

Arizona Region of USA Volleyball
Junior Board Meeting
June 8, 2009

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 9am
2. **Roll Call**
Present:
Metro SE - Lisa Naughton; Metro NE - Matt Cohen; North - Anastasia Rivera; South - Michelle Malis;
Boy's Rep - Chad Speer
Secretary - Becky Hudson; Commissioner - Harold Cranswick
Absent:
Metro SW - Brooke Saunders; Metro NW - Michael Lindsay
3. **Additions or Deletions to the Agenda**
Motion 1: to approve agenda as written (Cohen/Rivera/MC)
4. **Reading/Approval of the Minutes** (Last meeting April 9, 2009)
Motion 2: to approve the minutes of April 9, 2009 as written. (Rivera/Naughton/MC)
5. **Reports**
 - a. **Matt Cohen: Report from Jr Assembly meeting in Minneapolis**
 - i. It was great to be there. Everyone from this board should attend at some time. A lot of the discussion was of what used to be which was disappointing. It should be about moving forward.
 - ii. The Commissions of the Junior Assembly are Boys Competition, Girls Competition, Elite and Grassroots. Matt Cohen was assigned to Elite.
 1. High Performance Championships will be in eastern Tennessee in 2010 and back in Tucson in 2011. The goal of the HP Championships is to attract international play.
 2. Regarding High Performance in the Region, every Region does what is best for them.
 3. We are the only one that pays for our teams.
 - iii. Girls Competition committee. There was a lot of talk but not a lot of direction.
 - iv. Boys Competition committee. it was reported that they asked the same questions
 - v. USA Congress – 4 presentations.
 1. Reid Priddy proposal of a pro league in the US.
 2. Adam Rymer would like to redevelop the USAV website to draw all players to their website first and then to the regions. Player profiles and other items of interest to draw people to the USAV website.
 3. Dave Gentile's presentation on juniors volleyball. Results of a survey sent to 50 club directors.
 4. David Schreff – new USAV Chairman of the Board. There are big goals for USAV but not much directly affects juniors
 - vi. Juniors constitute 95% of the revenue of membership but don't have 5% of the decision making. Very few of the Junior Assembly Representatives come with a club director mentality.
 - vii. RVA zonal meeting – Border Zone was chaired by Harold Cranswick. The scheduling of this was in the evening when everyone was tired.
 1. Every region does what is best for their region. USAV is trying to standardize what is done at the region level. This will be a struggle.
 - viii. Boyce Banquet was really neat but really long. The best info of the meeting was shared in the intimate setting of lunch (Jr Awards luncheon) or dinner (Boyce Banquet).
 - ix. USAV is big business. Everyone has their own agenda.
 - x. Charlotte Pottle received the Best Program Award at the Juniors Award Luncheon

6. Old Business

a. Review Survey Results

- i. There are issues to tackle now, issues to tackle at retreat and issues to drop
- ii. 29 directors have responded to the survey. There is a mixed bag of responses. The comments are very interesting and are worth the read.
- iii. Hold Policy – 96% in favor, 4% against
- iv. Girls 12's
 1. Happy with 3 matches – a few wanted more matches.
 2. Most liked the 8 team bracket. 19% did not like it but no alternative was presented.
 3. Liked number of teams moving up and down.
 4. 80% liked the number of tournaments offered
- v. Girls 14's – 18's Club/Championship
 1. Liked the number of tournaments offered.
 2. Age divisions
 - a. 43% want age specific divisions.
 - b. 57% like the way club and championship are running currently
 - c. They want to be able to play in a higher age division
- vi. Girls Open Division
 1. 82% like the number of matches per tournament – 4% wanted more and 13% wanted fewer
 2. 100% like the format of pool play followed by bracket play
 3. 95% liked number of teams moving up and down
 4. 77% liked the number of tournaments offered. 24% wanted more tournaments offered
- vii. Increasing boys
 1. 12.5% not interested in boys playing in the girl's tournaments.
 2. 62% would not be interested in running a boys team during the girl's season
- viii. Officials clinics –
 1. Train the trainer was the biggest response
 2. All three training methods are being utilized

b. Club Sanctioning Policy

- i. This policy needs to be distributed prior to the General Assembly.
- ii. The Board reps should contact the club directors in their zone to let them know what is coming down.
 1. Be prepared so that this does not come back as the region just wants more money.
- iii. Matt Cohen will put together a document describing the Club Sanctioning and distribute to the Board members for their approval. It will then be sent to the Ex Board as a policy for approval.
- iv. If a club does not field any teams the \$500 is refundable. For clubs that start late the start up fees will be increased
- v. Since the approval time will not leave enough time to educate the boys clubs they would be exempt from this policy for the 2010 season.

c. 2009-2010 Boy's Season

i. Competition Divisions/Format:

1. The level of play in Arizona does not facilitate two divisions of play in the boys division.
2. Need to increase the amount of play – start earlier.
 - a. Need to find a way to increase play for the boys
 - i. Bring in a tournament in the fall.
 - b. We need to help our kids get better
 - i. Get them more court time
 - c. In Southern Cal the season is longer and 14's go all year long.
 - d. We need to make an effort to put on some friendship tournaments in the region
 - e. Chad Speer needs volleyball in Arizona to build for the GCU program.

