

WEVA HANDBOOK

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Commissioner's Greeting

Welcome to USA Volleyball, Western Empire-style. The 2008-2009 season was a very good season for WEVA. We increased the position of Executive Director to a full time position to carry out the day-to-day needs of the region, directed by the WEVA Board of Directors. This was prompted by the needs of the junior community, commitment to growth, and better service to our members.

The Regional Operations Division (ROD) of USA Volleyball has added to the junior workload. The 2004-2005 season was the first time that it has become mandatory for the junior community to have background checks. These checks, although they are more work and have added expense, are there to protect our junior members.

The following will have to have background checks performed:

- Coaches and assistant coaches
- Club and team reps
- Club and team administrators
- Chaperones

This has meant that all clubs need to fill out background check and registration forms for all the above mentioned prior to any contact with junior members. The background checks will have to be redone every two (2) years. The current rates for these checks for 2009-2010 are \$18.

Western Empire Volleyball Association (WEVA), formed in 1989, is one of 40 USA Volleyball regions representing the sport of volleyball in the 15 western-most counties of New York State. If WEVA is young, so is our membership of 2280 members with over 80% being juniors, under the age of 18. Most of our adult members are members in support of the juniors.

WEVA's sole purpose is the promotion of volleyball and playing the game in all of its forms. In addition to developing players, WEVA has committed resources and volunteers to train coaches, scorekeepers, officials and parent volunteers.

Watch for dates and locations for Adult Nationals and Junior Nationals on your WEVA Web Site.

You can contact the WEVA Region Office at:

- Cell #: (585) 259-6557 during work hours
- E-mail: wevajohn@rochester.rr.com
- Web Site: <http://www.wevavolleyball.org>

Get Involved: You are invited to be involved with WEVA. WEVA Board meetings are held the second Monday every other month, starting in November. Join us; get involved with the greatest sport in the world - VOLLEYBALL!

John W. Hughes
Regional Commissioner
Western Empire Volleyball Association

Introduction

USA Volleyball

USA Volleyball is the national sports governing body for volleyball, as authorized by the United States Olympic Committee, consistent with the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, and it is the recognized US delegation to the Federation International de Volleyball (FIVB).

WEVA

The Western Empire Volleyball Association (WEVA) is a liaison corporation to USA Volleyball and is designed to foster and conduct area, regional and national amateur volleyball competition. WEVA is a not-for-profit organization and a member of the USA Volleyball, serving fifteen counties in the western New York area. Its purpose is to develop and promote the sport of volleyball, through adult, junior, and youth programs.

MEMBERSHIP

To participate in its programs, as a player, coach, manager, club or team rep, chaperone or administrator for a club or team, or official, you must register as a member of WEVA. This registration provides you with coverage under the USA Volleyball Insurance Program during your participation in sanctioned try-outs, practices, clinics, and tournaments, and while traveling as a group directly to and from USA Volleyball sanctioned events. Background checks are mandatory for any adult participating in the junior program. These background checks, although they are more work and an added expense, are there to protect our junior members. The following will have to have background checks performed: coaches, assistant coaches, club reps, team reps, club and team administrators, and chaperones. The background checks will have to be redone every two (2) years.

SEASON

The year's membership begins on September 1st of that year and ends on October 31st of the following year.

History

USA VOLLEYBALL

USA Volleyball ranks as one of the leading amateur sports bodies in the nation.

The story of the USA Volleyball cannot be told without first looking at the history of the sport itself. William G. Morgan created the sport of volleyball in 1895. He was a YMCA physical director in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Volleyball became popular immediately and by 1900, the rules of play had evolved to the point where it required its own special ball. The "Y" movement took the sport around the world and in 1913; it was included in the Far East Games in Manila, the Philippines.

The American Expeditionary Force brought the sport to Europe during World War I, and is credited with distributing over 1,600 volleyballs throughout the European theatre. The first US National Championship (for men only) was played in 1922 at the Pittsburgh, PA YMCA and was won by the Brooklyn Y.

USA Volleyball, founded as the United States Volleyball Association (USVBA) in 1928 at the Yale Club in New York City, was created for the purpose of representing the sport nationally and internationally, and for conducting an annual national open championship. It has fulfilled this purpose ever since. The following are member organizations of USA Volleyball: National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), National Federation of State High School Associations, National Jewish Welfare Board (NJWB), Catholic Youth Organization (CYO), Armed Forces, and Explorer Division of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA).

USA Volleyball is the nation's volleyball leader. The U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) recognizes it as the National Governing Body for the sport. It is the exclusive representative of the United States to the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) and to a number of other international sport bodies.

In 1949, the USA Volleyball added a Women's Open National Championship, and since then both the Men's and Women's Opens have been conducted concurrently each year. USA Volleyball also conducts the National Championships for Senior Men and Women, for Mixed Sixes (coed), and the USA Volleyball Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships (seven age groups: 12 and under, 13 and under, 14 and under, 15 and under, 16 and under, 17 and under, and 18 and under).

USA Volleyball has divided the nation into 36 regions. Within each region, there are a number of programs conducted, including regular competitions organized by age and/or ability, summer instructional camps, and clinics for the development of coaches, players, and referees. International competitions involving the USA National Team and foreign opponents are also regular occurrences in many of these regions.

In 1975, a full-time national team training center for women was founded by the USA Volleyball in Pasadena, Texas. This was an American amateur sports innovation. It was followed in 1977 by a similar program for men in Dayton, Ohio, which also included a first-ever jobs program that successfully subsidized over a dozen athletes. The women's program, moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 1978 and then to Southern California. The men's program moved to San Diego in 1981. During 1997 the program moved back to Colorado Springs.

With the success of the men's and women's Olympic Teams at the 1984 Summer Games in Los Angeles, the USVBA was poised to take this American sport to the pinnacle of international success. With the USA's win at the 1986 World Championships, the American men captured volleyball's Triple Crown. The USA is the only country (besides the Soviet Union) to have won, in succession, the Olympic gold, the World Cup, and the World championships. The men won a second Olympic gold at Seoul, Korea in 1988. The USA Women did not receive a medal at Seoul, but finished third at the 1990 World Championship in Beijing, China, and have steadily improved their world ranking. Both the men and women's teams won bronze medals in the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona.

