

**Arizona Region of USA Volleyball
Draft Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the
Executive Board & Junior Boards
April 25, 2007**

1. **Call to Order:** 6:06 pm at AZ Region Office, 2105 S. 48th St, Tempe, AZ

2. **Roll Call**

Commissioner, Harold Cranswick; Secretary/Treasurer, Becky Hudson; Officials Division Coordinator, Peter Meyer; Adult Division Coordinator, Justin Blake; Jr Division Coordinator, Jonathan Norris; Metro Southwest Rep, Brooke Paulovich; Metro Southeast Rep, Lisa Naughton; Metro Northwest Rep, Michael Lindsay; Metro Northeast Rep, Karen Sitkiewicz; North Rep, Dan Kaminskas; Guests: Eric Hodgson

3. **Reading of Minutes from the March 6 meeting – no minutes approved.**

4. **Officers' Reports**

Commissioner

- a. Restructuring of the USAV Board of Directors – At this point, USA Volleyball is moving ahead with the restructuring of the USAV Board of Directors. A Transition Committee is in place until a new Board can be put in place.

Changes to the USAV Constitution and By-Laws - There are some commissioners that are not real happy about some of the proposed changes. There is more emphasis put towards elite and Olympic levels. Grassroots and juniors are not really represented. From the standpoint of promoting the sport this does not really reach out to those who want to learn or just participate in the sport. This is more the mindset that the USOC wants and not necessarily best for the vast majority of our membership.

- b. JVDA (Junior Volleyball Directors Association) – There is no additional information on this new organization at this time. They are pushing an agenda but not sharing what that really is. Harold has been asked to promote it to our directorship but we can't really promote something we know nothing about.
- c. National meetings - ROD & YJOVD meetings in Austin, TX in May, 2007. YJOVD will be meeting on May 20-22; ROD will be meeting May 22-24. The October meetings will now for both the YJOVD and the ROD on Oct 5-7. The YJOVD August meetings have been moved to coincide with the ROD meetings. The Junior Division will need to send one or more representatives to the meetings in October. Harold and Becky will no longer be able to attend since the meetings are now overlapping.
- d. Region Office Information – Becky Hudson
 - 1. Registration is done – except for the straggling chaperones and beach.

Secretary/Treasurer

a. Treasurer's Report:	Mar, 2007
Income:	\$ 86,529.23
Expenses:	\$120,693.66
Balance in checking account as of 3/31/07	= \$183,624.14
Balance in Money Market Account as of 3/31/07	= \$166,365.69

b. Marketing/PR Update – Eric Hodgson

i. Sponsorships

Kaepa and Odditees contracts are up in August. Eric is looking at sponsorship agreements with these and other vendors.

ii. Fundraisers

Christy is helping find a location for the golf tournament and hotel meeting area for the General Assembly. Instead of our normal 4 hour meeting for the General Assembly we are working on a golf tournament and dinner on Saturday and then the General Assembly on Sunday. We will not be able to have the entire tournament, dinner and meeting paid for by the golf tournament and dinner tickets. We need to start working on this now – booking dates. How much are we willing to lose this first year? We could include an awards night – Coach of the Year, etc. The awards night would probably not happen this year. The General Assembly is not drawing a lot of directors outside the Phoenix area. Hopefully this type of event will draw them in town.

Comments – We should send the info to those outside our organization – high school coaches, community leaders, etc.; We want to make sure this is fiscally responsible with our member's money; We have to make it worth the person's while to attend and also want to make it worth the Club Directors time to attend the General Assembly – possibly offering educational seminars – a package deal makes it worth the effort; Make it an educational weekend for club directors, site directors, officials, etc.; This is the same weekend as the SCC Valley of the Sun volleyball tournament – the tournament ends early on Saturday; We need to check out the Westwood Tournament of Champions date to make sure it does not conflict; We should go forward with the Sept 14 & 15 dates if no Westwood tournament conflict.

White elephant prizes are needed for giveaways at the golf tournament.

Officials Division Coordinator – Peter Meyer

- a. Happy about things winding down. May 5th is the only large weekend left to work.

- b. We continue to get feedback from folks via Match Comment forms. We had one major issue this past weekend which will be dealt with later in this meeting.
- c. There were 46 officials that worked 10 tournaments or more and earned their Bonus. There are still some education issues with some of the officials.
- d. We used 10 or 12 junior officials on a regular basis + one team of girls that were used on 2 occasions to work a wave. We will be working on doing more of the team officiating next season. We should be looking two to three years down the line in preparation for the need of officials. The JDO program is part of the growth of the officials division.

