

## ***TOURNAMENT INFORMATION***

Welcome to the Mizuno Northern Lights Qualifier. Mizuno, Molten, Bauerfeind, Northern Lights Junior Volleyball and Midwest Volleyball Warehouse are pleased to be hosting this event and we hope that you enjoy your participation or viewing.

### ***General Tournament Format***

The tournament is broken down into 3 parts for all divisions. Preliminary pool play, power pool play, and elimination playoffs.

All play will be match play best 2 out of 3 games. Games 1 & 2 will be rally score to 25 points with no cap. If required, the third game will be a 15 point rally score game with no cap. The third game is only played if needed to decide the match. Teams will switch sides in the third game.

Matches may be accelerated no more than 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled starting time. The only match which may be accelerated any further than 15 minutes is the last match of a pool, and only if all playing and officiating teams agree. For the purpose of determining forfeits, the scheduled time is the match time and any forfeit may only occur at the scheduled starting time.

All teams are responsible for determining when they will play their next match. Read the schedules carefully.

### ***Three Team Pools***

If a pool during the event changes from the published 4 team pool, to a 3 team pool due to a team dropping out, this new 3 team pool will play matches which play 3 games to 25 points. Standings in these new pools will be based on match wins. Even if you win the match in 2 games, the third game is still played and it will be used in any game percentage calculations that may be needed for the tie breaking procedures.

### ***Officiating Assignments***

Teams are required to officiate as noted on the master schedule. During the pool play rounds the officiating teams are designated on the schedule. Teams must supply a down referee, lines people, scorers and ball shaggers. **It is required in this tournament that a coach be the 2nd referee in all matches requiring a non tournament supplied 2nd referee.**

On Day 3 on most of the courts the losing team will stay and officiate the next match on their court. Those teams in the "3rd" round of pool play on Day 3 may also have officiating duties after their pool play completes. Check the schedule for verification of your ref assignments.

The definition of "next match" is the next match that requires an officiating team on that court. For example, a team which loses a match at 8:00 am will normally officiate the next match which is scheduled at 9:00 am, however if there is no scheduled match at 9:00 or the 9:00 match is forfeited by a team, the scheduled officiating team will ref the next match which occurs on that court.

In order to start the tournament on Day 3 1/2 of the teams that play at 9:00 am will have to line, score, & ball shag at 8:00 am. These teams are noted in both the master schedule and on the playoff charts. On the playoff chart the officiating teams are those teams which have a box around them. Check the schedule carefully.

### ***Missed Officiating Duties***

A team's failure to have a complete officiating crew, including a rostered coach for that team, available and on time, for a match officiating assignment could result in the team having to forfeit the first game of its next match. For every minute an officiating team is late to fulfill its assignment, one point will be awarded to that team's next opponent for the first game of the next match – up to 25 points. No more than 25 points will be awarded to the team's next opponent, even if the team designated to officiate misses the entire match. The clock begins to run at the completion of warm ups.

A team will forfeit its entire next match for failing, a second time, to have an officiating crew available, on time, for an officiating assignment.

This penalty does not apply to a team that misses a 3 way tiebreak because of leaving a site before the determination a tiebreak is necessary, unless the team misses an officiating assignment for the match following the tiebreak, or a team leaves after playing the first tiebreak game but before officiating the second tiebreak game. Losing the opportunity to advance by not being present for the tiebreak is considered the penalty for the team.

### ***Warm-Up Procedures***

These procedures were established by the National Competition Committee for all Qualifiers.

There will be no shared hitting during warm-ups

For all matches of the pool the warm-up time will be 2-4-4. 2 minutes for shared ball handling, 4 minutes for the serving team to have the entire court-4 minutes for the receiving team to have the entire court.

### ***Results and Information***

Complete posting of results and next round of play will be done on the Real Time Results Website located at <http://www.midwestvolleyball.com>. This is the official schedule.

There will be no paper posting of results at any site. Check the internet for all results, or you may use the Results Look up Stations at the Convention Center.

### ***Trainers***

Trainers are on duty at all sites. They will tape players free of charge however you must supply the tape. (They have tape available for \$2.00 per roll if needed.) Players are encouraged to talk with the trainers if they have a problem or question. All injuries should be reported to the trainer at your site.

### ***Team Registration/Sign in***

All teams must check in and leave a phone number where they can be reached Friday evening and Saturday evening. This is very important in case of a major schedule change.

