



REGION REF BULLETIN

WWW.BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG | MEMBERSHIP@BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG

Rule testing

USAV is considering two potential rule changes for 2026, and we are able to use them this year in our region events (non Qualifiers) as a trial run to see if clubs/teams support the rule changes.

The first one is changing from 12 to 15 substitutions. This would match the current NCAA rule. USAV scoresheets with 15 subs will be available on the Badger Region website.

The second rule change is to allow a team to use 0, 1, or 2 liberos for each set and change them at will. This would match what is being used for JVA/AAU events.

If tournaments would like to use these test rules, directors should discuss this in pre-tournament communication. This is for Badger Region approved events only.

Independent contractor form

The 2024-25 independent contractor form is approved and was sent to all new and renewing Badger Region/USAV officials recently. Officials will receive the IC form and W9 through DocuSign again this year. Once membership is renewed, the Region will manually send the DocuSign to the email you used on your membership.

Have questions? Email sara@badgervolleyball.org.

On-court evals

New officials are required to sign up for an on-court evaluation. To sign up for a slot, [click here](#).



Donations sought for new officials

The Badger Region wants to thank the experienced officials who have donated to the ref-starter kits being put together for new officials in Wisconsin.

Your generosity is appreciated.

That being said, the Region is continuing to collect gently used officiating items that can be used to build starter kits for new officials just starting off.

Some of the suggested things we are collecting include:

- * Line judge flags
- * Referee carrying bags
- * Yellow/Red cards

* Officials polos (maybe you have certain colors you don't like to wear or sizes that you never fit into in your closet)

- * Writing utensils and erasers
- * Correction tape
- * Coolers/lunch boxes
- * Ball pumps
- * Electronic whistles
- * Net-height chains

We want to make it as easy on possible for new referees to get started. To donate, you can drop off materials at your in-person officials meeting or at the Badger Region office in Pewaukee.

Sign up for a ref meeting

Please take a moment to sign up for an in-person Badger Region Officials meeting.

These will be held on Nov. 24 and Dec. 8. Both are from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield, 375 South Moorland Road in Brookfield.

You only need to attend one date and just a reminder that this annual meeting is mandatory for all Badger Region officials. If you live far away don't worry we will also have an online option with the date and time yet to be determined.

[Click here to sign up.](#)

Can't join us in person? Sign up for the Dec. 10 meeting that will take place online at 7 p.m. Central Time. [To register, click here.](#)

USAV rules and points of emphasis

1. Login to your USAV Academy (from your Sports Engine account)

2. Click on Content Library in the left navigation bar and scroll down to US25_The Officials Academy

3. Click on it and then scroll down to the Silver Level Collection and you will find 25-051_Critical Rules and Points of Emphasis.

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. 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.

Officials uniforms

Badger Region and USA Volleyball officials should use the website <https://vbofficialsgear.com/> for travel accessories, refing accessories and plenty of apparel options.

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.



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A great night of mentoring

Thank you to our mentors Craig Madson, Felix Madera and Jim Momsen who helped some up-and-coming officials with mentoring sessions at the Boys Open House Oct. 30 at Pius XI High School. Mentees included Patrick Collar, Justin Flasch, Amy Grycowski and Kristin Kaczmarek.





Make sure you are in good standing

Some updates to Region's policy

The Badger Region board of directors approved in May 2023 an "In Good Standing" policy for all officials to be assignable, receive mentoring and be eligible for advancement moving forward.

The criteria listed below must be met on an annual basis. If a referee cannot meet these criteria, he or she may apply to the Officials Chair for a one-season waiver to become inactive, which will not be unreasonably withheld.

- * Annual USAV Full Membership
- * Annual USAV background screen
- * Annual SafeSport Training
- * Complete and submit annual Independent Contractor and W-9 forms

- * Completion of all required USAV modules assigned by Badger Region

- * Attend the Badger Region officials' pre-season meeting (in person or online) or a new referee clinic.

