

GEVA Juniors Competition Guide



[Abstract](#)

2016 – 2017 Season Information and References – Published 11/03/16

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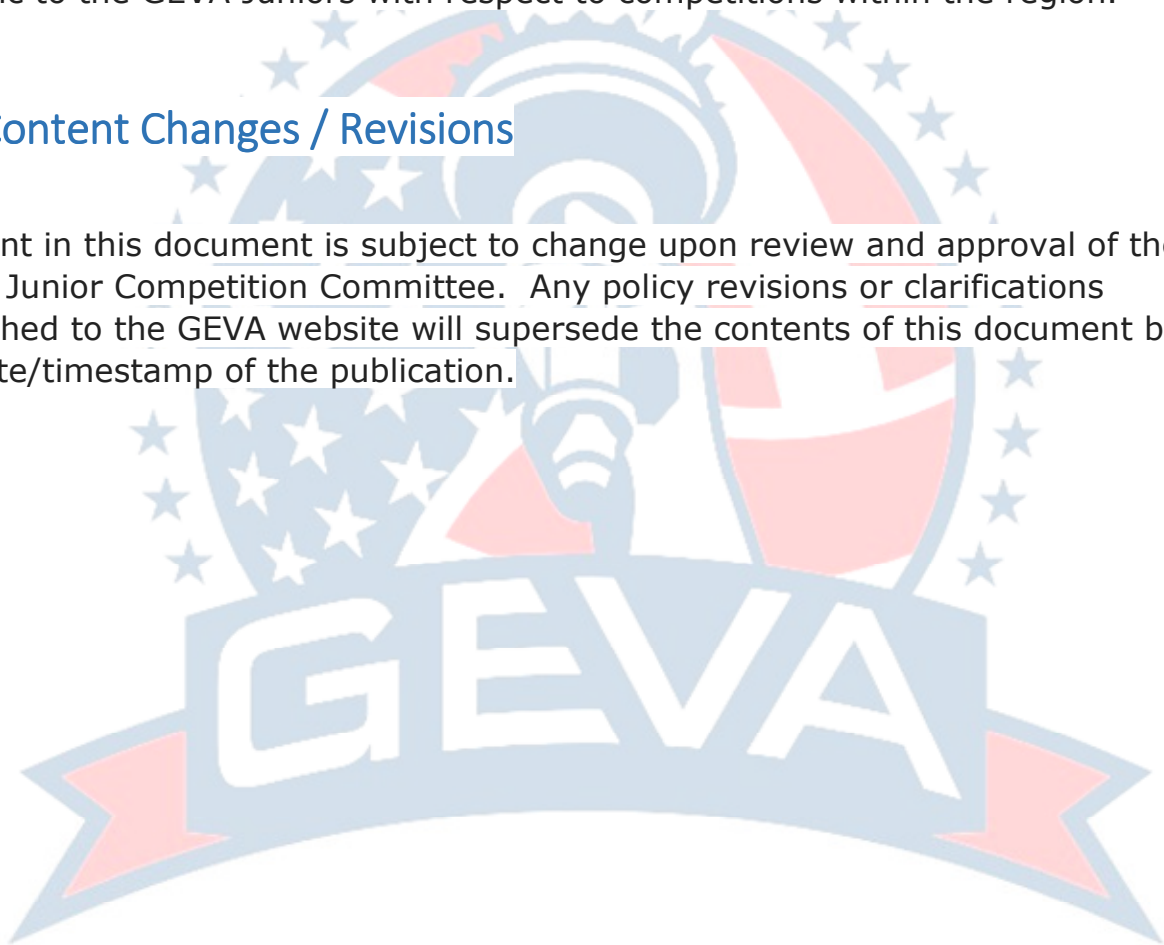
1.0 Introduction

1.1 Guideline

USA Volleyball (USAV) tournaments are conducted in the Garden Empire Volleyball Association (GEVA) region under the "Guidelines for Conducting USA Volleyball or RVA Sanctioned Tournaments" as described in the Annual Official Volleyball Reference Guide of USA Volleyball. This document contains additional information specific to the GEVA Juniors with respect to competitions within the region.