## *ALL Teams*

**Before leaving the site be sure you check carefully your position in the pool. Site Directors will not be held accountable for miscommunications or schedule interpretations. The official tournament posting on the Internet/Results stations are the only source that will be considered should a dispute arise. These results are updated every 7 minutes.**

### *Tournament Seeding*

Seedings for this event were done or confirmed by a National Competition Committee. Any concerns about the seedings should be directed to the National Competition Committee. All of the seeding information supplied to us via Signuptoplay.com by the deadline was available to the Committee for review.

Teams, which supplied incomplete information, or no information, were seeded based on what info was available. In the event of a team dropping, a substitute team may take the dropped team's seed regardless of the substitute team's ranking.

### *How to Read Schedule*

The schedule is broken down into three parts.

The **Pool Charts** which list the teams by pool. Based on your finish in a pool you can determine where your team will go next. All pools are labeled with a heading such as **18OD1P1**, this can be read as **18's Open Division 1 Pool 1**. When you finish play in a pool your positional finish in that pool (1-4) is appended to the pool #. For example finishing 1st in pool 18OD1P1 gives your team the identifier 18OD1P1-1, from this you can look in the pool chart or play off brackets and find your next match.

The **Master Schedules** show you what courts and times each of the pools and play off matches are played. During pool play the Pool # such as 18OD1P1 is at the top of each time slot. During Play-offs, the match number is shown at the top of each time slot. A typical match number would be 180F2M1 which stands for 18 Open Flight 2 Match 2. Also shown on the master schedule are the officiating teams. Check this carefully for Sunday morning officiating assignments.

The **Play-off Brackets** are the final part of the schedule. Each play off match is assigned a match number such as 180F2M1 which stands for 18 Open Flight 2 Match 2. The location and time of that match is shown in the play off bracket and it should also show up on the Master Schedule at the same time and place.

### *Ethics & Eligibility Statement*

This event is part of the USA Volleyball National Championships. Participants, individual or team may access normal "due process" channels should their eligibility to participate be in question. Procedures including appeal options are outlined in the Bylaws of USA Volleyball in Article XI. Bylaws can be found in the current issue of the USAV Official Guidebook. The Guidebook is available through Regional Commissioners or from the USA Volleyball National office, at the event Championship Desk and on the USAV website at <http://www.usavolleyball.org>.

### ***Ethics and Eligibility***

**Event Arbitrators:** Event Arbitrators shall serve as the first level of hearing and resolving ethics and eligibility issues at a specific event. Teams or individuals accused of committing violations of ethics and/or eligibility rules and regulations at qualifying and/or championship events shall meet with the event Arbitrators(s).

The authority for the Event Arbitrator to act begins with the arrival of a team and individual participants in the Championship city, or 48 hours prior to the first day of competition, whichever is earlier, and shall continue through the duration of the Event through its conclusion.

Decisions of the Event Arbitrator shall be conveyed immediately to the affected parties and may be appealed to the Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee appointed for each qualifying and/or championship event of the corporation.

**Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee:** An Event Ethics and Eligibility Appeals Committee shall be formed for each qualifying and championship event sponsored by the Corporation. Each committee shall be composed of three (3) members, one (1) of whom shall meet the definition of the Corporation as a domestic player.

Each committee shall act on appeals of the ethics and eligibility decisions that occur during the conduct of the event. The conduct of the event shall commence when an individual or a team arrives at the site of the event, or forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the first day of competition for that event, whichever is earlier, and shall conclude with the departure of the individual and/or team from the city in which the event has been held.

If the committee is of the opinion the violation is of such a nature that requires further review or more serious discipline, they may file a recommendation with the Member Organization the team/participant represents and/or the USVBA Corporation Ethics and Eligibility Committee for extended disciplinary measures.

### ***USA Volleyball Age Falsification Policy***

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:

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.

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:

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.

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.

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.

### ***Frozen Rosters***

The roster of a team is frozen at the time the team wins a bid in a Qualifier, applies for a bid in an at-large process, or receives a bid through its regional process. Getting a bid defines the team as “qualified” for the JOVC.

All players listed on the roster of a team that qualified for the JOVC may not be on the roster of or play on any other team attempting to qualify for the JOVC. This rule applies regardless of whether the qualifying attempt is in a Qualifier, at a regional event that determines which team(s) are awarded the region's Club bid(s), or through an at-large process. Switching a player from the roster of a qualified team to the roster of a team attempting to qualify will result in sanctions being imposed on the already qualified team, its club, and/or the individual(s) involved.

Likewise, no player may switch from one qualified team to another qualified team, even within the same club.

