

Operations Report
EVERGREEN REGION BOARD MEETING
December 5, 2022

1. Operations

a. SportsEngine

- i. New season and clubs & members still have different issues occurring in the SE system requiring Region & SE Help intervention to fix the issues. While enhancements and fixes in some areas occur other issues continue to arise creating frustration with members and club admin.
- ii. 2022-2023 current membership numbers are higher through October than the 2021-22 season by about 350 total members. Fall tryouts began November 1st with the majority of clubs and members renewing their memberships now so membership numbers are looking good so far.

b. Staffing

- i. Leslie Cloud-Flores has been brought on board as a part-time staff member to assist with reestablishing and rebranding the High Performance program into All-Stars, Coaching Education, Boys and Youth.

c. SafeSport

- i. USAV & the Center for SafeSport has inquired about Region member based on a report filed through the Center for SafeSport. The Center has declined jurisdiction so the Region now will follow our Due Process to review and validate the complaint.
- ii. There is a conflict of interest with two Board members so they will recuse themselves from the Due Process procedure.

d. Banking

- i. Budget numbers through the end of the 21-22 Fiscal Year show a positive net revenue.
- ii. Divisions are looking to use the positive net revenue to help supplement areas of growth and scholarship/grant programming for the 22-23 budget year.

e. Official's Division-Reported by Linda and Barb

- i. The preseason officials division meetings are scheduled for December 10th in Spokane, WA and December 11th in Tri-Cities. Makeup clinic to be scheduled as needed.
- ii. Club Ref/Score clinics are being scheduled with the Region sponsored ones in Spokane are scheduled for December 27th and 28th and January 4th at Gonzaga.
- iii. Scoring: the new scoring scenario used in the clinics is finished and waiting for Linda's final review.
- iv. For ERVA hosted events this season the Region Office will use ArbiterPay to pay officials for their assigned positions.

- v. GearUp officials shirts will be provided once again by the Region if all USAV requirements are met by the January 15th deadline.

2. **Spike2Care/INK**

- a. Scholarship committee will be reviewing junior player scholarships and a few program grants for boys on December 8th to award funds.
- b. Region Office will use DocuSign to send out award contracts to families/clubs.
- c. Funds will be sent to the club to apply to player club dues.

3. **Adult Division**

- a. ERVA has hosted 3 adult tournaments under the Spike2Care name in October and November. 1 per month is planned in addition to Sizzler and Adult Regionals through April in various formats. These events are fundraisers for S2C financial assistance, grants as requested and to continue to offer adult programming opportunities for the ERVA adult membership during the indoor season.
- b. Sizzler is scheduled for January 7th & 8th at the Convention Center. Setup is beginning December 5th with court load in and setup on December 11th.

Current registration numbers are at 89 teams with 7 on the waitlist, Dennis and Lindsay are looking at formatting options to allow expansion up to 96 teams which would meet our highest number of teams. We may need to have 1 round of pool play in the recreation division and some competitive pools for local teams to allow for some bracket matches to begin on Saturday before the social and finish all bracket play on Sunday to allow for a modified double elimination bracket play on the 17 courts . 2021-22 season had a total of 78 teams.

Enhancements to the social are planned to engage the players like some random draw minute to win it games in addition to raffles, joke contest etc. We are also planning appetizers again versus a full dinner and two bottles of wine per table and pay a corking fee to control banquet cost.

- c. An Adult Regionals tournament is planned to be held April 28-30 at EWU. We are looking to include the PIVA college club teams in addition to other adult teams interested in the event.

4. **Junior Division**

a. **Club Director Meeting**

- i. The annual preseason tournament and club director meeting was held at Centerplace on October 2nd for the first time since COVID. Lunch was provided to attendees in addition to raffle prizes.

b. **ERVA Power League**

- i. The U14 and U16 Power League qualifier will be held on January 7-8th at the HUB Sports Center. Current registration is 23 teams for U14 and 27 for U16, the top 16 in each division will be accepted into the other 3 dates for the Power League. The non-qualifying teams will be entered into the alternate tournaments on the same dates.

The second January date for Power League was moved to April and combined with INK so there will be one Power League tournament per month through April.

c. Region Rumble

- i. ERVA and CEVA are co-hosting the 2nd year of the President's Day 3-day tournament for the U14 age division. We moved the location of the tournament from EWU to HUB Sports Center when it became available, and more courts allowed us to accept more teams.

Currently, we have 50 teams registered which is 14 more teams than the 21-22 season. There is a diverse field from both Regions and new teams participating that didn't last season. Shockwave VBC from Tri-Cities was the first year Champion and first name on the perpetual Sasquatch trophy, ERVA is hoping to defend our title this season.

This is a revenue share event with CEVA in a 50/50 split of the net profits.

d. INK

- i. This will be the first season ERVA will operate and run the INK tournament to raise funds for junior player scholarships.

The event will be combined with the ERVA Power League, serve as the alternate tournament for the non-qualified teams and open to outside teams on sign up day. An alternative format may be used to incorporate the Power League teams with the non-power league teams.

