

**USA VOLLEYBALL  
REGIONAL VOLEYBALL ASSOCIATION ASSEMBLY  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
May 25-27, 2010  
Sheraton Phoenix**

**I. RVA ASSEMBLY**

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at 2:05 pm by Joe Williams
2. Roll Call - Becky Hudson
  - a. Present: Alaska – Julie Webber; Aloha – Kent Ma; Arizona – Harold Cranswick; Badger – Chris Haworth (proxy); Bayou – John Cline; Carolina – Kevin Wendelboe; Chesapeake – Lisa DiGiacinto; Columbia Empire – Tifani Wendt; Delta – Joe Williams; Evergreen – Jon Lee (proxy); Florida – James Phillips; Garden Empire – Bob Dingee; Gateway – Tim Neels; Great Lakes – Sandy Abbinanti; Great Plains – Sue Mailhot; Heart of America – Hank VanArsdale; Hoosier – Chuck Stemm; Intermountain – Kim Norman; Iowa – Lynne Updegraff; Iroquois Empire – Patty Blacklock; Keystone – Marty Lang; Lakeshore – Mary Jo Hardy; Lone Star – Will Vick; Moku O Keawe – Angie Andrade-Morioka; New England – Dave Castanon; North Country – Judy Praska; North Texas – Andy Reitingier; Northern California – Donna Donaghy; Ohio Valley – Bob Price; Oklahoma – Shawn McCarty; Old Dominion – Skip Weston; Palmetto – Jim Peden; Pioneer – Nancy Funk (proxy); Puget Sound – John Bryant; Rocky Mountain – Glenn Sapp; Southern – Ken Cain; Southern California – Ann Davenport; Sun Country – Mark Noble; Western Empire – John Hughes. Quorum is present
  - b. Proxy (written): Gulf Coast – Will Vick
  - c. New Commissioners: None
3. Rules of Order were read by John Bryant
4. Approval of Minutes of October, 2009 meetings  
Motion to approve the minutes of Oct 2009 meeting as written (Castanon/Bryant/MC)
5. Approval of Agenda  
Motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended (Abbinanti/Updegraff/MC)
6. RVA Contingency Fund - Judy Praska  
Current balance in Contingency fund is \$4228.93. There will be no invoices for this year.

**II. Insurance Reports**

**1. ESIX Report - Jennifer Waller**

The insurance market is still soft. They can still push to keep costs down. There are some challenges ahead in the future.

General Liability – companies review 3-5 years of loss history to determine risk. They look at all the sports industries to help see where we are in relation. We should expect an increase in General Liability coverage next year.

Sports Accident – Shawn Lankie ESIX – participant accident coverage is 60-65% of the total insurance costs. The premium is directly tied to our claims experience. We have a 125% loss ratio for participant accident insurance over the past 5 years. They are anticipating a pretty large increase. Average cost per claimant is going up. Average number of claims has gone up. Expect a 20% increase for participant accident coverage for next year.

If everyone is going to be required to have insurance with the Obama Health Care revision it could be a benefit for the premiums in that more people will have primary coverage.

Taking all aspects of insurance into concern we are looking at 10 – 15% increase in premiums. Firm results for the premium will not be known until mid to late June. Our reserves may be enough to cover the increase.

Risks that everyone can work to prevent: 1. excess netting on the floor that people can trip on, 2. official's platforms that are unstable.

## 2. SSCI Report - Randy Rodebaugh & Byron Palmer

USA Swimming has been in the news lately regarding sexual abuse that is happening in the sport. They were hit hard in the areas of background screening and their abuse investigation. Investigators are going to dissect everything in the insurance policies to see what is there. USA Swimming is many years behind USA Volleyball. Several NGB's are using USA Volleyball's background screening procedures as a prototype. We have a very defensible policy. Every year we are diligently looking at the policy and closing loopholes.

The background screening policy has disqualified 74 individuals this year. The only change made this past year was to include officials in the screening. This is the highest number disqualified in one year we have had to date. Number 1 disqualifier is violence; number 2 is multiple alcohol and drug offenses. Number 4 on the list is sexual offenses.

One individual was disqualified for sexual assault of a minor. The person was originally charged with felony custodial sexual misconduct – plea agreement was for misdemeanor child abuse. This is the reason we don't focus on just sexual assault. It is very common for charges to start off with a felony and with a plea agreement it is reduced to a misdemeanor.

A new law is proposed in Florida which would require all athletic coaches that work with youth in a sports' setting to be background screened every year. This screening is not as comprehensive as our screening policies. SSCI will be keeping an eye on this. Our current policy of requiring a background screen every two years would conflict with this requirement.

SSCI is constantly working with the members of the Insurance Committee and the national office to modify the program as needed. They have done some tweaking of the systems in the way the results are turned around and put into WebPoint. This has reduced the turnaround time to 2.18 days from 2.7 days. There is a built in delay but they are continually working to make it a quicker turn around.

Currently there is no national minimum standard for background screens. A background screen as a mandate is not usually very well defined. There is no clear standard defined.

### III. OFFICIALS' EXEC COUNCIL REPORT - Kathy Ferraraccio & Glenn Sapp

The Council met in the spring. Most of the efforts were put toward a new Admin Manual. As a result they looked at the election procedures and realized they needed to formalize the election process for the Assembly Chair and the second member to the Joint Admin Council. The positions on the Admin Council will be staggered, 2 year period and 4 year period.

The Council revised the Officials Assembly organization chart. The Assembly is the governing body for the Council. The Council is the governing body for Sub-Commissions.

Many Regions send people to the Official's Assembly. These people must be identified as the voting delegates by the Region. No proxies are allowed.

With input of the juniors and qualifiers the Officials Council would like to request change at all National level events. They want an adult either working at the score table or near the score table to alleviate most of the problems that arise during play.

Commissioners should send email to Kathy Ferraraccio with the names of the delegates from the Region to vote for the two reps to the admin Council one of which will also serve as the Official's Assembly Chair and chair the Ex Council for the Officials Commission.

### IV. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

#### 1. Competition Committee - Bob Dingee (Appendix 1)

This committee has changed with the reorganization and staff driven events. Should be advisory to USAV and focus on region competition issues.

#### 2. Insurance Committee - Kevin Wendelboe (Appendix 2)

Could regions pay additional for international search? The international searches are not reliable and are cost prohibitive right now. Coaches have to clear a background screen. If a coach does not have a green card they should not be able to coach – since they can't pass a background screen. SSCI can do a background screen on a foreign national but it is not as comprehensive as the same search on a US citizen.

SSCI will disclose to the person that is disqualified if they are banned indefinitely or may reapply at a later date.

Duplicate submissions – SSCI is working on a solution to flag duplicate submissions.

Foreign officials working USAV tournaments. – ESIX believes the risk of foreign officials is low. Kathy Ferraraccio is looking at foreign officials' associations to see what they require of their officials.

