

NorthCountry

REGION VOLLEYBALL

North Country Region junior players who are defined in the 18s division by [USA Volleyball junior player age definition](#) (**AGE DIVISION DEFINITIONS UPDATE 7/2/2020**) will be able to participate in Open Commitment starting August 1, 2020. North Country Region Board of Directors approved the following policy on July 14, 2019:

"Starting August 1, 2019, North Country Region junior members entering the 18s age division may commit to a North Country Region club and team."

Rationale Behind Policy (shared in 2019)

- Survey feedback from Region Club Directors supports policy
- Majority of 17 and under junior age players who continue to play club volleyball have pre-selected (prior to tryouts) where they want to compete for their 18s club season or have opted not to compete in their 18s club season
- Historical data of USA Volleyball and Region's 18 and under teams shows a decline in a number/amount of 18 and under teams fielded
- This age group can be left in a lurch on finding a team in their age division during try-outs; clubs scrambling to make a team or players waiting to know if a team will exist
- Allows club directors and junior players in the 18age division to complete rosters and/or communicate to players that an 18 and under team is not available so that a player can find a team prior to tryouts or allow a player to wait until tryouts to find a team
- Club Directors are not obligated to participate in Open Commitment

Recommended Next Steps

- Communicate with your club director if you would like to compete at their club for the 2019 - 2020 season
- Communicate with your club director if you plan to NOT compete at their club for the 2019-2020 season
- Or decide to wait until tryouts to find the club and 18s teams on which to compete

Try Out Date Policy 15 and older age divisions –

NO CHANGE. OPEN COMMITMENT IS NOT AN OPEN TRY OUT

First tryout may be held the day after a State's High School Tournament is complete (in the state in which the club is located) or until the date permitted by a particular State's High School Association's rules, whichever is later. North Country Region Board of Directors has also approved accommodations should a high school season be cancelled or postponed.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Laura A Bush
Laura Bush, Executive Director