



## Digs – Fall 2016

### From the President

*Rebecca Johannes, CHRVA President*

The season is upon us and as we all prepare for the club season, CHRVA continues to identify and implement process and technology changes to improve the membership experience.

Have you seen the new-and-improved [CHRVA website](#)? If not, check it out! It's the Region's primary source for communicating information to you. We recommend that you visit the website often.

[Webpoint](#) is the membership portal and it's where all information on certifications, background screening, membership status and player information is maintained. For example:

- Coaches, you have access to all rosters on which you are listed.
- Members, you need username, email address and member identification number for casting votes in the Spring.

Planning for Regionals is underway and dates have been published. Fellowships information for the start of the season will be on the official website this week.

I look forward to a great season and seeing everyone on the courts!



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### Commissioner's Corner

*Lisa DiGiacinto, CHRVA Commissioner*

If you haven't already [renewed your membership](#), please do so today. Remember to look on [our award-winning and recently updated website](#) for all of the information you need to be active in our region including managing your players, teams, coaches, etc.

Certificates of insurance for practices or tournament hosting need to be requested again in order for your practice or tournaments to be covered by USAV insurance. Remember, all participants must be USAV/CHRVA members for the USAV coverage to be valid. So if you use a site where multiple sports are being played, the USAV insurance only covers our CHRVA-sanctioned volleyball activity. When requesting certificates of insurance, you must supply me with your team/club name and address, the facility name, address and dates of use. For Juniors clubs, before you request certificates of insurance you must have your tryout schedule approved. If you are a team or club that does not use the USAV insurance, you must provide me with a copy of your own insurance prior to the start of any activities in order to be in good standing. Allow three-to-five business days to receive your certificate once you [email me](#) the information.

The next progression of [the required USAV/USOC SafeSport training](#) will be implemented this upcoming season with all Juniors coaches required to complete the training in order to be placed on a Juniors roster. A Juniors club is encouraged to invite all of your parents and players to take the SafeSport training. The training is a 90-minute presentation with information on keeping our athletes safe.

Time to lace up those shoes and play volleyball!



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### Adult Program Update

There are a lot of BIG CHANGES coming for the 2017 adult season! It's practically a whole new program and we can't wait!

### Changes

#### Officiating

For the 2017 season, the men and WAA/A tournaments will pilot a new program where all regular season tournaments will be self-refed *and* both the refs and scorers will not be required to be certified. In order to make that work, we needed to make some additional changes:

- Annual rule changes will be posted on each of the four adult webpages.
- Matching uniforms and numbered jerseys are optional.
- R1, R2, and score flipper will be responsible for catching illegal use of Libero (i.e. rotating to the front row, serving illegally).
- We'll continue to use the official scoresheet but only the top part, and the end results will be required to be completed. Anyone who cares to fill out the entire sheet will be welcome to do so.
- The Tournament Director will appoint two other individuals (one from each court) to serve on the protest committee in order to resolve issues using the Handbook and DCR. Hosts will be required to provide either hard copies or a laptop or tablet. Researching rules on phones will not be allowed.
- All teams will agree to this when signing the team registration form. This signature also holds your team to act with courtesy and consideration toward all work teams and each other.

As of right now, there are no plans to make changes to WBB/B. If this season goes well, we will ask those players and re-evaluate.

All of the above will be included in the Handbook under "Pilot Programs for Adults."

#### Borrowing Players

If a team is playing up a level (i.e. BB team playing in an A tournament), the BB team may borrow ONE A player. In this case that player will be treated as if he or she is from another club so the team must follow all rules associated with borrowing from outside the club (applies to Adults only).

