

**Oklahoma Region Volleyball Association
Board of Directors (2022-2023) Third Meeting
Cattle County Lodge, Stroud, OK
May 20, 2023 - 10AM**

MINUTES

Call to Order

Bill Hamiter

Call to order at 10:05 am

Roll call of board members.

Bill Hamiter

Members present: Bill Hamiter, Shawn McCarty, Gant Ward, Missy Frette, Margo Juergens, Darin Thompson, Janet Tyler, Mike Freeman, Randy Decker, Jeff Boyland, Asa Freeman

Members absent: Nikki Dieball, Lee Johnson, David Blakemore, Cindy Maggart

Staff Present: Jody Webber, Libby McCarty

Setting of Agenda

Bill Hamiter

REPORTS

Commissioner Report

Shawn McCarty

Highlights since the November 19, 2022 Meeting

- Tryout Committee surveyed Club Directors and coaches about the possibility of moving tryouts to the summer. After collecting data, the committee determined to keep the tryouts in the fall.
- Met with representatives from the Tulsa Sports Commission about 2023 Beach Regionals being held in Tulsa and the possibility of moving Regionals to Tulsa in 2024.
- Several meetings/phone calls with State Fair and OKC Visitors and Convention Bureau about Regionals.
- Attended the following tournaments:
 - Cowboy Holiday Ratings Tournament (Stillwater) – December 17th
 - Redlands - January 8th
 - Tulsa Attack – January 7th
 - UCO Wellness Center 13s – January 14th
 - Volley at the OAC 14s – January 14th
 - Score OKC 15s – January 21st
 - Boom goes the Dynamite - January 21st
 - Score OKC 14s – January 28th
 - Score OKC 15s – February 4th
 - Storm Showdown – February 18th
 - Rankings Tournament – February 25th
 - 18's Bid Qualifier – March 4th
 - Volley at the OAC 16s – March 5th
 - Score OKC 14s – March 25th
 - Volley at the OAC 13s- April 1st

- Score OKC 15's – April 1st
- Score OKC 16/17/18s – April 15th
- Sting Fling 13s – April 22nd
- Southmoore Showdown – 11/12s – April 22nd
- Regionals – May 6/7
- Attended RVA mid-year meeting March 20th in Kansas. Topics of discussion include:
 - Try Volleyball Membership – USAB BOD approved a 2-day membership for athletes 14 and under. Insurance would be included with this membership. This will be in effect for the 2023-2024 season.
 - Concern on the amount of time it takes to get background screening processed. Screenings are routinely taking 10-14 days to be processed. The Insurance Committee will take concern to NCSI.
 - Why is Sports Engine allowing members to register in multiple regions? This will be presented to the MMS working group.
 - Officiating Issues
 - Simplifying the scoresheet
 - Screening rule is being updated
 - Automatic red card if a coach protests a judgment call
 - Outside threats to USAV sanctioned events.
 - Other sanctioning bodies and private organizations are running events in regions.
 - AAU Boys Championship is succeeding.
 - USAV is hiring a Region Liaison position to assist Regions with issues.
- We have several adult teams attending the USAV Opens in Dallas. We have Men's, Women's, Coed and Sitting teams registered.
- At this time, the Titan Center in Tulsa is not contracting any events in 2024. It is unclear if/when they will schedule events for 2024. We have the Pavilion and Bennett Center on hold for February 24-25, 2024. We will need to contract for the Pavilion by June 1st if we intend to use it. Having the event at the Pavilion would force us to make this a two-day event as there is only room for 8 courts. We could run half the divisions on Saturday and half on Sunday or we could do waves on Saturday and bracket play on Sunday making it a two-day event for all teams. We could expand the event or run another event in conjunction with the Ranking Tournament in the Bennett Center.
- USA Sitting Teams competed in the Zonal Championships in Edmonton, Alberta. The Men's Team finished 2nd behind Brazil. The Women's team finished 1st beating Canada. By winning the tournament, they have qualified for the 2024 Paralympics in Paris.
- Libby, Jody and I are attending USAV meeting in Dallas next week.

SAFESPORT REPORT

- We have one pending case at this time.
- We had two cases dismissed by SafeSport

Motion to approve report made by Darin Thompson second by Randy Decker, all approved

Beach Report

McCarty/Blakemore

- Beach Regionals - June 24-25 (in between the GJNC events) in Tulsa
- 10 beach clubs w/applications filed w/OKRVA
 - Others (Charge, OK Nation, OKC Heat, etc.) still possible

- 101 total team entries in 2023 sanctioned events (through May 15 - includes 1st weekend following indoor Regionals)
 - 94 team entries in 2022 at same calendar point (includes 2 weekends after Regionals)
 - 88 team entries in this weekend's 3 events, so better comparison (2 weekends following indoor Regionals) is 189 (2023) vs 94 (2022)

Motion made by Randy Decker second by Margo Juergens, all approved

HP/All Star Report

Shawn McCarty

- The following coaches were hired to coach the Oklahoma Region Teams
 - U13 – Dani Newsome
 - U15 Red – Mike Freeman
 - U15 White – Lee Johnson
 - U17 – Santiago Restrepo
- Tryouts were held on Friday night May 5th. We had 130+ athletes tryout. Teams have been selected.
- After discussion with stakeholders and the Finance Committee, it was determined to try and field a boys' team for the All-Star Championships. We originally budgeted \$1,500 to help with a conglomerate team. However, opportunities for a conglomerate team did not materialize. The additional budget outlay was approved by the Executive Committee.
- We are hosting boys' tryouts Sunday, May 21st at Score OKC.
- We will host two 3-day team camps for our athletes. The girls' teams will do one camp in OKC and one in Tulsa. Boys team camp is TBD.

