

# THE BADGER BEACON

WWW.BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG MEMBERSHIP@BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG

# ROLEOFTHE

What is the Badger Region? We are not the Badger Regional. That makes it sound like we are part of a first-round match of a high school state tournament.

The Badgers. No. We aren't affiliated the University of Wisconsin.

We are the Badger Region, and we bring together 20,000 (yes 20,000) athletes, coaches and officials who make volleyball happen in the state of Wisconsin under the umbrella of USA Volleyball.

USAV sets the standards, structure and the framework that the 40 Regions of USA Volleyball operate within. USA Volleyball is also the only entity in the United States that can send a team to the Olympics, NORCECA or other FIVB Championship Events.

Regional Volleyball Associations, like the Badger Region, are the grassroots, localized, customer-support hubs throughout the country.

The Regions work very closely with the clubs because the clubs are working with athletes, coaches and officials in the community.

If you were to compare it to the structure of the U.S. government, USA Volleyball operates at a federal level and the Regions would operate at the state level. Regions have to follow the lead of USA Volleyball on lots of policies, but

#### Lunch & Learn

Join the Badger Region staff and Board President Holly Jablonowski at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 23, for a dive into the many programs offered by the Badger Region and how it gets involved in clubs and communities around the state. The Lunch & Learn is aired on Facebook Live and is archived on the Badger Region Facebook page if you can't join us live. Click here for more.

can set up the infrastructure at the local level that is best for each part of the country.

When someone has a concern, they contact their Region office.

If there are athletes that want to play and just compete at the local level, the Region can direct them to those resources. If they want to travel the country and compete on the national stage, Regions can point athletes and coaches to those types of opportunities, too.

We'll be talking more about the Badger Region in a Lunch & Learn on Monday, Sept. 23, at 11:30 a.m. on Facebook Live. Join us.

Questions? Email membership@ badgervolleyball.org



#### *By the numbers*

#### HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL **PARTICIPATION NUMBERS**

_	2023	2022	%				
Wisconsin Boys:	1,728	1,615	+7%				
Wisconsin Girls:	15,332	15,147	+ 1.2 %				
National Boys:	85,255	77,287	+10.3%				
National Girls:	479,125	470,287	+ 1.88 %				
SOURCE: NATIONAL FEDERATION OF HIGH SCHOOLS (NFHS.ORG)							
	1464						





Wisconsin has again seen some amazing growth in the world of boys and girls volleyball at the high school level. In 2023, 61 boys volleyball teams were represented at the high school level in Wisconsin. For 2024, there will be at least 66 teams represented on the survey with more slated to come on board. On the girls side, 482 high schools offered a female program last year.

Nationally, boys volleyball is seeing massive growth thanks to states such as Colorado, Indiana, Utah and Michigan recently sanctioning volleyball at the high school level.

Look for more numbers at the high school level on Page 2.

#### Try Volleyball a huge success

USA Volleyball offered free memberships to any athlete who wanted to try volleyball Sept. 13-Sept. 22 as part of the #TryVolleyball2024 initiative. The Badger Region hosted a free clinic as part of the post-Olympic excitement at St. Marcus School on the north side of Milwaukee. There, close to 100 athletes ranging in age from 5 to 14 joined the Badger Region staff and volunteers for an awesome afternoon of learning volleyball and having a ton of fun. All of this is a lead up to National Volleyball Day which is Sept. 23. See more Photos on Page 5.



#### A closer look at participation numbers locally and nationally

Both the National Federation of High Schools and USA Volleyball recently released their 2023-24 participation numbers. Below are some visual statistics as it comes to youth sports participation across states at the high school level. At right you will find a look at some of the figures as it comes to Badger Region participation numbers last year.

Badger Region is the ninth largest region in the country. It is also the fifth largest when it comes to boys participation.

#### WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATION NUMBERS **GIRLS** 2023-24 2022-23 +1.2% Volleyball 15.332 Track & Field 12.335 11.556 + 6.7 % Basketball 9.482 9.623 - 1.5 % Softball 8.662 8,801 -1.8% Soccer 8.029 7.882 +1.7% 5,596 5,359 + 4.4 % Tennis **Cross Country** 4.760 4.890 - 2.7 % 3,328 Swim & Dive 3,029 - 8.9% Golf 2,260 2,182 + 3.8 % 1,157 1.112 + 4.0 % **Gymnastics** 1,047 NA NA Lacrosse 704 +6.5 % Hockey Wrestling 682 98 +540 % SOURCE: NATIONAL FEDERATION OF HIGH SCHOOLS (NFHS.ORG)

#### BADGER REGION PARTICIPATION

Category	23-24	22-23	#Growth	% Growth
Total Full Members	17,213	15,696	+466	+3.7%
Total Adult Females	2,208	2,048	+160	+7.8%
Total Adult Males	1,107	966	+51	+5.3%
Total Junior Females	12,510	11,363	+1,147	+10.1%
Total Junior Males	1,478	1,319	+159	+12.1%