1.2 Content Changes / Revisions

Content in this document is subject to change upon review and approval of the GEVA Junior Competition Committee. Any policy revisions or clarifications published to the GEVA website will supersede the contents of this document based on date/timestamp of the publication.



2.0 Girls Competition Divisions

2.1 Girls Competition Divisions for 2017 Season

Age Level	Club Div	Open Div	Open Power Red	Open Power Blue	Comments
18u	✓	✓			Not eligible for Power Flight Series
17u	✓	✓	✓		Power - Possible Red / Blue Movement
16u	✓	✓	✓		Power - Possible Red / Blue Movement
15u	✓	✓		✓	Power - Possible Red / Blue Movement
14u	✓	✓		✓	Power - Possible Red / Blue Movement
13u	✓	✓		✓	Power - Possible Red / Blue Movement
12u		✓			Can apply for Blue play-in
11u		✓			Plays in 12u Open Div

2.2 Division Designation

- Club Directors determine the strength and competition levels for their respective teams based upon past and potential performance and an honest assessment by their coach and director.
- Directors will submit all Open teams to the Junior Competition Committee for approval and acceptance into the Open division (including Open Power Flight Series). The final decision on acceptance lies with the Junior Competition Committee.
- There will be a play-in for teams entering into the Open division. Any teams not competing in the play-in, or eliminated in the Open Play-in will be dropped to the Club division.

2.3 Open Division – 18u

The 18u Open division teams for the 2017 season will not be competing in the Open Power Flight Series. This group will be comprised of 16-24 teams (3 flights maximum) and will play on two GEVA 18 Open dates and be eligible for Open Regional Finals.

There will be a single day event for GJNC Bid in mid-March. This event will be restricted to the highest eight ranked 18u Open teams playing for the bid. Only teams committed to accepting the bid if they win the event will be eligible.

18u Open teams are required to participate in a minimum of two GEVA Authorized Open events to participate in Open Regionals. Only the top sixteen teams will be eligible to compete for Open Championship. Open teams are not eligible to participate in Club Regionals.

The 18s GJNC event is expected to be held in April 2017. USAV has not defined the dates / location.

2.4 Open Division – 14-17u

The Open Division for ages 14-17u will utilize the Power Flight Series format consisting of two divisions (Red and Blue) for the 2017 season. All teams wishing to complete in the Power Flight Series will need to qualify via a region wide Play-in at the beginning of January. Teams eliminated via the play-in will either be placed in an Open Flight or reduced to Club division (based upon rank and number of teams).

There is no option to declare being an open team not attempting to compete in the Open Power flight series. If you declare to be an open team, you must play-in.

POWER FLIGHT SERIES DESCRIPTION

There will be two divisions (Red and Blue) comprised of as many as 32 teams playing in up to 4 power flights within each division:

Red Div – 16 and 17u

Blue Div – 13, 14 and 15u

Structure:

- The Junior Competition Committee will accept application for Entry into the Open Division from Saturday - November 11th until and including Sunday November 20th.
- The Application form will be posted on the GEVA site and is the only accepted entry application. No emails, no phone calls, no exceptions to the date/time stamp requirements.
- Red Composition – only 16s and 17s will be placed into this division based on the play-in.
- Blue Composition – only 13s, 14s and 15s will be placed into this division based on the play-in. (note: 12s will not be eligible to apply for placement.)
- The Top 32 teams based on play-in results will be accepted into the respective Red and Blue divisions of the Open Power Flight Series.
- The next 16 teams based on play-in results will be accepted into Open Flights (not Open Power flights).
- Teams eliminated by the play-in (not in the top 48 teams of each division) will be removed from the Open division and will be designated as a Club division team. There will be no option to be an Open division team within GEVA not competing in either the Open Power Series or Open Flights.
- The Junior Competition Committee reserves the right to change the structure and/or flight sizes based upon the number of teams requesting acceptance. All decisions by the JCC are final.

