

**General Board Meeting**  
**Gateway Region USA Volleyball**  
**DATE: May 9, 2014**  
**Minutes**

**Called to order: 6:35pm**

**Present:** Tim Neels, Steve Mueth, Debbie Palmer, Shawna Stover, Tom Schaefer, Matt Ryan, Chris Clauss, Ben O'Day, Shane Weber, Tony Stratman, Dustin Cutts, Joe Flanigan, Bob Crank, Mark Sicking, Ashley Scanio, Kyle Kaiser, James Atteberry, Linus Shyu, Jodie Fowler

**Absent:** Augie Werner (proxy Neels), Don LaChance (proxy Schaefer), Holly Luenemann (proxy Fowler), Ken O'Day (proxy B. O'Day), Shannon Loso (proxy Mueth), Chris Dickey, Kevin Stapleton-Cloud, Jodie Hempen, Maureen O'Neill, Frank Buggs, Becky Czuppon

**Staff Members:** Donna Mayer, Nicki Fisaga, & Jessica Werner

**Additions to Agenda:** Boys 12-14 Program. **Ryan/O'Day MCU**

**Approval of minutes** – March 7, 2014 **Crank/Ryan MCU**

**BOARD REPORTS:**

Commissioner – Neels: teams overall happy with bid event. New Safesport info from Olympic committee to USAV to us. Current situation with lawyers in hands of Missouri Commission on Human Rights.

Associate Commissioner – Mueth: EB elections tonight- Associate Commissioner, Ref Chair, & Womens Coordinator, with elections following meeting. 3 at-large seats up for re-election: Crank, Shyu, Sicking. 1 position available for 1 year term. At this time at least 4 new people interested in running.

Treasurer – Schaefer: financial reports good- doing well.

Secretary – Ryan: minutes look great!

Jr. Coordinator – Clauss: Reports on Safesport seminar in Denver, different ideas on regions implementing program. Wonderful season/great complaints!

Scorer Chair – Palmer: absent. Neels reports new sheet went over well with juniors. Melissa Robinson is a National candidate this year.

Referee Chair – Werner: absent. Neels reports Andy Martin is a Jr National candidate this summer.

Women's Coordinator – Stover: no report

Men's Coordinator – LaChance: absent

Outdoor Coordinator – Stratman: Working with office staff, looking for new prospects for Spikin it.

Education Coordinator – Loso: left the region for move to Michigan. Will return for Mental Edge clinic in June.

Shenee Boyle is new Education Coordinator.

Staff Reports –

Mayer: Our membership total is at 7700+ members; about the same as last season. Adult team total decreased about 5 teams. 2 adult teams are attending the Opnes, 28 girl's teams and 10 boy's Open teams so far. A report comparing Bid event rank vs Final Finish was distributed; the ranking system is shown to be very effective

Fisaga: Reported on entry numbers for Regional Championship and Bid Event. Compared to 2013, 10s increased, Adults decreased, Boys increased, Girls stayed the same, and the Bid Event had a few more teams. Working with Tony to scout new venues for Spikin' It. Planning to change divisions offered for Spikin' It. Tony volunteers to meet and discuss proposed changes.

Werner: Mental Edge clinic is in a few weeks. Numbers are still down so I urge everyone to spread the word and get their coaches to sign-up. It's a great opportunity in GW with lots of knowledge and talented presenters. Developmental League starts in June and could always use more helpers. Online clinics were an issue this season and will look into revising for next year. Overall pleased with mentors this year!

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Revisit in May: Does the Premier League count as 1 or 2 events towards the requirement for 2 tournaments in region in the team's age level by the Regional entry deadline to be eligible for G/S Regionals and the Bid Event.

Discussion about general verbage for number of dates, number of teams, teams in age divisions, etc. Neels & Mayer will come up with proposal for this.

2. Status report from committee who reevaluated tryout processes.

Clauss reports committee met twice and came up with viable solution or something different to propose to Jr forum and the consensus was to keep tryouts as they currently exist. Will research more options for next season.

3. Boy's High Performance team status update: they need to come up with formal proposal.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Executive Board Elections – Associate Commissioner, Referee Chair, Women's Coordinator  
Steve Mueth re-running for Associate Commissioner. No other nominations from the floor.  
**Motion:** Elect Steve Mueth as Associate Commissioner by acclamation: Clauss/Weber MCU.  
Augie Werner re-running for Referee Chair. No other nominations from the floor.  
**Motion:** Elect Augie Werner as Referee Chair by acclamation: Stover/Clauss MCU.  
Shawna Stover re-running for Women's Player Rep. No other nominations from the floor.  
**Motion:** Elect Shawna Stover as Women's Player Rep by acclamation: Clauss/Mueth MCU.
2. Discuss ranking system as it pertains to Regionals entry criteria. Discussion about limiting entries by rank to bronze/copper or gold/silver. **Motion:** Keep it as is. Clauss/Crank MCU
3. Boys 12s-14s program:  
GW needs to get number of silver level teams up. Reducing membership fees for these teams to help increase membership and team numbers so more start playing. GB agrees to have Tim come up with proposal.

**Meeting to Adjourn:** Clauss/O'Day MCU

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:27pm

**Meeting Dates:** August 8 - 6:30 pm, Kirkwood CC