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USA Volleyball**



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**Minutes of the Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting
Great Lakes Region (GLR) - USA Volleyball (USA V)
Sunday, March 14th, 2010
Papa Passero's Restaurant - Westmont, IL**

In Attendance: Sandy Abbinanti, Donna Smith, Angelo Iasillo, Mary Malpede, Jeanine Hoskin, Dean Hoskin, Lea Wagner, Alan Feder, KC Johnsen, Kathy Steele, Pam Campbell, Deb DiMatteo, Erin Lorenz, Mike Hulett, Joel Anderson, Mark Cimaroli, Joe Gedvilas, Lori Cozzens, Cindy Gritzman, Denis Bergstedt and Paul Ickes

Absent: Cheryl Butler & Paula McAleese

Board members were welcomed and the meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Sandy Abbinanti- GLR Commissioner of USA V.

By a unanimous vote, both Paul Ickes (Secretary) and Cindy Gritzman (Women's Player Representative) were approved as interim Board Members.

The minutes of the November 15th, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting of USA Volleyball Great Lakes Region, were approved. 22-0-1

Standing Committee Reports:

Evaluation: No Report

Structure and Function: No Report

Adults: No Report

Juniors: Wet courts and AM/ PM start times- tabled until the discussion portion later in the meeting.

Beach- Joel Andersen: Joel announced the following to the BOD:

- 1) USA Volleyball Beach Programs have scheduled a High Performance Tryout to take place in the GLR on Monday, May 31st (Memorial Day) from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (boys/men) and from 12:00 – 5:00 PM (girls/women) at a site TBA in the Chicago area.**
- 2) The age divisions for USAV junior beach have now been aligned to USAV junior indoor age divisions.**
- 3) The North Coast Open (GLR) stop on the USA Beach Volleyball Junior Tour will occur on Saturday, July 31st at a site TBA in the Chicago area.**

In addition, Paul Ickes was asked to present a status report on plans for the Inaugural 2010 Illinois High School Sand Volleyball League and State Tournament. Paul distributed the following bullet points to the BOD:

- The purpose of the league is to provide an additional opportunity for high school aged youth- incoming freshmen through graduating seniors- to compete in this sport for their schools and to augment existing and growing USA Beach Volleyball and AVP Programs.**
- This league is for both boys and girls- separate divisions- in a 2 on 2 format.**
- Play would occur between Monday, July 5th and Friday, July 30th (excluding Sundays) under the IHSA 25-Day Summer Contact Rule.**
- Rule codes to satisfy IHSA requirements yet align with USA Beach Domestic Competition Rules are in the editing stage.**
- Many schools have expressed interest in participating and have many legitimate questions about this venture.**

- The initial organizational meeting to gauge interest, secure commitments, and/or to answer questions will take place at Brother Rice HS- 9900 South Pulaski Road in Chicago, IL- on Sunday, April 18th, 2010 at 10 AM. In the meantime, any school or player that needs any assistance can E-mail Paul at pickes@brrice.org .

- www.brvolleyball.com will be the official website initially for the league. Soon there will be a ‘Sand’ Tab at the site that will have all necessary documents uploaded.

Paul concluded his remarks by asking the BOD and GLR to promote this venture with all interested parties.

Officials- Mary Malpede: Mary reviewed the following data with the BOD:

- 1) 69 total candidates- 20 passed with 9 still to be rated**
- 2) 3 upgrades to Regional**
- 3) 4 recommended for national candidacy**

Finance- Angelo Iasillo: Angelo provided the following summary of his report that was E-mailed in advance to the BOD:

- 1) As of March 14th, 2010 GLR has taken in 92.8 % of last year’s membership income. He believes GLR will either meet or exceed last fiscal year totals.**
- 2) Other income generating levels are up slightly over last year. (IMPACT fees, Labels, etc.)**
- 3) Impact of Web Point on the budget- will be discussed later in the meeting.**
- 4) Officials Division has used 76% of their budget so far- Mary and Denis are aware of this and measures are being taken to keep within budget.**

- 5) Travel budget will increase slightly to allow the GLR Commissioner to attend the girls and boys JOV Championships.**
- 6) Overall, GLR finances are stable and our last quarterly audit review/ check-up confirms a fiscally healthy and sound corporation.**

Membership- Donna Smith: Donna presented the following to the BOD:

- 1) With the exception of the central IL clubs due to the current season of the IESA (Illinois Elementary School Association) soon to finish, the junior girls' season is now in full swing.**
- 2) VOLLEYKIDS: 16 week segment, \$5/ member to cover insurance.**
- 3) Adult team numbers are up at several levels.**

Sandy then continued and presented the following:

- 1) OLD BUSINESS: Web Point- A lengthy discussion occurred, a number of questions were asked, and clarifications were provided regarding Web Point which included the following:**

- Sandy, Donna, and Angelo all believe that Web Point will be a positive addition for our registration system. We will begin on-line registration in September of 2010.

- Angelo spoke with Susan Barkley, from the National Office- payment can be made with credit cards (VISA, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express) as well as checks.

- Next season all adults will be required to pay for their own background screen. GLR is one of only two USAV Regions that pay for background checks.