Parent booster category will be introduced – does this category need to be background screened since they are affiliating with a junior club? ESIX does not have an issue if the status has no benefits. The trouble is how to know who is registered and who is not. There is much discussion still to be done on this issue.

Changes to the background screen program were proposed – some were put forward and some were not. Verbiage was changed to the disqualifier section of the policy and form.

ESIX put forward Appendices for feedback regarding contagious diseases and alcohol at junior events. Please forward feedback on these documents to ESIX.

Ball shagging issues or scorekeeping parents – do they need to be members? If they are part of the match then they need to be registered. The committee recognizes that sometimes the tournament needs volunteers for line judging – they would be covered under the policy as volunteers for the tournament.

3. Compliance Committee - Judy Praska (Appendix 3)

Any changes to required documents should be sent to USAV by Sept 1<sup>st</sup>.

Compliance Committee has successfully dealt with two compliance issues over the past year.

The second half of the committee meeting was a discussion with Doug Beal. A Compliance Commission/board has been created. The RVA Compliance Committee has created a task force to examine uniformity and consistency of governance in conflict of interest issues at the region level. There are some Compliance Committee members on the USAV Compliance Commission.

4. Structure & Function - John Bryant (Appendix 4)

The RVA Assembly shall have at least one member from each zone on each standing committee. Each zone will select their representative to each committee.

The RVA Admin Manual will be updated over the summer.

The Committee has recommended to the RVA Assembly Chair that the Structure & Function committee meet at a different time as the other committees. Each member of the committee could be a liaison to another committee as an advisor to how motions are implemented into the RVA Assembly Admin Manual. The committee would then meet at the end of the RVA Assembly and be able to insert the motions into the RVA Admin Manual more efficiently and with understanding of the proper placement of the item.

The Committee discussed the role of a parliamentarian and who acts as the Parliamentarian. Joe Williams noted that the Associate Chair acts as the Parliamentarian at the RVA Assembly meetings.

5. Nomination-Election - Lynne Updegraff

1. RVA Rep to Board of Directors – Jon Lee and John Bryant are the candidates.

2. The RVA Assembly Associate Chair is supposed to be elected at the annual meeting but Judy Praska was elected at the Oct 2008 meeting. Lynne Updegraff proposed that the election be held at this meeting as they were intended.

6. BOD Rep Reports - Jon Lee/Ken Cain

The next USAV Board meeting is set for Friday, May 28. It is the attempt of Jon Lee and Ken Cain to send out the info from the meetings to the RVA reps in a timely manner.

Recap of the January 2010 Board of Directors meeting –

- The bulk of the meeting was taken up regarding the Beach Assembly organization. Many of the Beach representatives were there and have been relieved that we are not antagonistic toward their sport but are working for them.
- Merging CA and CO organization into a Tax Exempt Colorado corporation
- Crafting a Beach Task Force – to determine who the managing director of beach reported to and how that was going to affect the budget.
- Report from Finance and Budget committee.  
Goals -
  - Achieve a cumulative surplus of \$1.5 mil. - \$300k has been accumulated
  - Create an Olympic fund of \$250k - done
  - Create a resource of \$200k to enhance championship events – has been budgeted
  - Create a capital reserve fund with defined objectives and uses – close to budget already
  - Attempt to maintain and increase USOC budget and support dollars with the goal to reduce the ratio of contributions to total budget – close to doing that.
  - Admin fees and publications fees questions were referred to staff and audit by Finance and Budget
- Jon Lee has been selected to sit on a CEO evaluation committee to measure Doug Beal's performance. Other members of the committee are Kevin Twohig, David Schreff, Ted Leland and Bill Barnham – an independent and attorney from LA.
- Beach Representative on the Board – There is a need for someone on the Board to represent Beach. The Beach Assembly has not yet been formed. The Board chose not to wait until the Beach Assembly was formed. Joy McKenzie-Furbringer was elected as the Beach rep to the USAV Board. She is involved on the beach side and coaches boys and girls indoor. Joy is also the new assistant coach for the UCLA women's team.
- The Board is looking at background screening for the members of the Board.
- The Board approved that the Jr Assembly would have two votes from each Region for the selection of the Junior Indoor Rep to the Board.
- The Board approved that the Officials Assembly would have two votes from each Region as well as one additional from another organization that trains beach officials for their BOD representative.

7. Ideas for revitalizing adult programming - James Phillips

For those regions that are struggling with adult player participation.

Suggestions put forward are:

1. Can we get rid of the rule of two for Nationals in all club divisions?
2. Can we have some agreement between regions of an open pool for any level of play to put players on teams?
3. Those regions that have strong pools of adults don't need to share players.  
It depends on the neighboring regions and how they get along.
4. Can a player from one region go with a team from another region if their team is not going to nationals?
5. Is the rule of two hindering play at the national level? Or is it something that is happening at the region level. Ideas are needed to increase adult play at the national level – half day play?

The trend for Open Nationals is fewer teams are attending. There is a need to build up the adult player population.

#### V. Q & A WITH CEO - Doug Beal

##### Relationship with the AVP

Relationship to the AVP has not been better. The decision by the AVP to hire Mike Dodd as commissioner has been an exceptionally good decision. He is all about cooperation. We are looking at a range of opportunities to co-brand and develop programs together – both domestic and international. The hope is to host some international events in 2011. USAV hired David Williams as the Managing director of Beach Operations. His experience largely is from the event production side. He has worked for the AVP for 8 years and with the WPVA before that. Williams will be performing a huge role for USAV in the 2012 Beach Olympic trials.

Q. Discuss what USAV is doing for grassroots and development on the indoor side.

A. We are doing some good things right now. Participation and membership has been going up. How do we more effectively involve the very local level player? Discussion to have is a membership category for a very locally focus participant. Programming is local for the grassroots participant. We are providing programming in conjunction with or similar to recreation department programs. What we have to offer is the foundation of excellence or expertise. The knowledge, criteria and expertise of officials, coaches, facility standards and all is the best.

Q. What kind of initiatives might be put in place to help boys volleyball be a high school sport in all states?

A. We offer grant programs for boys and men in the collegiate, high school and club programs. Any idea to stimulate growth in boys' volleyball is appreciated. The NCAA is going to adopt a separate Div. III Men's Championships in probably 2012. USAV has contributed to about 50 boys' high school club programs through grants. Beal thinks USAV has a good partnership with AVCA to increase exposure and visibility for boys' programs at men's events. If money were the issue, which he does not feel it is, USAV could be easily convinced to prioritize and put more money into grants for boy's/men's programs.

Q. With the \$10 fee increase coming in next year – how is it going to be spent?

A. Three documents have been published with quite a range for the use of the dollars. USAV is committed to targeting the dollars towards grassroots programs that support regional activities. Beal is interested in developing a department within USAV under the leadership of John Kessel that targets program cooperation with grassroots development for the regions. The department would help spread programs that work in one region to other parts of the country. It is one of the areas USAV needs to spend human and financial resources. A national branding campaign and broadcast opportunities are two other ideas. USAV has targeted half the money to be allocated by a committee of reps from the RVAs.

