

**Oklahoma Region Volleyball Association
Board of Directors (2022-2023) Final Meeting
Best Western, Stillwater, OK
August 6, 2023 – 1PM**

MINUTES

Call to Order

Bill Hamiter

Call to order at 1:04pm

Roll call of board members.

Bill Hamiter

Members present: Bill Hamiter, Shawn McCarty, Gant Ward, Missy McCaw Frette, Margo Juergens, Darin Thompson, Nikki Dieball, Janet Tyler, Mike Freeman, Asa Freeman, Randy Decker, Jeff Boyland, David Blakemore, Lee Johnson

Members absent: Cindy Maggart

Staff Present: Jody Webber, Libby McCarty

Guests Present: Peter Velet, Dave Schatzmann, Steph Kane

Setting of Agenda

Bill Hamiter

Review of Minutes from May 20th 2023 Meeting

Bill Hamiter

Meeting from May 20, 2023 needs to be updated for the election committee members are Randy Decker, Darin Thompson, and Nikki Dieball. Board of directors to be voted on Bill Hamiter, Missy McCaw-Frette, Shawn McCarty, Gant Ward.

Motion made to accept amended minutes made by Randy Decker second by Margo Juergens. All approved

REPORTS

Commissioner Report

Shawn McCarty

Highlights since the May 20, 2023 Meeting

- Multiple conversations with the Tulsa Sports Commission and Visit OKC/State Fairgrounds about 2024 Rankings Tournament and Regionals.
- Attended USAV/RVA meetings in Dallas. Some highlights include:
 - We will be required to complete a ROAS Report in the next two years. All regions are required to do so. We are working with other regions to get this accomplished.
 - NCSI (background check vendor) reports delays nationwide. They report it takes 3-5 days to get a background screening completed.
 - Recommend USAV keep EPIC as our insurer for the next season.
 - International Volleyball HOF did a presentation. They are launching a rebranding program.
 - JDP Background/Webpoint did a presentation. USAV is still committed to SportsEngine.
 - Next meeting is October 7-8 in Denver.

- USAV Championships for the 2023-2024 season are as follows:
 - GJNC 18s – April 26-28th – Baltimore
 - GJNC 11s-13s – June 21-24 - Dallas
 - GJNC 14s-17s – July 3-11 – Las Vegas
 - BJNC – June 26-July 3 – Dallas
 - Adult Opens – May 24-29 – Columbus Ohio
 - All-Star Championships – July 18-21 - Des Moines
- Attended GJNC in Chicago.
- The following teams attended GJNC in Chicago or Minneapolis
 - 11s National Division – OP2 11-1 – 19th
 - 12s American – Tulsa Power – 9th
 - 12s National – OP2 12-1 – 45th
 - 13s American – OP2 13-2 50th
 - 13s National – UPVBC – 33rd
 - **13s USA – OP2 13-1 – 1st**
 - 14 American – Tulsa Power - 25th
 - 14 Freedom – OP2 14-2 – 13th
 - 14 National – UPVBC 14 Elite – 31st
 - 14 USA – OP2 14-1 - 13th
 - 14 USA – OK Charge 14-1 – 19th
 - 15 American – Tulsa Power 15-1 – 39th
 - 15 Freedom – OP2 15-2 – 21st
 - 15 National – OK Charge 15-1 – 31st
 - 15 USA – OP2 15-1 – 5th
 - 16 American – UPVBC 16 Pink – 54th
 - 16 Freedom – Virago 16-1 – 46th
 - 16 National – UPVBC 16 Elite – 38th
 - 16 USA – Tulsa Power 16-1 – 17th
 - 16 USA – OK Charge 16-1 – 13th
 - 17 American – Tulsa Power 17-1 – 62nd
 - 17 Freedom – OK Charge 17 East – 25th
 - 17 National – OK Charge 17-1 – 46th
 - 17 USA – UPVBC 17 Elite – 15th
- The following boys team attended BJNC
 - 16 USA - Kaizen 16 Black – 23rd
- We had several teams play in the Adult Opens in Dallas. Our region-sponsored team took second in the Sitting Division.
- Attended OKRVA Beach Regionals.
- Attended both weekends of All Star Training Camp
- Hosted tryout meeting for Oklahoma City Area club directors
- Confirmed Score OKC for 18s bid qualifier on March 2nd 2024.

