

**Oklahoma Region Volleyball Association
Board of Directors (2023-2024) Final Meeting
Best Western, Stillwater, OK
August 17, 2024 – 1PM**

MINUTES

Call to Order

Randy Decker

Meeting called to order by Randy Decker at 1:03pm

Roll call of board members.

Randy Decker

Members present: Cindy Maggart, Shawn McCarty, Margo Juergens, Darin Thompson, Janet Tyler, Mike Freeman, Asa Freeman, Randy Decker, Jeff Boyland, David Blakemore, Stephanie Kane

Members absent: Lee Johnson, Kristen Conventon, Bill Hamiter, Missy McCaw Frette

Staff Present: Jody Webber, Libby McCarty

Guests Present: Ross Tyler, Nick Serowski, Tanner Serowski, Derek Serowski, Rose Canas, Janet Brannon, Jason Hughs

Setting of Agenda

Randy Decker

Agenda set no additional agenda items

Review of Minutes from May 18th 2024 Meeting

Randy Decker

Motion made by Janet Tyler, second by Margo Juergens to approve Minutes from May 18, 2024 meeting. All approved.

REPORTS

Commissioner Report

Shawn McCarty

Highlights since the May 18, 2024 meeting

- Attended USAV Meeting and Adult Opens in Columbus
 - USAV is hiring a new CEO.
 - Nationwide membership is up 7.1% through March 2024 (428,551)
 - 37 of 40 regions experienced growth in 2023-2024
 - Events
 - Girls' 18 – Baltimore – 320 teams
 - Girls' 11-13s – Dallas – 500 teams
 - Girls' 14-17s – Las Vegas – 1,400 teams
 - Opens – Columbus – 425 teams (Oklahoma had two Women's teams and 1 Sitting Team (took 3rd))
 - Boys' – Dallas – 325 teams
 - 2025 Championship Events
 - Girls' 18s – Salt Lake City
 - Opens – Denver
 - GJNC 11-13s – Kansas City
 - GJNC 14-a7s – Dallas
 - BJNC- Minneapolis
 - All Star – Madison Wisconsin

- Attended All Star Camp in OKC over two weekends.
- Attended GJNC in Las Vegas.
- Attended Beach Regionals in Tulsa.
- Attended groundbreaking for new Peak facility and Boomtown beach facility.
- Signed contract for 2025 Regionals in Tulsa.
 - Working on rooming contract at this time.
- Signed contract for 2025 Rankings Tournament at OKC Fairground Pavilion.
- Secured facility for 18s Bid Qualifier at Score OKC.
- Worked with Ohio State Coach to conduct boys camp in December (still working on details)
- Attended USA Women's Sitting Team Sendoff.
- Facilitated 2025 OKC area tryout meeting.
- Several phone meetings with Tulsa Sports Commission and Tulsa Fairground to negotiate contract for 2025 Regionals.
- Corresponded with Traveling Teams regarding room block for 2025 Regionals.
- Working on ROAS Report for USAV.
- Penn State Volleyball coach will be coming to Oklahoma for two days for boy's camp in December 2024. Details are still in process.

Motion to approve Commissioner Report by Shawn McCarty, second by Margo Juergens. All approved.

SafeSport Report

- We have one active case, and one second pending case against the same person in the same year. Meaning the same person has received two Safe Sport allegations.

Motion to approve Commissioner Report by Shawn McCarty, second by Margo Juergens. All approved.

Beach Report

McCarty/Blakemore

Beach Volleyball Report

- Number of junior participants this year estimated to be down a bit from 2023. More kids telling us it is harder to find time for beach w/requirements from indoor programs (clubs and/or schools). The kids that ARE participating in beach are playing in more events, which has led to larger tournaments (especially in Tulsa) in 2024 vs 2023.
- Team entries for 2024 Beach Regionals down from 2023. Primary reason (based on feedback from families) is 2024 event was during OSSAA dead week. Will be moving event off of dead week for 2025.
- Expecting to see improvement in # of OKC player's w/OKRVA and events as a result of the new facility (Boombox) opening in OKC, with both outdoor and indoor sand courts. Great opportunity for OKRVA to expand presence in beach game as the facility operators are souring on some other sanctioning orgs. OKRVA is in early planning phase of a "Beach Week" for June 2025 (ending with OKRVA Beach Regionals), including additional options such as:
 - Official's training
 - Clinics from college coaches and professional beach players
 - Para-Beach event
 - Regionals welcome dinner/party

- OKRVA made a materials contribution to Helmerich Park in lieu of court rentals from this year's (and past) Beach Regionals in Tulsa. Court improvements have been well received, both by our members as well as by other Tulsa-area beach volleyball participants.

