



# REGION REF BULLETIN

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## Clarifying the scorer certification process

By Lexi Sheldon  
Badger Region Score Chair

It seems that there is a lot of interest in scoring this season. That is FANTASTIC! What is not always clear is the way to go about it. I hope that this can give a little clarification on the steps needed to take in order to achieve various levels of certification as well as how to maintain them. There are three levels of scoring certification, Provisional, Regional, and National. Each of the three levels have similar requirements.

Lets start out with the Provisional level.

In order to become Provisional certified Scorer, the initial steps are the same as becoming an official. You must have a USAV / Badger Region membership, complete an independent contractor agreement, fill out a W9, complete and Safesport. Just like all other certifications, there are modules and tests related to scoring that are a requirement. Some modules are completed during the officials training, but others are just related to scoring.

Here is how the process is different: Once all of the above requirements are finished, an in-person clinic is required. These are set up by me (the Score Chair) during the season. At these clinics, the process of the score sheet and the Libero sheet are discussed. Attendees have the opportunity to complete multiple practice sheets while at the clinic. Once the clinic is finished, additional practice sheets are required to complete the certification. The more practice the more familiar the score sheet will be.

Moving onto becoming a Regional. Becoming a Regional is the same as provisional except there is no required clinic and the practice sheets have different options for completion. If you are already a certified Scorer at the Provisional level, your practice sheet options include a video option. You

have the option to practice score a live match, like usual, or you have the option to watch a prerecorded match in order to do your score practice sheet. This video link comes directly from me. When it comes time for you to complete the practice sheets, you can email me requesting the link. Once this is complete, there is one final requirement for Regional advancement. This is an "evaluated" match at one of the Champs weekends. If it is your intention to advance to Regional Scorer, please contact me directly (ASAP) so that there is time to schedule.

Now lets recap the steps first time Provisional and advancement to Regional Scorer:

1. Complete Badger Region membership requirements (dues, independent contract, W9, and Safesport).
  2. Watch all modules for In training/ Provisional Score.
  3. Take score test.
  4. Attend an in-person clinic.
  5. Do practice sheets.
- Regional
6. Notify me of desire to advance. (badgerscorechair@gmail.com)
  7. Be observed and "evaluated" at Badger Champs.

If you are currently a Regional Scorer and want advancement to National, there is a more in depth evaluation process. This process is conducted by USAV at one of the National Championships. To find the application form, go to USAVolleyball.org under resources for officials. Part of the application process is a signature from me. Obtain this signature, I request the opportunity to work with you on some of the little nuances they will be expecting of a National Scorer.

I hope this clears up the process for certifying and advancing in your scoring career.

Note: Information on a March 7 Scoring Clinic was sent last week via ZebraWeb. Need it resent? Email: badgerscorechair@gmail.com.



## New, young refs trained at BBS

Four new, young officials worked the Badger Boys Series on Sunday, Feb. 27, at the OAW Center in New Berlin.

The officials worked with Sara Voigt and Brian Sharkey as the refereed four to five matches of Boys 12s or Boys 13s competition each.

This year, the Region used the BBS to train nine new officials to join the refing ranks.

Thank you to all of those who helped mentor and recommend our new officials. And thank you to the new officials who started their journeys in giving back to the sport.

## Know your coin-flip procedures

It might seem like a simple task, the coin flip.

But not following procedure at the captains' meeting could leave you open to possible protests if policy is not followed.

Here's what you need to know.

\* USAV does not designate "home" or "visitor" teams.

\* The first referee designates a side of the coin for each team.

\* The coin is tossed and caught without turning the coin over

\* The winner of the toss chooses: either the right to serve or receive OR the side of the court.

\* The loser takes the remaining choice.

This procedure, and choices, are followed independent of whether a determination has been made to

change sides if a clear disadvantage has been determined.

\* If a deciding set is played, a coin toss takes place.

If it has been determined at the start of the match that there is no disadvantage on one side, the winner choices ONLY serve or receive. The sides remain the same.

If a disadvantage of one side of the court was determined at the start of the match, then the winner of the toss chooses: either the right to serve or receive OR the side of the court

Also note:

\* Multiple team representatives may attend the captains' meeting with the team captain. (coaches are not required).

\* Liberos can be the team captain.





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## Tax time reminders for independent contractors

By Brian Sharkey  
Program Director

As an official and independent contractor, you can pick and choose the dates and locations where you serve as a referee.

That means that you might be eligible for special deductions come tax time.

This is my third year on the ref stand, and I still call myself a new official. While I maybe new, by tax advisor is not.

My family and I turned in all of our tax forms to our tax guy about a month ago.

After seeing all of my new income as an independent contractor/referee, our tax consultant was quick to ask about the mileage associated with these events. Thankfully I had those distances recorded in my calendar.

(I recommend using your calendar — print or electronic — to track your mileage and use it as a checklist to know how many matches you refed and if you received payment yet.)

It was a breath of fresh air that my tax person knew



that I would get to deduct my mileage on my taxes for working as an IC at these events.

An experienced tax preparer will know to ask for mileage associated with working events as an independent contractors.

