

POWER LEAGUE DESCRIPTION, AND STRUCTURE 2025-2026:

Age Groups and Season: 13s-17s 2025 - 2026

Power League 2025 - 2026 General Information

- The Power League Series will remain structurally intact. There is a new play-in qualifying process. The event(s) are set to select a twenty-four team field in single age groups to compete in the series. Sixteen of those teams will eventually qualify to compete in the Regional Championship / Bid event. The remaining eight will compete in a single flight Open Championship
- Note: the 13s age group may have less applications and will be set at 24 16 teams depending on that number. We will not have groups with less than 8 teams.
- The most significant change follows:
 - The Play-in will now occur in two stages. The teams that completed the Power League Series in the 2024-2025 Season are invited to compete in Power League Stage 2, Play-in for the 2025 - 2026 Series. The invitation is for the next higher age group. They will need to apply for consideration and will be admitted if all criteria are met. If a team does not meet these criteria additional teams from Stage 1 will be accepted. Club level teams from the previous season and teams formed in new clubs are permitted to apply for consideration for the Stage 1 Play-in. (held in December) Up to thirty-two teams in each age group will be accepted for that event. The top eight finishers will advance as the number 25 through 32 seeded teams in the Stage 2 Play-in. The PL Stage1 event will be held on December 13th and 14th as shown on the tentative schedule. Any team is eligible to apply based on the following:
 - New Clubs that can provide an honest assessment of their ability to compete.
 - Teams that finished in the top ~ 30% of the Club Division in the previous season.
 - You will need to detail your perception of the possibility of being able to compete on this level to be considered for acceptance.
 - Final acceptance decisions are at the sole discretion of the Director of Operations in consultation with the JCC.
- The remainder of the format follows::
 - The Stage 2 Play-in (January) will be a single day event.
 - Round One (January / February) will be a single day event.

- Round Two (February) will be a single day event.
- Round Three (March) will be a single day event.
- The Regional Championship / Bid Qualifier will be a two-day event played over 2 weekends. Day One will consist of the top 16 teams competing to move 8 teams forward. Day Two will be a double elimination event consisting of the 8 teams advancing from Day One. This will also determine the Open regional Champion. On Day Two the teams not making the Top 16 will compete for the Open Flight 1 Championship.

The top eight finishers from the 2025 series who request admission this season are seeded in at the top of the 8 pools. Placement is calculated from the PL finish (not ranking) of the team from the next lowest age group from the previous season. (ie ABCV 17s are placed by the finish of ABCV 16s) The remaining seeds in the top 24 are also determined this way, the remaining 8 teams are determined by their finish in Play-in Stage 1.

1. The Bid and Regional Championship, in April, will stay be a two day event played over two weekends, with Bid Eligible teams Competing on Day 1 and the 8 advancing teams as well as the 8 Flight 1 teams will compete on Day 2

These numbers are based on full twenty-four team divisions.
Divisions with lower numbers will be adjusted accordingly.

POWER LEAGUE DESCRIPTION, AND STRUCTURE 2025 - 2026 Overview

History: The general concept of the GEVA Power League was instituted in 2013. The intent was to replace the then defunct Open Division and provide a way for teams with historically strong performance to compete against each other more frequently. The goal was to improve the performance of all teams involved as well as the region in general.

There are periodic changes approved by the JCC. Please read carefully and entirely. Please refer to this before reaching out with questions.

Power League is offered to enhance competition at the highest level within the GEVA region. The GEVA region is providing the opportunity for the top team, now in single age groups to compete on a regular basis to better prepare them for out of region and post season play. Clubs should read and understand all information completely before making decisions about GEVA Power League participation.

The combined Bid Allocation Event and Regional Power League Championships will be held in April over two weekends. 16 teams will compete weekend 1 and 8 will advance to the second weekend and the finals. The remaining 8 of the 24 teams in the age division will compete in a single day event the second weekend.

Locations

The goal and plan are to keep the competition centrally located. Divisions will be targeted to play in the same geographic area on each of the multi-day weekends. This, as always, is fully dependent on court availability.

