

September 18, 2007

Dear Prospective Tournament Director:

The Region is preparing itself for the coming indoor season, and we hope you are looking forward to it as well. We thank you for your continued support and/or interest in hosting tournaments in our Region, and we hope you will consider hosting some tournaments again this year. This letter will outline several key issues for the coming season, and hopefully will get you started towards sanctioning your tournaments.

Attached you will find a Carolina Region Tournament Sanction Request Form and a listing of dates available for adult and junior play. Keep in mind that adult tournaments can be scheduled on Sundays (but Saturdays are preferred where possible). We will schedule Juniors to play on the Saturday first, but with our growth we may have to schedule some play on Sundays as well (if you are interested in Sunday tournaments, submit those requests also but understand we will only use those as last resort). **The Carolina Region strongly recommends that you get written confirmations (indicating dates) with the gyms or facilities you will be using for your tournaments.** If you are interested in any dates, please fill out the Sanction Request form and return it to Region Office as quickly as possible. Please fill out a separate form for each tournament you plan to host, so there are no issues as to what you requested. You will be notified, if your approval is accepted, and asked to sign an official sanction form to complete the process. Please note that the assigning of divisions and granting of official sanctions may take some time as we gather all the requests in and start to see what type of numbers we have in each division. For these reasons, the final schedule and sanction approval will not be determined until mid-December for the Adults and mid-January for the Juniors. We thank you for your patience. We do our best to accommodate all requests and the earlier you get your requests in the higher chance of sanctioning (we rarely do not offer chance to host for at least one division – the more flexible you are the better)!

Items of interest to Tournament Directors for the 2007-2008 season:

- (1) The **Adult** Division intends to be separated as it did last year with Gold, Silver, and Bronze Divisions (as always, may change based on number of teams that register). The adult teams will be redistributed into the Divisions based on skill and team numbers after the first two tournaments in December. We should need 2-3 courts for Gold, 3-4 courts for Silver, and 2-3 courts for Bronze for each tournament. The **Junior Divisions** will continue to have Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Copper divisions in most age groups (18's, 13's and 12's usually have less). Teams will be allowed to choose their initial level, but we will make adjustments after the first few tournaments. With Juniors, it is hard to tell how many courts we will need for each division, but at the minimum it will be 2 courts and some divisions may need as many as 3-4 courts. Bottom line is, we need as many as you can get us for Juniors as we continue to grow!! We will continue to have some junior tournaments every weekend of the season with the older age groups (16 and older) playing one weekend (on same weekend as adults) and the younger age groups (15 and under) playing the opposite weekends.

...over

- (2) **Tournament Director's Compensation:** The early scheduling incentive will be in effect again for this season. To recap: Tournament Sanction Forms are due in the office eight (8) weeks before your tournament. If you return the Sanction Request Form to the Office by **December 1** (excluding December tournament dates, which still must be in 8 weeks in advance), you will receive the maximum fee possible (approximately \$67-68 per team for adults and \$72-73 for junior teams minus regular sanctioning fees and requirements). After December 1, you will receive \$5 - \$10 less per team (depending on when received); however, if your Sanction Form is not in the Office eight weeks before your tournament, we cannot guarantee approval. Entry fees for Regular season tournaments will be \$90 for adult tournaments and \$120 for junior tournaments. The Regional Championships tournament entry fees will be \$125 for Adults and \$140 for Juniors (Flat rate \$65 per adult team and \$70 per junior team to TD). This increase is necessary to cover the additional costs associated with running the Regional Championships (nicer awards and paid officials will be provided for pool play and playoffs for both Adults and Juniors again this season). You will receive a Tournament Directors' Handbook, which will explain the Tournament Directors compensation in more detail. **All Tournament Directors must be registered members with the Region (insurance requirement).** **NOTE: If you register ONLINE and Early (before Nov 1), you will be eligible for up to a \$10 discount off the \$40 membership fees!).**
- (3) **Policy on Determining Playing Sites** – If you are hosting a tournament where all or the majority of the divisions are playing, please note that the Region must be notified of all the facilities you will be using at least 6 weeks before the tournament. This is to insure that there are enough courts provided to adequately host all divisions. In the event that specific facilities cannot be provided, the Region reserves the right to look for alternative sites and tournament directors to host some or all of the divisions. Please secure your playing facilities in writing early!
- (4) **Rule Changes** – There are very few rule changes this season. **However, there are several FORMAT changes.** We will limit all Platinum Divisions to 4-team pools (minimum 8 teams entered) and if they have all 4-team pools there will be a cross-play playoff schedule. Also, the 4-team pool Play schedule has been changed teams now seeded 1-4 and schedule reflects that. The 5-team and 7-team pool formats **DID NOT** change. Note: For juniors, the LAST place finisher is still the team to stay and work the first round of playoffs (if necessary). Of course, Tournament Directors still have option to ask other teams to stay if one team is finished earlier. **It will be very important for you to read the Tournament Director's Handbook this year to make sure you are following the correct formats and procedures!** As always, you can contact the Region Office with any questions you have on the tournaments.
- (5) **Coaches' Meeting:** We will not have a Junior Tournament Director's Meeting this year, per se, due to low attendance in years' past. We do cover all elements of the (Junior) tournament experience at our Coaches' Meetings in November and December. If you are a new Tournament Director or have an interest in the discussions at the Coaches' Meeting then mark your calendars now for **November 10** (site: Cannon School, Concord), OR **November 17** (site: Triangle VBC, Morrisville), OR **December 15** (site: Greensboro SportsPlex). We will be discussing 2007/2008 policies and how tournaments will be played, so feel free to attend any of these meetings if you can (only need to attend one as all will be the same). Meetings begin at 10:00 am and should be done at 11:30 am.
- (6) **COED & U-VOLLEY tournaments:** The Carolina Region has sanctioned COED tournaments in the past and will continue to do so if interest (however, there can be no guaranteed participation based on prior entry levels). The Sundays of the younger Junior (15 and under) weekends are ideal dates for this, but we will consider other valid dates as well. There is a spot on the Sanction Request Form to indicate a request for COED Sanctioning. FIVB (International governing body for volleyball) has created a new playing division – U-Volley. This is a height restricted tournament where all participants must be under a height restriction (women – 175 cm; men 185cm). We will sanction a U-Volley tournament if a Tournament Director is interested in this division. Sunday's of the younger Junior (15 and under) weekends would be the ideal time for these tournaments as well.
- (7) **WEB Page:** We have redesigned our website to make it easier to find information. There is a section on our website just for Tournament Directors (last item on the blue menu)! We'll put all the forms that you may need up there. These are also in the Tournament Director Handbook, but sometimes they get misplaced or used without making copies. If there are other items you think you might like to see on the web page, let us know! Our website is at: <http://www.CarolinaRegionVB.org/>

