

**Arizona Region of USA Volleyball
Executive Board Minutes
May 17, 2005**

Call to Order: 6:55 pm

Present: Harold Cranswick – Commissioner, Doug Kiefer – Sec/Treasurer, Peter Meyer – Official’s Division Coordinator, Justin Blake – Adult Division Coordinator, Jonathan Norris – Junior Division Coordinator. Guests: Eric Hodgson – Marketing Director and Becky Hudson

Minutes of the last meeting were read through. Motion to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2005 meeting as written – Doug Kiefer, Jonathan Norris. Minutes approved.

Officers’ Reports

Commissioner

a. Information/News

- i. USA Volleyball Nationals in 2005 –**
Nationals in 2005 will be held in Denver

b. Marketing/PR Update – Eric Hodgson

Website bugs are still being worked out. So far, most feedback on the new site is positive. We fixed the sponsor banners so as to comply with the contracts. The site will be turned over to the new server sometime after HP tryouts the second week of June.

Articles are being written and finished on ALL of the Region winners for website publication, adult and junior alike. Feature articles have been added also, and will be used to help keep the newsletter link on the website fresh.

Whitney Dosty from Club Cactus has been asked to join the Junior Olympic National Training Team. Rachel Mittelstaedt from ASU has been chosen as a member of the Junior National Team.

c. Office Update – Becky Hudson

- i.** Junior Board election has come to an end. A total of 8 votes were received.
- ii.** The 2005 club season has come to an end.
- iii.** There are some clubs that still owe the Region money. A couple of clubs have payment plans in place. Clubs with a balance will be billed as soon as all the chaperones have been added for the post season tournaments.

Secretary/Treasurer – Doug Kiefer

Treasurer’s Report

Income:	\$18,690.00
Expenses:	\$57,475.88
Checking Account Balance – April 30	\$10,524.81
MMA Balance – April 30	\$249,347.08

Doug is still inputting the monthly balance sheets into the budget.

Sponsor Update

Doug is communicating with the sponsors weekly.

The High Performance product is coming together.

Officials Division Coordinator – Peter Meyer

The season is over. The 16’s & 18’s Club weekend stretched the officials very thin – we had help from Sun Country Region and our junior officials.

There was a coach and parent ejected form a match by a junior ref. Peter has received input from all involved. The club director has agreed that what happened was not acceptable behavior. The junior ref was probably the best official at the site but should not have been put in that position.

The Officials Division lost about 20 referees from last year to this year. Most of the loss was due to family situations. Referees on the stand all day every weekend can cause family situations. Suggestion from the board to contact the local college teams to officiate as fundraisers for their program; promote officiating to the coaches as well – when it is not their tournament weekend.

When Match Comment forms are received phone calls are made to those involved. We need to make sure communication is made to the reporter as well. Match Comment forms are not being filled out for all instances because the prevailing thought is that nothing happens anyway.

Adult Division Coordinator – Justin Blake

i. Information/News

We have had a healthy increase in the number of participants and even with an increase, things went smoothly.

ii. Concerns/Problems/Issues

The Adult Division finished the year with a few minor problems that will need to be addressed:

- a. Rosters are being taken advantage of and a system needs to be developed to oversee that.
- b. Because of the lack of participants in the past, the Division has been “flexible” with the scheduling of the first matches of the day. Due to this being taken advantage of by so many teams, we will need to set the tournament schedules in stone for next season.

Junior Division Coordinator – Jonathan Norris

Season is over. Overall the juniors went smooth. It seems the parents were the problems this year.

There was a survey given to each coach at the Region Championships. The responses were positive. There were 12 responses mailed in or turned in.

1. The coaches were in favor of splitting the large divisions into AA and A at the Region Championships
2. The number of tournaments is thought to be right
3. The ladder format is liked
4. The format for Region Championships is good
5. The coaches would attend clinics during the summer if offered.

Each junior board member was charged with reviewing the By-Law changes that pertained to the Junior Board and sending their suggestions to Harold. No changes were reported to Harold. The Junior Board members had no changes/suggestions to the By-Laws as written.

The Junior Board members are charged with the following for the Retreat:

1. Produce a tentative schedule so they can refine it instead of creating it at the Retreat.
2. Come up with a format for the Open division tournaments to include one more match for the day. We need a little more competition to be competitive with other Regions.

The biggest issue for the Junior Board was the results of the election. Only 8 votes were returned. The Junior Board feels that this is not a representative vote of clubs and recommends that the election be thrown out and redone at the General Assembly – taking ballots for one week following the General Assembly. Eric has agreed to remain on the board through the General Assembly.

There was a request by a coach to review the tie break procedure for the Region Championships. After all the pools from all the tournaments were analyzed only 3 times did a pool go to a tie break and only once did it go to a playoff match. It was decided to leave the procedure as written because it is not a problem.

High Performance – Eric Hodgson

June 3rd – HP Camp

June 4th – HP Tryouts

June 6th and 7th – First Annual Arizona Region Coaches Clinic

All of the above events will be held at Phoenix College

HP Team will practice the week before going to Austin at ERAU in Prescott. The week will include room and board and practices. The extra cost of the training week will be offset by the additional t-shirt sales and profits from the HP Camp and the Region Coaches Clinic.