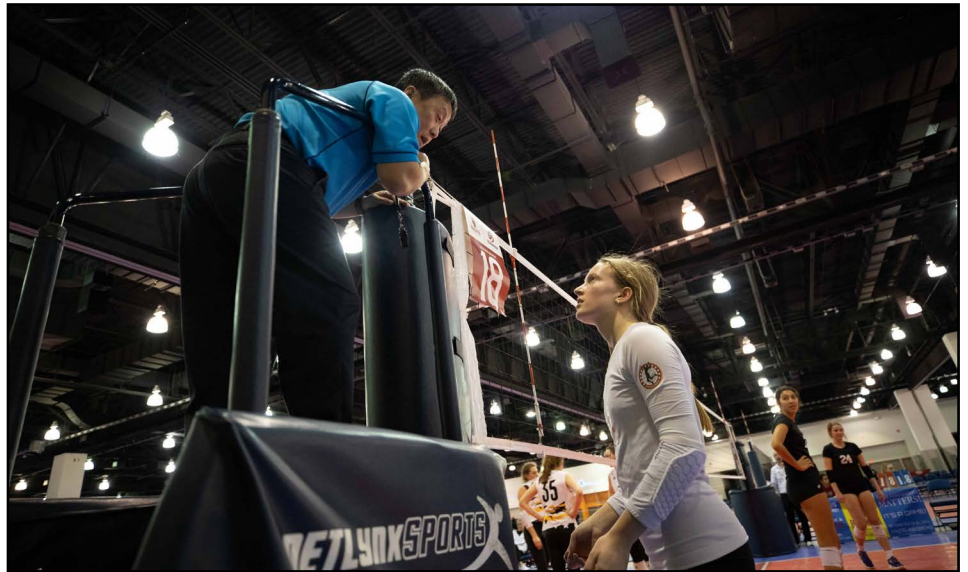
- * Conduct themselves with an appropriate level of professionalism and are not under review or hold sanctions from the Badger Region Ethics & Eligibility Committee.

- * Official has been assigned to and has or will be working two separate Badger Region-hosted events (Badger Region Championships, Badger Region Power League, Badger Region Qualifier, Dale Rhode) or WVC events or other single day-approved events. An official can also meet requirements by working in a mentoring role at two events.

- The official does not have to work both days of a two-day event.

- The two days need to be from two separate events.

If an official does not officiate or mentor (as assigned by the Badger Region Assignor) at least two Badger Region tournaments in a season, they will be considered to have been inactive for that season (and until they have officiated a tournament in a subsequent season). If an official is inactive for two successive seasons, the official will be required to repeat the certification process, beginning with clinic attendance and practical evaluation before being reinstated and officiating for the Region again. Failing to meet one or more of the following Good Standing criteria will result in "Conditional" status which will affect tournament officiating fees



and possibly eligibility to receive assignments. Conditional officials are not considered to be in good standing.

**Please note that if an official would like to run for a leadership position (board, advisory or other committee) within the Badger Region, they must be in good standing as of April 15 and must maintain that standing throughout their service.

Good standing for advancement

To be considered for advancement AND in good standing in the Badger Region, the referee must meet the criteria outlined below. If a referee cannot meet these criteria they will not be eligible for advancement.

**Please note if an official was not in good standing the previous season, they cannot apply for advancement the following season due to the timing of regional camp acceptance and the regional advancement training process. An official must be in good standing the season before they apply for advancement the following season.

- * Annual USAV Full Membership
- * Annual USAV background screen
- * Annual Safe Sport Training
- * Complete and submitted annual IC/W 9 forms
- * Complete and submit annual Independent Contractor and W-9 forms

- * Official has been assigned to and has or will be working two separate Badger Region-hosted events (Badger Region Championships, Badger

Region Power League, Badger Region Qualifier, Dale Rhode) or WVC events or other single day-approved events. An official can also meet requirements by working in a mentoring role at two events.

- * Maintain certification as a USAV Scorer.