Adult Division Coordinator - Justin Blake

- a. Glad we are done with the season. Justin attempted to be at all the sites for each tournament except for one weekend he was out of town.
- b. We have some rough edges that we need to take care of. Justin had to talk to a couple of people this year about setting an example.
- c. Biggest concern from the Reps is that there is not enough communication between office and team reps. This has to be a two way street when it comes to information receipt by teams.

Reps - Don't understand why the format is different at different tournaments – this is due to # of teams that sign up for each tournament – different number means different format usually.

Tournaments held at Home Courts seemed to have had fewer problems. This may be due to both sexes playing in the same gym.

Junior Division Coordinator – Jonathan Norris

- a. AVC tournament for 2008 and beyond

Dates put forward for our consideration for 2008 are the weekends of Feb 23 or March 1

The tournament focus has changed – from grassroots to those that just missed out of qualifying for Jr Nationals. There is now a championship event at the end with bids awarded from the qualifying series tournaments.

The lack of communication and miscommunication we experienced with Andy leads us to not be involved. No direction was given from the leadership. It is not easy to work with Andy – no guidance offered when that was what we were seeking. We had to make decisions without the information needed to do so.

The alternative would be for us to put on our own tournament for the grassroots teams. What is the motivation for our teams to participate in that type of tournament? We are not drawing teams from outside Arizona what is the reason for the teams to play against teams they are already playing?

If we can set this tournament and promote it in a reasonable time for teams to plan to attend it would make a difference. This first one had no info out until late January. Does this fit into our tournament schedule? If this is just another Region tournament held in a convention center it is not worth our while. The reason was to promote a convention center experience for those teams that don't normally travel. The dates are a concern to us for our schedule.

From the official's perspective this tournament was a great bonding and work weekend. It really allowed the Official's leadership to offer feedback and alternate training type environment for the officials.

Questions to answer - What is the expectation from Andy for us on the financial aspect? Is it up to us to put out the money and put on this tournament in the future? Do we want to hold out with Andy until the tournament moves to Phoenix? We need a response from Andy before we proceed. What is our purpose in running this tournament? Andy will be in Austin at the YJOVD meetings. Harold will talk to Andy, Lisa will talk to the Tucson Convention Center.

Alternate tournament possibility could be our National Club Qualifier in the convention center.

- b. High Performance –
High performance camp is being put on as planned – June 11-13 (Youth) and June 18-20 (Junior)

HP Championships are possibly coming to Tucson in 2008. Eric is receiving conflicting information about whether it will happen or not. We will be involved if it does happen.

We should continue on with our attempt to bring put on a tournament that will bring in Mexican and interregional teams. The tournament would alternate each year between Arizona and Mexico locations.

- c. Junior Beach Program – Issue with Jr Beach brought up by parent.
Issues of growth are being addressed by putting each age group on a different night. Christy is going to run a lot of the tournaments this year. Eric has run the program over the past few years and would like to transition it to Region run.

How can we provide a way of getting feedback from those participating without calling attention to them self? We need to provide a way to call attention to things that possibly need changing without making the participants or parents complain – which they are told they cannot do.

There needs to be more supervision in the 12's. We will look at mentor players from older age groups that would monitor the 12's and possibly 14's courts.

- d. The formats for the 16's & 18's Open Division Region Championships were proposed by Becky Hudson. There was discussion on the proposed format but no alternative formats were put forward.

Motion 1: Move to accept the proposed formats for Open Division Region Championships. (Kaminskas/Sitkiewicz/Motion Passes).

- e. Jr Coach's Behavioral Issue. AZ Sky has suspended Chris Nunez from coaching based on the events of April 21st tournament. This is about standards of behavior that were violated. Due process must be followed. Currently we have to convene a committee and give them time to respond.

Motion 2: Junior Board recommends to the ECO that Chris Nunez be prohibited from coaching for the remainder of the 2007 season and the entirety of 2008. Kaminskas/Sitkiewicz/ Motion Passes Unanimously.

Jonathan Norris will write a letter to AZ Sky to thank them for removing Chris Nunez from coaching in their club. Justin Blake will talk to Chris Nunez about his behavior.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Incident Review Committee –
The position of ECO will be published to receive applicants within the week.

The Boards need to recommend someone aside from the Commissioner to stand in the ECO position in the interim until such time as a candidate has been chosen.

Dan Kaminskas has volunteered to fill in as the interim ECO. Jonathan Norris and Brooke Paulovich are the other members of the committee should there be a need to convene a committee.

- b. Budget Committee –
Fiscal nine months revenue expense reports were distributed to the Division Coordinators. Division coordinators should begin to prepare their budgets for the 2008 season and bring to the Retreat.

