

## WEVA BOD Meeting

Date: Monday, November 8, 2021  
Location: Batavia Downs in Batavia, NY  
Time: 6:08 PM



Proxy:

- None

Called to order:

- Present: Frank Cwicklinski, Cindy D'Errico, John Hughes, Rocco Lucci, Bill Page, Tom Schneider, Scott Seabridge, Mike Trznadel, Dave Tytler
- Excused: Roger Majeski, Ryan Repich
- Unexcused: None
- Guest: Art Chavers, John Newland, Jim Vanderhoof

Meeting Minutes from July 2021 Meeting – Sent via email August 3, 2021

**Motion:** Approve July 2021 Meeting Minutes

Email vote: **Approved:** 10-0-0

Region Office Changes (Lucci)

- Due to budget concerns, the idea to move forward with an Executive Director to train under John before he retires was scrapped
- Path forward is an Office Manager position that could eventually turn into an Executive Director position, with the right candidate

Financial Report (Page) sent via email November 5, 2021

- As of 11/4/2021
  - Income \$65,195 (-\$133,631 YTD vs. Budget)
  - Expenses \$30,782 (-\$223,641 YTD vs. Budget)
- There may be an ask to increase AVCA scholarship amount

**Motion:** Approve November 2021 Financial Report – 1<sup>st</sup> Trznadel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tytler

Vote: **Approved:** 10-0-0

Registrars Report (Hughes) sent via email November 5, 2021

- Membership
  - 141 adults
  - 1769 juniors
  - 300 youth league
- Clubs
  - 31 active Girls clubs
    - 3 new clubs
  - 9 active Boys clubs
    - 1 new club

Tournament Report (Seabridge) sent via email November 7, 2021

- 32 total events
  - 9 WEVA events
  - 4 WEVA-sponsored events
  - 19 Club events
  - Boys' opportunities = 27
  - Girls' opportunities = 54
- Looking to get additional Boys' events

### Web Site Change Update (Lucci)

- Working with SportsEngine
- Plan to launch new site before the beginning of next season (2022-2023)
- Current web site documentation will be provided to SportsEngine to describe how all the forms work

### Officials Report (Cwiklinski)

- 104 referee invitations sent out
  - 58 accepted
- Questions from Officials:
  - Do they need to wear masks?
  - Will sanitizers be on tables?
  - Will people in attendance increase?
  - How many players will be working the matches (compared to the Spring)?
- Some officials are questioning the pay rate
  - Risk of covid exposure at events
  - Increase in fuel prices
  - A proposal will be brought before the Board for review and approval before the first event (12/12/21)

### Beach Report (Majeski)

- None

### Junior Business (D'Errico)

- WEVA events – All sanctioned WEVA hosted events have been entered into AES. Registrations/Hosts/Facilities using to date are listed below.
  - WEVA Rally I – 2/6 – 12, 16 – (7 teams) – SUNY Brockport 5 courts
  - WEVA Festival – 2/12 - 12, 13, 14, 15 – (20 teams) – Pinnacle and Armory
  - WEVA Festival – 2/13 - 16, 17, 18 – (22 teams) – Pinnacle (registration pre COVID did not require 12 courts), EAST an option
  - WEVA 13's Challenge – Mar 12 – Eastside Ice Hosting (Tri-County)
  - WEVA 15's Challenge – Mar 13 – Eastside Ice Hosting (Tri-County)
  - WEVA 16's Challenge – Mar 13 – VFX Hosting (Pinnacle)
  - WEVA 14's Challenge – Mar 19 – NFVB Hosting (Niagara Frontier Sports)
  - WEVA 18's BID Qualifier – Mar 20 – Pinnacle (1 or 2 courts, as needed in conjunction with VFX March Madness)
  - WEVA Boy's Championships – 3/27 - 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 (0 teams) –SUNY Brockport (8 courts)/Niagara Frontier Sports
  - WEVA Rally II – 4/3 - 13, 14, 17 (19 teams) - SUNY Brockport – 8 courts
  - WEVA Rally III – 4/24 – 14, 16 (9 teams) - Pinnacle
  - WEVA Girl's BID Qualifier – 4/30 – 12, 13, 14 – Pinnacle
  - WEVA Girl's BID Qualifier – 5/1 - 15, 16, 17 – Pinnacle
  - Some registrations down in comparison to pre-COVID, some the same at this point in time. Will most likely set up merchandise sales at SUNY Brockport and Armory facilities for WEVA hosted events.
  - Will continue to determine court requirements so website can be updated as well as AES with age group locations.
  - Facilities available to use this year - SUNY Brockport, Armory, Pinnacle, Tri-County and East HS confirmed.
  - Brockport outstanding available balance: \$6,126.00.
- WEVA is looking for region trainer(s) that will be part of USA's new direction for offering training across the regions. To make workshops more convenient and affordable USA will be training instructors in each region who can deliver a wide variety of workshop topics. USA will be providing these Regional Instructors with Instructor Guides (lesson plans) for the topics they wish to deliver. The Regions and Clubs can arrange with their "Regional Instructors" to deliver the workshops where and whenever they want. The Regions and Clubs can charge the coaches attending any fee they wish or make it free. If a Region or Club wishes to have USAV arrange to send in National Faculty to deliver a workshop there

