



REGION REF BULLETIN

WWW.BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG | MEMBERSHIP@BADGERVOLLEYBALL.ORG

Define your goals to become a better official

By **John Nelson**
Junior National Official

As we begin a new season, one of the questions everyone should have is what are my goals for the season. By determining what your goals are for the season you can begin planning out what type of tournaments you need to attend and who you need to contact to help in meeting your goals. Let's take a look at some common goals officials have and then the steps needed to achieve those goals.

I would like to give everyone a goal. This was given to me many years ago by one of my mentors. When you get your rulebook open it up and on the inside of

the front cover write down two things you want to work on as an official. This could be something like better signals, tracking



rotations, catching back row situations or being more effective working with coaches. No matter what kind of match you have you can work on

these things.

Most officials have a goal of becoming a better official. This may include moving up to the next certification level or simply working to become more proficient at your current level. One

of the best ways to get better is to get feedback after you work. One of the best ways to do this is to let the region know you would like a mentor. A mentor can give you feedback and work with you and the assignor on getting you assigned to appropriate matches to work on the skills you need to develop.

Maybe your goal is to travel outside Badger Region and work a large multicourt tournament like Nationals or a Qualifier. Some of those type tournaments take some real planning and early registrations. Watch for an article in one of the upcoming newsletters about preparing for one of those tournaments.

Maybe your goal is a simple one. I want to work as much

volleyball as possible, I have every weekend available and I don't care where I go. If that is your goal, I know an assignor that will be very happy.

No matter your goals, make sure you have the basics covered. Get your registration completed. Make sure you get all of your requirements such as SafeSport, modules, and test completed. Make sure your calendar is updated. Have good communication with the Region. Now is a good time to look over your uniform and order any replacement items you need prior to hitting the court.

The one goal that I hope everyone has and you all complete is that you have a fun and successful season.

Online modules available

All USA Volleyball modules are ready for viewing for in-training, Provisional, Regional, and Junior National-certified officials. Please complete the modules that you are currently certified for.

Watching the online modules is a part of annual officials training and a requirement for being in good standing.

If you are interested in watching more, feel free to do so.

To access your modules:

- * Log into Sport Engine
- * On your Sports Engine home-page, you will see the "USAV Academy" bottom toward the top of the page.
- * Select your profile, then click launch
- * Click on the Content Library in the left column of the page
- * Scroll down to find the appropriate BG25 courses and click on the appropriate one
- * Then click on the blue "start

this course" button.

The rules exam and score exams as well as the points of emphasis are still under construction. When USAV has those available, they will automatically load for you to complete.

The scoring modules are not ready yet. Once they are ready, an email will go out to officials.

IC form

The 2024-25 independent contractor form is approved and will be sent to all new and renewing Badger Region/USAV officials after Oct. 1. Officials will receive the IC form and W9 through DocuSign again this year. Once membership is renewed, the Region will manually send the DocuSign to the email you used on your membership.

Have questions? Email sara@badgervolleyball.org.

Mentors sought

Badger Region is looking for officials mentors for the 2024-25 club season.

Mentoring centers on one-on-one relationships with an experienced official and a new official. The most important characteristic a mentor can have is being approachable and patient. The veteran official will be asked many questions that cover the most fundamental parts of officiating, and not every official has the patience for that.

Before you agree to serve as a mentor, be sure you can handle those kinds of conversations and are kind and encouraging with your answers. Mentors will be asked to create an environment in which questions are always welcome (even the most remedial ones) that will help develop the new official.

Rulebook discussions on officiating theory and mechanics are fine, but there's no substitute for oncourt experience, which the Badger Region will provide.

New officials need to get on court experience with experienced officials. Badger Region will schedule the mentoring during approved and/or hosted events. The mentor will either work those games with them or mentor them with another new official during the game.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, email sara@badgervolleyball.org for more information.



