

## 22 Feb 2019 Commissioners' Report

1. Feb Pacific Zone Report (Portland meeting 7 Feb w/PS, CEVA, ERVA, INT, RMR, NorCal and USAV CEO - Jamie Davis – not present Aloha, Moku or AK).
  - a. SafeSport – US Center has lost both CEO and COO – remember that they are there for all NGBs - they have been so inundated with sexual misconduct that almost all things related to physical and emotional misconduct is being turned back to USAV and essentially RVAs. The previous AOs are still not commanded to adhere to SS, per Congressional Hearings and updates to TSAAA. CEO reported on his testimony in front of Congress – having only been the CEO for one year at that time he could really only report on current policy and some BIG case considerations (Butler and AAU/JVA). His report included proud support of how USAV and RVAs have moved forward with SS. The Zone requested that there be a push to make sure AOs are included in the demand for SS Education. The Zone also requested that there be more direction from USAV as to “who” within our RVAs needs the SS Education (venue staff/vendors/tryout staff).

The general feeling from the Pacific Zone is that ALL adults with access to juniors (venue staff- inc school janitors, vendors, tryout staff) be members/BGS/SS. Can we get more specific direction from USAV?

Can we create a less \$ membership to accommodate this requirement?

- b. Beach – USAV was looking at how to promote the BRQs (as there are 26-27 BNQs on the schedule). Pacific Zone decided to organize a Zonal marketing plan with a flyer that includes the BRQ dates in all of our Zonal RVAs this way we promote play that is closer in proximity (C Compoc to place on calendar – M Walker from NorCal to help with organizing). BNC is in Calif this year and that should help with an increase in teams and better chance for calm weather. Request from our Zone to keep Beach HPCs off the Indoor HPCs.
- c. Disrupt or be disrupted (2018) and this year is Agility (nimble, quick, real time)
- d. ?s from other zones
  - i. Do we have an issue with non-US players playing with US teams? Not really here...noticed a couple of BC clubs not playing w/ Canada Volleyball or Volleyball BC by playing in the new NW Power League – per PS those clubs have disciplinary sanctions against them with Volleyball BC (specific sanctions not released).
  - ii. JVA/AAU – have we become so strict that we are driving them away? We have greater scrutiny by being part of an NGB, but rightly so. Our question to CEO was when will Congress require “other” amateur athlete organizations to adopt SS? Can USAV help the RVAs to advertise the RVAs within the Regions? Why is JVA/AAU advertised more during live televised events?

- e. MMS (Membership Management System) – USAV and the MMS Work Group announced that the new MMS has been awarded to Sports Engine. Webpoint WILL NOT be our system next year – ALL 300k + USAV members will have to learn how to use the new system through SportsEngine.

Some things that we will need to consider:

- i. With the new membership management system our membership year will move from 14 months to 12 months. The 12 month season still has not been announced – early projections are either Sept 1 or Oct 1. The ERVA Budget & Finance Committee will meet on Feb 22 to discuss the change in the membership year, the ERVA budget year and any financial impacts/considerations.
- ii. Currently the credit card fees that ERVA pays include some fees that USAV will start paying on Sept 1. This is a bonus to the change to the new system.
- iii. Training – our Operations staff will need to go through the training provided by SE and USAV Region Services. No announcement as to when this will occur. I asked if it was in-person that they consider a zonal sites for the training. Training the trainer that will in-turn train our members, club directors, officials is something we should fully support. There will be a brief project overview released in the next 2 weeks and SE people will be introduced at the March RVAA Forum but specific system info will NOT be presented at there since not all RVAs will be present.

