



**Keystone
Regional
Volleyball
Association**

**KEYSTONE REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION
ADULTS OPERATING CODE**

(APPROVED AUGUST 14, 2010)

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I. REGIONAL TEAM REGULATIONS

A. TEAMS AND LEVELS

1. There are three types of indoor playing teams: Men's Regular (MR); Women's Regular (FR) and Composite (AC).
2. There are four competition playing levels: AA, A, BB, B.

B. PLAYING LEVEL

The Adults Committee places new teams in a playing level. A team may request that the Adults Committee change their assigned playing level prior to the start of each playing season. The request must include complete statistics for all of their previous season's tournaments, including pools, results of pool play, and playoff results. The complete team roster must also be submitted with the request. After playing in at least two tournaments, a team may request a mid-season change. The request must be submitted prior to February 15 and include the above statistics.

The Adults Committee has final authority to assign teams into a playing level. A goal of a minimum of 15% and a maximum of 25% of the registering teams would be placed in each playing level. A returning team is any team with four or more players registered from the same team from the previous year. If players from more than one returning team join to form a new team, the average playing level of the four highest-level returning players will determine that team's minimum placement.

C. COMPOSITE TEAMS

ALL members of a composite team MUST meet the age qualifications for all events including events not classified as age level events.

1. **Co-Ed teams:** Three players of each gender)must be on the court at all times. If registered players form a composite team, the average playing level of the four highest-level players on the team determines minimum placement (AA, A, BB, B).
2. **Age Level teams:** A team composed entirely of men or entirely of women who are the minimum age within the calendar year during in which the national championship takes place. Age level teams are broken out based upon five-year increments, starting with age 30.

Senior team:	Players who are at least 30 years of age.
Masters 35 team:	Players who are at least 35 years of age.
Masters 40 team:	Players who are at least 40 years of age.
Masters 45 team:	Players who are at least 45 years of age.
Golden Masters team:	Players who are at least 50 years of age.
Masters 55 team:	Players who are at least 55 years of age.
Masters 60 team:	Players who are at least 60 years of age.
Masters 65 team:	Players who are at least 65 years of age.
Masters 70 team:	Players who are at least 70 years of age.
Masters 75 team:	Players who are at least 75 years of age.

D. CLUB TEAMS

1. **Club.** A club is 2 or more teams where the club name is part of each team name. All teams in a club should register at the same time. Additional team(s) may be added to the club as long as the new teams have the club name as part of their team name. A club must register each team it intends to enter in USA Volleyball sanctioned events.
2. **Team Representative.** Each team must have one Team Representative. One person may serve as the Team Representative for more than one team. All Team Representatives must be residents of the Keystone Region, and registered members of USA Volleyball.
3. **Playing Levels.** All players are assigned to the playing level of the team with which they are registered. An assigned player may not play down but may freely play up until February 1. All players are frozen to their playing level fifteen days before the scheduled KRVA Adult Regional Championships. The Team Representative must notify the Business Office prior to this date if a registered player is to be frozen to a level other than that at which he or she was originally registered. In the absence of such notification, original registration levels are frozen. Frozen players may change playing levels only to replace an injured player. Changes are permanent for the remainder of the season and must be reported to the Business office. The Adult Chairperson may grant exceptions for unusual circumstances.
4. **Multiple Teams.** If a club consists of more than one team at the same playing level, all players of that level may freely play on any team of that level until fifteen days prior to the first date of the KRVA Adult Championships. The Team Representative must notify the Business Office prior to this date if a registered player is to be frozen to a team other than that with which he or she was originally registered. In the absence of such notification, original team registrations are frozen. The Eligibility Director may grant exceptions for unusual circumstances.
5. **Frozen Roster Rule.** See General Operating Code.

II. CHAMPIONSHIPS:

A. REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. **Eligibility.** To be eligible to participate in any Regional Championships, every player on every team must have a regular or collegiate annual USAV membership through the Keystone Region, and must have participated in a least two USAV sanctioned tournaments within the Keystone Region with a Region-registered team.