Under the Frozen Roster Rule, a club may add player(s) to the roster of one of its qualified teams for the JOVC, provided the player(s) added are members of the club and the team from which the players are switching has not qualified for the JOVC. A club may not switch players between two teams that both are qualified for the JOVC. All players added to a roster must be on the roster submitted for at-large bid consideration. The roster is then frozen as of submission for bid consideration.

In addition, once a female junior player has participated in a JOVC qualifying event, she may not participate in another JOVC qualifying or championship event with a different club unless a waiver is granted by the YJOVD Arbitrator and the regions involved.

For any JOVC event, each player is required to wear the same jersey number throughout the entire event, with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications.

Violations of the Frozen Roster Rule will result in sanctions being imposed on the already qualified team, its club, and/or the individual(s) involved, including the player, the coach and the club director. The YJOV Ethics & Eligibility Committee will determine sanctions for violations of the Frozen Roster Rule.

For a first or subsequent offense, the sanctions may be a warning, probation, suspension or expulsion.

Teams may use players who have a waiver from their region for age requirements in any division at a Qualifier that does not have a bid for the JOVC. Teams may NOT use players who have a waiver from their region for age requirements in any division at a Qualifier that has a bid to the JOVC.

## ***USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championship Bid Allocations***

The 2008 Mizuno Northern Lights Qualifier is allocated the following bids:

### **18 Open**

3 bids for the USJOVC 18-Open Division

### **18 Club**

1 bid from the NLQ 18 Club Division for the USJOVC 18 National Club Division

1 bid from the NLQ 18 Club Division for the USJOVC 18 American Club Division

### **17 Open**

3 bids for the USJOVC 17-Open Division

### **17 Club**

1 bid from the NLQ 17 Club Division for the USJOVC 17 National Club Division

1 bid from the NLQ 17 Club Division for the USJOVC 17 American Club Division

### **16 Open**

3 bids for the USJOVC 16-Open Division

### **16 Club**

1 bid from the NLQ 16 Club Division for the USJOVC 16 National Club Division

1 bid from the NLQ 16 Club Division for the USJOVC 16 American Club Division

### **15 Open**

3 bids for the USJOVC 15-Open Division

### **15 Club**

1 bid from the NLQ 15 Club Division for the USJOVC 15 National Club Division

1 bid from the NLQ 15 Club Division for the USJOVC 15 American Club Division

### **14 Open**

3 bids for the USJOVC 14-Open Division

### **14 Club**

1 bid from the NLQ 14 Club Division for the USJOVC 14 National Club Division

1 bid from the NLQ 14 Club Division for the USJOVC 14 American Club Division

### **13 Club**

1 bid from the NLQ 13 Club Division for the USJOVC 13 National Club Division

### **12 Club**

1 bid from the NLQ 12 Club Division for the USJOVC 12 National Club Division

## ***Open Bids***

In the Open divisions of Qualifiers bids may “trickle down” to as low as 6<sup>th</sup> place. Additional matches may be required to determine bid winners. These additional matches may not be known until Day 3 midday. All teams in the Open Divisions are advised to check the Results Computers AFTER the conclusion of Day 3’s Gold 3<sup>rd</sup> round of pool play to determine if there are any additional matches scheduled due to “trickle down”.

To compete in an Open division at JOVC a team must win a bid at a Qualifier or be awarded a bid through the at-large process. To be considered for an at-large Open bid a team must: 1) play in at least one Qualifier in the Open division the team is being considered for, 2) follow its region’s JOVC application process and deadline date, 3) follow the National entry process and established deadline dates. The JOVC Competition Commission will award the at-large Open bid(s) to the strongest team(s) applying for at-large bid consideration, announcing those selections in ten business days, or less, after the finish of the last Qualifier.

At-Large Bids to Open Divisions of the JOVC must be announced on the second Monday after the last Qualifier.

### ***Club Bid (National and American Divisions)***

The Club Division at each Qualifier can potentially award both a National Club JOVC Division bid and an American Club JOVC Division bid. The bids awarded at the Qualifiers have the potential to “trickle down. The lowest finishing team that may win a bid at a Qualifier is the fourth (4th) place team.

The first awarded bid at a Qualifier in the Club Division for any age classification that meets the entry requirements will be a National Club JOVC Division bid. If a Qualifier meets the criteria for a second bid in that age classification the second bid will be an American Club JOVC Division bid. Both bids are subject to the trickle down process defined below.

National Qualifier Trickle down scenarios:

- 1) If a team earns a National Division bid at two Qualifiers the second earned bid will trickle down to no more than the fourth finish.
- 2) If a team earns an American Division bid at a Qualifier then earns a National Division bid at a second Qualifier the American Division bid reverts back to the original event and will trickle down to no further than the fourth finish.
- 3) If a team earns an American Division bid at two Qualifiers the second earned bid will trickle down to no more than the fourth finish.

