

Great Lakes Region Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, March 13, 2009
Bensenville Park District
1000 Wood St, Bensenville
Minutes of Meeting

Members present: Sandy Abbinanti, Donna Smith, Angelo Iasillo, Scott Harris, Denis Bergstedt, Mike Hulett, Mary Malpede, Joel Anderson, Paula McAleese, Kathy Steel, Deb DiMatteo, Joe Gedvillas, Lea Wagner, Lori Cozzens, Cheryl Butler, Andy Erins

Members not present: Dean Hoskins, KC Johnson, Mark Cimaroli, Alan Feder

Sandy called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

Sandy asked for a motion to approve the November 16, 2008 minutes. Mike stated his name was not listed as "present", but he was in attendance. The minutes will be amended.

Motion to accept the minutes as amended made by Denis and seconded by Kathy

Motion: Passed Unanimously

Evaluation Committee – Kathy

The committee evaluated the officers and made a recommendation to raise the commissioner's salary from \$36,000 to \$40,000, comptroller salary from \$5,000 to \$12,000 and the assistant commissioner from \$48,500 to \$50,000. The recommended raises will be sent on to the Finance Committee.

The Evaluation Committee made a motion to change Donna Smith's title from Assistant Commissioner to Regional Administrator. Discussion.

Motion made by the Evaluation Committee

Motion: Passed 14 Yes, 0 No and 2 Abstentions

Finance Committee – Angelo and Cheryl

Motion by the Finance Committee to accept the Evaluation Committee's recommendation to raise the officer's salaries as reflected above.

Motion: Passed Unanimously

Angelo gave the corporate financial report. The Region is financially and fiscally sound. Budget is on target with respect to income and expenditures. Detailed financial reports and statements are available to any member by contacting Angelo directly.

Structure Committee – Angelo

Committee distributed several structures for the board's consideration. After a long discussion the board preferred appendix B3 with some adjustments. Denis will draw this flow chart.

(2)

Junior Report – Joel

Mike reported a junior boys' concern. There are clubs in the region that self selected for the club division at some of the Boys Bid Events. Understandably some teams are not as strong as they'd like to be thus they decline the bid. This hurts the Region and the Zone because the bids not used are reallocated and usually then go to California teams. We certainly cannot mandate an entry but we need to encourage clubs to play against the best competition so they can improve.

Beach – Joel

The Head of USA Beach volleyball has been terminated and at this time there is no information from the National Office who will assume these duties or how it will be run.

Adults – Lori and Joe

Tournaments are being run according to the player rep's meetings. Reps haven't heard of any tournaments being cancelled, which is better than last year.

Lori stated we need to find ways to increase membership. Many of last year's teams did not register but some new teams have registered. Donna asked about the "at large" rule. There seem to be many unattached members willing to play.

Suggestion: Email all adult players, past and present (assuming we have the information) and to the 18 year old juniors asking if they are interested in becoming a player rep. At our annual meeting in September the Region can conduct a breakout session on forming a team; the player rep meeting would immediately follow.

Tournament Directors – Dean and Paula

There were 546 junior tournament sanctions issued this year. To date we have cancelled only twenty junior events.

Most of the issues we were having with TSA tournaments have been resolved. Darren has taken over the scheduling of the tournaments and he sends the schedule one week prior for my approval.

Three sanctions were issued to region teams attending the GL Boys Festival for failing to complete their officiating assignments and forfeiting matches.

Dean has been given some suggestions for the TD Guide. He will be working with Paula and Sandy to update and correct the Guide for the July meeting.

Paula stated some adult events have been canceled due to lack of registrations.

Officials Report - Denis

USA Volleyball published an "Expectations Document" for Junior and National officials. This will be presented for approval at the May meetings in Minneapolis.

(3)

A survey was recently sent out to all Great Lakes Region officials. Ninety-seven officials participated in the survey representing about half of the officials in this region.

The results of the survey were discussed at length. Over 70% of the officials who responded stated they want more training without any expense.

The board discussed the possibility of bringing back an assignment chair. Angelo stated it would be counterproductive to supply an assignment chair.

Candidates' Report - Mary.

- 33 candidates, 9 were successful and 9 more will be rated March 15.
- 30 new junior candidates, from Chicago 2016, will enter the program by April
- 11 candidates attempted an upgrade
- 3 candidates were upgraded and awarded Regional patches
- 3 individuals were given the Region's blessing to attempt a Junior National rating

Membership Report – Donna

The region is up 684 total members over last year at this time.

New Business

Motion from the Executive Committee to begin using the USAV Web point on-line registration program beginning with the 2009-2010 season.

Motion: Passed, 12 Yes, 4 No, 0 Abstentions.

Motion from the Executive Committee to consider funding a training session for Club Directors to receive hands on experience for the USAV Web point on line registration program. Motion tabled

Motion from the Evaluation Committee to investigate the possibilities of using a shared server.

Motion: Passed, 16 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Motion by Deb and seconded by Denis

Remove the ten day advance notice entitling a refund for the 2009-2010 season. Allow junior tournament directors to have their own written policies. Rationale: Tournament Directors sell out an event in December and turn away entries because most clubs have their schedule completed by December. When a team cancels an event in April, ten days before the event requiring a refund, that leaves the tournament short. The end result is lost revenue that cannot be recouped.

Motion: Passed, 14 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abstention.

(4)

Cheryl and others discussed seeding for the GL Festival. Coaches and club directors wonder why the organizers request seeding information if they do not use that information. One team's seeding was changed to accommodate their coach's schedule. That should never happen. It was a poor quality event which could ultimately be a negative reflection on the region. Sandy will address these issues with Niels.

The Great Lakes Region and Palos Courts will be offering an appreciation night for club directors, coaches, officials, board members and tournament directors. The region will supply pizza and beverages. Dates are still under consideration but the time would be 7:30 – 9:30PM and the location - Palos Courts in Palos Heights.

Discussion about bringing USAV CEO Doug Beal into GLR for a meeting:
Motion by Sandy and seconded by Kathy to bring Doug in for our July meeting to discuss USAV.

Motion: Failed Unanimously

Extravaganza - Sandy

2009 Extravaganza again will be hosted by the Region on September 13th, 2009 at the University of Chicago.

Old Business

Sandy gave an update on Chicago 2016, no news yet but we're still hopeful.

Next BOD meeting will be held on Friday, July 17th, location TBD

Erin motioned to adjourn. Donna seconded.

Motion: Passed Unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Harris
GL Region Secretary