



www.aauvolleyball.org

43rd AAU GIRLS' JUNIOR NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

June 18-26, 2016

**ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at the Walt Disney World® Resort
and the Orange County Convention Center**

Orlando, Florida

PRE-EVENT MANUAL



Official Volleyball of the AAU



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REGISTRATION DEADLINES AND INFORMATION

ENTER EARLY AND SAVE! The entry fee is \$795 per team for entries received by 11:59 pm EST on March 1, 2016. For entries received between March 2, 2016 and May 10, 2016 at 11:59 pm EST, the entry fee is \$895 per team. All teams will be accepted into the Championships on a first-come, first-served basis according to date of receipt, until divisions are full. It is possible for divisions to fill prior to the deadline, so get your entry in early!

For complete registration information, please review the entire Pre-Event Manual and the Registration Checklist at www.aauvolleyball.org.

March 1, 2016

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) <u>Early Entry Discount of \$795 per team</u> | Must be completed online by 11:59 pm EST or received by mail on or by March 1, 2016 |
|---|---|

YOU WILL NEED YOUR NON-ATHLETE MEMBERSHIP AND CLUB MEMBERSHIP BEFORE REGISTERING FOR THE EVENT. MEMBERSHIP IS NO LONGER INSTANT. PLAN AHEAD AND REGISTER FOR MEMBERSHIP EARLY!

May 10, 2016

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| (1) Entry Fee of \$895 per team | Must be completed online by 11:59 pm EST or received by mail on or by May 10, 2016 |
| (2) Team Roster | Must be completed online |
| (3) Seeding Information | Must be completed online |
| (4) Tournament Results | Must be completed online at AES and/or AAU |

June 1, 2016

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Team Roster for College Recruiters
<i>The rosters for ages 14-18 as of this date will be submitted to college recruiters. Please be sure to have your rosters updated with uniform numbers, etc.</i> | Must be completed online |
| (2) Team Photos Due (optional) | Can be completed online or received by mail |

June 10, 2016

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Hotel and Onsite Contact Information | Must be completed online |
| (2) Last Day for Online Roster Changes | Must be completed online. <i>Any changes after this date must be made at Team Check-In.</i> |

ENTRY FEE

Entry fees can be paid online with a credit or debit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express) or by mail. For entries received by mail, the date of receipt will be used to determine entry, not the postmark date. A cashiers' check or money order payable to AAU will be accepted through the mail. No personal checks will be accepted. You must sign your team up online and send a copy of the online registration along with the payment. See the Team Cancellation section for the refund policy.

If your team has won an approved AAU Super Regional, AAU Grand Prix or designated event that entitles your team to a reduced or free entry to Nationals, please contact volleyball@aausports.org. All teams must be registered online and paid by the entry deadline. If you win an AAU Super Regional or Grand Prix after you have paid the entry fee, it will be refunded.

TEAM CANCELLATION

Withdrawals made in writing prior to **March 1, 2016** will be refunded the entry fee. Withdrawals made in writing between **March 2, 2016** and **May 10, 2016** will receive a 50% refund. Any team withdrawing after **May 10, 2016** will forfeit its entire entry fee. Any team not attending and failing to withdraw with the AAU National Office prior to the Championships may be subject to penalties for future participation in AAU competition. Withdrawal requests must be made in writing to volleyball@aausports.org.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Competition will be held at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex and the Orange County Convention Center. Additional sites may be added if needed. Visit www.aauvolleyball.org for directions and facility information.

Teams may check-in during registration hours on an earlier day, but must be checked in by the close of registration the day prior to their competition.

There will be no coaches meeting held onsite; however, coaches must watch the online Coaches Meeting Video prior to competition. Tournament Staff will be available for questions at Team Check-In on June 18 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Questions during other days can be directed to the Championship Desk at the Orange County Convention Center.

Competition format and schedule are subject to change.

Divisions: 10, 11, 12 Open, 12 Club, 12 Classic, 13 Open, 13 Club, 13 Classic, 14 Open, 14 Premier, 14 Club, 14 Classic, 15 Open, 15 Premier, 15 Club, 18 Club, 18 Classic

Saturday, June 18	Team Check-In (Orange County Convention Center, South Concourse)	8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday, June 18	Opening Ceremony	Time TBA (Evening)
Sunday, June 19	Competition – Pool Play	AM or PM wave
Monday, June 20	Competition – Pool Play	AM or PM wave
Tuesday, June 21	Competition – Pool Play	AM or PM wave
Wednesday, June 22	Competition – Brackets & Finals	Single Elimination

Competition will be held at ESPN Wide World of Sports and the Orange County Convention Center.