Q. Please share your vision of the compliance commission.

A. There are two or three important initiatives that we should undertake – in the regions examine the consistency of the operation both programmatic and governance. The range is significant but it is warranted because of state laws and unique issues. The differences between regions need to be brought closer. Several ways of doing that are to: Share best practices, look at board size, representation of the board, frequency of meetings and how the members are elected. Perhaps provide a template for by-laws as a starting point for all the RVAs. There is value in creating a more consistent platform across the country regarding governance and programming. Several perspectives that need to be looked at are due process, removing conflict of interest across the board and transparency. This is not from the perspective of absolute guidelines. The USOC has “suggested” templates for NGB’s. It is worth a serious discussion for the RVA’s. The level at which it is implemented is up in the air but it could be positive in regards to growth and programming.

Q. People are losing facilities which in turn mean opportunities to play. The High School Federation is a member organization – what can be done to open the doors of the high schools to junior sports?

A. Two parts to the answer – 1. The NHSF is a loose federation of state associations. Each operates independently and very differently. Trying to get some relationship at the national level would be a challenge. 2. One of the high priorities of the commissioners that met to discuss the fee increase was to put it towards the facility issue – find locations that are consistently available for competition at the local level.

In Iowa they approached the schools with the question of why the gym is sitting empty when they could be open to keep the kids off the street – using the DARE program as an example. Could this be used as a campaign to be sent out?

USAV is working on how they should be related to specific charities. There are some NGB’s that have profited with exposure or good will with close connections to a couple of charities. Doug Beal is interested in exploring those that would make sense. The challenge is how to connect with one charity and not another. Making the decision to affiliate is a serious decision – our brand is who we are – it is important to make sure who we are related to. We can bring value and increase our stature around the country by affiliating with an association. We are being pushed quite strongly by the USOC to affiliate with the national government to fighting childhood obesity. Olympic liaison office in the White House is geared toward that endeavor.

## VI. Q&A WITH EVENTS STAFF - Mike Chandler

### 1. Stay and Play (THS)

If the problem is identified they can fix it. What they can't help is the rumor mill and people that just complain but don't contact the Events Dept about the problem.

There currently are different interpretations of the Stay and Play policy between qualifiers. As the qualifier agreements come due USAV can work on standardizing the Stay and Play policies.

Customer Service could be improved with the hotels. Teams working with the hotels in the block should all be getting the same rate – the lowest rate for all.

2. Computer Ranking System

The expectation was to launch the computer ranking system in March but Events Dept wanted to make sure it was right before launching. They wanted to make sure it was easier to drop the data before launching. This tweaking of the system will take a number of years before it is where we want it. They want it to be very transparent. The next attempt to launch the system will be in the fall.

3. Complexities of site selection process

There is an RFP for every event USAV puts on. The RFP is on the jump drive. The city bids on the event and they negotiate with the city. Part of the process is to have the Director or Sales and the General Manager sign off on the contract so that later if those same people are not there the bid remains intact.

4. The region bid deadline was late due to the lateness of the last qualifier. There were a lot of complaints due to the increased airfare costs. It will be moved up to May 7-8 timeframe for next season.

5. The Events Dept will copy the regions on the email to the girls clubs regarding hotel rooms so that the Commissioners can follow up with their teams to make sure they are taking care of their rooming needs for Girls Jr National Championships.

6. USAV is looking to put more glitz into our National Championships as compared to the qualifiers. They are looking at jumbo-trons, electronic scoreboards and an arena court for championships.

7. Have we considered multiple year contracts to get better pricing in our hotels? We have done multi-year contracts for years. It is hard to find places to host our girls' events – our events are very long – 14 days long with set up and out.

8. 2011 National Championships – Girls in Atlanta, Boys in Minneapolis, Adults – contracts are not signed.

## VII. WORKING GROUPS REPORT

1. Membership options for grassroots development and removing roadblocks to growth -  
Bob Price & Sandy Abbinanti

Border issues can be a roadblock to growth depending on which side of the border the club or directors are living.



The membership proposal by Judy Praska was discussed. Not all regions use all the options available to them right now.

Roadblocks Identified -

- Impact course availability – offered as a webinar every two weeks during the season. The content needs to be updated as it is lacking. USAV should be open to allowing different types of coaching certifications in lieu of IMPACT.
- Rule of 2 for adults – eliminating the rule of 2 could actually disrupt the sanctity of the club championships that are currently being held. This would abolish the team concept. You can still add two from anywhere.
- Adult participation is dropping. There are numerous opportunities out there to play.
  - Factors that could play a role: 1. family dynamics; 2. all day tournaments are difficult – more are interested in league or half day play rather than all day tournament play; 3. Uniform restrictions.
- Border issues – multiple membership types can hinder border cooperation since all types of memberships may not be accepted in the bordering regions.
- Is WebPoint becoming a problem with the requirement of email addresses and the juniors constantly changing their email address? Security questions have been implemented to identify them in the system in the event of a change of their email address. It will then prompt them to update their email address in the system.
  - Email from WebPoint is being filtered as Spam with some servers.
- We have been acting very strongly in the past due to risk management.

Suggestions to clear roadblocks -

- Florida offers different levels of service to the clubs. Each level costs a different amount for personal service from the Region office.
- North Texas - New clubs come to an orientation where they cover a significant portion of the handbook. They put together a power point that they go through while they chat on Facebook. Charge new clubs \$100 to start a club.
- Reducing the requirements to allow participants to play outdoors and reduce costs. No uniforms, officiating, coaches, chaperones.
- There are a large number of kids that tried out but did not make a team. Some clubs added an in-house league for those kids that did not make their competition teams. Most of these clubs were also facility owners.
- John Kessel has a summer intern that is updating the Starting a Junior Club Handbook.
- Facebook is a great communication tool for the Regions. Info gets to the kids and coaches better than email. It is a constant communication tool for the kids.
- RVA Assembly should devote time at the mid-year meetings to discuss types of grassroots – Mercedes Benz or Volkswagen type programming

John Kessel will be attending a symposium of facility owners in September for the USOC that will share starting grassroots program ideas. This will include many sports.

Growth Potential -

- Growth of beach facilities is tied to NCAA beach as an emerging sport. The facilities cater more to the six on six or four on four to bring in a little more income.

- Some governmental entities in this slow economy are turning over their parks properties to individuals who are certified to take care of them. They no longer have the income to maintain the property. In Seattle area if approved you can use the property for no fees if take care of it and use it under the right conditions. Government facilities may become available in the next few years as the municipalities shed expenses.
- Some schools are considering removing their after school athletic programming. Great Lakes Region and USAV are looking at a membership type that could be used to allow participation of the schools in the 10 – 12 week timeframe. It would be turning over the school programs to club programs. USAV is working with ESIX to develop an extended league membership – 10 week – 100 hour membership type. This may meet the needs of some regions that want to run programming that is cheaper and shorter.

