



Friday, May 30, 2014:

BOD Attendees: Michael Spillman, Dan Colleran, Jim Ross, Fred Wendelboe, Tina Readling, Andre Hargrove, Brian Webb

Staff Attendees: Kevin Wendelboe, Marilyn Thompson

Meeting started: 8:30 pm

- I. Minutes of Approval – the Meeting minutes from the May 4 Annual Meeting and Business Meeting were sent out by email earlier in the week. Motion by Colleran, second by Spillman to:

Motion 1: approve the minutes of the May 4, 2014 Annual Meeting and May 4, 2014 Business Meeting.
MSA

- II. Finance Report – Kevin presented the current Finance Report. We are having another successful season financially. We grew again in total members so that has had a positive impact on the budget. We did have one tournament weekend impacted by inclement weather so that will cause our revenue and expenses to show lower than projected but should not impact any excess income as we do not usually make any money off of the tournaments. The PVL program should not impact the budget too much since we did have a generous donation to help cover it this first year. We will probably not have a Hall of Fame Ceremony and the associated expenses this year. We are still working on criteria and since we do not have a facility to showcase it, we will look to more inductions in the future. The High Performance Program will ultimately decide where we end up at the end of the year. If we send three teams then we will probably be around the break-even point. If we send fewer teams, then should see a surplus.

- III. Mission – Kevin received a suggestion from the membership for the Region to review its mission to see if it was still relevant and applicable to what we are doing. Kevin agreed and thought it would not be a bad idea for the board to spend some time during this retreat to make sure the Region mission provides sufficient guidance to our activities. The board went through our current mission statement and suggested improvements and clarifications. Motion by Readling, second by Webb to:

Motion 2: approve the following as the new Mission for the Carolina Regional Volleyball Association:
“The Carolina Region, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is dedicated to promoting all disciplines of the sport of volleyball, developing opportunities, and enhancing participant experiences for all ages from grassroots to elite programs throughout the state of North Carolina.” MSA

- IV. Officials – Marilyn and Brian updated the board on several items that the Officials Program was working on or reviewing. Ronnie Mutter and Stephen Shepherd are working on a new database that we can utilize to track the certifications and ratings for professional officials more easily. There are some limitations with WebPoint currently so it is felt this will help Ronnie and Marilyn keep track of these things easier. The board also discussed improving the training of adult and junior officials. It was suggested to develop a survey of experienced coaches that could give us specific feedback on our professional officials after each event. It was suggested to email all professional officials and ask if they were interested in being a mentor to newer officials. We could then invite those that are interested to a training session to outline what an effective mentor relationship would entail. We could utilize video to show how a successful official interacts and trains the junior officials. Kevin indicated that he wants to move to RefPay as a system to process all officials’ payments next season. The costs would be offset by Postage savings and would save Kevin a lot of time in printing, signing, and mailing checks. The board felt this was a great idea and Kevin will research the actual costs and include with the 2015 proposed budget.

V. Points System – Kevin presented all the improvements made to the Point System this past season, both on the front end and the back end. We still have several more improvements on the list to be worked on this summer. Karl was not able to make it to the retreat, but he is still very much interested in improving the system to benefit both members and staff. There are still some things that we can investigate this summer to see if we can improve the reliability of the seeding/ranking data. A question was asked whether all teams could just start at the same initial points value. It would be possible and even the ideal situation but then we would have potential for big mismatches early in the season. This led to a question as to whether we can give higher weight to wins at the higher levels/divisions so winning at those levels will insure those teams stay higher and have a shot at the Division 1 overall Championships. We have the ability to make changes to initial points values and other programming calculations and run the season over with actual match results. We will try to do that this summer and see if any adjustments can be made going into next season to improve the ranking process.