Divisions: 16 Open, 16 Premier, 17 Open, 17 Premier

Tuesday, June 21	Team Check-In (Orange County Convention Center, South Concourse)	1:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Wednesday, June 22	Competition – Pool Play	AM or PM wave
Thursday, June 23	Competition – Pool Play	AM or PM wave
Friday, June 24	Competition – Pool Play	AM or PM wave
Saturday, June 25	Competition – Brackets & Finals	Single Elimination

Competition will be held at ESPN Wide World of Sports and the Orange County Convention Center.

Divisions: 15 Aspire, 15 Classic, 16 Club, 16 Aspire, 16 Classic, 17 Club, 17 Classic, 18 Open, 18 Premier, International

Wednesday, June 22	Team Check-In (Orange County Convention Center, South Concourse)	9:00 am – 7:00 pm
Thursday, June 23	Competition – Pool Play	AM or PM wave
Friday, June 24	Competition – Pool Play	AM or PM wave
Saturday, June 25	Competition – Pool Play	AM or PM wave
Sunday, June 26	Competition – Brackets & Finals	Single Elimination

Competition will be held at ESPN Wide World of Sports and the Orange County Convention Center.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday, June 18	Opening Ceremony	ESPN Wide World of Sports Time TBA (evening)
Wednesday, June 22	Championship Finals & Award Ceremonies	ESPN Wide World of Sports
Wednesday, June 22	Water Park Party	Typhoon Lagoon
Thursday, June 23	AAU Beach Volleyball Super Regional Championships 12U, 14U, 15U (register online at www.aaubeach.org)	Orlando Sports Center
Friday, June 24	Recruiting Seminar (10am & 2pm)	Orange County Convention Center
Saturday, June 25	Championship Finals & Award Ceremonies	ESPN Wide World of Sports

Sunday, June 26	Championship Finals & Award Ceremonies	ESPN Wide World of Sports
Sunday, June 26	Water Park Party	Typhoon Lagoon
Monday, June 27	AAU Beach Volleyball Super Regional Championships 16U, 18U (register online at www.aaubeach.org)	Cocoa Beach Pier

TEAM CHECK-IN

A team representative must check-in their team during the hours listed below. **Teams may check-in during registration hours on an earlier day, but must be checked in by the close of registration on the day prior to their competition.**

Please make your travel arrangements to ensure that a team representative can attend the check-in.

10, 11, 12, 13, 14: All Divisions 15: Open, Premier, Club 18: Club, Classic	Saturday, June 18	8:00 am – 6:00 pm	Orange County Convention Center South Concourse Room S230
16: Open, Premier 17: Open, Premier	Tuesday, June 21	1:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Orange County Convention Center South Concourse Room S230
15: Aspire, Classic 16: Club, Aspire, Classic 17: Club, Classic 18: Open, Premier	Wednesday, June 22	9:00 am – 7:00 pm	Orange County Convention Center South Concourse Room S230

Rule and Uniform Questions: There will not be a coaches meeting this year. Coaches are required to watch the online Coaches Meeting Video prior to the start of play. Tournament Officials will be available during Team Check-in on June 18 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm for questions. On June 21 and 22, event questions can be directed to the Championship Desk at the Orange County Convention Center.

Daily parking fees will be charged at the Orange County Convention Center. A drop-off zone is available at the front of the Convention Center. Please note during competition days traffic can be heavy during the start of the morning and afternoon pool play.

Athletes, Coaches and Chaperones are not required to attend check-in, but it is the responsibility of the team representative to ensure team rosters are correct and to distribute credentials/wristbands to coaches, athletes and chaperones prior to admittance to the venues. **All credentials are non-transferable and may be confiscated if misused.**

Team Check-In Checklist:

At Team Check-In, the team representative will be responsible for the following items.

- Verify your team’s travel information, including hotel and emergency contact information.
- **Present proof of age for each athlete such as copies of birth certificates, driver’s licenses or passports. For additional information, please refer to the Birth Records and Proof of Age section.**
- Verify the Team Roster and complete any missing information, including uniform numbers. **Uniform numbers must be correctly submitted on the roster. Each player is required to wear the same jersey number throughout the entire event, including the Libero(s).** Please refer to the “Rules of the Championships” section for complete uniform requirements.
- Verify all the Coaches and Chaperones are listed correctly on the roster.
- Verify that the coaches understand the rules of the event and have watched the Coaches Meeting video.
- Sign off on the final roster.