Additional things on the MMS:

- i. We will still use the USAV Academy for the education component.
- ii. We will still use SSCI as our BGS company
- iii. Parents/Guardians will be able to manage multiple athletes through one account
- iv. SE also owns AES but RVAs will not be forced to use that as the only event registration system. Part of the contract with SE is to allow an open API to be built that will allow a third-party's system to be able to interact.
- v. It will still not be a "requirement" that all RVAs use this system (still 1-2 regions that do not use Webpoint), BUT our CEO did point out that if an RVA chooses to not use the new system they will be held to more frequent data transfers secondary to the SafeSport bans. As it stands now (with webpoint) there can be a month between a SS ban and a new membership that occurs in a non-webpoint RVA.
- vi. The contract with SE is an 8yr contract with an opt out at 4yrs.
- vii. USAV is waiting on a full press release to the members until we get closer to the new membership season to decrease the amount of confusion with the new system/new member year.

- 2. ERVA Membership Report – (awaiting on #s from USAV Region Services)

SafeSport Report  
2/18/2019

No new incidents to report.  
No new motions regarding SafeSport at this time.

Thoughts to consider moving forward:

Because SafeSport is still a relatively new division not only in the Evergreen Region, but in USA Volleyball, it is bound to experience several changes in procedures and recommendations regarding actions taken at the local level upon receipt or awareness of SafeSport related issues. More specifically, the things we were investigating and addressing at the local level a year ago, are now to be forwarded directly to the Center for SafeSport. The Center will provide the investigation, recommendations and sanctions, leaving the local Regions the task of implementing and enforcing consequences resulting from their rulings and/or findings. For me this begs the question, "What am I supposed to do now?" and "How do I help define the position of SafeSport Director moving forward?"

Given these new procedures, will the SafeSport Director need to be someone with experience or training dealing with similar issues? Or could the duties be handled by persons in the office?

That said, I do not think that the pendulum of change and formulation of the SS program is by any means done swinging. Yesterday the individual Regions were fielding complaints ranging from disgruntled parents, to players feeling bullied to inappropriate advances by individuals in positions of "power" over vulnerable persons. Today we are told to forward ALL complaints to the National Center for SafeSport for processing, which feels like a tremendous out-sourcing of too wide a range of issues. I suspect that tomorrow will reveal yet another interpretation of what issues merit consideration by the Center for SafeSport, and what issues can and should be addressed at the Regional level.

I would like to continue to work with both the National and Regional Offices through this transition. Because of my education and experience as a counselor for persons dealing with physical and sexual abuse issues, I feel uniquely qualified to receive and decipher SafeSport related concerns. Looking ahead, I am not so sure that the SafeSport Director will need such specific qualifications.

In conclusion, I hope to speak with Robin at the National Office to inquire as to how other Regions are working with the Center for SafeSport and if any new recommendations have come forward since our meetings last September.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debbie Spray  
SafeSport Director, ERVA

**Operations Report**  
**EVERGREEN REGION BOARD MEETING**  
February 22, 2019- 6:00pm

**ADULT DIVISION**

1. Sizzler 2018

- a. After initial budget concerns because of rental increases at the Spokane Convention Center, further negotiations occurred, and an agreement was reached between ERVA & the PFD. The rental fee was increased to \$18,180 from 2017 rental of \$10,360. The overall budget was reviewed and reductions to the tournament director & coordinator positions were made. Along with these reductions to the budget additional adjustments to increase the revenue were made. The Spokane Sports Commission increased their incentive for just this season to help cover the increased rental fee. The number of teams the event accepted was increased from 80 teams to 88 teams adding an additional \$3680 in revenue.

James Stuck from the USA Sitting National team also came to help host the Sitting Challenge court to promote Sitting VB. During Friday evening team check in and practice we had 1 court setup as a sitting court. James donated USAV Olympic gear to Spike2Care to sell raffle tickets for a special Sitting VB raffle basket. Every player who participated in the Sitting Challenge was given a raffle ticket and more were available for purchase. James assisted players with the rules and strategy of the Sitting game on the Challenge court. The event was well received and James along with ERVA will continue to look to grow the Sitting VB game at the Sizzler. Goal for next season is to create a round robin Sitting VB tournament on Friday evening.