Volleyball continues to grow;

USA Volleyball, now with a membership of over 250,000, has maintained quality leadership and communications to promote volleyball and provides the membership with volleyball competition at all levels. The junior movement has made great strides and has become a model for other sports programs. The Coaching Accreditation Program (CAP) trains competent leadership across America to guide young people to still higher levels of volleyball.

WEVA

Western New York has been involved with the USA Volleyball for many years...

... since the early 1970's	as part of Region 2, consisting of New York and New Jersey.
... since the 1978 season	with Region 2 renamed as the Garden Empire Region.
... since the 1984 season	with the Iroquois Empire Region (IREVA) splitting off from Garden Empire Region (GEVA). IREVA contained all of New York State except for New York City and Long Island.
... since the 1989 season	Western Empire Volleyball Association (WEVA) was formed from the fifteen western-most counties of New York. In the following three years, it grew from just over 500 members to over 1200. During the 2006-2007 season, our membership grew to over 1643 members. As of 3/5/2010 we had grown to 2280 members and continued to grow even with 9% unemployment in New York.

Board of Directors

- 1) The Board consists of seven (7) to eleven (11) Directors at least 18 years of age who were members of WEVA for at least 4 months prior to election. Board members hold office for a term of 3 years. Board members are as follows:
 - a) Elected Officers of WEVA: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
 - b) Elected Special Interest Group Representatives: Jr. Boys, Jr Girls, Officials, Adult Rep and Junior Coordinator.
 - c) Past President: A maximum (3) year term
- 2) Special Interest Group Representatives:
 - a) Officials: USA Volleyball official who was certified for the preceding 24 months prior to election.
 - b) Boy's: Actively involved with USA Volleyball Boys Junior programs.
 - c) Girl's: Actively involved with USA Volleyball Girls Junior programs.
 - d) Junior Coordinator: Coordinate Junior matters within the Board of Directors. Lead the Junior Committee, which contains the Boy's and Girl's representatives.
 - e) Adult Rep: Actively involved with USA Volleyball adult programs.

2009-2010 WESTERN EMPIRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Scott Seabridge	(H) 585-586-8112	wevascot@rochester.rr.com
Vice President	Fred Chase	(C) 585-313-3039	Fchase@rochester.rr.com
Secretary	Laura Schoenl	(H) 585-321-0049	dschoenl@rochester.rr.com
Treasurer	John Newland	(C) 585-733-5291	Jnewlan2@rochester.rr.com
Officials Rep	John Newland	(C) 585-733-5291	Jnewlan2@rochester.rr.com
Junior Coordinator	Cindy D'Errico	(H) 716-548-2598	dderric1@rochester.rr.com
Junior Girls Rep	Rocco Lucci, Jr.	(H) 716-807-0858	rocolucci@gmail.com
Junior Boys Rep	Tom Weislo	(H) 716-662-2059	weislo@verizon.net
Adult Rep	Roger Majeski	(H) 585-576-1777	rjmajeski@genesee.edu
Past President	Vacant		

Administrators

WEVA members hold administrative positions, appointed by the WEVA Commissioner, with no restriction as to the length of membership. Current members of the WEVA Board of Directors may hold these positions.

- 1) Commissioner/Executive Director: The Commissioner shall be the Executive Director of the corporation. He shall be the principal executive officer of the corporation; and, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, shall in general supervise and control all the business and affairs of the corporation. He shall, when available be at all meetings of the Board of Directors. He may sign, with the President or any other proper officer of the corporation thereunto authorized by the Board of Directors, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts or any other instruments which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or by these By-Laws to some other officer or agent of the corporation, or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed; and in general shall perform all duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time. The Commissioner shall also:
 - a) Oversee all day-to-day functions of the Region activities with the assistance of the Executive Council, independently contracted personnel and employees.
 - b) Conducts or directs a yearly Regional Championship Event, and/or a National Championship Qualifying event(s) for all Region Members.
 - c) Administrates all endowment funds and supervises all grant programs.
 - d) Attends all national/zonal meetings for Commissioners and Junior representatives or appoints a replacement.
 - e) Ensures Due Process for all Region disciplinary events.
 - f) Ensures compliance to the Board's annual calendar.
 - g) Be the primary contact for all members to receive the help they may need.
 - h) The Commissioner/Executive Director, under the general guidance of the Board of Directors, may recruit, train, employ, discharge, and otherwise create a staff of assistants that may be required for the efficient performance of assigned duties, making such financial arrangements with such assistants as deemed appropriate within the available funds allocated to the function by the corporate budget. This staff shall have the following positions: Office Manager, web site manager, Registrar, accounting staff, tournament site directors, and other needed help.
- 2) Registrar: The WEVA Registrar receives and processes all applications for Individual, Team and Club membership. He or she assigns the membership numbers, keeps track of the membership rolls and verifies membership status, when necessary.
- 3) Financial Administrator: The Financial Administrator position was established to provide the Executive Director, Treasurer, and tax accountants with the data necessary to complete their functions properly. The Financial Administrator will be responsible for making sure that all income and expenses are properly recorded. The Financial Administrator will assure that all requests for payment are properly requested and documented. The Financial Administrator will need to provide an updated financial activity report to the Board of Directors at each meeting. This report should be available to the Executive Director and the Treasurer one week prior to meetings for their review. The Financial Administrator does not have check signing ability unless she/he is also the Treasurer.