Recommendations made by the Arizona Region at the 2004 ROD meetings have come to fruition as the HP Staff is promising no team officiating, stats on every court, a better presence by the USAV and a more international feel to all aspects of the HP Championships.

Junior Beach Program – Eric Hodgson

The schedule is up.

Players are signing up.

Committee Reports

Incident Review Committee –

Katy Meyer has wrapped up the report for the incident last season.

There are two issues involving one club that were looked into. Neither became an IRC issue.

The current IRC has determined that there is not enough evidence to go forward with the issue before them.

Recommendation that the Match Comment forms be amended for behavioral problems or perceived injustices rather than just match issues. There needs to be a different way to communicate these issues.

Budget Committee – no report

Old Business

a. Constitution Revisions

Several items have been mentioned. In order to deal with all of these ideas in a more efficient manner, they will all be presented and then voted on at the same time rather than taken piece meal. So far, the following ideas have been brought forth for consideration:

1. Commissioner’s Vote

Motion: Move to change Article VIII Section 2 Part C.1 to entitle the Commissioner a regular voting position on the Executive Board rather than voting only in case there is a tie (as is currently the case).

2. Spending without Board Approval

Maximum amount that can be spent without Board approval?

Motion: Move to allow for the expenditure of up to \$200 without the prior approval of the Executive Board.

3. Expenditures over \$1000

Should any expenditure over \$1000 go through a formal bid process?

Motion: Move to require that all expenditures exceeding \$1000 require a formal bid process before a purchase can be approved by the Executive Board.

Motion: To collectively approve Motions 1, 2, and 3 above . Jonathan Norris, Justin Blake. Motion passes unanimously.

b. By-Law Revisions

Because of the reorganization of the Arizona Region, the By-laws need to be revised to reflect the changes for at least the following:

- i. Commissioner Division
- ii. Secretary/Treasurer Division
- iii. Officials Division
- iv. Adult Division
- v. Junior Division
- vi. Committees
- vii. Wages and Stipends
- viii. Advisory Board

Within each Division, the By-laws should list:

- (1) the addition of each of the paid positions within each Division
- (2) each position’s respective duties and responsibilities and
- (3) an explanation of how the person is hired or appointed.

Possible changes should be discussed prior to the next meeting. Any additions, deletions and/or revisions can be made at the next meeting or any time prior to the meeting.

Harold has cleaned up the original By-Laws and removed items that should not be By-Laws into the Best Practices Manual.

Motion: To approve the By-Laws as revised dated March 2005. Jonathan Norris, Peter Meyer. Motion passes unanimously.

c. Best Practices Revisions

A Best Practices Manual has been written by Harold Cranswick as a reference manual on how the region works. Items have been moved out of the By-Laws into the Manual to allow for flexibility in amending them as the Region grows and adapts to changing dynamics. These are items that would not normally be By-Laws but in essence an Operating Code.

Each Board member is to review the Best Practices Manual and be prepared to vote on its acceptance at the next Board meeting.

d. Review/Revision of IRC – tabled to next meeting

The old version of the Due Process Clause is being distributed in order to give the Board members a chance to offer input. A revised version will be presented at the next meeting. Anyone wishing to offer input on possible changes should contact the Commissioner.

e. Ad Hoc Stipend and Pay Committee – Tabled to the Retreat

Now that a budget has been adopted for the current season, there is a need to create an Ad Hoc Committee to study and revise the stipend and pay scales used by the Region. Any recommendations of this committee would be discussed with respect to the next budget.

f. Plaques – tabled to next meeting

Motion: Move to spend no more than \$_____ to purchase two plaques (one for the Executive Board and another for the Junior Board) to record the names of all past members of the Arizona Region Boards.

Doug has researched the cost of these plaques. The amounts were not available at this meeting.

g. Facilities Planning

There has been a second meeting with Pinnacle Sports regarding the Valley Sports Center. The specifics of the letter of intent were covered. They lost 50' on the back end of the building. The last drawing has added two courts but the space surrounding the outside courts is limited and there are no camp areas. More dialogue will take place about these concerns.

June 15th is the goal to sign a lease agreement. We are still hoping the facility will open on Feb 1st. We will have a 60 day window built into the lease agreement.

Next Meeting: July 15-17 at the Retreat.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:50 pm

Minutes were recorded by Becky Hudson

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

- Clubs owing money to be billed at the conclusion of the post season tournaments
- Doug Kiefer to produce an 2005 actual income/expense report to aid in the development of the 2006 budget
- Officials Division to contact local university club teams about officiating our tournaments as a fundraiser. Coaches to be recruited also
- Adult Division to develop way to monitor rosters at tournaments
- Adult Division to inform the adult teams of a stricter start time policy – no moving matches to accommodate consistently late teams.
- Junior Coaches surveys to be reviewed
- Junior Board election to be redone at the General Assembly. All Club Directors to be informed of the status of the election.
- Match Comment Form to be amended or new form to be created for behavioral or perceived injustices.
- Revised By-Laws to be filed with USAV
- Best Practices Manual to be reviewed by Board members
- Dialogue to continue with Pinnacle Sports in preparation for signing a lease agreement.
- Phone calls to be made to reporters in Match Comment Forms.