		IN NO	
BOYS		2022-23	%
Football	23,301	22,234	+4.8 %
Track & Field	15,626	14.064	+11.1 %
Basketball	14,502	14.548	-0.3 %
Baseball	12.124	12,459	-2.6 %
Soccer	9,814	9,475	+3.6 %
Wrestling	6,861	6,361	+7.9 %
Cross Country	6,099	5,926	+2.9 %
Golf	6,134	5,525	+11.0 %
Tennis	3,926	3,361	+16.8 %
Ice Hockey	2,668	2,516	+6.0 %
Swim & Dive	2,099	2.130	-1.5 %
Volleyball	1.728	1,615	+7.0 %
.acrosse	1,191	NA	NA

		א אנ	
GIRLS	2023-24	2022-23	%
Track & Field	506,015	486,355	+ 4.0 %
Volleyball	479,125	470,488	+ 1.8 %
Soccer	383,895	377,838	+ 1.6 %
Basketball	367,284	373,366	- 1.6 %
Softball	345,451	344,952	+ 0.1%
Tennis	195,766	191,036	+ 2.4 %
Cross Country	192,969	197,630	- 2.3 %
Competitive Spirit	181,023	149,694	+20.9 %
Swim & Dive	138,174	140,711	- 1.8 %
Lacrosse	101,204	98,014	+ 3.3 %
Golf	82,836	80,970	+2.3 %
Wrestling	64,257	50,016	+28.5 %
Field Hockey	51,728	52.962	- 2.3 %

#### NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL **PARTICIPATION NUMBERS** BOYS 2023-24 2022-23 % 1.031.508 1.028.761 + 0.2% Football 625,333 604,983 + 3.3 % Track & Field Basketball 536,668 537,438 - 0.14 % 471, 701 Baseball 478,451 -14% Soccer 467,483 450,455 +3.8 % 291,874 259,431 +12.5% Wrestling Cross Country 239,381 240,201 - 0.3 % 157.835 158.306 - 0.3% Tennis Golf 155.174 150.175 + 3.3 % 116,799 116,741 + 0.01% Swim & Dive 115,001 111,108 + 3.5 % Lacrosse 85,255 77.287 +10.3% Volleyball 32.996 33.013 - 0.01% Ice Hockey SOURCE: NATIONAL FEDERATION OF HIGH SCHOOLS (NFHS.ORG)

# WHY BADGER REGI®N?

When you purchase a home, vehicle or big appliance, you want to know all the facts and how far your dollar will go. So it only seems logical to look at all of the great events, learning opportunities, training programs and member benefits that clubs, players, coaches and officials receive when they become members of the Badger Region and USA Volleyball. Everyone has their own answer to "Why Badger Region?" What's yours?

#### **EVENTS**

\* Opportunities to play in "local" one-day events hosted by Badger Region clubs and facilities



- Opportunities to play in the Badger Region Power League
- \* Opportunities to earn a Badger Region Championship for boys or girls
- \* Opportunities to earn a spot in the Girls Junior National Champioships by playing in the Badger Region Qualifier

#### PLAYERS

- \* Free 8-and-under memberships
- \* Developmental league memberships
- Framework for middle school and youth leagues
- \* Scholarships to high school seniors
- High Performance training with access to high-level recruiting apportunities
- \* Second-chance tryouts for athletes
- Sand clinics, tournaments throughout the state
- \* Player/club matching assistance



#### SAFETY

- Strongest, most in-depth background screening in youth valleyball
- Education (through SafeSport) for child protection
- Parent participation program to get more adults trained in SafeSport and reffina
- Code of conduct that is universal for all events
- \* Baseline coach risk management training

#### ADMINISTRATION

- \* Policies and procedures for all clubs to be consistent
- Guidelines and handbooks for running tournaments
- Mentoring and training for new club directors
- \* Templates for club and



parent handbooks

- Templates for tryouts and club acceptance forms
- \* Personalized feedback to uniform and jersey questions
- \* Partnerships with TeamSnap, Sports Imports, Hudl and others that benefit all clubs and athletes

#### **OFFICIALS**

- \* The only referee and scorer training available is through USA Volleyball
- \* Free training for clubs to train their athletes.
- \* Free training for refs who are still in school
- \* Free online training modules for all
- \* Ability to earn money and advancement

#### COACHES

- \* Free baseline IMPACT training
- \* Free Art of Coaching premium membership to online content
- Confinuing education for coaches
- \* AVCA tips of the Week
- \* Coaches Coaching Coaches classes

#### USA VOLLEYBALL

- \* National governing body recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC)
- \* Connection to Team USA and the other national teams
- \* Administrative framework along with insurance coverage

# WISCONSIN BOYS HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

# TOP 10

#### SPONSORED BY THE BADGER REGION & FRISCO MO APPAREL

#### About The Poll

All boys volleyball coaches in the state have the ability to vote in the weekly Boys High School Volleyball Top 10 Poll sponsored by the Badger Region Volleyball Association and Frisco Mo Apparel

Coaches must submit their rankings to Madison Memorial head coach Eric Peterson (eppeterson2@madison. k12.wi.us) via Google Form by 4 p.m. Monday for consideration in the poll that will be release later in the week.

