



REGION REF BULLETIN

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Region trains refs

The Badger Boys Series concluded Jan. 19, but not before 16 officials received training from some elite mentors at the Milwaukee Sting Center.

Many of the officials who attended this training were elevated to in-training officials who are not eligible to be assigned to ref at Badger Region-approved events.

We had 13 new officials trained.

Special shoutouts to John Nelson, Francisco Torres-Rivera, Anthony Chan, Kyle Krivitz, Jack Lynch, Eileen Alt, Rick Jones, and Gary Miedema.

Big thank you to our Badger Region Officials Liaison to USAV John Nelson for making the long drive across the state to help Badger Region mentor new officials. We cannot thank you enough.

Congratulations to all our officials, and thank you to all of the great mentors we have in Wisconsin.



Recommended guidance if a team attempts to protest judgment

As you're aware, USAV 5.1.2.1 has been revised to include the following:

Judgment decisions are not subject to protest. A protest related to a judgment decision may result in a penalty (red card) being assessed to the coach

The following guidance should assist you in handling these situations. The first thing you should do before going court-side is making sure what your protest procedure is if there is a protestable situation.

• **If there is a protest committee:**

If a coach requests a protest that you aren't sure is judgment-related, remind the coach that judgment protests are not allowed. If the protest committee rules that it is judgment-related, they may (emphasis in bold, as it's not necessarily automatic) issue an individual red card (penalty). Any further sanction to said coach would result in an expulsion. If the coach still wants to protest, accept the protest,

and the committee will rule appropriately. It will be up to the protest committee to decide if the penalty will be assessed.

• **If there is no protest committee:**

Ask your tournament director or assignor how they want you to handle this situation! Only issue a red card if you have been told you may do that. Follow the guidance given by the TD or assignor. |

If they approve you being able to issue the penalty for a judgment

protest, follow the guidance that you would follow if a protest committee is present (remind the coach of the penalty that may be assessed for a judgment protest), and only assess the penalty if you are 100% sure the protest was judgment-related. If you are not sure, deny the protest and move on.

Please feel free to reach out to Sara Voigt at sara@badgervolleyball.org if you have further questions.

Good luck!



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CAUGHT DOING GOOD

UW-Oshkosh commit goes above and beyond in her role as an official

The start of the season is a unique experience for everyone in the volleyball community.

There is newness and uncertainty among athletes, coaches and officials alike.

But one young official went above and beyond to make the experience a positive one for the athletes and coaches who came across her court.

That's why this week's Caught Doing Good honor goes to official Malayna Dins, a senior at Winnebago Lutheran Academy and a resident of Mount Calvary, Wis.

Dins was Caught Doing Good at the first weekend of the Badger Region Power League.

"The first tournament of the year can always be a little intimidating for the girls to be the work crew," the nomination said. "We had great officials all weekend, but Malayna really created a comfortable environment for the girls. She made eye contact with the girls every time she needed something from them and was patient if it took them a little bit to make their entries on the scoresheet."

What stood out was Dins' support of her work crew.

"When a coach argued about a

call, Malayna told the line judge 'you are doing a great job. You are paying attention and were confident in your call. I have no reason to not trust you. I have your back,'" the nomination said. "Her support and demeanor helps take some of the anxiety out of working and helps girls build their confidence. Great job."

Dins is graduating high school early and is committed to the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh to continue her athletic and academic career. She'll begin at Oshkosh in early February, and that is why she wasn't able to play club volleyball her senior year.

"I have been playing club since I was 11 years old," Dins said in an interview. "I think the relationships I remember having with officials when I was playing made me want to take up the challenge of being a ref myself."

To nominate a player, coach or official for a Caught Doing Good award, click here: <https://badger-volleyball.org/caught-doing-good/>

Honorees will receive a Badger Region backpack, fanny pack and lots of other Badger Region swag. Questions? Email brian@badger-volleyball.org.



FROM PREVIOUS REF BULLETINS

Shoutouts

Calling all officials: Please send your outstanding work crew nominations to Badger Region program director Brian Sharkey at brian@badger-volleyball.org. Please get their team name, club name and the head coach if possible. We will highlight your nomination and the team on social media and in future newsletters.

Thanks in advance.

Card reporting

If you issue a red card during a Badger Region-sanctioned match, please remember to record it by filling out this form on the Badger Region website. This will help us document repeat offenders and looking for other trends.

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, refing accessories and plenty of apparel options.



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FROM PREVIOUS REF BULLETINS

Changing sides

If you want to change sides this needs to be addressed and decided upon before the coin toss at the beginning of the match. The decision to change sides cannot happen during the match.

Warm-up times

Officials and coaches cannot change the times for the warm ups during a tournament. Any changes to warm up timing must come from the event director or site manager.

Finding 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 Volleyball 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
- Questions? Email sara@badgervolleyball.org.



Dig Pink at Champs 2024

This year, the Badger Region and the Side-Out Foundation are partnering for the 2024 Badger Region Championships.

To promote the event and raise money and awareness for the Side-Out Foundation, Burghardt Sporting Goods is having a pre-sale of Dig Pink shirts.

[Purchase your Dig Pink T-shirt in advance here.](#) All proceeds will benefit the Side-Out Foundation.

Officials can wear their Dig Pink shirts on each Saturday of the Championships (March 9, March 16 and March 23) as a way to show support for this amazing fundraiser.

UPDATES FOR JUNIOR NATIONAL AND NATIONAL OFFICIALS

USAV Officials Academy Clinic Schedule and Topics

These will be live virtual clinics with subject-matter experts (if you are unable to make the live virtual clinic, the recording will be delivered to your USAV Academy account one week after the live event).

Junior National Referees and National Referees will go into their USAV Academy account and click on the course US24-504 USAV National Officials Clinic and will click register for any of the four clinics that you want to attend live.

For information on how to log in to the Academy please [use this link](#), scroll to “Important Materials for Indoor Referees,” “Sports Engine and USAV Academy,” and “USAV Academy Log-in Instructions.”

* Feb. 28, 2024, 6 p.m. MST – “R2 Transition and Other Responsibilities + Handling Rotations as R2 and (R1)”

* March 27, 2024, 6 p.m. MST – “Managing Coach and Bench Behavior”

* April 24, 2024, 6 p.m. MST – “Preparing for the USA Volleyball National Championships”

Indoor Candidate Programs

The deadlines are approaching for the National Referee, Junior National Referee, and National Scorer Candidate Programs.

National Referee applications must be submit-

ted by Feb. 15, 2024.

Junior National Referee applications must be submitted to your region by March 15, 2024.

National Scorer applications must be submitted by Feb. 15, 2024.

Find all information on the [National Referee and Junior National Programs](#). Scroll to Applications and select the program.

Find all information on the [National Scorer Program](#). Scroll to Applications and select the program.

National Event Registration

Reminder: Early registration deadlines are approaching for national championships (register before the deadlines below):

Open National Championship: Feb. 1

Girls Junior National Championship 11-13: We will start accepting regional referees on Feb. 15; Junior National and National Referees, please register before this date for early acceptance.

Girls Junior National Championship 14-17: We will start accepting regional referees on Feb. 15; Junior National and National Referees, please register before this date for early acceptance.

Girls 18s National Championship: Feb. 19

Boys Junior National Championship: March 1
[REGISTRATION FOR ALL NATIONAL EVENTS IS OPEN NOW IN AES - WE NEED YOU](#) - Your participation is critical to the success of these events.



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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