It is the player and team's responsibility to provide adequate proof of competition with a team in USAV sanctioned tournaments within the Keystone Region.

The Adult Chairperson, with the Adult Committee, will determine seeding of the pools for the Regional Adult Championships.

2. **Adult Regular Teams.** Every year the Region will conduct or direct a Regional Championship Tournament for each currently offered level and type of adult competition. The winner of the tournament will be awarded any automatic Region bid to the National Championship for that level.

If the winner declines the bid to attend the Championships, the bid will be awarded to the next highest finisher in the Championship tournament that is willing to accept the bid and attend the National Championships for that level.

The Rule of Two may be used in a Regional Championship Event, provided the player has at least twice prior to the Championships competed with the team (s)he will join at Championships.

Once a team receives a bid to the National Tournament, USAV Volleyball eligibility rules supercede all Region eligibility rules.
3. **Composite Teams.** Regional Championships for composite level teams will occur only if two or more teams in that composite team class are willing to participate at the National Championship and request the Region schedule a competition to determine a Region Champion in that composite level.

B. **USAV NATIONAL ADULT CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Keystone Region is guaranteed one entry ("bid") to each team classification into each Club division of the USA Volleyball Adult Championships. These bids are awarded to Keystone Region teams based on their results in the Regional Championships.

1. **USAV Frozen Roster:** USAV Frozen Roster and Rule of Two are permitted as allowed in the USA Volleyball Pre-Tournament manual for the event.
2. **USAV Entry:** Any Region team may request an opportunity to participate in the USA Volleyball Adult Championships (refer to the USAV tournament manual for entry procedures and deadlines).
3. **USAV Eligibility:** Any player who is rostered to a team accepting or being accepted to participate in the USA Volleyball Adult Championships is eligible to participate with that team at the Championships, regardless of whether that player participated with the team in the Region National Championship Bid tournament.
4. **National Championship Entry Fee Reimbursement Program.**
 - a. **Club Teams.** Any team accepting the Region bid and competing in the USAV Club Championships is entitled to a partial reimbursement of their National Championship entry fee. Entrants through a team registered in another Region are not entitled to share in the reimbursement program. Reimbursement is subject to the following criteria:
 - i) The Board of Directors must approve funding for the Entry fee reimbursement program.
 - ii) There is no guarantee that funding will be approved in any given year.
 - iii) Teams may inquire of the Board of Directors as to the expected or budgeted availability of funds prior to accepting the Region Bid.
 - iv) Funds will be allocated as set forth in the KRVA General Operating Code, and distributed equally among adult teams participating by accepting the Region Bid in each competition class.
 - v) Allocation of monies shall be calculated according to the Region's distribution formula.

- b. **Composite teams** must comply with the same criteria stated above. Composite teams are subject to the following additional restrictions:

At least four members of the composite team must be registered in the Keystone Region to receive any distribution of reimbursement funds.

If more than four members of the composite team are otherwise participating in the Adult National Championships, and have earned a partial reimbursement under subsection (a) of the Reimbursement Program, then the composite team will NOT be entitled to share in the National Championship Reimbursement Program for the composite team.

One-team bid reimbursement will be shared equally among all competing teams in a category if no Regional competition is held to determine the award of the Region bid for that category. Nothing in this section shall prohibit or limit composite teams from making an agreement to award, apportion or divide the reimbursement provided ALL teams in that composite category agree, and notify the Region Business Office prior to commencement of the National Championships.

C. **UNIFORM CODE**

1. The official uniform code of USAV is in force for KRVA teams when playing in all Region-sanctioned tournaments (see the Official USAV Indoor Domestic Competition Regulations (DCR)). The Tournament Director will document teams not meeting the uniform requirements; this will be considered the team's first warning. Each team will be allowed one warning. The Adult Chairperson may grant exemptions in writing.
2. Failure to meet uniform requirements: A team lacking official uniforms may forfeit all matches while out of compliance. The Tournament Director makes this decision upon a protest from an opposing team of a uniform violation. No refund of entry fee will be awarded if a team is determined ineligible to play based on the uniform requirement.
3. Libero Player: The libero's jersey must contrast in color to the other members of the team and be numbered in accordance with the USAV DCR. The libero jersey may have a different design. Sharing a single libero jersey by the entire team is not permitted.
4. Co-Ed uniforms: In addition to the above, a Co-Ed team must have all men in matching uniforms and all women in matching uniforms at any National Championships event. All players' uniforms should match.