### New Playing Membership for Adult Players

CHRNA has created a new membership category for adults. It is a one-day membership for \$20 that allows someone to play in one tournament during the season. This person can register up until morning check-in. The team rep must write the player's name on the roster with their membership #. The player must show the team rep the official membership using their phone or the player must be able to print a copy of the membership receipt and turn it in at check-in with the team roster. Our Registrar, Barb Cline, will check all rosters during the season for validity. The player can upgrade to a full membership at any time by logging into [Webpoint](#) and paying the balance of \$30. There are a few things to keep in mind:

- This is for adults only.
- This is not available as a collegiate full season membership; however, after playing, a collegiate player can update to full membership by providing verification of fulltime student status.
- This membership is good for ONE date only.
- When players register for this membership, they must enter the date of the tournament.
- In order to play at Regionals or Nationals, the player must upgrade to full membership status.
- This membership is not counted as one of the six players needed to register a team.

### Split Playoffs

For the past three years we have held split playoffs for multi-divisional tournaments as long as there were a minimum of three teams in each division. At this time we have finally "nailed down" the process of how the playoffs will be held and how many points will be awarded in each scenario. It has been documented and the details will appear in the next edition of the CHRNA Handbook.

### Team Movement

Per the Handbook, players' levels are determined by the team on which they play. You may call yourself a BB player when you register in [Webpoint](#), but if you play on an A team, your level of play is A. That means you cannot be borrowed by a BB team. It was not clear how this affected players when a team was moved up or down through voluntary or involuntary movement.

When a team is moved up or down a level either voluntarily or through forced movement, all players on that roster *who have already played* then become classified at the new level. If the team has been moved up, those players can no longer play at the lower level. Players who have not yet played may be moved to another team in the club that is playing at the lower level.

Also, sometime between the last week of January and the first week of February of each season, the teams will be evaluated based on the results of the tournaments played so far. The purpose of this is to even out the number of teams in each division for the good of the Region. If any teams are tagged for movement up or down, the coordinator will ask the team if they would be willing to move. If a team says no, the Tournament Committee will discuss if the move should be initiated through the Eligibility Committee. This would only happen if a team's results to date are very much skewed in the direction of movement. The Eligibility Committee will hold

a meeting and make a determination using feedback from the Tournament Committee, the results to date compared to other teams in that division, and feedback from the team.

## **Player and Team Registration**

### Individual Membership

You can still renew your membership and it will be good through October 31, 2017. Log in using your username and password from last year. Need help? [Contact the Registrar.](#)

### Team Registration

The Registrar is now accepting team registrations. You will find the official 2017 form [in the Adult section](#) of the CHRVA website and the Registrar will also have it. You will not be allowed to use a form from a past season. This year's form will include signature confirmation that your team will abide by all CHRVA and USAV rules at tournaments where there are no uniformed referees. This is very important.

In order to register your team you will need the following:

- Six or more players who have renewed membership or newly joined, have all paid in full, and provided any required documentation.
- If your team was registered in 2016, you do not have to provide more than the players' full names UNLESS they:
  - Have moved
  - Changed their names
  - Are new to your team
- You will need help from the Registrar if a player is coming from another region, is attached to a Juniors team or needs to change a name or address in [Webpoint](#).

You cannot play in a tournament without a team number. Once you have met the above criteria with the Registrar, she will assign you your team number.

If you have any questions, [contact the Registrar or your division coordinator](#).

## **Tournament Schedule**

The Adult tournament schedule has been posted on [the CHRVA website](#). The season starts in early December and ends the weekend before the Regional Championships. There will be no tournaments scheduled during the two weekends of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, Super Bowl Sunday and Easter weekend. There may not be a tournament scheduled for each weekend for the divisions with the fewest teams registered.

## **Adult Regional Championships**

The Adult Regionals are scheduled for Saturday, April 22 at the Maryland Juniors Sports Center in Jessup, Maryland.

## **Adult USAV National Championships**

The Adult National Championships will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The exact dates, divisions and hotels will be announced in January. The [Adult section](#) of the CHRVA website will have links to information, entry details and hotel sites once they are available.

Don't forget that only regular division teams that have met the 30 percent rule and ALL conglomerate age teams will receive a rebate as long as you provide a copy of your entry form to the Commissioner by her deadline.



