

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
of the
USVBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 May 24, 25, 28, 2005
 Denver, CO

PRESENT: Albert Monaco (Presiding), Rebecca Howard, Kevin Twohig, Susan True, Stewart McDole, Gary Colberg, Kevin Barnett (May 24 and 25), Erik Sullivan (May 25 only) and Fred Wendelboe

ABSENT: Stacy Sykora

GUESTS: Doug Beal, Kerry Klostermann and Margie Mara

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

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** Al Monaco, President, called the meeting of the Executive Committee of the United States Volleyball Association to order at approximately 8:10 am on Tuesday, May 24, 2005.
- II. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - Kevin Barnett will carry the vote for the National Teams since Stacy Sykora is not attending the meetings. On the 24th, he will also have the vote for the International Player Representative since Erik Sullivan cannot attend the May 24 portion of the meeting.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

Motion 1: It was **M/S/C (Twohig/Barnett)** to approve the minutes of the April 7-8, 2005 meeting of the Executive Committee with editorial changes.

- IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA.**

Motion 2: It was **M/S/C (Twohig/Barnett)** to approve the agenda, as revised, permitting the President to adjust it as the meeting proceeds.

- V. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

A. **Anaheim Presentation.** Mr. Norm Nowell and Dan Gallups of American Sports Centers updated the Executive Committee on the Anaheim bid to move the Men's National Team to the American Sports Center there. Mr. Nowell reviewed all the amenities at the Center. Daytime court time would be provided at no cost, a private team room would be made available to watch team films and other team functions, polymeric training would be provided twice a week at no cost, there would be a reduced price on meals and the retail store is ready to market USA Volleyball Men's National Team items. The City of Anaheim is very interested in the Men's National Team relocating and will assist with efforts to identify the \$1,400,000 per year that it would take to have the team in Anaheim. The Men's National Team has identified funding to pay virtually all the cost of a two-week test visit from July 2-17.

The option of either going to San Diego or staying in Colorado Springs has not been ruled out, but the Anaheim situation remains the most promising. However, Mr. Beal reported that he would not sign a short-term deal nor would he sign an agreement with an individual. If we sign an agreement, the partner will pay all the expenses except the difference in the cost of living between Colorado Springs and the new site (about 12% if

the team moves to Anaheim).

- B. **U.S. Paralympics.** Mr. Joe Walsh made a presentation on the role of the US Paralympics in the governance and funding of the Sitting Volleyball Teams. US Paralympics is a division of the USOC. Mr. Walsh explained the difference between “partnership” arrangement like USA Volleyball has with the Paralympics for the Sitting Volleyball Teams and a situation in which the NGB takes over the entire governance of the program like tennis has done. Part of the presentation included the announcement that U.S. Paralympics will provide \$100,000 for the Sitting Volleyball Teams for 2005. The Executive Committee discussed obstacles that would have to be addressed before serious consideration can be given to taking over the governance of the National Sitting Teams.

VI. OFFICER REPORTS.

A. **President.** Mr. Monaco addressed the following items:

1. USOC Update. Mr. Monaco attended the USOC Assembly and NGB Council meetings. One announcement that was made at those meetings was that there will no longer be any baseline funding to each NGB, and more of the USOC athlete support will go directly to the athlete rather than through the NGB. Mr. Monaco is the USVBA representative on the NGB Council, but is no longer a member of the restructured USOC Board of Directors.

Mr. Beal further reported that the USAV Board of Directors should address the governance suggestions from the USOC to determine where USAV is in compliance and where they would need to make changes should we be directed to do so.

Mr. Klostermann recognized Karen Johnson for her assistance with the quadrennial report on diversity to Congress. He also reported that the athlete support funds have not doubled as has been announced by the USOC so it is important to inform our athletes the real level of funding, direct from the USOC and through USA Volleyball.

B. **Past President.** Ms Howard reported on the following items:

1. Rules Testing Commission. Ms Howard has worked with members of the Rules Testing Commission and staff to address the issue of the FIVB not permitting National Federations to write rules. The new publication for USA Volleyball is entitled, *Domestic Competition Regulations*. Inside the cover will be a statement that any modifications to FIVB rules for domestic competition will be to clarify FIVB, address safety issues or to promote and grow the game in the United States. The FIVB rules will be in this publication as well as posted on the USAV website as the “rules of the game.”

C. **Executive Vice President.** Mr. Twohig discussed the following items:

1. Re-incorporation in Colorado. Discussion on this issue led to the following motion:

Motion 3: It was M/C (**Finance and Budget Committee**) to have staff explore reincorporating as USVBA in Colorado and bring a recommendation to the Executive Committee for recommendation to the Board of the Directors at the 2006 Winter Meeting.

2. Qualifiers and Bid Tournaments. New Qualifier contracts are being signed.
3. Ethics and Eligibility. Additions to Article XI-C cover the end of event appeals process that further defines due process at national events.

D. **Secretary.**

1. Player Representatives to Executive Committee. Ms True reminded Mr. Beal that terms for the National Team Representatives to the Executive Committee expire June 30, 2005, so both teams need to name or rename their representatives.
2. Posting Minutes on the USAV Website. Ms True reported that the information she received when she took office as Secretary indicated that approved Board minutes were

posted on the website, but not Executive Committee or Executive Council.

Motion 4: It was **M/S/C (True/Sullivan)** to post Executive Committee, Executive Council and Board of Director minutes on the website for period of two years from this date forward.

