

Dear AAU Referee,

Feb 12, 2019

The 46<sup>th</sup> AAU National Volleyball Championships will continue with all level of tournaments having a 4-day format. In 2019, there will be three separate 4-day sessions. During the first and second sessions, all 175+ courts will be used. During the last 4 day session, only 75 courts will be used. The AAU tournament finishes very close to the end of some other summer tournaments. Check the dates of all events very carefully taking into consideration travel times and pre-tournament meetings before you register to work.

## **AAU Dates of Play:**

### **Monday June 17 – Friday June 28**

For specific tournament levels of play, see [www.aausports.org](http://www.aausports.org)

1<sup>st</sup> session – MO June 17 – TH June 20

2<sup>nd</sup> session – FR June 21 – MO June 24

3<sup>rd</sup> session – TU June 25 – FR June 28 (priority given to National/Junior National officials and candidates)

A MANDATORY pre-tournament officials meeting will be conducted on the night prior to the start of each 4 day session. You must attend a clinic before you start to officiate. When making your travel plans, please make sure you allow enough time to get from the airport to the meeting site. You should allow at least 2 hours from the time your plane lands until you arrive at the hotel (or convention center).

### **Mandatory Pre-Tournament Officials Clinics**

- **Sunday June 16 (9:00 pm) (Puerto Rican meeting – 8:00 pm)**
  - o (makeup clinic for those who do not arrive in time will be on MO June 17 - 9:00 am at the convention center)

or

- **TH June 20 (5:00 pm) – (convention center)**

or

- **MO June 24 (5:00 pm) – (convention center)**

I will need approx. 450 referees in the first 2 sessions. I need only 200 referees in the third session. You may register to work one or two 4-day sessions, but you cannot register to work all three sessions.

**MULTIPLE SESSIONS** - I know some of you want to (think you can) work all 3 sessions, but I will not accept anyone for 3 sessions until after I have filled the first 2 sessions. So acceptances for the third session might not be sent until May (or after). You may check the box and I will ask you again if you are still willing and able to work the 3<sup>rd</sup> session, but a third session option is not guaranteed for anyone.

I'm sure I will be able to accept most of you who register for the first 2 sessions. But please understand that in some cases I might only be able to accept you for one session or the other. You may share this invitation with your friends.

If you want to work sessions 2 and 3, please complete the registration form for session 2 and then send me a message regarding the registration form for the 3<sup>rd</sup> session.

When you register to work the event and make your travel plans, keep in mind the dates of other tournaments you are planning to attend. And keep in mind my need to cover all finals, etc., which means you should NOT make travel arrangements to leave Orlando before 5 pm on the final day.

### **USA GJNC SCHEDULE (TH June 27 – SA July 6) – Indianapolis**

USAV only takes a limited number of referees for the first day of the GJNC. The rest of the schedule may be found on the USA Volleyball website.

### **Rating sessions and camps:**

\*PREMIER TRAINING CAMP (June 30 – July 2) - Indianapolis

\*JUNIOR NATIONAL REFEREE RATING SESSION (July 3– July 4)\* - Indianapolis

\*NATIONAL REFEREE RATINGS will be held at the Girls 18's JNC in Dallas April 26-28.

**USA Boys Junior Nationals (Dallas) does not start until SU June 30 (through SU July 7).**

The **Volleyball Festival** in Phoenix is from TH June 27 through SU June 30.

## **AAU MEMBERSHIP**

All referees who work at the AAU National Championships must be AAU members. Just as it is with any other organization, you must be a member of that organization in order to work events for that organization (ie your state high school association, PAVO, USAV, etc). BEFORE you can register to officiate at this event, you must register as an AAU member. A background screen is performed as part of the membership process. Go to [www.aausports.org](http://www.aausports.org) and click on the "Join AAU" box. You will register as a Youth program/non-athlete. The membership fee is \$16, which includes your background screen and insurance.

You may call the AAU office to register if needed. Call them at 407-934-7200 and ask for membership. They have Spanish speaking representatives who can assist you.

You MUST register as an AAU member before you can register to officiate. An AAU membership is good from September 1 through August 31 of the following year.

## **REGISTRATION**

**I am using the same registration system as last year. Deadline to register is March 15.**

The link to the registration form is posted on my website – omnevb.net under the AAU tab. You will be able to register for specific days that you want to work, but you will only be accepted for a full 4 day session. Your acceptance will be posted in a separate document on my website. You can make your travel arrangements as soon as you see that you have been accepted. To register, you must know or have:

- A CURRENT 2019 AAU MEMBERSHIP

- AN ARBITERPAY NUMBER (if you do not live in the United States and do not have a US bank account, let me know and I can make alternate arrangements for payment.) An instructional sheet on how to register for an ArbiterPay account is posted on the omnevb.net website under the AAU National Championships tab.