D. **FACILITIES REGULATIONS**

No food or beverages, except water in plastic bottles, are permitted within any playing area, including the scorekeeper table. Participants must obey facility regulations beyond the playing area(s). The Team Representative and/or Captain must communicate and enforce these regulations.

E. **FORFEIT ENTRY FEES**

Any team failing to attend a KRVA sanctioned tournament without providing at least seven calendar days advance notice to the Tournament Host will forfeit all entry fees for the event.

F. **TOURNAMENT SANCTION PROCEDURES**

The following principles and guidelines help to assure efficiency and consistency in the conduct of sanctioned tournaments. Deviations must be disclosed in writing in advance to teams participating in the tournament and a copy of the tournament application outlining the deviations sent to the Business Office.

1. The Protest Committee determines modifications to tournament procedures on the day of a tournament if necessitated by extenuating circumstances.
2. The Region Commissioner has final authority on the grant or denial of all applications for sanction of USA Volleyball events in the Keystone Region. The Adult Chairperson may give tentative approval of a tournament date, site, and playing bracket(s)

APPLICATION FOR SANCTION:

1. Hosts should secure a facility with appropriate equipment to conduct competition consistent with the rules of the game listed in the current USAV DCR.
2. The Tournament Director shall submit an Application for Sanction, accompanied by any request for deviation from these requirements, and the Tournament Sanction deposit. (See General Operating Code). Tournament Directors must obtain written approval from the Business Office prior to sending out invitations and conducting a sanctioned competition.
5. The Application for Sanction, and any invitations to attend the sanctioned event, must specify any deviations from the event protocols, structure and fee schedules set forth in the Adult and General Operating Codes.

G. **TOURNAMENT CLASSES**

1. **Invitational:** All divisions are eligible, but by invitation only. A list of teams to be invited must accompany the Application for Sanction and is subject to approval of the Adult Program Chairperson. Other restrictions may be added.
2. **Single bracket:** AA, A, BB, B. Notification must be sent to all teams registered within the Region in the respective level (listing of the tournament on the KRVA website will suffice). Only teams in that level may be accepted prior to the entry deadline. After the entry deadline, teams of that level or below may be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.
3. **Expansion of single bracket tournaments:** Single-bracket tournaments may expand to include more than one bracket based upon the nature of entries, or requests to participate, that are received after the tournament is published. Tournament directors must finalize the competition brackets 5 days before the competition by notifying the KRVA Business Office, and communicating any changes in the level of play to those teams who have been accepted into the competition. A tournament host who fails to notify affected teams of changes in their pool-play brackets may be required to allow any affected teams to withdraw, without penalty, including a full refund of any tournament entry fees or deposits paid.
4. **Cross bracket:** For example AA/A, or A/BB. Notification must be sent to all teams registered within the Region in both levels (listing of the tournament on the KRVA website will suffice). Only teams in those levels may be accepted prior to the published entry deadline. After the entry deadline, teams of those levels or below may be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. The entry deadline is ten days prior to the tournament date, unless otherwise stated by the Tournament Director on the Tournament Sanction Application.

5. **Fellowships:** Fellowships may be run as any of the above "tournaments". Fellowships are to be conducted as "fun/recreational" events and/or for rating and certification purposes.

Fellowships must meet all other tournament requirements including obtaining sanction by the Keystone Region. Fellowship hosts may waive minimum administrative requirements such as club or team rosters, proper uniforms, or "picking up" players from other teams without affecting those players' eligibility to continue with their registered team for other sanctioned events, by including such suggested deviations on the application for sanction.

