

## WEVA Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, July 21, 2014

Location: Genesee Community College, Room T-119, Batavia, NY

Time: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Present: R. Majeski, B. Page, F. Chase, J. Hughes, C. D'Errico, M. Pentz, R. Lucci

Excused: J. Crangle, J. Newland, T. Schneider



Called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Last Meetings Minutes – 1<sup>st</sup> draft sent on March 19, 2014

**Motion: Approved Minutes over email (7/0/0)**

### Points of Information (BOD)

- Congrats to teams representing WEVA & BJNC & GJNC
- PVL Results – Western Empire are champions of 2014 Women's PVL!!
  - All sponsors have been acknowledged and thanked with PVL media guide, autographed photo, & note
  - **VolleyballUSA** magazine printed an article on PVL
  - WEVA clinics were hosted on July 14 & 15, 2014. Over 100 players attended Buffalo or Rochester clinics, and 19 coaches attended Rochester clinic
  - Looking ahead to 2015 season: all players want to return (unless considering "retirement"), considering Head Coach position, and fundraising opportunities

### Registrars Report (J. Hughes)

- 3,174 memberships 09/01/2013 → 07/20/2014
- Increase of 262 memberships 2013 → 2014

### Financial Report (B. Page)

- **Motion: Approve absorption of (up to) \$1,500 to cover PVL expenses, 1<sup>st</sup> F. Chase / 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Majeski / Approved (5/0/1).**
- Budget Meeting to be scheduled ASAP; considerations for next year: follow-through on coaching clinics/education, continue to keep officials certification/travel expenses for refs going for national certifications, beach nationals, larger discussion about projecting income & expenses for next year (Reduce fees? Increase support & services like paying for Impact, more coaching clinics), staff salary increases
- Already getting (small) returns on initial Vanguard investments
- **Motion: WEVA will incur expenses for the Coach's clinic (July 2014), 1<sup>st</sup> C. D'Errico / 2<sup>nd</sup> F. Chase / Approved (6/0/0)**

### Tournament Report (J. Hughes via S. Seabridge)

- 48 Sanctioned Events (5 more than last year)
  - 4 cancelled events (2 more than last year)
  - 25 events paperwork complete (9 less than last year)
  - 7 events with NO Financial Report (6 more than last year)
  - 12 events partial paperwork submission (7 more than last year)
- Possible sanction Fees are generally up from last year; however, John typically investigates to get the "back-story" on fines. John is generally lenient. All fines are paid.

- Tournament Sanctioning for 2014-2015: WEVA will accept online submissions for non-traditional 2-day and 1-day events starting on 08/01/2014. Approvals to be completed by 9/19/2014.

#### Officials Report (F. Chase)

- Two officials may go for national ratings next year

#### Website (J. Hughes via S. Seabridge)

- Closed Items
  - Photo Gallery (replaced by Social Media Integration)
  - USA Rotations (no longer available)
  - Social Media Integration (update strategy not identified by BOD)
- Completed Items
  - Club Maintenance Page
  - Revised Home Page News Items: News items displayed in a collapsible/expandable panel
  - Eligible Juniors & Seniors page
  - Google Analytics page
  - PVL Team page
- In Process Items
  - WEVA Tournament Results submission via web
  - Team Maintenance Page
- In Queue (Requested) Items:
  - Automate Forms Links & Maintenance Page
  - News Items Maintenance Page – we need to have real-time, “contribute” / posting abilities.
  - Tournament, Try-out, & Practice Site pages
  - Tournament, Try-out, & Practice Site maintenance page
  - Enhance Tournament Financial Report
  - Photo Gallery Page – website getting more “hits”; photos need to be updated
  - WEVA Officials Maintenance page
  - Enhance Tournament Sanction Form
  - Automated Rankings
  - Officials Photo page

#### Junior Business (C. D’Errico)

- *See Addendum A – Junior Board Meeting Report – July 2014*

#### Old Business

- No Discussion

#### Action Items from July Meeting

- Rocco: Contact B. Page to tag-team budget meeting with staff salary discussion
- John: Run a report against USA database to check referee recertification dates against EVERY member – who has dates? Clear out webpoint.
- Cindy/Board: Larger discussion about appeal process to the Board about two-tournament / in-region participation policy. Extenuating circumstances? (Beyond injuries)

## New Business

- Notification to Board: we are named in a lawsuit, filed against other USA Regions, regarding an injured player at East Coast Championships. We actually have no part of this; we are only listed so the other party can request a change of venue (VA to NY)
- Solicited names for the merit award: Rick Buchanan, Lindsay Schlegel, Mark Thomey, Cindy D'Errico
- Issue getting rooms at Nationals: Cindy wrote a proposal to USA Board to secure five rooms, per region, per age group, at the CLOSEST hotels to the competition site. Priority on housing ☺ The Region can decide about ultimate room allocation. Feedback from 23 of 40 USA club commissioners has all been positive
- Amend appeal procedure ; Fred's asking about timeline
- **Motion: Approve all three modifications to the due process document, 1<sup>st</sup> C. D'Errico / 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Page / Approved (6/0/0)**

