

**General Board Meeting
Gateway Region USA Volleyball
DATE: March 6, 2009
Minutes**

Present Board Members: Tim Neels, Tom Schaefer, Don LaChance, Jeff Juenger, Augie Werner, Debbie Palmer, Jean Evans, Kevin Nelson, Larry Matysik, Ken O'Day, James Atteberry, Chris Clauss, Shawna Stover, Steve Mueth, Joe Flanigan

Not Present Board Members: Tracy Coleman (Proxy Debbie Palmer), Rich Farmer (Proxy Don LaChance), Linda Jensen (Proxy Joe Flanigan), Alison Anderson (Proxy Jeff Juenger), Matt Stuhlsatz (Proxy Jean Evans), Stephanie Miller (Proxy Joe Flanigan), Mark Sicking

Present Staff Members: Donna Mayer, Nicki Fisaga, and Shannon Loso

Present Guests/Members: Kathy Harris, Brian Williams, Rick Czuppon, Ruby Winschel, Genie Swanston

Meeting called to order at: 6:38pm

Additions to Agenda: none

Motion to approve the agenda: Clauss/O'Day/MCU

Motion to Approve minutes – December 5, 2008

Under 2c: available on the website (not available at the open gyms)

Motion to approve the minutes with the amendment: Palmer/Stover//MCU

BOARD REPORTS:

Commissioner – Neels

-Going fairly smooth, change to new registration system a little bit of a challenge but we are working through it. At National level, USAV may want a fee increase for membership fees.

Associate Commissioner- Coleman – no report

Treasurer – Schaefer – presented YTD financial report; detailed report available at Region office

Secretary – Mueth – no report

Jr. Coordinator – Clauss –

-A gentleman had a complaint about teams playing up and taking spots away from legitimate age level teams . .

-Informal request for a transfer, no action

-A coach called a tournament director an inappropriate name, they have apologized

-A coach called about when an official's call was made

-A parent calling about player playing time

-A parent was asked to leave a gym due to inappropriate behavior, no action so far

Scorekeeper Chair – Palmer – no report

Referee Chair – Werner

- Deadline for rating forms to the office has been extended to March 17th in order to get your refund; will still certify until the end of Adult Regionals
- Working on forming a new recruiting/mentoring committee for National Referees, will be presented at the next Board Meeting.
- The issue of certified officials being required to have a background screen next season will be discussed at the May National meetings.

Women's Coordinator-Stover –

- Individuals on 3 adult women's teams had their ratings changed – IRTItoo; CLC; Lady Spider Monkeys

Men's Coordinator- LaChance

- In process of reviewing 3 individuals from 3 teams that should be rated differently (ATF; Pepperocini, APA)

Tournament Coordinator – Coleman – no report

Staff Reports –

Donna – Rankings are posted; Membership numbers are approx the same and number of teams about the same. Over 5000 people have registered online themselves. Working through some issues with Webpoint constraints.

Nicki – All Regional entry forms are available on the Events tab – all team reps have been notified of this.

-Boys Fest and Girls Fest, first round of seeding tourneys and HS Boys Regionals all completed.

-Regionals: Coed 10s – March 29th; Adults – April 4th; Girls Bronze/Copper and Girls' 11s All Levels – April 25/26th; Boys 12-14s – May 2nd; Girls Gold/Silver – May 2/3rd

Shannon –

-IMPACT – have certified over 200 coaches this season. Webinars have received positive feedback so far.

-Recruiting Seminar – very successful, over 150 attendees and very positive feedback

OLD BUSINESS

1. Open Gyms – Issue resolved pending Information Sheet developed by Chris Clauss
-Will have by the August meeting, will be made available online
2. Senior Volleyball Program - Meeting with staff to be scheduled over the summer.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review Boys Teams in Girls Tournaments Policy – current policy is that tournaments must be designated as B/G events. **Motion #1:** to remove the word “designated” for B12 in current policies:

Boys Participation in Girls Tournaments:

B-12 may participate in ~~designated~~ G-12, G-13, G-14/B-12 tournaments.