Results are made available to coaches in weekly emails and are available on the Wis-Sports.net website for review prior to voting.

For the 2024 season, 68 programs in Wisconsin are eligible for post-season competition in the WIAA tournament. An additional four programs offer boys volleyball but are not sanctioned yet as full varsity sport at their school.

Have questions about boys volleyball in the state of Wisconsin? Contact Brian Sharkey (head boys coach at Kenosha Indian Trail High School) at brian@ badgervolleyball.org.

- 1) Germantown (11)
  - 2) Middleton (12)
  - 3) Marquette (3)
  - 4) Cedarburg (2)
    - 5) Kimberly
- 6) Sussex Hamilton
  - 7) Homestead
- 8) Waukesha West
- 9) Appleton North
  - 10) Nicolet

Others receiving votes: Madison Memorial (10), Catholic Memorial (9), Wauwatosa East (6), Fond du Lac/North Fond du Lac (4), Pewaukee (4), Madison West (3), New Berlin Eisenhower/West (2), Brookfield East (1), Mukwonago (1), Muskego (1)

#### Week 3 Poll

The Week 3 Poll for the Wisconsin Boys High School Top 10 Poll has shown there is lot of parity in among the top teams in the state this year.

Germantown is holding onto the top spot despite not earning as many first place votes as Middleton this week.

Middleton won the Tosa East tournament over Cedarburg on



Saturday after Cedarburg knocked off Germantown in the semifinals.

Sussex Hamilton continued its rise in the poll

after winnings its second tournament in a row -- this week's being the Waukesha North Invite.

Homestead also saw a nice jump this week thanks to wining the Westosha Central tournament and defeating Cedarburg in a conference match last week.

The Top 10 poll is the official poll of the Wisconsin Boys High School Volleyball Coaches Association, which is in its first year as an association.

#### ABOUT THE BADGER REGION VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION



The Badger Region Volleyball Association promotes initiatives for safe, structured and fun life-long volleyball experiences. The vision of the Badger Region is to grow the number of players, coaches, officials, spectators and other volleyball enthusiasts; provide the highest quality volleyball experience in education, training, and competition; and to provide advocacy, support, recognition and administration to the volleyball community. Any high school in Wisconsin that adds boys volleyball will receive up to \$1,000 grant from the Badger Region to help offset first-year costs. Visit the Badger Region website at www.badgervolleyball.org. The Badger Region is not affiliated with the WIAA.







# Try Volleyball clinic photos







# Thank you to our club directors

Thank you to the following clubs who participated in the Badger Region's Club Director meeting on Sunday, Aug. 25, in Pewaukee.

There, club directors were given the opportunity to network with partner organizations that included Hudl, TeamSnap, Sports Imports, Won80 Sportsmanship and Dynamic Spark Marketing.

Following the presentation from the partner organizations, club directors received information on tournaments, Sports Engine/memberships, new programming/grants, tryout updates and began looking ahead to the USA All-Star Championships taking place this summer in Madison.

Clubs in attendance included: 414 Milwaukee, Adversity-Wisconsin, CrossCourt Volleyball Club, Crossfire VBC, Eclipse VBC, Features Volleyball Academy, Hartford VBC, Heat Volleyball Club, I AM Volleyball Club, Juniors Volleyball Club (Belle City, Milwaukee and Wisconsin Juniors), Lakeshore Storm VBC, Luminosity VBC, Madison Elite, Madtown Volleyball, Mamba Volleyball Academy, Midwest Penguins, Milwaukee Sting, Motion Volleyball Players, Oconomowoc VBC, One Wisconsin, Rally Volleyball, Rise MKE, Rock VBC, Revolution Volleyball Academy (RVA), Shawano Storm, Southport VBc, Southwest Milwaukee VBC, Spike Milwaukee, Wisconsin Blaze, Wisconsin Elite and Wisconsin Ice.

The Badger Region looks forward to collaborating all of the clubs under its umbrella at future listening sessions and lunch & learns.

Have questions? Email member-ship@badgervolleyball.org



# Region seeks volunteers for events, content development

With a full slate of events scheduled for the 2024-25 season, the Badger Region is looking for your help.

Don't know service rotations or how to train your setters to play defense? That's OK. Almost ALL of our volunteers are off the court

For the upcoming season, ambassadors will be used in a variety of ways:

- \* Helping at team check-in at a Badger Region-hosted tournament
- \* Assisting at an All-Star tryout or Youth Clinic handing out t-shirts and helping direct traffic
  - \* Handing out Badger Region swag prizes at events
- \* Taking photos for social media and our website at our big events
- \* Helping manage our medals and trophies at our marquee tournaments

And, maybe if you're not able to help in person, we are always looking for e-ambassadors. Those individuals are the ones who might help write articles for our newsletters or share all our posts on their own social media platforms. Ambassadors are rewarded with Badger Region t-shirts, backpacks, and other cool merchandise for being a part of our team.