## Adult/Beach Report (R. Majeski)

- Support one team per age group 14's, 16's, & 18's to go to Beach Nationals
- Junior Beach Nationals in Milwaukee, WI this coming weekend July 26-27, 2014
- Stein Metzger clinic went awesome in June in Buffalo

**Motion: Adjourn Meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> M. Pentz / 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Majeski / Approved / (6/0/0)**

Next Meeting – September 14, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at T.F. Brown's Restaurant, Batavia, NY

Respectfully Submitted,

Meryll Pentz

Secretary, Western Empire Volleyball Association

## WEVA Annual Juniors Meeting Agenda

Date: July 21, 2014

Location: Genesee Community College, Room T-119 in Batavia, NY

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Present: R. Majeski, B. Page, F. Chase, J. Hughes, C. D'Errico, M. Pentz, R. Lucci, G. Hill, S. Lux, P. Mann, M. Wills, D. Marinaccio, M. Trznadel, S. Barnard



Called to Order at 7:24 p.m.

### Points of Information (R. Lucci)

- Increased number of WEVA members – up 262 from 2013 → 2014
- USA Junior National Championships Results (Boys, Girls, Men, Women, PVL)
  - See item #4 **Junior Board Meeting Report** (*Addendum A*)
  - Teams represented WEVA very well
  - Some boys entered the tournament ranked low, but finished well
  - PVL Team – bottom of the field last year, but came back to WIN it this year
  - People are starting to recognize WEVA – we're getting on the MAP!
  - US Men's U19 team; Two WEVA players are competing: Dane Leclair & Colin Mayhen
  - WEVA World League players; Matt Anderson & AJ McNally
  - **Motion: To recognize NFVB 15-1's winning J.O. Nationals, allocate funds for purchase of 13 jackets (up to \$50/ea) for 3 coaches & 10 players, 1<sup>st</sup> J. Hughes / 2<sup>nd</sup> C. D'Errico / Approved (5/0/1)**
- WEVA recognizes and wants to continue the need for more coach education opportunities
- Ranking System/Results Submission/BID Qualifier
- Fines – Review & comments on fine policy for 2014-15 season
- Tournament dates, locations, & concerns
  - Proposal to examine alternate regional championship format to include multi-weekend competition in effort to determine national bid winners
  - Regional Championship 2015 – dates, times, locations
  - Pre-approved 2 day events
  - Deadlines for 2-day events / 1-day events
- Scorekeeper/Second Referee Clinic Policies & Review
- Handbook, Code of Conduct, & Policy Updates
  - New Tryout Registration & Recruiting Policy
  - **Motion: Approve the Tryout, Registration, and Recruiting Policy document, 1<sup>st</sup> R. Lucci / 2<sup>nd</sup> F. Chase / Approved (6/0/0).**
- Open discussion on direction for WEVA region
  - Best practices to help clubs with organization & operations
  - 11 & under player development
  - Club try-outs, dates, deadlines, try-out lists, player transfers, other logistical issues
  - Is Junior season too long? Do we feel pressure to start earlier and / or extend season?
  - Importance of supporting the Men's & Women's PVL programs
  - Thank you Cindy for coordinating Juniors portion of the meeting, and for your efforts throughout the season
  - Thank you Meryll for taking minutes for the 3 years

- **Motion: Adjourn Meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> R. Lucci / 2<sup>nd</sup> F. Chase / Approved (6/0/0)**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Meryll Pentz  
Secretary, Western Empire Volleyball Association

Addendum A

Junior Board Meeting Report – July 21, 2014

1) Due to last minute sanctioning and limited participation in the events – Proposal: Or do we set a date the event has to be sanctioned by?

WEVA junior events must be sanctioned a month before the scheduled event, must have a minimum number of four teams across multiple clubs participating to be counted toward the requirement of two events to be eligible for participation in boys regionals or the girls bid qualifier.

