

**Arizona Region
Executive Board Meeting**
October 28, 2008
Agenda

1. **Call to Order:** Harold Cranswick called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

2. **Roll Call**

Commissioner - Harold Cranswick; Secretary/Treasurer - Becky Hudson; Officials Division Coordinator - Peter Meyer; Adult Division Coordinator - Ron Pelham; Junior Division Coordinator - Michelle Malis
Guests - Rich Foley

3. **Guest Presentations**

Rich Foley would like the Region to consider a policy that would keep clubs from registering the next season until their debt is paid off with vendors. He would like this policy to be similar to our current policy denying a junior player membership if the former club presents a small claims court judgment against them. This would address the business aspect (vendors) of clubs volleyball in the AZ Region. Rich sent a letter regarding this to the Jr Board in April and then sent a letter to the office in August.

Rich is currently owed \$4400 by AZONE and \$4400 by Force. AZONE has paid \$2000 of the \$6400 balance he had, Force has not paid anything. The balances are for apparel and equipment delivered but payment has not been made. Promises made to him since 2007 have not been fulfilled. Rich took AZONE to small claims court and received a judgment. Interest is accruing on AZONE. The Force issue is in Pinal Co court with Tony Pierson. Both clubs received their merchandise before the season began. Rich gives his clients 14 days after they received their equipment before invoicing them. Shipping and handling on the invoice is included in the balance due and is to the penny on the invoice.

Rich does not want to hold the club back from participating for the kids. But the directors are out there participating while he has this huge debt. Maybe put something in the club file. If he let a club get away with not paying for their debt it will make him look bad and could cause others to not pay him either.

4. **Motion 1: to approve the agenda as written (Pelham/Malis/MC)**

5. **Motion 2: to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2008 meeting as written (Malis/Meyer/MC)**

6. **Officers' Reports**

Commissioner

a. **Information/News**

- i. Golf Tournament – postponed to March or April. Harold would like input on when to hold the golf tournament if we are going to do it. Fall did not generate the involvement we would like to see. Spring is in the middle of the season and there is too much going on. If anyone has any ideas or wants to make some suggestions we need to hear from them.

- ii. Update on the Oct meetings in COS –
 - The ROD is now the Region Volleyball Assembly; the YJOVD is now the General Forum of the Junior Assembly.
 - Harold is no longer a USAV Board member.
 - The new Chair of the RVA Assembly is Joe Williams.
 - The YJOVD meetings did not conduct much business because there were several committees that did not have a quorum.
 - Background screen issues were a problem at the end of the season in several regions. USAV is stressing to the Regions to make sure the background screens are completed before the season begins.
 - We are being pushed more and more toward the national registration system.
 - There was discussion on when and where the Jr Assembly and RVA Assembly will meet. The commissioners are discussing moving the second set of meetings out of Colorado Springs to a hub city due to the expense of flying to COS. USAV promoted COS since the staff members are there in COS versus having the staff travel to another city.
- iii. National meetings - ROD & YJOVD meetings in Minneapolis, MN - May 19-22, 2009
- iv. J.R. Salima has agreed to serve on the Ethics and Compliance Committee.

b. Region Office Information – Becky Hudson

- i. Teresa Scobee attended the grant writing workshop held at ASU. She is looking forward to digging into this venture.
- ii. We have received many coach's background screen forms. Not all clubs have submitted them to date. We received many more background screen forms than membership forms.
- iii. We have had several people offer to work in the office if we need help. Christy is in the process of figuring out her spring schedule. Our hope is to not have to hire anyone for registration this year.
- iv. We experienced a corrupted file that was a very important file for the office. Earl Capps came in to try to recover the file from our tape backup. When he accessed the tapes it was discovered that the last backup was from Feb 2008. We have a daily backup scheduled. Obviously the tape backup system is not working. Our server and computers are 5 years old. Maybe it is time we looked at replacing at least the server. Earl Capps said that he would return to get us organized in regards to our backup system. We were able to take the file from Feb 2008 and recreate it for our use.

