

USA VOLLEYBALL REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION ASSEMBLY MINUTES

OMNI HOTEL, BOSTON, MA
OCTOBER 12-13th, 2024

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Steve Mueth, Chair

Introduction of minutes taker-Heather Koehler Williams for this meeting.

Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Steve Mueth at 9:00 AM ET

Present: Aloha, Kent Ma; Arizona, Harold Cranswick; Badger, Jen Armson-Dyer; Bayou, Angelle Simms; Carolina, Kevin Wendelboe; Chesapeake, Lisa DiGiacinto; Columbia Empire, Cody March; Delta, Joe Williams; Evergreen, Meredith Coupland; Excelsior Empire, Scott Wilhelm; Florida, Steve Bishop; Garden Empire, Kevin DesLauriers; Gateway, Steve Mueth; Heart of America, Lisa Madsen; Hoosier, Terry Sweasy; Intermountain, Jason Badell; Iowa, Brett Myers; Keystone, Valerie Podczasy; Lone Star, Karen Tarmon; New England, Dave Peixoto; North Country, Laura Bush; Northern California, Donna Donaghy; Ohio Valley, Brian Hofman; Oklahoma, Shawn McCarty; Old Dominion, Skip Weston; Palmetto, Jimmy Pedon; Pioneer, Nancy Funk; Puget Sound, Cindy Compoc; Rocky Mountain, Keith Murlless; Southern, Steve Kenyon; Southern California, Ann Davenport; Sun Country, Natasha Campbell; Western Empire, Rocco Lucci.

Proxy Holders: Arizona, Harold Cranswick to Becky Hudson, Carolina, Kevin Wendelboe to Steve Bishop, Garden Empire, Kevin DesLauriers to Rocco Lucci, Great Plains, Craig Wiedel to Lindsey Smith, Lakeshore, Eric Lazowski to Jason Badell, North Texas, Andy Reitingler to Lisa Madsen, Ohio Valley, Brian Hofman to Al Herbert, Old Dominion, Skip Weston to Steve Kenyon, Moku O'Keawe, Angie Andrade-Morioka to Donna Donaghy; Gulf Coast, Philip Bryant to Steve Bishop

Absent with no Proxy: Alaska, Julie Webber

Online Participants: Evergreen, Dan Ames, Pati Rolf, Janice Kosbab, Melissa Weymouth, Cody Liner (Beach Committee), Liani Reyna, Rachael Stafford

Board Reps Present: Bob Baker

Various USA Staff Members: John Speraw, Michelle Goodall, Chris Vadala, Stacie Kearns, Bernie MacLean, Kassidi Gilgenast, China Jude, Kristy Cox, Jenny Johnson, Daniel Becker, Chrissy Elder, Miluzka McCarthy, Beth Sombric, Rylan Underwood, Laura Fawcett

Quorum is present.

Voting Procedure

SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER

Madsen

Lisa Madsen read the rules of the order for the meeting.

MINUTES/AGENDA

Mueth

The minutes of the May 2024 RVAA meeting were approved electronically following the meeting.

Review of Agenda

Introduction of new CEO- John Speraw

Speraw spoke to the commissioners about how all of our jobs are very similar to being in the national team locker room. How we all are experienced and some are set in their ways but we're all working hard toward similar goals.

USAV STAFF REPORTS

Goodall

Discussed success of “Try Volleyball” initiative. Membership is growing and is up 6.8%. Discussion of a “boys swat team” and more ways to be accessible to boys’ teams. DEI new hire- China Jude. HIROS is now credentialed. Kassidi Gilgenast & Miluzka McCarthy in marketing and communications are working to develop shared content creation with the regions. Creation of a region page on USAV website. Day-to-day help with social media in the regions, new how to find a club function. Education: Jenny Johnson focused on better access to USAV academy. Now taking Hall of Fame nominations.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

LUNCH 12:00-1:00 P.M

VENDOR REPORTS

NCSI- Suzanne Boyd and Sarah Nielson

Shared the season comparison over three years. The turnaround time is up from last year in most cases. Turnaround time is down to 3.8 days over 5.2 days last year. New Director - Kate Quattlebom from SE. Increasing staff to reduce turnaround time. support@ncsisafe.com Disputes: compliance@ncsisafe.com when someone disputes the findings of a file. Admin support - saraht@ncsisafe.com . Requesting a recheck - Suzanne and Sarah Thrasher

EPIC- Jennifer Rains

Jennifer Rains provided an update with the renewal efforts for the USA Volleyball insurance program. Report is available on the RVAA website.