There were 7 events sanctioned on or after 2/1/2014:

- 2/2 Crystal City played on 3/16
- 2/17 Finger Lakes played on 3/30
- 2/17 Finger Lakes played on 4/6
- 3/5 Pace played on 3/16
- 3/19 Pace played on 3/22
- 4/8 Pace played on 5/4
- 4/9 Niagara Frontier played on 4/22

2) Handbook changes – need to be done prior to next season

- If they approve that American division qualifier champions bid stay in region versus turned back to USA for reallocation the handbook will need to change. NEEDS to change even if does not approve – since USA division champions can play – OPEN cannot. So most likely will need to state ONLY OPEN bids cannot participate in event. HANDBOOK CONTENT: If a girls junior team qualifies for participation into the USA Nationals at a USA sanctioned qualifier event, with exception of the American division, that team will not be allowed to participate in the WEVA Girls BID Qualifier event. As a result of qualifying at the National Qualifier event, their entry fee will be paid to the USA Nationals event. This is applicable to any division of the qualifier event.
- Nothing in handbook in regards to teams eligibility for Girls Bid Qualifier event MUST be teams that will ONLY accept Bid to USA Nationals – FYI only (had questions on this)
- Change Cindy D’Errico email address to [wevacindy@hotmail.com](mailto:wevacindy@hotmail.com) and girls junior Rep to John Crangle with applicable information.
- Correct the spelling: CREDIT CARDS: WEVA is now **ex**cepting only Visa and Master Card. To **a**cccepting
- **Starting this season**, Clubs may host their own training clinic for 2nd referee and scorekeeping, a roster must be sent to the region office. Details of requirements posted on WEVA website in FAQ section. – **Remove IF process was functional this year.**
- Removal of WEVA High Performance Program information from the Handbook

3) Due to the following boys tournament offerings for 2013-2014 WEVA will not consider reinstating the requirement for boys clubs to host or co-sponsor a tournament. Clubs felt that there were adequate number of WEVA tournaments offered to meet the minimum of two tournaments to play in before Regionals.

BOYS	Total	NW	NE	SW	SE
12s	11	2	9	0	0
13s	2	0	2	0	0
14s	11	4	7	0	0
15s	3	0	3	0	0
16s	9	4	5	0	0
17s	4	0	4	0	0
18s	9	4	5	0	0
	49	14	35	0	0

4) Following requested to be posted to the WEVA website for National results shortly after the conclusion of Nationals – pending completion by Maureen.

Congratulations to the NFVB 15-1 team for making history this year winning the 15 National Division of USA Nationals. This is the first team from WEVA to ever win a division at Nationals. Over the course of the event the team was the only team to go undefeated

as well. Great job! WEVA is very proud of your accomplishment. See the entire story by using the following link to the NFVB website. (Something should be done to recognize the NFVB 15-1's for winning JO Nationals.)

<http://nfvbjuniors.com/2014/06/15-1s-are-national-champions>

GIRLS (unless noted all teams participated in the National Division)

Age Division	Team Name	Record	Place
12's	VFX Wish	2-7	39 out of 48 - lost in semi finals of Flight 5
13's	Octane 13's	4-6	22 out of 48 - lost in finals of Flight 1
14's	VFX Conjure	3-6	23 out of 48 - lost in semi finals of Flight 1
15's	NFVB 15-1	11-0	WON the GOLD Division
16's	NFVB 16-1	7-3	26 out of 48 - lost in finals of Flight 2
16's	VFX Mantra	8-1	5 out of 69 - lost in quarter finals of Gold - Patriot Division
17's	NFVB 17-1	4-5	13 out of 48 - lost in quarter finals of Silver
18's	VFX Magic	7-3	21 out of 48 - Won Flight 1

BOYS

Age Division	Team Name	Record	Place
14 Open	Pace	4-7	25 out of 36 - lost in quarter finals of Flight 1
14 Open	Lockport VBC	1-9	31 out of 36 - lost in semi finals of Flight 2
15 Open	Pace	9-1	3 out of 34 - lost in semi finals of Gold
15 Open	Eden	6-5	17 out of 34 - lost in quarter finals of Bronze
15 Open	Victor	5-7	22 out of 34 - lost in semi finals of Flight 1
16 Open	Victor	6-3	5 out of 36 - lost in quarter finals of Gold
16 Open	Eden	6-6	15 out of 36 - lost in semi finals of Bronze
16 Open	Pace	3-6	25 out of 36 - lost in quarter finals of Flight 1
17 Open	Pace	8-2	4 out of 36 - lost in semi finals of Gold
17 Open	Eden	4-6	31 out of 36 - lost in semi finals of Flight 2
17 Open	Southtowns	1-10	33 out of 36 - lost in quarter finals of Flight 2
17 Open	Victor	1-8	33 out of 36 - lost in quarter finals of Flight 2
18 Open	Pace	5-5	23 out of 36 - lost in semi finals of Flight 1

Congratulations to all teams that participated at Nationals and represented WEVA with pride and passion. WEVA, clubs and families are all proud of your season culminating with the opportunity to represent the region at the highest level of competition! To seniors good luck in your future endeavors. To all underclassmen, continue to work hard and see you next season as you pursue your dreams and goals!

5) Proposal: John will present this to USA for consideration to commence with 2015 Nationals – do we alter to 10 rooms per age group with some clubs policy of staying with parents?

