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○ Feb Issue | ○ 2018

# Carolina Volleyball Review

*USA Volleyball believes that volleyball has so many positive things to offer those who participate. First, and most importantly, whether one is a gifted athlete or a recreational player, volleyball is FUN!*

## From the Top:

It has been a hectic 2018 for me so far, and I am sure many of you are in the same boat! Work, getting the kids to school and all their activities, and the various cold and flu bugs that seem to be hitting our state hard this year certainly make life interesting (and stressful). But, fortunately, we have the sport of volleyball to fall back on!

It's already February and our indoor season is well underway with numerous one- and two-day tournaments being held across the state. Watching our kids play this great sport and getting the enjoyment, physical activity, and fellowship with teammates and opponents helps make all the hassles of everyday life disappear (even if for a moment)!

Sport can teach so many life lessons. It can also show some of the negative aspects of humankind, unfortunately as well. As we finish up

this indoor season, let's strive to be encouraging to all teams, players, officials, and coaches. We are already getting some reports of negative behavior by over-enthusiastic spectators caring too much about the score or one call in a match, instead of the most important thing in Youth Sports—is my kid having fun and learning new things.



Good luck to all teams as we finish the indoor season. Your volleyball participation does not have to end when the indoor season is over. Check out the Outdoor tournaments we have scheduled this year (page 4) and continue your volleyball journey year round!

# Purple Card Policy Introduced for 2018 Season



Some of you may have seen an official raise a Purple card during a match this tournament season. Everyone is probably familiar with Red and Yellow cards in volleyball, but what is this new “Purple” card?

At a recent USA Volleyball meetings, Regional Reps (Carolina is one of 40 Regions in USAV) were discussing the recent increase of inappropriate behavior at youth sporting events and volleyball tournaments in particular. The reps brainstormed about possible solutions (no spectators at all was desired by many but tossed out as impractical!) and eventually the idea of adding a tool for officials to address spectator behavior was suggested. Several regions, including the Carolina Region, decided to adopt it and see what kind of impact it could have on improving the tournament experience for all participants.

The Carolina Region did survey all our club directors to see if they would be supportive of the program. It was unanimous among all club director responses to implement the program in

2018. So, the Region ordered a large supply of Purple cards to distribute to our professional officials, and put the program in place.

So how does the program work:

- (a) Officials may now issue a warning or penalty to spectators for comment(s) made or action(s) displayed, deemed by others as rude, profane, disrespectful, disruptive or aggressive, which interferes with the normal progress of a tournament match.
- (b) For a minor infraction, the officials can give a warning purple card. A team’s spectators may only receive one warning per match.
- (c) For a second infraction or first major infraction, a team’s spectators will receive a penalty. The opposing team will receive a penalty point. Thus, spectator’s actions can now have a direct effect on their team!

The goal is to have a positive and respectful environment for all participants. We will continue to evaluate the program at the end of the season. See our Forms page to view the [entire policy](#).



## CEO Report Kevin Wendelboe

I hope everyone is enjoying the 2018 Carolina Region tournament season so far! We have more players and teams participating in the Region than ever before. We went over 800 Junior teams for the first time and the number of players has grown again by over 3% (we’ve had that streak for 5+ seasons).

With all that growth, it is also encouraging to hear of new facilities being built or moved into in North Carolina. Several clubs have moved into their own facilities as both practice sites as well as tournament hosting. There are also confirmed plans for two multi-court facilities being built in the Region (one in East and one in West) with the possibility of another one soon in the Triangle area. Additional courts are always welcome for our growing volleyball-playing population!

Our websites underwent continued change to begin the 2018 season. We unveiled a total site redesign for our main website as registrations began in September. The new site is mobile-friendly and

constructed to find things quicker and easier. We hope you like the changes.

Our Tournament System still looks the same after our redesign over past couple seasons, but we have continued to add new features to it. Check out the “New Features” link under the Info tab to see what is new this season. We will continue to post updates there as we make improvements.

Thanks for your continued support of volleyball in NC. Have a great season!

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CarolinaRegionVB>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/CarolinaRegion>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/CarolinaRegion1>



Official Indoor Volleyball of the Carolina Region



## A Note from the Ref Stand

### Marilyn Thompson, Officials Program Director

We currently have 30 new officials that have joined our Professional Officials ranks this season! This is the most new officials we've had in some time! We spent the first couple weekends of the season rating and training the new officials, and now they have been worked into our tournament assigning system.