- (8) **Behavior Policy:** The Junior Advisory Board and Carolina Region Board of Directors approved a Spectator and Participant Behavior Policy to implement last season. This policy puts all participants at a tournament on notice that inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. The Tournament Director has the right and obligation to remove participants from the facility for inappropriate behavior. We hope this policy will make it easier to administer events as behavior will not be as much of an issue. The full policy and Warning Cards will be a part of the Tournament Director's Handbook that will be sent to you once you get on the schedule. As always, please let us know how this policy works for you and whether there are other things we need to address to make your experience better.
- (9) **Regional Championship Information:** The Board of Directors has passed a policy that the Region will not sanction a competing event on the same date as a Regional Championship. Please keep this in mind when considering special events or tournaments. Also, at the request of the Junior Advisory Board, all divisions will play to the end of the season this year. All age groups and divisions will continue to have tournaments on alternating weekends through April 12 (see enclosed schedule for additional information). We will run a separate National Bid tournament again this year on April 19. If you are interested in hosting one of those tournaments, please submit a Request as for any other tournament.
- (10) **PLEASE NOTE: Submitting a request does not mean your event will be sanctioned or approved. This is just the first step in the sanctioning process and additional factors are considered before sanctioning is approved. Sanction Requests are not necessarily accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis, but that is a factor when evaluating two similar and valid requests. First priority goes to tournament directors that have run tournaments for us in the past on those dates (SportsPlex, Hi Neighbor, Quest, etc.) However, if those organizations do not submit their requests in a timely fashion for their normal dates, others may be considered! We make all attempts to honor all timely sanction requests and early requests are rarely not approved. Those willing to host any division stand the best chance at approved sanctions.** With the growth of our Junior divisions, we generally need all the courts we can get each weekend and we foresee that again this season. By adding a fifth division in juniors in some age groups, we anticipate two-court facilities again being able to host a majority of the junior divisions, so please consider hosting if you can!

If you have any questions about the tournament sanctioning process, please give me a call. Just about all the information on our organization can also be found on our web site.

Thank you for all your work in promoting volleyball in North Carolina!