Allocate 35 rooms (5 double rooms, two double beds in each room, per age groups 12's through 18's) per USA region within walking distance to the convention center at USA Nationals. The region will be allowed to allocate those rooms to one team in each age group per year. For regions with multiple allocations in an age group can determine how they will be distributed.

Rational: With the growth of USA Nationals, adding new divisions and adding more teams within certain divisions/age groups, this will allow each region to have equity in at least one set of hotel rooms per age group at the higher priority hotels requested through THS. The regions can hold the rooms on their region credit card until the point in time that they determine the club utilizing them. This also allows equity across the regions regardless of the time that their region qualifier is held.

It is getting harder and harder to get adequate hotel rooms period - feel that at least the top teams in each region should get priority over other qualifying teams regardless of size of region/number of teams attending.

The lottery can still exist as well as the next tier of hotel rooms distributed.

6) Consideration for BID Qualifier – May 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> or do we consider April 11<sup>th</sup> (So Cal qualifier) or April 28<sup>th</sup> (Northern Lights) – VFX goes to Northern Lights and Paradigm goes to So Cal events. VFX is still planning on attending the Northern Lights qualifier event. E-mail sent to Paradigm in regards to interest of attending So Cal for next season – no reply at this point in time.

7) New tryout, Registration Recruiting document - New document created to be used for education purposes at club kick-off meetings, coaches meeting, parent and player meetings. All contingencies need to know the rules and consequences if violations reported and upheld. Anonymous reporting will be in place – all reports will be submitted to Vice-President of WEVA board unless

that person is affiliated with a junior boys or girls club. The due process document was changed to define the ethics and eligibility committee membership for research once reported (no junior club affiliation as well). The WEVA Code of Conduct was altered with this document referenced since the material was pulled from there and altered.

One new requirement – if an athlete is trying out for multiple clubs they must register as UNDECIDED initially. The one topic discussed by the sub-committee having a pre-registration information gathering form, what clubs requesting information from and what clubs athlete is trying out for was tabled for future consideration if educating the members in the guidelines/expectations still does not alleviate the perceived issues.

8) Triple Ball for younger age groups should be sanctioned that way next season if tournament directors are formatting it that way for 12's. Feedback from parents and coaches was positive for the developmental teams, more success achieved by the players with three contacts and was not just a match with most points earned by missed serves or a strong server resulting in aces. (No officials needed for triple ball.)

9) WEVA Coaches and Player Clinic held in Rochester, Player Only Clinic in Buffalo – we had 14 FREE Clinics utilized out of the 90 offered to WEVA adult members. Buffalo – 44 Players, Rochester 60 players and 19 coaches. Seeking testimonials about event (have a couple already) – will post to WEVA website when completed.

10) Cancelled HP boys due to lack of interest – will not pursue in the future.

11) Better job in assuring that teams meet certification requirements for second referee and scorekeeper by deadline dates. Some invalid rosters still submitted. BNCC and WEVA site coordinators did a great job after the deadline to have teams get certified day of the event.

12) High Performance Beach tryouts offered in Rochester area. Twenty five players were in attendance at the event. Two qualified to participate in the USA National beach training, 20 invited per age groups and 10 will be selected from the tryouts.

13) Minor modifications were made to the Girls ranking system utilizing two point systems for level 1 and 2 level tournaments and 3 and above tournaments. Some tournaments reevaluated for strength of tournament and modified.

14) For Girls Bid Qualifier event for 2015 – 12's through 14's will be on Saturday and the 15's through 18's will be on Sunday. This will assist with conflicts for freshman with spring sports on the Saturday. This will require extra courts on Sunday (2 extra courts at most) and none on Saturday unless the 12's and 13's exceed a total of 16 teams.

15) National Qualifier events for 2015 announced. Link : <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Events/Indoor/Girls/2015-Girls-Junior-National-Qualifiers>

#### Action Items:

- A) Proposal from Mercer – Gary Hill is planning on trying in the 2015 season for the 14 and under age groups. Before it is implemented the refined proposal will be presented to the event committee and club directors. Discussion planned at the year-end meeting.
- B) Communication to all tournament directors on the head referee requirement for 10 or more courts still pending (\$150.00 per day plus mileage). Fred doing write-up for handbook or junior tournament guidelines – senior official/head official. Only see the \$5.00 per court assignor fee mentioned - not anything about a non-officiating head official and associated fees.
- C) Will be sending out to club directors as an FYI - airlines savings that Tom put together – USA travel discount information posted to the home page on WEVA. STILL PENDING – will do prior to next season.
- D) Suggestion from club director - would like to see a push for a revision of WEVA officiating (we need to train young volleyball athletes as R1's. Additionally, we need to create competitive equity in WEVA events. I believe a review of the North Carolina Region would give WEVA an idea of what the suggestion entails.

Submitted by: WEVA JUNIOR COORDINATOR – Cindy D'Errico