To register as a Badger Region ambassador/volunteer, click here.

Questions? Email brian@badgervolleyball.org.

# Tryouts on the horizon

Now that the high school season has begun, tryouts in the Badger Region are on hold (for now).

Tryouts and the opportunity to accept an offer to a club ended at 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18 so as to not conflict with the start of the high school season which began Monday, Aug. 19.

Next up for tryouts: Athletes 14-and-under can have tryouts starting on Oct. 5. Any athlete who receives an offer from a club on Oct. 5 or 6 has until 7 p.m. Oct. 7 to commit to the club before the club has the right to go to the next person on its waiting list.

Athletes 15-and-older will be able to try out for clubs in the Badger Region on Nov. 16 (the weekend after the conclusion of the WIAA state tournament). The first commitment date is 7 p.m. Nov. 18 for athletes who receive an offer on Nov. 16 or 17.

#### Next year's tryouts

Looking ahead to the following season: Retention will take place starting July 1 and go through July 13 (one week after the final day of nationals).

Next year, summer tryouts can take place starting July 19, 2025. The first commitment date is Aug. 1 for the 2025-26 season. Tryouts and offer acceptances can go up to 11:59 p.m. Aug. 17, the day prior to the 2025 high school season.

Clubs do not have to have summer tryouts. Contact your club about specific dates/plans.

Have questions about tryouts? Email us at membership@badgervolleyball.org.

# 'Second Chance' tryouts taking place Oct. 10, Nov. 20

The Badger Region will host its annual "Second Chance" tryouts on two dates this coming fall.

All tryouts will take place after the fall tryout period opens at an athlete's respective age level.

The first will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 10, at the New Berlin SportsPlex, 2900 S. 163rd St., for female athletes who are 14-and-under.

Any athlete 15-and-older can join

the Region for a Second Chance tryout from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 20, at the OAW Indoor Sports Complex located at 5330 S. Racine Ave.

At the Second Chance tryouts, the Badger Region, with the help of athletes from Milwaukee Gold and Milwaukee Dive, will run athletes through a clinic designed to help them improve their skills and showcase their talents to club directors who will be in attendance.

Club directors from Milwaukee area clubs who are still looking for athletes will be allowed to make offers to athletes via email or phone calls after the conclusion of the Second Chance tryout.

In years past, the Second Chance tryout has average 50-60 athletes participating in the tryout with 10-12 clubs in attendance. Most athletes who attend the tryout receive

an offer by the end of the week.

Registration for the Second Chance tryouts will open on Oct. 6 and Nov. 17, respectively.

Athletes looking for a club will also be allowed to put their name on the Badger Region website's list of Athletes Seeking Clubs after Oct. 5, too. Check out those lists, here.

Have questions about the Second Chance Tryouts? Contact Brian Sharkey at brian@badgervolleyball.org.

# Are your program's jerseys compliant?

The Badger Region Volleyball Association wants to make sure your team's jerseys are compliant with all rule sets and changes that have gone into effect.

To do so, the Region's Ref Chair is encouraging club directors or coaches to send images if there is any concern that numbers are not contrasting enough with the dominant color of the jersey or if a jersey is not contrasting for libero purposes.

The photos of the jerseys should not be of any junior athlete in uniform.

Reminder: All numbers must clearly contrast with the color of the jersey, regardless of the color of the outline of the number.

If your team plans to attend a USA Volleyball Boys or Girls Qualifier or National Championship, the Region can also help direct you as to the proper channels you must go through to get jersey waivers.

Questions? Email sara@badgervolleyball.org.

## Save the dates: Age divisions set for Region's marquee events

It's going to be an exciting time at the Baird Center in downtown Milwaukee in February and March of 2025.

That is when and where the Badger Region will host four weekends of competition in the upcoming year. And with the expansion of the Baird Center, the facility will be able to hold more than 50 courts every weekend. That means for the Badger Region Championships, we will be back under one roof and all in two weekends.

Check out the dates and some of the details of some of the Badger Region's marquee event slated for 2025. All dates and age divisions are subject to change.

#### **Badger Region Power League**

- \* Jan. 11-12, 2025
- \* Feb. 8-9, 2025
- \* April 5-6, 2025

The new 12's Division will be Jan 12, Feb. 9, and April 5-6.