H. **TOURNAMENT PREPARATION:**

1. The Tournament Sanction Application should be submitted via the On-Line Procedure at least six weeks prior to the requested playing date. Please note that "Sanction" in this content does not refer to penalties, but rather, to official recognition and support (through insurance and other benefits) of the tournament.
2. At least four weeks prior to the date of the event, and prior to any teams being accepted to participate, notice must be given to all teams in the Region that are eligible to participate in the tournament
3. Advertising an event on the Region's Web Site, constitutes notice to all eligible teams
4. The entry deadline is ten days in advance of the tournament date. In this manner, both teams and officials can better plan their involvement.
5. Teams will be accepted into a tournament based on the date an entry is postmarked and receipt of FULL PAYMENT of the entry fee
6. If a Tournament Director receives several entries with the same postmark, thereby exceeding the tournament quota, the Tournament Director shall select, in his or her sole discretion, the teams necessary to fill the quota from among the final applicants.
7. Teams must be notified at the earliest possible time of their acceptance, or that they will be placed on a waiting list in the event of any team cancellations.
8. Teams not accepted must receive an immediate refund. Teams "wait-listed" who do not gain entry to the tournament must receive a refund immediately after conclusion of the event.
9. If a Tournament Director desires assistance seeding teams, he or she may contact the Business Office, Eligibility Director, or Adult Chairperson.
10. The Tournament Director and Team Representative must verify that all team(s) and players are registered with USAV prior to participation in any sanctioned event. Verification by the Team Representative is accomplished by his/her signing and submitting the final roster the day of the event prior to the first match.
11. Tournament schedules are to be delivered to all competing teams, assigned officials and the Region Business Office by the Wednesday preceding the tournament, but preferably one week in advance of the tournament. Email or internet publication can also be used as a method of notification.
12. Additional information and official forms can be found in the KRVA Tournament Packet which is available from the Business Office or the KRVA website.

13. The tournament organizer MUST submit a full reporting of the tournament via the Post-Tournament Report, signed rosters, completed score sheets, and all sanction fees to the Business Office within 21 days of completion of the tournament. Failure to submit the Post-Tournament Report and sanction monies within 21 days may jeopardize the opportunity to host future tournaments, and such other penalties as the Adult Chairperson deems appropriate under the Keystone Region General Operating Code, including but not limited to suspension of team or individual membership.
14. Event results must be submitted to the Business Office in electronic format within four days following completion of the event.

I. **FEES**

1. **Sanction fees:** Suggested sanction fees are established by the Board of Directors and published in the Table of Fees and Charges of the General Operating Code.
2. **Entry fees:** Entry fees are determined by the Tournament Director.
3. **Awards:** First and Second place finishers should receive awards which may either be cash, a full or partial refund of entry fees for the event just completed, or such other tangible prizes as shall be listed in the application for sanction. Notification of awards should be on the Tournament Sanction Application.

J. **COMPETITION OFFICIALS**

1. All of the following are mandatory conditions of every USA Volleyball sanction issued for an event sanctioned by the Keystone Region:

Every participant in a sanctioned event must be a member of USA Volleyball. This requirement includes all referees, scorekeepers, assistant scorekeepers, line judges, coaches, managers or trainers who will enter the court, or participate at the team bench of any competitor.

Any event employing non-playing referees must obtain currently certified USA Volleyball referees for every scheduled match, and pay the minimum referee fees set forth in the KRVA General Operating Code. Unless the referees have been obtained via the KRVA Referee Assignor, a list of the scheduled referees must be provided to the KRVA Referee Assignor not less than five days prior to the competition.
2. See the General Operating Code for additional Requirements.

K. **SUPPORT OFFICIALS**

1. The primary responsibility for the assignment of support officials lies with the Tournament Director. Unless the event provides for certified, non-playing referees, all teams scheduled as "work teams" for the match shall provide a first and second Referee, scorekeeper, assistant scorekeeper, and two line judges. The R1 for each semi-final match, and both the R1 and R2 for the final match must be certified USAV officials. It is highly recommended that the scorekeeper be certified according to the Region's Referee Chairperson.
2. Failure to work matches assigned at a tournament may result in suspension of the team (and its individual members) from the Region, or such other disciplinary actions as recommended by the Adult Chairperson.