Secretary/Treasurer – Becky Hudson

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|---|------------------------|
| a. Treasurer's Report: | Sept, 2009 |
| Income: | \$ 3,042.83 |
| Expenses: | \$29,770.72 |
| Balance in checking account as of | 9/31/08 = \$ 2,303.06 |
| Balance in Money Market Account as of | 9/31/08 = \$229,169.92 |
| Balance in Grant Development Fund as of | 9/31/08 = \$ 900.87 |

b. Marketing/PR Update – Eric Hodgson

- i. Website
The new website is up and running.
- ii. Sponsorships
- iii. Fundraisers
- iv. PR – Parent Information Nights going slowly but are going. The meetings are averaging 8 parents per meeting. There are 2 more scheduled sessions.
- v. The Club Director newsletter, Coaches newsletter and e-Newsletter all went out in the last few weeks. Next hard copy will be due in late January. E-newsletters go out the last week of the month for the past two years. Submit articles for e-newsletter by the Friday of the third week of the month. Eric has articles running as he progresses through the month from issues that have come up or from dealings with the office.

Officials Division Coordinator - Peter Meyer

a. Information/News –

- i. Boys tournaments are up and running. Peter is putting together the pay for the first month. No issues have come forward.
- ii. Rosters are not being checked by the officials at each match. Site directors are collecting them instead of giving them back to the coach.
- iii. Jim and Alyson going to Dallas, TX to attend the Train the Trainer clinic at the national level. They are talking about hosting a national clinic here.

Adult Division Coordinator – Ron Pelham

a. Information/News –

- i. We still need to get the Jr College league going. Colleges can host but they can't use resources for uniforms, etc. Some schools can't host but others could host. When Ron approached the Jr College coaches about this idea their faces lit up about the creation of this league. The coaches can't coach their team but their players could play.
- ii. Ron is sending the office emails of people that are looking for an adult team.

Junior Division Coordinator – Michelle Malis

a. Information/News – There was no quorum at their meeting so no official business was done but those that were there talked about some of the issues they are facing.

- a. YJOVD meetings –
 - i. Boys' side recommended a bronze a medal match at boys JOVC.
 - ii. Passed that all the boys qualifiers will have at least one bid.
 - iii. Grassroots – Eric touched on most of it in his report.
 - iv. Most of the meetings were regarding the restructuring of the division.
 - v. Many of the people that served on the commissions did not attend so they did not have a quorum and could not conduct business.
- b. As a result of all the free time at the YJOVD meetings Michael, Eric and Michelle decided the Junior Board needs to define a 5 year plan. This will make it easier when new people come to the board so there is already a direction to the division.

- c. We need to restructure the way the junior board members are elected. Since there has been so little involvement in the elections in May we should move the elections back to the General Assembly. This will not allow the new members to be a part of the planning process but should produce a better election process.
- d. The Junior Board will need to have two appointments to the board so they can work with a full board.
 - i. Questions on residency and where the club is located need to be addressed with the restructuring
- e. The juniors would like to be able to use pennies for the libero to save on the cost of a second set of jerseys for their non-travel teams
- f. There is a request before the Jr Board to switch tournament weeks in the calendar to avoid conflict for the Championship teams and Colorado Crossroads tournament.
- g. The juniors did not support the change requested in Paul Coltrin's revised bracket format for the 8 team bracket. They supported the change in the match #'s to round #'s but the officiating team assignments were too complicated.
- h. It was again brought to the junior board to discuss the idea of teams that miss a region tournament due to NQ participation and their desire to stay in the division they are in – the juniors did not support this.

b. High Performance – Eric Hodgson

Should the Arizona Region support a Boys National HP tryout? HP team(s)?

Eric is looking for feedback on a boy's National HP tryouts. USAV wants us to hold a boys tryout in February. We are hosting a National girls' tryout in March at Phoenix College.