In a straw poll of those in attendance scheduling and administration was followed closely by available facilities to play or practice as the biggest roadblocks for the clubs.

## 2. Regional/National governance issues - Jon Lee & Hank VanArsdale

As an organization we need to look at the documents we have in place. It is possible that some are outdated or don't show proper progression. This may affect us all at the USAV level. There is a need for consistency in due process across the 40 regions. This is to make sure that if someone is involved with USAV then they should be meeting the same processes no matter what region they are in.

The initial template document was produced in 1996 and could be outdated. The way we operate now and in the future should be consistent with the documents we have in place. This is the same for all levels within USA Volleyball.

There is a need to create templates for:

1. Due Process
2. By-Laws
3. Conflict of interest
4. Democratic elections
5. Need to include definitions so that all are on the same page.

Tweak the templates to fit the make-up of the Region – for example interstate regions with multiple state laws.

USA Volleyball is looking at a template for the Qualifiers in their contracts.

USA Volleyball was originally an adult driven organization – now we are a junior driven organization. Information is processed differently now than when the template was originated. A task force is being formed at the recommendation of the compliance committee to look at these templates and the regions' due process.

Items relating to conflict of interest:

- There are some conflicts in regards to one person being a region executive, club director and facility owner. The best practice is disclosure and transparency. May

have to step away from something where you have a personal interest or financial gain involved. The task force will look at this.

- How are the minutes documented when there is an abstention for conflict of interest – minutes should be accurate and published on the website. For touchy issues with individuals the minutes should reflect that because of potential conflict the person abstained from voting on the issue. If there is a possible conflict with an individual the individual should disclose the conflict before an action is taken.
- Regions should have a conflict of interest policy and signed form from each person in position of authority.

The new IRS 990 will cause some problems for regions that have retained excess cash. The forms will ask why you have retained the cash and how you are using the money for operations. The Not for Profits that have stockpiled money will need to address this or could lose the status with the IRS.

Where are the challenges going to come from regarding our corporate governance?

1. Border straddlers – there may be cause to look at realignment if the border areas are consistently going to another region to register.
  2. If we make it hard for people to participate it may cause problems at the Region level. People will leave or start up different organizations to play volleyball. This is especially troubling regarding adults where we are looking to grow the division. There is always room to make it better. It is okay to look outside the box for ideas to grow the sport.
  3. Those people with misperceptions of what is really happening at the region level. These people make allegations with others about the region operations instead of finding out the true facts. Keep a paper trail of documents and retain documents for 10-20 years.
3. Beach Development – An emerging opportunity James Phillips and Lynne Updegraff

Florida has 3 different beach tours in their state. They partnered with one of them. Benefit to them is that we provide the insurance for the tour. Florida paid for the tour director and staff to be USAV members and they picked up 1000 beach members as a result.

The issues involved:

- Finding a place to play – there are sand courts or grass everywhere.
  - The bar makes it difficult for the kids to play. Have the bar offer a separate entrance without access to the bar.
  - Largest facility in Iowa – a person bought an old drive in movie facility. The projection house is the administration building. The facility has some sand courts and softball fields. It is a bar situation at night.
- Level of play – doubles, triples, six on six – may start with more on the court to get them to play. Don't get locked into just doubles.
- How to train the kids? There were different opinions - 1. let them play – leave them alone, 2. Offer beach development camps.
- Followed the FIVB method of coaching – only coach at time outs and between sets. Some have no coaches at all. Coaches have to be certified beach coaches – wear arm bands at tournaments after check in. Caught coaching lose arm band.

- Kids ref the matches. Use head referees walking around to make sure it is being done correctly. Rule modifications for the juniors. Florida - No overhead first ball for juniors because it has to be too clean.
- Marketing was the biggest key to get started. On website, sent out flyers, email blast.
- Have issues with weather. No play in lightning but can play in the rain.
- Format – one game to 21. AVP runs differently.
- Awards – give medals to avoid issues with eligibility with HS and collegiate – no prize money if the kids play in the adult division.
- Seasons – overlapping of seasons – indoor and outdoor. Indoor and outdoor CLUBS. Define the season by the last date you play as a player – can become a free agent after the individual is done with their indoor season.
- Special events - AVP adopt a player, mother/daughter, father/daughter, mommy & me.

USAV has started offering Beach CAP clinics. Florida has offered a Beach IMPACT clinic and then the coaches can move up to Beach CAP.

Kerry Klostermann released that USAV established a new sponsor agreement with Spaulding to include outdoor net systems. Spaulding will provide 2 sets of outdoor nets per Region per year for the next three years – a total of 6 nets per Region over 3 years. They are shooting for a June/July product availability. They hope to also negotiate a price reduction on product for the Regions.

Heart of America uses Park & Sun outdoor net systems. The systems are available with regular lines or short lines. They are very portable and easy to set up. Heart of America will use 30-40 nets per tournament. The members are registered as individuals – not affiliated with a club. The clubs are also putting on tournaments which double the participation opportunities for the players.

Palmetto set a new goal this year to promote outdoor volleyball. They purchased the equipment to loan to the clubs to run tournaments. The idea is to promote the fun things about volleyball. Last year 11 juniors teams participated – this year 82 teams have participated. Season is late April – July.

Iowa runs their season June and July. They offer a beach clinic first. It is important for the participants in Iowa to have a Beach Regionals.

Great Plains – sent out an email to their regular players. They offer two tournaments per week on weeknights. Started with indoor members and it has expanded to outdoor players by word of mouth and friends of indoor players. Participation has really grown every year for Great Plains.

#### 4. Event Issues - Sue Mailhot, Meredith Coupland

##### Sites

- Sites are checked by different methods in regions
  - Those deemed unsafe are not allowed to host tournaments

- Some regions have forms that are returned by tournament directors or participants noting deficiencies that can then be checked by region and corrected
- New facilities are checked prior to allowing new tournaments
- New rule regarding no warm-up during off time has been well received (not always liked)
- Beach lounge chairs that extend out towards the court can create safety hazard
  - Referees or coach manage
- Divider nets are not allowed in some facilities per the fire marshal and continue to be a risk management issue if they pool on the floor
- All events and facilities need to understand ADA requirements
  - All facilities need to accommodate handicapped seating and have access

#### Officials

- Minimum standards were created by officials division for scorekeepers and R2's were listed in qualifier manual a couple of years ago, but was not listed in last year
  - The requirement was put in place so the referee should be easily able to find the coach if there are officiating issues
- There is inadequate training of junior officials in some regions
  - Some regions are excellent at training their junior officials and expectations