ROSTER CHANGES: Once the roster is verified and signed off by the representative at Team Check-In, the roster becomes final and will be in effect throughout the event. Any adjustments to the roster (including uniform number changes) after it has been signed off on must be made at the Championship Desk and will include a \$25 fee per change. **NO ATHLETES MAY BE ADDED TO THE TEAM ROSTER AFTER THE TEAM’S FIRST MATCH BEGINS.**

At Team Check-In, the team representative will receive the following:

- **Athlete, Coach and Chaperone Credentials and Coach Wristbands.**
It is the team representative's responsibility to distribute these to the correct rostered athletes and non-athletes prior to admittance into the venues. Each athlete, coach and chaperone will receive a credential and must have this credential to gain admittance to both ESPN Wide World of Sports and the Orange County Convention Center. **Coaches will also receive a wristband. Wristbands allow access to the team bench and must be worn on the wrist at all times for the duration of the event. Coaches must have their credential to gain admittance to both venues. Wristbands without credentials will not be valid at either venue. All credentials are non-transferable and may be confiscated if misused.**
- Complimentary Athlete and Coach National Championship T-Shirts for athletes and coaches (be sure to submit sizes when completing the roster online).

OPENING CEREMONY & CELEBRATION

The Opening Ceremonies will take place on Saturday, June 18 at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. The team march-ins will begin at 7:00 pm (weather permitting) at Champion Stadium. The complex will open at 5:00 pm. Large crowds are expected, so it is recommended to arrive early. There is a limited capacity for the stadium so teams and spectators will be admitted on a first-come basis. Overflow seating will be available in the HP Fieldhouse.

**WATER PARK PARTY**

Take time out away from the courts to celebrate! Players, parents, coaches and family members are invited to attend an exclusive AAU Volleyball party at a Disney Water Park! This year, AAU will offer TWO Water Park Parties! The Water Park Parties will take place on Wednesday, June 22 and on Sunday, June 26 at Typhoon Lagoon from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. The cost of the private Water Park Party is \$55 per person. More details will be posted online prior to the event.

SEMINARS

A Recruiting Seminar will take place at the Orange County Convention Center on Friday, June 24th at 10:00am and 2:00pm. Seminars are FREE and open to all participants, parents and spectators. Come hear view points from top college coaches on playing collegiate volleyball.

BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS

The AAU Beach Volleyball Super Regional Championships will take place at the Orlando Sports Center on June 23 (Ages 12, 14, 15) and at the Cocoa Beach Pier on June 27 (Ages 16, 18). The top four teams per division will qualify for the West Coast AAU Junior Olympic Games in California. For more information and to register, visit www.aaubeach.org.

GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

CHAMPIONSHIPS VENUES

Competition will take place in the HP Field House and the Jostens Center at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex (18 courts) and at the Orange County Convention Center (over 150 courts). For specific directions, parking and traffic information, please visit www.aauvolleyball.org. Additional facilities may be added as needed.

At the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, general parking is free and valet parking is available on select event dates for a fee. At the Orange County Convention Center, a parking fee will be charged daily. Parking does include re-entry in the same day with your receipt. Be sure to save your receipt. All fees and policies are subject to change.

PARKING & TRAFFIC ADVISORY: Stay tuned to www.aauvolleyball.org for parking and traffic information. Large crowds are expected at the Orange County Convention Center, especially in the mornings. Detailed parking maps, shuttle info and driving directions will be available online.

COMPETITION FORMAT

The Championships will be conducted in a format that will determine National Champions in each age division, as well as providing the maximum amount of playing time for each team. Pool play preliminary rounds will determine placement and seeding of each team in the bracket rounds. All teams play will have four days of competition. **NEW FOR 2016: 18 Open Pilot Program Format. Click [here for more information.](#)**

TEAM ELIGIBILITY

This is an **OPEN** Girls' National Championship. Any team meeting the requirements is eligible to enter. No qualifying required. All athletes, coaches and clubs must be current members of the AAU. This event is for female players only.

Teams may register for only one division. Athletes may not play on two teams. Athletes may only be on one team roster during the event, regardless of competition dates. Coaches and other bench personnel may be on multiple rosters.

All athletes must live within the AAU District of their team or in a bordering District, and comply with the guidelines set forth in the AAU Code Book. A maximum of three (3) members may participate with a team from an adjoining District. Adult members are not bound by residency requirements. Hawaii, Alaska and US Territories, including Puerto Rico, do not have bordering Districts. For a list of AAU Districts, please visit www.aauvolleyball.org.

Teams submitting false AAU registration information may be dropped from the event and entry fees may be forfeited. Other actions may be taken as approved by the Championship Committee.