Motion to approve Beach Report by Randy Decker, second by Margo Juergens. All approved.

All Star Report

Janet Tyler

- The following coaches were engaged to lead our delegation.
 - U12 Dani Newsom
 - U15 Red Joe Skinner
 - U15 White Patrick Ramirez
 - U17 Justin Marshal
 - Boys Sammy Duncan
- We sent 5 teams (4 girls' and 1 boys') teams to All Star Championships.
- Janet served as our delegation leader for team camps and the All-Star Championships.
- The 2025 All Star Championships will be held in Madison Wisconsin July 17th-20th.
- We are taking bids at this time for the 2026 All Star Championships. We believe that Tulsa will be submitting a bid for this. The host city for 2026 will be determined at the October 2024 RVA Meeting in Boston.
- Teams placed as follows -
 - U17 placed 14th out of 14th , going 1-6
 - U15-1 placed 11th out of 15, going 2-5
 - U15-2 placed 15th out of 15, going 0-7
 - U13 placed 6th out of 6, going 2-4
 - Boys placed 14th out of 18 in the U19 national division, going 3-4.
 - Next Year will be in Madison, Wisconsin. July 17th – 20th.
 - All Star Program struggle was just getting enough to play on the 15's 2. Then had 4 boys drop by first day of camp.
 - Had great coaches, no complaints from parents.
 - The delegation meeting voted to get rid of technical timeout next year, FIVB no longer uses it.
 - Tryouts totals for Tulsa– 2022 = 145
 - Tryouts total for Florida– 2023 = 168
 - Tryout totals for Iowa – 2024 – 144

Motion to approve All Star Report by Janet Tyler, second by Margo Juergens. All approved.

Registrar Report

Libby McCarty

As of August 16, 2024, we have 5,795 members. This is up from 5,319 for 2022-2023 and 4,904 from 2021-2022.

This is a record and at least the 20th continuous year with increased membership.

We have been working with several people both in OKC and in Tulsa areas interested in starting clubs in 2024.

Attended and helped facilitate the 2024-2025 Club Directors meeting.

Membership registration system is now open. Libby encouraged all club directors to get have their coaches register now and complete all required certifications and background screenings prior to tryouts. It will eliminate any roster issues in the future as well as making sure that they clubs are in compliance prior tryouts.

Motion to approve Registrar Report by Libby McCarty second by Janet Tyler. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

Margo Juergens

Margo presented treasurers report. Request to Finance Committee to look for areas of either funding to CD at bank and or areas to give back to our membership with scholarship areas.

Motion to approve Treasurer Report by Margo Juergens second by Darin Thompson. All approved.

Officials Committee Report

Jeff Boyland/Margo Juergens

The Officials Committee has not met since the last report. I will report on the USAV Officials Chair meeting from the meetings held before 2024 Opens in Columbus OH.

National Officials Development Program (NODP)

- Certification Program
- May not get certified in 2025, will continue for certification in 2026
- Candidates will get more training
- Total 40 candidates in program
 - There will be an alternate list
 - As people move off the program, alternates will move in
- This program is totally separate from JN/Nat certification programs
- This year 2024 will start the program
- A person can be released from the program (by self, due to life circumstances or by leads of the program)
- Julie Voeck will lead the program
- Reports on candidate's progress will be shared with Region chair
- Roster of list of coaches (JN & Nat list) to be sent out
- If candidate ages out of program must leave the program
- The total list will be reviewed, must be in good standing in their Region. Invitations will then be sent out to submit an application.
- Can stay in program for JN & Nat certifications

Junior National/National Referee Application Process

- Deadline – TBD
- Activity period for JN/N: January 1, 2024 thru April 1, 2025
 - A national championship and 2 qualifiers OR 3 qualifiers; 3 National events and 1 must be a national championship starting 2026
- Use USAV Academy to upload applications, information will be reviewed for professionalism and accuracy.
- Camp program
 - 25 campers
 - Camp will be in second block for 2025 candidates
 - Camp will be open to candidates first, then open to others
 - In spring, will have camp for accepted JN candidates. This in not mandatory. Slots available TBD.