3. The Tournament Director may excuse a team from any or all work requirements if replacement personnel are available. Teams may file a written complaint with the Adult Chairperson if the work requirements differ from those forth in the Adult Operating Code or otherwise advertised for the tournament.

L. **RUNNING THE TOURNAMENT**

(Please see the General Operating Code for additional requirements)

1. All competitions are governed by the current USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations (DCR).
2. Regulation standards, nets and antennae must be used. Chairs, tables, or ladders may not be used as referee stands. Padding of standards, cables, and Referee stands must be provided as required by the USAV DCR.
3. Every Competition must have a non-playing, non-coaching Tournament Director or manager, whose sole responsibility is to keep the tournament on schedule.
4. Tournament Hosts will provide lead pencils, erasers and pencil sharpeners, score sheets, lineup sheets, and libero tracking sheets for scorekeepers.
5. Only approved USAV score sheets and lineup sheets may be used in sanctioned competition. Master forms are provided on the USAV web site (www.usavolleyball.org).
6. Rosters for each team must be available at the tournament desk and are to be signed by the Team Representative, the day of the event and prior to competition. Rosters must be retained by the Tournament Director and submitted to the Business Office for every event as part of the Post-Tournament report.
7. The tournament schedule, playoff format and any penalties shall be distributed to all teams prior to the event and shall be posted at the event.
8. Standings must be posted at the conclusion of each match, either at courtside or in such other areas as are accessible to the event participants.
9. Facility ground rules regarding overhanging objects, out of bounds areas, etc., should be clearly defined by the Tournament Director and Chief Referee for all teams prior to commencement of play.
10. All event facilities shall have available to each participant a first aid kit and injury ice (instant ice is allowable).

III. TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

Any deviation from these guidelines must be indicated on the Tournament Sanction Application and, if approved, the deviations must be published with all tournament information, such as invitations or web site publications.

A. METHOD OF PLAY

1. **Round robin:** This format is more universally accepted because all teams are guaranteed a reasonable number of sets/matches. It is also more practical for the assignment of support officials. A multiple-pool round robin in the same division/class must offer a championship playoff.
2. **Maximum Teams:** The maximum number of teams permitted per court shall be five.
3. **Match Format:** In round robin play, the following prevails: (Note: All sets use rally scoring, and there is no point cap.)
Pool Play matches are scheduled as follows:
3 or 4 Team Pool: USAV match, best 2 of 3 sets. If there is also a five-team pool in the same play level, then the three or four team pool(s) will play 3 sets to 25 points.
5 Team Pool: Two 25-point sets. If there are also 3-team or 4-team pools in the same play level, then the five-team pools will play two 21-point sets (start each set at 4-4).
6 and 7 team pools play 21-point sets (start each set at 4-4), and require two courts for each pool.
All **deciding sets**, are played to 15 points.
All **Tie-Breaker matches** are played one set to 25 points.
Pool play sets may be either 21 or 25 point sets, depending on the Tournament Invitation, or as modified by the Tournament Director.

B. SCHEDULING PARAMETERS

Scheduling Parameters are set forth in the USA Volleyball DCR.

Warm-up Procedure. First match of the pool for each team will be 10 minutes of shared warm-up time, if both captains agree. Otherwise, each team will have 5 minutes separately. All remaining matches will be 5 minutes of total warm-up, including ball handling and shared court hitting.

Teams entering playoffs may agree to a maximum of 10 minutes between the last pool play match or any tie-breaking games, and commencement of playoffs. (See USA Volleyball DCR, "Guidelines for Conducting Indoor Tournaments/Leagues" §I(2)(a) Warm-up Procedures). If there is no agreement, warm-ups begin immediately following either the last match of pool play, or the last tie-breaking match.

