

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of these interpretations is to clarify any rules and policies found in the Region Handbook that are not clearly defined or delineated. These interpretations are written for the **ADULT** Program only. New Interpretations will be added as required and needed.

***THE MOST RECENT ADDITION TO THIS LIST OF INTERPREATIONS IS DATED  
As of 14 April 2006*** ***SUPERCEDES LIST DATED 24 Feb 2005***

**Region Handbook Section  
3.2.3.4.4.6**

**14 Apr 06**

**Player Registered with a CHRVA Team**

For purposes of National Championship competition, a player retains their initial division level of play even if their team is involuntarily moved to a higher division.

Example: A player is on Team A that initially registered as a WB team. As a result of "The Split", Team A is moved to WBB. If the player wished to play in the National Championships with another team, they could play with a WB team or another higher level team since they are still considered a registered B level player.

**Region Handbook Section  
4.1.3**

**4 Sep 04**

**Historical Date Priority (HDP)**

**4.1.3.1**

Historical Date Priority (HDP). A HDP is established by a Tournament Host by conducting a tournament on a particular weekend for one or more consecutive years. For example, Host A conducted a WBB tournament on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in February last season and will receive HDP for this season if he/she reclaims the same weekend and the same division.

**Region Handbook Section  
4.1.3.2**

**24 Feb 05**

**Priority Entry**

A Priority Entry may be used by a team to enter a tournament in a higher division or to guarantee their acceptance into a Non-Priority of Fill tournament (they do not want to be placed in the Priority-of-Fill Tournament).

**Region Handbook Section  
4.1.3**

**4 Sep 04**

**Priority of Fill**

**4.1.3.3**

When two or more sanctioned tournaments are conducted on the same weekend, the host with the Historical Date Priority (HDP) will receive the Priority of Fill. This means the HDP tournament must be filled before any competing tournaments. In the case of an open date (weekend) in any division, the host who applies first for any open date (weekend) will be given Priority of Fill for that weekend. If the host reclaims the same weekend the following season they will be given the HDP.

**Region Handbook Section  
4.4.8**

**18 Mar 04**

**Request for Sanction**

**4.4.8.3.2**

Requests for Regular Season tournament sanctions received 6 weeks or less from the date of the requested tournament will not be sanctioned by the Tournament Chair unless the affected Divi-

sion Coordinator agrees to coordinate the tournament and the Referee Assignor states that the tournament will be supported by the appropriate number of non-playing referees.

**Region Handbook Section**

**8 Mar 04**

**4.5.4**

**Tournament Invitations**

A tournament host **may not** request that a team or teams be denied entry into their tournament. Such a request shall be denied by the Division Coordinator. The Division Coordinator **may not** deny a team entry into a particular tournament unless the team is under suspension (4.5.4.1) or the team's form is late or incomplete (4.5.5.1)

**Region Handbook Section**

**4 Jan 04**

**4.5.5**

**Team Acceptance into a Tournament**

For Junior teams applying to play in an adult tournament. For a Junior girl's team to compete at both the Junior and Adult level, the Junior team must register as a Junior team **and** as an adult team. When registering as an adult team, the Junior team must specify a particular adult division level for play. A duly registered Junior team at the adult level will be governed by the same rules and be granted the same privileges as an adult team for tournament play. Due to the scarcity of Junior Boys teams in the Region, a Junior Boys need **not** register for both Junior and Adult play.

**Region Handbook Section**

**4 Jan 04**

**4.5.5**

**Team Acceptance into a Tournament**

For Junior teams applying to play in an adult tournament. A Junior girl's team that is **not** registered as an adult team may apply to play in an adult tournament and will be accepted to play in the tournament **only if** there is a pool position available that cannot be filled by an adult team. An adult team, applying as of the Tournament Entry Date, may not be denied entry because of a Junior Girl's team application. However, once a Junior Girl's team **has been accepted** for an adult tournament, they may not be replaced by an adult team. Junior Boys teams applying for an adult tournament will be governed by the same rules as for adults.

