

**Arizona Region of USA Volleyball
Executive Board Minutes
March 5, 2006**

Call to Order: 2:25 pm

Present: Harold Cranswick – Commissioner, Becky Hudson – Interim Sec/Treasurer, Peter Meyer – Officials’ Division Coordinator, Justin Blake – Adult Division Coordinator, Jonathan Norris – Junior Division Coordinator.

Reading of Minutes of the meeting January 22, 2006. Motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2006 meeting as written – Jonathan Norris, Justin Blake. Minutes approved.

Officers’ Reports

Commissioner

a. Information/News

- i. USA Volleyball Nationals in 2006 –**
New Orleans will be the site of the 2006 National Championships.
- ii. USAV Strategic Plan**
The plan indicates a desire by USAV to have all RVA’s utilize the National Office’s On-Line Registration System by January 2007. This is problematic for some Regions that have spent thousands of dollars developing their own systems.
- iii. Arbitrators**
Anyone who would like to serve as an Arbitrator at USAV events is encouraged to contact Kevin Twohig at the National Office.

b. Office Update – Becky Hudson

- i. Lisa Naughton has been hired as an administrative assistant in the office. We are very happy to have her.
- ii. We have updated our version of Dreamweaver and purchased Contribute for Eric to use.
- iii. In the process of registration we have come across coaches with clubs that are not registered, BG screened or even In Process on the roster. ID badges at tournaments may have exposed or prevented this. The office would like the Board to reconsider the ID badge program.
- iv. Registration is still in process – we are a little behind schedule. The Adults are done, the Juniors are still in process.

Secretary/Treasurer – Becky Hudson

Treasurer’s Report

Income:	\$77,563.41
Expenses:	\$52,339.45
Checking Account Balance – February 28	\$48,247.96
MMA Balance – February 28	\$143,281.12

NOTE: These balances were added after the meeting because the date of the meeting was too early in the month for the account statements to be received from the bank and therefore the accounts were not reconciled at meeting time.

Marketing/PR Update

Eric has sold and billed \$2275 for ads in the newsletter, \$2100 in sponsorships. His goal is \$8000. Kaepa, Molten and Odditees are not included in these figures because they are strictly goods and services.

If you have any opportunities that Eric should pursue, please forward them on to him.

Newsletter Update -

This weekend is the launch of the Region’s e-newsletter, named by Lisa Naughton, the “Quick E-Sets”. We are going to have to build a database with the first few issues as we have no e-mail database for the region except specialized programs, such as HP, Beach and Officials.

The hard copy newsletter, Covering the Court, was mailed last week. This is the first issue that featured advertising. The feedback from both Boards is appreciated.

From April 4, 2005 to January 15, 2006 the website has handled 386,803 page loads and 83,662 unique visitors. While this reflects only the first 9 months of the new site, it is obviously a tremendous vehicle for information, advertising, etc.

We have added a survey to the site which asked for feedback on the Open Tournament Format change. Results will be given to the JB once the window of feedback is closed after this weekend’s tournament. Please encourage your open coaches, parents and athletes to respond.

If you have anything more you’d like to see from this department, please advise Eric. Eric would also like to remind the Division Coordinators to provide input in the newsletter. Our members need to hear from the coordinators and Eric needs the info in a timely manner when the newsletter is going out.

Officials Division Coordinator – Peter Meyer

i. Information/News

Peter is extremely frustrated with the short staffing of the officials, with the officials that change their availability on OASIS on Thursday before the tournament and don't email or call him to let him know in essence pulling out of their assignments. We don't have enough officials to cover the tournaments without overworking the officials that do work. It is boiling down to money for some of the officials – they can make more in a day calling high school softball games and work fewer hours than they can working 14 hours at a site of our tournaments. We have 6-8 junior officials that are now adults and are working full time officiating. Not enough people want to do it anymore.

Adult Division Coordinator – Justin Blake

i. Information/News

We had three teams from one club whose behavior escalated into bad behavior on the court and the sidelines. Justin talked to all of them prior to the next tournament. He informed them that Region was not interested in sending teams with their behavior to Nationals representing the Arizona Region. Their behavior will not be tolerated at any of our tournaments. They are all on probation. The talk went well. Pat Brown was apologetic. The last tournament went well – no incidents.

