

Dear AAU Referee,

March 18, 2021

The 48th AAU National Volleyball Championships in 2021 will continue in the same format - three consecutive, 4-day separate sessions. As of this date, it is expected that the number of courts will be similar for all 3 sessions at approximately 130 courts (200 referees per session). It is anticipated that in addition to using the North and South A/B halls, some courts could be in the West concourse. The courts at Disney will probably not be used this year.

REFEREE REGISTRATION

Referee registration will be on AES (advancedeventsystems.com) this year. Look for 2021 AAU Ntnl Chmpshp REFEREES ONLY

Three separate sessions are listed:

- 2021 AAU Ntnl Chmpshp REFEREES ONLY ses 1
- 2021 AAU Ntnl Chmpshp REFEREES ONLY ses 2
- 2021 AAU Ntnl Chmpshp REFEREES ONLY ses 2

You can register for any session(s) that you want but will only be selected for one or two sessions. Many of you have already registered. You do not need to register again.

Only ONE referee will be used on each match this year. Approximately 200 referees will be used in each session. So the number of referees needed this year will be ½ of what has been used in previous years.

There will be covid regulations in place, such as mask wearing, etc. but I do not know what they will be until closer to the event.

You MUST have a current 2021 AAU MEMBERSHIP to register on AES.

REFEREE REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE ON APRIL 10. Referee acceptances and declines will be sent no later than April 30. All registrants will be considered for participation. Referees will be selected by groups and could be randomly drawn from that group depending on the number of applications. Groups could include; certification levels, those who have attended regularly in the past, candidates for certification upgrades this summer, first time attendees, etc. Registering for one session only does not give you anymore priority for that session than any other referee.

After you are accepted, you will be requested to complete an additional information form noting your travel info and your ARBITERPAY NUMBER, which is how you will be paid. 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.

AAU Dates of Play:

For specific tournament levels of play, see www.aauvolleyball.org

1st session – FR June 18 – MO June 21 (pre-tournament meeting on TH June 17)

2nd session – TU June 22 – FR June 25 (pre-tournament meeting on MO June 21)

3rd session – SA June 26 – TU June 29

Referees must check in at AAU referee registration before 8 pm on the day prior to your start date. When making your travel plans, please allow at least 2 hours from the time your plane lands until you arrive at the hotel meeting site (or the convention center).

Mandatory Pre-Tournament Officials Clinics

- **Thursday June 17 (8:00 pm) – (hotel) only for those accepted to work in the first session**
- **Monday June 21 (7:30 pm) – (convention center)**
- **Friday June 25 (7:30 pm) – (convention center)**

You can only register to work an entire 4 day session. It is NOT possible to only work part of a session. 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 and make your travel plans. 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 (SA June 26 – MO July 5) – Las Vegas

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.

GJNC Rating sessions and camps:

*PREMIER TRAINING CAMP (TU June 29 – TH July 1) – Las Vegas

*JUNIOR NATIONAL REFEREE RATING SESSION (FR July 2– SU July 4) – Las Vegas

USA Boys Junior Nationals (Kansas City) is WE June 30 - WE July 7

The **Volleyball Festival** in Phoenix is from WE June 30 through SA July 3.

AAU MEMBERSHIP

All referees who work at the AAU National Championships must be AAU members. **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 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.

An AAU membership is good from September 1 through August 31 of the following year.

For additional referee information regarding the tournament, refer to the Referee Information document located on omnevb.net under the AAU National Championships tab.

UNIFORM

The USAV referee uniform will be worn; white certified polo (and on certain days, the 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

DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL AFTER YOU ARE ACCEPTED! When making your arrival arrangements into Orlando (airport code – MCO), allow for two hours from when your plane lands to when you arrive at the hotel. Baggage claim in Orlando is very slow and traffic is always heavy between the airport and the hotel.

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. You should not plan to leave Orlando before 5 pm on the final day of the session. **Having CLEAR or TSA Pre √ helps to speed up the process when going through security.**

You can fly into the Sanford airport (SFB), but it is approx. 50 miles from the hotel with limited transportation options you must arrange for yourself.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to and from the airport is NOT provided. There are several shuttle services available at the Orlando 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 between the hotel and playing venues IS provided. A bus service takes referees from the hotel to the convention center and a van service returns you in the evening to the hotel. 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.

HOTEL

The hotel is the Sheraton Lake Buena Vista Spa and Resort (12205 S Apopka Vineland Rd, Orlando). A shared hotel room (with another referee) will be provided for each working official. Roommate requests will be honored. Each room has a refrigerator in the dresser beneath the TV. Your hotel reservation will start on the day prior to your tournament start date and will end on the final day of the tournament (or the following day).

ROOMMATES

After you are accepted, you will be sent a list of other accepted referees for that session. You can choose a roommate at that time. If do not have a specific request, an appropriate match will be assigned.

HOUSING POLICY

All requested family rooms will be charged at no less than \$80 per night this year. Family suites are at a slightly higher cost. Payment for family rooms will be deducted from your final pay. At official's 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. I do not know the exact price yet for additional nights or family rooms.

****All AAU paid for housing will begin on the day prior to your first day of officiating and will end with checkout on the last night of your assigned tournament date. If you live more than 3 hours from Orlando or use airline transportation to get to Orlando, you can stay on the finals night at no charge. 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.**

Early/late stay information for the Sheraton will be posted as soon as I have it.

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 (under the Rules tab). I hope you take time to watch this module.

LOGISTICS SUMMARY

- You will be provided with a hotel room shared with another referee for each day that you work.
- Referee pay will be \$32 for National/Jr Nationals and \$28 for all others.
- You will also receive some VIK (AAU shirts and jacket).
- 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 specific 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 omnevb@gmail.com. It's helpful for me to keep a written copy of my responses to you.

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

SUE MAILHOT

www.omnevb.net omnevb@gmail.com

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

