

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Of the
USVBA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
January 12, 2007
Colorado Springs, CO**

PRESENT: Kevin Twohig (presiding), Albert Monaco, Rebecca Howard, Susan True, Stewart McDole, Ken Cain, Fred Wendelboe, Kevin Barnett, Sean Scott, Tyra Turner, Gentile, Jonathan Lee, Cynthia Perkins, Glenn Sapp, Kevin Wendelboe and Doug Beal.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Elisabeth Bachman McCutcheon, and Roger Neppel

STAFF: Kerry Klostermann and Margie Mara

NOTE: Information is reported according to topic and not necessarily in the chronological order of discussion.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** Kevin Twohig, Executive Vice President called the meeting of the Executive Council of the United States Volleyball Association to order at approximately 8:10 am on Friday, January 12, 2007.
- II. **ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Mr. Twohig welcomed Sean Scott, secondary beach national team representative.
- III. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE May 23, 2006 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.**

Motion 1: It was M/S/C (**Howard/Monaco**) approve the minutes of the May 23, 2006 meeting of the Executive Council.

IV. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

Motion 2: It was M/S/C (**Gentile/Perkins**) to approve the agenda as revised with the understanding that the Executive Vice President will be permitted to adjust the agenda as the meeting proceeds.

V. **DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

- A. **Replacement Motion on Coaches Certification.** Jon Lee, Vice President, Regional Operations Division (ROD) was offering the following as a replacement for Motions 17 and 18 of the May, 2006 meeting of the Board of Directors.
Impact or equivalent certification approved by USAV shall be required for junior coaches within a reasonable amount of time after participation in junior level activities, effective with the 2007-2008 season.
Some members of the Council expressed concern about the vagueness of the phrase “reasonable amount of time.” Also, it will take time to develop the list of “equivalent certification programs,” and there is concern about the demand on staff time for individual requests for approval of equivalent certification.
- B. **990 Form Submittal.** The regions want to simplify this process by merely submitting a statement that they have completed all the 990 forms for their region. Staff will work with the regions on this issue.
- C. **Junior Volleyball Championships Growth Plan.** Dave Gentile, Vice President, Youth and Junior Olympic Volleyball Division (YJOVD), shared a plan for growth of junior

championships that they hope will gain acceptance by the Events Department. (Appendix A) The plan provides for Region-Based Championships for those teams that do not want to travel so much, Qualifier-Based Championships for the elite teams and Event-Based Championships where the top finishers may qualify for a next level (North, South East, West?) of a National Tournament of Champions. The Boys Growth Plan is in the beginning stages of development as is the Beach Growth Plan. In response to a question on how to communicate with other boys' programs, Mr. Gentile indicated that PrepVolleyball.com has filled that void. The junior community has a genuine need for a broader communication plan. A plan to establish a junior-specific website is in the developmental state.

- D. Junior Volleyball Directors Association.** This Association was formed because a number of Directors felt the needs of segments of the junior community were not being met at the Regional, Qualifier or National level. They have approximately 45-50 club directors as members at this time. They went to Kathleen DeBoer and the AVCA for assistance with bylaws, communication plans, member services, etc. Each club has one vote regardless of the size of the club. In general, the elite clubs and the YJOVD believe the USAV junior competition program needs to be fixed. It is important to communicate with this Association because it COULD start junior programs independent of USA Volleyball. Doug Beal reported that he had met with Rick Butler about this Association and encourage them to be more inclusive, talk to the Qualifier Directors about their concerns, etc.
- E. Number of Meetings of the YJOVD.** The ROD thinks the YJOVD should only meet once a year, but the YJOVD, while understanding the overlap of volunteers within the two divisions believes only the YJOVD can determine how often it needs to meet. Mr. Gentile believes the August meetings are productive for the YJOVD. The Growth Plan came out of an August meeting and thirty (30) motions and about sixteen (16) action items come out of that meeting. (Note: The Administrative Council of YJOVD did vote to move the August meetings to October to coincide with the ROD meetings.)
- F. Qualifier Seeding.** Automated seeding systems were developed without going through the proper channels. The YJOVD has set a protocol for using automated seeding at the Qualifiers. The protocol must be on the Qualifier's website for all to see. This is the second year Qualifiers have asked the Chair of Competitions, YJOVD and the Director of the Events Department for permission to use an automated seeding system. The Qualifiers will be allowed to use a computer-based seeding program this year for the Open Divisions. Next year everyone will be on ONE automated seeding system as determined by USA Volleyball. Mr. Beal reported that this is a top priority for Mike Chandler and it will be accomplished.
- G. Boyce Recognitions Banquet.** Cynthia Perkins, Vice President, Member Relations Division, asked that a necrology report, including names from all Member Organizations) be a part of the banquet program. The names could merely scroll on the big screen.

Motion #3. It was M/S/C (Howard/Perkins) to request that Member Organizations submit names of volleyball people in their organization that have died, and then scroll those names on the big screen sometime during the Boyce Recognitions Banquet.

Al Monaco said he thought there was a need for a standing Boyce Recognitions Banquet Committee. One of its responsibilities would be to contact volleyball people in the community hosting the Annual Meeting each year to see what local recognition could be added to the banquet to increase local participation. One suggestion was to recognize the high school state champions.

Motion #4. It was M/S/C (Monaco/Lee) to develop a Boyce Recognitions Banquet Committee to develop a plan to engage the local community in the banquet program.