Power Flight Series – Overview:

- Tentative Date Schedule:
 - Play-In date(s) – 1/7 – 1/8/17
 - Open Power 1 – 2/4 – 2/5/17
 - Open Power 2 – 3/4 – 3/5/17
 - Open Power 3 – 3/25 – 3/26/17
- There will be up and down movement between Open Power Flights
- There will be up and down movement between Standard Open Flights
- There will NOT be up and down movement between Standard Open Flights and the Open Power Flights
- There will be up and down movement between Open Power Divisions (Red and Blue Divisions)
- There will NOT be up and down movement between Standard Open Divisions
- There will NOT be up and down move between the Standard Open Divisions and the Open Power Divisions.
- The movement will be 4 up and 4 down in the flights within the Open Power divisions. (Example, the bottom 4 teams from Power flight 1 move to the top of Power flight 2. The top 4 from teams from Power flight 2 move to the bottom of Power flight 1)
- The movement will be 4 up and 4 down across the Power Series divisions. (Example, the bottom 4 teams from Red Power flight 4 move to the top of Blue Power flight 1. The top from teams from Blue Power flight 1 move to the bottom of Red Power flight 4)
- The planned 4 up / 4 down will be achieved as follows:

At the end of Pool Play by finish

- The two first place teams (A1 and B1) will be moving up and will play a final
- The two fourth place teams (A4 and B4) will be moving down
- There will be two matches to determine who else moves up/down
- A2 vs. B3 and B2 vs. A3
- Winners will move up and the losers will move down

- Dependent on movement between divisions, the days of the competition may change, however, the weekends for the competition will not change.
- Open Flights and Open Power Series Flights will compete on the same days and weekends.

Open Division Commitment:

- There will be 3 Open Power Flight Series Weekends
- All teams accepted and qualifying for Open and/or Open Power series are **committing** to all three Open Power Dates and Regional Championships.
- Teams entering will be ranked according to past and potential performance and an honest assessment by their coach and director. The final decision on acceptance lies with the Junior Competition Committee.
- You will need to travel throughout the Region to meet your obligation to the Power Flight Series.
- Open Regional Championship will consist of 16 teams maximum. All other open teams not in the top 16 for their age division will be placed into Open flights based on rank for regionals.
- Open Regional Championships will be over two weekends with the top 8 teams finishing the first round moving to the second weekend to play for the championship.
- All other open regional flights will be a single day regional final.
- All teams accepted into the Power Flight Series meet the criteria for entry into Open Regionals in their respective age groups. Each age group will be eligible to compete for the Open Regional Championships and GJNC bid. Priority for entry will be given first to the teams in the Power Flights Series. Open Flight teams not playing in the Open Flight Series will be given second priority for entry into Open Regional Championships; however, they will still need to meet the three-tournament minimum.
- Coaches and Directors need to be cognizant of the need to foster good competition that serves the division and the teams within the division. This may be contradictory to serving the perceived needs of your club. This is the only way we can promote the level of competition we desire.

2.5 Open Division – 13u

The 13u age group will have both Open and Club divisions. Designation as to Open or Club for 13u is at the sole discretion of the club director.

13u Open teams will need to compete in 3 GEVA authorized events to be eligible for Open Regional Championships.

13u Open teams may apply for acceptance to play-in to the Open Power Flight Series - Blue Division. Acceptance to play-in is at the sole discretion of the Junior Competition Committee.

2.6 Open Division – 12u (and 11u)

All 12u (11u) teams will be in a single Open division for competition.

12u (11u) teams will need to compete in 2 GEVA authorized events to be eligible for Regional Championships.

GEVA clarification of the USAV rules with respect to serving at the 12u level.

1. USAV does not have a step into the court rule
2. USAV does not have a modified serving line rule
3. USAV permits the regions to make these rule adjustments at their discretion
4. For Clarity - GEVA Region has not made rule adjustments for either
5. Since serving is such an integral part of the game at this level, we want to be teaching our players in practice how to serve the way they are going to be serving at tournaments.
6. Additionally, GEVA Region does not allow Tournament Directors, Site Directors and/or Officials to changes to these rules against region policy.

