

**Arizona Region of USA Volleyball  
Junior Board Minutes  
January 22, 2006**

**Call to Order:** 12:15 pm

**Present:** Jonathan Norris, Shayne Lehman, Jane LaBrot (via phone), Karen Sitkiewicz, Harold Cranswick. **Guests:** Becky Hudson, Michael Lindsey.

**Reading of the Minutes of August 28, 2005** was waived.

**New Business**

**12's Division 23' Service Line**

It was brought to the attention of the Junior Board that there is no longer any mention of the 23' service line for the 12's Division in the USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations. After some research it was discovered that it had not been in the Rule Book for the 2005 season either. After much discussion the Junior Board unanimously voted to abolish the use of the 23' service line for the 12's Division in Arizona. The reasons for discontinuing the use of the 23' service line are:

1. It is no longer in the USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations,
2. It is not used at the National Qualifiers or most other interregional tournaments,
3. The use of the "light" volleyball reduces the need for the 23' service line,
4. It has been abused by skilled 12's teams as a competitive advantage in competition

An email will be sent to all 12's club directors informing of this decision on Monday. The first 12's tournament is next Saturday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Recommendations to fill Vacancies on the Junior Board**

Because the Junior Board elections did not produce representatives in the North Zone and the Metro Southeast Zone appointments will need to be made to fill the vacancies. The club directors in the respective zones were considered and one qualified director in each zone was called by Jane LaBrot to see if they would be willing to serve in the position. Dan Kaminskas of High Altitude and Lisa Naughton of Molten VBC have agreed to fill the positions. The Junior Board members unanimously recommend Dan Kaminskas and Lisa Naughton for Harold Cranswick, the Commissioner, to appoint to fill the vacancies in the North Zone and the Metro Southeast Zones through the term of office in 2008. Their biographies have been forwarded to Harold for consideration.

**Southern California National Qualifier and Open #4 Conflict**

The Open Division's tournament #4 is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup> which is in conflict with the Southern California National Qualifier's 16 Division tournament. It was requested of the Junior Board that they reconsider this date as the date of the Open #4 tournament. The

reasons given for the request are that this is ¼ of the tournaments for the Open Division and we have many teams from our Region that attend this tournament, it is also the last tournament therefore affecting the seeding for the Region Championships should a team not play in our tournament to attend the NQ.

After researching which National Qualifiers are on the adjacent weekends it was determined that March 25<sup>th</sup> would be the only viable weekend to move the tournament. March 25<sup>th</sup> is also a Club 16's and 18's tournament in Arizona and March 26<sup>th</sup> is the Arizona Region National Club Qualifier.

Research was also done in the online registration systems to see what teams had entered the qualifiers on March 25<sup>th</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 8<sup>th</sup>. There were no teams entered into the tournaments on March 25<sup>th</sup> weekend, there were 4 Open 16's teams entered in the So Cal Qualifier on April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 8<sup>th</sup> involved more than just the 16's in conflict.

The Junior Board decided to let the club directors of the open teams decide if they want to move the tournament or not. It was discussed that teams have known about the dates of the Open tournaments since September and have made their plans accordingly. An email will be sent out to the Open Division Club Directors on Monday taking a vote to see which weekend to hold the tournament on. The results will be determined by majority vote. The decision to move or keep the tournament as is will be made by Friday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **AVP Tempe Open Date Change**

The AVP has changed the date of the Tempe Open from the first weekend of May to the last weekend of April. It is now in conflict with our 14's Region Championships. It was requested of the Junior Board to consider moving the 14's Region Championships to another weekend because the 14's players are the ones that volunteer most at the AVP tournament.

The Junior Board discussed this and decided not to move the 14's Region Championships. There is no weekend that works for this tournament except the last weekend of April.

### **Cactus Classic/Fiesta Classic Review**

The 2006 Cactus Classic and Fiesta Classic tournaments were last weekend. Both went well without much issue. Cactus Classic had 106 teams competing and Fiesta Classic had 112 teams competing. Jonathan Norris described some parental issues that were dealt with that may cause his club to lose their practice sites. He is working on maintaining his relationships with the school district involved to avoid this.

### **Age Waivers**

There is a stack of age waivers that need to be addressed. Karen Sitkiewicz and Jonathan Norris will go over these at the end of the meeting to avoid taking up so much time at the meeting. It is noted that one age waiver was denied earlier due to the club placing this girl on their #1 team when they have other lower level teams in her own age that she could be

placed on. The girl is 1 year and 3 months too old for the team they would like to place her on.