H. Governance Restructure. Mr. Twohig reported that the Executive Committee has worked many hours on a restructure proposal and that it will be presented to the Board of Directors by Mr. Beal. Mr. Beal gave a broad overview of the restructure proposal emphasizing that the proposed new Board should be compared to the structure and function of the current Executive Committee. The Board will be asked to approve the new structure, effective subsequent to the 2008 Olympic Games, and then empower a Transition Commission to develop the details for presentation to the Board at the Annual Meeting in May of this year.

In response to a brief discussion of what constituency should have what number of positions on the new Board, Mr. Monaco reminded members of the Executive Council that we need to remember the number of participants and the amount of money committed to volleyball by Member Organizations such as the NCAA, NFHS, NAIA, NJCAA, YMCA, etc. It is important that a means of keeping these organizations involved must be developed prior to the implementation of any restructure.

Everyone was invited to attend the Executive Committee meeting this afternoon to hear further discussion on the proposal.

VI. BUSINESS WITH INTERDIVISIONAL IMPLICATIONS

A. Call for 2008 Budget. Treasurer Stewart McDole reminded members of the Council that even though this is month one of the 2007 budget year, they will receive a call next month for their 2008 budget.

VII. NEXT MEETING. The next meeting of the Executive Council will be held beginning at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, May 23 2007 in Austin, Texas.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion #5. It was *M/S/C (Gentile/Scott)* to adjourn the meeting of the Executive Council at approximately 4:20 pm on Friday, January 12, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan S. True
Secretary

Appendix A

After discussion and timely and significant input from many individuals, the workgroup developed conceptual plans for growth for girls, boys and beach. The plans were intentionally limited in detail to allow for input from the ROD, Event Department, and other corporate entities. The Girls plan was focused on events since there has been steady growth in overall participation numbers and growth initiatives have been concentrated in the RVAs.

Girls Growth Plan

Two Options were presented. Both are included here although a straw vote taken in the General Forum indicated a strong preference for Option A. There was also a strong preference by the General Forum for a more relaxed timeline than proposed by the workgroup. The Workgroup felt that Option A was much more flexible and would allow for the creation of many more participation opportunities for teams.

The Workgroup felt the creation of Region-based Championships would increase the number of bids controlled by the Regions with the chance to increase the number of levels of competition and the Events-based Championships would allow teams to select events within a limited travel distance with appropriate level of competition.

Junior Olympic Girl's Championship Series Growth Plans for the Next Quad – 2008-2012

Option A		
<i>Region-Based Championships</i>	<i>Qualifier-Based Championships</i>	<i>Event-Based Championships</i>
1. Teams access event by winning bids at Regional events 2. RVAs allocate bids by same system currently used for National and American Divisions 3. 96 Teams per Age Group; Divisions and format TBD a. Two 48 team Divisions, or b. Three 32 team Divisions, or c. Four 24 team Divisions d. Could be different for different age groups e. 672 bids for RVAs when 12s & 13s reach 96 4. Ages 12-18, gradual implementation for 12 and 13	1. Teams access event by winning bids at Qualifiers 2. Increase to a Total of 12 Qualifiers 3. 2 Bids per Qualifier 4. Three Divisions (Open, Gold, Silver) a. (24, 24, 24) or (24, 16, 12) or (24 & ??) b. Only Gold Division initially for 12 and 13 c. Total bids for Qualifiers (408 or 308 or 288) 5. Ages 12-18	1. Series of events across the country 2. Criteria to be included in the group of events TBD a. For instance, existing events like President's Day events, Shamrock Classic, Junior Hi Neighbor, Las Vegas, AVC events, etc. b. Participation minimums c. Results submission required d. USA Volleyball/RVA sanction required e. Roster verification required 3. Top finishers (1st and 2nd) may qualify for a next level (geographic championships – North, South, East, West?) or maybe just a national Tournament of Champions
Transition from current system to be gradually phased in. All components might not be implemented immediately.		
Option A Timeline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ October 2006 – Present to ROD and Executive Committee ■ Assuming approval, Joint YJOVD, ROD, and Events Department task force prepares a timeline for implementation for January 2007 review ■ First event impact 2008 and/or 2009 season 		

Option B

Expand current championships (JOVC, Qualifiers, and Invitational/Club Championships) by adding teams to current structure and modifying format to accommodate larger numbers. Events would need to be split to fit into available venues either by age group or along Open and Club (American/National) lines. Bid allocation between RVAs and Qualifiers TBD.
--

Boys Growth Plan

- Encourage the establishment of league play in RVAs with eventual creation of a League Champion's series, first locally, then Regionally, perhaps nationally
- Relax registration requirements and participation/player movement rules to facilitate recreation play
- Boy's JOVC – as demand increases, field sizes increase to models that accommodate re-entry pools (48, 72).
 - Re-examine bid allocation and bid events periodically
 - Expand bid events as demand warrants
 - Establish a Recreation Division as a two day event with a reduced entry fee

Beach Growth Plan

- Encourage all RVAs to run outdoor events
- Encourage all RVAs to cooperate with existing entities running events in their area and publicizing their events within the Region
- Encourage USA Volleyball staff to expand their activities to all areas
- Encourage independent contractors

Additional Programs for Growth

- Full year League membership
 - Multiple leagues
 - Multiple sites
- Develop programs for 6-11 age groups
 - Co-ed
 - Indoor and outdoor
- Increase non-RVA Member Organization involvement in all activities
 - Tap their membership and expertise
 - Offer them coaching and officiating clinics
 - Website linkage
- Create partnerships with facilities