The Elite Divisions will only be Jan. 11-12 and

#### **Badger Region Championships**

- \* March 15-16, 2025: G12, G13, G14, G17, G18
- \* March 22-23, 2025: G10s, G11s, G15s, G16s and all boys



#### **Badger Region Girls Qualifier**

\* March 1-2: Featuring bid divisions for Girls 11s-18s. The 2024 event featured 110 teams in Madison

#### **Dale Rohde Memorial Boys Tournament**

\* Feb. 22-23: Featuring over 130 boys teams from across the upper Midwest. The 2024 event featured 130 teams in Madison.

Also to note, the Dale Rohde Tournament and Badger Region Qualifier will coincide with the

Milwaukee Auto Show taking place in the adjacent halls of the Baird Center. How cool is that!?

#### **Badger Boys Series**

The Badger Boys Series dates are Dec. 6 and Jan. 17 at the Milwaukee Sting Center. This program is designed for boys U12 and U13 teams that is low-cost, low-travel and low-stress. It is also used as a Badger Region officials training opportunity.

Have questions? Email kelly@badgervolleyball. org for more information.



## Keep up to date on all things volleyball via the many channels of the Badger Region

Facebook: /BadgerRegionVolleyball

Website: www.badgervolleyball.org

Twitter: @BadgerRegionVB

Pinterest: /BadgerRegionVol

Instagram: @BadgerRegionVB

YouTube: /Badger RegionVolleyball

# DO YOUR HOMEWORK BEFORE TRYOUTS

With changes to Badger Region policy set by the Board of Directors, families have expressed interest in finding information out about clubs, tryouts and membership in advance of the summer tryout period (which could start as early as July 20, 2024, for the 2024-25 season).

Below you can click on each icon to bring you to a short two-minute tutorial to get your questions answered about tryouts, membership, clubs and forms required to participate in most Badger Region programs and events.

Staff finds these to be the most common questions we get at our various open houses that we host throughout the year.

Best of luck in the coming season, and let us know if you have any questions. Go Badger Region!



# **MEMBERSHIP**

- \* WHERE DO I BUY A MEMBERSHIP AND HOW?
- \* WHICH MEMBERSHIP IS RIGHT FOR MY ATHLETE?
- \* WILL I NEED A TRYOUT MEMBERSHIP?



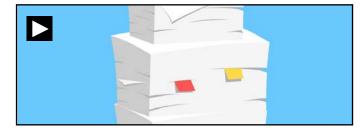
# INFO. ON CLUBS

- \* WHERE DO IN FIND OUT WHEN A CLUB IS HOSTING A TRYOUT?
- \* WHERE IS A LIST OF CLUBS IN THE REGION?



# TRYOUT POLICY

- \* WHAT ARE THE NEW TRYOUT POLICIES
- \* WHAT DATES ARE THERE TO BE AWARE OF FOR TRYOUTS AND RETENTION?



# **FORMS & MORE**

- \* WHAT FORMS DO I BRING TO TRYOUTS?
- \* WHERE DO FIND MY MEMBERSHIP CARD OR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER?

Have questions? Email us at membership@badgervolleyball.org



#### **ABOUT VOLLEYHOUSE**

VolleyHouse proudly serves female volleyball athletes just beginning their volleyball career, to college-level athletes and anywhere in between. We are the only volleyball training facility in the Milwaukee area to solely focus on the training and development of athletes.

#### WHAT WE OFFER

- Private Training
- Position-Specific Small **Group Training** 
  - Pin Hitter
  - Serving
  - Jump Training
  - 1st Contact
  - And many more options!



thehalofacility.com/volleyhouse



infovolleyhouse@gmail.com







### USA VOLLEYBALL JUNIOR PLAYER AGE DEFINITION For use during the 2024-2025 Season

To determine the correct age division, please find the Month of Birth in the left column and then the year of birth in the same row. The heading of the column matching the Year of Birth is the correct age bracket.

	18 & Under <sup>1</sup>	18 & Under <sup>2</sup>	17 & Under	16 & Under	15 & Under <sup>3</sup>	14 & Under <sup>4</sup>	13 & Under <sup>5</sup>	12 & Under	11 & Under	10 & Under	9 & Under	8 & Under
July	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Aug	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Sept	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Oct	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Nov	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Dec	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Jan	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Feb	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mar	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Apr	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
May	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
June	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017

<sup>1</sup>Players who were born on or after July 1, 2005 and a high school student in the twelfth (12th) grade or below during some part of the current academic year are eligible to compete in 18 & under.

<sup>2</sup>Female Only - Players who were born on or after July 1, 2006, (who are defined as 18 & under by the USAV Age Definition) and are in the 11th grade for the current academic year are eligible to compete in 17 & under. (This exception is based on recruiting concerns for 11<sup>th</sup> grade girls previously required to participate in girls 18's qualifiers and the 18's GJNC.)

<sup>3</sup> Male Only - Players who were born on or after July 1, 2010, OR players who were born on or after July 1, 2009 (15 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grade during the current academic year are eligible to play in the 14 & Under division. This exception is based on the net height difference of 7'4 1/8" to 7'11 5/8" between the 14 and Under Division to the 15 and Under Division.

