

Carolina Region/USAV
July 28, 2012 Officials Advisory Board meeting
UNC-Chapel Hill



Attendees: Mitch Atkinson, Paula Boykin, Wade Brence, Darryl Buck, Ritchie Buffkin, John Darr, Gerald Edwards, Doug Fagan, Gary Foster, Michael Holder, Glenn Horton, Chuck Morris, Frank Motondo, Ronnie Mutter, Michael O'Connor, Greg Sanders, Trina Sharpe, Stephen Shepherd, Brian Webb, Charles Yang

Guests: Amber Cornett (Palmetto); Kim Christman (Palmetto), Joy Stauffer

Staff Attendees: Marilyn Thompson, Officials Program Director; Kevin Wendelboe, Executive Director

Meeting began: 5:00 pm

- I. Welcome & Introductions –Kevin opened the meeting with introductions of Ronnie Mutter, Referee Chair; Randy McLamb as Beach Referee Chair (not present), Tony Hill as last year’s Board Representative (not present due to officiating at HP Championships), Marilyn Thompson as Officials Program Director, and Kevin Wendelboe as Executive Director.
- II. Meritorious Service Award Winners – Kevin announced that the Carolina Region was recognizing three Officials with USAV Meritorious Service Awards this season: Bill Sherrill (posthumously); Michael O’Connor, and Barbara Vaughn.
- III. Ronnie announced that Tony Hill and Jessica Williams received their USAV National Scorekeeper rating this summer.
- IV. Kevin went through items discussed at the Junior Advisory Board meeting that are of interest to officials:
 - A. Junior Advisory Board met May 6, 2012 in Greensboro
 - B. Juniors Program grew by 372 players (5296 total) and 44 teams (530 total).
 - C. The new formats introduced last season were met with mixed reviews. TD’s and Officials seemed to like them as the tournaments were ending on a more consistent basis. Unfortunately, parents and coaches did not all like them universally as the playing schedule was determined on match results and could not be known in advance. A task force was put together again to analyze last season and make suggestions for this season. Options on the table are: Continue with new formats, revert back to old formats, play some age divisions on Sunday allowing us to play all 4-team pools, or some other option the task force comes up with. We will let officials know what to expect at our pre-season clinics/meetings.

- D. Eligibility for the re-cert clinics was discussed. Some in JAB wanted to keep the two-year certification requirement to be eligible to take the online clinics. Since the Officials Advisory Board voted last year to change to one year, the Region Board will have to make the final decision.
- V. Junior Beach Officials Reports – Randy sent in a report of the past year’s activities:
 - A. Columbia SC Training session last year
 - i. Johnny Guterwill – Zonal Referee
 - ii. Vaughn Hastings - Zonal Referee
 - iii. Charlie Yang – Certified Referee
 Order is Provisional, Certified, Zonal, National, International
 - B. Only one person in contact with Randy for training. When get a few more he will work to arrange a training clinic.
 - C. The only sand or beach opportunities are the NCAA sand tourneys in the spring (mostly in Florida) and the pro beach tour (USAV Cuervo, BCS and National Volleyball League). All of our sand/beach referees are in the database that gives their availability to those assignors.
 - D. Ken Matz has retired as Beach National
- VI. 2013 Schedule – Kevin went through the 2013 Junior Schedule dates. The schedule can be found at the Region website under the Juniors section.
- VII. Region Rating Opportunities – Marilyn discussed the current plans for rating opportunities. The Greensboro SportsPlex is planning on holding a play day tournament on December 8. We will also do a clinic on that day. We will also plan on rating on December 1 during the Adult tournaments.
- VIII. Informational Items:
 - A. Region Clinics – Marilyn will begin work on the clinic schedule soon. We plan on having a clinic in conjunction with the Dec 8 rating/play day. The schedule will be posted under the Clinics tab – Adult Officials section as soon as details are known.
 - B. Kevin discussed the region’s expectations regarding professionalism and the sensitivity training that the Region arranged after the NCAA clinic. We filmed the presentation and all professional officials will need to view it before working region events. We are in a different time now and all officials need to be aware of their surroundings and be careful when speaking with juniors.
 - C. Ronnie discussed what we expect out of the professional officials when training the junior officials. We should make sure the junior officials call all calls that you would call if you were on the stand. We expect all officials to stay and work all the way through the Finals (as R1, R2, Scorer, LJ, etc if we have enough). Stephen made suggestion that officials still have a debrief after the finals so we can all continue to learn from one another.

- D. VRT website – Ronnie discussed the new changes to the USAV Training website. We recommend everyone to bookmark the site and continue to use it as the valuable resource it is. The site is at:
www.volleyballreftraining.com/
- E. USA Volleyball Rule Books – Kevin notes that this is the second year of the rule book cycle. We ordered a small amount of books to give to new teams but most everyone from last year should have a book already. Clinicians will not need to pick up books for their clinics. If new teams need rule books, refer them to the Region Office and we will mail them out. Ronnie mentioned that they are making one rule change during this year. The Libero will be allowed to serve. They are still working on the procedures for the scoresheet. Keep an eye on VRT for updated info on how to handle the new rule.
- F. Independent Contractor Status – Marilyn mentioned that she understands all officials are independent contractors and can choose which assignments to accept. However, she appreciates everyone’s consideration in being available for Carolina Region events. Especially on the weekends that might have other big tournaments scheduled in other Regions.
- IX. National Ratings update –The National Officials Division has changed the process in applying for the National Rating. Officials must collect signatures directly from National Rating Team members. We still encourage everyone wanting to go for a National Rating to follow the Region application process so we can provide training and mentorship to the candidates. We will continue to pay the application fee for officials that go through the Region application process. We will not pay the application fee for those officials that do not follow the Region process. Tony Hill will be trying for his National rating in 2013. We will be putting Al Cleary forward for his Junior National Rating. We have received Junior National applications for 2014 from Darryl Buck and Joey Asis.
- X. Election of Region Board Rep – Tony Hill’s one-year term ends with this meeting. A question was raised whether we want to extend the term of our Board rep to longer than one year. Kevin confirmed that the term limit is set by the Advisory Board. Motion by Doug Fagan, second by Greg Sanders to:

Motion 1: change the term limit to three years for the Officials Advisory Board Rep to the Carolina Region Board of Directors MSA

The floor was opened for nominations. Tony Hill and Brian Webb were nominated from the floor to stand for election. Brian Webb was elected by the Officials Advisory Board as the Rep to the Region Board and will serve a three year term.

XI. Old Business:

A. Junior Regionals Rating Process and Guidelines – Ronnie has begun work on establishing a Junior Regionals Rating Process and Form. The group was asked what the minimum standards for a Junior Regional Rating should be. It was recommended that in-region Raters should hold a Regional or higher rating. Juniors could be rated out of Region but would need to be by a Junior National or National Official. Discussed a minimum age or number of years certified as a minimum. Positives and negatives for allowing everyone to be eligible. The key is that we want this to be a special rating/accomplishment that juniors will want to work towards. It was suggested that we provide a special shirt that we would give to Junior Regionals in addition to the pin/patch that USAV already has. Ronnie, Marilyn, and Kevin will finalize this and distribute to the National Officials for final feedback.

XII. Adjournment - Motion by Doug Fagan, second by Gary Foster to:

Motion 2: adjourn the Officials Advisory Board Meeting at 6:22 pm. MSA

NEXT MEETING

In conjunction with July/August, 2013 OTP clinic. Time and site TBD

ACTION ITEMS:

- Ronnie Mutter, Marilyn Thompson, Kevin Wendelboe – Finalize and publish Junior Regional Rating Process and Criteria