**IF EITHER OF THOSE TWO FIELDS ARE INCORRECT, YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE DELETED, AND YOU CAN REGISTER AGAIN ONCE YOU HAVE THOSE 2 NUMBERS.**

Other information about the tournament will be emailed and then will be posted on my website.

## **UNIFORM**

The USAV referee uniform will be worn; white certified polo (and on certain days, the new USAV gray or blue shirts, if you own one), navy pants, white socks and white shoes. USAV approved outerwear may be worn, as well as the white AAU sweatshirts or AAU jackets. You will receive a couple of shirts from the tournament that will be worn on specific days.

## **TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS**

When making your arrival arrangements into Orlando (airport code – MCO), plan at least one hour after your plane touches down before you LEAVE the airport. It is **at least** ½ hour travel time from the airport to the hotel and at least ½ hour to get your bags at baggage claim.

When making your departure arrangements, you must allow for a minimum of 2½ - 3 hours before your scheduled departure time to be at the airport. Security lines are long at the Orlando airport almost any time of the day (the only exception I've found is sometimes at 6 am). You must allow at least ½ hour travel time to the airport and 1 – 1½ hours to get through security and to your gate. You should not plan to leave Orlando before 5 pm on the final day of the session.

You can fly into the Sanford airport (SFB), but keep in mind that airport is approx. 50 miles from the hotel and you are responsible for obtaining transportation from the airport to the hotel.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation to and from the airport is NOT provided. There are several shuttle services available at the airport. A discount coupon and further details for a shuttle service will be provided later. Uber/LYFT is available in Orlando, and will pick up at the airport.

Transportation during the tournament IS provided. There is a bus service that takes referees from the hotel to the convention center and a van service that returns you in the evening to the hotel. Transportation to the Disney complex is provided through AAU arranged vans. There may be times when your referee schedule will require you to arrive at your site earlier than you wish for your first match or wait for transportation after the conclusion of your last match. Uber or Lyft between the convention center and the hotel is generally less than \$10. You can always make your own arrangements if

you want to arrive/leave at a time when transportation is not running—and you can probably find another referee to ride with you and share the cost.

### **OPTIONAL R2 CLINIC**

Since most of us do not get to practice our R2 skills very often throughout the season, sometimes it's good to be reminded about the correct procedures. An optional R2 clinic will be held at the hotel on Sunday June 16, starting at 2:00 pm.

### **OPTIONAL REFEREE ADVANCEMENT MEETING (formerly for JNC Referee Candidates)**

For many years, Corny Galdones has hosted an optional meeting for referees that will be Junior National Referee candidates at the upcoming Girls Junior National Championships. But so many non-candidates attended, we changed the name to 'Referee Advancement'.

At this meeting, some insight into the rating process will be shared. You will also learn the latest USAV techniques and procedures. You can then use this information to benefit your experience at AAU, to enhance your performance at GJNC or if you are planning to advance your certification level in the future. This meeting is open to anyone and is not limited just to candidates. The meeting will be held at 3:30 pm on Sunday June 16 at the hotel. If you want to attend, please make your travel arrangements accordingly.

### **FIRST TIME ATTENDEES MEETING**

If you are new to this tournament, there will be a meeting especially for you to figure out the logistics of transportation, championship desks, referee lounge areas, etc. This meeting will start at 5:00 pm at the hotel. Further information will be sent in future correspondence. This meeting is not mandatory but is strongly suggested for first-time attendees.

### **\*\* NEW \*\* This year \*\* REFEREE TRAINING CAMP\*\***

A referee training camp will be offered. The camp will be 2 days in length. The camp will be held TU June 18 and WE June 19. The camp will be limited to officials who primarily work AAU tournaments. Referees who have a current USAV Junior National rating or are a Junior National candidate are not eligible. There will be a classroom session, followed by observations by trained raters/observers. In addition to observation matches, campers will have an opportunity to work at least one or two matches with a trainer as their partner. Referees will not be paid for the matches they work during the camp. Referees will still be housed during this time. To apply for this fantastic opportunity, click on the link on the omnevb.net website (under the AAU National tournament tab). The camp will be limited to 12 referees. The cost for the camp will be \$50. You will not be accepted for the camp until the registration fee is paid.

### **BOYS AAU TOURNAMENT**

FR June 21 – SU June 23

Currently registered and accepted referees will be assigned to work at the AAU Boys National Championships. Preference will be given to Junior National Referee candidates. The boys tournament will be held at the convention center this year. We know everyone wants to work the boys' tournament—please DO NOT send a special request to be assigned to the boy's tournament.