<sup>4</sup>Male Only - Players who were born on or after July 1, 2010 (14 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the seventh grade (7th) during the current academic year are eligible for a Region approved waiver to compete in the boys 13's age group.

Male Only — Players who were born on or after July 1, 2011 (13 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the sixth grade (6th) during the current academic year are eligible for a Region approved waiver to compete in the boys 12's age group.



## sports imports

#### **CLUB CREDIT PROGRAM**

JOIN THE 800+ VOLLEYBALL CLUBS ACCESSING
THE EXCLUSIVE 15% DISCOUNT

At Sports Imports, we believe every indoor & beach volleyball program deserves to play on the best equipment.



















# E.S.P. program recognizes sportsmanship

#### 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 wristbands 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 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 (see below).

If you are a tournament director running a Badger Region/ USA Volleyball-sanctioned event in 2023-24 and would like to request a package of wristbands for distribution at your event, contact Program Director Brian Sharkey at brian@badgervolleyball.org.

# Nominate a coach, player or ref for special honor

# 'Caught Doing Good' now in its third year

The Badger Region knows there are great people who play, coach or officiate our great sport in the state of Wisconsin.

Now is the time to take a second to recognize him or her for their outstanding character, leadership or contribution to the Badger Region or others in the volleyball community.

#### To nominate an individual for "Caught Doing Good," click here.

The 2023-24 season marks the third year of the "Caught Doing Good" program in the Badger Region.

In the past, some examples of folks Caught Doing Good were of coaches who took on multiple teams in the wake of situations at their clubs. There have also been coaches who have gone above and beyond to lead by example and be amazing role models for the young men and young



women in their care.

Some athletes have been recognized by their coaches or fellow teammates for their amazing show of sportsmanship, leadership and character on and off the court.

Just because a coach or athlete receives an award does not mean they are the best

coach in the Badger Region or the best athlete. It means they are doing things the right way, and in ways we can all learn from

Nominees for "Caught Doing Good" will be eligible to win awesome prize packs from the Badger Region including Molten packs or volleyballs, Badger Region apparel or other Badger Region-branded items such as fanny packs, coolers or mugs. Winners will also be featured in future Badger Region newsletters.

"We want to recognize the people on the court who are models of behavior for the rest of us," said Program Director Brian Sharkey. "It's much friendlier on our end to celebrate the positive stories than have to reprimand those that don't have their priorities in order."

Only Badger Region members (coaches, club directors, tournament directors, athletes, administrators, athletic trainers, etc.) are eligible for Caught Doing Good awards.

Have questions about Caught Doing Good? Email brian@badgervolleyball.org or call 414-313-9055.

# Region to host 2025 All-Star event

# Madison chosen for elite tournament

The Badger Region Volleyball Association and the Madison Area Sports Commission (MASC) are proud to announce that Madison and the Alliant Energy Center have been selected to host the 2025 USA Volleyball All-Star Championships. The event will feature All-Star teams from across the country composed of boys and girls players, ages 13-19, as well as officials from around the nation.

Madison was selected from various sites around the country by the participating programs. It will be the first time a Wisconsin city has hosted this prestigious event since 2010, when it was held in Wisconsin Dells.

"We are very proud to be hosting this event in Madison, in partnership with the Madison Area Sports Commission," said Badger Region Volleyball Executive Director and Commissioner Jennifer Armson-Dyer. "Wisconsin is a hotbed of volleyball at all levels, and to be able to bring this event to our local community is very rewarding. We're looking forward to showing the juniors volleyball community what Madison is about."

The event will take place in late July 2025 at the Alliant Energy Center and will feature four days of competition across nine divisions of both boys and girls volleyball ages 13-19. More than 100 participating teams will come from the 40 regions of USA Volleyball along with international teams. In the past, teams from Canada, Puerto Rico, Australia and New Zealand have attended the event.

Not only will players, coaches and spectators travel from around the nation to Madison, but officials will as well. Each participating region sends experienced and up-and-coming officials to work the event and be mentored by world-class officials to gain experience officiating high-level volleyball and making important connections to further



The Badger Region brought home two gold medals from the All-Star event in Tulsa in 2022. The event will be in Madison in 2025.



their careers.

"Hosting this prestigious tournament in Madison -- one of the epicenters of volleyball has long been a goal of ours," said Jamie Patrick, VP of MASC. "We look forward to continuing our partnership with Badger Region Volleyball to welcome athletes and their fans to compete, cheer and enjoy volleyball and activities in the indelible Madison."

The All-Star Championships started in the early 2000s as an elite-level event designed to showcase regional All-Star teams along with national training teams from USA Volleyball, the national governing body of volleyball in the United States, in multiple age divisions. Previously known as the High Performance Champion-

ships, the USA Volleyball All-Star Championships are now run by the Regional Volleyball Associations and it is endorsed by USA Volleyball as a "pipeline" event to the National Team Development and Olympic programs.