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### From the Ladder

*Rebecca Johannes, Referee Chair*

As we ramp up for the new season, here are a few important notes.

There will not be any rule changes for the season. The rules books provided last year are still current through 2017. You can find a link on [the “Officials” section](#) of the CHRVA website.

The certification process will begin on November 1. There will be modifications to the process. Please visit [the “Officials” section](#) of the CHRVA website for detailed instructions. It is critical to read the directions carefully. For any questions regarding scorer certification please email [scorer.certification@chrva.org](mailto:scorer.certification@chrva.org). For any questions with referee certification please email [referee.certification@chrva.org](mailto:referee.certification@chrva.org).

Please remember that in order to hold a referee certification, you must be a certified scorer. Check [the website](#) for further information.

I have been appointed as Referee Chair. I’d like to say thank you to Bryan Strong for holding the position of Referee Chair for the past several years. Thanks, Bryan!





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### The Scorer's Table – Pens Up!

*Dixie Collins, Scorer Chair*

Here are some tips and reminders as we prepare for the 2016–2017 USA Volleyball Season!

### Scorer AND Referee Certification Process

We continue to look for opportunities to streamline the certification process for our member community. For the past six years we have made incremental changes to enhance the process and these are the changes for the 2016 -2017 season!



- The certification process is scheduled to kick-off on November 1, 2016.
- For all Adult Provisional and Regional Scorers and Referees with an expiration date of 10/31/16, we are reducing the number of steps you will have to do to register for training this year. Please refer to [the website](#) for details.

### Scoresheet Changes

There are no changes to the scoresheet this season!

### **REMEMBER:**

For detailed certification or recertification instructions go to:

- The [Scorer Requirements](#) web page
- The [Referee Requirements](#) web page

### Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like to get more involved in supporting the CHRVA community? There are numerous activities available, for example:

- Scorer Rater Team
- Scoresheet Review Committee
- Designated Regional Championship Scorer

If you are interested in volunteering [contact Dixie Collins](#), CHRVA Scorer Chair.





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### Juniors News (Indoor)

*Dado Singer, Director of Junior Programs*

*Cindy Hillard, Boys Program Administrator*

*Gina Trinsey, Girls Program Administrator*

### #1: It's Club Tryout Time for Juniors

For many of our Junior players, fall is the time for high school and recreational league volleyball. Some of our clubs also offer clinics to help players refine and maintain their skills. [Visit the Juniors section of the CHRVA website](#) and click on “2016/2017 Club Open Period Tryout Listing” to find the dates and times during which member clubs are holding tryouts.

Clubs cannot begin their tryouts before the beginning of the Open Tryout Period if they want to play in USAV tournaments. Once an offer is extended, it must be honored until the end of the Open Tryout Period. It is good form for a player to accept or decline an offer as early as possible, but if a player has offers from more than one club, the player has until the end of the Open Tryout Period to make up his or her mind. Clubs that hold their tryouts after the Open Tryout Period ends are not required to have a waiting period.

While the Open Tryout Period for Boys (all ages) occurred on October 14, the Girls is coming up in November.

- 13s and younger - 11:00 a.m. on Friday, November 4 through 11:00 p.m. on the following Wednesday, November 9
- 14s and older - 11:00 a.m. on Friday, November 11 through 11:00 p.m. on the following Wednesday, November 16

Please see [the website](#) for more information including FAQs.

Mark your calendar for other significant dates for the season (check the website for more info):

- Our region will be the site of a Girls' 18s qualifier at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center the weekend of January 21, 2017.
- Our regional championships have a significant change this year in that Girls' Open level championships for 12s through 17s will be held on the same weekend. Here are the dates for our Junior Regional Championships:
  - Boys – March 12, 2017
  - Girls 18s – March 5, 2017
  - Girls Open 12s thru 17s – April 1, 2017
  - Girls Club 12s & 14s – April 2, 2017

- Girls Club 13s & 15s – April 29, 2017
- Girls Club 16s & 17s – April 30, 2017

## #2: Important Reminders for Juniors and Club Directors

The new club season is rapidly approaching. Here are a some tips to get the season started off right!