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Make sure you are in good standing

Some updates to Region's policy

The Badger Region board of directors approved in May 2023 an "In Good Standing" policy for all officials to be assignable, receive mentoring and be eligible for advancement moving forward.

The criteria listed below must be met on an annual basis. If a referee cannot meet these criteria, he or she may apply to the Officials Chair for a one-season waiver to become inactive, which will not be unreasonably withheld.

- * Annual USAV Full Membership
- * Annual USAV background screen
- * Annual Safesport Training
- * Complete and submit annual Independent Contractor and W-9 forms

* Completion of all required USAV modules assigned by Badger Region

* Attend the Badger Region officials' pre-season meeting (in person or online) or a new referee clinic.

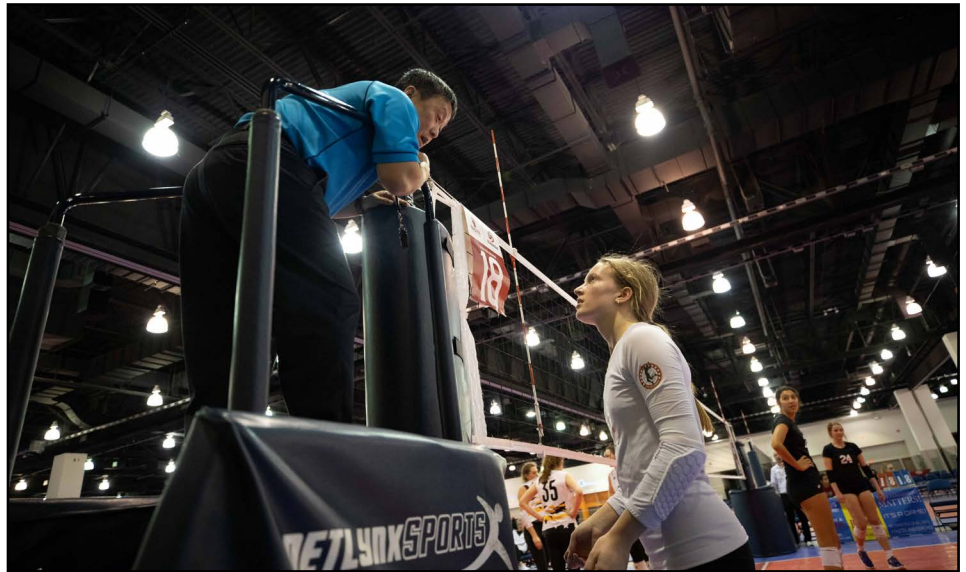
* Conduct themselves with an appropriate level of professionalism and are not under review or hold sanctions from the Badger Region Ethics & Eligibility Committee.

* Official has been assigned to and has or will be working two separate Badger Region-hosted events (Badger Region Championships, Badger Region Power League, Badger Region Qualifier, Dale Rhode) or WVC events or other single day-approved events. An official can also meet requirements by working in a mentoring role at two events.

— The official does not have to work both days of a two-day event.

— The two days need to be from two separate events.

If an official does not officiate or mentor (as assigned by the Badger Region Assignor) at least two Badger Region tournaments in a season, they will be considered to have been inactive for that season (and until they have officiated a tournament in a subsequent season). If an official is inactive for two successive seasons, the official will be required to repeat the certification process, beginning with clinic attendance and practical evaluation before being reinstated and officiating for the Region again. Failing to meet one or more of the following Good Standing criteria will result in "Conditional" status which will affect tournament officiating fees



and possibly eligibility to receive assignments. Conditional officials are not considered to be in good standing.

**Please note that if an official would like to run for a leadership position (board, advisory or other committee) within the Badger Region, they must be in good standing as of April 15 and must maintain that standing throughout their service.

Good standing for advancement

To be considered for advancement AND in good standing in the Badger Region, the referee must meet the criteria outlined below. If a referee cannot meet these criteria they will not be eligible for advancement.

