: Atlanta, Georgia.

Competition Dates: June 28 – July 5

Age Classifications & Dates:

- 12 and 13 Club: June 28 – July 1
- 14 Club and Open: June 28 – July 1
- 15 Club and Open: June 29 – July 2
- 16 Club and Open: July 1 – July 4
- 17 Club and Open: July 2 – July 5
- 18 Club and Open: July 2 – July 5

Note: In years past, some teams have seen their applications disqualified when they submitted late materials and failed to meet national deadlines. To avoid this disappointment, send entry materials (forms & fees) to Will Vick by **April 19**.

Texas Senior/Master Volleyball News

<http://www.tsmvolleyball.org/>

The SENIORS: Those of you born in the year 1956 or sooner, in volleyball, you are considered to be a “senior.” As they say “sorry bout that,” but, you and me been labeled when it comes to volleyball.

USA Volleyball will hold the 2006 Open Championships in New Orleans, first session begins May 27 (even numbers) and the second session begins May 31 (odd numbers) and if you desire to play in the “senior division”, that is 50 years old plus, and play with a TSVA team, you must register using the Internet to join USAV and your “club” is TS/MV. When registering and you come to the club question which has a down arrow (click the down arrow) and scroll down the list until you come to TS/MV, with it highlighted, click. If you do not have a computer, I will register you. The deadline will come probably in late March, time to “getter done.” My email is cthom@gvec.net, tele # 830-609-3941.

There is so much and so little about volleyball these days. So many players that are not playing and there is so little news media about volleyball. In my area, there is more news in the papers about “cockfighting” than “volleyball.” Volleyball, especially adults, must find a way to inform the public of all the activities. I witnessed the final four of Division I of the NCAA, the information was scarce and misinforming. I can testify to the misinformed. The Alamo Dome was not full, I don't wonder why! Just getting tickets was a problem, I witnessed that as well.

The Texas Age Group Championships, a yearly event will be held May 13 in the DFW Metroplex area. Final arrangements have not been cemented, but that is the plan. This event is for both the Masters and Seniors Age Groups.

Carl Thompson

2006 - LONE STAR HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

The 2006 - Lone Star Regional High Performance program will be kicking off the Tryout Sessions within the next couple of weeks.

Teams will be formed from the very best of our Region athletes to compete in the USA High Performance International and National Championships in July. The Lone Star High Performance teams have medaled at the USA Regional Championships for the last three years. For 2006, the location of the event has not been selected at this time but should be announced mid-February.

Athletes must tryout to be in consideration for the Lone Star HP teams. Team rosters with alternates will be announced in April. Coaching staff for each team will be announced mid-March.

Age groups, while different from the Club age structure, are inline with FIVB and International age group definitions. This year's HP Championships will take on a slightly different flavor - more International competition. Lone Star Regional Youth division teams will have the opportunity to compete in the *International Youth Division*. There will only be 8 Regional teams who are selected for this level of competition and the Lone Star Region is the only Region to receive 2 automatic bids.

The Tryout age divisions that will be offered this season are:

GSEL – (formerly known as HPC)	Born in 1992, 1993 & after
GYNT -	Born in 1990 and 1991

Tryout - date, location and time:

Sunday – Feb. 12 th	Houston	Willowbrook Sports Center - 2:30 / 5:30
Friday - Mar. 10 th	Houston	George R. Brown (tentative) – 6:00 / 9:00
Sunday - Mar. 26 th	San Antonio	UTSA - 1:30 / 3:30

The Junior Division (JNT) will only be offered through USAV High Performance Program beginning 2006.

On-Site registration for all locations will be **ONE HOUR** before the actual tryout time. The physical testing will be immediately following sign-up; warm up will be done before the tryout time as well.

Tryout fee: \$35.00

Cost to participate on the Lone Star Regional High Performance team will be announced after the location of the Championships has been selected. Even though we will try and keep the fee to a minimum, the location of this event will add to the lodging and travel.

