

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
of the
USVBA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
May 25, 2005
Denver, CO**

PRESENT: Kevin Twohig (presiding), Kevin Barnett, Gary Colberg, Bill Forrester, Dave Gentile, Rebecca Howard, Jonathan Lee, Stewart McDole, Albert Monaco, Roger Nepl, Cynthia Doyle Perkins, Glenn Sapp, Erik Sullivan, Susan True.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE: Stacy Sykora

STAFF: Kerry Klostermann, Doug Beal

GUEST: Mike Hulett, Scott Fortune, Kay Rogness,

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 2:05 pm on Wednesday, May 25, 2005.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A. Mr. Twohig reminded the Executive Council that it is empowered to take action and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 14, 2005 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Motion 1: It was M/S/C (Lee/Gentile) approve the minutes of the January 14, 2005 Meeting of the Executive Council.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Motion 2: It was M/S/C (Lee/Sapp) 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. Incident Reporting. Currently the confidentiality of incident reporting is such that if the incident involves an individual/team from a region, the region is not receiving that information. The incidents are reported to the National Office. Dave Gentile suggested that a password-protected site could be created. Email messages would advise the proper recipients how to access the information

Motion 3: It was M/S/C (Sullivan/Forrester) that the National Office designate a staff person to receive incident reports and distribute the information in a confidential manner to regions and other appropriate individuals.

B. Qualifier Compliance Committee. Fred Wendelboe reviewed the YJOVD Compliance Committee recommendation to establish a Qualifier Review Committee. The intent would be to have the Review Committee review event evaluations and discuss any issues reported by participants, arbitrators or Event Department personnel, with the goal of improving the qualifier experience for the participants. Participants in this open process would be qualifier directors,

the Events Department of USAV, Qualifier Review Committee, the Executive Vice President and the Executive Committee liaison to YJOVD. If a compliance issue arose, it would be referred to the Events Department for resolution.

The Qualifier Review Committee and the Qualifier Directors would review and revise the event evaluation form and the compliance section of the Qualifier Manual. Recommendations for changes in the Qualifier Manual from the YJOVD must be received by the Events Department by September 1. The management of the Qualifier Manual should be with the Events Department, and the manual should be updated to reflect these changes.

Dave Gentile suggested that if we were going to have a review process, representation from the Officials and Regional Operations Divisions should be involved in the process. Mr. Twohig indicated that the meeting of the Qualifier Review Committee would be an open meeting. Mr. Gentile will take the recommendations to the YJOVD Administrative Council, then onto the Open Forum in August. He will send a recommendation to the Executive Committee for consideration at its October meeting.

C. Finance and Budget Committee Recommendation for the Officials' Division Budget.

The Finance and Budget Committee (F & B Committee) is asking Glenn Sapp, Vice President, Officials' Division to submit a 2006 budget for the Division that separates the administrative budget for the Division from the operating budget that includes all the educational programs for officials. Karen Gee of the F & B Committee will assist Mr. Sapp with this process.

D. Publication from Rules Testing Commission. Rebecca Howard, new Executive Committee liaison to the Rules Testing Commission, reported that in response to the mandate from FIVB that USA Volleyball cannot publish USA Rules, the publication that includes suggested modifications to the FIVB rules for use in domestic competition is entitled, *Domestic Competition Regulations*. The publication will contain the FIVB rules with suggested modifications for reasons of safety or growing the game in boxes.

E. Carry-Over of Surplus Funds. Mr. Sapp requested approval of carrying over surplus funds from the Officials' Division from year to year to fund officials' development programs. A thorough discussion followed with a recommendation to Mr. Sapp that he include the funds he needs for officials' development in his 2006 budget request keeping in mind that he will have additional funds available because USAV will cover administrative costs that his Division has covered in the past.