AVCA- Jamie Gordon

AVCA First Serve Showcase was held on August 27th featuring Nebraska vs. Kentucky & Louisville vs. Wisconsin. The showcase had attendance of 9200 and TV viewership of 377,000 (2nd highest of an in-season broadcast & 40% female). This is a transformative time in volleyball with NCAA changes

SPONSORSHIP PRESENTATIONS

HUDL- Rachel Straznow

Now offering discounts at the regional level.

Sportwrench-Mathew McCabe

Built and managed by tournament directors. Includes options for team registration, club validation, rostering, hotel bookings, officials, and ticketing. Partnerships with New England, Florida, Southern California, Garden Empire, Southern, Excelsior, Great Lakes, & Badger regions.

Starlings-Ginny Alexander

Starlings is an organization that supports affiliate clubs to provide opportunities for underserved girls to play volleyball at a max cost of \$850.00 per season. There are 3500 girls currently participating across 28 states.

GO Sleeves-Roy Carrillo

New partnership with USAV regions. KT type sleeve to be worn to recover after playing.

International Volleyball Hall of Fame- George Mulry

New and refreshed exhibits to include volleyballs around the world, Olympic exhibit, video kiosks, FIVB legacy, U.S. Women's Pro Volleyball, Chinese 9-Man, Volleyball in the Military, PAVO Hall of Fame. Future museum relocation may be possible.

Volleystation-Jesse Stulzer

Presented a hands-on demonstration of the electronic scoresheet app

ZONALS

ROAS REPORT

Armson-Dyer

Last round of ROAS. 28 regions are in compliance, Alaska and Gulf Coast not in compliance. The last round includes Aloha, Evergreen, Heart of America, Hoosier, Intermountain, Northern California, Oklahoma, Old Dominion, Pioneer, Southern California.

SITTING VOLLEYBALL

Sitting Volleyball Presentation (Chris Seilkop) - The USAV sitting teams requested help with making competition opportunities available. The US Open (Adult Championships) has the opportunity to blend able-bodied and disabled players. There are several regions or events that host international competition, and the players would love to give back with clinics or motivational speaking to help enhance the event.

USAV x YMCA

Bishop

Strategic alliance with USAV & YMCA. Florida Region worked with sport directors at the YMCAs to hire coaches to teach volleyball summer camps and also run Try Volleyball events and it was very successful. Bishop is asking for any region interested in learning more to contact him. We want to help create value at the YMCAs while helping to improve their product with our volleyball-specific knowledge. The Florida YMCA directors will help other regions get connected with the right people in their areas.

NON-PROFIT BOARD EDUCATION

Armson-Dyer

Region leadership should be cultivating board members and making sure they understand their fiduciary duties of care, loyalty and obedience to be an effective board and help the organization fulfill their mission. The slide deck is posted to the Oct 2024 meeting pages for additional information.

TRY VOLLEYBALL

Miluzka/Chrissy

Try volleyball was a success. 32 regions participated in 195 clinics. Looking to keep up the free nationwide clinic in the fall and are looking at ways to open up clinics year-round for free with the support of the membership department.

SPORTS ENGINE

Ramer

COMMITTEE MOTIONS (reports on meeting/motions)

Compliance Committee

Two motions to consider.

Competition Committee

Williams

Three motions to consider.

Education Committee

Myers

One motion to consider.

Beach

Murless

One motion to consider.

Marketing & Branding Committee

Peden

No motions to consider.

Evening Social was hosted by SportWrench.

RESUME GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The meeting was called to order by Steve Mueth at 9:00 AM ET

ASSEMBLY CHAIR REPORT

Plan to move in cooperative direction with USAV Staff and other assemblies. JA and OA reports read. Mueth and Vadala to meet with OA to improve communication.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND AWARDS

Madsen

Awards will be given out in May.

Purple Cards - Arizona Region is going to be doing a bulk order of the cards if regions would like to submit an order to get them at a lower cost.

ALL STAR CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE

Kenyon

Steve Kenyon shared that the 20 regions who participated in the All-Star Championship will vote on the location for 2026.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

APPROVE NEXT TIME MEETING DATES

Denver meeting will be May 18th-20th. The location for October 11-12th 2025 meeting is also Denver.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM ET on Sunday, October 13th, 2023.

