

# PROCEDURES FOR BREAKING TIES TO DETERMINE POOL FINISH

At the conclusion of a pool, the pool finish position of the teams is determined by their pool match records.

If there is a tie in match record among 2 or more teams in the pool, tie(s) are resolved using the Tie Break Rules, even in 3 team pools where all 3 sets are required to be played.

## TIE BREAK RULES

Ties in Matches are broken by the following steps:

### TWO TEAMS TIE IN MATCHES

Always broken head to head. No exceptions.

### THREE-OR-MORE TEAMS TIE IN MATCHES

1. Head to head results are used to determine pool finishes for teams that are tied in Match Record.
  - a) A team that beats all the other teams with which it is tied in Match Record will finish ahead of the other teams in the pool.
  - b) A team that has lost to all of the other teams with which it is tied in Match Record is placed behind the other teams in pool finish.
  - c) If there are only two teams tied in matches after steps 1(a) and 1(b) have been applied, the head to head winner of those 2 teams earns the higher pool finish.
  - d) If after applying steps 1(a), 1(b) & 1(c), teams remain tied, then the ranking of those remaining teams follows the procedure in step 2.
2. Set percentage is the 2<sup>nd</sup> level of breaking ties and is used to rank a pool in which teams remain tied after applying the rules in step 1.
  - a) Teams with a higher set percentage finish ahead of teams with a lower set percentage.
  - b) If only two teams are tied in both match percentage and set percentage, the team that won head to head receives the higher finish in the pool.
  - c) If three teams (or more) are tied in match percentage and set percentage after applying steps 2(a) & 2(b), the tie breaking procedure followed is based on whether a team is eliminated from advancing to the Gold at BJNC/GJNCs or earning the Qualifier Bid to BJNC/GJNCs using Steps 2(d) and 2(e).
  - d) **If no team is eliminated from advancing to the Gold at BJNC/GJNCs or earning a Bid to BJNC/GJNCs**, pool finish among the teams tied in Match percentage and Set percentage is determined by Point percentage. If two teams are still tied in point percentage, the head to head winner finishes higher.
  - e) **If a team would be eliminated from advancing to the Gold at BJNC/GJNCs or earning a Bid to BJNC/GJNCs**, the remaining teams that are tied in match percentage and set percentage have Playoff Tie Breaker Set(s) played as defined in step 3.
3. Playoff Tie Breaker Sets are played if 3 or more teams remain tied after applying steps 1 & 2. Girls National Qualifiers/Boys Bid Tournaments and the BJNC/GJNCs have different protocols and are defined below.

### ***Girl's National Qualifiers and Boys Bid Tournaments:***

To determine pool finish position, tied teams are ranked by their point percentage from the pool. Tie Breakers Sets, if required, are played as 1 set to 25, switch sides at 13. There may be brackets of 2, 3, or 4 teams. Tie Breaker sets are only played for the last spot leading to a Qualifier Bid.

- a) If there is 1 pool position available for a team to advance to play for a bid position, all teams participate in the Tie Breaker Sets. The sequence of play offsets is structured so that the teams with the highest point percentages have the fewest number of Tie Breaker Sets to play.
- b) If there are two pool positions available for a team to advance to play for a bid position, the team with the highest point percentage is ranked the highest and receives one of the advancing positions. remaining teams participate in the Tie Breaker Sets. The sequence of playoff sets is structured so that the teams with the highest point percentages have the fewest number of Tie Breaker Sets to play.
- c) If there are three pool positions available for a team to advance to play for a bid, the two teams with the highest point percentages each receive one of the advancing spots. The remaining teams participate in the Tie Breaker Sets. . The sequence of play offsets are structured so that the teams with the highest point percentages have the fewest number of Tie Breaker Sets to play.

Following the rules set out above, it is possible for one or more tied teams to advance without having to play in a Tie Breaker Set, as only the last pool position is played off. It is possible that teams will be eliminated from the GOLD bracket in a National Qualifier as the Tie Breaker is played to determine the chance to play for a Qualifier Bid, NOT for the Gold Bracket.

### ***USAV Girls Jr National Championships (GJNCs) and USAV Boys Junior National Championships (BJNC):***

Tied teams are ranked by their point percentage from the pool. Tie Breakers Sets are played as 1 set to 25, switch sides at 13, and may be brackets of 2, 3, or 4 teams. Tie Breaker sets will only be played for the last spot leading to the GOLD Bracket.

The Tie breaking procedure is the same as outlined in the above steps 3(a), 3(b), & 3(c).

It is possible for one or more of the tied teams to advance without having to play in a Tie Breaker Set as only the last spot is played off.