

# RMR

## Board of Directors Meeting

Wed, 2/21/2024 @ 6:30 pm

### RMR Office in Littleton

#### Attendees:

Jim Henthorn  
Ryan Glavor  
Bonnie Apol  
David Mason  
Emily Swanson  
Scott Peluso  
Ryan MacDowell

#### Board Members Missing:

Kent Haggard  
Holly Kidd

#### Guests:

Keith Murlless, RMR Executive Director  
Jill Simpson, RMR Staff  
Marcie Schaap, RMR Staff

**Review of Minutes from last meeting.** Motion to approve Minutes by Scott, and seconded Ryan G . Motion passed unanimously.

Question: Did Kent follow up on things from last Feb 2023? Per Kent, several things were updated and recategorized. Will be discussed later in the meeting.

#### **Next BOD meeting:**

**Wed., June 5, 2024 @ 6:00 pm.**

#### **New Business:**

1. **Seeding:** A parent wanted to talk about a Colorado Elite team (16 Jake) and their seeding. Jim thought they might be at tonight's meeting, but they're not, nor is her club director, Matt Soderstrom. The issue is they are #1 in SOS but not invited to TFI. The Seeding Committee reviewed their record and the strength of their opponents carefully. The lack of quality opponents was the reason for the decision.
2. **Name of Showdown Tournament:** It has been recommended by Patti Enright-Harris that we rename The RMR Showdown to "The Wendy Sapp Memorial Showdown."

Discussion ensued. Friendly amendment: "The Wendy Sapp RMR Showdown" Jim called the question: Vote: 6 in favor, 2 opposed. Motion passes. The Showdown will now be known as "The Wendy Sapp RMR Showdown."

3. **Bylaws Revision:** Ryan G reviewed the Bylaws, and per discussion at our last meeting, it's pretty clear that we need to update the Bylaws. He'd like another meeting to review the Bylaws. We don't have an actual process to review and revise them. He'd like to do this before the next Board meeting. Things to be addressed: the processes for elections, subcommittees for Divisions, processes for Bylaws revisions, tournament operating functions, consistency among divisions, what goes to an Ethics Committee, what happens with an IRC, etc. There was a 2 yr rebuild which ran into the Covid period. We also need an Operating Code. Having both Bylaws and an Operating Code would be helpful. Doing this mid-season might not be optimal. Perhaps during the summer? Is the Handbook the Operating Code? Ryan G says it's a guide for the season. Emily says we could borrow procedures from other regions who have done this before. Discussion ensued. Perhaps Appendices to the Bylaws, one for each Division? Ryan G wants the Bylaws to point to standard operating procedures. Keith's proposal: each division writes down their recommendation to change the Bylaws. We bring in an expert to help write them. Jim H: we need a group or committee to get moving on the Bylaws. Anyone who wants to should submit recommendations. Ryan G has volunteered to be on the Bylaws committee. David and Keith too. Motion by Jim to create a committee to recommend changes to the Bylaws and the Operation Code and Appendices that exist. Committee Members: David, Ryan G, Keith, Scott, Ryan M, and any other Board member who may be interested. Emily volunteered to read through them afterwards. Each division should have a voice. Ryan G seconded. Discussion: Get feedback from the clubs as to how elections should be held. Who is eligible to run, who is eligible to vote, etc. Timeline: Can it be done before the next Board election (May)? And what's the deadline? If we change the Bylaws, are we implementing election procedures for this next election (May), or would it be for the election after it? GJC was allowed to make their own election rules in the past. David says it should be open to any qualified candidate who can get the vote. What about a survey to ask everyone what the election requirements should be? Transparency is key. The Bylaws committee can recommend a timeline. GJC should get on this right away - survey by Mar 1, 2024? For Bylaws, tentatively by Sept 1, 2024? Ask for extension if needed. We should leave this up to the committee, but these are suggestions. Call the question. All in favor of these dates/deadlines.
4. **Elections:** Holly, David, Emily and Jim are up for an election in May. The Board also needs a permanent Secretary and Parliamentarian.
5. **Old Business:** none.
6. **Executive Director's Report:** Things are going quite well in the Region. Lots of politics, but financially we're in a good spot. The purchase of the office property is complete. We made some financial changes to how we do long-term savings. It now generates interest. We've put into our referee corps lots of energy and material goods, and financial motivation for them. Bonuses. This has proven great for keeping our officials at work in the RMR. Showdown - we'll get the budget together. We want it to be

transparent. We're trying to help people get CPR trained. Colorado law may be changing about this. USAV Rules Commission: several new rules changes under consideration. This is not a rule change year, so nothing will hit the rulebook this year. NCAA adopted that a double to the teammate is not a fault. USAV has not adopted this yet. USAV usually has a year of testing before implementing a rule. They don't seem inclined to adopt the double to teammate rule. In the Region, Parents are being very vocal to the RMR office lately, not in a good way. Please get them to take a deep breath. Biggest problems are now at the handshake and just after the match. Parents are inserting themselves where they shouldn't. We need to nip this in the bud. Next, digital scorekeeping has been tried by Texas region recently. Volley Station is the app. We may try this out. Next, Town Hall meetings: technical difficulties occurred during the last Town Hall where only 100 people were allowed into Zoom even though we purchased 1,000 seats. The parents were well-behaved and we felt it was very successful. We'll try to do those once a month, if possible. Board members, committee members, club directors, and others might be good to have online.

7. **Treasurer's Report:** 23-24 Operating Budget. Things look good. A few details were discussed.
8. **Officials Division:** New pay scale is going well. Emily suggested having college players be refs to earn money for their programs. We lost a ref on Monday morning. Ted Schulz. The RMR will go to his funeral on Tuesday, and we've ordered flowers for his funeral. Jim presented a grievance form from Triple Crown. There is an excitable referee/coach in our region who was too aggressive with an official at the Colorado Challenge sponsored by Triple Crown. Triple Crown wants us to sanction him in the RMR. The Board recommended not taking formal action but having Triple Crown taking action against him on their own, and writing a letter to the ref/coach to let him know we're aware of the situation and he needs to curb his behavior. Next, Jim's title should be "Officials' Chair." Rob Livingston, our officials' assignor, quit a few weeks ago. Jim has taken over assigning again.
9. **Other Business** Keith has a situation with a man who had a SafeSport complaint against him a year ago. He was captured by a citizens action group. He confessed on tape. We suspended him and sent him through SS. SS came back to us and said they are taking no action, i.e., time served is good enough. It took them 11 mos to research it. He will be allowed his USAV membership again, and, therefore, interaction with children again. He's a coach. The Board doesn't want him on the court with children again - in our region or any other.
10. **Girls Committee:** See SOS discussion below.
11. **Boys Committee:** Growth is great. SOS is working for the most part. USAV's boys national events aren't up to the standard that AAU has set. The older HS boys had a lot of new clubs and teams in the RMR this year.
12. **Adults:** Adults had a very successful 12 team tournament, 75+ new adult members , Next tournament is May 4 or 5. Next year, adults want to plan 6-8 tournaments well in advance so we can maximize participation. USAV Opens 2025 will be in Denver, and Adults plan on a large presence .

13. **David - SOS** - 1.5 hour Powerpoint presentation and discussion about current SOS status. Discussion about FRVBC 17 late entrance into Showdown and withdrawal after one day. Action to be taken: none. David is filing an IRC with USAV against Front Range and certain individuals involved for violation of various Codes of Conduct. We have a proposal to electronically amend the Handbook midseason in response to this situation. Highlight where the changes are and forward it back to the Board to review. The Board will then vote on the changes. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
14. **Motion to adjourn** at 10:48 pm. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.