#### Libero uniform –

- There is a lot of inconsistency in the interpretation of allowable libero uniforms
  - from national event to national event
  - from region to region
  - from referee to referee
- The Rules Testing Committee should review the rule and spell out what is legal.
- Rules Testing Committee is only answerable to BOD

#### Parent behavior -

- The region has jurisdiction on all participants in any facility because of event sanction
- If the event is held in public venue, you have no control over fans unless the event is 'gated'
  - security or police can be called
- 80% of arbitrator issues this year were parent/fan behaviors
- Behavior is emotional as parents feel monetary investment
- Some clubs do better job of training parents/fans

#### Eligibility –

- Coach's id is checked against roster before start of each tournament
- Chaperones, responsibilities, etc
- Junior aged coaches
  - Head coach must be eligible
    - Some regions require must be 18 yrs
    - Some regions require the head coach to be a minimum of 3 yrs older than age of the team
    - Under 18 can only be assistant with eligible head coach
    - Not all regions allow junior aged coaches

Shagging balls issues –

- This issue is not being equally enforced at national events
- The ‘off’ team could be required to shag balls
- Only registered members can be allowed on court
  - New option being offered by insurance committee is a viable option
    - If they choose to be on the court – they need to be a registered member
    - If the event asks them to shag then they are covered by the event. Use the volunteer consent form if the event is requesting their help to shag balls.
- Definition from the Official’s Committee is if you are actively catching and throwing the balls back to the hitters then you are a shagger. If you are protecting someone from getting hit by a ball you are not a shagger.
  - Anyone on the playable surface should be a registered member – line judges, scorekeepers, shaggers.

VIII. Commission Reports

1. Nominating & Governance Commission - Nancy Funk

- a. The USAV Board had 4 positions that expired this year.
  - The Junior Indoor & one of the RVA positions are to be voted on in these meetings.
  - Female Beach Athlete – Tyra Turner is running again but there currently is no second candidate. There is a possibility of a second candidate by the Board meeting on Friday.
  - Independent Director – Adam Rymer has been re-elected
- b. The NGC is recommending to the RVA and Junior Assembly that they hold their elections before these meetings. The rationale is that when a term is expiring and the person is no longer able to run again that both the incoming and outgoing board member could attend the meeting and get up to speed before the term actually expires. The current regulations allow a person to serve a max of 2 terms.
- c. The NGC is asking all representative groups to think about their candidates in regards to diversity. Right now the candidates that they are receiving are not diverse at all.
- d. The NGC is looking at background screens for the Board members to prevent someone that would not pass our own background screen process from serving.

2. Rules Testing Commission - John Bryant

- a. We are in the middle of the two year publishing cycle of rules. No new rules changes are being contemplated this season.
- b. The commission is looking at 6 sub rule free entry as a testing possibility for HP
- c. Please send your summary of rules modifications to USAV Rules Testing before they are implemented. The committee is trying to track how widespread the modifications are. Items regarding safety are not to be modified.

Region use of rule modifications:

15 regions allowed the libero to serve

6 regions allowed a team to play with 5 players

8 regions played games to 21

1 region asked for a ref stand variance which was not allowed for safety reasons

- d. Margie Mara report from FIVB

- i. New net and centerline rule – there has been no indication of increased injuries with the use of these rules
- ii. Exclusive use of the court during warm-ups – we will have to live with this one
- iii. Improper referee stands may no longer be used. R1 will stand on the floor if the ref stand is not up to standard.
- iv. Libero Jersey colors – continued discussion

On the horizon for the FIVB -

- i. Electronic score sheet – this will be tested at Opens and HP Championships
- ii. Two liberos in the same set – can't be used on the floor at the same time.

### 3. Ethics and Eligibility - Chuck Stemm

This committee handles RVA ethics and eligibility issues in house.

First Level of adjudication of a grievance - Each region is supposed to have a set of ethics & eligibility rules along with a Due Process procedure. Due Process is giving the person a way to be heard. Gather written statements and witnesses. The hard decisions have to be made no matter who the person is.

Second Level – If the issue can't be resolved at the region level it goes to the RVA Compliance Committee. The committee would review the information from the region in the issue.

Third Level - From there it would come up the pipeline to the RVA Ethics & Eligibility Committee. The E & E Committee would review what the region and compliance committee has done – to see if the individual(s) has received their due process. If the region did not offer them correct due process the committee can send it back to the region to do it all over again and document it in writing. The committee will look again to see if the individual's rights have been offered to them through due process. The three member committee would then vote and a letter would be sent registered mail to the complainant.

When someone tries to hop over the process and skip the region they are referred back to the region.

None of this process is written down yet. This will fall to Structure & Function. This is not currently how the USAV Op Code has this process written.

Items of Note:

- Notice is a big part of due process.
- FedEx or overnight mail does not substitute for Certified Mail legally.
- Document, document, document everything
- Test your own procedures.

### 4. Regional membership proposal Judy Praska

The idea of this membership type is to keep it simple and at an affordable rate to keep the grassroots members involved.

- The participants are not able to play in qualifiers or nationals.
- It is a stay in home region and play membership.

- This membership type will not count towards bids.
- \$6 admin fee – would give insurance, the magazine would be optional.
- Members that want to go to Nationals or bid tournaments would have to be full members.

USSSA offers volleyball and lower fees in the North Country Region. This would compete with USSSA and AAU. North Country already uses all membership opportunities that are offered.

## IX. PROGRAM REPORTS

### 1. Paralympic Programs - Bill Hamiter

Bill Hamiter is the Program director for the sitting program as well as the head coach. The RVAs have supported the sitting and disabled programs specifically and the teams would like to continue the support. However the support is not only for the support of the sitting national teams but it can also support the Region as well. There is an untapped reservoir of people to start playing volleyball in every region – athletes with disabilities. A lot of able body athletes love to play sitting volleyball as well. Sitting volleyball is also for players that have played the game but no longer can play the indoor game due to injury. The more players that play sitting volleyball around the US give the sitting teams a larger pool of athletes to draw from.

To get started:

- Focus on a small area and expand from there.
- Schedule clinics, small tournaments and club practices where the disabled can come and play and expand their opportunity to play.
- There are organizations already out there in most regions that could be tapped into to help get the athletes involved. Military and disabled sports organizations are scattered all around the US.
  - US Paralympics is in the rehab programs for military personnel. As they exit rehab and return to wherever they are from they are looking for places to play to continue physical development,
- The region needs one good person to run with the program.
- Eliot Blake can come to the region to do some clinics. There is some money in the budget for this.
- Promote this to the junior clubs – one practice per week and invite some disabled players in. This commits only one team per week to the practice but the disabled get to practice as well.
- No other equipment is needed

Ways to get emerging athletes involved:

- Three tournaments have been established – Houston, Oklahoma City and Omaha.
- Recreation events are also available through the Warrior Games and as part of the recreation program for Warrior Transition Units,
- Establish a disabled event for the State Games.
- Start a sitting league in the city
- An HP Program for sitting volleyball has been established.



