



COLUMBUS TO HOST THE USA VOLLEYBALL BOYS' JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2015

USA Volleyball Returns to Columbus after Hosting Girls National Championships in 2012; Events Represents Close to 15,000 Attendees, 22,000 Hotel Room Nights and \$10 Million in Visitor Spending

COLUMBUS (October 14, 2013) – USA Volleyball will host the 2015 USA Volleyball Boys' Junior National Championships (BJNC) in Columbus June 28 to July 5 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The event, which is estimated to have **close to 15,000 attendees and generate more than 22,000 hotel room nights and \$10 million in visitor spending** was awarded to the Greater Columbus Sports Commission and the Ohio Valley Region (OVR) of USA Volleyball, who partnered on the bid.



USA Volleyball.

The BJNC will attract **400-plus teams, 4,500-plus athletes and over 10,000 spectators**. The event will have Open Division titles in each age group from 14 to 18, while offering club titles for each age from 12 to 18. Not only is this a tournament to portray talent from all over the country, it is also a chance for college recruiters to find potential players for their programs.

“Columbus was a great partner in hosting the GJNC in 2012 and will undoubtedly be ready to top that effort in hosting the BJNC in 2015,” **USA Volleyball Senior Director Tom Pingel** said. “Columbus is within driving distance of a very large number of hotbeds for boys' volleyball in the United States.”

Columbus is very experienced in hosting major volleyball tournaments through the Ohio Valley Region. The Greater Columbus Convention Center has hosted more volleyball tournaments than any other venue in the U.S. More than 27,000 volleyball teams and 325,000 volleyball players have competed inside the convention center since it opened in 1993.

Columbus hosted the USA Volleyball Girls' Junior National Championships in 2012, representing the largest sporting event ever booked in the sports commission's history with 9,500 athletes, 20,000 spectators that generated 55,000 hotel room nights and an estimated \$30 million dollars in visitor spending. Columbus also hosted the 2000 and 1930 USA Volleyball Open National Championships, the top event for adult competition in the United States. The event in 2000 was held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, while the 1930 event was the third-ever in the 82-year history of the Open Nationals.

“On behalf of our 20,000+ members, the Ohio Valley Region is honored to be an integral part of the USA Volleyball Boy's Junior National Championships,” **Ohio Valley Region Commissioner President Bob**

Price said. "Our central location in the country, along with the combination of an experienced volunteer support base and an outstanding venue will make this a showcase championship."

"Columbus is thrilled to have USA Volleyball visit us again," **Greater Columbus Sports Commission Executive Director Linda Shetina Logan** said. "Our community looks forward to rolling out the red carpet and showcasing the 2015 Boys' Junior Nationals."

USA Volleyball, founded in 1928, is a Colorado incorporated non-profit organization recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and the Federation International de Volleyball (FIVB) as the National Governing Body for the sport of Volleyball. USA Volleyball is responsible for both the Olympic disciplines of indoor volleyball and beach volleyball. USA Volleyball has 300,000 registered members, 12,000 teams and 5,300 clubs nationwide. With an annual budget in excess of \$20 million dollars, USA Volleyball supports the USA men's and women's senior national team programs, youth and junior national teams, national championship events, coaching education and certification programs, grassroots development, and programs for the disabled and Paralympic Teams. For more information please visit www.usavolleyball.org.

The Ohio Valley Region of USA Volleyball (OVR) is one of the largest regional volleyball associations (RVAs) of USA Volleyball. Geographically, the Ohio Valley Region includes the states of Ohio and West Virginia, and bordering counties (Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Lawrence, Beaver, Washington, Green) of Western Pennsylvania. OVR is an amateur athletic sports association to promote and establish quality volleyball through participation by both adults and juniors, according to the standards set forth by USA Volleyball and the Amateur Sports Act of 1978.

The Greater Columbus Sports Commission (GCSC) is the only organization 100% focused on attracting sporting events to Columbus. In 11 years, the sports commission has bid on and brought more than 240 new sporting events to Columbus that have generated an estimated \$285 million in visitor spending, while also working to retain annual bid events that have generated an additional \$200 million.

Photo: Attached is a photo from the 2012 USA Volleyball Girls Junior National Championships held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Photo credit: USA Volleyball

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