After the reductions in the budget and the increased teams and assistance from the Sports Commission the event was able to remain within the budget for this season. The final budget showed a profit of \$3,130. The PFD has agreed to provide 3 years of rental fees so ERVA may budget accordingly to continue to sustain the event. The ERVA will continue to take over the logistics of the event with help at the event from Kyle Twohig as the MC during the tournament & social. Additional work will be done with AES to explore the format and the ability to add up to 96 teams.

**JUNIOR DIVISION**

2. Power League

- a. The ERVA Power League Qualifier was held on January 13<sup>th</sup> in the U14 & U16 divisions. There were 25-U14 teams & 27-U16 teams. 16 teams were taken in each division. The Juniors Division will still look to offer a U18 Power League in the 2019-2020 season.

3. Boys

- a. This year we ended up with some new teams in the Region with Kahiau and NCW having boys' teams. Also, TC Flyers added a 12s team to their club. We did our Boys Draft in Spokane for our local clubs and had Riley Salmon run our opening Draft Day. We also helped TC Flyers run their Draft along with helping NCW with flyers to run their Draft.

**Our current Boys Teams:**

- i. Kahiau 16  
NCW 14 & 18  
TC Flyers 12 & 18  
APEX 14, 16 & 18  
Sideout 16- they may be going to Nationals  
MVA ?

4. Border Smackdown

- a. We are taking over registration for the Border Smackdown from the Spokane Sports Commission. A registration form was created along with Entry Fee payment, so all the fees go through the ERVA. Currently, we have a total of 8 teams signed up 3 teams are from US and 5 teams are from Canada.

## 5. High Performance

- a. We will be having both Youth and Select teams this year for HP and plan sending them both to the Championships in Fort Lauderdale from July 18-22nd.

Coaches will be Jen Greeny (WSU), Giedre Tarnauskaite (UM) & Terry Veile (Culver-Stockton) with Youth and we will have Kelly Bonja (EWU) and Katie Hinrichs (MSU) with Select.

Tryouts are being held on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Eastern Washington University, and our makeup tryouts on April 26<sup>th</sup> at the Convention Center before Regionals. Those selected from Tryouts will attend the HP Camp on May 17-19 and held at the HUB. From the camp athletes will be selected and offered spots on the ERVA HP teams.

## 6. VolleyMania

- a. Was held at the HUB on Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. We had 12 teams participate, including a team put together by our partners Skyhawks. It was a great turnout, and everyone enjoyed the format as well as the fun prizes they won by playing in the serving contest. Each participant received an ERVA drawstring bag with marketing items such as ERVA GoPlay! VB, USAV tattoos, USA pin, ERVA informational brochures and pizza from our partner, Pizza Rita. Idaho Impact won the blue bracket and 208 U11 won the green bracket.

## 7. WIAA State Date Conflict with Tryouts

- a. WIAA is gathering more input from coaches but state tournaments may still be split between two weekends like in the 2018 season. This affects the club tryouts for the older age divisions, the Juniors division asked for feedback at the Club Director's Summit regarding a summer tryout or summer signing period. Feedback was mixed from the group; the Juniors Division will continue to research and gather feedback for the 2019-2020 season.

## 8. JVA

- a. The ERVA has more dual registered clubs this season, along with a JVA Power Series tournaments being held in Ellensburg and other cities throughout the PNW. ERVA officials have also been assigned to these events which makes them unavailable for ERVA/USAV events. Further information needs to be gathered to see the appeal and reasons why clubs are choosing JVA &/or dual registration. ERVA needs to gather feedback to retain memberships and to review areas if necessary so USAV/ERVA retains its members and continues to grow.

## **ERVA OFFICE**

### 1. Outdoor Junior Event Offerings

- a. For the 2019 season we are working on offering a few different packages to the junior's division.
  - i. Proposal for Spokane Area Outdoor Package
    1. Junior League
    2. Training Sessions
      - a. 1-3 days a week offer training with different local coaches
      - b. Players can attend any of the scheduled sessions
    3. Nike ERVA Beach Tank
    4. AVP Skills Clinic
    5. USAV/ERVA Beach Regional Qualifier Entry
  - ii. Beach Power Tournament Series

1. In partnership with KBeach, Kahiau VBC & Sandstorm VBC, Tri-Cities we are working to host a “Power League” type tournament calendar where teams can sign up for these events and earn extra ranking points.
2. There will be a Spokane date, Chelan date and a Tri-Cities date in the Power Series with the final event being the USAV/ERVA Beach Regional Qualifier.
3. We are looking to increase tournament numbers, encourage Regional play in other locations and for teams outside of the Spokane area to come and compete at the Regional Qualifier event.