- 4) Referee Chairperson: The WEVA Referee Chairperson coordinates the certification of referees in the WEVA Region and insures that adequate clinic, test sites, and dates are available. He or she assigns qualified officials for tournament Directors and assigns referees for all WEVA Regional events including Region Championships. Keeps all Referee records in the Webpoint system up to date. This includes all junior second referee's and scorekeepers.
- 5) Scorekeeper Chairperson: The WEVA Scorekeeper Chairperson coordinates the certification of scorekeepers in the Region and insures that adequate clinic, test sites, and dates are available.
- 6) Sanction Coordinator: The WEVA Sanction Coordinator receives and processes all applications for Sanction of Team Practices and Events. After approval of a sanction request by the appropriate individuals, he or she issues the General Insurance Certificate and coordinates the application for Certificate of Additionally Insured, when necessary.
- 7) Tournament Coordinator: The WEVA Tournament Coordinator receives applications for tournaments in the region and encourages fair distribution in regards to types, levels of play, age groups, and geography. He or she solicits applications for tournaments in under represented areas. He or she coordinates the scheduling of the WEVA Regional Championships.
- 8) Web Master: Maintains the WEVA web site.
- 9) Publicity Chairperson: The WEVA Publicity Chairperson sends announcements of WEVA events and results of tournaments to the newspapers and other notices as he or she sees fit to publicize WEVA. He or she sees that appropriate public persons receive the newsletter.
- 10) Handbook Editor: The WEVA Handbook Editor is responsible for collecting information for the Region Handbook, for its production, and its distribution.
- 11) Eligibility Committee: The WEVA Eligibility Committee meets periodically throughout the season to respond to evaluation requests that have been submitted. WEVA members representing all age groups and levels may request a seat on this committee. The Vice President is the committee chairperson.
- 12) Due Process Chairperson: The Due Process Chairperson heads the committee that handles all instances of Due Process within WEVA.
- 13) Education Director: The WEVA Education Director plans/coordinates all activities for coaching education programs, including but not limited to:
 - a) Planning/scheduling all IMPACT courses and oversees certification requirements of coaches within the region.
 - b) Planning/scheduling all CAP courses within the region and in partnership with other regions.
 - c) Region-wide coaching development.
 - d) Devise/implement strategies for improving level of coaching from novice to expert within the region.
- 14) Newsletter Editor: Creates the WEVA Newsletter in conjunction with the WEVA web site.

2009-2010 WEVA ADMINISTRATORS

Commissioner Executive Director	John W Hughes, Sr.	Region Office (M) 585-259-6557	wevajohn@rochester.rr.com
Registrar Office Manager	John W Hughes, Sr.	Region Office (M) 585-259-6557	wevajohn@rochester.rr.com
Tournament Coordinator Handbook Editor Webmaster	Scott Seabridge	(H) 585-586-4998	wevascot@rochester.rr.com
Sanction Coordinator	Laura Schoenl	(H) 585-321-0049	dschoenl@rochester.rr.com
Financial Administrator	Dionne Bothner		dbothner@rochester.rr.com
Officials Chairperson Referee Chair Eligibility Chair Due Process Chairperson	Fred Chase	(C) 585-313-3039	fchase@rochester.rr.com
Scorekeeping Chairperson	Renee Paser-Paull	(H) 585-798-8757	rppvbref@yahoo.com
Assistant Officials Chairperson	Mike Paull	(H) 585-798-8757	wevaref@yahoo.com
Assistant Scorekeeper Chairperson	Linda Chase	(C) 585-576-4912	ljchase@rochester.rr.com
Education Director	Kyle Salisbury	(H) 315-331-0442	ksalisbury@midlakes.org
Newsletter Editor	Maureen Turner		

Membership

TYPES OF COMPETITION

- 1) Regular USA Volleyball: Competition will be held for men, women, boys, girls, mixed sixes, and reverse mixed sixes. All tournaments will follow the 2009-2010 USA Volleyball rules.
 - a) Boys Junior Clubs: All registered Boys junior clubs must host or co-sponsor at least one tournament per season prior to Region Championships, other than 1st year clubs.
 - b) Mixed Sixes: Three women and three men playing on a men's height net with special rules.
 - c) Reverse Mixed Sixes: Three women and three men playing on a women's height net with special rules.
 - d) Only players with Regular Adult or Junior memberships may play in Regular USA Volleyball tournaments outside the region. Other adult memberships are not allowed to play outside the region. Other juniors are practice only and not allowed to play in tournaments. 11 and under youth memberships may not play outside the region.

<u>Level / Type of Play</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Mixed Sixes</u>	<u>Reverse Mixed Sixes</u>
AA (Highest Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
A (Very Good Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
BB (Good Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
B (Entry Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Open (Any level):	YES	YES	YES	YES

<u>Age Group / Type of Play</u>	<u>Junior Boys</u>	<u>Junior Girls</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
18 & under:	YES	YES		
17 & under:	YES	YES		
16 & under:	YES	YES		
15 & under:	YES	YES		
14 & under:	YES	YES		
13 & under:	YES	YES		
12 & under:	YES	YES		
10 & under:	YES	YES		
Masters (30 & over):			YES	YES
Masters (35 & over):			YES	YES
Masters (40 & over):			YES	YES
Masters (45 & over):			YES	YES
Seniors (50 & over):			YES	YES
Seniors (55 & over):			YES	YES
Seniors (60 & over):			YES	YES
Seniors (65 & over):			YES	YES
Seniors (70 & over):			YES	YES

- 2) Leisure USA Volleyball: Competition will be held for men, women, mixed sixes, and reverse mixed sixes teams. All WEVA members, including Leisure Adult, Regular Adult, and Junior, are eligible to compete in any WEVA leisure tournament. All tournaments will follow the 2009-2010 USA Volleyball rules.
- a) Mixed Sixes: Three women and three men playing on a men's height net with special rules.
- b) Reverse Mixed Sixes: Three women and three men playing on a women's height net with special rules.

