

USA VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL REFEREE

I. Certification and Application Requirements

- A. Must have served as a certified USAV Junior National referee for at least one (1) season and be in good standing with the Indoor Officials' Commission.
- B. File the official application with the Director for National Referee Evaluations and Certifications. Application forms and instructions for completing them are available at:
http://www.volleyballreftraining.com/resources_applications.php.
- C. Obtain all approvals as noted in the instructions and submit the application fee as noted.
- D. The deadline for submitting an application is April 1. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance status by May 1.
- E. Demonstrate proficiency as a scorer by successfully completing the written scorer examination and scoring clinic (the specific clinic and exam is spelled out in the application instructions) found in USAV Academy. As part of the evaluation process, each candidate will be required to keep score; and to take and pass a scorer's practical exam at the certification event.
- F. USA Boys' Junior National Championships, the NCVF College Sports Club Championships or other high level boys' or men's volleyball officiating experiences within the last season are given primary consideration; however, other high level boys' or mens' competition is also given consideration.
- G. Complete the online tournament procedures for the event before arrival.
- H. Attend the designated USA Volleyball event and successfully complete all requirements at that tournament. The event requirements include (but are not limited to):
 1. Attendance at all mandatory pre-tournament and Candidates' meetings.
 2. Availability to referee at the event until the completion of the rating session.'
 3. Successful completion of the evaluation sessions.
 4. Forfeiture of all match fees to the Indoor Officials' Commission of USA Volleyball for all matches worked during the rating process. Candidates will retain fees earned from matches worked before or after the completion of the rating process.
- I. Upon successful completion of these requirements, the candidate will receive a USA Volleyball National referee certification and patch.

A referee who is currently a PAVO certified National referee may, by reciprocal agreement, become a USAV National referee candidate. For more information, go to https://volleyballreftraining.com/resources_officiating_resources.php. -The

Director for National Referee Evaluations and Certification, upon evaluation of any PAVO candidate at a national rating site, may award:

- a. certification as a USAV National referee;
- b. certification as a USAV Junior National referee;
- c. no certification.

II. Responsibilities and Entitlements

- A. After certification by the National Commission for Evaluation and Development, a USA Volleyball National referee will be entitled to wear the official USA Volleyball National referee patch while officiating at USA Volleyball-sanctioned events.
- B. A USA Volleyball National referee is authorized to officiate USA Volleyball-sanctioned competition within all USAV regions, and is qualified to officiate at the USAV Boys' and Girls' Junior National Championships and the USA Volleyball Adult Open Championships.
- C. Certification as a USA Volleyball National referee is valid for a period of four (4) years. To maintain certification, the referee must complete the following.
 - 1. Annual requirements.
 - a. Register as a member of a USA Volleyball region and remain an active referee with his/her RVA.
 - b. Have a current background screening on file with USA Volleyball
 - c. Remit annual dues and clinic fee as levied by the Indoor Officials Commission of USA Volleyball by November 1.
 - d. Complete the USA Volleyball national-level pre-season curriculum by 11:59 pm on January 4.
 - e. Complete the online USA Volleyball National-level rules exam.
 - i. Must be taken closed book
 - ii. Must be completed within 90 minutes
 - iii. Must be completed by 11:59 pm on March 1
 - iv. Must achieve a score of 90%
 - f. Complete the USA Volleyball scorer exam A
 - g. Complete the USA Volleyball National Referee clinic by 11:59 pm March 1.
 - 2. Attendance requirements for the first two certification terms - must be a full day commitment as a referee at any of the required events.
 - a. Serve as a referee at the USA Volleyball Adult Open Championships or one of the USA Junior National Championships in at least two different years during each of the first two certification terms.
 - b. Serve as a referee at the USA Volleyball Adult Open Championships or one of the USA Junior National Championships, a USA Volleyball Qualifier or Bid Tournament, the Starlings Tournament, or the NCVF Club Championships during one of the remaining two years of each of the first two certification terms.

- c. Submit to re-evaluation by the National Commission for Evaluation and Certification at any time while officiating at a USAV sanctioned event.
 - d. May be absent from all national-level competition one year out of each of the first two certification terms.
 - 3. Attendance requirements for subsequent terms after the first two certification terms.
 - a. Same attendance requirements as in section 2 above, but if serving as a referee at a championship listed in section 2.a and a tournament listed in section 2.b in the same year, can be absent from national-level competition for two separate years in that certification term.
 - b. Serving as a head referee, rater, or trainer at the BJNC, GJNC, USA Volleyball Adult Open Championships or HP Championships.
 - i. Allowed as attendance requirement in only one year of each certification term.
- D. A USAV National referee encountering unusual difficulty in meeting the attendance requirements may request, in a letter or email, a one-year extension of certification. The request must be submitted to the Associate Chair, Indoor National Officials Commission, Referees.
 - 1. Referees who are granted an extension must continue to complete all annual requirements.
- E. A USAV National referee with a minimum of two (2) certification terms as a National Referee who allows that certification to expire, has two options for recertification:
 - 1. If the referee wishes to re-certify within the three years immediately following expiration of the rating, the referee must:
 - a. Submit an application and a summary of volleyball activities for the previous three (3) years.
 - b. Affirm membership within the respective USA Volleyball region during the period since expiration.
 - c. Send the application and summary to the Director for National Referee Evaluation and Certification, who may authorize the candidate to attend a designated event for re-evaluation. The recertification candidate must pay the candidate fee, and follow the procedures as noted in Section I.I above.
 - 2. If the referee wishes to re-certify after the three-year period following expiration of the National Referee certification, the referee must apply through his/her region as noted in Section I above.
 - a. Applications for new National referees will be given priority over applications submitted under the provisions for expired certifications.

