

Approved
3/6/07

**Arizona Region of USA Volleyball
Executive Board Minutes
January 23, 2007**

Call to Order: 6:35 pm, AZ Region Office, 2105 S. 48th St, Suite 108, Tempe, AZ

Present: Harold Cranswick – Commissioner, Becky Hudson – Sec/Treasurer, Peter Meyer – Officials’ Division Coordinator, Justin Blake – Adult Division Coordinator, Jonathan Norris – Junior Division Coordinator.

Approval of Minutes: Motion 1: Move to approve the minutes of October 24, 2006 – Justin Blake, Peter Meyer. Minutes approved as written.

Old Business

a. Home Courts

Update on the usage of Home Courts – we are using Home Courts. They have accepted our host fee for payment as long as they can charge a gate of \$3 per person. We are paying a \$150 Janitorial Fee in addition to the host fee.

There are not as many clubs offering their gyms up for our use. Reasons are unknown. What does our future hold – paying our hosts more money for the facility, playing on Sundays (Open Division), teams have to travel farther distances to play, or the creation of sub-regions for tournament play? We should meet with athletic directors to explore the possibility of using their gyms for our tournaments.

b. Creation of an Arizona Region Development Grant Plan

Information distributed on the grants plans in the Carolina Region and the USAV Grant Plan. The Region could possibly change the use of any future Golf Tournament funds from the current scheduled use (half to High Performance team and half to Starlings) to a new use (half to the creation of new high school boys’ teams and the other half to be used for any innovative grassroots ideas). Harold’s personal desire is to create more opportunities for boys to play in high school and transition to collegiate play.

c. Division Goals for 2006-2007

Members are to put together their Division goals. These will be presented to the General Assembly in September and in the Annual Report.

d. Creation of an Advisory Board

The Advisory Board will have no official power. It will serve strictly as an avenue for input to the Region from the Region membership. The Commissioner will be in charge of hosting the meetings. Members of the Executive Board, the Junior Board and the Official’s Committee are welcome to attend but not required to do so. Each member of the Executive Board and the Junior Board will be given the opportunity to nominate two people for the Advisory Board although there will be no official limit to the size.

A meeting of the Advisory Board could be set up as a part of the General Assembly. Harold will be able to be in touch with different areas of the volleyball community as the host of these meetings.

Jonathan is to take this idea to the Junior Board. Members of both Boards are to forward their names or contacts to Harold.

Motion 2: Move to create an Advisory Board to the Arizona Region under the Commissioner's Division. Harold Cranswick, Jonathan Norris. Motion Passes.

e. Changes to the Constitution and By-Laws

Create an outside position of the Executive Board. It is a good idea to have an At-Large position on the Executive Board.

At-Large Board member could be anyone – it is suggested that it be a parent. Club Cactus has a former parent on their Board. That person is also a financial advisor. This person could be from a field that could advise the Board in a certain area – financial, marketing, legal, etc. – but also have the experience as a volleyball parent.

One item to iron out is how does this person come to be on the Board? Are they elected, appointed, nominated or volunteer?

f. Security System for the AZ Region office.

Justin Blake will take care of finding the system.

We have been advised to keep documents (memberships) for the time that our 18's have been playing. If the 18's players started as 5th graders we would need to go 7 years back. We will keep documents 10 years back and shred the rest.

New Business – none brought forward

Officers' Reports

Commissioner

a. Information/News

i. BOD meeting in Colorado Springs – January 12-14, 2007

Restructuring the USAV Board of Directors – After a long day of serious discussion, the Board approved a plan to reduce the size of the Board to 16 people with a total of 15 votes. A Powerpoint presentation is available that provides more detail. Part of the motivation for approving the plan was pressure from the USOC as well as the fact that the AVP would drop the Article VII if the reorg plan was adopted.

The Regions provide 95% of the funding for USAV and now only hold a fraction of the power. One fourth of the 16 member Board are player representatives. Focus is on elite level and not grassroots.

ii. Magazine cost increase

The Board approved a \$.25 increase for the USAV magazine. Members of the Board were informed that this increase represented an increase in the cost of production even though the budget indicated that the magazine produced a profit.

iii. Proposed rate increase

Doug Beal is proposing a \$10 per member increase in fees and, in his opinion, the sooner the better. The idea is strongly opposed by the ROD but it was not on the agenda for the BOD meeting. No doubt the idea will resurface in May again.

iv. Alternative membership structure

With the passage of a new Board, the RVA's will be considering an alternative structure for membership at the May meetings. Unless the Board agrees to have all member organizations pay the same fees, the RVA's will be asked to consider joining an alternative organization that will only charge fees for joining the USAV if the teams and players intend on participating in national events such as the National Championships or a Qualifier. The idea is still in the initial stages but would represent a decrease in the cost of membership for all teams and players who only participate on a local level.

v. USAV membership registration system

USAV is backing off the time line for all Regions to be on the system. They are experiencing some software glitches with the system.

b. Office Update – Becky Hudson

- i. Registration is progressing very well. We have some issues with communication that need to be ironed out.
- ii. Christy Naughton was hired to help streamline the registration process and to assist Lisa with the American Volleyball Championships.
- iii. Jonathan and Lisa are working out the timeline of duties with Andy Reitingier.
- iv. It is suggested that we acquire a wireless network in the office. This would allow visitors to be able to work on computers without having to use a computer station.
- v. Computer backup system. We currently use a tape backup on our server. It was recently discovered that the system has not been backing up since the summer of 2005. Bill Kalaf came in and restored the system. Discussion of this led to the suggestion of an offsite backup system. Earl Capps works for a company that does this.