**Please note if an official was not in good standing the previous season, they cannot apply for advancement the following season due to the timing of regional camp acceptance and the regional advancement training process. An official must be in good standing the season before they apply for advancement the following season.

- * Annual USAV Full Membership
- * Annual USAV background screen
- * Annual Safe Sport Training
- * Complete and submitted annual IC/W 9 forms
- * Complete and submit annual Independent Contractor and W-9 forms

* Official has been assigned to and has or will be working two separate Badger Region-hosted events (Badger Region Championships, Badger

Region Power League, Badger Region Qualifier, Dale Rhode) or WVC events or other single day-approved events. An official can also meet requirements by working in a mentoring role at two events.

* Maintain certification as a USAV Scorer.

* Attend the Badger Region officials' pre-season meeting (in person or online) or a new referee clinic.

* Conduct themselves with an appropriate level of professionalism and are not under review or hold sanctions from the Badger Region Ethics & Eligibility Committee.

Rationale

* Important in order to prevent officials from just using the region to become certified and not officiate region events.

* Perception is that our officials pool increases but the number of "assignable officials" does not.

* Help the region retain officials to use in region events

* Officials mentoring can only be scheduled for those officials working Badger Region sanctioned events. Mentors can be scheduled for officials during these events to help make those officials better. All mentors are scheduled by the officials assignor and paid for by Badger Region. Our goal is to make our region officials better and help them towards advancement.

* This is common in most regions and helps unify policies region to region.

Questions? Email sara@badgervolleyball.org.



Badger Region advancement protocol

The purpose of advancement through officiating ranks is important as it offers recognition and reward for the hard work that officials put in throughout their careers. As the interest in advancement grows, so does the evaluation pressure and process to pass through both the regional and USA Volleyball (USAV) National processes. Badger Region has developed the following procedures and criteria in order to help prepare officials to become successful in passing their evaluations.

Officials must be In Good Standing, per the approved policy, the season prior to their request for advancement the following season. For a copy of the In Good Standing policy, please visit the Badger Region website or contact the region official's chair or board rep.

Junior National & National Candidates:

This process is handled by USAV, but Badger Region is asked to provide input on candidates. Based on the number of candidates accepted per region by USAV, the region budget allows for two reimbursements of \$500 per candidate upon successful advancement per season to recognize and reward. Please note that the official must be in good standing to be considered for advancement.

If there are more than two candidates per season seeking advancement, the region will form an advisory committee composed of the ref chair, ref liaison and other interested parties to make a decision on the ranking of candidates that will be given to USAV. Junior National and National Ad-



vancement Applications are available on the USAV website and all questions should be directed to USAV. Additional information about the process and timeline is as follows:

- * The final decision on selection and advancement is made by USAV

- * To decide the ranking of a candidate, the Region takes many factors into consideration including good standing status, dedication to region events, interactions with other officials, ability to manage calendar, etc.

- * The Region will confirm receipt of a candidate's application and will copy the candidate on the submission to USA Volleyball, per their process.

- * The Region will send completed applications, regional ranking and all other information to USAV as requested by their process.

Regional Candidates:

This process is handled within the Badger Region and will be an application process for the 2024-25 season. The Region will form a Regional Advancement Committee composed of interested parties, including but not limited to Regional, Junior National and

of their sessions with interested candidates to the Advancement Committee after completing mentoring opportunities to give guidance on whether an interested candidate is ready (both in the R1 and R2 positions). These reports must be submitted after each mentoring session, but no later than the end of March.

- * The Committee will finalize selection and an email will be sent to all candidates no later than the first week of April on their status of acceptance. If an official is not accepted as one of the candidates for Regional Advancement, the region will work with that individual to help set them up for success the following year (if possible).

- * The candidates who are accepted to the April 5-6 Advancement Weekend will be given continued mentoring opportunities, if available, before evaluation weekend.

- * Selected Regional Advancement candidates will be assigned both days of Advancement Weekend and will be paid for half of the matches they are assigned.