B-14 may participate in designated G-14, G-15, G-16/B-14 tournaments.

B-12 tournaments may accept G-12.

B-14 tournaments may accept G-14, G-15, G-16.

Developmental boys’ teams may play in a lower age group provided they have applied for and received a team waiver from the Gateway Region.

-Motion brought forward from Executive Board - MCU

2. 10s Tournament Format - **Motion #2:** to remove the word “suggested”, change to capable officials, increase TE fee pending discussion of raising TE fees

~~Suggested~~ abbreviated format for Coed 10s:

- *Any combination of boys/girls,*
- *Volleylite type ball,*
- *6’6” net height*
- *Matching numbered jerseys recommended*
- *½ day tournament format – no playoffs*
- *Free and unlimited substitutions (no need to record subs)*
- *Teams must supply junior or adult ~~certified~~ capable officials*
Any individual acting as 1st or 2nd referee must be registered
- *Emphasize participation and de-emphasize winning*
Sets scored but wins/losses should not be tracked
Prizes for all participants (certificates, candy, small gifts)
- *Emphasis on “3-hits”*
- *Allow 2nd service attempt for player initiated serves if 1st attempt misses*
- *Tournaments may be run with coach initiated serves*
- *~~\$40 ? maximum entry fee (if higher — include on sanction form for approval)~~*
- *No sanction fee charged*
- *6’6” step in court to serve*

Friendly amendment – After 3 completed serves there will be a sideout (no point awarded);

Maximum tournament entry fee will be \$60; and 10 feet step in court to serve

-Motion brought forward from Executive Board - MCU

3. Adult Program Preliminary Committee: Shawna Stover, Don LaChance, Tracy Coleman, Tom Schaefer, Debbie Palmer
 - a. Team Level of Play as opposed to Individual
 - b. Officials Requirements / Penalty
 - c. Growth

This summer the committee will review the items above.

4. Tournament Entry Fee Increase –
 - a. Brian Williams made a proposal to raise tournament entry fees up to \$150 (up from \$100) for Jr events and to \$120 (up from \$80) for adult events.
 - b. Discussion on above proposal that included a “free market” approach to tournament entry fees.

Motion – Evans/Stover – Not to raise tournament entry fees for the 2010 USAV season, to be reviewed annually.

-Motion to table the motion to the May meeting – Werner/Schaefer
Favor – 7; Opposed – 8 Motion Fails

Favor – 3; Opposed – 12; Motion failed

Motion to table the raising tournament entry fees to the August meeting – Palmer/Werner
Motion passes

5. Warm Up Protocol – **MOTION #3:** Change the current warm-ups for junior events from 3-3-1 to 4 minutes for the serving team, 4 minutes for the receiving team. An additional 2 minutes of shared ball handling can be added prior to the 4 & 4 if it is a team’s first match of the day. It is recommended that the reffing team issue a 1 minute warning during the 4 minutes to allow the team time to serve.

-Motion brought forward from Executive Board – Motion Passes (clarification, this Motion doesn’t take effect until 2010 season)

6. Elections – 3 EB positions: Commissioner, Scorekeeper Chair and Men’s Player Rep. Tracy Coleman to begin candidate search for both EB and At Large positions and post appropriate information on website. The 3 At Large Directors with terms expiring are: Larry Matysik; Stephanie Miller and Alison Anderson.

7. Conflict of interest policy
USAV BOD – if the individual benefits at the expense of the corporation then that is a conflict of interest.

8. Board meeting minutes on website – we will post the General Board meeting minutes on the Publications page on the website.

9. Junior teams playing up –Teams are allowed to play up and tournament directors have the option to accept younger teams in order to fill their event. Discussion.

10. St Louis U Elite Camp Tim is investigating concept

-Reviewing to understand insurance implications and recruiting policies/rules

Motion to Adjourn – Clauss/Stover 8:45 MCU

Meeting Dates:

May 8, 2009

August 7, 2009

December 4, 2009