## 2. Brown’s Park Programming

- a. With an additional 8 courts at Brown’s increased programming options are being explored. Within the current offerings ERVA will be able to increase the maximum teams entered into leagues along with junior & adult offerings at the same time. Besides local use for leagues, practices & tournaments the ERVA is looking into other options to fill the programming calendar.

Discussions were had with Kahiau & Sandstorm regarding their affiliation with AVP America and the potential of hosting AVP events at Brown’s Park. Both clubs mentioned the likelihood of hosting a National AVP Qualifier event at Brown’s Park this year and/or next season with the increased number of courts. Tony Miranda from NW Juniors has also inquired hosting an event for the 2019 season.

Moving forward assistance from the Sports Commission & City of Spokane Valley will be needed to explore & secure larger scale events at the park. USAV national level events are limited so other organizations & affiliates will need to be explored.

## 3. Nike- Gear Up Sports Partnership

- a. What ERVA can expect from Gear Up Sports
  - Covering Tournament with prizes
  - Nike fan gear at the tournament (working with Kevin as the onsite printer they may or may not want to partner with NIKE on their end)
  - Putting together ERVA High Performance Player Packs as a webstore for 2 teams ≤ \$200 a player
  - Gear design and availability for any and all camps, tournaments, summer series, etc.
  - Outfitting High Performance Coaches with two shirts and two polos
  - Outfitting Board of Director and Amanda and Lindsay with Nike shoes and a Nike ERVA gift each year (will change each year)
  - Nike Employee Store passes for Board and Staff when in Portland area – just need to let us know so we can let them know.
- b. What Gear Up Sports can expect from ERVA
  - Title Sponsor on website
  - Marketing/Intro to clubs in the region
  - All Board of Directors and Staff in Nike gear (or not competitor gear)

○ Q&A: Order Board of Director and Staff gear – \*\*\*just need shoe sizes and clothing sizes at meeting.

## 4. Baden & Molten

- a. Baden will be presenting at meeting.
- b. Molten will match to what they can that Baden has offered.

### i. **DISCUSSION:**

1. Consideration for our Adult Division who prefer the use of Molten Filstatec indoor ball.

2. Molten does not have an outdoor ball.
3. Baden has a new outdoor ball that is “better” according to what they have seen, it’s new. Baden will bring one to the meeting so we can see it.
4. Spalding will no longer make the King of the Beach ball which we have been using for our Leagues & Tournaments. The 2<sup>nd</sup> most popular ball being used in our Region is the Wilson AVP Outdoor ball.
  - a. It is yet to be seen if another entity will take over the rights to the KOB and continue to make this model.
5. It is possible to negotiate OUT of the contract with EITHER Molten or Baden the use of their outdoor ball and/or adult ball (if Baden) if those are the areas which the Region is concerned about being included in the sponsorship deal.

5. VERTs- Region Sponsor

- a. We used VERTs at HP tryouts last year to measure athlete’s vertical jump measurements, Pat Rausch donated them to the Region, unfortunately, they were stolen during our little office break in. We since have reached out to VERT and they will contribute 4 VERTs to the Region. In exchange for their contribution we will assist with marketing to clubs, include information & logo’s on Region website, potential vendor at Regionals.

6. Rock Tape- Regionals Event Sponsor

- a. Mike Bohrsen with Xceletrate Sports Therapy applied for ERVA to receive Rock Tape for Regionals at no cost. Rock Tape will send their product to be used/provided to teams at Regionals in exchange for Social Media & Event marketing in the Regionals Program and websites.