- * Advancement coaches (mentor officials) will be assigned advancement camp and advancement weekend by the Badger Region, who will be given guidance from the advancement committee on qualities and skills to be considered during the evaluation process.

- * At the end of the second day of Advancement Weekend, the advancement coaches will decide if a candidate has been successful. Upon successful advancement, the new Regional candidate will receive a Regional Patch and be celebrated in the upcoming issues of the Badger Beacon newsletter and Ref Bulletin.

National officials within the Region as well as the Region Liaison to USAV and the Badger Region Ref Chair. The committee will select up to eight (8) candidates for Regional advancement per season, as outlined by the process below:

- * An application form will be live on the Badger Region website on October 1st and will be included in subsequent Ref Bulletins. Interested officials have until 11:59pm CT on Dec. 31 to apply as an "interested in advancement" candidate. Candidates must be available for the 2025 Regional Advancement Camp January 11th and 12th and the 2025 advancement weekend of April 5-6 at the Badger Region Power League to be considered.

- * Mentors will be assigned to all interested candidates seeking advancement in the months of January and February, based on their designated in-region availability. Officials interested in advancement must be available for Badger Region events and open to mentoring and feedback. The goal will be to give all interested candidates the same number of mentoring opportunities, but this depends on availability of both the mentor and the candidate.

- * Mentors will send reports



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Save the dates for these Region meetings, events

Start saving these dates on your calendar for the Badger Region-hosted events slated for the 2024-25 season. Here is what we know at the present time:

Nov. 24: In-person referee meeting No. 1 at 11 a.m.(site TBA)

Dec. 8: In-person referee meeting No. 2 at 11 a.m. (site TBA)

Jan. 11-12: First weekend of Badger Region Power League (assigning begins week of July 8)

Feb. 8-9: Second weekend of Badger Region Power League (assigning begins week of July 8)



Feb. 22-23, 2025: Dale Rhode Memorial Boys Volleyball Tournament (Baird Center, Milwaukee)

March 1-2, 2025: Badger Region Girls Qualifier (Baird Center, Milwaukee)

March 15-16, 2025: Badger Region Championships (Baird Center, Milwaukee)



March 22-23, 2025: Badger Region Championships (Baird Center, Milwaukee)

April 5-6: Second week-end of Badger Region Power League (assigning begins week of July 8)

July 24-27: USA All-Star Championships (Alliant Energy Center, Madison)



Events still to be scheduled include: * Badger Boys Series (two dates)

Single-day events in the Badger Region are assigned starting the second week in December (unless they are scheduled for December). Questions? Email us at membership@badgervolleyball.org.

HARD WORKING. DECISIVE. CONFIDENT. CONSISTENT. DEDICATED

REFEREES WANTED

REWARDS:

- TRAINING OFFERED
- GOOD COMPENSATION
- FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES



GIVE BACK TO THE GAME

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(CLICK HERE FOR MORE)



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OFFSEASON LEARNING

Knowledge of volleyball rules for better understanding and explanation is incredibly important. Volleyball officials must also possess excellent communication skills. This includes being able to clearly explain rulings in order for everyone involved in the game, from coaches and players to spectators and other officials, to understand why certain decisions have been made.

They also need to be able to articulate themselves in such a way that it does not come across as overly biased or unfair. Use some off time to review the USAV rule book and interpretation.

Here's a link to the USAV officials page for more information <https://usavolleyball.org/resources-for-officials/rulebooks-and-interpretations/>

Set up your direct deposit for event pay

Did you know that if you work the Badger Region's marquee events that you can be paid with direct deposit through our accounting company? Yes. You can.

Independent contractors who work the Region Championships, Qualifier, Power League and Dale

Rohde Memorial can set up an account and get paid via direct deposit. [To set up an account through Bill.com, click here.](#)

The system will ask you some questions so follow the prompts, and you will also be asked to confirm your contact information.