Evening social sponsored by Sports Engine

MOTIONS FROM OCTOBER 2024

Compliance Motion #1:

As of Sept 24, 2024, the following regions are out of compliance with ROAS policy: Alaska and Gulf Coast Regions, and they do not have voting rights in the RVAA. (Armson-Dyer, Bush) (6-0), **Motion carries 34-4**

Compliance Motion #2:

Beginning in Sept. 2025, the ROAS commitment is a two-year commitment required by the Regions. In the first year, the region will submit their information to be reviewed, as consistent with previous policy. In the second year, the region will provide an individual (commissioner, staff member, board member or approved volunteer) to participate in the review committee. A region is considered out of compliance if both cycles of the commitment are not fulfilled. (Armson-Dyer, Cranswick) (5-1), **Motion carries 37-1**

Insurance Fund Motion:

To transfer the interest accumulated through 9/30/24 totaling \$30,000 from the RVAA Insurance Fund from the RVAA General Fund to cover meeting expenses. **Motion carries 38-0**

Competition Motion #1:

Recommend to the education department to investigate how members can comply which coach safely rules through USAV instead. **Motion carries: 35-1-2**

Competition Motion #2:

Recommend the creation of a boys' volleyball working group to brainstorm ways to recapture boys to USAV. **Motion carries 38-0**

Competition Motion #3:

RVAA ENDORSES THE PROPOSED RULES OF THE GAME CHANGES FOR 1) SUBSTITUTION LIMIT TO INCREASE FROM 12 TO 15. 2) LIBERO RULE To allow two libero players to be designated for each set by indicating the players' numbers on the lineup sheet for the set. Only one libero is allowed on the court at a time and is only allowed to serve in one position. **Motion carries 37-0-1**

Education Motion #1:

For the RVAA to support the USA Volleyball Board of Directors to approve up to \$45,000 in the budget for the implementation of a new learning management system. **Motion carries 38-0**

Weighted Voting Motion:

Do away with all RVAA weighted voting in the RVAA. Currently this includes USAV BOD seats and the Nominating Committee position for the USAV Board of Directors. Each region would then have one vote for these positions and all future votes. **Motion carries 35-1-2**

Boys One Event Membership Motion:

Recommend to USAV Board of Directors to allow a one-event membership be available for participation in boys national qualifiers and boys junior national championships. **Motion carries 25-8-5 (Roll Call Vote)**

In favor: Badger, Bayou, Carolina, Columbia Empire, Delta, Excelsior Empire, Florida, Garden Empire, Gateway, Great Lakes, Great Plains, Heart of America, Intermountain, Iowa, Lakeshore, Lone Star, New England, North Country, North

Texas, Oklahoma, Old Dominion, Palmetto, Southern, Sun Country, Western Empire

Opposed: Aloha, Arizona, Chesapeake, Keystone, Moku O' Keawe, Northern California, Ohio Valley, Puget Sound

Abstained: Evergreen, Hoosier, Pioneer, Rocky Mountain, Athlete

Beach Motion #1:

"The RVAA recommends that USAV move all USAV sanctioned BEACH event division registration, from the current "Date-of-Birth" (DOB) model to the 'Graduation Year' model, effective immediately (incl. current 24/25 season). For initial seasons, the Divisions would include 12th grade, 10th grade, 8th grade, and 6th grade divisions (similar to the current 18U, 16U, 14U, 12U two-year registration process). We recognize future potential of moving to single grade-year in unison with other select organizations, after more analysis is completed." **Motion carries 26-2-3**

Op Code Motion:

Motion to approve the recommendations to the USAV Governance Committee to amend the USAV Op Code regarding the proposal on where to register. **Motion carries 36-1-1**

RVAA Manual Approval Motion:

Motion to approve the RVA Manual as presented and updated on-site and posted to the RVA website on Oct. 13, 2024. This is subject to any additionally approved motions. **Motion carries 32-0-6**

RVAA Manual Motion #1:

Modify V1.01 D Zonal Chairs shall be a current Principal Representative and nominated and elected at the RVAA Annual Meeting by the Principal Representatives in their respective zones at the fall meeting in even-numbered years for a two (2) year term, effective immediately after the conclusion of the annual meeting.

Add Article V1.01 E When the Zonal Chair is no longer a Principal Representative, they will immediately notify the RVAA & RVAA Associate Chair(s) of their change in status. A new election shall take place before the next zonal meeting. **Motion carries 38-0**

RVAA Manual Motion #2:

To add the "RVA member to the USAV AC", page 13, Article VII Administrative Council, 7:01 Composition, section A. **Motion carries 38-0**