

General Board Meeting Agenda
Gateway Region USA Volleyball
DATE: May 2nd, 2025

Additions to Agenda: No additions requested

Approval of Minutes: Stratman motions to approve. B. Winters seconds. Approved without opposition.

SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION

Board Reports:

Commissioner – Mueth: Regional held a meeting via Zoom concerning boys' volleyball. USAV hosted a virtual town hall meeting as well to share their vision for boys' volleyball. After the presentation, there was an opportunity for those in attendance to ask questions. After USAV's meeting, it looks like their original time frame is going to be stretched out as they review feedback and concerns.

Associate Commissioner – Palmer: Nothing to report

Treasurer – Weber: No proxy assigned

Secretary -H. Winters: Nothing to report

Jr. Coordinator – Clauss: Several sanctions noted from the 2024-25. Also, Clauss is forming a tryouts committee/task force to review the current tryout process and note any suggestions for improvement that should be brought to the board for consideration.

Scorer Chair – B. Winters: Nothing to report

Referee Chair – Kirk: 2 Jr. National candidates accepted and 1 other applying next year.

Men's Player Representative – Stratman: Nothing to report

Women's Player Representative – Wood: Nothing to report (Palmer is proxy)

Beach Coordinator – Rodgers: BNQ and BRQ beach events are set, and registrations are already coming in. Going to tour Edwardsville's new beach facility for consideration to use as soon as our August event that has a date yet to be determined.

Jr. Boys Consultant- Halaz: USAV is working hard to get boys back from AAU. Good conversations around strategies on this initiative. The future of boys' USA volleyball looks to be promising after the town hall meeting.

Staff Reports:

Shyu: Nothing to report outside of business

K. Mattingly: Total membership at a record of 12,150

J. Mattingly: Scholarship certificates and checks will be presented in general session. All events show growth over last year.

Huskey: Nothing to report outside of business

Old Business:

Regional Rankings: Optimistic that we are in the final edits. Lists seem fairly accurate despite some cells not populating. Testing the program with a nearly completed season's data has helped to refine its coding and ensure accuracy. Program concerns were raised because of the seeding posted for the upcoming Donna Mayer Bid Event. The executive board and staff assured that they are continuing to work towards accuracy within the code's transfer into a new operating system and that there has not been subjective positioning to seed tournaments. A suggestion to consider a committee formed to review top 5 placements in each division was posed to the board. Mueth noted the suggestion to change policy for discuss in the future.

New Business:

Social Media Policy: Please note that a revised policy with mandated updates will be published soon.

2025-26 Ref Pay: We have been getting out paid by AAU, JVA, and other entities by at minimum \$5/match. A proposal was made to increase our match pay as well as make it rank based to incentivize continued education and, therefore, referee quality.

2025-26 Region Events Entry Fee: Fees have been increased \$25 for single day and \$50 for two-day tournaments for the 2025-26 season to cover the ref pay increase. Included in this change, is a caveat that takes into considerations additional increases if gym fees go up after negotiating Gateway's contracts.

2025-26 Sanctioned Tournament Entry Fee: The maximum tournament sanctioning fees for tournaments without certified R1 officials provided has been raised to \$150. Tournaments with certified R1 officials provided the maximum is now \$250. Included in this change, is a caveat that takes into considerations additional increases if gym fees go up after negotiating Gateway's contracts.

Boys playing on girls' teams: There has been a change to the age limit of boys playing waived on girls' teams within the region from u14 to u12 with a maximum of 2 boys per team.

Boys' teams playing in girls' events: Boys' u13 and up are no longer allowed to participate in regional girls' events.

Teams from other regionals playing in regionals: Let it be noted that the Gateway region will no longer accept teams from out of region in our regional playoff events. This was first allowed during Covid to help fill tournaments and give outside regions more opportunities to play; which is no longer an issue.

Regionals: Record number of teams with a growth of 50 registrations. Despite the change of location, registration numbers and geographical location of teams participating showed little to no change.

BID Event: Record number of teams registered for the upcoming event.

Beach Events: Registrations are rolling in. Venues are secured pending final numbers for each event. The August beach event date is TBD.

Spikin It: Using the fields at Mueller again but in a different area than usual due to new ownership turfing the fields previously used.

Tryout Dates: Dates are set and posted. If you would like to be a part of the tryouts committee that Clauss is forming, please contact her to let her know of your interest.

Tentative Event Schedule: Made and pending finalization as facility contracts are negotiated.

Covid Policy concerning retaining players from previous season: It was suggested that this policy be analyzed in by tryout committee that Clauss is forming and then presented to the board for consideration of reactivating.

Executive board elections: H. Winters ran for re-election of Secretary Chair without opposition and was voted in. Weber stepped down from Treasurer Chair. B. Winters is stepped down from Scorer Chair to run for the Treasurer Chair. There was no opposition running for Treasurer Chair and B. Winters was voted in. Weber, in turn, ran to fulfill the remaining Scorer Chair term without opposition and was voted in. Clauss ran for re-election for Secretary Chair without opposition and was voted in.

Kirk motioned to adjourn. Stratman seconds. Passed without opposition.