AAU MEMBERSHIP

All athletes and non-athletes (staff personnel, coaches, chaperones, etc.) must be current AAU members. Regular youth athlete membership is \$14 and regular non-athlete membership is \$16. All teams must also be part of a registered AAU Club. AAU Club Membership is available in 3 levels ranging from \$30, \$60 and \$300. Please visit the web site at www.aauvolleyball.org for descriptions of each category. There can be multiple teams under one club membership. To become an AAU member, register on-line at www.aauvolleyball.org.

You can no longer register for non-athlete (coach) membership onsite. Background screens are conducted for all non-athletes. Membership is no longer instant. BE PREPARED and register your coaches, chaperones and administrators early! You can only add a coach or chaperone onsite with a valid AAU membership number. Applied status or pending memberships are not acceptable.



PCA COACHES' EDUCATION



The AAU is happy to continue to offer **FREE Coaches' Education** for all AAU non-athletes. This exciting program is **MANDATORY** for all AAU coaches and will be administered by Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA). Please visit <http://aausports.org/Partners/PositiveCoachesAlliance.aspx> to take the mandatory AAU/PCA coaches' education course. There are **THREE** courses available this year - Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. Members are required to take one level per year. Level 1 is for those new to PCA training. Level 2 is for those who completed the Level 1 course last year. Level 3 is for those who completed the Level 2 course last year.

LEVELS OF PLAY (OPEN, PREMIER, CLUB, ASPIRE, AND CLASSIC DIVISIONS)

Ages 14, 17 and 18 will have four (4) divisions available – Open, Premier, Club and Classic. Ages 15 and 16 will have five (5) divisions available – Open, Premier, Club, Aspire and Classic. Ages 12 and 13 will have three (3) divisions – Open, Club and Classic. Ages 10 and 11 will have one (1) division. The tournament committee reserves the right to make changes at their discretion. **To change a division after a team has registered and prior to the entry deadline, contact volleyball@aausports.org. Changes may not be made after the deadline.**

- Open:** This division is for elite teams and the most competitive and highest level of competition. Only the highest level of teams should enter this division.
- Premier:** This division is the next level of play designed for top teams that are in between the elite Open and Club divisions.
- Club:** This division is the middle level of competition.
- Aspire:** This division is the **NEW** level of competition designed for teams that are in between Club and Classic divisions.
- Classic:** This division is a lower level of competition.

There may be limits on the number of teams for all divisions. Teams registering after the division is closed will be placed on a waiting list. It is possible for a division to close prior to the entry deadline. REGISTER EARLY!

AGE DIVISIONS

The National Championship offers divisions in the age groups listed below. All athletes must be born within the following age determination dates and meet all the requirements below. **NO AGE WAIVERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. It is the responsibility of the coach to enter the team in the correct age category.**

10 and Under - Must be born on or after September 1, 2005

11 and Under - Must be born on or after September 1, 2004

12 and Under - Must be born on or after September 1, 2003

13 and Under - Must be born on or after September 1, 2002

14 and Under - Must be born on or after September 1, 2001

15 and Under - Must be born on or after September 1, 2000

16 and Under - Must be born on or after September 1, 1999

17 and Under - Must be born on or after September 1, 1998

18 and Under - Must be born on or after September 1, 1997

OR born on or after September 1, 1996 and be a high school student during some part of the current academic year.

Once a player plays with a club or varsity program for any university, college, community college, or junior college, she is ineligible to play in the National Championships.

BIRTH RECORDS AND PROOF OF AGE

Proof of age is required. Birth certificates cannot be uploaded in the online system. **Proof of age must be presented at TEAM CHECK-IN and held by the team's Head Coach to be available before and/or anytime during the event upon request of the event staff.** The following are acceptable forms of proof of age (HOSPITAL RECORDS ARE NOT ACCEPTED!).

- a) A copy of a valid driver's license, learner's permit, state photo identity card or government issued passport.
- b) A copy of birth record from the STATE, COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS from the place of birth.
- c) If either of the above is not available, the following
 - A copy of the delayed registration of birth if the athlete's birth was not recorded on her day of birth, issued by the same governing bodies.
 - Consular Service form FS 240, "Report on Birth" Issued by the US Department of State.
 - Immigration and naturalization forms I-151 and I 25 and form No 43 R311 7 issued by U.S. Department of Justice.

Failure to provide this information may cause an athlete or team to be ruled ineligible, in which case entry fees and any Championship play may be forfeited.

TEAM ROSTERS

Team rosters must be completed in the AAU Volleyball Nationals online registration system using the account that pays the entry fee. Rosters in other accounts will not be used. For information on completing the roster online, please review the instructions in online registration system.