Expected training sessions will be in Houston and Austin with three to four days of training in July before leaving for the Championship. Training also may be conducted at the Mizuno 3rd Coast Volleyball Championships.

The selection committee members for the HP coaches and athletes are:

Jeff Ham – Texas Tornados
Glen Lietzke – Austin Juniors
Laura Groff - Alamo Juniors

Register early with the attached form or download form from our web site.
Pre-sending the form and fee will expedite the tryout process.

Please check our web site (www.austinjuniors.com) for complete information; questions, please contact either Patrick Nicholas at 512-479-8776, ext: 232 or Donise King at 512-479-8776, ext: 224.

2006 Lone Star Region High Performance Tryouts

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Position: S MB OH RS Lib
 Address: _____ Year of High School Graduation: _____
 City: _____ Zip: _____ State: _____ Grade: _____
 Phone: (____) _____ Parent Phone : (____) _____
 Club Team: _____ Club Age Group: _____ Club Jersey #: _____
 School: _____ **Circle Tryout Date: Feb. 12, Mar 10, Mar 26**

Tryout Age Groups:

_____ Lone Star Region Youth Team [born in 1990, 1991]

_____ Lone Star Region USA Select [born in 1992, 1993, and after]

Athlete's E-mail: _____

Parent's E-mail: _____

Note: When writing a "one", please emphasize the top flare and bottom underscore (1); when writing a 'zero', please write a slash through it. Your e-mail address must be legible - this is how we will communicate with you.

Did you tryout for the 2005 Lone Star High Performance Program? _____

Did you play on a 2005 Lone Star High Performance Program Team? _____

Shoe Size: _____ Biker Size: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____ Jersey Size: _____

Office Use Only

Cash Amount: _____ Check #: _____ Check Amount #: _____ Initials: _____ Tryout # _____

Make checks to "Lone Star High Performance" - Tryout Fee \$35
425 Woodward, Austin, TX 78704
512-479-8776, ext 232
(Walk-up registrations at the tryouts will be accepted also)

Friday, April 14th @ 6:30pm a feature match with
The University of Texas vs. New Mexico State
University
Admission Adults \$3 and Kids \$2

THEN

**Texas Tornados 1st Annual College Spring
Tournament**

When: Saturday, April 15th starting at 8:30am

Where: Texas Tornados Training Facility, Houston

Who:

Baylor University

Oklahoma University

Southern Methodist University

Texas Christian University

Texas State University

University of Florida

University of Houston

University of Texas

Texas Tech

New Mexico State

Rice

UNLV

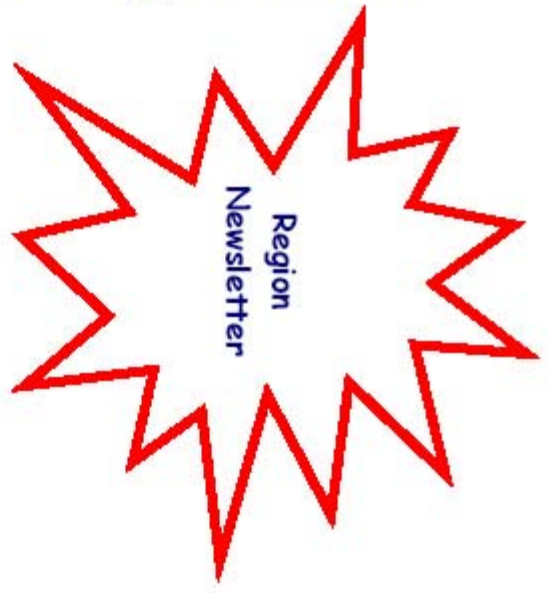
Admission: Adults: \$6 Kids: \$4

Why: 4 of the 12 teams competed in the 2005 NCAA tournament and 1 finished in the top 8. Watch some of the best college volleyball being played in the Lone Star Region!

For more information: www.texastornados.org

Kara Waddell
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Joe's Star Region



February, 2006

