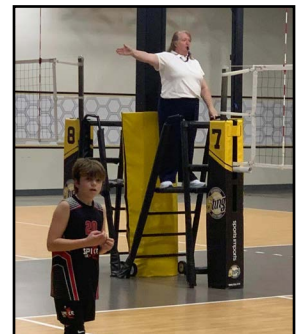
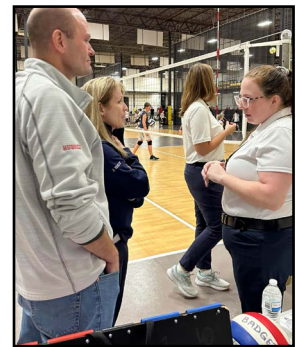




REGION REF BULLETIN

WWW.BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG | MEMBERSHIP@BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG



Refs kick off season with training sessions

Almost a dozen mentor officials helped train 17 new officials on Friday, Dec. 8, at the Milwaukee Sting Center for the kick off of the 2023-24 Badger Boys Series. Those mentors

- * Eileen Alt
- * Becky Blank
- * Justin Basovsky
- * Shane Hubred
- * Jack Lynch
- * Jim Momsen



- * Bonnie Stalker
- * Erin Stalker
- * Francisco Torres Rivera
- * Julie Voeck

* Jody Witty
More training sessions are planned over the next month concluding Jan. 19 at the final Badger Boys Series date.

Questions? Contact Sara@badger-

volleyball.org.

FROM PREVIOUS REF BULLETINS

Officials uniforms

Badger Region and USA Volleyball officials should start using a new website to order approved apparel for upcoming seasons. The website is: <https://vbofficialsgear.com/>

There, you will also find travel accessories, refereeing accessories and plenty of apparel options.

If you have any questions, please contact Sara Voigt at sara@badgervolleyball.org.

Accessing modules

All ref training modules are live. To access these modules please go into your training academy and search the appropriate certification training (current certification).

To access:

1. Log into Sports Engine
2. Click on Household
3. Click on View profile
4. Click on View details
5. Click on the blue USA Vol-

leyball Academy at the top

6. Click on content library

7. Click on search and type in first couple letters needed to do search for your certification modules

Rulebooks available

New USAV rulebooks (also known as the DCR) are in that are good through the 2023-25 season.

The Badger Region will be dis-

seminating these at the in-person officials meetings and mailing to those who we may miss those events. Please email

Sara Voigt (sara@badgervolleyball.org) when you have purchased your annual USAV membership and she will put a rulebook

aside for you.

For a link to an online edition of the DCR, please [click here](#).





REGION REF BULLETIN

WWW.BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG | MEMBERSHIP@BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG

THANK YOU NEW REFS AND MENTORS



Thank you to Patrick Collar, Jeff Sears and Guy DeShaney for mentoring new Badger Region officials at the FC Elite scrimmage at The Barn in Menasha



Thank you to Jim Momsen, Bonnie Stalker and Connor Muff for mentoring new Badger Region officials at the Rise Mke scrimmage at Milwaukee Lutheran.

NOT PICTURED: Thank you to Jack Lynch for donating his mentoring time this past Saturday at Milwaukee Lutheran. The new officials appreciated your feedback and your dedication to officiating.

DISTINGUISHED HONOR

Congratulations to our own Julie Voeck (center) for earning the 2024 PAVO Honor award! The Honor Award is PAVO's highest award. Candidates for this award have worked in promoting officiating through PAVO (or through a local affiliated board) for at least 10 years. Candidates are also people of high moral character and personal integrity who, by their leadership and efforts, have made an outstanding and noteworthy contribution through officiating. We are so proud of you Julie and are honored to have you in our region mentoring our new officials.



Be flexible, patient at early-season events

By Jim Momsen
Badger Region President

As we look forward to the start of a new season, just a few reminders, and items to be aware of, and to look out for, early in the year.

Go slow with your scoring crew, especially with the "littles."

If you see a Coach that looks "frazzled" during pre-match warm-ups, ask them if they are OK and if they have any questions. Remind them when their line-ups are due to be handed in.

- For the "littles," make sure their coach is monitoring their performance.

- The scoresheet header and team information should be filled out, along with the R1, R2, Scorer, and work team information.

- Make sure the "3 Xs" are properly recorded – Serving team, Receiving Team, and 1st exit score box for the receiving team.

- Make sure the Scorer and Libero Tracker record the line-ups correctly on the scoresheet. Many high school coaches will fill out their line up sheet in service order. Patiently explain to them that they are to fill out their line-up sheet with the players lined up in their positions on the court to start the set.

- Let the Scorer, Libero Tracker, and Visual/Flip Scorer know they are a team and can work together to make sure nobody forgets to do/record things properly.