Discussion -

For the boys – we want to grow the boys' game. Last year 58 boys came to the tryout – no one was selected to the A1 or A2 teams – two kids were selected to the camps. The issue Eric has is that the bill for the entire camp comes out of our budget. We have to provide the site, meals and transportation for the cadre. We are not having a boy's team this year to go to Florida. Do we spend \$1000 for a couple of boys make a team or camp or bring in coaches for a camp or clinic that reaches more boys? We need to make it an annual thing to establish a consistency with the boys program.

We could get the word out to all the boys programs and high school programs. Do we hurt our efforts if we hold these things and then none of our boys are selected? Would we rather invest in sending a team to the HP championships where they have a great experience and build on that or come to a tryout and that is it? Is it better to have the boys pay a little and then supplement and have them go to the tournament and build on the experience of the tournament. We did surprise a lot of people at the HP championships.

What if we make a 5 year commitment to fully fund the team – would that help us to grow the boys program? This would build continuity. USAV has a two year commitment – this is how often the age groups turn over. USAV is looking for the younger guys. The camp would be an all comers camp which would breakout the courts into older younger or skilled and training. The bottom line is that it could benefit the boys but for the money the camp idea makes better sense. Unless Eric has a compelling idea of sending a boys' team to Florida a camp idea makes better sense. It is different for the boys' participation than the girls in regards to the parents paying for the players to go to the HP championships.

Does it negatively affect the region if we pick a team and then only go if we are able to successfully fundraise for the team to go?

Support from the board is to run a camp instead of the tryout. Eric will notify USAV of the decision.

c. **Junior Beach Program – Eric Hodgson**

We are waiting to hear from the AAU as far as tournament swapping in Arizona and Palm Springs. Eric has not heard from them in three weeks. An AVP pro may come and do a clinic in March. Angie Akers may come and do a clinic too.

d. **Grassroots – Eric Hodgson**

- USAV is looking for contacts as much as membership.
- Eric is working with Teresa and the contacts that we already have – YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, Special Olympics, VA Hospital and sitting volleyball demonstrations. Goal is 1000 contacts to USAV over the next three years.
- Suggestion to keep a database so we can see if the contacts we make eventually come to be members. Two databases – come off one when join the other.
- Eric is going to put together a list of volunteer coaches – those kids that need hours for national honor society, etc. and do some clinics. Get the game out there with volunteer junior coaches.
- Get information on the younger kids (8 – 11 years) so coaches have a way to contact the same individuals again for the future.
- If we are trying to build an incentive basis to the grassroots positions we need a way to track the number of people they have contacted.

7. **Committee Reports**

- a. **Ethics and Compliance Committee** – Dan Kaminskis – no report
- b. **Budget Committee** – Budget set for approval

8. **Old Business:**

a. **Changes to the Constitution and By-Laws – Harold Cranswick - tabled**

Create of an outside position on the Executive Board? Input? Thoughts?

Motion: Move to add a position on the Executive Board that is filled by someone who would be considered an independent board member. The position would receive the same compensation as a member of the Junior Board. Nominations would be made to the Commissioner and voted on by the Executive Board members.

b. **Changes to the Constitution and By-Laws – Harold Cranswick - tabled**

Create of an outside position on the Junior Board? Input? Thoughts?

Motion: Move to add a seventh position on the Junior Board that is specifically designed to represent the boys. The position would receive the same compensation as a member of the Junior Board. The position would be elected in the same manner as the rest of the Junior Board members except that the position would be the equivalent of an at-large position representing boys in the entire Region.

Rationale: Currently there is no one who represents the boys on the Junior Board. Each of the 6 Junior Board members in the past has been a Club Director for a girls club and has represented girls' interests very well. Having a single Board member to represent the boys would give the boys program the attention it deserves.