Starting time for each Match. All teams, including the work team, must be present on the court and ready to play at the scheduled time. For 4-team pools, the first two matches are scheduled at specific times. For pools of 5 or more teams, the first 3 matches are scheduled at specific times. All other matches are scheduled for play ASAP as court(s) become available.

Any team not ready to compete on time per the above paragraph will forfeit the first

set of the match. If the same team is not ready to play within ten minutes after forfeiting the set, will then forfeit the second set, and the match in 5, 6, and 7 team pools. In 3 and 4 team pools, teams will have an additional 10 minutes before forfeiting their third set and the match.

Any work team that is not present and ready to work on time shall be penalized one point per minute up to a maximum of 25 points (one set). The penalty will be imposed at the beginning of the team's next scheduled match.

Work teams may contact the Tournament Director to notify him/her of conditions preventing them from reporting to a work assignment on time. If notification is received at least 30 minutes of the scheduled work assignment, the work team will not be penalized.

Pool Play Schedule. To assist in scheduling round robin play, the following draws should be used. If possible, the next to the last match should involve the top-seeded teams.

4-Teams	5-Teams on 2 Courts	
1 vs. 3 (2)	1 vs. 2 (3)	1 vs. 3 (2)
2 vs. 4 (1)	3 vs. 4 (2)	2 vs. 5 (4)
1 vs. 4 (3)	A vs. 5 (4)	1 vs. 4 (3)
2 vs. 3 (1)	2 vs. 3 (5)	3 vs. 5 (1)
3 vs. 4 (2)	4 vs. 5 (1)	2 vs. 4 (5)
1 vs. 2 (4)		

6 Teams On 2 Courts
See USA DCR

7 Teams on 2 Courts
See USA DCR

C. **Tournament Eligibility**

1. **USAV Members.** Every member of every competing team MUST be a member of USA Volleyball prior to participating in any competition, warm-up, or officiating a match, including scorekeepers, line judges, referees, and referee or scorekeeper candidates.

Membership applications and forms will be available at the Tournament Directors table. Any person intending to participate may be required to provide either proof of membership, or submit a membership and registration form, along with payment of membership dues for either single event or annual membership. Any person, who is a member but cannot provide proof of membership, must complete a membership application and pay the appropriate fee. Any duplicate payment of dues will be refunded after confirmation of membership through the Region Business Office.

2. **Team Eligibility.** Teams must be registered, and pay any registration fee prior to participating in any KRVA run or sanctioned event. Forms will be available at the Tournament Director's table, and must be completed and submitted to the Tournament Director with the appropriate fee for any team not previously confirmed as registered for the current season.

Teams must have a complete roster submitted to either the Region Business

Office or the Tournament Director prior to participating in their first match at any sanctioned events.

Team representatives should delete for the EVENT ONLY any members of the team who are not present for competition. (For Championship eligibility issues).

3. **Player Eligibility.** In addition to being a USAV member, every player must be recorded on the team's roster on file in the Business Office, except as provided in this paragraph:
4. **Rule of Two.** Until fifteen days prior to commencement of the first level of Region Adult Championships, any team may add up to TWO (2) additional players (of a playing level at or below the team playing level) to compete at a KRVA sanctioned event. These players must be registered and eligible to participate in USAV sanctioned competition with the team and play level of the event. The players may be registered to other Keystone Region teams, provided those other teams are not participating in the competition, AND no player may not play for more than one team at ANY single KRVA Sanctioned Tournament.
 - i.) As of fifteen days prior to the Regional Adult Championships, players are frozen to the team on whose roster they are currently registered, and may not play for any other team in USAV sanctioned events.
 - ii.) Any player added to a team for competition under the "rule of two" must be added to that team's playing roster for that event.