- When receiving feedback, candidate needs to be receptive to criticism.
- Activity reports
 - Record number of matches and number of days
 - Travel out of Region
 - Keep log (R1/R2 activity)
 - Need to be professional in registering for events
 - It is unacceptable to agree to officiate more than one qualifier and not cancel until 2 weeks before event.
 - A sample resume will be available showing events that also show travel. It is more impressive to travel to events than staying close to home.
- Rise Program
 - Last year: 3 completed JN program and 3 completed N program
 - Less expensive (\$160), all attending events get paid and housed by the tournament
- Great Lakes Junior Officials Program
 - Green shirt with Great Lakes Junior Official log
 - Pay: \$25/match, after certified \$40/match
 - Highlighted to coaches/teams/spectators to “Be Nice”
 - College age wear college gear, Pay: \$30/match, after certified \$40/match
- Junior Advisory proposed for Junior Officials Green Lanyard
- Junior patch will be developed
- Purple Card
 - 6-8 Regions using it
 - Card progression: purple, purple/yellow, purple/red (point), purple/red again(out)
 - Post-match: obtain Region, address, review with club director
 - Used to protect work teams and playing teams
 - “Your bad call does not approve their bad behavior”
- In tournament play, one region allows the previous work team that is playing current match to automatically warm up 2nd.

Monthly Officials Chair meetings will now be led by elected Chair and Co-Chair

- Mission/vision
 - New referee chair orientation and mentoring for new referee chairs
 - Recruit and develop officials for USAV/Region events
 - New officials are trained through USAV and then only work other organization’s events. “We are providing a quality product that no other organization can match.”
 - Match fees (Region to Region)
 - Referee chair compensation

Scorer Chair Meeting

- Discussion on recognizing and rewarding good junior scorers
 - One region gives out recognition pins and scorer not required to attend next year’s training
 - Tag It program
- Discussion on Training/certification of Juniors
 - Lone Star uses:
 - Litmos modules in Academy, in-person clinics
 - Send in two completed score sheets
 - Regional or above official review score sheet and give immediate feedback and sign approval form. This replaces two sent in sheets.

- E-scoring
 - VolleyStation will be used at 2024 Olympics
 - Lone Star and OVR have used VolleyStation this season
 - Tournament staff can see real time scores
 - Steve Crane and Brian Hemelgarn feedback on VolleyStation
 - Cost estimate for licensing: \$2.50-5.00/ team vs writing utensils, paper sheets
 - Storage of E-sheet is being kept
 - Can be printed out but there are some issues
 - Scan QR code to start the match, the official provides the QR code
 - Must have rosters with numbers which must be correct
 - Tournament must be on AES to use
 - Positive acceptance from juniors
 - Training material: YouTube video or printed PDF
 - No checks in the system Example: warning at 9 subs, Libero moving to front row, two subs
 - App available for Apple, Android or IOS
 - Must download app on device
 - Can Baller TV partner with VolleyStation to use the same device?
 - Parents had security concerns because app was on kid's phones
 - Need Wi-Fi in facility for it to work (no data usage)
 - Distractions need to be turned off
 - Low battery concerns
 - If need to start on a new device due to low battery, the system keeps a record and starts where left off on first device
 - One club did not allow players to have phones in the gym
 - Can add a player even during a match
 - Added override button to correct issues
 - No data kept on the phone
 - Training offered online before tournaments for officials
 - USAV may use at Boy's championships this summer or Girl's 18 in 2025

Question regarding the Purple Card from official's report, was if it is being used in Oklahoma. And the process of what penalties are involved if used. Discussion was that yes it is being used and has been used in several tournaments in Oklahoma. And clarification of card progression.

Motion to approve Officials Committee Report by Margo Juergens second by Janet Tyler. All approved

Junior/Rankings Committee Reports

Jody Webber

Attended Junior Assembly Annual Meetings in Columbus, OH immediately after our last meeting. You received notes from those meetings during that week. The Commissioners took our recommendations and made final decisions. Shawn can report on those changes.

Additional reporting response from Shawn McCarty during the RVAA meetings. There was nothing voted on from Junior Committee recommendation during the May 2024 meeting.

The JA will meet again this fall. I am on the Programming Committee and the USAV Admin Council Committee for Safe sport for the upcoming season.