One women's team wanted to borrow a player from another team that would not be playing in the next tournament due to junior coaches out of town. It was decided that the team could borrow the player but that the team's matches would not count. The team decided to bring on another player rather than not counting their matches. A written policy on borrowing players will be produced at the Retreat.

The tournaments run themselves when everyone is behaving.

Justin is still getting emails about players wanting to join teams.

Military Games in Sierra Vista. They want sanctioning. Justin to follow up.

Harold would like to commend Peter and Justin for working together and acting quickly to get control of these behavioral issues (in less than two weeks). We can't let this get out of hand by taking so long to handle the situations.

Junior Division Coordinator – Jonathan Norris

- i.** The Junior Board needs to identify the Education Director. More IMPACT instructors are needed. A job description is needed for the position and then candidates identified.

- ii. There are currently coaches that are not IMPACT certified that are coaching. There is no written policy dealing with penalties for this happening. This will be a topic at the Retreat.
- iii. There has been poor behavior exhibited by a few coaches and or club directors. The JB discussed the idea of training for new club directors in dealing with parents and behavioral issues.
- iv. The Junior Board is putting forward a recommendation to reallocate HP team funds to Discretionary Funds to run a HP Camp and bring in national level HP coaches to run it.
- v. The Junior Board has agreed that USA Beach will be the title sponsor of one of our Junior Beach tournaments. The tournament will be June 10-11 and the winners will receive an entry into the HP Beach Camp.

Old Business

a. Best Practices Revisions

A revised copy of the Best Practices Manual was distributed.

Motion: To approve the Best Practices Manual as written and deal with changes as they occur. Peter Meyer, Jonathan Norris. Motion passes unanimously.

b. Review/Revision of IRC - tabled

With the new information coming from the ROD VP, our Due Process Policy revision will need to be revisited. We will need to change the direction away from the Commissioner.

c. Junior Board Election

Two positions are up for election. The election will take place this spring so that the new members can participate in the planning process. Follow up phone calls will be made to club directors that do not turn in ballots.

d. Plaques - tabled

Harold has asked Becky to get 2 – 3 estimates of the cost of plaques to be a historical display of the Board members of the Arizona Region. There is to be a Junior Board plaque and an Executive Board plaque. The information will be from 1989 to present.

e. Budget for 2006-2007

The process for the 2006-2007 budget will begin in April. A year to date budget will be distributed with an estimate of expenses for the remaining quarter. A draft budget will be assembled by the different divisions and put together to be implemented July 2006 – the start of our fiscal year.

New Business

a. Executive Board Elections

Nomination letters and forms will be sent to all Junior Club Directors and Adult Team Reps

b. Facility Plans

We have heard nothing from Pinnacle/Valley Sports Center.

Home Courts is in the process of building in Tempe – There would need to be some massaging if we are to work with them.

American Sports Center is still looking to develop in 11 states.

Harold will contact Pinnacle for some answers.

c. Sponsorship of Salvation Army

We were approached by Bob Wycoff about becoming an athletic program sponsor of the Salvation Army Youth and Family Center.

Motion: To approve \$500 for the 2nd Place level of sponsorship. Jonathan Norris, Peter Meyer. Motion passes unanimously.

Harold Cranswick offered the other board members an opportunity to each put in \$100 to bring the sponsorship level up to the First Place (\$1000) level. All board members were happy to donate.

c. HP Funds Reallocation

The Junior Board voted to recommend the Executive Board reallocate the HP Team funds to run a HP Camp and bring in national level coaches to run it.

After much discussion and realizing that this is time sensitive, the Executive Board recommends that Eric contact each of the previous HP coaches to get their take on this recommendation before reallocating the funds.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 9, 7 pm – possible JB meeting at 5 pm the same day.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:22 pm

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

- Executive Board members are encouraged to forward marketing opportunities to Eric.
- Division Coordinators are encouraged to send Eric newsletter articles or items of interest from their Division for inclusion in the newsletter.
- Official's Division Board is encouraged to meet and brainstorm ideas of getting and keeping good officials and investigating ways to grow the division.
- Justin Blake to follow up with the Military Games sanctioning
- Best Practices Manual to be published. Revisions to be submitted for inclusion.
- Harold to follow up with Pinnacle Sports/Valley Sports Center
- Sponsorship of Salvation Army athletics programs to be sent.
- Eric Hodgson to communicate with previous HP coaches about recommendation before funds to be reallocated.
- Nomination forms for Executive and Junior Board elections to be sent out.