Secretary/Treasurer – Becky Hudson

Treasurer's Report – December 2006

Income:	\$228,896.40
Expenses:	\$30,987.10
Checking Account Balance – December 31	\$259,049.89
MMA Balance – December 31	\$164,484.04

Lisa Naughton has been handling recording and depositing the receivables. This has allowed us to put the money in the bank faster than in years past.

Officials Division Coordinator – Peter Meyer

i. Information/News

Peter is making contact with all the submitters and offenders of the Match Comment forms. He is on top of this as they come in. He is making sure the submitters know we are listening.

Peter is working out the assignment problems – misunderstandings of the process to mark availability and check assignments. Communication is better with the corps of officials. “Obsessions” has been revived to communicate with the officials. There are 15 or so new officials. Peter will be dealing with the reduced number of officials as qualifier season approaches and some of our officials go off to work those tournaments.

Jr Official’s Development Program. We need to use the right acronyms when describing. JODD is Jr Officials Development Director; JODP is Jr Officials Development Program.

Peter is dealing with the issue of some officials expecting food to be provided to them when they work our tournaments. Tournament hosts are not expected to provide food and water for the officials. If it is provided that is a bonus. It should not be expected anywhere.

Peter commends Ron Pelham and Marci Gregg for their job in organizing the officials for the Cactus Classic. Ron has come a long way as an official and has matured greatly.

Adult Division Coordinator – Justin Blake

i. Information/News

Justin has contacted some community gyms. There is some resistance with those groups to allow us access for higher quality leagues than city leagues. Justin will stop by and talk to Bud Noble at Home Courts about offering leagues.

Adult first tournament went well. The majority of teams were at Home Courts. It was great to hold the tournament in one main location. The players like it a lot. It is more expensive but looking for a way to make it work.

There is an increase in the number of women's teams. The graduating junior boys have not found their way into the men's division yet.

Junior Division Coordinator – Jonathan Norris

- i. **Boys season** ran well with the exception of a few bumps with formatting in the beginning. We increased in number of boys teams by 4. Held a 14's division Championships with a mix of 14's & 15's teams. The teams had a ball playing in their own division. Beth Nuneviller did a great job of handling the Rage team. The Litchfield team progressed every tournament. They all seemed to be having fun.
- ii. **Boys Regionals** were held at Home Courts. It was a huge success. Parents loved being able to see teams in different divisions playing all at one site.
- iii. **Parent Behaviors** - Jonathan is very concerned about the parent attitudes. It is one of entitlement – we pay for our son/daughter to play therefore we are entitled to do what we want to at the tournaments. There is no respect for the facility rules or authority. 14's parents at Cactus Classic are out of control with about 5 or 6 clubs. It is the club director's responsibility to train the parents in their club on how to behave and what is expected of them at tournaments. Our Jr Officials are put into this age group and have to deal with these parents – this is not right. The consequence of this bad parental behavior is the loss of gyms and officials. This is a family friendly sport and we need to make this parent issue better. We need a plan in place for our club directors to educate their parents.
- iv. **Junior Beach** – 1st tournament Jan 21st. In season tournaments could be a success.

Committee Reports

Incident Review Committee – will be putting out a request for applicants for the Ethics and Compliance Officer (ECO).

Budget Committee – No report

Announcements

Next Executive Board meeting – Tuesday, March 6th at 6 pm

Next Junior Board meeting – TBA

Next Official's Division meeting – TBA

Other upcoming events – request for applicants for Education Director will be made public.

Meeting adjourned: 9:04 pm

Review of Decisions/Duties/Responsibilities as a result of today's meeting:

- Board members are to consider the information submitted on Region grants
- Division Coordinators are to determine goals for their Division and submit them for inclusion in the Annual Report and for discussion at the General Assembly
- Board members are encouraged to submit two candidates names to Harold for the Advisory Board
- Parameters of the Advisory Board to be established
- Justin Blake to research security system for the Region Office.
- Justin Blake to talk to Bud Noble of Home Courts about league offerings
- Membership forms and documents more than 10 years old to be shredded.
- Wireless network for the computer system to be researched and recommended. Offsite backup system for our data to be researched.
- A Parent Education plan to be developed for club directors to educate their parents.
- Job descriptions and request for applicants to be published for the Education Director and the Ethics and Compliance Officer positions.