Athletes:

- Team rosters may include up to fourteen (14) athletes.
- **Athletes may only be on one team roster in the Championships regardless of competition dates.**
- Uniform numbers are required to be on the roster.
- **Each player is required to wear the same jersey number throughout the event** with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications. This applies to all players in the Libero position. If players share the Libero position from match to match, a player shall wear the same jersey number whenever they play, whether they are or they are not, assigned to the Libero position.
- All athletes must live within the AAU District of their team or in a bordering District, and comply with the guidelines set forth in the AAU Code Book. A maximum of three (3) members may participate with a team in an adjoining District.

Bench Personnel:

- Team rosters may include up to four (4) adult bench personnel.
- Bench personnel can consist of the following: Head Coach, Assistant Coach or Team Rep/Club Director. Additional staff such as team trainer, manager, etc. can be listed as assistant coaches.
- At a minimum, each team must have a Head Coach designated.
- All bench personnel must be AAU members in the non-athlete category.
- Only those four (4) individuals listed on the roster as bench personnel will be permitted to sit on the bench. Chaperones are not permitted on the bench.
- **Please note, for the Team Rep/Club Director to sit on the bench, he or she must be listed on each team roster as one of the four (4) bench personnel.**
- Bench personnel can be listed on multiple rosters, but will only receive one credential.

Team rosters (including uniform numbers) must be submitted ONLINE by May 10. Changes can be made after May 10, but may not appear in the event program. **Online changes will be accepted up until June 10. After June 10, any changes must be made onsite at Team Check-In.** Once the roster is verified and signed off by the representative at the onsite Team Check-In, the roster will be in effect throughout the event. Any adjustments to the roster (including uniform number changes) after it has been signed off on must include a \$25 fee per change. **NO ATHLETES MAY BE ADDED TO THE TEAM ROSTER AFTER THE TEAM'S FIRST MATCH BEGINS.** Please refer to the Team Check-In section regarding additional information.

Rosters for College Recruiters: The rosters submitted for ages 14 to 18 as of June 1 will be provided to college recruiters. Please be sure to have your rosters updated with uniform numbers, athlete names, and recruiting information by this date. Changes after this date are not guaranteed to be provided to all the college recruiters. Do not miss this opportunity to fully expose your athletes' athletic abilities to the college coaches in attendance.

COACHES: BE PREPARED! You can no longer register for non-athlete (coach, chaperone, club director) membership onsite due to the background screening. Membership is no longer instant for non-athletes and can take up to 10 days or more to be approved. To add a non-athlete onsite, you must have a copy of the approved membership card.



CHAPERONES

Chaperones are not required, but strongly recommended to assist club administrators and coaches with the supervision of the athletes. A maximum of two (2) chaperones will be provided an event credential allowing access into the venues at no charge. A coach may not be a chaperone for the team. Chaperones will not be permitted to sit on the team bench during competition or be allowed on the competition floor. Chaperones must be non-athlete members of the AAU, which is \$16.

Credentials for chaperones will be distributed at Team Check-In to the team representative. It is the responsibility of the chaperone to obtain their appropriate credentials from the team representative. **If it is found that credentials are misused or chaperones misrepresent themselves, credentials will be confiscated.**

COACHES' MEETING VIDEO

A Coaches Meeting video will be available online prior to the Championships. Rules, guidelines, and other important information will be reviewed. **All coaches are expected to watch the video prior to the start of the event. Attention Club Directors: Please be sure that all of your coaches watch this video and understand the rules. They are responsible to know the information that is reviewed in the video.**

There will not be any scheduled coaches meetings. Tournament Officials will be available during Team Check-in on June 18 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm for questions on rules, uniforms, etc. On June 21 and 22, event questions can be directed to the Championship Desk at the Orange County Convention Center.

SEEDING INFORMATION AND TOURNAMENT RESULTS (Due May 10)

Seeding for the National Championships is determined by the seeding committee*. The committee considers many factors when seeding teams including, but not limited to the following:

1. Team's results throughout the year as submitted in AES
2. Team's results against other teams in the field as submitted in AES
3. AES national ranking engine
4. Team's final standing at previous year's National Championships
5. Seeding information submitted to AAU

Each team is REQUIRED to submit seeding information and tournament results from the season by May 10.

***NEW FOR 2016: 18 Open Pilot Program Format. [Click here for more information.](#)**

The written information you provide about your team as well as your competitive opponents, will allow the seeding committee to make a more accurate seeding structure. Failure to provide complete and thorough information will jeopardize your team's chance of being seeded correctly.

