



COLUMBIA EMPIRE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

Junior Girls Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 22, 2026 – 6:00 PM

Members Present

Kindell Souders, Emma Adams, Rainey Shriver, Cara Freeman

Members Absent

Alicia Provost, Charlie Rosa, Adam Ellis, Michael Brown

Guests Present

None

Staff Present

Cody March, Callie Wilkins

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Cody March
- A quorum was **not present** at roll call, nor did a quorum form during the meeting.
- No guests were present at roll call.
- No changes were made to the agenda, which was previously shared.

Junior Girls' Handbook

- The current draft of the upcoming season's CEVA Junior Girls' Handbook was shared previously with the committee.
- Three policies were added based on previous committee conversation:
 - Updates to the recruiting policy to remove unenforceable provisions.
 - Updates to the Bid Tournament policies around teams with previously earned Open Bids and bid offerings beyond the eight participating tournament teams.
- **Two policies require further action from the committee (no votes can occur without quorum):**
 - Staff proposal – modifications to the age waiver policy to either limit waivers to one per team, and/or limit waivers to non-HS aged players.
 - Committee members in attendance discussed both options. It was noted that exceptions to the policy could still be made.
 - The staff would also like to place more emphasis on players finding age-appropriate options without having to ask for an age waiver.
- Other changes highlighted:
 - New policy regarding falsification of age or identity
 - New invoicing and late fee policies that allow the region to remove teams/clubs from Power League for unpaid dues.
 - New officiating assignments for Power League:
 - The region plans to assign R1's to all age-specific Power Leagues in Flight 1 and Flight 2, and plans to assign R2's to Open Flight 1.
 - Note – this comes with a cost increase and R2's double the region's (and teams') costs, but feedback from clubs has indicated they are willing to pay these fees to make it so their coaches don't have to officiate.

2026-2027 Schedule

- A draft of the region's schedule was shared with the agenda packet.
- No changes were requested to the schedule.
- Staff discussed three main tenants for building this year's schedule:
 - Expo Center and anchor facility prioritization for scheduling large divisions.
 - Early end for Open Power League, allowing those teams to maximize qualifier opportunities.
 - Minimization of qualifier conflicts for other teams, though this has become increasingly complicated since some qualifiers still haven't published firm age division date assignments.

Summer Tryouts

- Staff gave a review of the first two summer tryout forums – the first didn't happen because no club administrators showed up, but the second one featured a healthy exchange of perspectives.
 - Members who attended the second forum were asked to share their thoughts with the committee. Many items were brought forward, including concerns about the sustainability of small clubs, burnout, increased costs for coaches & training, etc.
 - Members also noted that many clubs are already training year-round via open gyms, camps, and clinics. These are opportunities to "evaluate" players without simply calling the sessions "evaluations."
 - The region still has a majority small clubs, according to data. However, some small clubs are being bought out by big clubs to reduce competition.
- Staff requested the committee meet in August to make a firm decision on summer tryouts. The staff also requested that the committee either move forward or table the topic for the foreseeable future.

Fall Educational Meetings

- Staff will be hosting three meetings in the fall for new club directors and for general Q/A about Power League. It was requested that at least one committee member attend these meetings.
 - It was noted that many new clubs start small, and to help those clubs succeed, it would be beneficial if they had a resource in the committee to communicate questions or issues.
- Staff will gauge committee members' availability as those meetings get closer.

Good of the Order

- Staff shared that the region will be making a change for their indoor event management platform and an announcement will hopefully be shared with the region next week.
 - Staff are still working on how results upload for national seeding & At-Large berth consideration would work.

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, August 12, 2026 – 5:00 PM
- Monday, December 14, 2026 – TBA (PL Seeding)

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM.