- Team fees will be eliminated next season.

- Angelo continued that while GLR will incur a cost of \$12,000 for credit payments, assuming everyone pays by credit card and loose \$16,000 in team fees next season GLR will realize \$26, 000 in fees from background checks. Credit card usage for Web Point is basically a wash financially.

- Various stats about GLR finances were shared including:

a) GLR is one of only two USAV Regions that pay for background checks

b) GLR is among the lowest among USAV Regions in reserves. (A follow-up question about the need for reserves was asked. Sandy responded that reserves are necessary because: possible of lawsuits, and Regions should have a back-up reserve equivalent to the total budget for one calendar year.

c) GLR supports in its budget- unlike many other USAV regions- no fees for official's clinics and money to clubs who qualify for Nationals.

This led to a discussion of the \$10.00 increase in membership fee by USAV with various viewpoints shared.

- Can a registration be done by hand? YES, but someone will have to input the information in these cases.

- Hopefully Susan Barkley, from the national office will be available to assist GLR as needed.

- Procedures for using Web Point were reviewed, these included:

a) JUNIORS: Individuals register themselves, and for tryouts, players would respond “UNDECIDED” for club membership. Then individuals would print out the form and present it at tryouts. Once a player commits to a club, she/ he would go back in to WEBPOINT and identify their club.

b) ADULTS: Same procedure as above but players would still be able to be listed as “at-large”.

c) IS A ONE-DAY JUNIOR TRY OUT MEMBERSHIP OPTION AVAILABLE?

We don't know what that entails at this time. Donna believes Web Point will handle current issues of double registration and players who are double-rostered. She is cautious but happy about using Web Point for the 2010-2011 season but it will require time and commitment from all involved to make the registration and related issues work.

FYI:

- Club directors will need to be trained in use of Web Point so they can teach their players and parents how to use the system.

- Only Sandy, Donna, and Angelo will have the administrative capability to make changes in Web Point.

2) Sandy reviewed a list of complaints that she and members of the BOD have had to deal with recently:

- Possibilities for conflict of interest for BOD members

- Adult players not listing themselves at the appropriate level

- Wet floors (from condensation and leaks)

- Broken equipment at facilities (referee stands, net supports, etc.)
- Duplicate registrations
- Players trying out for one team while being a member of another
- Requests for transfers because of playing time or team placement issues
- Problems with coaches being abusive to their own players
- Problems with officials misapplying the rules or misinterpreting the rules
- Girls playing on boy's teams - illegal
- Recruiting
- Recruiting via Facebook or Twitter (need to discuss electronic communications at some point)
- Coaches on the bench and not being IMPACT certified
- Lack of ethics from some clubs or coaches
- Stay and Play problems at Qualifiers and Nationals

3) USAV Commissioners will propose tiered membership at the May meetings.

4) Angelo Iasillo is a member of the finance committee at the national level for USAV (\$10 increase is a done deal) and can advocate for GLR and other regions in a variety of ways.

The BOD then split into discussion groups. The groups discussed each of the items below and were asked to place their determinations on butcher paper that were posted for the entire BOD to see. Sandy then clicked down the list of items, groups presented their positions, discussion and/or questions of varying length occurred, and voting occurred by group to identify consensus or not.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ACTION TAKEN:

- 1) **Q. Should CPR and AED training be required for all coaches?**
A. No, but it's highly recommended, especially for tournament directors and site directors. Refer to Illinois law for information.

- 2) **Q. Should trainers be required for all practices and tournaments?**
A. No -That must be a individual club director's decision, but it's an expensive proposition.

- 3) **Q. Should there be AM and/or PM time waivers?**
A. The group couldn't agree on this discussion item so it was TABLED.

- 4) **Q. We've dealt with many wet courts already this season. What should be done?**
A. For safety and liability issues - close down the wet courts.

- 5) **Q. May a junior player tryout while being a member of another club?**
A. NO, next season Web Point will take care of those problems.

- 6) **Q. May juniors attend private lessons at another club?**
A. YES

- 7) **Q. Can we choose a date for Summer BOD Meeting?**
A. Sunday, July 18, 2010

- 8) **Q. Can we choose a date for GLR Extravaganza?**
A. Sunday, August 22, 2010

9) Q. Should the GLR drop the requirement to post results?

A. NO

10) Q. Should the GLR host its Regional at a convention center?

A. NO, there aren't enough courts at the Schaumburg and there would be many logistical problems.

11) Q. The Tournament Directors Guide states 4 team pools with matches best 2 of 3 sets unless a waiver is granted. Is this what we want?

A. Dean said that there needs to be many corrections made to the TD Guide. This item was TABLED.

IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR GLR BOYS' VOLLEYBALL CLUBS:

Denis Bergstedt asked for the following statement to be included in the BOD Minutes based on a previous vote of the BOD:

Beginning with the 2010/2011 season, the Region will be assigning the officials for all Junior Boys events; this will be a condition of the tournament sanction. This will include all pool play matches not officiated by coaches or team members who are participating in the event. Tournament Directors must contact the Region assignor to request all paid officials for their events.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM. Moved by Dean and seconded by Denis Passed 23-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Ickes

Secretary - GLR