- The Libero Tracker can help the Scorer with recording substitutions since the Libero Tracker also needs to record substitutions.

- Verify with the Scorer that they know the three items that need to be recorded for a substi-

tute – incoming player, score at the time of the substitution, and slashing the next number in the Substitutions (total subs used) row.

- The Scorer should show you the ready signal when they have completed recording the substitution information.

- The Scorer and Libero Tracker should always visually verify who is serving at the start of every rally. If you do get a "Wrong Server" indication from your Score Team, let the rally play out and then check to see if the server was, indeed, incorrect.

- The Libero Tracker and Scorer should also communicate when the Libero serves and record the position where the Libero did serve using the triangle around the position's roman numeral.

- The Visual/Flip Scorer can verify who won the point and that the visual score matches the scoresheet.

Early in the season, warn the teams if they are lined up overlapped or out of rotation. You will see the confusion of the players on the court and should work with them to resolve issues before calling them out of position (can you say, "Preventive Officiating?").

Expect the substitutes to be unsure of what they are doing – not knowing when they should be substituting, bringing two subs into the substitution zone, not entering the court when authorized, etc.

Remember, as Officials we should be patient, flexible and compliant!

Happy Holidays, and I look forward to seeing everyone – players, coaches, and officials – having fun on the courts!!

USA Volleyball SafeSport script for officials

1) All officials should know the concepts of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy

All interactions with Minor Athletes must be Observable and interruptible

An official should not be speaking behind closed doors (conference room, hotel room, etc.) with Minors without a second adult participant or a parent present.

2) Officials should not share or post videos of Minor Athletes on personal social media accounts unless proper parental consent has been given. Many people enjoy sharing their life on social media, but we must remember the role of an official is one who has power and control over minor athletes. Do not share pictures with yourself and minor athletes or minor athletes alone on social media.

3) Under the SafeSport Code officials are Mandatory Reporters of abuse and are required to report allegations of sexual abuse to the U.S. Center for SafeSport. All other forms of misconduct can be reported to USA Volleyball, such as bullying, hazing, harassment, physical abuse such as forcing an injured player to continue to play.

Officials are asked to provide as much information as you can. This report is confidential.

** Do not report allegations of abuse to your supervisor expecting him/her/them to report the allegations for you. You have a duty to report it yourself. Reports are often not filed because someone thought someone else was going to file it. Let's be proactive and make sure we are doing what we are supposed to do.

**If someone reports allegations of misconduct to you, do not discuss it. Keep it confidential and let the U.S. Center for SafeSport or USA Volleyball investigate.

4) Officials have power and authority over others and are held to higher standards. The Center has jurisdiction over you on duty and off duty. Officials can get in trouble for inappropriately touching others. Fist bumps and high fives are generally acceptable behavior. You should not hug someone if you do not already have a personal relationship with them or if you are in a supervisory role. Don't slap others' butts in front of fellow officials, spectators, or children, that conduct is unprofessional and will not be tolerated. We are here to have a safe and fun event

A FACT SHEET FOR Sports Officials



The information in this fact sheet can help you protect athletes from concussions or other serious brain injuries and know what to do if an athlete might have a concussion.

Understand concussion

A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or by a hit to the body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth. This fast movement can cause the brain to bounce around or twist in the skull, creating chemical changes in the brain and sometimes stretching and damaging the brain cells.

Help keep athletes safe

As a sports official, you help set the tone for safe play and can help lower an athlete's chances of getting a concussion or other serious injury. When athletes are overly aggressive or make illegal actions, they can increase the risk for concussion for themselves and other athletes. Here are some ways you can keep athletes safe:

- Enforce the rules for fair play, safety, and good sporting behavior.
- Learn to recognize the signs and symptoms of concussions so you can be confident about when an athlete should be removed from a game or competition.
- Stop play whenever there is a concern for the safety of athletes, and remove an athlete from a game or competition if you observe concussion signs or if the athlete reports concussion symptoms.
- Penalize athletes for unsafe actions, such as:
 - Using their head or helmet to contact another athlete.
 - Making illegal contacts or checking, tackling, or colliding with an unprotected athlete.
 - Trying to injure or put another athlete at risk for injury.
- Use correct terminology, such as concussion and brain injury. Avoid words, such as *bell ringers* and *dings* to describe a concussion because these can make light of a serious problem.
- Use pre-season and pre-game meetings to remind coaches to promote a culture of concussion safety with athletes.

Take action for a possible concussion

If you suspect that an athlete might be experiencing concussion symptoms, pull them from play. **When in doubt, get them out.**



An athlete who is allowed to continue playing with a concussion, or who is returned to play too soon, is at risk for a repeat brain injury. This can lead to a longer recovery and poorer health outcomes.