As we are in the middle of the season, I want to pass along some reminders to the officials that is also good for everyone involved with tournaments to take note of:

- ◆ You represent the Carolina Region and yourself—Professionalism is key

- ◆ Our Participant/Spectator Behavior Policy and Code of Conducts apply to everyone in attendance at events, including referees! Help set an environment of respect for all!

- ◆ Take note of the officials uniform for referees and dress accordingly.

- ◆ We strive to assign extra referees at all sites. Referees should be rotating among courts with breaks so you can give full attention to your court when working.

- ◆ Honor the game. Treat 12's matches the same as you would an 18's match.

- ◆ Know the USAV Rule book inside and out. Know the differences between USAV/NCAA and HS rules!

Have a great season!

## Referee Accolades

**We always like to hear positive things from our teams!**

**We recently received some compliments for some of our Referees that we thought we would highlight!**

- **Greg Gooch** (pictured below with members of Gaston Galaxy) was complimented for helping a team of new players participating in their first Carolina Region tournament have an “amazing” time! His professionalism and support for these kids made an impression to those around him. Our hope is we have volleyball players for life and it all begins with a great first impression!
- **Jenna Gerritsen Willen, Peyton Rouse, Zoe Hanks, Cameron Lackey, and William Elliott** were also complimented for their services at a recent tournament in Fayetteville. We received the following feedback from a coach, “...they were the best, most professional staff I have ever seen at tournaments. They didn't put up with anything from coaches or parents (as should be expected). They also were firm but took the time to explain calls to the players when there were questions.”

**Thanks for the Positive feedback on our officials!**





## 2018 Beach Season is Here Mark Nalevanko, CR Beach Director

Hard to believe but the 8th edition of the Carolina Region Jr Beach Tour is just around the corner. The tour has grown immensely since its 1st year, which fielded a handful of events and a couple hundred teams. Now the tour annually has close to 40 events with 1200+ teams participating all across the state.

Some highlights for this year's tour include:

- **Over 30 events** with each offering at least 1 bid per age division to the Regional Championships in July. First event starts in March with events on almost every weekend until early August.
- **Open and AA divisions/bids per age division.** In order to better support the growth of interest in the sport, events featuring 2 playoff brackets for an age division (Open -aka Gold - and AA - aka Silver) will offer bids to top finishers in each of those sub-divisions for the Regional Championships. This is at the discretion of each tournament host based on their space and time restrictions in order to accommodate.
- **2 events** that make up a **Beach National Qualifier** in our Region that will offer up to 4 bids per age division to the National Open (top) division at the [National Beach Tour](#) Championships which will be held in Siesta Key, FL over July 19-24.
  - April 7 - 14U and 18U - hosted by Beach South in Greensboro
  - May 12 - 12U - hosted by Southern Sand VB in Apex
  - May 13- 16U - hosted by Southern Sand VB in Apex
- **5 events** called **Beach Regional Qualifiers/Premier Tour Events** that will offer 1 bid per age division to the Regional Open bid at the National Beach Tour Championships
- **[Regional Championships](#)** on Sat, July 14 (Open bids only) and Sat, July 21 (AA bids with potential remaining space opened to non-bid teams on a first-come, first-serve basis)

[Click here for the complete 2018 CR Junior Beach Tour Schedule](#)

## Officer Elections to be held in 2018

The Carolina Region Board of Directors has announced that Officer elections will be held in 2018 in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Carolina Regional Volleyball Association.

The offices of President, Treasurer, and Secretary have terms that expire at the end of this season. A Nominating Committee has been formed consisting of the Men's and Women's Player Reps; the Girls and Boys Junior Reps, and the Officials Rep. They will be accepting nominations and confirming the candidates eligibility to run for the applicable office.

Per the Carolina Region Bylaws, the President must have served on the Board at least two of the prior four years so candidates for that position are currently limited to members of the current board (the current

President is not eligible to run for re-election).

Candidates for the offices of Treasurer and Secretary must have served as voting member of the board or one of its sub-divisions one out of the past three years.

This means that any Team Rep or certified official is eligible to run for one of these positions (as they serve on an Advisory Board of the Board of Directors).

If you are interested in running for either Secretary or Treasurer, then please contact the [Region office](#) and we will pass along your info to the Nominating Committee. Please send your interest by April 30.

The Annual Meeting/Elections is anticipated to be held in June or July in conjunction with the Annual Retreat of the Board.