The bottom line is that there are disabled players looking for places to play and they are looking to give them an opportunity.

2011 US Open Nationals will offer a 2 day sitting tournament (during the second half) – three able bodied and three disabled athletes on the floor, for coed and all ages. Bill Hamiter is asking each region to put in one team. There will be an entry fee but it is unknown what that will be right now.

World Sitting Championships – July 11 – 18. 40 teams will participate – 24 men and 16 women’s teams. This is a huge event for USA Volleyball, US Paralympics and University of Central Oklahoma to host. It will be the largest international event to be hosted in the US in volleyball. It will be the first qualifying event for 2012 London Paralympic Games. Need between 2000 and 3000 volunteers for the event. The Oklahoma Region is very excited to host this event in their region.

## 2. Officials Development - Kathy Ferraraccio & Steve Webster

### Volleyball Ref Training website

- Opened 3 years ago as a pay per view site. It is free for everyone now.
- Redesigned the site
  - Asked for registration on the site to harvest the names and know who is looking at the site.
- Want this site to be available for everyone – parents, players, coaches, officials, etc.
- Hallmark of the site are the new training presentations
  - Protests
  - Scorekeeping clinic
  - Pre-match protocol
  - Beach materials
- Working on voice over videos so the clinics can be heard.
- The site is being kept current with the rules interpretations.
- Online testing is for the National level referees and scorekeeper
- Use the material for region referee training
- A new Blog section
  - A lot of the interactive items that don’t belong on the training side
  - Collect the data from the poll question and then write a response
- Need feedback to keep the site live and current – will keep changing as needed
- Keith Murless – in charge of training and developing outdoor referees – provided information for beach officiating and it was immediately posted. Able to send the beach officials to this site as a tool to learn
- Send Kathy Ferraraccio and Steve Webster what else is needed on the site
  - Provide the information and materials to put on the site
  - Asking for financial help as well – Nationals and Jr Nationals are currently paying for the site out of their dues
- Spread the word to the region membership that this is available
  - Link to the region website

All presentations on the site will be put on DVDs. There is a price for the DVDs to cover the cost of the DVD and mailing costs.

3. Beach Programs - Ali Wood-Lamberson & Dave Williams (Appendix 5)  
Dave Williams is new hire with USA Volleyball in the LA Office.

For the past 4 years the beach office has been managing all aspects of beach volleyball – from beach camps to elite level players. Dave Williams will be handling the international side more.

The NCAA emerging sport is a huge opportunity for growth. They have seen an interest in collegiate beach club. They hope this builds the men's beach programming.

Basic programs offered are:

- Beach HP programs,
- Beach National Training Team programs,
- Beach HP Championships,
  - Participants will come from the training teams, from the beach tour and teams nominated from the regions.
  - Regions can nominate one team per age per gender
  - Beach referees will be trained at the HP Championships
- Senior A2 program. They are expanding the number of players for the Beach Training teams.
- Beach Development Camps
- PeeWee Beach program for motor skill development and fun
- Beach Coach Education – getting a lot of requests especially with the NCAA emerging sport opportunities. The first Beach CAP course was held at the AVCA convention last December.
- Venue Development – Chula Vista Training Center is adding 6 courts and amenities.
- Junior Beach Tour run by Elevation Group and Steve Lindecke

How can the region get involved?

1. Host a camp, beach tryouts, Beach Coaches clinics, USA Jr Beach tour stop
2. Send athletes to the events
3. Start a Regional Beach program
4. Contact USAV Beach

NCAA Opportunities

1. Coaching Education and Accreditation
2. Officials education at USAV events – working with Keith Murless and Steve Owen
3. National database and ranking of recruitable junior athletes
4. Expand membership opportunities to other sports athletes – not all outdoor athletes come from indoor volleyball

Beach Official's Commission is chaired by Steve Owen. Steve Kenyon is the person the regions would contact for beach officials development.

Dave Williams spent 10 years at the AVP. 2004 after the Misty & Kerry won the gold medal the AVP was contacted by 80 cities for the AVP to come to their community – they had no idea what they were asking for. Dave was charged with checking out the venues to host an event. The demand has now exceeded the supply for beach volleyball. There are

people in each region who are interested or are currently operating beach volleyball events or are interested in operating beach volleyball event. Dave is a resource from anywhere to court construction to facility development to create programming and events in the region.

The AVP Next has gone through its fifth rebirth. They have decided to streamline it to be a qualification process for an AVP event. They have spun off the Barefoot Tour as a bar circuit. The AVP Next started two years ago with a ranking system for adult recreation players. This can be migrated into USAV to dovetail into what Ali is doing.

4. High Performance - Tom Pingel

Tryout participation increased over last year. This was the second highest participation since the inception of the program.

Girls and Boys Youth have already played their NORCECA Championships. The IOC began the first ever Youth Olympic Games this summer. The teams had to qualify for the Youth Olympic Games so the teams had to play their qualification tournament early – in April. Boys finished second which qualified them for the 2011 World Championships but not for the Youth Olympic Games – the girls finished first and qualified for 2011 World Championships and for the Youth Olympic Games. The second tryout will allow participants to train with the team that has already participated at the NORCECA Championships.

There are a large number of summer camps scheduled.

The HP Championships originally scheduled for Tennessee was moved to Wisconsin Dells. It was not going to be a good site so they moved the tournament. Two Italian teams bailed out of the tournament, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Chile and Peru are in. The number of region teams in the boys' youth has gone up. 2011 HP Championships will be in Tucson – middle to late July.

Tryout process will be generally the same. For the junior teams they are looking at one large Invitational type tryout for the Girls and expanded tryouts for the Junior Boys.

Women's A2 team is training at ASU and will participate in the Women's Open.

The teams that qualify USA to go on to the World Championships qualify the team – not the individuals. The rosters are not frozen with those players – there is another tryout for the next season and the players have to make the team again – they just don't have to pay for the tryout.

5. Membership Development/Grassroots - John Kessel

Parents as Partner Initiative want to talk to the Regions to create a parent education program for volleyball. They have signed agreements with US Fencing.

6. Parents as Partners Initiative report - Lisa DiGiacinto

Introduce the program to the RVAs and get their support. Parents can make or break the entire season. USAV does a good job developing the players and the coaches. This

program is for the parents who spend a lot for their children to participate. This program is optional for the regions.

Promise of a Good Sport is a program for parent experience. They want to develop a program that is low cost/no cost to the Regions - given to the regions. Two clubs in Chesapeake started this program on their own – one is the largest and one is small. Start with a survey to parents to find out what they know about USAV, the Region, and what the club does. From the survey they will develop a program for the parents. Clubs will pick parents that they can depend on.