### Register/Renew

[Use this link](#) to register as a CHRVA member or renew your membership. If you are new, visit [the “How to Register” page](#) on the CHRVA website and choose the option for New Members.

Coaches and adults who will be working during tryouts need to register, too! Background checks must be completed on adult registrations and this can take a few days at a minimum. Again, anyone working tryouts will want to be registered and cleared before those tryout dates.

Remember that ALL non-player roles (coaches, chaperones, managers, etc.) must have completed [SafeSport](#) training or they cannot be placed on a roster this season. The training is free but you still have to "purchase" it in the online store. Don't forget to enter your CHRVA membership number into your personal info on the SafeSport application so there is no delay in adding this certification to your [Webpoint](#) record. **Please note that in order to receive certification in Webpoint**, you must complete the full SafeSport Training Course. The SafeSport Parent and SafeSport Refresher courses will not be accepted for certification.

Of course, every coach must also be IMPACT Certified and you will find information for that on [our Juniors page](#) as well. Any new coach taking the IMPACT courses for the first time will note that the SafeSport Certification is now combined with that course, which means there's no need for those coaches to take IMPACT AND SafeSport as two separate courses.

### Tips for Club Directors

Here are a few tips that will help Club Directors get their Insurance Certificate and also to have their tryout dates posted on the CHRVA Web Site.

1. Club Directors must have a 2017 membership.
2. If you haven't already done so, Club Directors need to fill out the CHRVA Tryout form ("2017 Club Tryout Template" [on this page](#) on the CHRVA Website) and send it to [Charles Ezigbo](#). (Please make sure you do not alter the form and that you fill out the form by entering the information as requested only).
3. Club Directors can then request certificates of insurance from [the Commissioner](#). Requests must have the Club Name, Club Director's name and address, facility name and address and any special wording required by the facility.

Once the tryouts have been publicized on our website, the Club Director will receive his/her insurance certificate via email.

### **#3: Success at Nationals**

As we enter the 2016-2017 season, we want to recognize some great successes in 2016.

This year CHRVA had a banner year in boys volleyball with 11 teams going to Boys Nationals in Dallas and having one player, Jaylen Jasper, join the Boys Youth National Team.

#### **Boys Teams Off to Dallas**

Boys' volleyball continues to grow across the U.S. and the CHRVA region is no exception, with increases both in the quantity of boys playing and in the quality of their play. Of the 11 teams going to nationals, four of the teams qualified for the Open division through their competition results at national bid tournaments. We are very proud of all our boys' teams. The following Boys' teams competed in Dallas:

<u>Club and Team</u>	<u>Division</u>
Annapolis VBC 16U Boys	16 Club
Annapolis VBC 18U Boys	18 Club
BRYC Boys 14 National	14 Open
BRYC Boys 16 National	16 Open
BRYC Boys 17 National	17 Open
MVP 14 Red	14 Club
MVP 17 White	17 Club
NVVA 18 FIRE	18 Open
TVP 16	16 Club
TVP 18	18 Club
Time Out Boys 17s	17 Club



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### Juniors News from the Beach

*Irv Rodrigues, CHRVA Coordinator for Outdoor Volleyball*

CHRVA Juniors participated in good numbers in Mid-Atlantic Volleyball's Juniors and Adults divisions at the Mayor's Cup in September. Our advanced Juniors and Regional Beach-HP players led most Adult divisions.

[Visit MAV's Facebook](#) page for pictures.