In addition to mileage, make sure your tax advisor knows that USA Volleyball and Badger Region registration fees can also be a tax deduction.

So too are uniforms and equipment such as shoes, pants, bags, line judge flags, etc.

We encourage you to work with an experienced tax preparer to make sure that you are getting your maximum deduction.

## POINTS OF EMPHASIS FROM REF RESOURCES

For the full listing of officiating guidelines and points of emphasis [click here](#). Emphasis added in bold by Badger Region Officials. This list represents only a small portion of topics

### SERVE RULE REMINDERS

Rule 12.4 (in brief and with “notes”)

The ball shall be hit with one hand or any part of the arm after being tossed or released from the hand.

For 15 and over age groups:

Only one toss or release of the ball is allowed. (there is no “re-serve”)

The server must hit the ball within 8 seconds after the first referee whistles for serve.

For 14 and under age groups:

The server must hit the ball within 5 seconds after the first referee whistles for serve.

If the ball, after having been tossed or released by the server, lands without touching the player, it is considered a serving toss error. (note: the player can not catch the ball after the toss)

After a server toss error, the referee must authorize the service again (re-serve).

One serving toss error is permitted for each service.

(Note: each service is equal to service attempt In USAV, for example: for under 14, a server can toss the ball and let it drop, then get a re-serve, and then serve an ace, then they can let it drop, and get another re-serve and rip another ace, and then get another re-serve. This is different from “term of service” which is the rule used in NFHS High School, meaning the player only gets one “re-serve” for their term of service.

### SUBSTITUTION REQUEST

A verbal request for a substitution is NOT acknowledged by the referees. The substitution MUST enter the substitution zone for the request to be acknowledged.

If the referee acknowledges a substitution by whistle, the sub may take place OR the coach can withdraw the sub and take a delay sanction.

### LIBERO REMINDERS

The Libero: Up to two Liberos may be designated on the line-up sheet at the start of the match. If zero or one Libero is designated on the line-up sheet, the coach may select a different Libero for subsequent sets but may not have two Liberos. If two Liberos are designated on the line-up sheet for Set 1, those are the only two Liberos who may play for that team for the match.

The Libero's jersey or jacket must clearly contrast in color to the color of the jersey worn by other members of the team. (See USAV 19.2a.) The Libero jerseys do not have to match, but they must both be contrasting from the other members of the team. “Contrast” means “strikingly different.” As such, two dark colors (or two light colors) often do not provide sufficient contrast from one another.

If a Libero wears an exposed undergarment as noted in USAV 4.3, that undergarment may differ from exposed undergarments worn by teammates.

A Libero may replace an injured player in the back row if no Libero was on the court at the time of the injury.

Only one Libero per team may be on the court in replacement of a teammate at any given time

## Opportunities to officiate at national events now available online

Looking to officiate at a national event?

Registration for all national events will be on AES. To find/register for events, [click here](#).

USA Volleyball has increased pay for all levels of referees in 2022. Below is the rate of pay for all their major events. Referees will also receive \$15/day in food vouchers.

Events include:

- \* 2022 Salt Lake City Showdown
- \* 2022 Sunshine Volleyball Classic
- \* 2022 USAV Girls 18s Junior National Championship (Phoenix)
- \* 2022 USAV Open National Championship (Orlando)
- \* 2022 USAV Boys Junior National Championship (Las Vegas)
- \* 2022 USA Volleyball All-Star Championship (Tulsa)

Rates of pay at USA Volleyball-run national events:

- \* National/Junior National Referee = \$38/match
- \* National Scorer = \$36/match
- \* Retired National/Junior National Referee = \$35/match
- \* Regional Referee/Foreign Guest = \$34/match
- \* Provisional Referee = \$32/match



**USA Volleyball**



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The Badger Region is going to allow tournament directors to decide if they want to use a rule modification at the 12-under-age level for the 2019-20 season.

For 12-and-under age groups (but not the 12 Open Division), servers can start in front of the endline and serve from approximately six feet in front of the endline. The step-in serve can be used for both overhand and underhand serving.



The server must “declare” which area he or she is serving from before they serve by setting up in front of behind the standard serving line. Once declared, they should stay in the serving area through contact of the serve. Serving line violations should/will be called if he or she steps on or in front of the serving line they are using.

If a player declares to use the short serving zone but then decides to move back past the endline to use the the regular 30-foot serving zone, that is legal, but he or she must now (since they have re-declared to the full serving zone), they must complete the serve from behind the end line.

Court markings to indicate the step-in serve line are suggested but are not required due to some facilities not allowing tape on the floor.

There will be a maximum of two step-in serve points per term of service. After two step-in points have been scored in a term of service, all subsequent serves for that term of serves must be from behind the endline.

When either team has scored its 20th point in a nondeciding set, no more step-in serves will be allowed for the remainder of that set. For deciding sets, no step-in serves will be allowed after either team has scored its 12th point.

This is a Badger Region only rule modification and is not in effect for USAV Qualifier or the USAV National Tournament.

Have questions? Email [badgerrefchair@yahoo.com](mailto:badgerrefchair@yahoo.com)