Examples of things they may do:

- The parents on the team will be given a number of a player on their team. They can only cheer for that player all day. They can't cheer for their own daughter. Parents that have passion will be the marketers. If the parent does not fixate on their own kid there is the opportunity for them to see the entire event and cheer positively.
- Coach huddles with the parents – the coach will huddle up with the parents before the tournament starts to let the parents know what they are going to work on that day – team objectives and goals for the day. This will take the focus off of winning and help them look at the development.

Ideas will be presented for the parents to have a positive experience. It causes the parents to look at volleyball from a different prospective.

#### 7. Special Commission for Athlete Safeguards - Cecile Reynaud (Appendix 6)

Cecile Reynaud is the current President of the Domestic and Sexual Violence Center in Tallahassee, FL. She is heading up the Special Commission for Athlete Safeguards.

Sexual abuse and sexual harassment is the focus of the Special Commission. They will attempt to set up education and preventative measures. There is education for coaches through clinic lectures, webinars and CAP courses. There is a need to educate the athlete and parents to let them know that there are victim's advocates and victim assistance out there. This affects someone for a lifetime. The Special Commission is to report their recommendations to USA Volleyball by Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. The Commission would like the final product to be a model for all sports regarding sexual abuse and harassment.

Other types of education the Special Commission is interested in distributing:

- Hazing
- Concussion articles
- Domestic Violence
- Eating disorder education for coaches
- Rules for alcohol use by coaches around athletes

The makeup of the Special Commission will be: a rep from Regions, a USAV staff member, a legal rep from USAV, a rep from ESIX, a sexual abuse expert, a victim's advocate, Dr Judy Sweet – past president of the NCAA, former athletic director at UC San Diego and listed as one of the top 100 influential leaders in sport, a parent, a coach, an athlete and a club director.

A lot of research has been done by Canada and Norway. The research shows:

- It is most likely a coach that is involved over a trainer or administrator.
- Most of the time the abuse is not reported.
- It is most likely a female player and male coach.
- It is not always gender specific

Sexual abuse really has to do with a person in a position of power over control of the victim. Coaches have a lot of power and control over a group of young people. Sexual abuse in sport often occurs after careful grooming of the athlete over a period of time until the athlete believes sexual involvement with their abuser is an acceptable, unavoidable or normal part of their training or everyday behavior.

Sexual harassment is against the law

Reasons why there is a risk for this behavior:

- Lack of organizational controls within sports clubs,
- Dominating and controlling behavior by coaches, and
- A vulnerable low self esteem and high ambition of athletes. Some athletes will do anything the coach wants to get a good recommendation for a scholarship.

Reasons for not reporting the abuse/harassment:

- Ashamed or embarrassed,
- Loyal to the team or coach,
- Don't know who to talk to,
- The code of silence they don't want to violate.

Awareness of when this could occur:

- At private practice sessions,
- On travel tournaments,
- On rides home from practice,
- When there is lots of touching and hanging around kids,
- It is more likely to occur after a big win,
- After drinking,
- If the athlete is the aggressor it is never an excuse – it is an abuse of power.

Recommendations:

- Be responsible in the hiring process,
  - interview candidates for the positions,
  - check references of coaches,
- Educate coaches, athletes and parents about this issue,
  - Provide age appropriate materials on what is sexual abuse and harassment and the signs to look for,
  - Test the coaches as to their knowledge of what sexual abuse and harassment consists of and what the signs are,
- Provide a post season coach's evaluation by parents and players
  - give the athletes and the parents the opportunity to anonymously express concerns to someone other than the coach,
- Make sure there are two screened adults with the athletes at all times,

- Share knowledge of coaches when they move to another area,
- Include a statement in the coaches and club director code of ethics that states they are not aware of any abuse taking place.
- Set up a Region/National hotline,
- Provide a victim advocate if abuse is discovered who will educate the victim about how to press charges and where to go for counseling.
- Pay attention to the interaction between the player and coach

Concerns of the Special Commission:

- Different states and their laws,
- The implications of false reporting,
- There is no retaliation for reporting,
- The confidentiality is protected for coaches and victims,
- Coaches moving from region to region,
- The financial implications for regions and clubs.

For the Regions:

- Regions should find their local Council on Sexual Violence for education materials.
- Contact Margie Mara or Joe Williams if there is someone interested in being a part of the Special Commission.
- If the Region already has a sexual abuse or sexual harassment policy they should send a copy to the Special Commission to look at and review.

Books to look at regarding sexual abuse: “The Dome of Silence – Sexual Harassment in Sport” and “Spoiled Sport”

The CEO of US Swimming stated that all NGB’s are a phone call away from their position. This is a high priority for USA Volleyball right now. USOC could say that this is the NGB responsibility and deal with it. USA Volleyball wants to be proactive and deal with this issue now rather than later.

X. Zonal Reports and Additional Discussions

1. Zonal Reports

Atlantic Zone – Bob Dingee

Border Zone – Harold Cranswick

Central Zone 1 – Lynne Updegraff

Central Zone 2 Report – Sandy Abbinanti

Pacific Zone – John Bryant

2. Junior Assembly Motion Regarding Trickle Down

The Junior Assembly passed this motion. They are asking for support on this from the RVA Assembly.

Mike Chandler – the philosophy is that we don’t want go back to the tournament after the tournament has completed. The time constraints between the early and late qualifiers make it difficult to find the team with the same makeup to be able to accept the bid. The bid currently goes back to the reallocation pool.

The Junior Assembly would prefer to have the team that earned the bid have the bid rather than the bid going back to a region with a lot of teams. The vote was unanimous coming

out of the competition committee. The vote at the Junior Assembly passed it approximately 60/40

3. Steve Bishop – Ad Hoc member of the Budget and Finance Committee of USA Volleyball Angelo Iasillo and Steve Bishop were added to the USAV Budget & Finance Committee to represent the regions. They have no vote on the committee.

The Committee met in December to start the budget process for the 2011 season. Audit opinion came back as a clean and good audit. A few recommendations came back from Audit committee – how accounts receivable is tracked, what is our policy on how to write off bad debt, inventory evaluation, physical inventory be conducted closer to the end of the year instead of a couple of months after the end of year, crime insurance limits should be increased and deductibles reduced for venues, a change was made to check handling and clearing procedures.

Membership fee increase is still a work in progress as to where the increase will be spent. The USAV budget considered a 10% negative membership for 2011 as a result of the fee increase.

#### XI. Elections

1. Election for RVA representative to the BOD  
Candidates – Jon Lee and John Bryant  
Jon Lee has been re-elected to a 4 year term
2. Election for RVA Assembly Associate Chair  
Candidates - Sue Mailhot and Judy Praska  
Judy Praska has been re-elected to a 4 year term

#### XII. Discussion and Vote on Issues

1. Motions and Action Items follow

#### XIII. Action items to go to Board of Directors (through Lee and Cain)

Ken Cain is taking two items to the Board

- a. Asking Audit, Finance & Budget for publication and review of member organization fees. Could the fees for other member organizations be raised? Most of the other member organizations pay in the \$300 range in fees to USAV.
- b. Member magazine publication cost review. In the budget that was just approved there was a \$75,000 profit on publications. Budget for a 48 page magazine published 4 times a year. If there is a surplus in this fund the magazine can be expanded to 64 pages without a cost increase.

