

Alex Valow Memorial Officials' Training Award

Alex Valow was a long time GEVA referee and Region member dating back to the conversion from USVBA Region 2 to the USAV Garden Empire Volleyball Association. He served on the National rating team as well as being active in the training officials in our own Region, touching the careers of many developing officials who today continue to develop our new officials. He would challenge the thinking of officials. His unconventional points of view would open many minds to alternatives to situations, but especially understanding that an official should contribute to the good of the players and the match, rather than acting as a match policeman.

His career highlights include:

- A career spanning 1957-2008 starting in the USA Armed Services
- Participated in 50 consecutive USA Open Championships as a player and official
- FIVB Arbiter with 100's of International matches to his credit
- Traveled with the USA National Team
- Technical Consultant to the 1984 Olympics
- USVBA Gold Whistle Award winner
- Glen Davies Service Award winner
- USVBA All-American (multiple)
- Jamaica National Team Coach
- National and Junior National Rating Team
- Illustrated the USVBA rule books and designed the covers
- Designed the GEVA Logo

Alex passed away in the summer of 2008. In his memory, GEVA has established a training fund, in the amount of \$500 per year. It may be awarded to anyone, for any activity which contributes to the training of our Region's Officials. It can be used to bring training resources to the Region, or for USAV members to attend sessions that advance their careers and who can be expected to assist the Region with its training objectives, or to undertake projects that will advance the training of our officials. Examples of activities that may be considered include, but are not limited to, travel to a National or Junior National referee rating session, travel to a National Scorer training session, attendance at an officiating camp, the officials' convention, travel to the High Performance Championship, developing training materials.

Members wishing to submit an activity for support can submit a request for funding with a description of the activity to the Officials' Chair from the season beginning to March 1st for consideration. The Officials' Chair will determine the worthiness of the application and render a decision based on the merits of the application.

All or part of the funds available requested in the application may be awarded up to the lesser of the maximum \$500 or the actual expense of the activity. In any year all or any amount in the fund can be awarded to applicants accepted by the Official Chair. Unused portions of the award will not accrue.