

**General Board Meeting
Gateway Region USA Volleyball
DATE: May 8, 2015
Minutes**

Called to order: 6:30 pm

Present: Tim Neels, Steve Mueth, Matt Ryan, Tom Schaefer, Chris Clauss, Debbie Palmer, Don LaChance, Donna Mayer, Randi Tyler, David Bosch, Dustin Cutts, Bryan Pieschel, Linus Shyu, Mark Sicking, Shane Weber, Joe Flanigan.

Absent: Augie Werner (proxy Neels), Shawna Stover (proxy LaChance), Jodie Fowler, Ashley Scanio.

Additions to Agenda: none.

Approval of minutes – March 6, 2014 Ryan, Clauss MCU.

BOARD REPORTS:

Commissioner – Neels: 18 GJNC getting restructured. Donna will be moving to PT basis, a full-time position will be announced once the office responsibilities are determined. Jr meetings will address the potential to ball changes (flistatec).

Associate Commissioner – Mueth: Exec board elections tonight. Tim, Debbie, Don. At large elections have been posted online, David Bosch, vacant seat, Shane Weber. Shane and David have announced they will re-run. Nominations will be open until May 20th. Election June 20-July10 all online. SLU has expressed interest in having Gateway night potentially Labor Day weekend vs. BYU 9/4 and 9/5. Success was much greater for this event when the Board approved a motion to send to all members not just club directors – motion at August meeting.

Treasurer – Schaefer: Profit/Loss shows good profit from Boys Fest, bid event profits are higher than designed. Holding about \$350K in checking, still have.

Secretary – Ryan: Bid results were posted quickly, we really appreciate that.

Jr. Coordinator – Clauss: Meeting in May, please send me your concerns. There has been some new situations this year, much of which has been resolved.

Scorer Chair – Palmer: No candidates this season.

Referee Chair – Werner: No candidates. Net violations will be changing for the 15-17 DCR. Online clinics are helping with training teams.

Women's Coordinator – Stover: absent. LaChance reports two women's team will be attending nationals. Angry Beavers and BBC. Women's PVL team as well.

Men's Coordinator – LaChance: Two BB teams going to Nationals in addition to the Men's PVL team.

Outdoor Coordinator – Stratman: absent.

Education Coordinator – Boyle: absent. Tyler reports that we are working to put together the best CAP clinic. We have been marketing, but it helps to have anybody share with interested parties. Our VCAP registration is the highest USA has had. We are at risk of getting our CAP II cancelled due to undersubscription. We added another live Impact clinic on May 24th for any last minute coaches or for CAP attendees to get their certified. Please contact Shenee if you want to help out on CAP weekend in any way.

Staff Reports –

Mayer: In addition to the Men's teams, we have a Men's 60s team. 29 GJNC teams, 14 BJNC teams qualified this year. Membership numbers are slightly above last year's numbers. 109 teams in Bid, 97 teams finished within 2 spots of their rank entering the event. Tournament sanction fee refunds will be dispersed over the summer.

Fisaga: absent.

Tyler: Overall, events subscription was good for the season, with the exception of G/S seeding which was previously discussed. Discussions about Boys' Fest and planning for upcoming seasons is underway, we will pass on details as they become available.

Nosco: Inquired about the format used at Lonestar qualifier, pools played and crossed where no teams play again. Same length. Concern for PM pools that are pushed by AM pool and the strong effects of seeds on the flow of the event. Tournament directors are able use alternative formats without approval, as long as teams are notified of the format before registration.

Regionals setup: getting sent to consolation, you can't finish above a certain level, where two of the other teams that lost in the quarters finish tied for 5th.

Motion: Post the top 4 finishers from the events, in place of the full final finish. **Ryan/Weber.**

Bosch: 11s bronze/copper division offering make the entry language more clear that both divisions will be offered for all ages.

Neels: Allowed a team in G/S in Regionals in 18s, they originally entered in B/C played in exhibition on Saturday, had 6 players on Sunday. Another team forfeited Sunday in G/S although they showed up to play with 5 players. Mueth suggests a Junior Forum to discuss using GW rule modifications under the new circumstances that the regionals event does not award bids.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Tryouts & holding players – Team holds tryouts, sign commitment letter, roster cannot support team. Coaches want to fill, junior player wants to find a team to play on. What rules if any should there be to fill/release/void the commitment letter?

Motion: In the event that a team has less than 6 committed players by 8 AM the Friday immediately following tryouts, the commitment letter will be voided and those players released to find another team. **Ryan/Weber, MCU.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Refunds for tournaments that charge for officials and did not provide them
Discussion: A list of certified officials/scorekeepers is available to anyone.

Motion: Any team that plays a match during the course of the event without a paid 1st official, will be refunded the difference between the entry fee and the maximum fee of \$100. **Neels/Shyu, MCU.**

2. Illinois tryout start dates based on geography

Discussion: GW tryouts are a week later than the Great Lakes region. Teams that are formed near the boundary of the regions have been granted a waiver to hold tryout on the same weekend due to the ability of the teams to choose the region based on their geography.

Nosco: Alton to Jerseyville, Litchfield to Edwardsville is his club's geography. States he lost 6 players to Springfield team that had tryouts at the same time as Great Lakes. Region has 36 clubs registered in IL, 12 have a 217 area code, 1 club asked for a tryout waiver. Staff will review information regarding the number of clubs that applied for a tryout sanction exception.

Tabled.

3. E cigarettes – include in documentation that they are considered tobacco products.

Motion from the Executive Board: e-Cigarettes are included in the category of tobacco products, they will be prohibited from use in any facilities or areas that prohibit the use of tobacco. **MCU.**

4. Edit current policy on season end notification to include club rep only:
*A player can be reassigned to a different club in the Gateway Region if the team the player is currently affiliated with has discontinued play for the season. This must be confirmed by the head coach or club/team representative before any contact with the player. The process to reassign a player is for the **club**/~~team~~ representative to notify the Gateway Region Office that the current team of affiliation has concluded play for the season, followed by a request from the new club/team representative to reassign that inactive player to their team.

Motion: Policy be adapted to read that a Club representative, not a team representative, needs to notify the region. **Ryan/Flanigan, MC.**

5. 18 and Under GJNCs

More to come at May meetings. Committee composed of teams that participated in the 18s Bid Event with Mueth and Clauss co-chair to conclude how we modify the 18s Bid Event schedule.

6. Elections:

The executive board positions up for election Commissioner Neels, Score Chair Palmer, and Men's Players Rep LaChance.

Commissioner: Sicking moves to re-elect Neels by acclamation, 2nd Ryan. All in favor, none opposed, and none abstained.

Score Chair: Ryan moves to re-elect Palmer by acclamation, 2nd Sicking. All in favor, none opposed, and none abstained.

Men's Player Rep: Palmer moves to re-elect LaChance by acclamation, 2nd Ryan. All in favor, none opposed, and none abstained.

Motion to adjourn: Palmer, Schaefer.

Meeting Dates:

August 7, 2015

December 4, 2015