Recessed for evening at 10:17 pm

Saturday, May 31, 2014:

BOD Attendees: Michael Spillman, Dan Colleran, Jim Ross, Fred Wendelboe, Tina Readling, Andre Hargrove

Staff Attendees: Kevin Wendelboe

Guests: Addison Musser (for the Adults Discussion); Mark Nalevanko (for the Beach discussion); Glenn Cashion (for the Beach Discussion)

Board reconvened at 9:00 am

VI. Junior Division Discussions:

- a. We had one more motion from the Junior Advisory Board meeting that we failed to address during the Business meeting on May 4. It was the motion concerning moving the 15's age group to the second tryout date. The 15's had been with the first tryout period to help clubs control the numbers during tryouts. However, the extended signing period for one age group over all the others is causing more issues. Motion from JAB to:

Motion 3: Move the 15's age group to the SECOND Tryout period. MSA

- b. The Old Dominion Region Commissioner has approached Kevin and asked if the Carolina Region would be willing to sanction the Monument City tournament if it was moved to the Raleigh Convention Center. They are having issues with their current convention center and are looking for options. The board agreed that we would have no issues sanctioning the tournament as long as the dates do not interfere with one of our existing convention center tournaments (Queen City, MAPL Raleigh).
- c. We are getting more and more requests to publicize non-sanctioned events for organizations like AAU and JVA. We have publicized non-sanctioned events in the past on our schedule pages, but they have generally not been sanctioned by other competing organizations. Do we want to continue to publicize all volleyball events? A question was raised if we would bear some responsibility for the quality of the event if someone found out about a non-sanctioned event on our schedule. It may be better to just stick with publicizing our sanctioned events only on our website. Most people will be able to access other volleyball events with a quick search or from other organization's websites. A concern was raised about whether charitable events would be impacted by this decision. Motion by Ross, second by Readling to:

Motion 4: only publicize Carolina Region sanctioned events on our schedules. Charitable events not sanctioned by other organizations may also be publicized at the bottom of our schedules. MSA

- d. SafeSport – Kevin gave a brief presentation on the SafeSport program. It was mandated by the USOC for all NGB's to implement. USA Volleyball has been developing the USAV SafeSport Program and the Regions and USAV will be rolling out parts of the program over the next three seasons. Eventually, the program will touch everyone involved with the USAV junior program. The Board will eventually need to undergo the 45 minute online training. Kevin will send out details to the Board on taking the training later this summer.
- e. Tournament Entry Priority – The Board continued its discussion on how to determine teams to go on a waiting list if there is not enough courts to accommodate every team at the deadline. We currently still track when an entry is received and the later entries would go on the wait list even if they enter by the deadline. The board was unable to identify an alternate solution to prioritizing teams onto a wait list, so we will continue with the current policy. Kevin will update the registration packets and the Operating Code to emphasize to teams that entering by the entry deadline does not guarantee a spot in a tournament and that teams will be accepted based on the total number of courts available on that weekend.
- f. National Bid tournaments – A key philosophical question is whether we want to be represented at the Junior National Championships by the best teams or do we want to award bids to teams that have participated in Region events. In the past when we had a lot of interest in the bids, we could choose to reward teams for playing in Region events. We have not been able to award all our bids recently so this philosophy may need to change. We also have more and more teams interested in traveling out of region to play. We should not hinder that either. Motion by Ross, second by Reading to:

Motion 5: establish the criteria to be eligible to compete in the Carolina Region National Bid tournament as the following: (a) Participating teams must be a registered Carolina Region team; and (b) teams must have played in ONE (1) Carolina Region sanctioned event. MSA

Motion by Ross, second by Reading to:

Motion 6: hold the 12's, 14's, and 15's National Bid tournaments on March 22, 2015 and hold the 13's, 16's, 17's, 18's National Bid tournaments on March 29, 2015. MSA

VII. High Performance Program Discussions – Tina gave an update from the recent tryouts. It looks like we probably will not have the talent to send three teams. Chuck should be finalizing the training weekend dates shortly. Patrick Nicholas has taken a job in Florida so we will need to find additional coaches. It was suggested that we try to find some well recognized and respected coaches for each of the age groups. That coach would then identify and train 1-3 other coaches for those age groups. We can then begin developing more coaches and be able to continue growing the base of players and coaches. Tina mentioned that Chuck may not have time to continue overseeing the program. Kevin indicated he has a person in mind that might be available. The person could work out of the office and be able to coordinate the program at a higher level than has been happening now. Kevin will be talking with that person about the position this month. The goal would be to have a new coordinator working on a more consistent basis on HP business and be able to schedule out clinics earlier than we have done in the past. Finding facilities willing and able to host has still been a challenge.

