

**General Board Meeting
Gateway Region USA Volleyball
DATE: March 1, 2013
Minutes**

Called to order: 6:30pm

Present: Tim Neels, Steve Mueth, Debbie Palmer, Chris Clauss, Nicki Fisaga, Donna Mayer, Tony Stratman, Dennis Nosco, Linus Shyu, Ken O'Day, Shane Weber, Mark Sicking, Holly Luenemann, Donna Gunning, Shannon Loso, Ruby Winschel (guest)

Absent: Shawna Stover (proxy to Mueth), Augie Werner (proxy to Neels), Don LaChance, Brad Bruns (proxy to Neels), Tom Schaefer, Jessica Werner, Ben O'Day (proxy to Shyu), Bob Crank (proxy to Nosco), Linda Jensen (proxy to Shyu), Chris Dickey, John Yehling, Hilary Bennett, Joe Flanigan (proxy to Neels), James Atteberry, Frank Buggs, Kyle Kaiser, Kevin Stapleton-Cloud, Jodie Hempen, Maureen O'Neill, Becky Czuppon

Additions to Agenda: None. Palmer/Loso, MC

Approval of minutes - December 2, 2012 Palmer/O'Day, MC

BOARD REPORTS:

Commissioner – Neels: Complaint submitted for legal counsel resolution forthcoming. Other minor issues being handled

Associate Commissioner – Mueth: No report.

Treasurer – Schaefer: Absent.

Secretary – Bruns: Absent.

Jr. Coordinator – Clauss: Following up on multiple complaints; open gyms, parent behavior prompted TD to cancel tournament in semi-finals, transfer requests.

Scorer Chair – Palmer: Potential for scoresheet layout change in 2014, no complaints on scorers this year, no national candidates.

Referee Chair – Werner: Absent. Fisaga reports 4 referee rating sessions, 21 people were rated, no national level candidates, 2 people going for beach certification this year.

Women's Coordinator – Stover: Absent.

Men's Coordinator – LaChance: Absent.

Tournament Coordinator – Jensen: Absent. Stratman contributes to general discussion about adult program challenges

Outdoor Coordinator – Stratman: No report.

Education Coordinator – Loso: one more Impact clinic scheduled at this time and notification sent to coaches who need training. Plans are being developed for the summer. Last session of developmental program was very successful, 180 participants, skills sessions combined with league; another May and June program scheduled.

Staff Reports:

Mayer – Rankings are posted.

Fisaga – Girl's Festival 12s thru 15s filled while older divisions had fewer teams, mostly Gateway teams participated. Boy's Festival increased about 20 teams from last year, pursuing use of convention center and 3 day event. Regional entry and Bid Event information sent out to team reps this week. Real time results for region events has unique challenges; internet access, no contained divisions, continuing to investigate. Spikin' It is the 2nd weekend in July.

Werner: Absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 10 and Under / 8 and Under - tryouts vs sign ups:

Staff will present policy for approval at August board meeting.

2. Clubs offering scholarships - Shane Weber will further research to create a set of guidelines for the Jr. Handbook.

- Mueth reports that investigation with NCAA (meeting with 2 compliance officials) determined that there were no eligibility concerns; violation would only be if players are paid to play.

- Shane Weber checked with MSHSAA; clubs must be very transparent with legitimate criteria defining scholarships; however, very likely eligibility would be violated if players receive club scholarships. It's likely that a player's working for a club to reduce club fees would be considered a violation.
- Comment that the region should make clubs aware of school eligibility issues; however, issues are not actionable from the region; issues should be directed to MSHSAA authorities.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1 Revisit policy releasing a team when officiating duties are shared:
Tournament Directors may designate that either the winning or losing team from a playoff match will officiate the next playoff match. An acceptable method would be the following: Teams losing in playoffs will be expected to stay and officiate the subsequent match on their court, with the exception of championship match responsibilities, which will be determined by a coin flip between the losing teams in semi-final matches unless one semi-final match finishes before the other reaches 10 points in the 2nd set, or if one semi-final match goes 2 sets and the other goes 3 sets. In these cases, the losing team from the shorter semi-final match will be allowed to leave. The method chosen must be announced before the tournament begins.

Suggested new policy, Motion from staff, MC by EB and recommended to General Board

Tournament Directors may designate that either the winning or losing team from a playoff match will officiate the next playoff match. An acceptable method would be the following: Teams losing in playoffs will be expected to stay and officiate the subsequent match on their court, with the exception of championship match responsibilities, which will be shared by both semi-finals losers. The Tournament Director does have the authority to release one of the teams if wait time is a factor. The remaining team must provide the complete officiating crew.

Discussion that policy is restricting TDs ability to release teams and new policy will allow TD to release teams based on practical interpretation. **MCU**

2. Criteria for acceptance into G/S seeding tournaments: Motion: MC by EB and recommended to General Board
Motion from staff: Add Bid event.
Until Dec 15, G/S Seeding tournament entries will be limited to teams who (ADD "participated in the Bid Event") or finished in the Gold bracket at Regionals the previous season. From Dec 16 -Jan 1, if spots are still available, teams who played in the G/S Regional event may enter. After Jan 1, if spots are still available, any team in that age group may enter. **MCU**
3. Clarification of One day adult emergency membership policy for adults:
Motion from staff: MC by EB and recommended to General Board
Motion to add: As a full member, they can then join any club.
The one day players may only register as a one day member on one team during the regular season twice. They may not register as a one day member for any other club. After participating twice with the one day membership, to participate in any other Regular Season Adult tournaments the player must complete the membership process and pay the Regular full membership fee. As a full member, they can then join any club. **MCU**
4. **Motion from staff:** Eliminate the \$10 late fee for adults who register on site during the regular season. MC by EB and recommended recommend to General Board. **MCU**
5. Discuss Power League counting as one of the two required tournaments for G/S eligibility:
Recommended to General Board **Motion:** to allow Power League to count as one of the 2 required tournaments for the specific age divisions sanctioned. **MCU**
6. Discuss award requirements for junior events:
Recommended by Executive Board **Motion:** to remove the award requirement for 21 or more teams for junior events. **MCU**

Meeting to Adjourn: Mueth/Loso, MC

Meeting Adjourned: 7:37 pm

Meeting Dates:

May 10- 6:30m

August 2- 6:30pm

December 6- 6:30pm MCU