The monies worked while officiating, scoring or serving as a lead official, score monitor, etc., can then be deposited electronically. A paper check would not be sent. Through this system, deposits are made roughly three days after they are processed and approved.

Shoutouts

Calling all officials: Please send your outstanding work crew nominations to Badger Region program director Brian Sharkey at brian@badgervolleyball.org. Please get their team name, club name and the head coach if possible. We will highlight your nomination and the team on social media and in future newsletters.

Line judges sought for '25 All-Star event

We are looking for line judges for USA All-Star Championships the Badger Region is hosting in Madison in 2025! If you are interested in line judging All Star Champs July 24-27, 2025, send Sara an email at sara@badgervolleyball.org. Line judge training will be scheduled in Spring 2025 for everyone in preparation of the event (dates to be announced later). A limited number of R1 and R2 selections will be made by at a later time.

Officials uniforms

Badger Region and USA Volleyball officials should start using a new website to order approved apparel for upcoming seasons. The website is: <https://vbofficialsgear.com/>

Card reporting

If you issue a red card during a Badger Region-sanctioned match, please remember to record it by filling out this form on the Badger Region website. This will help us document repeat offenders and looking for other trends.

BECOME A HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL OFFICIAL!

STUDENT-ATHLETES NEED YOUR HELP SO THAT THEY CAN CONTINUE PLAYING THE SPORTS THEY LOVE. ADDITIONALLY, THERE'S NO BETTER OPPORTUNITY TO EARN EXTRA PART-TIME INCOME. AS AN OFFICIAL, YOU'LL BE PART OF THE GAME, WITH THE BEST SEAT IN THE HOUSE.


ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE ● GIVE BACK TO THE SPORT
DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS ● EARN EXTRA INCOME

SIGN UP TODAY AT WHSVOA.NET/JOIN



2024 REFFING FACTS

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<p>WISCONSIN GOVERNING BODY</p>	 <p>Badger Region Volleyball Association</p>	<p>Wisconsin Board of Volleyball Officials (WBVO)</p>	 <p>Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association</p>
<p>NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY</p>			 <p>National Federation of High Schools</p>
<p>PARTICIPANTS</p>	<p>Juniors, Men, Women and beach athletes</p>	<p>Men Women</p>	<p>Junior boys and junior girls</p>
<p>RULE SETS</p>			
<p>WISCONSIN REFEREE POPULATION</p>	<p>~ 160</p>	<p>~ 50</p>	<p>~ 1,600</p>
<p>REFEREE CERTIFICATIONS</p>	<p>PERFORMANCE-BASED National Junior National Regional Provisional In-Training Scorer</p>	<p>PERFORMANCE-BASED National State Local Apprentice National Line Judge Certified Line Judge Scorer</p>	<p>TENURE-BASED Master L5, L4, L3, L2, L1</p>
<p>AVAILABLE TRAINING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * USA Volleyball * Badger Region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * NCAA/PWVO * Wis. Board of Officials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * WIAA * Local Association
<p>MAJOR RULE DIFFERENCES</p> <p>115 rule differences in all</p> <p>Click here for PWVO Rule Comparison document</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Timeouts: 30 seconds * Subs: 12 * Net Fault: Touching net between antennas while playing the ball * Center Line Fault: If interfere or safety issue * Court size: 9 meters by 18 meters * Time to serve: 8 seconds for all age levels (re-lass for athletes 14-and-under) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Timeouts: 60-60 seconds * Subs: D1 Men: 6, D3 Men: 12, Women 15 * Net Fault: Touching net between antennas while playing the ball * Center Line Fault: If interfere or safety issue * Court size: 9 meters by 18 meters * Time to serve: 8 seconds to serve (no re-lass) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Timeouts: 60 seconds * Subs: 18 * Net Fault: Any time touching the net * Center Line Fault: Foot or hand completely beyond * Court size: 30 feet by 60 feet * Serve: 5 seconds to serve with one re-lass.