

**General Board Meeting
Gateway Region USA Volleyball
DATE: March 7, 2014
Minutes**

Present: Chris Clauss, Matt Ryan, Augie Werner, Don LaChance, Steve Mueth, Tim Neels, Tom Schaefer, Bob Crank, Ken O'Day, Joe Flanigan, Shannon Loso, Ashley Scanio, Dustin Cutts, Ben O'Day, Kyle Kaiser, James Attebury, Mark Sicking.

Staff Members: Nicki Fisaga

Absent: Donna Mayer, Jessica Werner, Shawna Stover, Debbie Palmer, Jodie Fowler, Linus Shyu, Shane Weber, Holly Luenemann, Tony Stratman, Frank Buggs, Chris Dickey, Kevin Stapleton-Cloud, Jodie Hemen, Maureen O'Neill, Becky Czuppon.

Called to order: 6:30pm

Approval of agenda – Clauss/Loso/MCU

Approval of minutes – December 6, 2013. Mueth/Crank/MCU

BOARD REPORTS:

Commissioner – Neels: reported on coaches making up own rules and insisting they are Gateway policy. We are trouble shooting. Thinks online clinics are helping. Still dealing with legal issues. Case has now been sent to Missouri Commission of Human Rights.

Associate Commissioner- Mueth: At May General Board meeting we will vote for Associate Commissioner, Referee Chair and Women's Coordinator. At-Large directors up for re-election are Bob Crank, Linus Shyu and Mark Sicking. Will confirm if they plan to run for re-election. We will post call for nominations on website with May 20 deadline. Ballot will be posted by June 20. Election ends July 10.

Treasurer – Schaefer: no report.

Secretary – Ryan: no report.

Jr. Coordinator – Clauss: Attending Safe Sport meeting in April. Receiving reports about bad behavior from coaches, kids not carding coaches behaving badly, coaches not being responsible for own team, parents complaining about nutritional value of concession stand foods. National meetings are in May.

Scorer Chair – Palmer: Neels reports few issues with new scoresheet. Online training has been helpful. A consistent message is being delivered. We have 1 National Scorer candidate this season.

Referee Chair – Werner: held 2 more rating tourneys, January 11 & 12. 7 people improved rating, 2 brand new Provisional I referees from both sessions. We have 1 Junior National Referee candidate this season.

Women's Coordinator – Stover: absent, no report

Men's Coordinator- LaChance, season going well, Adult Regionals in 2 weeks.

Tournament Coordinator – Neels reports tourney issues from beginning of season have worked themselves out. Tourney schedule is full. We are getting more Tournament Directors who are not affiliated with a club.

Outdoor Coordinator – Stratman: absent, no report

Education Coordinator – Loso: Jessica has been following up with coaches who still aren't IMPACT certified. Mental Edge clinic has been rescheduled for May 31. Hoping to add more CAP approved modules to boost registration numbers. Gateway Region-Rockwood Community Ed Developmental program had 110-120 participants in winter session. The top 12 kids from advanced group have formed a new club team and are going to compete in tourneys later this season.

Staff Reports – Mayer: absent, no report.

Fisaga: Profit/loss from Gateway Girl's Festival reported. Overall profit, considerably less than 2013. No plans to raise entry fee at this time. Profit/loss from Dennis Lafata Gateway Boy's Festival reported. Profit increased for 2014. One venue was wonderful. Overwhelmingly positive feedback from clubs who participated. Seeding tournament participation for 2014 reported. Recommends we cut back to 1 seeding tourney per age group next season. Many did not fill, percentage of participation from top 10 teams diminished. Entry information for all Regional Championship events has been posted on the website, e-mailed to all team reps, and e-mailed to all club directors.

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.
2. Service charge for tournament entry fees. Suggested policy: Tournament directors are allowed to charge a service fee when using credit card payment for entry fees; however, teams must still be given the option to pay by cash or check with no additional service fee included. Motion from Executive Board, **Werner/Ryan/MCU**
3. Invitational tournament entry criteria (see TD Manual suggested revisions below) – Page 6 TD Manual

As soon as possible, begin accepting entries. In deciding which of the entries to accept from those received before the entry deadline, the ONLY criteria a Tournament Director may use are: if team/individuals are registered, timeliness of the entry, regional affiliation, and registered level of play (this includes both adult and junior levels). Exceptions, to these acceptance criteria, for example, **Invitational entries**, must be approved in advance of sanction acceptance. ~~Although registered level of play can be used to accept or reject teams, teams can not be "bumped" from the tournament by another team of the appropriate tournament level less than two weeks prior to the tournament date.~~

~~Teams should be notified, as soon as possible, whether or not they have been accepted into the tournament. Tournament entry checks may not be cashed until a team has been accepted into the tournament. Also, teams should be notified if they have been put on a wait list. Teams on a waiting list must be notified prior to placing them into the tournament and they must be given the option to decline the spot.~~

Notification process:

1. Notify teams as soon as possible whether or not they have been accepted into the tournament.
2. Do not cash entry checks until a team has been accepted.
3. Notify teams if they have been put on a wait list.

Teams on a wait list must be notified prior to placing them into the tournament and must be given the option to decline the spot. **Ryan/Flanigan/MCU**.

4. Committee to reevaluate tryout processes to be formed. Clauss asks anyone interested in being part of committee to stay after meeting to discuss. Neels explains tryout policies being used by other regions – some start tryouts right after the JNC. Not all regions have tryout start dates and regulations like we do.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Boy's High Performance – Gateway boy's club representative approached Neels about Region allowing a team to enter USAV High Performance event. Neels contacted USAV Director of HP events to discuss. Executive Board created list of questions to have club rep answer. Many unknown factors, no vote or decision at this time.

Motion to Adjourn: Loso/Ryan/MCU

Meeting Adjourned: 7:10 pm

Meeting Dates:

May 9 – 6:30 pm, Kirkwood CC

August 8 – 6:30 pm, Kirkwood CC