<u>Age Group / Type of Play</u>	<u>Men's</u>	<u>Women's</u>	<u>Mixed Sixes</u>	<u>Reverse Mixed Sixes</u>
AA (Highest Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
A (Very Good Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
BB (Good Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
B (Entry Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Open (Any level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
C (Recreation Level):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Senior (30 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Masters 35 (35 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Masters 40 (40 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Masters 45 (45 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES
Golden Masters (50 & over):	YES	YES	YES	YES

FEE SCHEDULE AND EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS

1) Individual Membership Categories:

<u>Individual Type:</u>	<u>Individual Descriptions:</u>	<u>Individual Fee:</u>
Regular Adult:	<p>Players, coaches, club rep's, and officials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secondary coverage liability and sports accident insurance - Covered by insurance when traveling directly to and from sanctioned events - USA Volleyball Rule Book and WEVA Handbook - WEVA Newsletter - <i>Volleyball</i> USA-USA Volleyball National Newsletter - Participation in WEVA clinics and activities at a reduced fee - Participation in all USA Volleyball sanctioned volleyball tournaments - Team Representatives will receive a USA Volleyball Guide - Junior community involvement requires a background check every 2 years 	\$50.00
Junior:	<p>USA VOLLEYBALL JUNIOR OLYMPIC AGE DEFINITION For use during the 2009-2010 Season Once a player participates in a club or varsity program for any university, college, community college, or junior college, he/she is ineligible to play in any regional or national JOVC qualifying and championship events.</p> <p>18 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1991 or Players who were born on or after September 1, 1990 and a high school student in the twelfth (12th) grade or below during some part of the current academic year</p> <p>17 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1992</p> <p>16 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1993</p> <p>15 and Under Division:</p>	\$50.00

Western Empire Volleyball Association

Players who were born on or after September 1, 1994

14 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 1995

13 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 1996

12 and Under Division:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 1997

Boys 14 and Under Division:

Regionally waived boys teams in the 14 and under age group will be allowed to participate at the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships using the following age/grade definition:

Players who were born on or after September 1, 1995

or

Players who were born on or after September 1, 1994 (15 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the eighth grade (8th) grade during the current academic year. (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.)

Note: These age definitions are used by domestic club programs and are NOT the same as the age definitions for the International and Domestic High Performance programs for 2010.

Leisure Adult:	Players Only:	\$30.00
Other Juniors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Participation in all USA Volleyball sanctioned Leisure events and activities- Same insurance coverage as Regular Adult- WEVA Newsletter and Player Handbook- Participation in WEVA clinics and activities at a reduced fee	
Supporter:	An adult interested in promoting volleyball in the WEVA region as a club or team rep, club or team administrator, or chaperone: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- WEVA Newsletter and Handbook- Same insurance coverage as Regular Adult- Participation in WEVA clinics and activities at a reduced fee- Junior community involvement requires a background check every 2 years	\$30.00
One Event:	Allows participation in one event, not to last longer than one weekend.	\$15.00

This year we started a special membership for juniors 11 years or younger who only want to play or practice in region of \$15.

2) Changes in Membership:

- a) All upgrades and changes in membership must be sent with a new Individual Application. A fee of \$2 must accompany all changes.
- b) Changes from one club to another must be requested in writing by all parties involved and must be approved by the WEVA Board of Directors (see Transfer Policy). A fee of \$5 must accompany all changes, Fee to be paid by new club.

3) Definitions:

- a) Club: An organization consisting of one or more registered teams that participate in tournaments.
- b) Club Representative: Each club must have only one primary club representative, whose responsibility it is to represent the club in region matters. An alternate club representative is also required in case the primary representative is not accessible.
- c) Team: A group of registered individuals within a club who wish to compete in WEVA tournaments and activities during the season. Maximum members per team: Adult (12) and Junior (15).
- d) Team Contact: A registered individual within a club with one or more teams, who will officially handle all arrangements for entry into tournaments for his/her team within the club.

FINES

- 1) Temporary Suspension: Any club incurring a fine will not be allowed to compete until the fine is received by WEVA.
- 2) Referee Missing a Match: If a referee misses a scheduled match, the Tournament Director shall report the incident to the Referee Chairperson. **\$10.00/match payable to Region.**
- 3) Certified/Qualified Team Officials: Team scorekeeper and second referee not fully certified by deadlines. **\$25/occasion.** Adults (2/7/02) and juniors (Region Championships).
- 4) Uniform Rule Violation: See page 29. **\$25.00 (for the first occurrence only) payable to Region.**
- 5) Work Assignments Incomplete: Team doesn't fully complete assigned team obligations during the tournament. Each team representative must check with the tournament director before leaving to insure that no further work is required. **\$50/tournament.**
- 6) Returned Checks: **\$35** for checks returned for insufficient funds made payable to WEVA and/or the appropriate Tournament Director.

TEAM AND PLAYER CLASSIFICATION

- 1) Level of Competition:
 - a) Regular USA Volleyball competition for adult teams normally includes tournaments at B, BB, A, and AA levels, with AA being the most competitive. Leisure competition can be found at C, B, BB, A, and AA levels. The lower levels are intended for teams and players that are just getting started or don't wish to play at such an intensely competitive level.
 - b) Both Regular and Leisure classifications may, on occasion, offer Mixed Sixes and Reverse Mixed Sixes tournaments at all levels.
 - c) Teams may play in tournaments at or above their level, but not below.
 - d) To make clearer distinctions between teams, we use the following guidelines for classification of players and teams. It is our intention that these guidelines make eligibility of players and teams easier to classify. This, in turn, makes competition fairer for everyone.
- 2) Player Ratings:
 - a) Individual players are now ranked from AA (highest level) to C (lowest level), with points associated with each level (5 for AA through 1 for C).
 - b) An eligibility committee (consisting of players, coaches, officials, and region administrators) determines final player ratings.
 - c) Players will rate themselves at the beginning of each season and may be adjusted up or down as deemed necessary during the season. The worksheet on page 19 can be used to help players rate themselves.

3) Team Ratings:

- a) Teams will be ranked according to the total points for the six highest-ranked players on their rosters.
- b) During the sanction season, the "Rule of 1" applies.
- c) During Regional Championships and USA Volleyball Open National Championships, the highest rated player on your roster determines the level of play.

