

**General Board Meeting
Gateway Region USA Volleyball
DATE: May 3, 2019
Minutes**

Called to order: 6:41 PM

Motion to approve the Agenda: Palmer/Flanigan MCU

Attendance: Mueth, Palmer, Weber, Stratman, Flanigan, Martin, Cusumano, Egbert, Winters, Morecraft, Kleekamp.

Proxy: Scanio to Weber, Pieschel to Stratman, Ryan to Palmer, Werner to Martin, Halaz to Cusumano, Fowler to Cusumano, Fastenau to Kleekamp,

Additions to Agenda:

Beginning with those elected in 2019, At Large Directors will be ineligible for reelection if they fail to make 65% of the meetings since their last election. **Palmer/Martin MCU**

Approval of minutes – March 1, 2019

Motion to approve: Palmer/Martin MCU

BOARD REPORTS:

Commissioner – Mueth: The office will be closed during the May meetings since the entire staff will be attending the meeting. This will be advertised on the website, social media and our voicemail will be updated. There will be portals available to the Club Directors after the May meetings for both those using SportsEngine for their club website and a second portal for those that do not use the club website. SportsEngine will be much more user-friendly. Each coach will have access and a QR code to an app which will allow them to pull up their roster at events. Registration period will be running from September 1 to September 1. SportsEngine will be up and running on August 1st, but memberships will not be current until September 1st. Steve is planning to hold a Club Director meeting July 14th where SportsEngine will be discussed. PowerPlex developers are optimistic that the project will pass, but we should have a firm answer by the end of May.

Associate Commissioner – Ryan: (Reported by Steve) None of the 3 At-Large directors up for reelection decided to run. We are taking candidates through May 20th.

Treasurer – Weber: none.

Secretary – Pieschel: Absent. Bryan is working on figuring out which of the 6 High Performance models would fit best for us. We are still working on having one High Performance team next summer.

Jr. Coordinator – Clauss: Has several incidents that she is working through. Meetings are in May if anyone has any topics they would like addressed at the May Meetings.

Scorer Chair – Palmer: We hired Matt Shae for the open office position and he will start on Wednesday. He will be attending the May meetings since he will be primarily in charge of the SportsEngine registration system.

Referee Chair – Werner: (Reported by Andy Martin) We had 15 new referee candidates this year. 9 advanced. 4 referees transferred in including one National from Great Lakes. We are hosting a zonal beach referee camp and Augie has recommended Jen Morecraft to get certified as a zonal referee. Chris Kays is going for his Junior National Referee certification this year.

Women's Coordinator – Scanio: none.

Men's Coordinator – Stratman: Looking at renting out Big Daddy's in Soulard for the 25th Anniversary party.

Education Coordinator – Boyle: none.

Junior Beach Coordinator – Laure: absent. Running 3 Regional qualifiers this season. Running 1 National Qualifier. Dan will be stepping down from his position and Steve has some names in mind to take over the Beach Coordinator position.

Staff Reports –

Morecraft: Working on beach events that are coming up. We have 30 teams registered for the Girls 14/16U Qualifier, we have 61 teams registered for the BNQ, and we have 14 teams registered for the Beach Regional Championships. We are also running a Beach High Performance Qualifier and a Zonal Beach Referee Clinic in conjunction with the BNQ.

Shyu: Registration numbers were high for this year in our events. All events went well generally, the only issue that he really ran into was that one person would register all of their club's teams but did not include emails for the coaches of those teams. Coed 10U Regionals was the only event that dropped in registration in a little bid.

Winters: Financials from Boys Regionals and 10U Regionals are basically the same from last year.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Regionals: Numbers were the highest they have been in 5 years. 12s and 13s saw a large increase. There were some issues reported at hotels in Cape. James will send an email to Brittney with the details.
2. Board Restructure: Still in progress. We hope to finalize this at the August meeting.
3. Beach Events: Girls 14/16U will take place May 11-12, the Gateway Open BNQ will be open to all ages and will take place May 25-27, the Gateway Beach Regional Championships will be open to all divisions and will take place June 7-9.
4. Zonal Beach Clinic: We have 6 candidates. 2 candidates are from the Gateway Region.
5. Diversity Grant: tabled. We are hosting a sitting volleyball clinic. We will have someone from the sitting national team to help with the clinic. (**Addendum: We are now requesting to have either Michelle Bartsch-Hackley or Murphy Troy come to one of our events to autograph for players.**)
6. High Performance Team: tabled to the next meeting.
7. Donna Tribute: Creating an award in honor of Donna is a suggestion to consider and discuss at the next meeting.
8. Tournament Fee Increase
 - Increase default cost of 1-day sanctioned junior tournaments (self ref) from \$100 to \$125. **MCU.**
 - Increase default cost of 1-day sanctioned junior tournaments (R1 provided) from \$175 to \$200. Motion passes. **MCU.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Spikin It: Saturday will be Open and Club Doubles and Club single-sex 4s division. Sunday, we will have Open and Club Coed 4s. We can break into high and low divisions for club if we see fit.
2. Bid Event: Numbers are up. One division has 28 teams. The 11U division received a reallocation bid and 13U received a reallocated bid.
3. Club Information Nights: We will move the dates up earlier to have them both before boys tryouts. We were looking at moving the mock tryouts before boys tryouts, but it appears that this will be too difficult to do.
4. Event Dates
 - Boys HS Regionals: January 5th
 - Boys Bid Event: February 8-10
 - Girls 18s Bid: February 9th
 - 10s Regionals March 21
 - Boys Regionals April 4 and 5
 - MS Girls April 4 and 5
 - HS Girls Regionals April 18 and 19
 - Girls Bid Event May 2 and 3

5. Individual Age Groups for Boys Regionals (dependent on # of teams in the region & registered for regionals). Bryan thinks that we should try to separate age groups out dependent on the numbers. This may encourage more teams to sign up if they know they will be able to participate in their own age group. This will mostly affect Boys 15s. We need a policy written up to approve at the August meeting.
6. Registration fees: some think that our registration fees are high. They are actually some of the lowest of all of the Regions. Background screen fees are also the same throughout all of the Regions. JVA fees are less, but there is also a lot less included in a JVA membership. There is no insurance coverage through AAU, they don't do officials training, and they don't do programming. \$20 from the \$50 membership fee goes to USAV. The remaining \$30 goes to the Gateway Region and is used for office staff, education and programming.
7. Referee evaluation: James Egbert proposes a more formal way of submitting a complaint about a referee to the region in place of an email. We could look at creating a form through SportsEngine and putting it on our website. Jen will work on creating a form in SportsEngine.
8. Club referee/score certification process: James proposes sending Gateway representatives to ref/score certification clinics. The Region currently provides a free small club ref/score clinic.
9. Board Elections. The 3 positions open are:
Treasurer: Shane Weber is rerunning. Motion to re-elect Shane by acclamation **Palmer/MCU**
Secretary: Bryan Pieschel is rerunning. Motion to re-elect Bryan by acclamation.
Clauss/Palmer MCU
Jr. Coordinator: Chris Clauss is re-running. Motion to re-elect Chris by acclamation.
Palmer/Martin MCU

Motion to adjourn: **8:05 PM Palmer/Martin**

Meeting Dates:

August 2, 2019
December 6, 2019
March 6, 2020