III. Repercussions for not fulfilling requirements

- A. National Officials Commission Dues
 - 1. A USA Volleyball National referee who does not submit his/her dues by the deadline will be assessed a late fee of 100%.

2. If the dues and the late fee are not received by the subsequent deadline, the National Referee certification will be rescinded.
- B. National-level Pre-Season Curriculum
1. If the referee fails to attend or complete the national-level pre-season curriculum by January 4, attendance at any national level tournament in that season will not count towards attendance requirements. The referee will also not be accepted to referee at any of the JNC tournaments or the USA Volleyball Adult Open Championships that season.
 2. If the referee fails to complete the national-level pre-season curriculum by May 31, his/her National referee certification will be rescinded.
- C. National-level rules exam
1. A USA Volleyball National referee who completes the National-level rules exam after the deadline will not be confirmed to work as a referee for one of the USA Junior National Championships or the Adult Open Championships during that season unless one of the tournaments is in need of referees, even if the referee must attend to maintain certification.
 2. If the referee attends a certifying tournament in the year the National-level rules exam is completed after the deadline, he/she will not receive credit for attendance in that season.
 3. If the rules exam is not completed by May 31 of that season, the referee will lose his/her USAV National referee certification.
 4. If the referee fails to achieve the minimum score of 90% on the National-level rules exam, but completes the exam by the testing deadline, he/she will be placed on a one year probation.
 - a. During the probationary year, the referee may not referee the 16 through 18 Open level at either JNC or the PVL and Open Divisions at the Adult Open Nationals, and will not be assigned to any Finals match.
 - b. If the referee does not achieve the minimum score on the National-level rules exam for a second consecutive year, his/her National referee certification will be rescinded.
- D. National Referee Clinic
1. If the referee fails to complete the national-level referee clinic by March 1, attendance at any national level tournament in that season will not count towards attendance requirements. The referee will also not be accepted to referee at either of the JNC tournaments or the Adult Open Nationals in that season.
 2. If the referee fails to complete the national referee clinic by May 31, his/her National referee certification will be rescinded.
- E. If the referee fails to complete A, B, C, or D for a second year in a row by the initial deadline; his/her National referee certification will be rescinded.
1. Officials Commission Dues – November 1
 2. National-level pre-season curriculum – January 4

3. National-level rules exam – March 1
 4. National Referee clinic – March 1
- F. USAV Membership
1. If the referee does not become a member of USAV by March 1, the National certification will be rescinded
- G. Attendance requirements
1. A USA Volleyball National referee who does not attend the required tournaments during any certification period, and does not ask for the one-year extension of certification, will be placed on a one-year probation period.
 - a. In the year following probation, if the referee does not attend a required tournament, the USA Volleyball National certification will be rescinded.
 - b. In the year following probation, if the referee attends a required tournament, a one-year certification extension will be granted. If the referee attends a required tournament in the second year following the probation, a new four (4) year certification period is awarded.
- H. Re-evaluation
1. A USAV National referee will be formally evaluated as both a first and second referee at least ONCE in each certification term
 - a. Evaluations may occur as often as every two years
 - i. Evaluations will not occur in consecutive years if passing scores are received
 - b. Consecutive evaluations will not be done by the same evaluator
 - c. The evaluator will conduct a formal debriefing as soon as possible depending on the availability of the referee and evaluator
 2. A passing score of 90 must be achieved as first and second referee
 3. If a passing score is not achieved on the first evaluation as first or second referee, the referee will receive another evaluation in the position(s) where previously unsuccessful
 - a. This second evaluation may occur at the same event or at the next event attended by the referee where the rating team is active
 4. If a passing score is not achieved on the second evaluation,
 - a. The referee will have the opportunity to attend the USAV National referee certification process the following season
 - i. No application fee or recommendation form signatures are required if attending the following season
 - ii. Will not be accepted to referee at any USAV National Championship until the referee has successfully completed the National referee certification process
 - iii. If the referee does not successfully complete the certification process the following season:
 - A. National referee certification will only be maintained by following the full National referee candidate application and

evaluation process, including fee and recommendation signatures; or

- B. The referee can opt to continue officiating as a USAV Junior National referee
- b. If the referee has a minimum of two (2) certification terms as a USAV National Referee, or at least one (1) certification term as a USAV National Referee and at least one (1) certification term as USAV Junior National Referee, and is otherwise in good standing, he or she will have the option to retire