The attached link is the updated Draft for the Ranking Directions Randy asked for in May with the additions requested

[Rankings Directions.docx](#)

Rankings Directions and Suggestions

1. The Rankings Coordinator will send you the list of teams entered in the tournament and their individual results in an excel file.
2. Determine that all teams in the age group have results in two In Region Tournaments if ranking for Regionals (reminder, if they played in an OKRVA Rankings tournament they only had to play in it to fulfill their in region requirements). Report to Rankings Coordinator if not.
 - If ranking for the Rankings Tournament, there is no requirement for two in region tournaments.
3. If ranking for Regionals: Put Results sheets in order of Rankings Tournament finishes 1st, and then USAV National Rank for the rest. **THIS IS JUST A STARTING POINT!**
 - If ranking for the Rankings Tournament: Consider last year's finish at Regionals and their finish at Nationals, especially if they qualified beforehand and did not play in Regionals!
4. Examine the Results and place in order based on the **WHOLE** of these points:
 - a. Head-to-head (consider improvement over time though!)
 - b. How these teams compared with in-region teams
 - c. How these teams finished in major tourneys/qualifiers
 - d. Strength of Schedule in Region and in major tourneys/qualifiers
 - e. If still tied, check a team's win/loss record in qualifiers against like teams and other teams in the nation who have already qualified for nationals.
5. Email your rankings **AND** reasoning's of your top 4 (or wherever the natural break is if more than 4) to your Rankings Partner for vetting first, discuss, once verified then email all of your rankings **AND** reasoning's out to the full Rankings Team for vetting. We will all give opinions and thoughts to help vet the final standings!
6. Submit Final Rankings to the Rankings Team via email by the set deadline. The Rankings Coordinator will turn the final rankings in.

Thanks so much for your willingness to help!

Tryout meetings were held and Tryouts have been scheduled. I proposed that the Tryout Committee Meetings be held the last weekend in July each year so Clubs, Club Directors and their families can plan around them.

All tournaments that made from last season have been successfully rolled over in AES BUT these dates are not final as we are waiting for the Tournament Directors to be emailed about how to update for this year. After we update those change requests, we will add in new tournament requests. Team Tournament registration is scheduled for October 1 as we've done in the past. Time is of the essence to get those change requests made as other regions are already looking at our offerings! This will be first priority, working with Shawn to help him get those emails sent this week. The goal is to have the Tournament Schedule finalized by September 1st, giving one full month before registration opens.

Junior Committee is still evaluating the private lessons statement that was implanted last season. It will go back to Juniors Committee for further evaluation.

The tryout parameters should be established by May of the following year. The goal is to have the dates by the February of the current season if possible.

Motion to approve Junior/Rankings Committee Report by Jody Webber second by David Blakemore. All approved

Structure and Function Committee Report
Nothing to report

Missy McCaw-Frette

Finance Committee Report
Nothing to report

Margo Juergens

Ethics & Eligibility Committee Report

David Blakemore

Shawn reported currently that OKRVA Region has one active case, and one second pending case against the same person (coach) in the same year. Meaning the same person has received two Safe Sport allegations.

Jody stated that she is on the USAV Admin Council Committee for Safe sport for the upcoming season. She is not aware of what actions she will be required to perform at this time.

NEW BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS

2025 Rankings/18's Bid/Regionals Update

Shawn McCarty

Ranking's tournament will be February 22 – 23, 2025 will held in Oklahoma City at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds. It will be a two-day event same as last season.

18's Bid Qualifier will be held in Edmond, OK at Score OKC March 1, 2025

OKRVA Regionals will be May 3-4, 2025 will be held in Tulsa at the Tulsa State Fairgrounds

Election of six BOD Members – Five 3-year terms & one Two year Term Randy Decker

OKRVA BOD Members running for election for three year terms: Cindy/Darin/Janet/Mike/Randy

Two-year term: Missy Frette. Nominations from the Nominating committee are: Nick Serowski, Jason Hughs, James Ward, Andy Poplin, Ector Becerra

By way of election the OKRVA BOD are Cindy Maggart, Darin Thompson, Janet Tyler, Mike Freeman, and Randy Decker for three-year term. The two-year term is Ector Becerra.

Adjournment

Randy Decker

Motion to adjourn meeting at 2:40pm made by David Blakemore second by Janet Tyler