All teams must submit information. If your team has not competed together prior to the Championships, you must still submit information about your team. [This is required by May 10.](#)

STEP 1: Each team must submit general Seeding Information as part of the online event registration process. In the AAU Volleyball event system, click the **Seeding Information Part 1** to complete the information. Information includes overall team record, AES/USAV team code, and additional questions about your team.

STEP 2: **[Tournament results from throughout your season are required.](#) Results in the AES system will be used if you add your AES (or USAV) Team Code on Part 1.** It is strongly recommended that you provide results through AES as information from the AES ranking engine will also be used. **[Please be sure your results are updated and accurate.](#)** You may set up an AES account at no charge. For more information, please refer to the Seeding/Results section in the online registration system. You may also submit information on the AAU Results Form through the AAU online registration system; however, results that are submitted separate from AES are not used in the AES ranking engine. For additional information, click on **Results – Part 2** in your online account.

RULES OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be conducted under the AAU Code, AAU Volleyball Handbook, and the current playing rules of USA Volleyball, as modified by the AAU National Volleyball Committee. Additional information may be made available or revised online or at Team Check-In.

Key Rules of Play:

- AAU membership guidelines will be followed.
- No age waivers will be allowed. It is the responsibility of the coach to enter the team in the correct age category. Failure to do so could result in disqualification from the event. Please refer the Age Division section for more information.
- Rally scoring will be used. Each non-deciding set will be won by the team that first scores 25 points with a minimum two-point advantage (no scoring cap). If there is a deciding set, it will be won by the team that first scores 15 points with a minimum two-point advantage (no scoring cap).
- 12 substitutions and Libero player(s). Substitutions are only recognized when the sub enters the zone. There is no longer a request from the coach or captain.

Libero Player(s):

- **Each team may designate up to two Liberos. Libero(s) must be identified prior to each set.**
- **Only one Libero may be on the court at a time.**
- **The Libero player(s) may serve in one rotation in a set.**
- **The libero CAN be team captain, game captain or both.**
- For uniform requirements, please see below.
- For an explanation of the Libero players, please refer to the 2015-2017 USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations available at www.usavolleyball.org.

Uniform Requirements:

- **Each player is required to wear the same jersey number throughout the event** with limited exceptions as required by emergency or blood rule applications. This applies to all players in the Libero position. If players share the Libero position from match to match, a player shall wear the same jersey number whenever they play, whether they are or they are not, assigned to the Libero position.
- **Identical uniforms are required, with the following exceptions:**
 - **The Libero must wear a uniform jersey that is immediately recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team.** The Libero jersey must contrast in color from the predominant color(s) of the other members of the team. Predominant color(s) is the color(s) appearing on approximately half of the uniform. Color combinations including but not limited to purple/black, dark green/black, navy/black, navy/maroon, white/light yellow are not distinctive enough to comply with the rules.
 - Different sleeve lengths are permitted.
 - If undergarments are worn in such a manner that they are exposed, they will be considered a part of the uniform, in which they must be similar and the same color for any team member (except Libero) who wears the undergarment. Socks and shoes are not considered part of the uniform.
 - Manufacturer's logo or trademark can vary if it does not exceed 2 ¼ inches.
- **Uniform Numbers:**
 - Jerseys must be numbered in a permanent manner from 1 and 99 and duplicate numbers are not allowed.
 - Uniform numbers must be clearly visible and centered on the chest and back.
 - The numbers must be minimum height of 4" on the chest and 6" on the back (recommended to be 6" on chest and 8" on the back). The stripe forming the numbers shall have a minimum width of ¾".
 - Each jersey must use the same color and number height for all players except the Libero. **The color and brightness of the numbers must contrast with the color and brightness of the jerseys.** Color combinations such as purple/black, dark green/black, navy/black or navy/maroon are not distinctive enough to comply with the rules.
- For any questions regarding your team's uniform, contact volleyball@aausports.org.
- **As of September 1, 2016, the uniform rule that requires either a solid colored jersey for the Libero or the other team members will be enforced. Click here for more information.**

NEW Centerline and Net Touch Rules:

- Encroachment into the opponent's court with any part(s) of the body is permitted, provided some part of the body remains either in contact with or directly above the centerline, and there is no interference with opponents. Completely crossing the centerline with the foot, feet, or hands, or encroachment with other body parts must not present a safety hazard to opponents.
- Contact with the net by a player between the antennae, during the action of playing the ball, is a fault. The action of playing the ball includes (among others) take-off, hit (or attempt) and landing.
- Players may touch the post, ropes or any other object outside the antenna, including the net itself, provided that it does not interfere with play.
- A player interferes with play by (amongst others) touching the net between the antennae or the antenna itself during action of playing the ball, using the net between the antennae as a support or stabilizing aid, creating an unfair advantage over the opponent by touching the net, making actions which hinder an opponent's legitimate attempt to play the ball, or catching/holding onto the net. Players close to the ball as it is played, or who are trying to play it, are considered in the action of playing the ball, even if no contact is made with the ball. However, touching the net outside the antenna is not to be considered a fault.
- For complete rules, please refer to the 2015-2017 USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations available at www.usavolleyball.org.

