

General Board Meeting

Gateway Region USA Volleyball

DATE: AUG 6th 2023

Agenda

Attendance: Palmer, Kirk, Clauss, Winters, Wood, Weber, Mueth, Stratman, Kloess, Mckee, Robbins, Kmattingly, Jmattingly, Shyu, Wilson, Price, Zelei, Kailisiak

Motion to approve Agenda- Palmer Wood 2nd all in favor

Additions to Agenda-NA

Approval of Minutes – Wood Palmer 2nd

Meeting Start-3:15

Board Reports:

Commissioner – Mueth- Meetings set up with a different bank were previously stalled because of covid the past couple of yr. Mueth had a meeting with USAV about boys' volleyball, 2 competition chairs, they are trying to adjust schedules against AAU so players can go to both USAV and AAU. Should have some clarification on the transgender issue by October. Want to do a gateway region night for promotions.

Associate Commissioner – Palmer- NO REPORT

Treasurer – Weber – NO REPORT

Secretary – Pieschel- Not in attendance

Jr. Coordinator – Clauss.- Clauss said she only received one call during the season.

Scorer Chair – Winters-NO REPORT

Referee Chair – Kirk-Trish Knight passed her Junior Nationals

Men's Player Representative – NO REPORT

Women's Player Representative – Wood – NO REPORT

Beach Coordinator – Rodgers- Kids had great results at the beach nationals. Mueth asked what Rogers thoughts were on moving the Beach regionals to the fall because of it helping boys and grade school girls be able to participate. Rogers stated there isn't many in the fall on the calendar that it would be great to move the regionals. Mueth asked about maybe doing 2 beach qualifiers, one in the fall and one in the summer. Shyu asked about the time frame Rogers is looking at for beach regionals end of august or beginning sept. Possibly moving it to mid-August or end of Sept. Mueth said we can talk more about it and weigh the pros and cons. Mid sept might be the best bet because of vacations and school starting.

District Rep Reports- Robbins, Nieder, McKee- NO REPORTS

Shyu-. All events are up on the website now. All events will open up for registration OCT 1st.

Blocktoberfest is Oct 7th & 8th

Wilson- Began sanctioning tournaments. Wilson said her and Shyu are working on changing how refs will sign up for AES tournaments to make it clearer for what they can and cannot work.

K. Mattingly- Record growth top 5 in all the regions. All 23-24 memberships are ready to go.

J. Mattingly- Good year over all and huge thanks to Stratman and Kloess for their facilities.

Old Business

BID event- Had a record number of teams this yr, and a record number of teams that qualified this season along with a record number of new clubs qualifying.

Lafata Incentives/Promotions- If a club brings 12 or more teams to a qualifier, they will get a \$50 rebate per team. If a club brings 8-11 teams \$25 off per team. If any club brings 3 more teams than the previous year gets \$25 off. If a club brings 3 more teams and their total amount of teams reaches 8-11 they will receive the \$25. If a club brings 3 more teams and their total amount of teams reaches 8-11 teams category that club will receive \$50 off per team(\$25 3 additional teams and \$25 for reaching 8-11 teams)

Gateway Gear-Mueth said we are looking into updating apparel for board members and refs. Winters will be making that order and figuring out what apparel everyone agrees on.

Spikin It- Wood decided that changing the seeding back to straight seeding vs performance-based seeding is best going forward. This is due to continuing complaints on seeding. We will move forward with this seeding starting at Blocktoberfest this October.

New Business

Tryouts- Kloess started by asking how we can make the tryout process more honest and if the guidelines are stated clearly every year. She asked what “are the consequences for clubs and or coaches that violate the guidelines for the tryout process”? Kloess inquired about sending a reminder out to all clubs and coaches outlining what is allowed during the tryout process. She also asked about questions regarding enforcement avenues should a violation be reported were also raised. Clauss replied saying that she would be willing to pursue any allegations of coaches violating the tryout guidelines in her position as Junior Coordinator. Clauss informed that as long as there is real evidence not hearsay, she can investigate it and address the issue. The office staff will also work on drafting a document to be sent out to all parents before Middle School tryouts.

Uniforms- Kirk-jersey numbers need to contrast not just have a contrasting outline. The number 0 is not accepted if planning to go to Nationals.

Event Dates- Shyu said that the Gateway calendar is updated and events are Website.

Scholarships- Mueth brought up getting scholarships in place so we can hand them out Fall '25.

Ideas that were brought up are:

-D3 only, Community Service, College Student Refs for Gateway Region, NIL

Mueth said these are only ideas and this is something we would like to do to give back to our athletes. Kloess agrees that this will be very beneficial for players in the region. Mueth said that we don't want the scholarships to be based solely on athletic ability.

Board Restructure- Palmer announced that Sarah James won and Cynthia Mckee won her bid for retaining her seat for Illinois south.

Palmer informed the board that no one ran for the Missouri South or the Metro South district reps. Mueth added that out of 6 districts only 2 of those seats are filled. Mueth asked the board is this the structure we want having 6 vacant seats. Do we keep everyone we have elected and lose the district reps? What is the best thing to do? Palmer asked the board to think about what they would like to do and to give feedback. Mueth said if we restructure that everyone would stay on the board but moving forward is this what we want to continue with? Palmer asked for feedback moving forward.

Club sponsorship program- Mueth brought up putting a gateway logo on jersey sleeves. Total \$125 per team if you have less than 10 teams. Great Lakes said they do every 10 teams up to 40 teams that would put their logo on their jerseys you would get 1 free entry to their regionals. Mueth said after crunching number with staff members that it wouldn't be beneficial going forward. Mueth asked if this is something worth pursuing and presenting at the Dec meeting. The board decided to go ahead and move forward with pursuing the all star team for further discussion in December.

All Star Team- Mueth brought up that All Star teams are getting bigger and bigger. We have had some players ask for waiver so they can play on an all star team out of our region. Mueth brought up that Lindenwood's men's coach is willing to do more for gateway region. Mueth said tryouts would be May/June and then the all star games are after nationals are finished. The fear that we are bordered with 2 regions that send teams is something we need to think about. If we have players on the boarder but play for our region they might move regions to have that opportunity. An incentive we need to think about is if we send just 1 team we then can send Gateway refs to the tournament. All of those games are best 3 out of 5. They also will be paired up with Jr National or National refs which should help refs want to go for their JN and N certifications.

Motion to adjourn meeting Palmer Weber 2nd

Meeting end time: 4:59p

Next meeting Sunday Dec 3rd 2023 1:30pm & 3:00pm