4) Team Ranking:

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Rule of 1:</u>	<u>Championships:</u>	<u>Description:</u>
AA	26 – 30	10 - 30	Plays at top college level, Open level, or in national tournaments
A	20 – 25	9 – 24	Plays at college, top junior college, top high school, or power league level
BB	14 – 19	8 – 18	Plays at junior college, high school, or advanced league level
B	8 – 13	7 – 12	Plays at high school or intermediate league level
C	6 - 7	6	Plays at intermediate recreation league level

- a) The ranges of points allowed for each level result in these restrictions during the sanction season:
 - i) "A" level teams may have only one "AA" level players
 - ii) "BB" level teams may have only one "A" level players and no "AA" level players
 - iii) "B" level teams may have only one "BB" level players and no "AA" or "A" level players
- b) Requests for rating changes may be made to the Eligibility Committee.
- c) Decisions of the Eligibility Committee will prevail in all protest situations.

5) Junior Player Age Definition:

- a) **USA VOLLEYBALL JUNIOR OLYMPIC AGE DEFINITION**
 - i) For use during the 2009-2010 Season
 - ii) Once a player participates in a club or varsity program for any university, college, community college, or junior college, he/she is ineligible to play in any regional or national JOVC qualifying and championship events.
 - iii) 8 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1991 or Players who were born on or after September 1, 1990 and a high school student in the twelfth (12th) grade or below during some part of the current academic year
 - iv) 17 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1992
 - v) 16 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1993
 - vi) 15 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1994
 - vii) 14 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1995
 - viii) 13 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1996
 - ix) 12 and Under Division: Players who were born on or after September 1, 1997
- b) Boys 14 and Under Division: Regionally waived boys teams in the 14 and under age group will be allowed to participate at the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships using the following age/grade definition:
 - i) Players who were born on or after September 1, 1995 or Players who were born on or after September 1, 1994 (15 years or younger) who shall neither have completed nor are in a grade higher than the eighth grade (8th) grade during the current academic year. (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.)

- c) Note: These age definitions are used by domestic club programs and are NOT the same as the age definitions for the International and Domestic High Performance programs for 2010.

6) Age Falsification Policy:

- a) For all USA Volleyball corporate events, any person who alters any document that certifies the age of a participant, or falsifies any statement which lists the age of a participant, will be sanctioned as follows:
 - i) Any team representative, coach, program director or responsible adult found to be party to such action shall:
 - (1) Be immediately suspended from registration with USA Volleyball and barred from further participation in the event; and
 - (2) Be barred from participation in any USAV Corporate events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
 - (3) Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to the suspension.
- b) A junior player who knowingly plays in a lower age classification than he or she is actually eligible for, or an adult player who knowingly plays in a higher age classification than he or she is actually eligible for shall:
 - i) Be immediately suspended from registration with USA Volleyball and barred from further participation in the event; and
 - ii) Be barred from participation in any USAV Corporate events in any capacity, for a minimum of two (2) years; and
 - iii) Have a minimum probation of one additional year, to run consecutively to the suspension.
- c) When discovered and confirmed during an event, these penalties shall be the required minimum penalty imposed by the Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee.
- d) The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee may recommend a more severe penalty. The Event Arbitrator or the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall file a report of any age violation with the Corporation's Ethics and Eligibility Committee and with the registering Member Organization with its recommendation.

HOW TO JOIN TEAMS

- 1) Fill out Individual Forms:
 - a) Each individual must register on line an “Application for Individual WEVA/USA Volleyball Membership”.
 - b) Included in the “Application for Individual USA Volleyball Membership” is the Waiver and Release of Liability (electronic signatures required).
 - c) Each adult individual must complete a Background Check form if they are involved with the junior community.
- 2) Players under Age 18:
 - a) Junior players fill out an on line “Application for Individual WEVA/USA Volleyball Membership”, including the “Age” and “School Year”.
 - b) Junior players must fill out the “USA Volleyball Player Medical History and Release Form” (to be kept by the Club Representative). This form is found on line during registration process.
 - c) Parent or legal guardian electronic signature on the “Application for Individual USA Volleyball Membership” and on the printed “USA Volleyball Player Medical History and Release Form”
- 3) Fill out Team Forms:
 - a) The Team Representative shall collect all Individual Applications and fill out a Team Application (both sides) for each team.
- 4) Copy Completed Forms:
 - a) The Team Representative must make copies of the Medical History form for club records and a copy must be brought to all sanctioned events, including practices.
 - b) Copies of the Individual membership cards must be brought to all sanctioned events.
- 5) Payment:
 - a) Include a single check or money order, **payable to WEVA**, for the total of all club individual registration fees.
 - b) Clubs having checks returned for insufficient funds will incur penalty of \$35 according to the policies of the WEVA Board of Directors.
- 6) Inspect Before Mailing:
 - a) Incomplete registration packages will be held or returned to the Club Representative without being processed.
 - b) Club unpaid list from on line system with the players to be paid for names highlighted is the only correct way to send in payment. This list is in alphabetical order gives amount to pay and correct spelling on names.
 - c) Junior teams should note additional requirements listed above.
- 7) Send to Registrar:
 - a) Mail or drop off the completed unpaid registration list along with check or money order to the WEVA office.

INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM CHANGES

- 1) Leisure Players & Unaffiliated Officials:
 - a) Individuals who join WEVA as officials may send check with confirmation form to region office..
- 2) Additions to the Roster:
 - a) Roster additions are done by the club administrator or line.
- 3) Changes in Membership:
 - a) All upgrades and changes in membership must requested by the club administrator to the region registrar. A fee of \$2 must accompany all changes.
 - b) Changes from one club to another must be:
 - i) Requested in writing (e-mail excepted) Accompanied by a \$5 fee if after member has signed with a club.
 - ii) Adhere to the Transfer Policy and Financial Obligations Policy
 - iii) Approved by the WEVA Commissioner with Board of Directors approval.
- 4) Transfer Policy:
 - a) An individual may be allowed to change clubs during a season by submitting a written request signed by the club representatives of both teams, stating the reasons for wishing to transfer clubs and that all financial responsibilities have been met.
 - b) If the individual is less than 18 years of age, a parent or legal guardian must sign the letter.
 - c) The letter is then submitted to the Commissioner for consideration (if a Board meeting cannot be held in a timely fashion, the Commissioner can make a decision until the board can approve).
- 5) Financial Obligations Policy:
 - a) Any WEVA member (adult, junior, or youth age) cannot become a member of another WEVA club or participate in any WEVA-sanctioned activity until all outstanding financial responsibilities have been settled with the previous club.
 - b) The club must be able to produce financial records to substantiate the indebtedness of the player and must raise this issue to the WEVA Board of Directors.
- 6) International Players:
 - a) Anybody who has played in a FIVB member organization during the current season will not be registered without a written release from the National Governing Body of the country they played in, to be eligible to join a WEVA team.
 - b) The WEVA Commissioner must verify this release at least fourteen (14) days before participation in any WEVA competition.