Stay up to date on concussion policies and information

- Review your state, league, and organization's concussion policies. Be aware that concussion policies may vary by location and sport. Most policies state that an athlete cannot return to a game or competition on the same day the possible concussion occurred and cannot return before being cleared by a healthcare provider.
- Take a training course on concussion. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers free concussion training for sports officials at www.cdc.gov/HEADSUP.
- Talk with other sports officials to share strategies that enforce safe and fair play.

GOOD SPORTING BEHAVIOR
MODEL IT. EXPECT IT. ENFORCE IT.



ENFORCE SAFE PLAY. SPORTS OFFICIALS SET THE TONE FOR SAFETY.

Spot a possible concussion

Athletes with one or more of the signs and symptoms listed below after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body may have a concussion or other serious brain injury.

Concussion signs that sports officials, parents, or coaches might observe in athletes:

- Appearing confused, dazed, or stunned
- Looking unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moving clumsily (appearing off-balance or dizzy)
- Being slow to answer questions
- Being unable to remember events before or after the hit, bump, or fall
- Losing consciousness (only occurs in about 10-15% of concussions)
- Showing behavior or personality changes

Concussion symptoms that athletes might feel and report:

- Having a headache
- Feeling nauseated or vomiting
- Experiencing balance problems or dizziness
- Seeing double or having fuzzy vision
- Feeling sensitive to light or noise
- Feeling sluggish
- Feeling mentally foggy
- Having difficulty concentrating or remembering plays
- Being confused about what play it is or what part of the game it is

Signs of a more serious brain injury

Have someone call 9-1-1 if an athlete develops one or more of these danger signs after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body:

- Drowsiness or inability to wake up or inability to stay awake
- Repeated vomiting
- Convulsions or seizures (seizures can include violent, uncontrollable shaking or twitching)
- Unusual behavior, increased confusion, restlessness, or agitation
- Slurred speech, weakness, numbness, or decreased coordination
- One pupil larger than the other
- A headache that gets worse and does not go away

The information provided in this fact sheet or through links to other sites is not a substitute for medical or professional care. Questions about diagnosis and treatment for concussion should be directed to a physician or other healthcare provider.

Revised August 2022

To learn more,
go to [cdc.gov/HEADSUP](https://www.cdc.gov/HEADSUP)





REGION REF BULLETIN

WWW.BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG | MEMBERSHIP@BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG

E.S.P. program recognizes sportsmanship

Officials can give wristbands given to adults being great role models

Sportsmanship isn't a suggestion for the way every player, coach and fan should act on and off the court. It is the expectation.

To reward those exceeding expectations, the Badger Region wants to recognize you.

The 2023-24 marks the eighth year of the "Enthusiastic. Supportive. Positive." program that highlights volleyball enthusiasts, specifically fans in the stands.

Last season, tournament directors throughout the Region distributed close to 250 wrist-



bands at events and tournaments, and we're looking to hand out hundreds more.

Then, at the Badger Region Championships in March, anyone (adults/spectators only) who was awarded a wristband throughout the year, will be eligible to win Badger Region gear such as T-shirts, water bottles, mini volleyballs and other cool swag.

So, what do you have to do to get a wristband? Support your team! Be positive! Show character that would make your mother proud!

Get a little crazy. Go the extra mile. Recognize the good in your team and others. Get excited when even your opponent makes an amazing save or play.

Don't cheer against another team. Don't taunt or heckle officials, coaches or players. Don't give your club or team a black eye with any "in your face" cheers.

Tournaments directors, Badger Region staff, referees and board members are watching.

If you get one of our colorful "ESP" wristbands, come to the Championship Desk at the Badger

Region Championships for prizes. Anyone with a wristband gets one entry into the raffle. At certain points throughout the day, names will be drawn for the prizes.

The only rule: You must have your wristband on at the time of the raffle to receive your gift.

The ESP program is designed for recognition of adults or other individuals who are "outside the lines." Winners do not have to be Badger Region members.

If you have someone like an athlete, coach or official who is deserving of recognition, please fill out a nomination form for the "Caught Doing Good" program.

If you are an official who would like to request a package of wristbands for distribution at your event, contact Program Director Brian Sharkey at brian@badgervolleyball.org.

BECOME A HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL OFFICIAL!

STUDENT-ATHLETES NEED YOUR HELP SO THAT THEY CAN CONTINUE PLAYING THE SPORTS THEY LOVE. ADDITIONALLY, THERE'S NO BETTER OPPORTUNITY TO EARN EXTRA PART-TIME INCOME. AS AN OFFICIAL, YOU'LL BE PART OF THE GAME, WITH THE BEST SEAT IN THE HOUSE.

ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE ● GIVE BACK TO THE SPORT
DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS ● EARN EXTRA INCOME

SIGN UP TODAY AT
WHSVOA.NET/JOIN