Motion to approve report made by Randy Decker second by Jeff Boyland, all approved

Registrar Report

Libby McCarty

We had 5,374 total members this season. This is up from 5,196 total members in the 2021-2022 season. There has been several new clubs this season that we assisted. We have also been approached by multiple individuals who plan to start a club next season.

Sport Engine still has its challenges but it is getting easier to navigate.

Registrar was asked to place on website the club handbook

Registrar was asked to provide if possible breakdown by membership totals

Motion to approve report made by Gant Ward second by Janet Tyler, all approved

8. Treasurer's Report

Margo Juergens

Report reviewed by all in attendance.

Motion to approve report made by Randy Decker second by Gant Ward, all approved

9. Officials Committee Report

Darin/Margo

Toni Slagle earned her National Referee patch at Girls 18s tournament.

Nathaniel Hutson is accepted to the Junior National evaluations at Girls 15-17s tournament.

Nine new officials completed the entry level Referee coursework.

Two officials applied for Regional Certification but were not successful.

USAV has changed the Officials patch. It is a bit smaller and more colorful. The Region purchased new patches for all officials.

OKRVA is sending teams to All-Star Championships, so the Region is allowed to nominate two Mentor officials (National or International) and two Mentee officials (Jr National or Regional). The committee sent an email to all OKRVA National, Jr National and Regional officials asking for applications. The applications of the officials chosen will be forwarded to the All-Star Championship Officiating team.

The Committee has discussed "In Good Standing" policy. We have agreed that an official should be removed from "In Good Standing" if an official officiates before the BG screening has been successfully passed and the Safe Sport course completed. The Committee would like for this to be a Region-policy. The Committee also discussed illegal players and coaches on the bench during a tournament. In our opinion, this should also be a Region sanction. Even though a team has a completed roster, that does not mean that the players and coaches on the bench are on the roster.

A new Rule Book will be published for 2023-2025 seasons. The Committee will schedule clinics in Tulsa area and OKC area for Juniors. Clinics for new Professional Officials and existing officials will be scheduled so that they can get their ratings completed before the season starts.

On the National level, the USAV Academy is researching if a separate sign-on could be created that would allow Juniors, Coaches and Officials to log into the Academy directly instead of going through SportsEngine.

Motion to approve by Darin Thompson second by Randy Decker, all approved

10. Junior/Rankings Committee Reports

Jody Webber

- Jody provided all ages rankings finishes for all teams who participating in regionals.
- The national JA committee will be voting for new director at the national level. Jody will report back to OKRVA board of directors after national meetings.
- Junior committee asked to make policy rosters mandatory in AES for every Oklahoma tournament
- Junior committee asked to review the OKRVA website wording regarding OKRVA Rankings if involved or invited to OKRVA Rankings tournament if only 1 in region to qualify for OKRVA Regionals
- Junior committee asked for communication on social media regarding what it means to be invited to OKRVA Rankings tournament

Motion to approve made by Randy Decker second by Asa Freeman all approved

11. Structure and Function Committee Report Missy McCaw-Frette
Nothing to report
12. Finance Committee Report Margo Juergens
Nothing to report
13. Ethics & Eligibility Committee Report David Blakemore
Nothing to report
14. Website/Social Media Report Blakemore/McCarty
Thompson
Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS

15. Executive Committee Action Items Shawn McCarty
Boys All Star Funding
Transfer – Malia Cardle
Transfer – Devin Young
Transfer – Amelia Blansett

Motion to approve made by Randy Decker second by Margo Juergens, all approved

16. 2024 Rankings Tournament Update Shawn McCarty
Shawn discussed that the Pavilion at the Oklahoma State Fair Games is currently on hold. Due to Titan Facility is currently not contracting any 2023-2024 dates due to facility being for sale. Shawn will need to let them know by June 1, 2023 if OKRVA is going to rent the space to host 2024 OKRVA Rankings tournament. The OKRVA BOD stated it was Shawn's per view to book facilities.