D. **PLAYOFF STRUCTURE**

1. For tournaments with one pool per level or bracket, playoffs are not required but will be conducted if announced at the start of the tournament.
2. If 21- point sets are used for all non-deciding games in pool play, 21-point games will be used for all non-deciding playoff sets.
3. Only the top two teams from each pool advance to playoffs.
4. All quarterfinal playoffs will be best two out of three set matches in accordance with the official USA Volleyball DCR, subject to the following limitation. Any quarterfinal playoff commencing after 5:00 p.m. shall be one twenty-five point, rally-scoring set, unless otherwise determined by the Tournament Director for unforeseen or unusual circumstances.
5. All semi-final playoffs will be a best two out of three set matches in accordance with the official USA Volleyball DCR, subject to the following limitation. Any semi-final playoff commencing after 6:00 p.m., shall be one twenty-five point rally- scoring set, unless otherwise determined by the Tournament Director for unforeseen or unusual circumstances.
6. All final playoffs will be a best two out of three set matches, in accordance with the Official USA Volleyball DCR. The participating teams may agree to a one-set playoff.

WORK TEAMS

Work teams for the first round of playoffs will be the team that lost the last pool play match. If the team losing the last pool play match is in the playoffs, the winner from the last pool play match will work the playoffs. If both the winner and loser of the last pool play match are in the playoffs, the work team from the last pool play match will provide the work team for the playoff round.

Work team for the final will be the losing team from the semi-final matches whose team representative lives closest to the tournament site, The Tournament Director shall have final determination as to which team remains

Mixed Pools

For purposes of determining multiple levels of teams in pool play, a pool consisting of a combination of "A" and "AA" teams is considered an "A/AA" level pool. A pool consisting of a combination of "B" and "BB" teams is considered a "B/BB" level pool. Any other commingling of "A" and "B" level teams in one pool is considered a "Mixed pool." If limited entries into a tournament require one or more "Mixed Pools" final standings will be determined by awarding a First Place award to the best finishing team of each level within the pool.

If there are two or more "Mixed Pools," the teams will compete in playoffs against other teams of the same A/AA or B/BB level to determine first place.

Playoffs - 2 pools:

Semi-finals: The first place team from pool 1 will play the second place team from pool 2, on the pool 1 court, and the first place team from pool 2 will play the second place team from pool 1, on the pool 2 court.

Finals: Semi-final winners play on the court designated by the Tournament Director prior to the start of the tournament.

Playoffs - Mixed Pools.

If any individual pool in a Region sanctioned competition includes more than one level of play (as defined by Section III.E.7 of this document), the following rules will apply in determining results and awards:

If there is more than one pool for any level of play:

The highest ranked team of each level from each pool will compete against each other in a playoff.

The first place team in each level of play will receive the stated award.

If there is only one pool for multiple levels of play:

The final team standings will be determined based on the team's record from all pool play matches. The highest ranking team at each level of play will be the first place team for that level.

Each first place team will receive any non-cash award. For cash awards, the first place teams of each level in the pool will divide the award for the pool equally.

If there is only one team of a specific playing level in the tournament, they will receive a first place award without competing in any playoff.

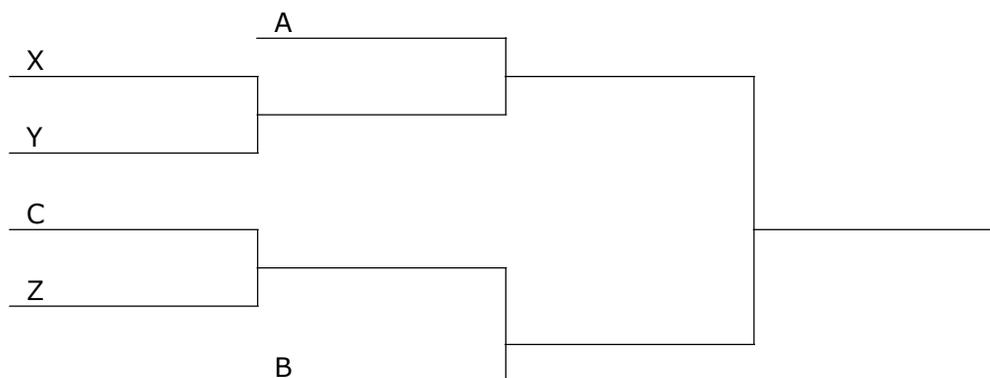
Seeding Guidelines”

At the end of pool play, teams will be seeded based on their overall win/loss record.