will be a fee charged to cover the cost of sending the National Faculty to the site and delivering the workshop. The Regional Instructors will be trained to deliver a variety of topic workshops covering techniques and tactics, strategy, physical training, mental preparation, team administration, team dynamics and relationships. Some regions may wish to have certain instructors focus on specific topics. The Regional Instructors will be provided with detailed topic Instructor Guides and resources (lesson plans) to use to deliver the workshop. USA is working with the USOPC on the development of an On-line mental wellness course. It will be launched at the same time as the rest of the programs, the goal is to launch the overall program and begin delivering online modules and in person workshops in early 2022. Expenses associated with USA zonal training of region trainers will be WEVA's responsibility.

- Rosters acceptable at tournaments will be Sports Engine and AES. No certifications exist in Sports Engine so no verification will be completed by Scott Seabridge as done with Webpoint.
- Proposal for WEVA to require all tournament directors to format all tournaments within AES. Suggestion was received to meet the submission of results requirement to WEVA and to utilize the AES ranking for seeding of teams for BID qualifier. Concern – Not sure that the AES rankings consider the strength of the event to obtain a more accurate ranking within the region. Registrar researching the import options from Safe Sport to AES (unsure if manually can create roster entries in AES as before). Cost for use of AES for registrations and personnel to format event in AES and “run” the event day of is \$7.00 per team for a one-day event and \$10.00 per team for a two day event. Jon Simplicio would be the resource for setting up events in AES.
- COVID waivers will still be required at the WEVA sanctioned events this year by the facilities. WEVA will continue to follow federal, state and local county CDC guidelines for the season. Tournament directors/facilities will provide hand sanitizer at the score tables and cleaning supplies for table. WEVA will use abbreviated score sheet again this year as well as utilizing two lines people (without flags) and two at score table with a rostered adult as second referee. When not playing, must be in camping area designated by facility/tournament directors. Mask wearing and spectator requirements are still under discussion by the board.
- The coach's scholarship will be offered again this season. The board will approve funding based on budgeted dollars for coaches. Will send email to club directors. Already, have AVCA coaching convention registration assistance requested from some coaches within the region since in Columbus this December. Allocated in budget is \$4500.
- Review of Ranking System will be requested of all girls' club directors and then updates completed if any are suggested and approved by the event committee then posted to website. Document has the requirements for eligibility to play in the Girl's BID Qualifier event and continued format of no consolation matches – guaranteeing only 6 sets in the event. Dependent on number of teams that voice interest in attending USA Nationals there may be a need to playoff for third place since WEVA has three bids to event for 14's-17's age groups.
- In an effort to grow the team participation at USA Nationals for girls, USA added a new Liberty division that will award bids at the qualifiers. In addition, they added a Freedom Division where the regions will be allocated bids within their regions. The order of divisions will be Open, National, USA, Liberty, American, Freedom and Patriot. 12's and 13's will not offer all divisions but 14's thru 18's will. New Liberty and Freedom entry fees will not be covered by WEVA. Reimbursement of entry fees will remain the same as previous years.
- USA volleyball has partnered with LUCID travel for tournament directors to utilize their services to book travel and hotels for their events. WEVA tournament directors can solicit support, if desired. Not something WEVA clubs would utilize. Just FYI. Clubs currently have local support for hotel blocks.
- WEVA will have a National division bid allocated for 11 thru 18 age groups and an American division bid allocated for 13 thru 17 age groups to USA Nationals this year in Indianapolis for 11-17 and Phoenix for 18's. With the addition of the Freedom division at Nationals (48 team allocations distributed across the regions), WEVA has been allocated one bid to this division for 14-18's. For 12's, WEVA is second on the reallocation list for an American bid and sixth for 18's. Will send email communication of such to all girls' club directors.
- REMINDER: USA requirement that a rostered adult must serve as the second referee at all Qualifiers (including our Girls BID Qualifier event). Will send reminder email to club directors for this requirement.
- Tournament email to be sent noting all tournaments on WEVA website and in AES except boys regionals and girls BID qualifier events – email will note the WEVA Challenge 13's, 14', 15's and 16's events encouraging ALL WEVA teams within the respective age groups to participate in these events.