2.7 Club Division – 13u – 18u

- Teams not Declared, Accepted and Qualified as Open teams will be in the Club Division.
- Coaches and Directors need to be cognizant of the need to foster good competition that serves the division and the teams within the division.
- There will be no change in Division after December 15th, 2016 with the exception of teams not qualifying for Open Flights.
- Club teams will only be able to play in the Club Division in GEVA.
- There is no mechanism for Club Teams to qualify for Open Regionals.
- GEVA Conducted Club events have a priority entry for the designated age group teams.
- Tournaments conducted by GEVA are for the purpose of assuring local area competition while maintaining equitable levels of development and play.
- Tournaments are conducted in single or dual age groups.
- Entry is based on providing equitable opportunities for all interested teams.
- 3rd Party or Club Run Events - These Tournaments are intended for Clubs to provide additional opportunities for teams to compete with other like teams within their area and within the region.

2.8 Boys Teams Exceptions

Current Operational Exceptions / Reminders for Boys Teams (12U)

- 12U Teams can be co-ed.
- 12U Co-ed Teams cannot participate in GEVA Girls Regionals.
- 12U Boys Teams are permitted to play in Girls 13U events within GEVA region to give them an opportunity for playing time.
- 12U Boys Teams cannot participate in GEVA Girls Regionals.

General Operational Reminders for Boys Teams

- Boys teams (all age levels) must participate in at least one GEVA authorized event to participate in GEVA Regionals.
- Middle school boys teams will be accepted to play in girls events within GEVA region as follows (excluding GEVA Girls Regionals):
 - 12U Boys teams are eligible to play in 13U Girls events
 - 13U Boys teams are eligible to play in 14U Girls events
 - 14U Boys teams are eligible to play in 16U Girls events
- Questions should be directed to the Junior Director.

3.0 Tournaments

3.1 Tournament Overview

- It is the Full intent of GEVA to have all GEVA conducted events be comprised of 4 team pools.
- GEVA will **NOT** Authorize **Mixed** Division Tournaments. Open is Open, and Club is Club.
- GEVA will **NOT** Authorize **Mixed** Age Tournaments. GEVA permits teams to play up 1 age group in events at the discretion of the tournament director. (The only exception is Open Power Flight Series by structure)
- Rankings will be maintained and posted by division. Ranks for a team will be generated after results are submitted and entered into the ranking system for 2 GEVA authorized events.
- The winning team in out of region (non-GEVA) events will be responsible to submit the scores to the regional office for inclusion into the ranking system. This is for GEVA vs. GEVA teams only.
- Open Division Teams competing in the Power Flight Series will not be able to selectively play up, but will be in mixed age group competition placed by initial seeding and subsequent movement based on performance.
- GEVA REGIONALS – Participation Requirements Changed.
 - Open Division Regionals requires participation in 3 GEVA Authorized events (except for 11's and 12's need only to participate in 2 GEVA Authorized events).
 - Club Division Regionals requires participation in 2 GEVA Authorized events for all ages.
 - Participation in the required number of events must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to the Regionals date for that age group.
 - Entry into GEVA Regionals will be from 12/1/15 thru 2/28/17. As of 3/1/16, entries into Regionals will only be accepted is space permits.

- Ranking and Seeding for Regionals for any specific age group will begin at the conclusion of the GEVA run events for that age group.
- Open Division Regionals will be two single days over two consecutive weekends (14-18s).
- Open Division (11-13s) and Club Division Regionals will be a single day event.

3.2 Tentative Event Schedule (pre-season planning)

A tentative schedule is being provided in advance of the tournament entry system (Advanced Events System) being available. Dates are subject to change or events may be removed completely. This schedule is valid for pre-season planning only. On or about the beginning of November, the schedule as listed in AES will be the official dates replacing this tentative schedule.

Tentative Schedule is attached in Appendix A of the Competition Guide.

3.3 Tournament Rosters – Webpoint Roster Required

The following has been in and remains in effect:

1. USAV Webpoint Rosters are required for participation in all GEVA Authorized events
2. The Roster must be accurate for the tournament you are attending.
3. A coach listed on another team roster is not valid with the team participating in the event.
4. AES, Sportwrench, Sign-Up to Play, AAU Rosters are NOT acceptable
5. Only the persons listed on the roster are eligible to be on the bench
6. At least one Rostered Coach must provide picture identification at sign in

7. Rosters must be printed out and turned in at event sign in. Showing a roster on a cell phone, ipad or other electronic means is not acceptable
8. Players or Coaches not in attendance need to be stricken from the roster at event sign in
9. Failure to comply with the Roster requirements will result in your team being sent home

The Bottom of the Webpoint Roster is very distinctive and needs to be signed and dated by the coach. To print a Webpoint Roster:

- * Sign into Webpoint (club director)
- * Select Team Rosters (left hand side)
- * Select Team (center top)
- * Print to Printer or File



ROSTER & USAV Medical/Emergency Release Form Verification

Coaches of the teams in this event are required to carry with them at all times completed USAV Medical/Emergency release forms.