#### IXX. Presentation of Awards

1. Kennedy/Johnson Heritage Award – presented by Bud Fields to Joe Sharpless  
The Kennedy/Johnson Heritage award was established in 1997 to recognize individuals and organizations for their significant contribution to planning, collection, storage, retrieving and management of volleyball archives.
2. Commissioner Service Awards  
Hank Van Arsdale – Heart of America - 25 years  
Dave Castanon – New England - 20 years

Bob Dingee – Garden Empire - 15 years  
Lynne Updegraff – Iowa - 15 years  
Ken Cain – Southern - 10 years  
Mary Jo Hardy – Lakeshore - 5 years  
Shawn McCarty – Oklahoma – 5 years  
Skip Weston – Old Dominion – 5 years

3. Region Website Award – presented by Bill Kaufman  
Iowa Region – Lynne Updegraff  
Website and Facebook page

4. Neville A. “Doc” Booth Award – presented by Will Vick  
Harold Cranswick – Arizona Region

XX. October Mid-Year Meeting

The October meetings will be in Denver, Friday, Oct 8 – Sunday, Oct 10, 2010  
The hope is to be done on Saturday night for early Sunday departures.

XI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned Thursday, May 27 at 11:29 am

### **Motions and Action Items as a result of this meeting:**

#### **Action Items**

- Structure & Function to clarify the election procedures, terms and times for elections of positions in the RVA Assembly Admin Manual
- Regions are asked to help with risk management regarding divider nets that pool on the floor and for improper referee stands.
- Commissioners are asked to send the names of their delegates to the Officials Assembly to Kathy Ferraraccio for voting purposes.
- Commissioners are urged to send any changes to compliance documents to the National Office by Sept 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The Events Dept will copy the regions on the email to the girls clubs regarding hotel rooms so that the Commissioners can follow up with their teams to make sure they are taking care of their rooming needs for Girls Jr National Championships.
- Regions urged to examine the issue of conflict of interest within their structure
- Regions urged to send their use of rule modifications to the Rules Testing Committee before they are put into use.
- Feedback on the two Appendices from Insurance Committee should be sent to ESIX
- Regions urged to test their Due Process Procedures to make sure they will hold up in the event of an issue.
- Regions challenged to put together a sitting team to enter the tournament at the 2011 USA Open Championships.
- Regions urged to send ideas and documentation for the Ref Training Website to Kathy Ferraraccio or Steve Webster
- Regions urged to be involved in the Promise of a Good Sport program.
- Regions urged to forward any sexual abuse/harassment policies to Cecile Reynaud.



Approved 10/9/10

- Regions urged to forward the names of any people interested in being on the Special Commission for Athlete Safety to Cecile Reynaud

### **Motions -**

**RVA Motion 1:** Motion to approve the minutes of the Oct 2009 RVA Meeting as written. (Castanon/Bryant/MC)

**RVA Motion 2:** Motion to approve the agenda as amended (Abbinanti/Updegraff/MC)

**RVA Motion 3:** (Insurance Committee Motion 1) – Amend the Automatic Disqualifier sections of the RVA of USAV Background Screen Policy and the Consent form to read: Anyone found guilty, entering a plea of guilty, or a plea of nolo contendere (no contest) regardless of adjudication for the following criminal offenses; All sex offenses, murder, and homicide regardless of the time limit; felony violence and felony drug offenses in the past 10 years; any multiple drug and alcohol offenses within the past 7 years; or any other crimes (not listed) against children in the past 7 years. MSA - Motion carries RVA Assembly

**RVA Motion 4:** (Insurance Committee Motion 2) – individuals that are not validly registered with an RVA or USAV are not allowed to participate on the playable surface before, during or after a sanctioned event. It is permissible for event staff to solicit volunteers to help facilitate a tournament. MSA – Motion carries RVA Assembly

**RVA Motion 5:** (Compliance Committee Motion 1) - to form a task force to examine uniformity and consistency of governance and conflict of interest issues at the Region level. Motion carries RVA Assembly

**RVA Motion 6:** (Structure & Function Motion 1) - Motion to establish the following statement of purpose of the Structure & Function Committee: “It is the responsibility of the RVA Assembly Structure and Function Committee to coordinate the policies and procedures for the operation of the RVAs – in collaboration with the other RVA committees and USAV governing documents. The committee shall maintain the RVA Assembly Admin Manual” Motion carries RVA Assembly

**RVA Motion 7:** (Structure & Function Motion 2) - Strike the word “attempt to” in Article VII, 10 f of the RVA Assembly Admin Manual (version 07-08) – amended to read “The RVA Assembly shall have the following standing committees, and shall have at least one member from each zone on each committee: Competition, Compliance, Insurance and Structure & Function Motion carries RVA Assembly

**RVA Motion 8:** (Structure & Function Motion 3) - Motion to select the members of the committee as follows: 1. The chair of each standing committee shall be appointed by the RVA Assembly Chair with the approval of the RVA Assembly; 2. Each zone shall select its representative to each committee. Motion carries RVA Assembly

**RVA Motion 9:** (Official’s Admin Council) – Move to support the Official’s Admin Council in requiring a junior team to provide a rostered adult at the score table during their referee assignment at all national events. Motion carries RVA Assembly

**RVA Motion 10:** Motion to support the Junior Assembly Motion CC4 - At qualifiers having split Club Divisions where a team winning the National Division bid subsequently earns an Open bid, the

Approved 10/9/10

National bid will be returned to the Qualifier that originally awarded the bid and offered to the team that was the next finisher to the original bid winner, provided that the next finisher did not finish lower than 4<sup>th</sup> place. (Williams/Updegraff/MF) 9-28

**RVA Motion 11:** Motion to create a Region Only membership category (Adults and Juniors) with an Admin fee of \$6. Members are limited to playing within their Region boundaries in Region only events not including Qualifiers or Nationals. These members do not count towards bids for Nationals. This membership type is an Other or Limited membership. (Praska/Dingee/MC) Paper ballot counted 25-8

**Motion 11a:** Motion to request a paper ballot for Motion 11. (Mailhot/Price/MC)

**RVA Motion 12:** Motion to adjourn the meeting (Updegraff/Cranswick/MC)

#### Appendices

Appendix 1: Competition Committee Minutes

Appendix 2: Insurance Committee Minutes

Appendix 3: Compliance Committee Minutes

Appendix 4: Structure & Function Committee Minutes

Appendix 5: Beach Presentation PowerPoint

Appendix 6: Special Commission for Athlete Safeguards PowerPoint