Motion to approve report made by David Blakemore second by Margo Juergens, all approved

Beach Report

Shawn McCarty/ David Blakemore

- 87 teams participated at the 2023 OKRVA Beach Regional Championships

- Record for largest beach tournament (based on entries) in state history that we know of
- Several directors have expressed interest in expanding the boys divisions to an "Oklahoma & neighboring states" event as is done for indoor regionals. David Blakemore polled boys that participated in 2023 Beach Regionals and they were also in favor of the idea.
- Significant growth in total # of overall entries in OKRVA-sanctioned juniors events for 2023. Best guess is 2023 was record for total # of entries in all events, and best estimate is up 20-25% over 2022.
 - Most of growth is not from # of participants (# of players relatively flat since 2021), but how often participants are playing in events.
- Still some issues with quality of largest facility being used (Helmerich Park, Tulsa). Will discuss w/City of Tulsa again in the fall.
- More clubs (particularly in Tulsa) offering beach programming during non-summer months. USAV now offers "outdoor" membership, which is applicable to beach/grass events throughout the year.
- About 80% of total beach volleyball organizations in Oklahoma are sanctioning through/with OKRVA. Several also going the USAV/AVP America dual-affiliation route. Other 20% are AAU/P1440 or AVP America only.

Motion to approve report made by David Blakemore second by Jeff Boyland, all approved

All Star Report

Janet Tyler

U17 placed 1st out of 10 in the national division. Inter had 8

U15-1 and U15-2 tied for 13 and 14th out of 16 in national division. Inter had 8

U13 placed 10th out 10.

Boys placed 17th out of 21. It was a U15 and U17 national mixed. Our boys never played a U15s only the U17s teams.

Next Year will be in Des Moines Iowa. July 17th – 21st. Will be a problem for planning next year because U14 – U17s nationals will not be done till July 11th.

All Star Program struggles were 150 kids tried out, but replied no when offered or came back with a no a week or so later. This was due to at least 4 different school coaches telling players they could not play school ball if they did All Star.

All 5 teams had players drop a month or so after tryouts. One dropping a day before camp started, one not added till after the first camp was over, and one injury that caused player to drop out a few days before tournament.

Motion to approve report made by David Blakemore second by Jeff Boyland, all approved

Registrar Report

Libby McCarty

We had 5,319 total members this season. This is up from 4,904 total members in the 2021-2022 season.

See attached spreadsheet for breakdown by type of membership.

We had several new clubs in the 2022-2023 season. We have also been contacted by a several individuals who plan to start a club the season.

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

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

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

Officials Committee Report

Darin Thompson/Margo Juergens

Nathaniel Hutson earned his Junior National Certification at Girls 14-17s tournament. OKRVA now has 3 active Junior National Officials: Nate Hutson, Archie Scott, and Michael Goodall; and one retired Junior National – Jerry Brands.

OKRVA sent two Referee Mentors and two Referee Mentees to All-Star Championships. The two Referee Mentees (Nathaniel Hutson, Junior National, and Kayla Stevenson, Regional) reported it was a great experience and both benefited from the feedback from FIVB officials and other officials from around the country. The Mentee/Mentor program was not formalized and thus was not as beneficial as it could have been. The two Referee Mentors (Rich Cooper and Elliot Blake) also reported that the Mentee/Mentor program was not formalized. Elliot reported that he was able to ask the Head Referees a number of questions and become more informed on some rule interpretations. Elliot also reported that this event probably will not develop into an event that would promote the Mentor/Mentee interaction that was anticipated.

Rule Books have been ordered 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 needs to be notified if OKRVA wants to train players that are 11 and under and/or 8 and under for scorer, libero tracker, referee, and/or line judge. There will be separate courses for them based on their age.