F. Increase Pay for Officials in 2006. As a part of his quadrennial plan to get first referee's five-game match fees to \$50 by the end of the quad, he would like to have the officials' fees for 2006 national championships raised as follows: referees=\$38 for five-game matches and \$30 for three-game matches, \$26 for scorekeepers and \$15 for line judges. Mr. Sapp will visit with Mike Chandler, Events Department, about the budget implications of this approach.

G. Request from Pacific Northwest to Add an Open Division to the 2006 Qualifier

Tournament. Jon Lee has taken this request to YJOVD and the Division has approved it. The Division believes the impact of this decision should be closely monitored from the perspective of continuing to increase participation. Mr. Lee will take the recommendation to the ROD this week.

Part of the discussion was the fact that there is no process for adding divisions or events to championships. It was agreed that divisions could be added if approved by the YJOVD and the ROD. The following motion was made concerning the addition of championship events.

Motion 4: It was **M/S/C (Monaco/Howard)** to direct the Events Department to develop criteria by the end of the year, in consultation with appropriate divisions and commissions, for adding new championship events.

Motion 5: It was **M/S/C (Monaco/Gentile)** to endorse the addition of the Open Division to the Pacific Northwest Qualifier beginning in 2007. Jon Lee and Kevin Twohig abstained.

VI. DIVISION UPDATES. The following are highlights from the Division reports:

A. Regional Operations Division (ROD).

1. Continue the mandatory background check of all persons involved with juniors.
2. Continue to self-report regarding compliance and have begun using the USVBA Arbitrator's Program to assist in mediating compliance or sensitive conflict of interest issues.
3. Division will continue providing education seminars during their annual meetings so Commissioners are cognizant of their responsibilities and interpretation of their compliance obligations.

B. Youth and Junior Olympic Volleyball Division (YJOVD)

1. Major goals for the Division are the growth of Junior Championships and Junior Event Seeding protocol and systems. Electronic vs. manual methods are being evaluated to determine which works the best for appropriate seeding of teams.
2. The Elite Commission will be coordinating a series of education forums for YJOV representation during the 2005 season including the meetings in Denver.

C. Disabled Sports

1. Division still desires a USA Volleyball funding cash base at least equal to funds received through the USA Paralympics for training and competition programs.
2. Mike Hulett, coach of the Women's Sitting Team was named USOC Paralympic Coach of the Year.
3. Work continues in developing a national training center at the University of Central Oklahoma. At the present, the university has committed to provision of significant value-in-kind support (housing, meals, facilities and equipment) for ten training camps for the Men's Team.
4. Work with military medical center continues to be a goal of the division.
5. Club tournaments for sitting volleyball have been initiated in several cities.
6. NIRSA, through the leadership of Gary Colberg, has initiated activities to develop Collegiate Sitting Teams for participation at the University of Central Oklahoma.
7. A University Club program is being planned for California State University – Northridge.
8. Men's Standing Volleyball will not be a part of the Paralympic schedule in the foreseeable future.

D. Member Relations

1. Peter Dunn and the Division are attempting to redefine the role of recognitions with USA Volleyball including how to give all Member Organizations access to that awards system.
2. The Division will discuss its mission at its meeting at these annual meetings, and establish action steps for accomplishing that mission.

E. Officials

1. There are approximately 392 National Officials, 52 National Scorekeepers, 231 Junior National Officials. It is anticipated that there will be 35 new Junior National candidates and 30 Junior National Officials that will attempt to achieve National Certification.
2. Plan to develop a mentoring system for potential indoor volleyball international candidates.
3. There is a priority to identify qualified female beach candidates.
4. Training camps for officials will be expanded to six events next year to include the NIRSA Championships.
5. To grow the number of certified officials, the Division plans to send national trainers into the regions and send a recruiter to Qualifiers and other large tournaments.

VII. NEXT MEETING. The next meeting of the Executive Council will be held, January 13, 2006 at the Winter Meetings in Colorado Springs, CO.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT. It was agreed by consensus to adjourn the meeting of the Executive Council at approximately 4:20 pm on Wednesday, May 25, 2005.

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