Power League Stages:

Application: The application process is described and managed at GEVA.ORG under the Resources / Club Director / Power League tab. Applications open Monday November 17th, 2025, and remain open through November 20st, 2025. Play in acceptance for both stages will be determined by November 24th, 2025. Teams advancing to Stage 2 will be informed after stage 1. Applications are submitted on-line only, one application for each team. The GEVA Club Director of record or designated Admin is the only person permitted to submit applications. (applications submitted by any other person will be eliminated without notification)

The most important factor to the success of the Power League is the selfless, honest evaluation of the status of the current edition of the potential play-in teams. It is expected Coaches and Club Directors will present an honest evaluation and not cater to the temptation of perceived status. Teams need to be at a level where they are expected to end the season ranked in the top 16 open level teams in their age group.

The Play-in: The play-in teams are approved by the Junior Director in consultation with the Junior Competition Committee. All decisions are final and not subject to appeal. The number of qualified teams is subject to annual review based on overall quality of teams and courts available. (There is a 24 team limit for 2026) Entry fees for the Play-in Stage 1 and Stage 2 events are due within 72 hours of notification. All teams entering the Play-in Stage 1 and Stage 2 and advancing to the series are committing to the entire Power League series including Regional Championships. Failure to honor that commitment will result in serious disciplinary action ¹.

Qualifying teams are aware of their status at the conclusion of the Stage 2 Play-in event and will be expected to submit payment for the remainder of the series and Regional Championships within 72 hours.

Rankings for the play-in are a combination of the following results.

The initial evaluation and groupings are based on finishes from the previous season.

The thirteen's age group will be seeded on 2024 rankings as twelve's with additional entries being seeded by the JCC. When results place teams from the same club in the same pool within the division the lower ranked team is swapped with the team ranked immediately below them until it is resolved. This pertains to Play-in only, not the series.

Age Group Series: There will be up down movement to the first series event as a result of the play-in. No team or club is exempt from the play-in.

Commitment: Each team qualifying for the series is committed to competing in the entire series including regional finals. Once qualification is completed Operations will enter the qualified teams in all Power League events, and the Open Regional Championship. The teams will then be required to submit non-refundable payment for the series and Championships within 72 hours of completion of the Power League Play-In.

Each team that finishes the series events in the top 16 is invited to apply to compete for the Region's Bid(s) to the Girls Junior National Championship.²

Bids, Reallocated Bids, and Bids earned outside of GEVA.

Bids are allocated to the regions by USA Volleyball on an annual basis. The number of bids and bid divisions vary year to year. Currently GEVA receives one bid in the National, American, and Freedom division in each age group from 13s through 17s. GEVA bids will be announced as soon as the regions are notified. Bids turned down by other regions are reallocated to the region pool by USAV. GEVA has been awarded several reallocation bids in recent years.

These bids are awarded via the Championship process. We typically play the tournament out to fifth place or beyond to allow for this.

Other Earned Bids

Teams may also win bids at other USAV bid qualifying events. When this occurs, it does not affect the number of bids allocated to the region. (An example is: team XYZ wins an American Bid at the Northeast Qualifier; it does not count against GEVA's allocations).

GEVA teams who win a bid at a Qualifier may accept a higher division earned in GEVA. They are not obligated to do so. If GEVA accepts reallocated bids that would need to trickle past results decided at Regional Championships, they will no longer be accepted or allocated.

Rostering and Player Movement:

Rosters: For all intents and purposes rosters are locked for the entirety of the Power league. There are exceptions. The signed Sportsengine USAV approved roster submitted at check-in is the official roster for the event. These rosters will be scanned by the Site Director and submitted to the JCC Chair.

Coaches:

- A Qualified Rostered Coach may be the Head Coach for any single team within their club during the play-in. They cannot be the Head Coach of multiple teams competing on the same day.
- During the Series events a coach may only be the Head Coach of a single team within their club competing on the same weekend.
- Coaches may change on rosters event to event.

Players:

- Any player can only participate on one team without regard to age during the Play-in.
- Any player can only participate on one team without regard to age during a series event.
- Any player can only participate on a single team during any GEVA championships and bid tournament.
- A player on a power league qualified team is not eligible to participate on any non-power team during any non-power league GEVA Conducted or Authorized tournament. (This includes non-power open division tournaments, 11s, 12s, 18s) If this occurs the player is not allowed to return to any power league team.
- A player not initially rostered to a power league qualified team may be added to a power league roster during the season. This move is permitted only once and to only one power league qualified team. The player may remain rostered with the Power league team or move back to a club team. Once they move back to a club team, they are not eligible to move to a power league team again during the current season.
- Players are eligible to move only once from one power league team to another within the same club; they are not permitted to be moved back.