**Region Handbook Section**

**13 Dec 04**

**4.5.4.2**

**Tournament Invitations**

If a Division Coordinator asks teams from a lower division to volunteer to play up in order to fill a tournament in a higher division and a team(s) is accepted, the tournament play will not count towards "having played" in the team's own division. The tournament will count for the team in regards to the "35% Rule", any points earned will be counted, and the rules and policies governing late team withdraw, "No-Show", etc., will be in accordance with the Region Handbook. This interpretation WILL NOT apply to teams that apply to play up in a higher division as part of the normal invitation process nor to teams that apply for multi-divisional tournaments; i.e., a women's A team applying for a Women AA/A tournament.

**Region Handbook Section**

**1 Nov 03**

**4.5.5.2**

**Hierarchy of Selection**

A lower division team applying for entry into a higher division tournament will be accepted for play only if there is a pool position available that cannot be filled by a higher division's team. Exception: a lower division team using a Priority Entry must be accepted into the higher division tour-

nament. For example, if a Men B team applies for a pure Men BB tournament, the B team may only be accepted if a pool position is available due to a lack of Men BB entries.

**Region Handbook Section**

**1 Nov 03**

**4.5.5.2.1**

**Host Team Entries**

Tournament host teams and/or teams belonging to the host club **must** complete the Tournament Invitation and Tournament Contract form (CHRVA Form 3) to be accepted in their own tournament. No entry fees are required from the host team or host club teams. It is recommended that the Division Coordinator contact any "errant" host team or teams to remind them that the CHRVA Form 3 is needed. If the team or teams fail to submit the required form by the Closing Date, they lose their right of "automatic entry" and may even be denied entry into their own tournament due to the selection process.

**Region Handbook Section**

**6 Apr 04**

**4.5.5.2.8**

**Out-of-Region Teams**

An out-of-Region team will not be selected if a CHRVA team must be denied entry. ***Exception:*** If the tournament host specifically requests a pool position or positions be reserved for an out-of-Region team or teams. If this is the case, the tournament host must provide the Division Coordinator the team(s) name and the name and contact information for the team(s) representative in order for the Coordinator to hold the position(s) open. If this designated out-of-Region team(s) responds by the tournament entry date, they are guaranteed entry into the tournament. All other out-of-Region teams will be accepted using normal entry criteria (see Region Handbook Section 4.5.5.2). However, for an out-of-region team to be guaranteed entry they must **not be under any CHRVA sanction or have provided any misleading, erroneous, or incomplete information on their application form.** An out-of-Region team accepted for an available pool position **will not** be denied entry in favor of a CHRVA team who applied or whose application was received after the tournament's Closing Date.

**Region Handbook Section**

**1 Nov 03**

**4.5.5.2.3**

**Team Priority Entries**

**Region Handbook Section**

**4.5.7**

**Team Withdrawal from a Tournament**

Once a team using a Priority Entry **has been accepted** for a tournament, the Priority Entry **cannot** be returned to the team for any reason except if the tournament was cancelled due to a lack of team entries, the tournament was cancelled due to the weather, or the host lost their facility due to reasons beyond the host's control. If the team withdraws **before** the Division Coordinator has made team selections for the tournament, the Priority Entry will be returned to the team.

**Region Handbook Section**

**6 Apr 04**

**4.5.6**

**Seeding Teams for Pool Positions**

A most difficult seeding decision is how to seed **out-of-region** teams. In order to do this we must start with and make one general assumption – *the team is to be considered a very good team or they would not be playing out-of-region.* Given this assumption as the basis for our seeding, an out-of-region-team will be seeded **3<sup>rd</sup> (third)** in the division tournament to which it applies. Example: An out-of-region WAA teams applies for a WAA/A tournament. We will be using the Opposite (Reverse) Seeding Method so our WAA team entries will be seeded thus –

CHRVA WAA Team # 1 in points will be Seeded # 1  
CHRVA WAA Team # 2 in points will be seeded # 2  
Out-of-Region Team will be seeded # 3 \*  
CHRVA WAA Team #3 in points will be seeded # 4  
And so forth until all the WAA teams are seeded.

\*Note: If more than one out-of-region team is accepted, they would be seeded #3, #4, etc., until all are seeded.

Once an out-of-region team has earned points or has established a “track record” (i.e., has entered 2 tournaments and earned no points), they will be seeded the same as a CHRVA team.

