



# REGION REF BULLETIN

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## Shift to positive behavior by fans in sports must occur to retain officials

The National Federation of State High School Associations, the governing body of organizations such as the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association, offers this video as a reminder to fans, participants and officials.

NFHS CEO Karissa Niehoff says the boorish behavior of fans who attend sporting events is being normalized and even encouraged. A shift to positive behavior by fans in high school sports must occur if officials are going to be retained. Parents and other fans must come to high school games to cheer for their team's players -- not against the officials or opponents.

[Click here](#) to see the video message from Niehoff and how it impacts all sports — including ours.

## Spring/summer and USAV 'off-season' opportunities

After Badger Region Championships ended the first weekend in April, there are significantly fewer USAV Badger Region sanctioned events.

For a good number of Badger officials, this is the time their season winds down. For other officials, this is the time they extend their season and ramp up for some significant national tournaments. For every official, there are several growth opportunities and prep for other seasons that can occur in the spring/summer.

### Some tips and opportunities below:

\* Keep your ZebraWeb up to date for the few remaining Badger Region events. You can even look out to the *next* USAV season and block any known dates.

\* Look for opportunities outside of the Badger Region, including lots of Pre-National events in surrounding states

\* Several non-USAV sanctioned events often extend deeper in the season (May, June) and provide additional experiences, in state and out of state.

\* Boys and Girls Nationals are traditionally in June and July. These are required for National and Junior National officials but Regional officials are welcomed and considered during shortages.

### Other "USAV Off-season" opportunities:

\* The USAV Academy online modules are a great resource to prep for any National events, as well as a self-paced season debrief for topics you came across during the USAV season.

\* WIAA, Wisconsin High School, officials registration is "open". Taking care of business early provides training and assignment opportunities. NFHS, the national high school umbrella organization provides some on-line training and rule interpretations. There are several high school volleyball associations that provide local training.

\* PAVO, Professional Association of Volleyball Officials, is a national organization that provides on-line training and on-court and classroom training delivered through a local board. PAVO is geared toward the NCAA, but there are many transferable skills and resources.



## NEWS FROM THE BADGER REGION OFFICE:

USA Volleyball has sent a new supply of **officials patches** to the Badger Region office.

If you recently advanced to a new level of officiating and did not receive your patch, please send us a reminder at [membership@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:membership@badgervolleyball.org).

If you have lost your patch, one can also be sent to you as a replacement. If you are in need of a USAV Rulebook (DCR), TAG U R I T tags or any other officiating needs, please don't hesitate to reach out.

### Safe the dates

The Badger Region will be hosting one of its marquee events (**the Badger Region Championships**) the following dates in downtown Milwaukee in 2023: March 11-

12, March 17-18, and March 25-26.

Fill out your [interest survey here](#).

More dates for other Badger Region events will be announced soon.

### Reporting sanctions

The Badger Region is working to track when officials are administering red cards at Badger Region-sanctioned events. **Officials are encouraged to report their violations** and bookmark the form by [clicking here](#).

The goal of this initiative is to work with clubs, directors and coaches to educate reduce the need for sanctions among the repeat offenders.

Have ideas for future Ref Bulletins? email [membership@badgervolleyball.org](mailto:membership@badgervolleyball.org).