### **HOTEL**

We will be staying at the Sheraton Lake Buena Vista Spa and Resort (12205 S Apopka Vineland Rd, Orlando) again this year. Each room has a refrigerator in the dresser beneath the TV.

**IF YOU ARE NOT COMING EARLY OR STAYING LONGER, DO NOT MAKE A HOTEL RESERVATION!!! IF YOU WANT YOUR ROOM TO BE PAID BY AAU, DO NOT MAKE A HOTEL RESERVATION. THE LINK BELOW IS ONLY IF YOU ARE PAYING FOR AN EARLY OR LATE STAY.**

### **\*NEW HOUSING POLICY THIS YEAR\***

All requested family rooms will be charged at \$79 per night this year. Family suites are at a slightly higher cost. Payment for family rooms will be deducted from your final pay. At officials check-in, you will receive a document noting the amount that will be deducted from your payment. Referees who brought their spouse in the past must contact me for special instructions.

**\*\*All AAU paid for housing will begin on SU June 16 and will end with checkout on SA June 29. If you want to arrive early or stay later, you must make your own housing arrangements. You can either find housing somewhere else in the city or you can request a room at the Sheraton. If you want to arrive early at the Sheraton or stay later, you can make online reservations yourself or call the reservation line at the hotel directly 407-550-1028 and reference code APP. They will set you up with a separate reservation. Please be prepared to supply a credit card for the reservation.**

You must check out of this reservation to check into your AAU covered room. You might (or MIGHT NOT) have the same room for your AAU stay. This is out of my control and the control of the hotel. Please do not cause a disturbance if the hotel cannot accommodate a request from you to stay in the same room. I'm sure they will do what they can to assist you.

AAU 2019 Pre & Post Stays  
Start Date: Friday, June 10, 2019  
End Date: Friday, July 2, 2019  
Last Day to Book: May 11, 2019

The Hotel is offering your special group rate:

- Sheraton Orlando Lake Buena Vista Resort for 79 USD - 104 USD per night
- RESORT FEE WAIVED (There is a note when you register that a resort fee of \$27.95 is charged on the reservation, but I have been assured that the fee will not be charged for your stay. The hotel cannot take those words off the screen.)
- Cutoff: May 11, 2019

[Book your group rate for AAU 2019 Pre & Post Stays](#)

(If the link does not open, go to the link that is posted on my website).

### **ROOMMATES**

Please choose a roommate who will be attending the same sessions as you. You can view a list of attendees on the omnevb.net website. If do not have a specific request, an appropriate match will be assigned.

### **SCOREKEEPING**

You must be proficient at keeping score in order to attend this tournament. If you do not know how to keep score, there is a scoring module posted on [aauvolleyball.org](http://aauvolleyball.org) (under the Rules tab). I hope you take time to watch this module.

### **LOGISTICS**

- You will be provided with a hotel room shared with another referee for each day that you work.
- Pay is \$27 per match for Provisionals/Regionals and \$30 for National and Junior Nationals.
- You will always have a certified official as your partner on all matches.
- Transportation from the hotel to the playing sites will be provided.
- Transportation from the airport to the hotel will NOT be provided.

If you are new to this tournament and are unfamiliar with all the tournament procedures, please read the AAU General Information document on my website at <http://www.omnevb.net/aau-national-championships.html>. Further information about uniforms and transportation shuttle coupon will be sent later.

If you have any questions about the registration process or the tournament in general, please submit them in writing to [suemvb@cox.net](mailto:suemvb@cox.net). It's helpful for me to keep a written copy of my responses to you.

Thank you for your interest in AAU Volleyball and I look forward to your participation,

**SUE MAILHOT**

[www.omnevb.net](http://www.omnevb.net) [suemvb@cox.net](mailto:suemvb@cox.net)

402-598-4782 (cell) (please do not call, but text or email if possible)

- Registration opens Jan 28
- Registration closes Mar 15
- Referee can register for 2 sessions
- Referees for the first session should arrive SU June 16 before 4 pm
- On-site officials registration will be open on SU June 16 from 9 am – 5 pm
- (optional) R2 clinic – SU June 16 2:00 pm
- (optional) Referee Advancement meeting – SU June 16 3:30 pm
- First time attendees – SU June 16 5:00 pm
- Attendance at Opening ceremonies SU June 16 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- Puerto Rican referee meeting – SU June 16 8:00 pm
- Mandatory ALL referee meeting – SU June 16 9:00 pm