Kevin M. Wendelboe
Director of Operations, Carolina Region

Enclosures

A more complete schedule for both Adults and Juniors is currently being compiled. These dates are posted on our website now and will be updated as sites are confirmed. The dates below will have tournaments in all divisions. The Deadline for each tournament date is also posted online (late fee=\$25). Those interested in hosting a tournament on one of these available dates should complete the Tournament Sanction Request Form. **Sites are needed now for all dates (except Asheville Hi Neighbor tournaments and Quest) including Regionals. PLEASE NOTE: Submitting a request does not mean your event will be sanctioned or approved. This is just the first step in the sanctioning process and additional factors are considered before sanctioning is approved. Sanction Requests are not necessarily accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis, but that is a factor when evaluating two similar and valid requests.**

Proposed 2008 JUNIOR TOURNAMENT DATES

Regular season entry fee = \$120; Regionals entry fee = \$140

December/January:

- 29-30 – Possible season opening two-day tournament - Quest
- 5 – Regular season tournaments begin; All divisions for age groups 12's, 13's, 14's, 15's
- 12 – Regular season tournaments begin; All divisions for age groups 16's, 17's, 18's
- 19 - All divisions for age groups 12's, 13's, 14's, 15's
- 26 - All divisions for age groups 16's, 17's, 18's (SAT DATE)

February:

- 2– All divisions for age groups 12's, 13's, 14's, 15's
- 9 – All divisions for age groups 16's, 17's, 18's
- 16 – All divisions for age groups 12's, 13's, 14's, 15's
- 23 – All divisions for age groups 16's, 17's, 18's

March:

- 1– All divisions for age groups 12's, 13's, 14's, 15's (SAT DATE)
- 8 – All divisions for age groups 16's, 17's, 18's
- 15 – All divisions for age groups 12's, 13's, 14's, 15's
- 22/23 – **EASTER**
- 29/30 - Asheville Junior Hi Neighbor (unconfirmed)

April:

- 5/6 - Regional Championships for following divisions – 15 Bronze, 15 Copper, 16 Silver, 16 Bronze, 16 Copper, all 17's, all 18's
- 12/13 - Regional Championships for all age groups all 12's, all 13's, all 14's, 15 Platinum, 15 Gold, 15 Silver, 16 Platinum, 16 Gold
- 19 - National bid tournaments for all age groups

Proposed 2007-2008 ADULT TOURNAMENT DATES

Regular season entry fee = \$90; Regionals entry fee = \$125

December:

- Weekend of 1 & 2 - M-Sat; W-Sun (if needed)
- Weekend of 8 & 9 - M-Sun; W-Sat (if needed)

January:

- Weekend of 5 & 6
- Weekend of 19 & 20

February:

- Weekend of 2 & 3
- Weekend of 16 & 17

March:

- Weekend of 1 & 2
- Weekend of 15 & 16 - Asheville Hi Neighbor

April:

- Weekend of Mar 29 & 30 - 2008 Regional Championships – All Divisions

CAROLINA REGION TOURNAMENT SANCTION REQUEST



I. Tournament Director Information:

II. Tournament Information:

Tournament Director's (TD) Name: _____

TD's Mailing Address: _____

TD's City/St/Zip: _____

TD's Home Phone #:(_____) _____

TD's Work #:(_____) _____

Which Number to put on Schedule? (Circle) Home Work

TD's # to be reached day of trn (cell/pager/gym office):(_____) _____

TD's Fax #: (_____) _____

TD's E-mail: _____

List email address on Web page? (Circle) Yes No

Post-Trn Checks Made Payable To? _____
Name or Organization

Name of Tournament (Optional): _____

Date of Tournament: _____

Site(s) of Tournament (List all gyms/facilities): _____

Sponsor(s) of Tournament (Optional): _____

Special Requests, waivers, non-tournament requests. Please be specific in describing your request: _____

Circle all appropriate Divisions and Classifications (by gender and group):

ADULTS:

Men Gold Silver Bronze
 Women Gold Silver Bronze
 Coed AA A BB B
 U-Volley
 Total Number of Courts Available _____

JUNIORS: (Circle Age, Division, & Gender)

18 17 16 15 14 13 12 10
 Platinum Gold Silver Bronze Copper
 Girl's Boy's

Total Number of Courts Available _____

OUTDOOR: (circle all that apply) Open AA A BB B Jrs Coed M W
 2's 3's 4's 6's Sand Grass

I hereby request sanction for the above-described tournament. In consideration for this sanction, I agree to pay all applicable fees to the Carolina Region and conduct this tournament in accordance with the regulations of the Carolina Region and with the Official United States Domestic Competition Rules as approved and published by USA Volleyball. The Carolina Region shall have the right to review all entered teams and place teams within their appropriate playing divisions as needed.

 PRINTED NAME SIGNATURE DATE

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete all sections above and sign. Outdoor requests must include \$15 sanction fee with form (indoor is taken out of post-tournament checks). Send form at least 3 weeks in advance of tournament (1 week for outdoor) to Region. Requests submitted after deadline may not be accepted.

Send form to: Carolina Region, USA V (336) 766-3581 (Phone)
 P.O. Box 1757 (336) 766-3501 (fax)
 Clemmons, NC 27012-1757

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ Accepted: _____ Denied: _____