The 14's in the past has not exceeded 24 teams. The 15's and 13's will be limited to 16 teams due to court limitations at Tri-County. The 16's will be limited to 24 teams, if interest exceeds the number that can be accommodated on the 6 courts at Pinnacle. It is a possibility since this is the largest age division with the region.

- Follow-up on communication in regards to expectations of club directors for season – reporting results to WEVA, tournament entry, scorekeepers and second referees expectations, work teams, COVID paperwork requirements and points of emphasis for Code of Conduct.
- All club directors that are newly registered adults affiliated with a junior club (coaches, chaperones, board members and parent reps included) will be required to take the Safe Sport certification course for 2021-2022. For prior registered adult personnel, if you took the full Safe Sport course last year the refresher course will be required this year. If they took the refresher course last year the full course will be required, this year. Each adult that is affiliated with junior players in any capacity must complete a background check form and the safe sport certification requirements. In addition, each adult serving in a coach's role must complete the Impact certification. Once all adult requirements have been completed the adult personnel can be added to the Sports Engine roster. Sports Engine will not allow anyone to be added to a roster until all requirements have been met that are applicable to their assigned role for the team. Players turning 18 during the season will be required to complete the Safe Sport certification as well. Will send out emails advising all of the players impacted by the ruling to complete prior to their eighteenth birthday (parental consent form will be required to be completed). Michael Trznadel, Vice-President of the board will serve as WEVA's Safe Sport Representative to USA.
- Sending email to all club directors in regards to WEVA highly encouraging all coaches to complete the heads up concussion training (included the link to the training). Included notification to clubs that the Ohio region WILL require proof of completion by all coaches in order to participate in tournaments hosted within their region. USA has this on their horizon but currently it is region by region as far as being mandatory.
- USA will be using the same travel company for the 2021-2022 season. Team Travel Source
- The twelve and under serving standard for WEVA sanctioned tournaments will be sent out by tournament directors for any 12 and under events that are hosted. The directors will meet with the 12 and under coaches prior to the event to review guidelines for the event. No issue last year for this standard.
- USA National's Housing Lottery completed, clubs within the region are not listed in Tier 1 (27) or Tier 2 (43) selection for 2021-2022 season. The region will participate in the lottery. Follow-up email sent to USA office with confirmation.
- 2020 National Dates:
  - Girls 11-17 Championships - Indianapolis, June 23 –July 4,2022
  - Girls 18 Championships – Phoenix, April 22-24, 2022
  - Boys 12-18 Championships – Las Vegas, June 30 – July 7, 2022
  - Adult Open Championships – Orlando, May 27 – June 1, 2022
  - All-Star Championships (formerly USA High Performance) – Tulsa, July 19 - July 23, 2022

#### Old Business

- None

#### New Business

- Boys' teams issues with regards to USAV and AAU across the country
  - Clubs across the country are starting to bypass USA Volleyball and participating in AAU
- Discussion on potentially requiring all region tournaments to be formatted using AES
  - Some events use it just for registration; some use it to format the events
  - Pros: All events will be on-line; late changes done by AES; ranking for Girls Bid event
  - Cons: Cost; does ranking consider strength of event?; would still need to report the results through the WEVA web site (need to look into)
  - This would need to be an approved motion of the BOD
- Motion to suspend the requirement that teams need to have "Certified/qualified team official by 3/15"

**Motion:** Suspend the requirement that teams need to have "Certified/qualified team official by 3/15" in the Fines and Fees document – 1<sup>st</sup> Seabridge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lucci

Vote: **Approved:** 9-0-1

Next BOD Meeting

- January 10, 2022
- Location: TBD

**Motion:** Adjourn meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Trznadel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tytler

Vote: **Approved:** 9-0-1