3. The strength of the Boys division is not deep enough to have more than one division.

Motion 3: to eliminate the Club Division of Boys volleyball. Rationale – there are not enough teams, consistency of formatting and to increase the level of play.
(Speer/Naughton/MC)

ii. Allow Clubs to Begin Try-outs Earlier than September 1, 2009

1. Returning athletes would be covered by 2008-2009 membership until 9/1/09
2. New members would have to pay an additional fee for membership until 9/1/09

Motion 4: to start the boy's season on August 1. Additional membership fees would be required for boys that did not participate in the previous season.
(Rivera/Cohen/MC)

Chad Speer will be holding a boys high school tournament at GCU. He would request that the AZ Region have a booth at the tournament for interest.

- iii. Attempt to keep the 14U boys playing through the girl's season.** The region could offer a "B" season that would continue into and through the girl's season. This would be after Pop Warner which many boys play in the fall so they don't play volleyball. Young boys could play longer – into January.

Motion 5: to offer a 14U Boys "B" Season to coincide with the girl's club season in the spring. (Cohen/Speer/MC)

d. 2009-2010 Girl's Season

i. Commitment Period—Finalize Policies/Distribute

The Blackout Period has been eliminated since there is no way to police it. We will verbalize that clubs should not interfere with players during their school seasons.

Without a commitment period the first date clubs may hold tryouts all clubs will have their tryouts at the same time and the kids will have no options. The idea is to put a period of time for tryouts and allow for the kids to tryout at several clubs and then commit to one club. This will give the kids time to work out their scenarios and choose a club.

If we do not create a commitment period we need to communicate the three day right of refusal for a person to get out of the contract and go somewhere else.

This item will be further discussed at the retreat

ii. Tournament Structure (Matt Cohen)

The Arizona Region currently offers 3 Divisions of play

Matt feels that we need to shorten the season for the girls and reduce the cost.

Matt would propose that we shorten the season and use our Region championships to determine the actual bids for Jr Nationals instead of holding a separate bid tournament. He feels there is adequate interest of our top teams to attend Jr Nationals.

This reduced tournament structure would open dates for clubs to host tournaments.

This item will be further discussed at the retreat

e. Hold Policy

- i. USAV wants memberships and we want some legitimacy in who are club directors.
- ii. Proposed Hold Policy
 1. The deadline to put someone on the list is the end of July
 2. Documentation must be provided so that it is a legitimate debt for hold of membership

3. The fee to put the person on the list could be whatever we want. An example of \$40 would be cost of the new season membership fee.
- iii. RMR Hold Policy
 1. They have had it for 3-4 years.
 2. August 1 is the deadline to put someone on the list.
 3. Submit contract, fee is paid.
 4. From a larger group of committee members a committee of 3 is selected and hears the case. Each person gets ½ hour to state their case.
 5. Proper documentation is required. If it is not documented there is no case.
 - a. Paperwork is solely up to the club.
 6. Their biggest issue has been with 18's.
 - a. They can't come back as an adult until their junior debt is paid off.
 7. A compromise fee can be worked out.
 8. Very few players remain on the hold list to the next season.
 9. It is made for the current season only – can only go back one year.
 10. Process
 - a. Director submits documentation and fee to the region.
 - b. The region sends a certified letter to the player placing the person on the hold list and sets up a time to meet.
 - i. No extensions and no rescheduling.
 - ii. The club does not have to provide proof of attempting to work with the player.
 - c. The committee of 3 is formed to hear the case.
 - i. If the club does not show up to the hearing, the case is dismissed
 11. As a club director you can pull the player off the list at any time.
 12. There would have to be more than just club directors on the committee to remove the conflict of interest and bias that could be inferred.
- iv. From the May RVA meetings – according to USAV we might not have the authority to withhold membership for debts owed to a private business – club. This is based on the new IRS guidelines for governance.
 1. We will finalize the policy and wait until the October RVA meeting to hear what is legal to do and what is not.

This item will be further discussed at the retreat. Stasia Rivera will draft a policy for review.

7. New Business

a. Brooke Saunders Resignation

Brooke is moving to Kentucky and has emailed her resignation. Her position is up for election in September. We will wait until the election to replace her.

b. Michael Lindsay

Rumor mill is that Michael Lindsay is moving to Brazil at the end of June. No resignation has been received to date. Eric Hodgson will be asked to represent the Northwest zone at the retreat since he will already be attending in another role. This position is up for election in September.

c. Defining Roles: Office Staff/Junior Board

Staff enforces policy created by the board structure.

d. Prepare Task List for Retreat

- i. 5-Year Plan
- ii. Commitment Period
- iii. Tournament Structure
- iv. Hold Policy

e. Recommend Reimbursement for Stasia Rivera (Survey Monkey Invoice)

Recommendation to EB to reimburse Stasia Rivera for costs associated with 2-month subscription to Survey Monkey (approximately \$40) for club director survey.

- i. **Motion 6:** Recommendation to the Ex Board for Stasia Rivera to be reimbursed for the cost associated with the 2-month subscription to Survey Monkey (Cohen/Naughton/MC)

8. Announcements

- a. **Retreat Dates:** July 10-12 (Flagstaff)
Jr Board attending the retreat – Matt Cohen, Michelle Malis, Lisa Naughton, Eric Hodgson.

9. Adjournment - 11:57 am

Action Items as a result of this meeting

- Items for the retreat – 5 Year plan, Commitment period, Proposed tournament structure, Hold Policy
- Results of survey need compiling for the retreat
- Matt Cohen to draw up a document describing the Club Sanction policy and distribute to the Jr Board members
- Michelle Malis will draw up the information to send to the boy's club directors on the changes to the boy's season and division.
- Arizona Region is requested to staff a booth at the boy's high school tournament hosted by Chad Speer to answer questions of interest for boy's volleyball.