Badger Region has been a participant in this event since its beginning, capturing 15 medals, including most recently a bronze medal by the U13 girls team last July in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and a gold medal by the U17 boys and U17 girls teams in 2022 in Tulsa, Okla. The 2024 All-Star Volleyball Championships will be held in Des Moines, Iowa in mid-July. Information about the Badger Region Volleyball tryouts for the 2024 teams will be announced in January.

For more information on the event as details emerge, please visit the Badger Region website at www.BadgerVolleyball.org or contact us at membership@badgervolleyball.org.

#### **Badger Region**

The Badger Region Volleyball Association is one of the 40 Regions of USA Volleyball. A 501c3 nonprofit organization, Badger Region's mission is to promote initiatives for safe, structured and fun life-long volleyball experiences. Badger Region is one of the nine largest regions in the country, with more than 16,000 members across the state of Wisconsin. Our membership ranges from introductory and grassroots teams at 10 and under through semi-professional adult teams associated with the Volleyball League of America. We provide educational opportunities for players, coaches, club directors, tournament directors, officials and fans, and prioritize child safety and safe, welcoming environments. Please visit www.BadgerVolleyball. org to learn more about Badger Region Volleyball.

### **About the Madison Area Sports Commission:**

The Madison Area Sports Commission (MASC) is the greater Madison area's official sports marketing organization. Launched by Destination Madison in 2010, MASC is charged with elevating the recognition and awareness of the impact of sports tourism on the regional economy while serving the unique needs of the sports tourism business. For more information about the organization, visit madisonsports.org.



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### 2025: NATIONALS HERE WE GO!

GIRLS 18S



Girls Junior Nationals

April 25-27

Salt Lake City, Utah

2026: TBA

**ADULTS** 



#### **USAVolleyball**

Open National Championships

May 23-28

Denver, Colo.

2026: TBA

**GIRLS** 



#### **USAVolleyball**

Girls Junior Nationals

GII-13s: June 21-24 Kansas City, Mo.

G14-17s: June 25-July 3 Dallas, Texas

2026: TBA

BOYS



**USAVolleyball** 

Boys Junior Nationals

July 3-6 Minneapolis, Mn.

2026: TBA



USA All-Star Championships

July 24-27

Madison, Wis.

2026: TBA

Dates and locations for a majority of the 2025 & 6 Boys Bid Tournaments and Girls National Qualifiers can also be found on the events page at www.usavolleyball.org.

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### Badger Region Volleyball Association

2831 N. Grandview Blvd. Suite 105 Pewaukee, WI 53072

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Tournament Director kelly@badgervolleyball.org 262-470-0837

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Fax: 262-349-9971

The Badger Region Volleyball Association promotes initiatives for safe, structured and fun life-long volleyball experiences!

If you (or you or your organization) would like to advertise in a future Badger Beacon, contact Brian Sharkey at the phone number or email address above.

More online: www.badgervolleyball.org

Twitter: @BadgerRegionVB

Facebook: Badger Region Volleyball

Pinterest: BadgerRegionVol

Instagram: BadgerRegionVB

#### **Badger Region Volleyball Association**

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS







Athletes joined the Badger Region for a free Try Volleyball clinic at St. Marcus School in Milwaukee on Sept. 14.

Oct. 5: First day U14 tryouts can resume for clubs in the Badger Region

Nov. 6-9: WIAA High School State Tournament in Green Bay

Nov. 16: First day 15-and-older tryouts can resume for clubs in the Badger Region

Nov. 19: Badger Region Board of Directors Meeting

**Jen. 11-12:** First weekend of the Badger Region Power League

**Feb. 8-9:** Second weekend of the Badger Region Power League

Feb. 22-23: Dale Rohde Boys Tournament in Milwaukee

March 1-2: Badger Region Qualifier in Milwaukee

March 15-16: First weekend of Badger Region Champion-

ships in Milwaukee

March 22-23: Second weekend of Badger Region Championships in Milwaukee

April 5-6: Final weekend of the Badger Region Power League

July 24-27: USA All-Star Championships in Madison, Wisconsin!



### How is the Badger Region Board structured?

The Badger Region Volleyball Association is governed by a Board of Directors that must be elected by members on a regular basis. Area reps serve three-year terms, while members of the executive board serve four-year terms.

Members, whether they are players, coaches, parents, directors, athletic trainers or officials, are encouraged to communicate with their respective representative if they

think policies or financial decision in the Region need to be changed.

Some policies enforced by Badger Region come from USA Volleyball, our sport's national governing body, so those can't be changed. But many others can.

The Board is advised by a 11 chairpersons (or experts) in various parts of the game, and five staff members (some of which have multiple responsibilities).

The state is divided into five parts geographically for representation. Plus, there are two at-large board members who you can approach if you don't feel comfortable with your current rep. And there is a rep dedicated just to issues that surround our Junior volleyball clubs and athletes.

