



# REGION REF BULLETIN

WWW.BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG | MEMBERSHIP@BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG

## Officials vie for seat on Board of Directors

The Badger Region Volleyball Board of Directors Officials Election is open now and will close at 5 p.m. CT on Friday, May 10. All active Badger Region officials are eligible to vote in this election, and can do so at the link below or sent via email by providing their name and membership number to ensure that each member only votes once.

To find your membership ID, please go to your membership registration (Sports Engine) account ([https://user.sportngin.com/users/sign\\_in](https://user.sportngin.com/users/sign_in)) and click on your profile in the upper right, then your household, then Profile. Your membership ID will be on the right, and is a seven-digit number. All full adult members with a current membership are eligible to vote in this election. Please email membership@badgervolleyball.org with any questions. Any votes that do not have a membership ID, the ID does not match the name, or the ID is not associated with an active full adult membership will be deleted and not counted in the final vote tally.

There is a separate on-going election for At-Large, Northwest and Southwest Representatives, which is open to all adult members in good standing, and that voting link was emailed directly to all eligible members as well as posted on the Badger Region website. If you received two emails, this could be why. Please only vote once in each election, multiple votes will be deleted. Contact Jennifer Armson-Dyer at jarmsondyer@badgervolleyball.org for more information.

After vetting and confirmation by the nominating committee, results for all open seats will be posted on Monday, May 13 on the Badger Region website and social media. If no one receives more than 50% of

the vote, a run-off election will be held between the top two vote recipients, and that will be included in the May 13 posting.

Below is the confirmed slate of candidates. Biographical information as submitted follows.

- A. Patti Dawson
- B. Felix Madera
- C. John Nelson
- D. Shane Peterson

### PATTI DAWSON

Official since ~1996; Junior National Official in 2015; National Official in 2019; National Scorer in 2022; USAV Silver Whistle Award Recipient; Coach since 1990 (basketball w/ stepson); Ride/show hunters (horses) in spare time; Also have 2 grandkids with one on the way that I love spending



time with!

#### Why would the nominee be a valuable addition to the Badger Region Board of Directors?

I love the game of volleyball and want to be a voice between officials and the Board. I feel I listen to all sides of a story and am open to everyone's opinions and feelings and know there are always resolutions to any situation.

### FELIX MADERA

I have had leadership roles in PAVO and USAV in multiple regions, training, certifying, and more, over the last decade-plus. Additionally, I have assisted on the PAVO and USAV training teams. I have a passion for assisting officials in their improvement, and am an effective communicator, and look forward to assisting the region continue to develop high-level referees in the future!

#### Why would the nominee be a

#### valuable addition to the Badger Region Board of Directors?



I feel I have a very good working relationship with the Board, being able to articulate concerns respectfully,

while passionately working to help our referees improve to be the best they can be.

### JOHN NELSON

I have been involved with the volleyball community for many years and have been an official with USAV for 35 years. In addition to working many matches I also serve as a trainer and mentor for new officials. I also work as a clinician giving both officials clinics and junior work crew clinics in the Northwest portion of Badger Region.



I believe that training all officials and recruiting new officials is one of the most important jobs we have. Having

been a member of several USAV regions I think that the Badger Region does an excellent job of training officials. My desire is to be a part of continuing to make that happen.

I received the Robert L. Lindsay Meritorious Service Award in 2016. I was selected as the Dale Rhode Silver Whistle Award winner by the players of the Wisconsin Volleyball Conference in 2015, 2018 and 2020. I have also received the Junior Assembly Outstanding Clinician award for USAV.

I am currently the Badger Region referee liaison to USAV and believe this would work well with being the officials representative on the Badger Region board.

I am a PAVO National referee and USAV Junior National referee. My wife Sheila is a former USAV Regional referee and we have one daughter Emily who is a Regional Referee.

#### Why would the nominee be a valuable addition to the Badger Region Board of Directors?

I believe I would be a valuable addition to the board because I believe very strongly that well trained officials are a crucial part of the changing game of volleyball. I can be a strong voice to support all levels of officials we have to help them grow to the level that they desire. I understand all aspects of training from developing a training package to working with a budget to support it.

### SHANE PETERSON

Shane Peterson is a Junior National Official from Badger Region that earned his JN in 2021. Shane has been a club coach and official for the past 15 years. He coaches with Midwest Penguins and for the past ten years with Milwaukee Sting. He earned his Regional Certificate in 2017. He also is the head Varsity Coach at Kettle Moraine High School and runs the program



for 1st through 12th grade. He continues to learn from many sources related to improving on coaching and officiating. He is a constant learner

always looking to improve and learn from all around him.