The pool of National and American Club JOVC Division bids available for reallocation includes bids from regions that do not use all the bids they are originally allocated, as well as Qualifier bids that are not used. Regions get these reallocated bids based on how close the region’s number of junior female registrations from the prior season is to the next membership “benchmark,” relative to other region’s proximity to their next benchmark. The benchmarks are established each year according to the number of junior females registered in each region.

The YJOV Vice President is responsible for approving the reallocation of Club bids. The Events Department will prepare the reallocation formula and the list of bids available in each age classification, notify the regions eligible of any additional bids available to them.

### ***Requirement to Use Bids***

As a general rule of thumb the following applies to all Bid Awards:

- Open Bid Supercedes National and American Division bids
- Qualifier bids supercedes Region bids
- National Division bid supercedes American Division bid
- Once a team earns an Open bid, that team must take the Open bid over any other bid earned.
- At any National Qualifier (NQ) a team earns and accepts an American bid and then attends another NQ and wins a national bid, the team must take the National bid. The original American bid will be returned to the NQ where won and will trickle no further than the 4<sup>th</sup> place at that NQ. If none of the eligible team(s) accept the trickle down bid, that bid will be added to the Region Re-Allocation process.
- If a team earns and accepts a National Division bid at a qualifier and earns a Region’s American Division bid, the team must take the National Division bid. The American Division bid will stay with that region and their bid process.
- If a team earns an American Division bid at a National Qualifier and earns a Region’s National Division bid. The team must take the National Division bid. The American division bid will go back to the qualifier trickle-down process. If none of the eligible team(s) accept the trickle down bid, the bid will be added to the Region Re-Allocation process.
- If a team wins either a National Division or American Division at a Qualifier and an Open bid, either from a Qualifier or through the at-large process, the team must use the Open bid. The

National or American Division bid will be offered to the next highest finishing team at the Qualifier at which the team originally won the Club bid (down to the fourth place team). If no team from the Qualifier accepts the bid, it will be returned to the pool of Region Club bids to be reallocated.

If an Open team that earns a bid or is awarded an at-large Open bid does not participate in the JOVC in the division in which it won the bid, that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams will be suspended from participating in all national qualifying events for the following season.

If a Club team that accepts a National or American Club JOVC Division bid at a Qualifier and does not participate in the JOVC in the division in which it won the bid will be subject to sanctions imposed by the YJOVD Ethics and Eligibility Committee. The team shall lose their entry fee. Additionally, there may be added financial penalties and potentially additional suspension(s) of that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams from participating in all national qualifying events for the following season.

If a Club team that accepts a National or American Club JOVC Division bid from a Region and does not participate in the JOVC in the division in which it won the bid, that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams will be subject to their Region sanctions and may face additional sanctions imposed by the YJOVD Ethics and Eligibility Commission. The team shall lose their entry fee. Additionally, there may be added financial penalties and potentially additional suspension(s) of that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams from participating in all national qualifying events for the following season.

### ***Team Forfeitures***

If a team forfeits a match, the forfeit will be considered intentional, unless the team shows good cause for the forfeit. A team that intentionally forfeits a match will be excluded from further participation in that Qualifier. This Qualifier will report all forfeits to the JOVC Competition Committee and the USAV Events Department.

If a team intentionally forfeits a match in the Gold Level during the third round of pool play in an Open division or during the playoff bracket matches in a Club division, the team's sanction will be the same as the sanction for rejecting a bid: that team, its coaches, its club director and all its club's teams will be suspended from participating in all national qualifying events for the following season. The Qualifier Ethics and Eligibility Committee will determine if good cause exists.

### ***Protest Procedure***

If a protest needs to be filed it is to be done at the time of the incident, no later. The first referee is obligated to acknowledge and record all protests. Only the floor captain may file a protest. (The exception to this is with the 14 & under, 13 & under, and 12 & under age divisions, where the rostered team coach may act instead of the game captain.) The protest must be written on the score sheet by the official scorekeeper or the first official, and must be signed by the person presenting the protest as well as the first official. All protests will be ruled upon prior to the next service. Judgment calls may not be protested. Protests will be considered only for situations outlined in the United States Volleyball Official Rules booklet. The protest committee will handle all protests.

### ***Thanks***

Thank you for attending the Mizuno Northern Lights Qualifier and best of luck in the tournament.