Any two teams tied in overall win/loss record will be seeded based on head-to-head, then total points earned in pool play versus total points given up, and lastly via coin toss, if necessary. To determine seeding of teams for pools playing different numbers of games per match, *average* point differential for total pool play will be used.

Any ties for the last position to advance to playoffs will be determined based on a tie-breaker match of one set to 25 points.

Playoffs - 3 pools



A = the first place team with the best win/loss record

B = the first place team with the second best win/loss record

C = the first place team with the third best win/loss record

Z = the second place team from team A's pool

X & Y = the second place teams not from team A's pool

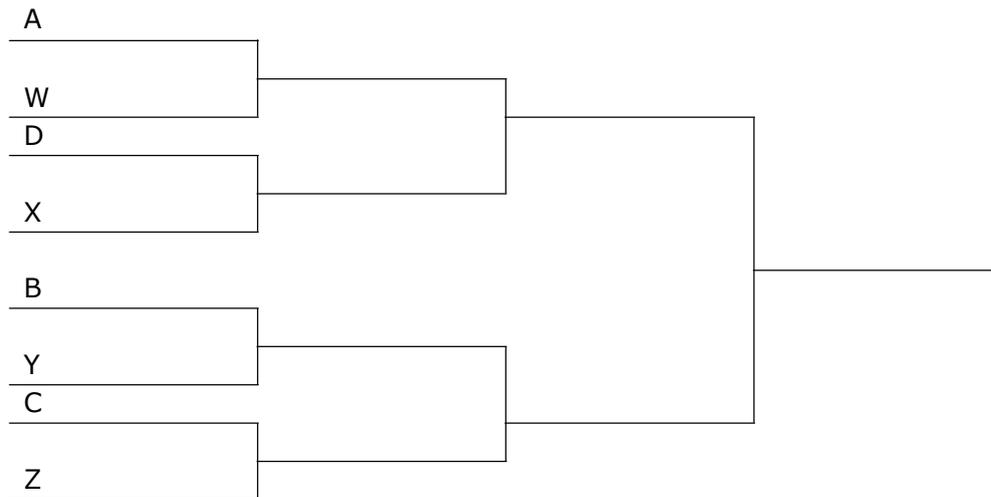
Work Teams for first round playoffs will be teams A & B

Work Teams for the semi-finals are losing teams from the 1st round

Work team for the final will be the losing team from the semi-final whose team representative lives closest to the tournament site.

Note: For tournaments where the teams have played a different number of sets in round robin competition (Forfeits and defaults count as sets played.), if any of the teams have lost the same number of sets they shall be considered tied for seeding position. For example: A 7-1 record shall be considered tied with an 8-1 record. However, teams with the same number of wins, but a different number of losses shall not be considered tied. For example: A 7-2 record shall not be considered tied with a 7-1 record. The 7-1 record is better.

Playoffs - 4 pools



- A: the 1st place team with the best win/loss record
- B: the 1st place team with the 2nd best win/loss record
- C: the 1st place team with the 3rd best win/loss record
- D: the 1st place team with the 4th best win/loss record
- W: the 2nd place team from team B's pool
- X: the 2nd place team from team C's pool
- Y: the 2nd place team from team A's pool
- Z: the 2nd place team from team D's pool

Work teams for first round playoffs will be the team that lost the last pool play match. If the team losing the last pool play match is in the playoffs, the winner from the last pool play match will work the playoffs. If both the winner and loser of the last pool play match are in the playoffs, the work team from the last pool play match will provide the work team for the first playoff round.

Note: For tournaments where the teams have played a different number of sets in round robin competition (Forfeits and defaults count as sets played), Win/loss percentage will be computed (by dividing total wins by the total number of sets played) to determine relative standings.

E. **PRIZE RESTRICTIONS**

Junior players participating in an adult tournament shall be ineligible to receive any kind of prize (cash or gift) in order to protect their future NCAA eligibility.