Tournaments

Please refer to the WEVA Tournament Guidelines for detailed information in regards to sanctioning and conducting a tournament.

PARTICIPATING IN A TOURNAMENT

- 1) Registrations:
 - a) Registrations will be accepted by WEVA BOD Junior coordinator in the event that the WEVA Registrar is out of town or unavailable for all junior tournaments.
 - b) Any currently registered player who upgrades their status (e.g., One Event to Regular Adult or Leisure Adult to Regular Adult) will be charged an additional fee of \$2.00 (see Transfer Policy).
- 2) Adult Competition:
 - a) If a team loses a player for any reason, the tournament director may allow that team to continue with 5 players if all competing teams agree to these conditions. A loss of rally occurs when the missing person is due to serve. The tournament director must detail these exceptions on the "WEVA Tournament Director's Report" form.
 - b) Any junior player playing on an adult club may play with a junior club of their choice in junior competition; once joining that junior club, they must play with that club in junior competition for the remainder of the season. If transferring between junior clubs, written requests signed by the junior player(s) and their parent/guardian and the junior club representative must be received by the Region Commissioner and approved at least 2 weeks before their first junior tournament.
 - c) A junior player registered on a junior club may play in adult competition with an adult team of their choice, with the following exception: A Junior club that is part of an organization containing an adult club using the same club name must play with that adult club in adult competition. Otherwise, written requests signed by the involved Junior player, their parent/ guardian, and the club representative of the adult club must be received by the Regional Commissioner and approved at least two weeks before the first adult tournament played.
 - d) If a junior player wishes to play in an adult tournament, they must rate themselves as per the registration form (C-AA) and provide that information to the WEVA Registrar.
 - e) Juniors are allowed to play on adult teams only after parents have signed a request. This request must be approved by the WEVA Board of directors; this is not a policy WEVA generally approves of.
- 3) Leisure Competition:
 - a) Leisure tournaments for Mixed Sixes (Coed) or Reverse Mixed Sixes (Coed) at B level or higher, 3 players from each gender are required, unless requested differently on the tournament sanction application and approved.
 - b) For C level competition and below, a minimum of at least 2 players of each gender and 6 players total are required on the court at all times, unless requested differently on the tournament sanction application form and approved.
 - c) In Leisure play for men and women's competition at B level and above, only one gender may participate in a given tournament.

- 4) Code of Conduct:
 - a) Please refer to the WEVA Code of Conduct.
 - b) Please read the Code of Conduct on the Individual Registration form that you signed.
 - c) At any WEVA-sanctioned activity, any alcohol or illegal substance on the premises (including site, grounds, or parking lot) or in possession of a player is grounds for immediate ejection of that player from the tournament and a thirty-day suspension from WEVA activities (This includes alcohol in your car).
 - d) The Board of Directors will handle additional offenses by the same individual on a case-by-case basis. Please note that all elementary through high school properties in our region are no smoking zones (entire grounds).

- 5) Supervision of Junior Teams:
 - a) One registered adult (21 or older) must be present with each junior team at all tournaments and is to be responsible for team supervision at all times.
 - b) Every junior team must have a coach with them at all times during a match. Coaches must be 18 years or older and active USA Volleyball members. Otherwise, the team defaults or forfeits the game in question.
 - c) All adults involved with the junior community must have a completed Background Check.

- 6) Substitution Rule:
 - a) The six-substitution rule applies only to USAV National Championship Open level competition.
 - b) The twelve-substitution rule applies for all other play.
 - c) In Leisure competition, unlimited substitution (individual and team) is allowed.

- 7) Uniform Rule:
 - a) Shorts must be similar in length, color, style, and club logo. Small brand logos (Nike, etc.) can be different or absent.
 - b) Shirts must be identical in color and style, but do not have to have the same sleeve length.
 - c) At Leisure tournaments, uniforms are recommended but not required.
 - d) In all regular USA Volleyball competition sanctioned by WEVA, a team found in noncompliance with the current USA Volleyball uniform rule (see USA Volleyball Guide) must pay a fine (\$25.00) before being allowed to continue play without forfeiture of all remaining competition (if team continues to wear illegal uniforms). This fine is applicable only for the first offense during a single season of play. Any additional occurrences will result in forfeiture of all games in which the team is in noncompliance with the uniform rule and may result in additional WEVA Board action against the team.
 - e) Taped-on numbers are not allowable for regular USA Volleyball sanctioned play.
 - f) It is required that uniform numbers be centered on the chest and on the back. Uniform numbers need to be 4 inches (10 cm) on the chest and 6 inches (15 cm) on the back. It is recommended that numbers be 6 inches (15cm) on the chest and 8inches (20cm) on the back.

8) Officials Requirements:

- a) Each adult team attending a Regular Adult tournament must bring a minimum of one USA Volleyball certified scorekeeper and one WEVA qualified second referee. A USA Volleyball certified first referee may act as a second referee.
- b) Regular adult teams must meet these requirements by the first Wednesday in February of that year.
- c) For junior teams, each team in the 14 & under (and below) age groups must have a certified scorekeeper; the 15 & under (and above) teams must have a certified scorekeeper and a certified second referee.
- d) Junior teams and adult teams registering after January 31st must meet these requirements by Regional Championships.

9) Work Teams:

- a) A team will be penalized 1 point per minute, to be applied to their next match, for the following reasons:
- b) A full work team is not available 10 minutes before the first match of a tournament
- c) A team isn't playing and causes delay of the start of a match
- d) A team not reporting for work within 5 minutes of completion of prior play match.