Team Warm-Ups:

- Coaches and athletes are responsible for proper warm-ups.
- There will be no shared hitting during warm-ups.
- Each team will have warm-up time of 2 minutes of shared ball handling, 4 minutes of solo court time for the serving team, and 4 minutes of solo court time for the receiving team (2-4-4).
- **When one team has exclusive use of the court, the other team must be either at its team bench or out of the playing area. Warming up with balls at the team bench or in the spectator walkways is not permitted. Ball handling is only allowed on the competition court during the appropriate warm-up time.**

Balls:

- Game balls will be provided. Teams are responsible to provide their own balls for warm-ups.
- The 10 & Under, 11 & Under, and 12 & Under division will play with the Tachikara SVMNC "Volley-Lite" ball. All other ages will play with the Tachikara SV5W Gold ball.

**Serving Step-In:**

- The 10 & Under division will be allowed to step into the court when serving. The step-in line will be 6'6" from the serving line.
- No step-in will be allowed for the 11 & Under and 12 & Under divisions.

Net Height:

- Ages 13-18 net height is 7'4^{1/8}"
- Ages 11-12 net height 7'0"
- Age 10 net height 6'6"

Additional Rules:

- **Teams may register for only one division in the Championships.**
- **Athletes may only be on one team roster during the event, regardless of competition dates. Athletes may not play on two teams. Coaches may be on multiple rosters.**
- Rules regarding the sanctioning of disruptive behavior by coaches and/or players will be strictly enforced.
- No artificial noise makers will be allowed during play in any of the competition facilities.

TEAM OFFICIATING DUTIES

First and second referees will be provided for all matches. Teams will be given working assignments within their pools. Each team **MUST** provide qualified persons as follows: one (1) scorekeeper, one (1) scoreboard operator, two (2) line judges and one (1) Libero tracker. **A rostered coach must be present at the score table for the entire match when your team is scheduled to work. Scorekeepers must be competent or they will be removed and the team will be required to hire an official scorekeeper through the event staff.** If the scorekeepers are removed, the team will be charged. Competency will be determined by the Championship Committee.

Officiating teams must report to the referees at the beginning of the warm-up time. Teams are considered late for their officiating assignment if all members of the officiating crew are not in attendance at the end of the warm-up period.

Failure to provide the officiating crew for your assigned match could result in the forfeit of the first game of your next match. For every minute the officiating team is late, one point will be given to the opponent in the next match, up to the 25-0 forfeit. The second offense will result in the loss of your next assigned match. It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to verify officiating duties at the Championships Desk.

Coaches and athletes needing instruction on the scorekeeping responsibilities, contact volleyball@aausports.org for more information.

TEAM PHOTOS (optional)

Team photos must be RECEIVED by June 1 to appear in the event program. The event program will only be available online. JPEG images provide the best quality. Photos can be submitted by one of the following ways:

- Submit online with the team entry in the AAU Nationals Event Registration System. JPEG images provide the best quality. Once you are logged into your online account, click on your Team Name and then click on Add Team Photo.
- Email a file to volleyball@aausports.org. Please name the file with the team name and age division.

PUERTO RICO, OTHER US TERRITORIES, NON-US TEAMS

Teams from Puerto Rico must receive approval to participate from the Puerto Rican Volleyball Federation. Entries will not be accepted without the Federation's approval. Contact the Federation for more information (Jesus M. Prieto or Gladys Nazario at 787-753-0593). Teams must comply and receive approval by the entry deadline of May 10. If approval is not received by May 10, the team is subject to disqualification.

Teams from other US Territories and Non-US teams meeting the eligibility requirements are welcome to participate. Teams must provide a letter from their National Volleyball Federation. Please contact the AAU at 407-828-8304 or volleyball@aausports.org for complete eligibility requirements for non-US teams.

PRACTICE

Limited practice space is available on the day prior to the division starting play. Practice space will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis to teams only after the team has entered the event. Requests for practice time must be made in writing to samantha@aausports.org. Teams will be notified after the entry deadline of practice times and locations. Space is limited, so not all requests are guaranteed to receive practice time. Teams must supply their own balls for practice. Please note, there may be admission fees for spectators at practice.