VIII. USA Volleyball Foundation – Fred updated the Board on an opportunity that is being presented to the Regions by the USAV Foundation. The Foundation is inquiring as to whether Regions have surplus funds that they want to pool together with other Regions and the Foundation to invest in the market and possibly gain higher returns than the Regions are getting independently. The Region currently has around \$139,000 in a Capital One Money Market that has been designated for a future building. It is not making a lot of interest right now. Motion by Collieran, second by Reading to:

Motion 7: approve investing \$115,000 from the Capital One Money Market account with the USA Volleyball Foundation under the terms of the offered agreement. MSA (F. Wendelboe declared a conflict of interest and abstained)

IX. Adult Division Discussion:

- a. Addison Musser, former President of the NCSU Men's Club and current adult player joined the discussion. It is hoped we can reach out to the college clubs to get more teams for our Region teams to play and promote the region to the club players when their college experience is over. Addison mentioned that USAV teams do play in their club tournaments so this could be a good collaboration. Addison did not think that the Collegiate membership category of \$15 would be a deterrent to the club teams. The Board continued its discussion on moving the adult season to the fall. We could look at letting NCSU and UNC men's and women's clubs host one tournament each and then have a Championship event at the SportsPlex. The Region would not have to handle the entries as we have in the past except for possibly the SportsPlex events. The board decided on the following schedules: MEN: Oct 18, 2014 (NCSU); Nov 1 (UNC); Dec 6 (SportsPlex). WOMEN: Oct 4, 2014 (NCSU); Oct 25, 2014 (UNC); Dec 6 (SportsPlex); Jan 11, 2015 (SportsPlex); February 8, 2015 (SportsPlex). Addison will help us get in contact with the current Presidents of NCSU and UNC clubs and the other collegiate clubs in the state. Tina will get with Jamie at the SportsPlex to see how they want to proceed with running the adults on their weekends. The board also discussed having a 6-person outdoor tournament on Sept 20 as a transition from outdoors to indoors. Addison thinks it could be held at NCSU. This will be a good opportunity to register the participants for the new season and introduce the new fall schedule.
- b. PVL Update – Our team performed very well in Phoenix. They started off 5-0 and lost a close one to Florida Wave to finish second in the pool. They advanced to the semi-finals of Gold where they lost a heart-breaker in 5 sets to the eventual champion WEVA. They finished 4th overall and all the players expressed appreciation to the Region for the opportunity. We will look at developing a training program with the women this next season so we can do some more cross-promoting with the Flight and our Juniors Program. The Board expressed appreciation to the Spring House Restaurant and Maple Chase Country Club for their financial support of the Flight this season.

X. Beach Program Discussions – Mark Nalevanko, Carolina Region Beach Director, and Glenn Cashion, Director of NC Sand VBC, joined the board at this time.

- a. The Beach Program is growing rapidly. We already have 50 more Junior Summer memberships than we had last season. These are players that did not play indoors and are only playing during the summer.
- b. Glenn mentioned that he would like to see a HP Beach Training Program put in place for the Region. He suggested a rep that has a minimum Beach IMPACT certification in different zones of the state. We can run HP Beach clinics in conjunction with the major events being held in that zone.
- c. The Region should also host a Beach CAP course. Kevin will look into the costs and requirements needed to hold a Beach CAP Course.
- d. Junior Beach Club Guidelines – Mark asked if it would be a good idea to formulate some Beach Club Guidelines similar to what is published for indoor. Since teams can change from event to event in beach competitions, setting formal guidelines to be a part of a beach club can be more difficult. We will continue to monitor the situation and if additional policies are needed to guide incorporating players into beach clubs then we will readdress.
- e. We will create a directory of Beach clubs on the website.
- f. We will publish the minimum standards required for Beach coaches for use by tournament directors and beach clubs. All beach coaches must have a Beach IMPACT certification and have passed the USAV Background Screen.
- g. Kevin announced that there is a Beach Official's clinic scheduled in July in Wilmington. Keith Murlless has moved back to North Carolina and may be available for more officials training.

XI. Nominating Committee – The Board Officer elections will be held next May. We will need to identify a slate of candidates at least 30 days before the election. The nominating committee consists of: the Men's and Women's Player Reps; the Boys' and Girls' Reps, and the Officials' Rep. The current office holders are all eligible to run for re-election. The minimum requirements for each office were reviewed for the committee members.

XII. Adjournment

Motion by F. Wendelboe, second by Colleran:

Motion 8: adjourn the 2014 Annual retreat of the Carolina Region Board of Directors at 4:20 pm. MSA