We hope to increase overall registration numbers and increase the profit for the scholarship program each season.

e. Tournament Sign Up Day

- i. Junior tournament sign up will be held on December 3rd in AES for the club hosted and other ERVA hosted events.

5. Outdoor

- a. Equipment was taken down and stored for the season at the beginning of November with help from Shawn Ottosen and Terry Veile.
- b. The CSV has hired a firm to gather information on tourism in Spokane Valley. They want feedback on Browns Park. ERVA's meeting is scheduled for December 6th.

They have also requested a meeting with Kokua for their feedback as a main user at Browns Park as well.

Commish Report – December 2022

July 2022

-Insurance Broker RFP AdHoc Committee – working with Stacie Kearns, USAV's CFO to look at previous RFP document and create a timeline to work with USAV in early 2023 for Ins Broker RFP.

August 2022

-Hiring of Leslie Cloud-Flores in the Part-Time Marketing and Development Coord for ERVA
*You may have already noticed a flurry of emails and announcements coming from her re. Coaching Education/Clinics and will see things re All Stars, DEI, Boys Development.

-Her email is leslie@evergreeregion.org

-RVAA Insurance Ad Hoc Committee to respond to EPICs options for ins company renewal (see EPIC Vendor Report from RVAA Meetings in October)

September 2022

-Popped into Annual Meeting of the ERVA Club Directors

October 2022

-ERVA DEI meeting w/Lindsay, Leslie, and Debbie – first organizational timelines and education – work in progress – training for board, officials, & clubs (directors & coaches), eventually players/parents – tasked w/watching Jen Fry from AVCA “Implicit Bias within Athletics” on Vimeo

-USAV Admin Council approved the standing committees of Structure & Function, Compliance, Nominating, SafeSport and Insurance. Each committee has most members from RVAA, but also includes at least one member of Juniors Assembly, Official Assembly, and a Non-Affiliated member.

*My current assignment is Insurance Committee and then the Education Committee

-RVAA Meetings – Denver, CO

1. Sponsor Reports

- a. Sports Imports – 15% discount to USAV clubs – standards/poles are a lifetime warranty – ERVA won an Officials pack in a raffle.
- b. Molten – TONS of supply-chain issues esp on WestCoast w/new Calif rules – notify if in a world of hurt for balls for an event and they may be able to do something.

2. Vendor Reports

- a. NCSI
- b. EPIC

-New Ins Company is Renaissance. They came in at 7% less than the expiring rate with American Specialty. The abuse policy is greater (2mil) but the aggregate is less (15mil). It also moved back to a non-auditable policy and they quoted at 350k members so if we have a surplus number of members then those premiums will go back into the RVAAs Ins Retention Fund. Certificate system was in place for the 9/1/22 season start.

3. Other Items of Note

- All Star Championships (currently replacing HP Championships) were taking bids for hosting in 2024. Only 2 applied – Des Moines, IA (IA Region) and Biloxi, MS (Gulf Coast Region)
- Marketing & Branding Committee released RVAA video (thanks to SpikeNet to help produce) and are pushing for more co-branded releases from USAV (USAV logo and Region Logo)
- New Coaching Academy launched Sept19. Bronze level for all current coaches – monthly style membership for Silver and Gold. Would like to see Regions purchase next level up for their coaches if poss but many of the Regions decided to wait and see the content this year before deciding to make that investment.

4. Zonal Discussions – Pacific Zone is AK, Aloha, Moku, PS, CEVA, ERVA, IntMtn, Rocky, NorCal, and SoCal

- Discussed boys in each region present – CEVA was to present to OSAA about adding Boys HS VB sometime in Oct, SoCal had the top boys leave and go to the SoCal Cup which is an AAU Event and their Boys memberships dropped 1000 – they have hired the SoCal Cup tournament director to run the boys divisions in SoCal and will hopefully bring them back in, NorCal boys DO NOT like the MMS and they believe they will lose boys if the MMS stays the same
- SoCal also expressed that they have a group of Junior Girls Power League Clubs that are not happy right now and are threatening to leave so they are working to hire a PVL director from a competing group.
- Discussed the need for a simple e-registration program that does not go through the long process of Sports Engine FOR local leagues, tryouts, camps/clinics – make as easy as possible.

5. Motions of Note

- Allow boys bids to trickle down to 50% of the field so not as many are given back to USAV
- Starting in 2024 Host Region for a Boys Qualifier should get 16sAmerican and 18sAmerican automatic bid if their region doesn't already have a team qualified for the BJNC.
- Eliminate the Strategic Planning Committee from the RVAA Standing Committees
- Move the Ohio Valley Region into the Central Zone to balance the # of regions in each zone

November 2022

This month of thankful reflection leads me to BE VERY THANKFUL for ALL of YOU who work hard and at times without recognition to make sure our members are cared for.

I am also GRATEFUL, THANKFUL and READY TO CELEBRATE the 10th Anniversary of Lindsay Callaghan, our Operations Director! I'm not sure where we would be without your work ethic and ability to find calm & logic during chaos. I am incredibly proud of your growth and our growth in your 10yrs with us. I appreciate you and know that our members do too, without even knowing you! Thank you, Lindsay!