## Region Handbook Section

6 Apr 04

### 4.5.6

#### Seeding Teams for Pool Positions

Another most difficult seeding decision deals with seeding at the beginning of the Regular Season when all teams have zero points and during the season when teams have zero points. To standardize the seeding procedure in these cases, the following will be policy –

1. Start of the Season. For the first 4 playing opportunity weekends of the season (December-January) or until a team earns a point(s), teams from the previous season will be seeded based on their total points earned the previous season. Until they earn a point(s), new teams will be rated no higher/lower than 5<sup>th</sup> place in seeding. The Division Coordinators may seed the new teams in any order they chose as long as they begin with the 5<sup>th</sup> seed position. Example:

Seed # 1 - Team Alfa (23 points)	Seed # 6 - New Team
Seed # 2 - Team Bravo (19 points)	Seed # 7 - New Team
Seed # 3 - Team Charlie (11 points)	Seed # 8 – New Team
Seed # 4 - Team Delta (4 points)	Seed # 9 - Team Echo (3 points)
Seed # 5 - New Team	Seed # 10 - Team Foxtrot (0 points)

2. During the Season. After the first 4 playing opportunity weekends of the season (December-January), teams with zero points will be seeded based on negative performance. Example:

Team Alfa 0 points, 4 tournaments played  
Team Bravo 0 points, 2 tournaments played  
Team Echo 0 points, 0 tournaments played

Seeding would be Teams Echo #1, Team Bravo # 2 and Team Alfa # 3.

## Region Handbook Section

10 Dec 03

### 4.5.6.1

#### Seeding teams for Tournaments

##### Single Division Tournaments

To clarify the rule’s wording “...or if there is a substantial disparity between the pools after seeding solely by point count, the Division Coordinator will use **any reasonable means** to determine pool seeding.” First, this interpretation changes the word “will” in the before mentioned cited rule to “may”. Second, one of the goals of the Division Coordinator is to attempt to ensure that the tournament’s pools provide “balanced competition” for the teams entered. To determine balance, after seeding the teams in their respective pools, the Coordinator should add up the total points in each pool. If a 30-point or more differential exists then the pools are to be considered substantially unbalanced. For example, if pool #1 has 55 total points and pool # 2 has 21 total points, a substantial unbalance exists and the coordinator may decide to switch one team in each pool to the other pool to create a better balance. This switch of one team in each pool is to be consid-

ered the **reasonable means** as stated in the rule. The coordinator should always try to make the easiest team switch that will bring the point total differential under the 30-point threshold. The coordinator must always remember 3 things: (1) Use this rule and authority with great discretion because it can cause some real controversy; (2) Always insure that all the teams in the tournament are notified that you have invoked this rule, that the seeding for the tournament will not match the point totals, and know the names of the teams that were moved; and (3) **Do not** switch any of the top 4 seeded teams although that may be the easiest way to regain balance.

**Region Handbook Section**

**22 Dec 03**

**4.5.6**

**Seeding Teams for Pool Positions**

*Reference the assignment of teams to pool playing positions after seeding for pools has been completed.* Although the Handbook does not address this issue, the tournament host team or teams will always be assigned as Team # 3 when making pool playing position assignments, **unless otherwise requested by the tournament host.** In addition, teams with the greatest distance to travel, as determined by the home of residence of the team representative, will be assigned the Team # 5 pool playing position **if, in the opinion of the Division Coordinator, the travel distance is excessive.** Division Coordinators will ensure that teams are assigned the various pool playing positions as equally as possible throughout the reason. In addition, the Division Coordinators will maintain a record of the number of times each team has been assigned a particular pool playing position. This is done to safeguard the integrity of the Coordinator in the event a question is raised about the number of times a team has been assigned a particular pool playing position.