10) Playoffs:

- a) All 2/3 and 3/5 matches will use the 15 point rally-scoring method for all deciding games.
- b) The lowest finishing team involved in the last scheduled pool play match (includes the two playing teams AND the work team) shall work the first playoff match on that court.
- c) If two or more teams are scheduled to work:
- d) If both teams are from the same area (city), a coin toss is used to determine the work team.
- e) If the teams are from different areas (cities), the team closer to the tournament site (geographically) will be the work team.

REGION CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1) Site / Date Determination:
 - a) The WEVA Junior Coordinator, along with the WEVA Junior Representatives, determines the date and site(s) of the WEVA Junior Region Championships and WEVA Junior National Bid Event.
 - b) The Junior Rep, Junior Coordinator with the assistance of the Commissioner is (are) the Tournament Director(s).
 - c) The WEVA Tournament Coordinator, Adult Representative, and Commissioner are the Tournament Directors for the Adult and Leisure Region Championships; they may select site coordinators as needed.
 - d) The WEVA Board of Directors shall approve the playing site(s) and date(s) of all Region Championships.
- 2) Eligibility:
 - a) All teams must play in at least two tournaments to be eligible for WEVA Region Championships or the WEVA Girls Bid event. All players, junior and adult excluding those 12 and under, must play twice in the region with their club to be eligible for any Region Championship. An individual can play in one age group Region Championship. A member can participate in one or more caliber level Region Championship.
 - b) In order to participate in the Region Championships, teams must supply the required USA Volleyball certified / WEVA qualified officials for all matches at the Region Championships. Teams in non-compliance will be fined \$25 for each missing official.
- 3) Entry Due Dates (all deadlines will be strictly enforced):
 - a) Two (2) weeks, in advance of the tournament date, for all Junior Region Championships.
 - b) One (1) week, in advance of the tournament date, for all Adult and Leisure Region Championships.
 - c) Dropping out of an event later than one week prior to tournament will result in forfeiture of team's entry fee.
- 4) Entry Fees:
 - a) The entry fee is set at \$200 for all Adult Region Championships in 2010. The responsibilities are to have a WEVA qualifies 2nd referee, a USA Volleyball certified scorekeeper, and to complete their work assignments as reviewed by the WEVA Officials and Scorekeepers Chairpersons.
 - b) The entry fee for any Leisure Region Championship will be determined by BOD if scheduled.
 - c) The entry fee is set at \$200 for all Junior Region Championships and Girls bid event in 2010. The responsibilities are to have a WEVA qualifies 2nd referee, a USA Volleyball certified scorekeeper, and to complete their work assignments as reviewed by the WEVA Officials and Scorekeepers Chairpersons.

Officials

CERTIFICATION / RECERTIFICATION

- 1) Officials failing to re-certify or failing to attend a required clinic and take a test will be subject to being dropped from the Officials Roster. Test and clinic are an annual requirement.
- 2) The WEVA Board has reduced practical re-certification requirements to one "up" and one "down" rating every three years. The referee chairperson may review referee performance and require practical ratings in less than three years.
- 3) New USA Volleyball official's candidates and re-certifying USA Volleyball officials must attend the required clinic(s) in their entirety in order to be given credit for the clinic.
- 4) WEVA clinicians arrange clinics. See the section on Administration for information about clinicians in your area.
- 5) Pre-registration for all of the clinics is required; all pre-registration forms and fees are due ten days before each clinic. Late registration, including the day of the clinic, requires an additional fee of \$2. Obtain pre-registration forms from your club representative or the Regional referee chair.
- 6) Ratings should be requested of the referee chair at least two weeks prior to a given tournament.

JUNIOR CLINICS

- 1) The suggested club clinic fee is \$5 per person. This is to be arranged with the clinician.
- 2) Junior clubs may make clinic arrangements with the Scorekeeper and Referee Chairs.
- 3) Junior clinic dates in Rochester and Buffalo will be in the format of a classroom workshop. Juniors may also attend adult clinic dates. Ratings must be obtained at a sanction season tournament.
- 4) Juniors wanting first referee certification must attend an adult clinic.

ADULT CLINICS

- 1) Pre-registration is needed. Six (6) people must register with the clinician or else the clinic is cancelled.
- 2) Candidates for first referee must attend an additional clinic following the initial clinic.
- 3) Rule changes for volleyball are considered at meetings conducted by the FIVB. These changes do not filter down to the USA Volleyball until the season afterwards due to the time needed for rulebook printing and distribution. Starting 2009-2010 season rules books will be updated every two years.
- 4) In recognition of this, there will be mandatory meetings (combining refresher clinic and tests) for all officials every year.

- 5) Please note that re-certification mandatory meetings and practical re-certification ratings will probably occur in different years. In most cases, officials who keep up their certification will not have as many meetings, tests or ratings as under the previous system.
- 6) Clinics will be conducted in both the Eastern & Western areas of WEVA for new officials. Consult the WEVA website for these dates.

RATINGS

- 1) Juniors will be certified in two brackets. 10 and under through 14 and under is the first bracket. 15 and under through 18 and under is the second bracket. When moving from 14's to 15's, juniors need to retake the clinic(s), test(s), and ratings(s).
- 2) First Referee: New candidates replace a referee who is a Qualified Rater at a regular season match. Rating referee receives the match fee. Re-certification must also occur in the regular season.
- 3) Second Referee: New candidates are rated during a regular season match. Re-certification must also occur in the regular season.
- 4) Scorekeeper: The rating must occur at a regular season match.