The person signing this form verifies that:

1. The above roster is correct and contains all players who will be participating in the event. All players meet age requirements.
2. They will have in their immediate possession at all times during this competition a completed copy of the USAV Medical/Emergency Release Form for each player listed on the official roster.
3. The team understands it is subject to any and all penalties if this roster does not match the participants attending the event, regardless of who signs this verification.

Print Name

Signature

Phone Number (If different from above)

Date

3.4 Roster Validation at Events

AES ROSTERS ARE NOT ACCEPTED. TEAMS ARRIVING WITHOUT VERIFIED WEBPOINT ROSTERS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PLAY.

All GEVA Conducted and Authorized Tournaments as of 4/2/16 will follow the below defined match protocol for roster validations. This protocol is required in the interest of maintaining legal coach and player participation as well as conforming to USAV and GEVA insurance regulations.

All – means all GEVA events and Club run events. If you have out of region teams participating please inform them of our policies. They are required to adhere to our policies without regard to their regions requirements.

The R1 assigned to the match will check and validate each teams WEBPOINT roster at the first match they play in each tournament. The Official will verify each player's name and the corresponding jersey number by asking the player to state their name.

Players NOT correctly listed on the roster will NOT be permitted to play until corrected.

They will also verify that all bench personnel are on the roster.

If neither the Head Coach nor a replacement can be verified, the team will NOT be allowed to compete. Please Note: NUMBERS ARE CORRECTABLE, NAMES ARE NOT. It is NOT permissible to add player or replace a player on site. Players can only play on one team in any event.

To expedite the process Directors and Coaches are asked to assure their rosters are updated and accurate. The roster that is signed and submitted at check-in is the one that will be checked. The roster will then be initialed by the Official and returned to the site director with the score sheet at the conclusion of the match.

Site Directors must submit the verified rosters to the GEVA office with all other paperwork.

REMEMBER: The ultimate responsibility for roster accuracy lies with the Head Coach present and the Club Director.

3.5 Warm-up Protocol at GEVA Events

All GEVA conducted and Authorized Tournaments as of 3/19/16 will follow the below warm-up protocol. This has been implemented in the interest of player safety and tournament efficiency.

- Any team playing a match subsequent to officiating will automatically be given the second warm-up period without regard to any results of the coin flip or other outcomes of the captain's meeting. This is not optional.
- The rationale is to give the prior officiating team sufficient time to finish the score sheet correctly, obtain the needed signatures, and still have time to prepare for and participate in the 3 or 4-minute warm-up.

Example: 4-team pool – Team 2 officiates Match 1, Team 2 Plays Match 2, Team 2 will automatically have the second warm-up block for that match.

3.6 Amplified Sound & Noise Makers at Events

All GEVA conducted and Authorized Tournaments as of 4/8/16 will follow the below Sound and Noise protocol. This has been implemented in the interest of player safety and tournament efficiency.

- The use of artificial noisemakers by anyone in attendance is forbidden at all times.
- The use of devices to produce amplified sound is permissible with the following conditions:
 - Use during play, from the end of the warm-up period through the end of match handshake on your court is prohibited.
 - Use during on court warm-up period is allowed with some restrictions.

- It cannot interfere with match play on an adjacent court.
 - It must be kept to a reasonably tolerable volume with consideration for all persons in the vicinity
 - Positive, respectful consideration must be given to requests to lowering the volume or turning the sound off.
- Any decision made with regard to limiting the sound applies to the court, not to a singular group or team
 - The Site Director, Tournament Director, or Head Official may mediate and or rule on the above and Teams and their Coaches are bound by their decisions.
 - Refusal to comply will result in unsportsmanlike conduct or delay of game sanctions.
 - You must refrain from music that may be considered obscene or offensive, keep it clean. The intent here is to foster cooperation while allowing some degree of additional fun and excitement to the process of and the atmosphere of GEAV tournaments. Cooperation between teams, coaches, and spectators is imperative. If it escalates to a point where it is a problem, expect that we will ban it. We are both asking for a cooperative effort and legislating compliance.