3. Result of Email Vote on Division Changes. Twenty-seven ballots were returned and both issues were approved – deleting the Beach Division did have six votes against it, but it passed. There were no dissenting votes for changing MRHRD to Member Relations Division.
4. Multi-Sport Director Election. Jerry Weydert, representing the United States Army will be replacing Gino Grajeda from the AAU on the Board of Directors. It was agreed that Jerry did not need a “board buddy.”
5. Providing a Signer for the Deaf at the Annual Meeting. It was agreed that a signer should be provided whenever a deaf person has an official presence at a meeting during the Annual Meeting.

E. **Treasurer.** Mr. McDole reported on the following items prior to the Board of Directors meeting;

1. 2004 Audit. USA Volleyball received a “clean” audit for 2004. The auditors did voice some concern about the amount of deferred revenue items, specifically the YJOVD Development Fund. It was the auditor’s observation that the fund had been idle during recent years and was, therefore, not enabling the mission of the corporation. This concern was shared with the YJOVD this week.
2. Audit Committee. The recommendation from the auditors that to comply with requirements in the state of California and national legislation concerning audit committees, the Executive Committee endorsed the recommendation of the Finance and Budget Committee will take the recommendation to the Board of Directors.

Motion 5: It was **M/C (Finance & Budget Committee)** to support the formation of an Audit Committee separate from the Finance and Budget Committee.

3. Officials Division. Mr. McDole reported a concern on the part of the Officials Division that officials are not wearing the USVBA uniform at the Qualifiers. Discussion revealed that one of the reasons might be to make it less obvious when “lower level” officials must be used to cover the event. Also, the Qualifiers have developed colorful event shirts for the officials that make them easily identifiable and the officials seem to like the shirts. The officials at the Junior Olympic Championships do wear their USVBA uniforms and patches. It was agreed that the Officials Division will have to address the issue of using lower level officials to meet the demand and their desire to have officials wear USVBA uniforms and patches

VII. STAFF REPORT

A. Chief Executive Officer.

1. National Team Update. Mr. Beal reported that there were 20 athletes in training with the Men’s National Team. Hugh McCutcheon is doing a fine job with the team. Ron Larsen has been hired as an Assistant Coach, Jamie Morrison as a Technical Coordinator and Aaron Brock as the athletic trainer for the Men’s Team.

There are about 30 athletes training with the Women’s National Team. Mr. Beal continues to be impressed with Jenny Lang. There are immigration issues in getting her assistant coach, Li Yong, here from China. Diane French has been hired as a Technical Coordinator and the Olympic Training Center (OTC) in Colorado Springs is providing the Women’s Team with an athletic trainer.

Nothing is certain about the National Teams continuing as resident programs at the OTC although he believes the Women's Team will continue to be approved.

2. NORCECA. Mr. Beal, at the invitation of Cristobal Marte Hoffiz, President of NORCECA, attended the Board of Administration meetings. Mr. Beal will run for the open position on the Board of Administration during the elections this fall. He believes that Cristobal is doing a good job considering the financial situation of many countries in the zone. Cristobal's efforts have resulted in more teams being accepted into the Junior World Championships. His level of general appreciation for USA Volleyball is very high. USAV must continue to work to get a NORCECA championship event in this country.
3. AVP/FIVB Relations. The agreement with the AVP has not been signed even though the Beach Council that is a part of that agreement is functioning. The major obstacle seems to be a lack of acceptance by the AVP that USA Volleyball is the National Governing Body (NGB) for both indoor and beach volleyball. The Beach Council does not have the right to interfere with the NGB rights of USAV or interfere with the AVP Tour.

Mr. Beal explained the process he and Mr. Klostermann went through to get the "FIVB-NF-ATHLETE" agreement amended to include some of the major concerns in the contract. The amendments include the fact that the Olympic qualification process would go to the IOC for approval, the penalty for not participating in the minimum number of FIVB events would be confined to financial penalties only and a better process will be established for naming athletes to events on an event-by-event basis.

MOTION 6: It was M/S/C (**Barnett/Colberg**) to recommend to the Board that it endorse the CEO's plans to sign the amended "FIVB-NF-ATHLETE" contract when asked to do so by a player.

4. Molten Contract. Mr. Klostermann is close to signing a contract extension with Molten that would extend beyond this quad.

MOTION 7: It was M/S/C (**Howard/True**) to give staff permission to sign a contract with Molten that extends to 2012.

5. USA Volleyball Magazine. Margie Mara reported that staff was discussing a potential partnership with *Volleyball* magazine. That magazine is really geared to the junior population. They are working on a deal where regions and clubs can use the subscription as a fundraiser. On the topic of *USA Volleyball* magazine, Mr. McDole reported a concern by the regions over the price increase in the magazine. Ms Mara reported that there had not been an increase in price for ten years, the magazine is 64 pages instead of 48 pages and the increase in subscription cost is only \$.25. There is discussion of increasing the number of issues of the magazine from four to six that would improve the timeliness of the information. It was suggested that staff consider some method of market research to see what subscribers like or do not like about the magazine.
6. Use of USVBA Marks. Staff will follow up with legal counsel on the use of our marks.

V. OTHER

- A. **Award Approvals:** The following individuals were approved for the Leader in Volleyball list: Kim Norman and Sinjin Smith. Bertha Lucas was approved to receive the Medallion of Merit in 2006.

VI. **NEXT MEETING.** October 30-31 and December 11-12, 2005 in Colorado Springs, Colorado

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 8: It was M/S/C (**McDole/Colberg**) to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm. on May 28, 2005.