#### Why would the nominee be a valuable addition to the Badger Region Board of Directors?

He has a love of volleyball and looks to pass it on to the next generation for playing, coaching, and officiating. He is always looking at growing volleyball at all levels.



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## THINGS OFFICIALS CAN WORK ON DURING OFFSEASON

Knowledge of volleyball rules for better understanding and explanation is incredibly important. Volleyball officials must also possess excellent communication skills. This includes being able to clearly explain rulings in order for everyone involved in the game, from coaches and players to spectators and other officials, to understand why certain decisions have been made.

They also need to be able to articulate themselves in such a way that it does not come across as overly biased or unfair. Use some off time to review the USAV rule book and interpretation.

Here's a link to the USAV officials page for more information <https://usavolleyball.org/resources-for-officials/rule-books-and-interpretations/>

## Shoutouts

Calling all officials: Please send your outstanding work crew nominations to Badger Region program director Brian Sharkey at [brian@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:brian@badgervolleyball.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, reffing accessories and plenty of apparel options.

## Ref training resumes in fall

Officials training and recertification will start back up for the 2024-25 season after Sept. 1. Mandatory in-person and Zoom meeting dates will be announced at that time along with the new online module training through the USAV Academy.

Regional Advancement interest form will be available on Oct. 1 with Regional camp dates announced during the first and last weekend of Badger Power League.

## Line judges sought for '25 All-Star event

We are looking for line judges for USA All-Star Championships the Badger Region is hosting in Madison in 2025!

If you are interested in line judging All Star Champs July 24-27, 2025, send Sara an email at [sara@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:sara@badgervolleyball.org). Line judge training will be scheduled in Spring 2025 for everyone in preparation of the event (dates to be announced later).

A limited number of R1 and R2 selections will be made by at a later time.

**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**  
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## Do's and don'ts on social media

**DO** be aware that posts on social media are visible to the general public. Even if you limit access to your page to friends, it is likely that your post will be viewed by someone beyond the circle of people you intended to see it.

**DO** find out your association or league expectations regarding social media. Your association may not have hard and fast rules, but find out if it has an unofficial policy.

**DO** think twice before you post. If there is anything in your post that could be construed as a criticism of officials, of officials' decisions, or of schools, coaches or athletes...it is better left unsent.

**DO** assume that your post

will be seen by the two teams you will see in your next game and the teams you worked in your previous game as well as your partner(s) in those games.

**DON'T** post anything relating to the schools you have worked or will work. It calls your objectivity into question.

**DON'T** include anything in a post that makes reference to an upcoming assignment. If teams want to find out who is going to be working their game, they should do so through official channels, not your tweet.

**DON'T** post details about other people's regular season or playoff assignments. Don't use your page as a news service.

**DON'T** use social media to criticize state or local association policies, assigning practices, etc. **DON'T** make posts regarding calls made by officials in other games, whatever the level. You and your buddies might debate the call you saw on TV, but debating the call on Facebook, Twitter or other forums and social media is a no-no.

**DON'T** "friend", "follow" or otherwise interact with student-athletes in any social media forum. Regardless of the intentions, it is risky and unwise for an official to communicate with student athletes, since it could call into question your objectivity or motives.

### Save the dates:

Start saving these dates on your calendar for the Badger Region-hosted events slated for the 2024-25 season. Here is what we know at the present time:

**Feb. 22-23, 2025:** Dale Rhode Memorial Boys Volleyball Tournament (Baird Center, Milwaukee)

**March 1-2, 2025:** Badger Region Girls Qualifier (Baird Center, Milwaukee)

**March 15-16, 2025:** Badger Region Championships (Baird Center, Milwaukee)

**March 22-23, 2025:** Badger Region Championships (Baird Center, Milwaukee)

**July 24-27:** USA All-Star Championships (Alliant Energy Center, Madison)

Events still to be scheduled include:

\* Badger Boys Series (two dates)

\* Badger Region Power League (three dates)

Single-day events in the Badger Region are assigned starting the second week in December (unless they are scheduled for December).

**WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL SHOWCASE**

 WISCONSIN
  MINNESOTA
  STANFORD
  TEXAS

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND 2024 | FISERV FORUM**