

WEST FARGO VOLT VOLLEYBALL
MEETING MINUTES

10/11/2021, 7:00 pm
Dakota Medical Foundation
4141 28th Avenue South
Fargo, ND 58104

Mission:

To develop the athletic abilities of the players and to promote teamwork and a positive volleyball experience.

Opening:

- The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.
- Attendance/Introductions

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Twila Nogowski, Director | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mackenzie Odden, President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica McClaflin, Co-Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steph Lauritsen, Co-Vice President (virtual) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angie Saxlund, Treasurer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristen Dinger, Secretary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Betsy Dodds, Accountant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betsy Schulz, Concessions Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chelsey Mahon, Concessions Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Bloedow, Concessions Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristen Peterson, Concessions Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kami Muchow, Sponsorship/Special Projects |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caitlin Killoran, Member at Large (virtual) | |

Other:

Karen _____

New Business:

- Karen missed the parent's meeting and has a child looking to tryout for VOLT Volleyball – she had questions that were answered by the board – she left the meeting after she gained the information she needed.

Secretary Report (presented by Kristen D):

- Review of Meetings Minutes from the September 13, 2021 meeting
 - Motion to Approve Minutes by Kristen D., 2nd by Angie - Motion passed
- Affirm Email vote to Approve program fees and changes to VOLT handbook
 - Motion to Affirm Email vote by Kami, 2nd by Jessica – Motion passed

Director's report (presented by Twila):

- The parent's meeting went really well. There was good attendance. The FAQ document was handed out at the meeting and is also online.
- The VOLT website has been updated. The information was restructured and organized.
- Tune-ups for tryouts was successful – there were just under 180 participants.
- Registration for tryouts is at about 120 right now. We expect to see more registrations roll-in closer to tryouts. The majority of participants are in the West Fargo area, but we have the most athletes from other areas that we've ever had.

Minutes approved on: September 13, 2021

- The older girls will start tryouts around 8:00 am the Sunday after state volleyball.
- The tryout fee is good for each season. There is not an additional fee if an athlete is not selected to an open team and has to come back for a second tryout for regional or local.
- Twila is starting to schedule tournaments. A lot of the tournaments are 2-day tournaments. She is anticipating 2 teams at each age for the Winter season. The top teams will go to Omaha for a 3-day tournament. The second teams can either go to Omaha or Minneapolis. Only the top open teams will go to the qualifier.
- VOLT can be successful in the winter by adding leagues and other programming. It is difficult without space.
- The board brought up the question of commitments – what happens if athletes miss practice or tournaments? There is not a perfect answer to this. The tournament dates for 2022 will be out early, so hopefully this will allow families to plan around volleyball.

President’s Report (presented by Mackenzie):

- The board has been together for three meetings and has accomplished the following: working budget, cost-analysis to determine program fees, 1st time participating in West Fest parade, website updates, Dine N Donate, record participation at tryout tune-ups, successful parent’s meeting, creation of FAQ document, scholarship opportunities, and volunteer opportunities.
- The goal with the scholarship program is to leverage Giving Hearts Day to help build the program. They are working on a 1-minute video showing that VOLT is about ensuring all kids who want to play volleyball have the opportunity. During registration each person signing up will be asked if they want to contribute to the scholarship program. There will be an application on the VOLT website for anyone who wants to apply for a scholarship. Two questions that should be on the application to prove that a family has experienced financial hardship are: 1. Is this child currently enrolled in free or reduced meals and 2. If asked, would you be willing to provide your most recent federal income tax returns?
- The Giving Hearts Day profile is ready to go. Help will be needed during that timeframe to help with GHD.
- MacKenzie has done research on job duties as to what goes into running a program. Twila provided background and history on prior Assistant Directors. The board agrees there is a need to find someone to support VOLT going forward. If a person is identified, then the board will review salary, hours, duties, etc.
 - Motion to conduct search for new Assistant Director by MacKenzie, 2nd by Jessica – Motion passed

Vice President’s Report (presented by Jessie/Steph):

- Twila has been in contact with Adrenaline Fundraising out of Sioux Falls. They have done a phenomenal job of highlighting and promoting volleyball in South Dakota. Adrenaline is open to conversations about expanding into North Dakota. They will be sending information regarding fundraising. The board will wait to make a decision about fundraising until we hear back from Adrenaline. The other options are Push-Save or working with Amy Sahli. We will look to start the fundraising in mid-January before the winter season finishes. There was conversation about allowing business sponsorships or Giving Hearts Day donations to count toward a fundraising buy-out. It was decided to not add GHD as a buy-out option.

Treasurer’s Report (presented by Angie/Betsy D):

- Angie reviewed the financial report as of October 6, 2021.

Minutes approved on: September 13, 2021

- Motion to approve this month's financial report and budget by Kristen P., 2nd by Heidi – Motion passed.

Sponsorship/ Special Projects Report (presented by Kami):

- West Fest parade went well. It was fairly easy to put together and VOLT had a decent turn out.
- Angie and Kami agreed to chair a committee to organize the golf tournament. They will work to put together the committee by the next meeting and obtain more information from Maple River.
- Kami reviewed the sponsorship levels. This is a work-in-progress. She will continue to work on this and present something at the next board meeting.
- VOLT night at a Bison Volleyball game will be October 30. A communication will be going out to parents with more information.

Concessions Committee Report (Mackenzie/Betsy S):

- Dine N Donate with Spicy Pie is tonight. They are working on the Dine N Donate for November. The idea was proposed to do the next Dine N Donate with Herd and Horns on the same night as the Bison Volleyball game.

New Business:

- In the past VOLT has given money to each West Fargo school who has qualified for the state tournament. Now that VOLT is open, there was discussion about continuing to do this or looking at doing something different since we have athletes from other schools. It was agreed to discuss this at the next board meeting as the teams will be set for state at that time.

Set meeting for next month:

- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 15th at 7:00 o'clock p.m. at Dakota Medical Foundation.

Adjourn

Motion and 2nd to adjourn at 9:12 p.m.

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