The Officials Committee moves that the Referees be given a raise of \$3 per match for this season. Provisional: \$31, Regional: \$33, Junior National: \$35, National: \$38. All approved by OKRVA BOD

Highlights of National Meeting at Opens:

1. USAV will discontinue the training of International Scorers
2. USAV is accepting fewer National Scorers to be trained due to the volume of events.
3. National and Junior National Referee Candidates should officiate out of their Region. National Application signatures should be from out of their Region.
4. National and Junior National Referee ratings will be changed to R1, R2 and then scorer.
5. USAV is encouraging diversity of underrepresented groups at the National level and at the Region level.
6. Encourages progression of all officials.
7. Recognizes that some officials are Regional Referees for life.
8. Regions should hold a tournament, have raters there so that officials can advance quickly.

9. E-Score will now be replaced by Volley Station.
10. Line Judging is a great start to officiating.
11. Beach – Regions need to promote/finance Junior Teams.
12. Bill Thornburg, Director of VB Training Camp, will come to Regions.
13. Other Regional Evaluations:
 - a. Columbia Empire – observation tournaments on President’s Day
 - b. HOA
 - i. December Tournament, Provisional will officiate as R1 and R2 twice in each position.
 - ii. Pre-National Event in June. Each candidate receives a notebook for recording de-briefs.
 - iii. Regional certification – requires recognition of backrow attack; must receive 90% as R1; must receive > 90% on USAV Rules and Signals.

Motion to approve report made by Gant Ward second by Missy McCaw Frette, all approved

Junior/Rankings Committee Reports

Jody Webber

Shawn has covered most.

JA meetings were attended May 21st and 22nd in Dallas. If you would like a copy of the minutes, please let me know. We did run into a situation where we did not have an athlete rep present so we had to adjourn and reconvene the next morning. The athlete representation requirement is a new world but we are adjusting!

Then, Around June 25th the email went out to coaches with the new rule instated at our last meeting in May over Private Lessons and clinics before tryouts.

Due to the response and receiving much communication, Shawn decided to send the rule to the exec committee for reconsideration. Bill then had him send it back to the junior committee to see if the committee wanted to amend it. I was inadvertently left off the email so I accidentally found out about it Thursday evening. Not much had happened in my absence but we tried to hurry to make the changes necessary. Our committee had a hard time getting on one call in such a short time but handed out is what those who could and would collaborate, came up with for the board’s consideration:

Randy will speak to the changes. (This was moved to the next meeting since the committee had not taken an official vote)

Motion to approve report approved by all

Structure and Function Committee Report

Missy McCaw Frette

Nothing to report

Finance Committee Report

Margo Juergens

Nothing to report

Ethics & Eligibility Committee Report

David Blakemore

Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS

2024 Rankings/18's Bid/Regionals Update

Shawn McCarty

18s Bid tournament will be on March 2, 2024 at Score OKC

2024 Rankings and 2024 Regionals dates are set as the facilities are tentative.

For rankings February 24 -25, 2023 the Pavilion building State Fair Grounds are held as well Titan facility for that specific weekend. The clubs that were approved and played last season 2022-2023 with if they approved for 1 day vs 2 day tournaments.

For Regionals the following buildings at the Oklahoma State Fair Grounds: Bennett. Centennial. Pavilion and new Expo Hall

For Regionals in Tulsa we have the Expo building at the Oklahoma County Fair Grounds. Elliott Blake and Shawn are doing a site review to look at the Expo Building. Janet Tyler and Missy McCaw Frette has volunteered to attend meeting to assist in reviewing site.

No actions needed this was for information from Commissioner to OKRVA BOD.

Election of 5 BOD Members – 3 year terms

Bill Hamiter

(Bill Hamiter / Gant Ward / Jeff Boyland / Missy McCaw Frette / Shawn McCarty) nominations from the floor Kristen Coventon, Larry Taylor, Steph Cane.

Gant Ward stated he appreciated time on board but is going to voluntary resign

Nikki Dieball stated she appreciated time on board but is going to voluntary resign

Board of directors elected for 3 year terms (expiring August 2026)– Bill Hamiter, Shawn McCarty, Jeff Boyland, Missy McCaw Frette, Kristen Coventon

Adjournment

Bill Hamiter

Meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm