



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW REGIONAL OFFICIALS' ASSIGNOR & HEAD RATER FOR THE 2009/2010 SEASON!

USA Volleyball is proud to announce Michael Hertz as Regional Official Assignor & Wallace Hendricks as the Head Rater

Eustis, FL – October 16th, 2009 – Today, the Florida Region of USA Volleyball is enthusiastic to announce the selection of our first Regional Officials Assignor, **Michael Hertz** (Madeira Beach, Florida). Michael is a USAV National Referee as well as a PAVO National Referee. He has been involved with the Florida Region since 1976. He began officiating at the Junior National level since 1992 and in 1995 began at the National level. Michael will take on the responsibilities of assigning officials to all USAV club volleyball tournaments in the Florida Region. He will also coordinate assignments with the Tournament Director and Head Rater. It is great to have him in a position where he will be able to make use of his training, credentials and skills.

Michael was asked how he felt being the first regional assignor ever. His response; "It is an interesting position and a great concept, which is to keep the referees assigned accordingly. I know in the past some referees missed the opportunity to officiate in some of the tournaments but having this position I will be able to find the referees, the tournaments and put them together to accommodate the officials as well as the tournament directors." Michael's message to the tournament directors and head officials is; "My goal is for the communication between myself, the referees and the tournament directors to function smoothly. I ask that they give us a chance to get up and running. I will find the officials for the tournament directors and alleviate their time by providing them with the most qualified officials."

We are also excited to announce **Wallace "Wally" Hendricks** (Estero, Florida) as our Head Rater for the 2009/10 season. Wally has been officiating for 32 years, which includes 3 years in the Florida Region. For the past 11 years Wally has been a member of the National Rating Team, where he rated and recertified National Officials. He is a retired USAV and PAVO National Ref and a former associate Vice-President of the officials division of USA Volleyball. Wally was honored as a National Referee Emeritus, which is retiring at the highest level of officiating but continuing to referee. Being head of the Florida Rating Team, his experience and certifications will assist when considering advancements for the officials. He will also keep track of the official's credentials for the Florida Region. Wally will be a great asset to Florida's rating team, and we are eager to introduce him as the Head Rater.

We've asked Wally what are his goals are for his new role. He replied, "My first goal would be for the Florida Region to have the best officials in the nation. My second goal would be to get as many junior players as possible interested in becoming officials." Wally's message to the officials is, "I look forward to meeting all those I have not yet met and to help them become the best officials that they can be. Rating would be primarily teaching and it should be fun. The Florida Region is blessed with a huge number of excellent National Officials. I want to draw on their experience to provide role models for our provisional, regional and junior national officials."

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Steve Bishop, Executive Director/President of the Florida Region of USA Volleyball commented, “After a thorough interview process by the panel, **Michael Hertz** was determined to be the most qualified, and experienced official for the position as the Regional Officials Assignor. This year we do not want to miss out on any qualified officials refereeing our club tournaments. Things will run smoothly since **Michael Hertz** is very organized, very personable and his administrative skills are remarkable. **Michael Hertz** will assign officials according to their experience, qualifications and ratings, done by **Wally Hendricks**. We are also thrilled to have **Wally Hendricks** as our Head Rater. Wally’s dedication, determination and qualifications will equip him with an accurate evaluation for each official. We are very excited to have them both as leaders for our Officials in the Florida Region.”

About Florida Region of USA Volleyball:

The Florida Region of USA Volleyball was established in 1982 to promote the sport of volleyball and to create competitive playing opportunities for volleyball enthusiasts throughout the State of Florida. The Florida Region is a member of USA Volleyball and currently serves approximately 8,000 adult and junior members. Additional information on the Florida Region can be found at: www.FloridaVolleyball.org.

About USA Volleyball:

USA Volleyball is the National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport of volleyball in the United States and is recognized by the Federation International de Volleyball (FIVB) and the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). Additional information on USA Volleyball can be found at: www.USAVolleyball.org.

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