Here's a recap of Juniors results:

- Juniors Doubles 14U 1st place Winners - Summer Hensley and Taylor Arnold
- Juniors Doubles 14UA 1st Place Winners - Jenna Black and Fiona Gonzalez Medina
- Juniors Doubles 16U 1st Place Winners - Annika Stevens and Jess Twilley
- Juniors Doubles 16U 2nd Place Winners - Jules Oravec and Chole Adam
- Triples Juniors 16U 1st Place Winner - Courtney Kirkpatrick, Isabelle Clavelli and Kelsey Donald
- Triples Juniors 16U 2nd Place Winners - Shelby Fedele, Mable Henry and Sophia Basler
- Doubles Womens A 2nd Place Winners - Piper Connors and Raychel Ehlers
- Doubles Womens B 1st Place Winners - Emma Cooper and Anna Torres
- Doubles Womens B 2nd Place Winners - Kathrine Fang and Kathryn Wilvert
- Doubles Womens BB 1st Place Winners - Curry Ward and Kasey Eastland
- Doubles Womens Open 1st Place Winners - Kelly Vieira and Jordan Mckinney (Junior)
- Doubles Mens 3rd Place Winners - Gavin Bukala and Jay Goettman
- Doubles Coed A 1st Place Winners - Savannah Siegrist (Junior) and Michael Bullaty
- Coed Doubles Open 2nd Place Winners - Jordan Makinney and Christian Phung



*(See the next two pages for select photos.)*











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### Beating the Odds

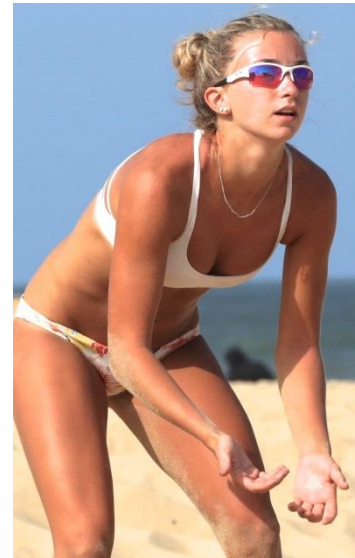
Jordan McKinney, class of 2018, knows about hard work and commitment. As a smaller sand volleyball player from Northern Virginia, she's had to work extra and be very creative in order to compete at the national level.

Jordan played in her first outdoor tournament when she was just 12 years old. She and her partner won that tournament and by the next summer she knew that beach volleyball was her sport and she wanted to play it in college. But things didn't come easy for her. She was an excellent defender but was told she needed an offensive game to really compete. And not just any offensive game; she needed to "be able to hit every shot, develop an aggressive serve, and be able to put the ball away."

Irv Rodrigues with CHRVA told Jordan, "You've got the defense but you need to develop a complete offensive and defensive game if you want to be able to compete nationally. I'll be honest... It's not going to be easy for you. You're going to have to work really hard. You're going to have to play with adults – a lot. You need to play with and against boys. You will need to be creative in your training and think outside the box. You need to jump high and hit harder and run faster than everyone else."

These were not easy things for the 14-year-old girl to hear and certainly not an easy task for someone who was only 5'6". But this didn't stop Jordan. She took that advice and decided to focus on her offensive game, stopped playing indoor volleyball altogether and started running track and field to improve her conditioning and increase her vertical. Not playing indoor volleyball was not an easy decision for a young girl on the east coast. No one else that she knew was doing this. People thought she was crazy. Local indoor coaches thought she was crazy. They told her to play indoor and practice in the sand when she could during the summer. But she said no, this was her dream and she was going to make it.

She started working with a local AVP beach pro, Andrew Dentler, who believed in her and thought she could do it. Andrew worked with Jordan on her offensive game and helped her to be a super aggressive player both mentally and physically. To supplement her skills in the sand, Jordan also started working with a strength and conditioning coach, Bruce Tran. Bruce helped Jordan to get stronger, jump higher and run faster. There were days when she practiced with





Coach Andrew outside in 50 degree raining weather. There were days when she practiced in the early mornings while it was still dark before school, using car headlights to illuminate the courts. There were days when she had high school track practice and then went to train with Coach Bruce at 10:00 p.m. She played with her co-ed partner Christian Phung in as many Adult tournaments as she could. And they won a lot. And when a female partner wasn't available, she played the Men's division and won! Jordan never gave up her dream and she never stopped working.