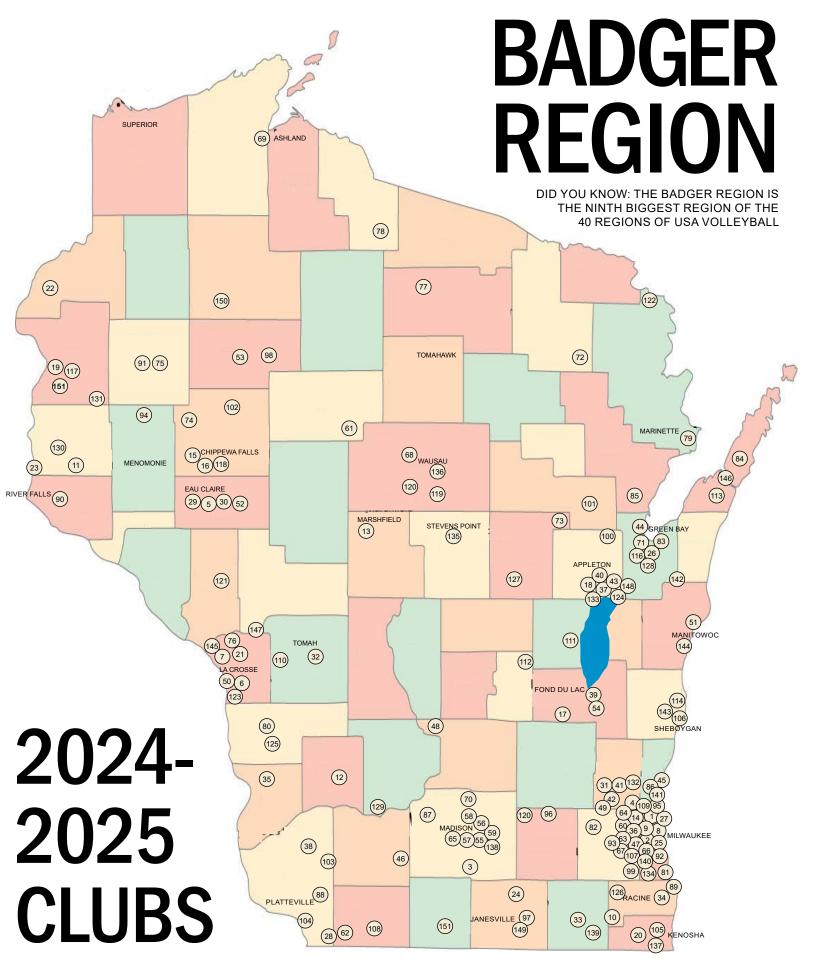
You'll be hearing from each Board member twice a year in the form of a column in the Badger Beacon. Now, let's meet them:

#### Holly Jablonowski Scott Blackmon **Beau Rath Iason Wheelock** (President / Southeast Rep) (Vice President / Coach Rep) (Treasurer) (At-Large) Elected in 2024 Appointed in 2022 Elected in 2023 Elected in 2019 Email: hollyjabo@gmail.com Email: beau.rath@gmail.com Email: jason@fvperformance.com Email: Scottlblackmon@gmail.com **Amy Daley** (Northeast Rep) **Breit Nelson** Elected 2022 (Northwest Rep) Email: fcelite.volleyball@gmail.com Elected in 2024 Email address: Spikeitdown@hotmail.com **Stevens Point** Patti Dawson (Officials Rep) La Crosse Elected in 2024 Email: pd12@att.net **Bonnie Stalker** (Southwest Rep) Elected in 2024 Madison Curtis Madson Email address: vbccrossfire@gmail.com (Metro Milwaukee Rep / Secretary) Elected in 2023 Email: Curtis.Madson@cuw.edu Jon Ellmann **Kyleigh Neave Brian Rushmer** Dan Habeck (At-Large Rep) (At-Large Rep) (Independent Rep) (Junior Rep) Elected in 2023 Appointed in 2024 Elected in 2024 Elected in 2022 Email: ellmannj@uwosh.edu Email: brushmer@gmail.com Email: wijrs.kyleigh.block@gmail.com Email: djh@cmlawgroup.com

Individual chairs and advisors who offer input to the Board of Directors but don't have authority to vote at meetings: Grassroots Chair: Alexis Middleton
Officials Rating/Training: John Nelson
Scorer Rating/Training: Erin Stalker
Junior Girls Chair: Braeden Melton
Junior Boys Chair: Mike Stevens
Adult Chair: TJ Abshire
Past President: Julie Voeck / Jim Momsen

#### **REGION STAFF**

Executive Director/Commissioner: Jennifer Armson-Dyer Program Director: Brian Sharkey Operations Manager: Scott Spiess Tournament Director: Kelly Lehman Program Specialist: Sara Voigt Elections for the Badger Region Board of Directors occur. Nominations take place in April and the election is for adult members May 1-10.



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