17. 2023/2024 Regionals Update Shawn McCarty
(Including possible Stay and Play)

- We hosted 332 teams overall (16 boys' teams and 316 girls' teams). We had 304 teams attend in 2022. This marks the 19+ years of record setting attendance.
- We utilized 41 courts in three buildings.
- Champions are listed below:
 - 10s – Charge 10 UA
 - 11s – OP2 11-1 EP
 - 12s – OP2 12-1 EP
 - 13s – Charge 13 UA
 - 14s – UPVBC 14 Elite
 - 15s – Charge 15 UA
 - 16s – UPVBC 16 Elite
 - 17s – Op1 17-1 EP
 - Boys 14s – 417 Boys (Heart of America)
 - Boys 18s – Kaizen Boys 17 Black
- We awarded 17 overall bids in three division (National, American, Freedom)
- The following teams qualified for GJNC/BJNC through National Qualifiers
 - OP2 13 EP – USA Bid – Mideast Qualifier
 - OP2 14 EP – USA Bid – Salt Lake City Showdown
 - Charge 14 UA – USA Bid – Lonestar Qualifier

- OP2 15 EP – USA Bid – Northern Lights
- Charge 16 UA – USA Bid – Sunshine Classic & USA Bid – Mideast Qualifier
- OP2 16 EP – USA Bid – Lone Star Qualifier
- Tulsa Power 16-1 – USA Bid – Red Rock Rave
- OP2 17 UA – American Bid 18s Division – MLK 18s
- UPVBC 17 Elite – USA Bid – Show-Me Qualifier
- Tulsa Power 18-1 – American Bid – AVC 18’s Qualifier
- The following teams were awarded bids to 18s GJNC from our 18s Bid Qualifier
 - OP2 18 EP – National
 - OK Elevate 18s– American
 - Virago 18-1 - Freedom
- We have been communication with the Tulsa Sport Commission and the OKC Visitor & Convention Bureau about the 2024 event. The Expo Building at the Tulsa Fairgrounds as well as the Bennett Center, Pavilion, Centennial, and Expo Buildings are available on the dates we need (May 4-5th). We are working with the Tulsa Sports Commission on pricing of the Expo facility in Tulsa as well as sponsorship by the Tulsa Sport Commission.
- There were several people who deserve thanks for helping out at the tournament to include: Libby McCarty, Janet Tyler, David Blakemore, Mike Freeman, Brooke Tyler, Cale Webber, Pam Dean, Kristi Wrasse, Brooke Calhoun, Chad/Shawnda/McKenzie, Dex Lanno, Gianno Lanno, Elliot Blake, Jody Webber, Amy Miraku, Julie McCarty, Lauren McCarty, Drew McCarty, Ric Washburn

Discussion by board if interested in participating in Stay and Play for Regionals. The unanimous decision was not to proceed with this.

Shawn will start over the summer with the Oklahoma City Convention Bureau to begin room block reservations

18. Tryout Committee Motions Randy Decker
2023/2024 Tryout Parameters
Expectations Regarding Tryouts

Tryout Committee Motion 1

Motion to approve tryout parameters for the 2023-2024 season:

- a. **11’s-12’s** --- Tryouts can **begin no earlier than Tuesday, September 19** – Signing date begins no earlier than Saturday, September 30.
- b. **13’s-14’s** --- Tryouts can **begin no earlier than Tuesday, October 3** - Signing date begins no earlier than Saturday, October 14.
- c. Week gap for state tournaments and fall break.
- d. **15’s – 18’s** --- Tryouts can **begin no earlier than Tuesday, October 24** – Signing date begins no earlier than Saturday, November 4.

Motion 1 approved by all

Tryout Committee Motion 2

Motion to approve restrictions and expectations regarding tryouts:

In order to reduce the anxiety that occurs around the club season, encourage players to enjoy and appreciate the high school season, and to exhibit respect for the OSSAA high school season, we would move that the following restrictions/parameters be approved by the OKRVA:

- a. For players moving into U13's- U18's, no camps, clinics, "invitation only" or tryout events with groups larger than 6 may occur during OSSAA volleyball season (July 15 (current year) to the current 5A/6A State Tournament), with the exception of one pre-tryout clinic, open to all, per age group.
- b. Small group lessons (no more than 6 players) may occur. Lessons should be about skill development.
- c. No offers can be made, for any age group, before the tryout period begins. Offers should be connected to a tryout that occurs during the tryout period.
- d. Consequences to begin January 1 of the current season
 - i. First time offense - Two-week suspension from coaching
 - ii. Second time offense - One month suspension from coaching

Motion 2 approved by all

19. Election of Commissioner Bill Hamiter
(two-year term through May 2025)
 - Shawn McCarty nominated and elected as OKRVA Commissioner by acclamation
20. Establish Election Committee for August Meeting Bill Hamiter
(Cindy/Darin/Janet/Mike/Randy)
 - The election committee members are Jeff Boyland, Missy McCaw-Frette and Gant Ward
21. Officials' Policy
 - The Region will not recognize an adult official as in good standing who has not completed all membership requirements prior to accepting a paid official assignment. Once membership requirements have been completed the official will be then considered in good standing

Motion made by Darin Thompson, second by Margo, all approved
22. Minutes
 Minutes to approve from previous meeting November 19, 2023
 Motion made by Randy Decker second by Janet Tyler, all approved
23. Set Date for August 2023 Meetings Bill Hamiter
 - Date of next meeting is August 6, 2023 in Stillwater, OK. The facility to be determined
24. Adjournment Bill Hamiter
 - Meeting adjourned at 12:41pm