- * Attend the Badger Region officials' pre-season meeting (in person or online) or a new referee clinic.

- * Conduct themselves with an appropriate level of professionalism and are not under review or hold sanctions from the Badger Region Ethics & Eligibility Committee.

Rationale

- * Important in order to prevent officials from just using the region to become certified and not officiate region events.

- * Perception is that our officials pool increases but the number of "assignable officials" does not.

- * Help the region retain officials to use in region events

- * Officials mentoring can only be scheduled for those officials working Badger Region sanctioned events. Mentors can be scheduled for officials during these events to help make those officials better. All mentors are scheduled by the officials assignor and paid for by Badger Region. Our goal is to make our region officials better and help them towards advancement.

- * This is common in most regions and helps unify policies region to region.

Questions? Email sara@badgervolleyball.org.



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Badger Region advancement protocol

The purpose of advancement through officiating ranks is important as it offers recognition and reward for the hard work that officials put in throughout their careers. As the interest in advancement grows, so does the evaluation pressure and process to pass through both the regional and USA Volleyball (USAV) National processes. Badger Region has developed the following procedures and criteria in order to help prepare officials to become successful in passing their evaluations.

Officials must be In Good Standing, per the approved policy, the season prior to their request for advancement the following season. For a copy of the In Good Standing policy, please visit the Badger Region website or contact the region official's chair or board rep.

Junior National & National Candidates:

This process is handled by USAV, but Badger Region is asked to provide input on candidates. Based on the number of candidates accepted per region by USAV, the region budget allows for two reimbursements of \$500 per candidate upon successful advancement per season to recognize and reward. Please note that the official must be in good standing to be considered for advancement.

If there are more than two candidates per season seeking advancement, the region will form an advisory committee composed of the ref chair, ref liaison and other interested parties to make a decision on the ranking of candidates that will be given to USAV. Junior National and National Ad-



vancement Applications are available on the USAV website and all questions should be directed to USAV. Additional information about the process and timeline is as follows:

- * The final decision on selection and advancement is made by USAV

- * To decide the ranking of a candidate, the Region takes many factors into consideration including good standing status, dedication to region events, interactions with other officials, ability to manage calendar, etc.

- * The Region will confirm receipt of a candidate's application and will copy the candidate on the submission to USA Volleyball, per their process.

- * The Region will send completed applications, regional ranking and all other information to USAV as requested by their process.

Regional Candidates:

This process is handled within the Badger Region and will be an application process for the 2024-25 season. The Region will form a Regional Advancement Committee composed of interested parties, including but not limited to Regional, Junior National and

of their sessions with interested candidates to the Advancement Committee after completing mentoring opportunities to give guidance on whether an interested candidate is ready (both in the R1 and R2 positions). These reports must be submitted after each mentoring session, but no later than the end of March.

- * The Committee will finalize selection and an email will be sent to all candidates no later than the first week of April on their status of acceptance. If an official is not accepted as one of the candidates for Regional Advancement, the region will work with that individual to help set them up for success the following year (if possible).

- * The candidates who are accepted to the April 5-6 Advancement Weekend will be given continued mentoring opportunities, if available, before evaluation weekend.

- * Selected Regional Advancement candidates will be assigned both days of Advancement Weekend and will be paid for half of the matches they are assigned.

- * Advancement coaches (mentor officials) will be assigned advancement camp and advancement weekend by the Badger Region, who will be given guidance from the advancement committee on qualities and skills to be considered during the evaluation process.

- * At the end of the second day of Advancement Weekend, the advancement coaches will decide if a candidate has been successful. Upon successful advancement, the new Regional candidate will receive a Regional Patch and be celebrated in the upcoming issues of the Badger Beacon newsletter and Ref Bulletin.