These conditions apply to in-region play only.

*Coaches and Players violating these standards are subject to disciplinary action up to and including Administrative and National Suspension.

Power League Series Seeding.

Teams are seeded in the power league according to the following:

The top 8 teams in each age group are seeded by order of finish (not ranking) in the next younger age group from the previous season. (Guideline is if you were in the final 8 at Power League Champions. You are eligible) Those teams, if entered, will be the top seed in each of the 8 pools.

The remaining teams will be seeded for the play-in by finish from the previous season or in the case of new entries by final ranking from the previous season in the next lowest age group

Team Movement and Playoffs.

At the conclusion of the play-in the teams in each age group will be placed in three flights of 8 teams each. Each team will be placed according to the following:

The top 8 teams, determined by finish (winners of 1 v 2 crossover) will comprise Group 1. The next 8 teams (losers of the 1 v 2 crossover) will comprise Group 2. Group 3 will be the next 8 teams composed of the winners of the 3 v 4 crossover. The Losers of the 3 v 4 crossover will enter the Club Division. The Play-in will count as one of the teams required events.

Each subsequent match will be seeded by finish in the previous round. The only time rankings are considered is to determine the 13th -16th seeds for Day 1 of the Championship and Bid event.

Movement from event to event is determined by the Chart Attached

All teams play 4 matches. There is a winner.

The next flight 3 composed of 8 play-in teams will have the top 3 teams move to flight 2. This is determined by the two first place teams (play for winner) plus the winner of the 2 v 2 crossover. The loser of the 2 v 2 crossover and the remaining teams stay in flight 3. crossover and remain in flight 3.

One of the planned benefits is that the team initially placed as the 24th entry can move to flight 2 on day 2 and flight 1 on day 3. It can also work in reverse.

Qualification for Open Regional Championships and Bid Entry

Teams entering the 16 team Championship round are determined as follows:

All planned movements will be recognized as if there were another day in the series.

The teams that would be either remaining in, or moving to flight one are the top 8 and placed by finish. The next 4 teams are the teams that would be the 1st and 2nd pool placement teams in flight 2 and will also be placed by finish.

The final 4 teams to complete the 16 team team field will be the next 4 highest ranking teams of the remaining 12 without regard to Power League finish. They will be placed by ranking as teams 13-16.

The remaining 8 teams will compete in Open Regional Flight 1 on Day 2 (non-bid).

The date of the ranking for the final four spots will be determined at the conclusion of the series.

Bid Tournament Entry: Upon completion of the Power League Series events the top 16 teams in each age group are eligible to compete for the region's bids and any reallocated bids. That decision is confirmed by written application and affirmation by the Club Director. Any team entering to play for a bid is immediately fully obligated to accept any region allocated bid earned. Reallocated bids will be offered in order of finish. Any reallocated bid is for a specific GJNC division. Teams may not change bid division choices.

Depending on reallocated bids offered, a date for declaring intention to play for those bids is predetermined. Teams may withdraw their intent to compete for a bid until the coach's meeting on day 2 of the championships. This must be done in writing. Without regard to when, once an intent to play for a bid is withdrawn, it cannot be reinstated.

GJNC Housing: On occasion GEVA is entered into a hotel room lottery process conducted and administered by USA Volleyball's event department. When rooms are allocated to GEVA they are awarded to the highest finishing team in each division.

¹ Disciplinary action for failure to complete the series includes at a minimum:

- Immediate removal from the Power League upon infraction.
- Ineligibility in the participating age group and next higher age group for a minimum of the following season.
- A ban from any further GEVA competition in the current season.

*Additional club, team, and/or individual disciplinary action may be assessed depending upon the severity of the infraction.

*Infractions include, but are not limited to no shows, failure to complete a playing or officiating obligation, roster violations, or code of conduct violations.

² Bids are allocated and reallocated to the region by USA Volleyball. Note that the bid application process is separate and is completed toward the end of the series. Reallocated bids that are received prior to the final day of regionals are awarded in order of USAV Division Ranking. Bids allocated after the final day are awarded in the order received. Teams may not return a region bid to accept a reallocated bid. A team refusing a reallocated bid is removed from the eligible pool of teams.

All final competition participation and formatting decisions (including Power League) are at the discretion of the Junior Director (Director of Operations). Be advised that the parameters may need to be adjusted due to forces beyond the control of GEVA.

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