**Region Handbook Section**

**1 Nov 03**

**4.5.6.2**

**Multi-Division Tournaments**

Teams accepted for play in multi-division tournaments will be seeded for pool positions using the **OPPOSITE SEEDING METHOD**, sometimes referred to as the **REVERSED SEEDING METHOD**. Using the available point count, you separately list the teams in each division by points from the highest point total to the lowest (see Region Handbook Section 4.5.6.1). Beginning with either division, seed each court as you would a single division tournament. For example, using 6 WAA teams and 4 WA teams and seeding the WAA teams first starting on Court #1, you would have -

<u>Court #1</u>	<u>Court # 2</u>	Now seed the WA teams	<u>Court #1</u>	<u>Court #2</u>
		starting with Court #2		
WAA1	WAA2		WA2	WA1
WAA4	WAA3		WA3	WA4
WAA5	WAA6			

Your final seeding would look like this - Court #1 Court #2

WAA1	WAA2
WAA4	WAA3
WAA5	WAA6
WA2	WA1
WA3	WA4

And last you would assign each team a pool playing position (Team #1, Team #2, etc.).

**Region Handbook Section  
4.5.7.2**

**1 Nov 03**

**Team Withdraws from a Tournament**

If a team withdraws from a tournament 10 days or less for any reason, the Division Coordinator may have to make a decision concerning the team's entry fee. If a team withdraws and no replacement team is found, the Coordinator **must** send the entry fee to the tournament host. If a team withdraws and a replacement team is found and the Coordinator **still has** the team's entry fee in his/her **possession**, the fee will be returned to the withdrawing team. If a team withdraws and a replacement team is found but the Coordinator has already sent the tournament packet and entry fees to the tournament host, the Coordinator can do **nothing**. The decision to return of the entry fee now belongs to tournament host.

**Region Handbook Section  
4.6.5.3**

**23 Mar 04**

**Seeding Playoffs**

When a tournament consists of mixed pools, the standard method of determining playoff seeding positions which is wins/losses, followed by point spread, followed by a coin toss, cannot be used. "Best" 1<sup>st</sup> Place and "Best" 2<sup>nd</sup> Place teams will be determined by using each teams wins/loses percentage. Example, you have a tournament with a 5-team and a 4-team pool. The 1<sup>st</sup> place finisher in the 5-team pool was 6-2 and the 1<sup>st</sup> place finisher in the 4 team pool was 6-3. The 6-2 team is rated at 75%. The 6-3 team is rated as 67%. Therefore, the 6-2 finisher is rated the top team. The same system will be used to determine 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams from each pool.

**Region Handbook Section  
4.6.5.3.3**

**23 Mar 04**

**Three Courts**

The two 1<sup>st</sup> place teams that receive ¼-final byes are determined as specified in the Handbook. The third 1<sup>st</sup> place team plays a 2<sup>nd</sup> place team in the ¼-finals. To determine who plays who in the ¼-finals and to ensure that no 1<sup>st</sup> place and 2<sup>nd</sup> place team from the same pool meet before the finals, the playoff format to be used is described below. Begin by assigning each team a number -

Top 1<sup>st</sup> Place Pool Team - #1  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team from this Pool - # 4

2<sup>nd</sup> Best 1<sup>st</sup> Place Pool Team - #2  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team from this Pool - # 5

3<sup>rd</sup> Best 1<sup>st</sup> Place Pool Team - # 3  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team from this Pool - # 6

Now for the 1<sup>st</sup> playoff round (1/4-finals), Teams # 1 and # 2 get a bye. Team # 3 plays team #4. Team # 5 plays Team # 6.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> playoff (Semi-finals) round has Team # 1 playing the winner of the Team # 5 and Team # 6 match. Team # 2 plays the winner of the Team # 3 and Team # 4 match.

With this format no 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place team from the same pool can play each other before the finals.

**Region Handbook Section  
5.1**

**1 Nov 03**

## **Regional Championships – General**

For the Regional Championships, all the Adult Program Division Coordinators work for and are directed by the CHRVA Vice-President. The CHRVA Vice-President is the individual who is responsible for planning, managing, and overseeing the Championships (see Section 5 of the Region Handbook).

### **Region Handbook Section**

**29 Jan 04**

#### **5.2.1.3**

#### **The “35% Rule”**

To clarify the intent of the rule, a tournament **will** count towards the “35% Rule” number if the tournament is cancelled due a lack of team entries. However, teams that applied will not be charged with “Having Played”.