Flash forward to this past summer. Jordan became a top-5 nationally-ranked player and took the silver medal at the USAV JBT Nationals in Milwaukee. She and her partner beat the number one ranked U18 team in the country. She has placed in the top 10 in all of the national tournaments she has played in so far this year. She's taken gold at two Get Noticed Beach Volleyball Recruiting Showcases this summer. And yes, she is getting noticed. As a rising junior, she already has five D1 college offers that she is currently evaluating.

This story is one of hope and determination. Jordan doesn't come from a family of volleyball players. She's not tall. She's not even that big. But she had a dream and she was determined to work hard to achieve it.

In summary, she did not follow the traditional path most juniors take. She played co-ed, in adult leagues, and used every avenue she could to improve her game – and it paid off! She has her choice of colleges to pick from including top universities in California.



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### An adventure on the Boys' Youth National Team for Jaylen Jasper

Ever wonder what it was like to be on the U.S. Boys' Youth National Team? We had a chance to talk to Jaylen Jasper of the Annapolis Volleyball Club who had the honor of being on the 2016 U.S. Boys' Youth National Team this year.

Jaylen, a senior at Broadneck High School in Maryland, was invited to go to Fullerton, California along with 23 other boys for additional training and final cuts for the Youth team. Most people think that you make the team after your initial tryout for HP, but that is just the first cut for the national team. After three grueling days of training, each of the 24 boys in attendance were individually called in to meet face to face to find out if they were on the team or not. Out of 24, 12 boys were chosen for the team plus four alternates. He knew many of the boys he played with from previous competitions across the U.S. and camps. It was exciting but very stressful, much like today's reality shows. Jaylen was the third or fourth to the last to meet with the coaches. As he waited, he thought about how lucky he was to practice with these other guys who he enjoyed playing with and were so good at volleyball, but also how much he hoped he had made the team. When he heard, "We want to offer you a spot on the team," he almost broke down he was so happy. Of course, he thanked them and was then excited to begin the 10 days of additional training prior to going to the team's competition.



The NORCECA Boys' U19 Continental Championship was in Cuba this year. Although most of his teammates had travelled outside the U.S. before, this was a new adventure for Jaylen as it was his first time outside of the U.S. The food, the culture and the travel were all thrilling and memorable. Jaylen felt the Cuban people were really nice, cheering for the teams and asking for pictures after matches. But when the U.S. met Cuba in the finals, the cheering was heavily in favor of the Cuban team. They clearly had home court advantage. Just a match earlier after winning their pool and having a bye into the semifinals, the U.S. had defeated Mexico in a thrilling five set match with the U.S. winning set five of the semifinal with a score of 15-13.



Now in the finals against Cuba, the Boys were not only competing against a determined Cuban team but also against a loud Cuban crowd. Gone were the cheers for the U.S. and all that could be heard were cheers, in fact roars, for Cuba. After eight days of competition, the U.S. team, with Jaylen as a starter, fought hard in the finals. Sadly the U.S. team came up short by just a few points, forcing the match to 5 sets and losing in the fifth 11-15. But on a positive note, by taking the Silver medal, the 2016 U.S. Boys Youth National Team automatically qualified the USA for the 2017 FIVB Boys U19 World Championship.



Will Jaylen be a part of that team in 2017? He can't be sure. Next year's US Boys Youth National Team chosen through the 2017 USAV HP program will compete at Worlds. As he enters the HP tryouts in 2017 just like everyone else, Jaylen will be focused on working hard before, during and after the tryouts to help him make the team again next year. He had a great competition this year as Opposite for the U.S. with 15 kills in the final, averaging three kills per set. He hopes to be given a chance to do even more for Team USA again next year.

Through the stress, laughter and great volleyball, Jaylen's advice is like other great players' advice. He said simply, "Go for it. This was an awesome experience that everyone should dream of having."