National officials within the Region as well as the Region Liaison to USAV and the Badger Region Ref Chair. The committee will select up to eight (8) candidates for Regional advancement per season, as outlined by the process below:

- * An application form will be live on the Badger Region website on October 1st and will be included in subsequent Ref Bulletins. Interested officials have until 11:59pm CT on Dec. 31 to apply as an "interested in advancement" candidate. Candidates must be available for the 2025 Regional Advancement Camp January 11th and 12th and the 2025 advancement weekend of April 5-6 at the Badger Region Power League to be considered.

- * Mentors will be assigned to all interested candidates seeking advancement in the months of January and February, based on their designated in-region availability. Officials interested in advancement must be available for Badger Region events and open to mentoring and feedback. The goal will be to give all interested candidates the same number of mentoring opportunities, but this depends on availability of both the mentor and the candidate.

- * Mentors will send reports



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Save the dates for these Region meetings, events

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:

- Nov. 24:** In-person referee meeting No. 1 at 11 a.m.
- Dec. 6:** Badger Boys Series (Milwaukee Sting Center)
- Dec. 8:** In-person referee meeting No. 2 at 11 a.m.
- Jan. 11-12:** First weekend of Badger Region Power League (assigning begins week of July 8)
- Jan. 17:** Badger Boys Series (Milwaukee Sting Center)
- Feb. 8-9:** Second weekend of Badger Region Power League (assigning begins week of July 8)



- 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)
- April 5-6:** Second weekend of Badger Region Power League (assigning begins week of July 8)
- July 24-27:** USA All-Star

Championships (Alliant Energy Center, Madison)

Single-day events in the Badger Region are assigned starting the second week in December (unless they are scheduled for December). Questions? Email us at membership@badgervolleyball.org

HARD WORKING. DECISIVE. CONFIDENT. CONSISTENT. DEDICATED

REFEREES WANTED

REWARDS:

- TRAINING OFFERED
- GOOD COMPENSATION
- FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES



GIVE BACK TO THE GAME

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USAV seeks nominations for Awards

Each year, USA Volleyball recognizes and honors members of the volleyball community for outstanding and exceptional achievement in leadership, performance and service to the sport. Nominations for 2023-2024 season awards to be presented in 2025 are currently being accepted through November 22, 2024.

Awardees will be selected and announced in December with awards to be formally presented and celebrated at the USA Volleyball Hall of Fame Banquet in Denver, Colorado, on May 21, 2025.

To be eligible, nominees must be USA Volleyball members in good standing who actively participate in USA Volleyball-sanctioned events and/or programs.

Please submit a nomination on behalf of an individual for consideration for an award. This form may be completed multiple times to submit nominations in different categories.

Annual Awards

- * USA Volleyball Rebecca B. Howard Diversity & Inclusion Award
- * USA Volleyball Junior Male Athlete of the Year
- * USA Volleyball Junior Female Athlete of the Year
- * USA Volleyball Indoor Junior Club



USAVolleyball

Director of the Year

- * USA Volleyball Beach Junior Club Director of the Year

- * USA Volleyball Junior Club Service Award

- * USA Volleyball Junior Girls Indoor Coach of the Year

- * USA Volleyball Junior Boys Indoor Coach of the Year

- * USA Volleyball Junior Girls Beach Coach of the Year

- * USA Volleyball Junior Boys Beach Coach of the Year

- * USA Volleyball Referee of the Year

- * USA Volleyball Scorer of the Year

[To submit a nomination, click here.](#)

Set up your direct deposit for event pay

Did you know that if you work the Badger Region's marquee events that you can be paid with direct deposit through our accounting company? Yes. You can.

Independent contractors who work the Region Championships, Qualifier, Power League and Dale Rohde Memorial can set up an account and get paid via direct deposit. [To set up an account through Bill.com, click here.](#)

The system will ask you some questions so follow the prompts, and you will also be asked to confirm your contact information.

The monies worked while officiating, scoring or serving as a lead official, score monitor, etc., can then be deposited electronically. A paper check would not be sent. Through this system, deposits are made roughly three days after they are processed and approved.

Shoutouts

Please send your outstanding work crew nominations to Badger Region program director Brian Sharkey at 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.

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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