### **Region Handbook Section**

**24 Feb 05**

#### **5.2.1.3.1**

#### **Calculating the “35% Rule” Number**

Teams registering after the start of the Regular Season must have their “35% Rule” number recalculated to ensure that the number reflects only the number of tournaments they could have actually participated in. Note: Since it will take a minimum of 2 weeks for a team to be accepted into a tournament for the first time, you must begin your count of the number of tournaments the team could actually play in 2 weeks after the team’s registration date Example: Team A registered on 1 February so you would begin your tournament count after 14 February. There were only 5 tournaments after that date that Team A could have played in. Team A’s “35% Rule” number would be  $35\% \times 5 = 1.75$  rounded up to 2.

### **Region Handbook Section**

**20 Feb 04**

#### **5.2.1.3.1**

#### **The “35% Rule” – Rounding Up and Down**

For the purposes of determining the number of tournaments a team must play in to be eligible to compete in the Regional Championship, the number will be rounded up or down if it is not an even number. Example: 17 tournaments  $\times 35\% = 5.95$ , will be rounded up to 6 (X.5 to X.9 will be rounded up to 6). 12 tournaments  $\times 35\% = 4.2$ , will be rounded down to 4 (X.1 to X.4 will be rounded down to 4). This is contrary to what is stated in the Region Handbook but will be the rule and policy until the Handbook is corrected.

### **Region Handbook Section**

**29 Jan 04**

#### **5.2.1.3.2**

#### **Team Eligibility - Regionals**

A team elects not to participate, citing “weather conditions” as the reason, in a tournament for which they have been accepted. The tournament has not been canceled due to the weather. In this case, the team **does not** receive credit as “having played” in counting the tournament for the “35% Rule” and the tournament will not be included when determining average points earned for the team for seeding in the Regional Championship.

### **Region Handbook Section**

**26 Mar 04**

#### **5.3.4.2**

#### **Seeding of Teams for Pool Positions**

If a team plays “up” in a higher division tournament, the tournament is counted when calculating the team’s seeding for a pool position. Example: A BB team plays in 8 BB level tournaments and 2 A level tournaments. The total number of tournaments played would be 10. The calculation for seeding purposes would be the team’s total points earned divided by 10 tournaments.

**Region Handbook Section**

**14 Apr 06**

**5.3.4.2**

**Seeding of Teams for Pool Positions**

If after using the Weighted Seeding Method to determine pool seeding you have a tie in seeding number, the tie will be broken in the following manner: the 1<sup>st</sup> Tie-breaker – the team that participated in more tournaments will be seeded before the other(s); and if still tied, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tie-Breaker – the team registration date, the earlier date gets the higher seed.

Example: Teams A and B are tied after weighted seeding calculations, each having a 1.0 weighted seeding number . Team A has played in 10 tournaments and Team B has played in 8. Team A would be given the higher seed position.

**Region Handbook Section**

**6 Apr 04**

**6.1.1 and 6.1.2**

**In General**

Disciplinary actions, fines, suspensions, and sanctions may be imposed on out-of-region teams for violations of CHRVA policies and rules by the Eligibility Chair. Division Coordinators will assist the tournament host in reporting out-of-region team violations to the Eligibility Chair or make the report themselves if the situation requires it. The coordinators will assist the Eligibility Chair in enforcing the sanctions by denying entry to CHRVA tournaments by any out-of-region team under sanction.

**Region Handbook Section**

**11 Dec 03**

**7**

**Complaints and Appeals**

The Region Handbook only addresses complaints and appeals filed at the Region Board of Directors level. Therefore, the procedures cited are not used by the Division Coordinator to resolve complaints. Within the Tournament Program we use the informal resolution system which is based on resolving problems/complaints at the lowest level possible and with the least expenditure of time and effort. These are the steps of the informal resolution process:

1. Complaints must be made by the **team representative** only.
2. The team representative must lodge their complaint with the Coordinator in order that the Coordinator is given a chance to resolve the complaint. Most complaints are resolved at this level. In the event the complaint cannot be resolved at the Coordinator level, the team representative is instructed to take the complaint to the Tournament Chair for resolution.
3. If the Tournament Chair cannot resolve the complaint, the Tournament Chair will inform the team representative of 2 further options: (1) stay within the informal resolution system and take the complaint to the Region Commissioner for resolution; or (2) file a formal complaint in accordance with Section 7 of the Region Handbook.

Since these informal procedures are not found in the Region Handbook, the Division Coordinator must **ensure** that their team representatives are made aware of the procedures.