



COLUMBIA EMPIRE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

Junior Girls Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 28, 2026 – 6:00 PM via Zoom

Members Present

Michael Brown, Emma Adams, Alicia Provost, Rainey Shriver, Kindell Souders, Cara Freeman (at 6:29)

Members Absent

Charlie Rosa, Adam Ellis

Guests Present

None

Staff Present

Cody March

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Cody March
- There were no guests present at roll call.
- A quorum was present at roll call.
- No changes were made to the agenda presented.
- Emma Adams was introduced to the committee as a new member.

Bid Tournament

- The committee reviewed a brief policy update that would prohibit teams who have already earned an Open Bid from participating in CEVA's Bid Tournament. There were no requested changes to the policy presented.
 - The policy will be included in next season's Junior Girls' Handbook, and the committee will have a chance to review & approve the Handbook prior to full implementation.
- The committee discussed scenarios where the region receives additional bids but all eight teams from a certain bid tournament division have already accepted bids or have declined the opportunity. Staff is requesting feedback on who should be "next in line" in this scenario.
 - Committee consensus was to offer extra bids to teams on the waitlist from the Bid Tournament, in the order that they were on the waitlist at the time of the tournament. Essentially the "9th" team would have the first right of refusal.
 - **Action Item:** Cody to draft policy language and share with committee at or before the next meeting.

Season Review

- The committee discussed and reviewed the recently concluded season:
 - Open PLQ being two days was viewed positively.
 - The change to the Open format on Day 2 at Regionals was seen as a good change.
 - Having events at Expo was positive and allowed more teams to be in one place. The staff noted it would be difficult to run Power League without Expo.
 - The new rules (e.g., extra subs, "no doubles") were viewed positively and the committee expressed thanks to the officials' cadre for their work this season.

- The new format for 12s (4 team pools, one crossover) was viewed positive and the committee felt it didn't unnecessarily lengthen tournament days.
- Regionals – committee discussed Olympus vs. Expo and opportunities to put 12s teams at Olympus in the future.
- We need more education about Sport Court rules, particularly early in the season, if we continue to hold events at Expo.
- The staff dealt with several instances of clubs dropping from tournaments at the last minute, causing additional work. The committee discussed dates of schedule releases, qualifier date conflicts, and other logistics.
- Age Waivers
 - There continues to be many age waivers submitted prior to each season. While most are necessary, the staff is asking the committee to consider potential policy updates that will reduce the need for age waivers.
 - Discussion points: moving the deadline for waivers to earlier in the season, add language to the Letter of Commitment about age waivers, and adding stricter language about subsequent communications from clubs after they've had a waiver denied by the region.
- 12s Division – “Score Table Helper” policy
 - Committee consensus was this policy continues to help the 12s division and should remain in the place.
 - Need stronger language for teams who fail to abide by the policy. Also need clearer admission policies for these individuals.
 - **Action Item:** Cody to draft and share at or before next meeting

Summer Tryouts

- Brief results of the parent/stakeholder survey were shared. We only received a small sampling of responses and the results were roughly split 50/50.
 - There continues to be misconceptions about tryouts from our stakeholders. The committee discussed increasing communications around tryout policies in the lead-up to the season and making communications easily digestible.
- The staff will be arranging three small forum-style meetings for club administrators to discuss the pros and cons of summer tryouts with the staff and committee members.
 - **Action Items:**
 - Cody to share a list of respondents to the club admin survey with the committee.
 - Cody to set dates & times of meetings (proposed dates were shared)
 - Cody will reach out to survey respondents to gauge interest in attending meetings.
- Committee members attending nationals or other events this summer were asked to speak with coaches and admins from other regions to see what lessons could be learned from their tryout policies.
- It was noted that it's unlikely the region will ever see a large majority opinion on either side of the issue, but it's important that our stakeholders have a chance to be heard and their perspectives can be used to shape future discussions.

General Updates

- The staff shared updates regarding the new USAV MMS and the region's EMS provider.

Good of the Order

- None

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, July 22, 2026 – 6:00 PM

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.