



BAYOU REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

Junior male participation in BayouRVA junior events policy

At the 2011 BayouRVA Board of Directors' meeting it was adopted:

- USAV member BRVA registered junior males are allowed to participate in BRVA sanctioned USAV junior events up to an including the 14's division;
 - The age division of 14 was selected because the net height for junior boys increases from the current 7'4-1/8" for junior girls and boys 13&above to 7'11-5/8" for junior males 15&up;
- Teams with junior males on its roster must compete in the appropriate next higher age division in any event which includes junior male divisions.

The Bayou Region junior male eligibility policy was adopted to:

- Provide opportunities for junior males to participate within the structure of junior volleyball in the BayouRVA;
- Encourage clubs to include junior males as their customers possibly leading to creating junior male teams;
- Encourage BayouRVA sanctioned USAV events to include and promote junior male divisions.

Junior males and females classified by the USAV Age Definition as 14&under may participate in any BayouRVA sanctioned USAV junior competition event regardless if there are no other junior male or female teams registered for the event.

- The team may consist of all junior males or junior females;
 - Or mostly junior females and one or more junior males (a 'co-ed' team),
 - Or mostly junior males and one or more junior females (a 'co-ed' team),
 - Official USAV Co-ed rules do not apply for junior 'co-ed' teams in these circumstances.
- The team must compete in the age division for which the oldest player on the team qualifies.
 - If a team with one or more junior females on its roster qualifies to play in an age division above 14s, a junior male may be included on the roster if the junior male qualifies for 14 & under;
 - Any team with junior males listed on its roster which wins a BayouRVA sanctioned USAV 'junior female' event must play up one age division in all future region sanctioned 'junior female' events including the BayouRVA Championships. (Adopted 2012 BayouRVA BOD).
 - This rule applies for any division a junior 'co-ed' team competes.
 - Example: A 14's teams which has junior males on its roster and was required to play in the 15's division because of success in the lower age division would then have to move up again to 16's IF it wins the 15's division in that event.
 - This escalation of age divisions would continue all the way up to 18's. (Theoretically that means a team with eligible 14&under junior males on its roster could be required to play in the 18's division of a 'junior female' tournament.)
 - Any team with a junior male on its roster must play in the next higher age division should the event not offer the age division for which that team would qualify. (Example: For an event that only offers

12, 14, 16 age divisions, a team with a junior male on the roster which would qualify for 13's would have to play 14's.)

- By extension a 14's team with a roster that includes junior males and was already required to 'play up' in the 15's division (due to past success in lower age divisions) would have to play in the 16's division of that particular event.

Additional considerations:

- A team applying the BayouRVA junior male participation policy is **ineligible** to compete to earn any USAV National bid to attend either the Junior Female or Junior Male USAV National Championships.
- The BayouRVA junior male participation policy is in effect for ONLY BayouRVA sanctioned USAV junior events
 - Teams participating in USAV sanctioned events outside the Bayou Region must contact and abide by the host region rules regarding junior males on a team.
- Teams with junior males on its roster must consider the best age division for that team instead of being forced to play in a higher age division by The Region rule which would require them to do so anyway.
 - A team with one or more junior males which may be a dominant player in their actual age division should consider playing in a higher age division.
 - This will promote good sportsmanship and may help in keeping junior males participating if there are not junior male clubs/teams organized.

This policy may be altered through the BayouRVA BOD during its annual meeting. Specific rule suggestions may be made through any BayouRVA BOD member but ideally should come through either our current Director of Junior Girls Development, Director of Junior Boys Development and or At-Large Representative(s).