- c. **Arizona Region Budget for 2008-2009**
Motion 3: Move to approve the Arizona Region budget for 2008-2009 as presented (Hudson/Pelham/MC) 4-1
- d. **Twentieth Anniversary of Arizona Region**
What else should be done to celebrate this event?
If think of anything else let Harold know and it will be put on the next agenda.
- e. **Photos on the Arizona Region web site - tabled**
There are serious concerns regarding the photos that the Region displays on its site, particularly those of juniors. Should we continue to put the photos up? What about names – there are concerns that pedophiles use this information to contact juniors? How do we safeguard against this?
- f. **Facility Agreement – Harold Cranswick**
Update – Harold has been unable to get a response from the people from Chicago. There is some confusion on the part of the club that was interested in using the gym as to the location of the new facility. They may not be as interested in securing gym space. Also USAV has sent an RFP from the city of Tempe for the location of the women's national team. This would be in conjunction with the American Sports Centers facility. The city of Tempe would most likely not approve two projects that are so similar in the near vicinity.
- g. **Arizona Region forms and documents for 2008-2009 - tabled**
Arizona Region Code of Conduct amended for Players, Parents, and Coaches? (Kaminskas)
Adult Player Code of Conduct amended? (Pelham)
Officials' Code of Conduct amended? (Meyer)
- h. **Restructuring of positions – tabled**
Restructuring of Lisa's office position - Becky

Sponsorships – new position based out of Phoenix that is incentive based.

9. New Business

- a. **Changes to the Constitution and By-Laws – Harold Cranswick**
Motion: Move to create a Nominating Committee for the Region. The Nominating Committee would be responsible for contacting and vetting nominees for any position that must be voted on in the Region including, but not limited to, Executive and Junior Board positions.
Rationale: The current process relies on self-nomination is clearly not working in so far as the Region rarely has a full slate of candidates for Board positions. Worse yet, this year, more members of the Junior Board have been appointed than have been elected.
- b. **Changes to the Constitution and By-Laws – Harold Cranswick**
Motion: Move to revise the current process of electing members to the Junior Board.
Rationale: The current process relies on participation by adults during the Regional Tournaments for both adults and juniors. At present, only a very small number of members in the Region participate in the Junior Board elections. Changing the voting date to the Fall General Assembly might improve the participation of the Club Directors.
- c. **Use of Pennies for the libero**
Motion 4: Move to approve the use of pennies for the libero position for region play for juniors division only. (Malis/Hudson/MC) Meyer abstains

Concern by Ron Pelham is that teams will show up at national qualifiers with pennies. Education will have to take place with the club to make them understand that this is not legal at any other tournaments except our region tournaments.

d. Junior Board appointments

Motion 5: to approve Lisa Naughton to fill the position on the junior board for the metro southeast. (Malis/Pelham/MC)

Motion 6: to appoint Matt Cohen to fill the position on the junior board for the metro northeast (Pelham/Malis/MC)

e. **Motion 7:** to increase the mileage stipends for officials for mileage of 150-200 miles from \$40 to \$45 and mileage of 200+ miles from \$50 to \$60 (Meyer/Pelham/MC) 2-1-2 abstentions

x. **Next meeting** will be held on TBA based on the next JB meeting.

10. Announcements - none

11. Adjournment of the Meeting: 9:36 pm (Malis/Pelham/MC)

12. Review of Decisions/Duties/Responsibilities as a result of this meeting

- Anyone with ideas on the time for the golf tournament should get with Harold
- Computer backup system to be reviewed
- Articles for the monthly e-newsletter should be submitted to Eric by the Friday of the third week of the month.
- The team rosters courtside to be addressed with the officials, the clubs and the site directors so that the intent of the policy is being followed
- Junior college league to be developed and implemented
- Board members should be prepared to vote on the two Constitution and By-Law revisions at the next meeting.
- Eric to notify USAV that we will not be holding a boys national HP tryout
- Ideas for the celebration of the 20th Anniversary should be given to Harold
- Codes of Conduct to be amended and brought to the next meeting for adoption
- The use of pennies for the libero to be allowed at region only tournaments. Education of the club directors regarding the use of pennies for the libero to be done.
- Lisa Naughton and Matt Cohen to be contacted and take their positions on the junior board
- Official's mileage stipends to be amended as approved for the 2009 season