### **Request for Reduced Fees for Team not Participating until late February**

Native Adrenalin has requested from the Junior Board that they not have to pay tournament fees for the first two tournaments due to their not being able to participate until the third tournament. The letter describes travel costs but they also have most of their players that play basketball and cannot participate in club volleyball until their school basketball season is complete.

The Junior Board does not want to set a precedent in refunding tournament fees if a team does not play. It is in the contract that all monies will be forfeited if a team does not play – this so that the host can still pay for the facility in the event a team does drop out of the tournament.

An anonymous donor has provided the funds for Native Adrenalin's first two tournaments so that they do not have to pay the fees. They will be notified of the donation and to know not to expect it each year.

This brings up the discussion of alternate types of leagues that teams may participate in when they cannot compete in the entire club season. This issue will become a retreat item.

### **Tournament Host Sites**

Becky Hudson requested assistance from the Junior Board on determining the host sites for the junior girl's tournaments. This year is unprecedented in that we have more sites that want to host every weekend than we can use on any normal weekend. Does the junior board want to host at certain types of facilities over others – support clubs that have invested in a facility and need the income, support clubs only and exclude junior colleges or other facilities that don't necessarily have a club associated with their facility. It was recommended by the Junior Board to notify the prospective hosts that we do have an abundance of gyms for our normal weekends and that we will be rotating them – that there will be weekends that we do not use their facility even though they have requested their facility be used. Many clubs/schools have come to rely on the funds earned through hosting as regular income for travel for their club, support for their facility or helping to pay for scholarships at their schools.

### **Chain of Command at Tournament Sites**

It was noted that at some sites the Site Director and/or the Lead Official are not completely aware of the chain of command in the event of issues that demand attention, ie, parental issues, coach issues, etc.

The Site Director is the authority figure at the tournament; the Lead Official is over what is going on on the court. The Site Director instructions states that the Site Director and Lead

Official will work together in the event someone needs to be ejected from the building or other serious situations.

Jane LaBrot will write up tournament protocol for parents, coaches, site directors, scorekeepers, referees and hosts to be placed in the newsletter and on the website. This will address behaviors and protocol for our tournaments – what we require to make our tournaments successful. - a proactive way to start the year.

It was discussed that it is the coach's responsibility to maintain the control of the team's parents. The team can and will be sanctioned if the parental behavior gets out of control. Club Directors need to communicate this to their coaches.

### **Education Director**

Jonathan Norris will get with Eric Hodgson and Shayne Lehman to iron out the Education Director position. The role of the Education Director position needs to be defined.

### **Tryout Policy from Badger Region**

Harold Cranswick handed out copies of the Badger Region Tryout Policy. He asked the members of the Junior Board to read it over and discuss the ideas involved. This will be an agenda item at the retreat.

There is a need to give the parents information about the clubs so that they can make a more educated decision on which clubs to have their daughter's tryout with. The North Texas Region has a spreadsheet on their website that we need to look at possibly putting on our website for the parents.

### **Announcements**

**Ashley Anderson** was a junior player in our Region that was diagnosed with brain cancer last January. She died last week. Jane LaBrot will send a card to the family from the Region.

### **Next Meeting:**

**Meeting Adjourned:** 1:54 pm

Minutes were recorded by Becky Hudson

### **Action Items as a result of this meeting:**

- Club Directors of 12's teams, officials and site directors of 12's tournaments will be advised of the abolishment of the 23' service line for the 12's division.
- Club Directors of the Open teams will be polled regarding the movement of Open #4 tournament. Deadline to respond is Friday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup>.

- Dan Kaminkas and Lisa Naughton to be recommended to Harold Cranswick to fill the vacancies on the Junior Board.
- Submitted age waivers to be reviewed
- Native Adrenalin to be notified of adjustment to fees based on donation of anonymous donor
- Jane LaBrot to write protocol for our tournaments to be successful and submit to Eric Hodgson for the newsletter and to the office to be put on the website.
- Jonathan Norris to work with Eric and Shayne to iron out Ed Director position
- Junior Board members to review the Badger Region Tryout Policy and be prepared to discuss at the retreat.
- Jane LaBrot to send sympathy card to the Anderson family