SCOREKEEPER

- 1) All scorekeepers must meet the following requirements:
 - a) Be a currently registered WEVA member in good standing.
 - b) Attend at least one WEVA Scorekeeping clinic, pay fee, and be rated that season or the following season. Otherwise another "new" clinic is needed.
 - c) Meet the certification or re-certification requirements of their level.
 - d) Be approved by the WEVA Scorekeeping Chairperson.
- 2) Junior (Only applicable for Junior competition):
 - a) To become certified:
 - i) Take the WEVA Scorekeeper test at the clinic.
 - ii) Receive a "definite" rating as a scorekeeper using the present substitution rule.
 - b) To re-certify:
 - i) Scorekeepers must repeat the above process when changing age brackets to 15's.
 - ii) There are no requirements the intervening years, unless major rule changes make it necessary.
- 3) Provisional (Applicable for all levels of play):
 - a) To become certified:
 - i) Take the WEVA Scorekeeper test at the clinic.
 - ii) Receive at least one "definite" rating as scorekeeper for a two-game or longer match (12-substitution) every three years.
 - iii) In any of the non re-certification seasons, a provisional scorekeeper must complete the take home exam if directed by the chairperson.
 - b) To become re-certified:
 - i) A provisional scorekeeper must attend the mandatory officials meeting when directed and receive one "definite" rating as scorekeeper for a two game or longer match (12 subs) every three years.

- ii) Provisional scorekeepers may elect to become candidates for Regional USA Volleyball Scorekeeper after one full year as provisional scorekeeper. However, a scorekeeper may elect to remain as provisional scorekeeper indefinitely if all the re-certification requirements have been met.
- 4) Regional (Applicable for all levels of play):
- a) To become certified:
 - i) Be a provisional scorekeeper in good standing for one season.
 - ii) Receive 2 "definite" ratings as a scorekeeper on Boys 18 Elite matches.
 - iii) In any of the non re-certification seasons, a regional scorekeeper must complete the take home exam if directed by the chairperson.
 - b) To become re-certified:
 - i) A regional scorekeeper must attend the mandatory officials meeting when directed and receive one "definite" rating in a 2-game match every three years.

REFEREE

- 1) All first and second referees must meet the following requirements to be in good standing:
- a) Be a currently registered WEVA member.
 - b) Attend the necessary WEVA New Officials Clinic (both scorekeeping and referee) or the WEVA Re-certification Clinic mandatory for their group.
 - c) Meet the certification or re-certification requirements of their level.
 - d) Be approved by the WEVA Referee Chairperson.
 - e) Must officiate a minimum of 3 single day tourneys or 2 two-day tourneys. In addition, an official must be available for 2 of the following tournaments (tournaments may vary):
 - i) Girls Region Championships
 - ii) WEVA National Bid tournament - Girls
 - iii) CanAm Boy's National Qualifier
 - iv) Boy's Region Championships
 - v) Volley FX Winter
- 2) Junior (Only applicable for Junior competition):
- a) To become certified:
 - i) Attain a minimum score of 75% on the approved USA Volleyball Junior Olympic Referee's Exam and correct to 100%. Scoring less than 75% requires retaking the test on another date.
 - ii) Successfully complete the Junior Olympic scorekeeper's requirements and become certified.
 - iii) Receive at least one "definite" rating as first referee and one "definite" rating as second referee in a minimum of one game each.
 - b) To become re-certified:
 - i) Officials must repeat the entire process successfully once every two years.
 - ii) There are no requirements the intervening year.

- 3) Provisional (Applicable for all levels of play):
 - a) To become certified:
 - i) Take the approved USA Volleyball Referee "C" Exam and correct to 100%.
 - ii) Successfully complete the provisional scorekeeper's requirements and become certified.
 - iii) Receive at least one rating as first referee and one rating as a second referee. Both of these ratings shall meet the USA rating team criteria of being at least a "2" on the scale of 1-3.
 - b) To become re-certified:
 - i) All officials must attend an Annual Officials re-certification clinic.
 - ii) A practical rating is needed every three years with one "definite" rating up and one "definite" rating down.
 - iii) In any non re-certification season, you must complete the scorekeeper's take home exam if directed by the Scorekeeper chair.
 - iv) Provisional referees may elect to become Regional Referees after two years and successfully officiating as a full time referee for a minimum of four USA Volleyball tournaments. However a referee may remain Provisional indefinitely if re-certification requirements are met.
- 4) Regional (Applicable for all levels of play):
 - a) To become certified:
 - i) Be a provisional referee in good standing for two years and successfully officiate as a full time referee for a minimum of four USA Volleyball tournaments.
 - ii) Take the approved USA Volleyball Referee "A" Exam and correct to 100%.
 - iii) Successfully complete the regional scorekeeper's requirements and become certified.
 - iv) Receive at least one rating as first referee and one rating as a second referee. These ratings shall take place at any of the following: 18 and under boys tourney, 18 and under girls tourney, or a sanctioned regular season adult "A" tourney. All of these ratings shall meet the USA rating team criteria of being at least a "2" on the scale of 1-3.
 - b) To become re-certified:
 - i) All officials must attend an Annual Officials re-certification clinic and take a test. Also, a practical rating is needed every three years with one "definite" rating up and one "definite" rating down.
 - ii) In any non re-certification year, you must complete the scorekeeper's take home exam if directed by the Scorekeeper chair.
- 5) Upgrades to Junior National and National:
 - a) To be considered by the Referees Chair for recommendation for Junior National candidacy, an official must demonstrate an ability to consistently facilitate 18 Open girls and 16 Open boys. This necessarily means demonstrating player, coach and bench control. The referee's chair will use a selected tournament and will 'invite' those regional officials the chair feels can qualify for this candidacy.
 - b) To be considered by the Referees Chair for recommendation for National candidacy, an official must demonstrate an ability to consistently facilitate any 18 Open boys and Men's exhibition matches.

- 6) WEVA Qualified Second Referee (Applicable for Adults and Juniors):
 - a) To become qualified:
 - i) Take the WEVA Second Referee's Exam and correct to 100%.
 - ii) Successfully complete the provisional scorekeeper's requirements and become certified.
 - iii) Receive a "definite" rating as second referee.
 - b) To become re-qualified:
 - i) Attend the annual re-certification clinic and take a test if directed to by the Referees Chairperson.
 - ii) Receive a practical rating every three years with only one "definite" rating required.
 - iii) In any of the non re-certification years, complete the scorekeeper's take home exam if directed by the Scorekeeper Chair.