PLAYER GIFT EXCHANGE

Exchanging gifts prior to your first match is not required; however some teams will have gifts available. This is up to your club whether to exchange or offer gifts to your opponents.

COLLEGE RECRUITERS

Over 400 college coaches were in attendance last year, making this one of the most recruited events in the country. Team rosters will be made available to college coaches for ages 14 to 18. The team rosters submitted online as of **June 1** will be used for college recruiters. **It is very important that your team's roster is updated by this date. To update recruiting information, click on each athlete's name.** Do not miss this opportunity to fully expose your athletes' athletic abilities to the college coaches in attendance.

Before or during the competition, player profiles or additional information may be submitted to the Championship Desk at the Orange County Convention Center. This information will be made available to college coaches. In addition at the Championship Desk, you may add athlete's names to the list of unsigned seniors found online at www.aauvolleyball.org.

OFFICIALS

If you are interested in being an official for the 43rd AAU Girls' Junior National Volleyball Championships, please contact the Head of Officials, Sue Mailhot by email at suemvb@cox.net. You can also visit www.omnevb.net for more information.

AWARDS

Each of the participants of the top four (4) teams per age division in the Championship bracket will be awarded AAU National Championship medals and each team will receive a team trophy. All-American Awards, All-Star Awards, and Most Valuable All-American Awards will be distributed for Ages 12 to 18. The medals and team trophies for the top four (4) teams as well as the individual athlete awards will be presented during an Awards Ceremony held immediately following the conclusion of the championship final per each age division. In other brackets (i.e. Consolation, Red, White, Blue, etc.), the first (1st) place team will receive a team award at the conclusion of that bracket's final match. Teams shall report to the designated awards area at their competition venue to receive the awards.



FACILITY RULES

For updated information on facility rules and cooler policies, please refer to the Girls' Nationals web page located on the AAU Volleyball website at www.aauvolleyball.org.

GAMEDAY PHOTOS

To ensure you receive the best photos possible, Gameday Sports Photographers shoot teams and individual athletes who make a reservation in advance. To capture the memories of your big event, reserve a photographer and then let us focus on your athlete. [CLICK HERE](#) for more info.

SPECTATOR TICKETS

Tickets may be purchased online or upon arrival at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex Box Office or the Orange County Convention Center. To purchase tickets online, [CLICK HERE](#). **For additional information and questions regarding Spectator Tickets, please contact disneysportstickets@disneysports.com.**

Daily tickets will be available for \$17.50 for adults and \$12.50 for children (ages 3-9). Length-of-event passes will also be available for \$56.00 for adults and \$44.00 for children (ages 3-9). Tickets are valid for all competition venues. All Walt Disney World® ticket prices are subject to change without notice.

HOTEL, TRAVEL, AND THEME PARK INFORMATION

The AAU makes every effort to provide the best quality experience for athletes, coaches and families that participate in AAU events. Visit www.aauvolleyball.org for information on a variety of housing properties.

Anthony Travel is your source for discounted hotels, vacation homes and group air options. Anthony Travel can help streamline your travel management efforts and provide competitive non-Disney hotel rates and amenities for you in the Orlando area. Hotel accommodations can be booked online by [clicking here](#), 24 hours a day, or by calling (866) 796-5222, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm CT.

Disney Sports Travel is your source for discounted Disney hotel reservations. Disney hotel accommodations can be booked online by [clicking here](#) or by calling 1-800-743-9876.

Specially discounted theme park tickets are also available for purchase online. Please email volleyball@ausports.org to request the special link and discount code.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to venues is not provided through the event. It is the responsibility of the team to arrange for transportation to the playing venues. Teams may not play at the same site each day, so transportation is needed to all competition sites. AAU does offer discounts with several rental car agencies in Orlando. For more information on rental cars options, please visit www.aauvolleyball.org or [click here](#).

For questions regarding the Entry Information, Criteria, and the Online Event Registration Process, contact volleyball@aausports.org or call 407-934-7200.

AAU POLICY

The AAU cannot and does not guarantee the appearance and/or participation of specific participant(s) and/or teams (as applicable) in this event. The AAU has licensed (approved) this Event as an official AAU Event (competition), but the AAU is not and shall not be responsible for any participant's or spectator's expenses related to this Event (nor reimbursements for same) in case of dissatisfaction of any participant, friend, family, or spectator, this includes, but is not limited to all travel, hotel (lodging), food, entry fees and/or any other expenses related to the event. Any event information is subject to change without notice.