8. Old Business:

- a. Creation of an Arizona Region Development Grant Plan – Harold Cranswick & Eric Hodgson. - Tabled to the Retreat

Information distributed on the grants plans in the Carolina Region and the USAV Grant Plan. The Region could possibly change the use any future Golf Tournament funds from the current use (half to High Performance team and half to Starlings) to a new use (one-third to the creation of new high school boys teams, one-third to be used for any innovative grassroots ideas and the remaining third to be presented to the Starlings clubs). Other suggestions?

- b. Changes to the Constitution and By-Laws – Tabled to the Retreat
Create of an outside position on the Executive Board? Input? Thoughts?
- c. Guidelines for a club in “Good Standing” – Tabled to the Retreat

- d. Conflict of Interest Form - Tabled
Motion: Move to require every member of the Executive and Junior Boards to sign a Conflict of Interest form at the beginning of each new volleyball calendar year.
- e. Summer Leagues - Tabled
Additional information?
- f. Technology Purchases – Tabled for more information
Motion: Move to authorize the Region to spend no more than \$ ____ for the purpose of “backing up” computer data at an offsite location.
Eric will contact Steve Cecil and Justin will contact Earl Capps for information on this type of backup system for our data.

9. New Business

- a. Purchase of shirts for officials – Peter Meyer
The amount budgeted for officials shirts for this year was \$1500. We have a bid that falls under \$1500 with Shirtail for 72 shirts.

Motion 3: Move to approve purchase of 72 officials shirts from Shirtail at a cost not to exceed \$1500 for the 2007 season. Three bids were reviewed – Odditees, Shirtail, and Thumbprints. (Blake/Meyer/Motion Passes)
- b. Hosting AVC in 2008 – Tabled until Harold Cranswick talks to Andy Reitingger
Dates? Location? Purpose?
- c. Golf Tournament -
Motion: Move to authorize the Region to spend no more than \$ ____ for the purpose of promoting the 2007 Arizona Region 4 Person Scramble Golf Tournament.
- d. Information - Diana Cole talked to Eric at the HP Coaches Trainings Session about hosting a CAP clinic in Tucson in the fall.
- e. Motion 4: Move to have the Executive Board approve the purchase, installation and maintenance of a security system from Foresight Security Systems at a cost of no more than \$1,000 for purchase and installation and no more than \$35 per month for service. (Hudson/Cranswick/Motion Passes via email – 4 Yes, 0 No and 1 No Reply).
RATIONALE: Given the personal data that is gathered by the Arizona Region of USA Volleyball, we have a responsibility to protect the identity of each of our members. This security system is very necessary and long overdue.
- f. Next meeting will be held in June to set agenda for retreat

10. Meeting Adjourned 9:35 pm (Norris/Meyer/Motion to Adjourn Passes)

Review of Decisions/Duties/Responsibilities as a result of today’s meeting

- Junior Division to identify person or persons that could attend the YJOVD meetings in October
- Eric and Christy to proceed with securing a date and location for a golf tournament and General Assembly meeting venue.
- Westwood Tournament of Champions date to be researched for conflict with the General Assembly and Golf Tournament
- Officials Division to look into the use of junior teams to be trained as Jr Officials to work tournament waves.
- Office to improve communication with Adult Team Reps on changes or information release
- Adult Division to educate the Team Reps on the workings of tournament format.
- Harold Cranswick to talk to Andy Reitingger about the AVC tournament future in AZ
- Lisa Naughton to talk to the Tucson CVB about dates
- Eric Hodgson to continue to work towards a HP Tournament that would include Mexican and Interregional teams
- Junior Beach to increase supervision of courts at 12's & possibly 14's courts
- Dan Kaminskis to act as interim ECO until such time as one is hired. Jonathan Norris and Brooke Paulovich to fill out the IRC committee in the event one is needed.
- Junior Board recommends to ECO to sanction Chris Nunez from coaching for the remainder of 2007 and all of 2008
- Jonathan Norris to write a letter to AZ Sky thanking them for removing Chris Nunez from their coaching staff
- Justin Blake to talk to Chris Nunez about his behavior at adult tournaments
- Division Coordinators to begin their budget process for 2008
- Eric Hodgson and Justin Blake to research information on an off site backup system for our computer data.
- Shirttail to be contracted with to provide 72 Region Official Shirts for 2007 season
- Office Security System to be installed by Foresight Security Systems
- Items for the Retreat Agenda –
 - AVC Tournament or alternate type tournament
 - Discussion on creation of a AZ Region Grant Proposal for the development of volleyball in Arizona
 - Discussion on amending the Constitution and By-Laws to create an outside position on the Executive Board
 - Formulate Guidelines for a Club in Good Standing
 - 2008 Budget formalized