3.7 USAV Alcohol Policy for Junior Events

Revised and approved by the BOD, May 25, 2012 USA Volleyball Policy on Alcohol at Junior Events USA Volleyball prohibits the sale and/or consumption of alcohol beverages in close proximity to junior age participants during all junior events. Despite this prohibition, there are situations where alcohol might be present at a junior event due to the venue where the event is being staged. Many facilities which have volleyball courts also have restaurants and bars located within or adjacent to the facility that serve alcohol. When this is the case the event director should take special precautions to restrict alcohol reaching the spectator area adjacent to the courts and to restrict junior access to the area where liquor is being sold and / or consumed. Below are listed some recommendations for conducting a safe event for juniors where alcohol is present:

1. The viewing area where spectators are present should clearly indicate that alcohol is not permitted in the spectator viewing area.
2. Event volunteers and staff should be instructed to be on alert for patrons possessing alcoholic beverage outside the licensed area where it is sold and how to deal with the situation.
3. Ideally, there should be separate access for the juniors to get to their playing area that does not bring them into close proximity to the area where alcohol is sold and/or consumed.
4. If this is not possible, the area where alcohol is served and consumed should be roped off and clearly indicate that no juniors are allowed and that alcoholic beverages may not be removed from that area.
5. No alcohol is permitted in the areas where the junior participants are competing, warming up or accessing public areas (eg. lobby, exhibitor booths, merchandising and results areas, etc.).
6. The facility must have its own liquor license and insurance which should be properly posted.
7. The event, the event director, USAV and the club should be included as additional insureds under the liquor liability insurance.

If you should encounter any additional questions regarding this issue please contact the USAV national office.

3.8 Inclement Weather Policy – Tournament Cancellation

GEVA makes every effort to fulfill our commitment to teams and clubs by conducting all scheduled tournaments. Sometimes things get in the way. Our inclement weather practice has been to hold the tournament if at all possible (even if some teams are more effected than others).

Exceptions are made in dangerous situations, and those beyond our control. If the weather is bad, (snow and ice) your safety is paramount. Do not drive if it you don't feel safe.

We will cancel for two reasons.

1. The weather and driving conditions are too hazardous.
2. If the facility where we are holding tournament cancels our access.

When possible, a decision is made prior to 9 pm the evening prior. If a situation worsens overnight, the decision is adjusted prior to 5:30 am the day of the tournament. Once cancelled, we will not have a mind change.

We will send information through USAV webpoint to Cub directors, and AES to participating Clubs. We will also post on juniors and home page of geva.org

Safety is paramount. Do not drive if it you don't feel safe.

3.9 Results from Non-GEVA Events

As of the 2016-2017 season, results are to be captured for GEVA teams that play other GEVA teams in Non-GEVA Events (eg. Capitol Hill Classic). In the past, the event sponsor (CHC) would have provided GEVA with a results file that could be used to load the ranking system. As the event sponsored have moved away from traditional event management systems, this is no longer possible.

The process that will be utilized by GEVA juniors is for the Winning GEVA team to submit the results to the Junior's office within 5 days of the completion of the event. The form to submit the results is on-line and available in the GEVA Juniors Club Administration section of the website.

- 1... Only for reporting matches between two GEVA teams in a Non-GEVA event (eg. Capitol Hill Classic)
- 2... Only the winning team is to report the match.
- 3... Accurate scores are required.
- 4... Incomplete submissions will not be accepted.
- 5... Submissions must be within 5 days of the event completion.

4.0 Violations

Please report all suspected violations of any USAV or GEVA policy to your regional director and with the GEVA Incident Report found on the GEVA website.

Questions or concerns may be directed to the GEVA Region – Junior Division office.

<http://www.geva.org/contacts>

5.0 Quick Links

GEVA Juniors Website: <http://www.geva.org/juniors>

Juniors Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gevajuniors>

GEVA Juniors Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GEVAjuniors>

GEVA Juniors Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/gevajuniors/>

