

10:02 Bob takes attendance and all board members are present: Patty Salvatore, Adam Evans, Michelle Hills, Sandra Borer, Chris Bielby, Tom Kohl, Al Herbert, Paul Claridades, Glenn Freed, Bill Zehler, Stephen Donahue, Terry Miller, Brian Hemelgarn, Gretchen Niebling.

Guests: Gary Hajek (OHSBVA)

Staff: Matt Mihelic, Diane Hood, Ron Wyzynski, Don Burroughs, Dave Chapman

Minutes from the October meeting were approved online.

Matt and Gary about boy's high school and regional championships

Gary: Ohio High School Boys Coaches Association. Everyone did a great job with the coaches' clinic in December. High school fall league- we started thinking outside the box .. went back to a grassroots level. Calling it the BVIL (boys volleyball instructional league) Right now in the Dayton, Cleveland and Cincinnati areas. This is for boys 12 and under. Had 250 total. Areas ran a 6- 8 week league; letting clubs decide length and cost. This league will be using 2 courts at Winterfest to use for a friendship scrimmage.

Spikes for Tikes will be sponsored by Nationwide Children's Hospital, us (OVR) and Capital University. There will be 16 teams participating in this tournament on April 23rd. Friday night; teams will come in to volunteer to help at the hospital. All OVR staff is invited. Multiple sites will be needed next year. State Championship (boys) will again be held at Capital on Memorial weekend. There are many young business minded individuals working with the BVIL. Statewide, there are 91 teams total this year (9 new) Gary would like something in writing from Dr. Ross from OHSAA to get a motion to get the boys sanctioned in the state of Ohio. Gary believes it should be sanctioned in 2017, if it's not 2017, then it may not be at all. Grant program: \$ 26,000 in grant money to the new schools that started up boys (new or sustaining) \$20,000 a year is spent on the state tournament. OVR is a cooperate sponsor on everything. There was no manual when Gary took over the OHSBVA. He has been putting the bylaws, job descriptions, rules, manuals together; work in progress.

Matt: Championships will be held at the Dayton Sports Complex. The floors have been shipped and should be in the first week of February. There will be enough room for 6 courts each day. 4 courts in Marysville on the 21st and is currently looking for a tournament director for that site. Don said he is available or Keith Burke may be available. Steve said he could also be available. Matt also checked with 26 other places too that could not commit to letting us use their facilities. Brian: Why not go to Game Time like in the past? Matt felt there were too many safety concerns with the flooring and didn't want to put players in that situation. Flooring issue was fixed. \$ 20,000 in a dehumidifying system went into fixing the problem. Legitimate defense on moving the location. Still some flooring issues now. Michelle: Why is it safe for the girls and not for the boys? Perhaps finding another site before pulling out would have been better. The whole process of getting this taken care of has been flawed.

There are other plans in place if the flooring for the Dayton complex doesn't come in on time. The 19th the portables will be shipped to be put in place. Ron agrees with Michelle to have better communication

in the future. No black eyes here.. run a great tournament and fix it for next year. Bob suggests reaching out to out of region teams to make sure the courts are filled. Matt apologizes for lack of communication. There will be 6 teams for the friendship scrimmage in conjunction with Winterfest. This will be on Saturday only. Will be using 2 courts. 6-8 week program for the boys grassroots program to spread all over Ohio. The league will start with in-house training, then scrimmages with the different areas of the region. 17-18 season is when this would start. 6 clubs have responded and Matt has met with TVC and Glass City so far. One was in Charleston! Matt is reminding everyone this if for Growth now, revenue later. Holiday tournament in December: Matt has reached out to all surrounding Regions' as an open invite. Preview for 2017 National Championships. Matt wants to see this grow into a BID for Open and Club Divisions. This year the tournament will be held the 10/11 of December in hall D because the renovations will not be complete at the Convention Center. Pete Hanson, AVCA convention and Linda Logan have been talking with Bob regarding an event to work with the NCAA for promoting the boys. Would there be Insurance issues with having a high school tournament during a USA event? (Something to keep in mind.) Friday evening play through Saturday morning for high school. Opportunity we need to take advantage of. Bob says we will make this happen. Next October Ron would like to have a plan in place. Gary would like to have something by the boys' State Tournament for planning purposes. How is the 12 and under grassroots program helping the OVR Glenn asks. We can offer the \$10 one day registration for tournaments. The more tournaments we offer, the more likely they will be to obtain a full membership. Glenn asks why none of the clubs have been updated about championships? Matt was waiting to get through this meeting. Chances we would not be able to use Dayton? Matt will be open and honest in his email that will go out to the club directors. If the tile does not come in, we would have to do the tile ourselves and it would be a very hard job. Besides getting in the door, you would have to build the courts. At least 6 hours to do that. The weather is also a factor in this case. The response from the directors would be the final decision making due to the location. Our decision is we will hold this event even if the tile doesn't come. What about a location for Boys Championships 2017? Matt would like to see how this runs and go from there. Terry and Bill have both been there and like it. Bob suggests if in Dayton this year, perhaps in the northeast next year. Spire could be an option. Let us be considerate of everyone. What about the Convention Center? The issue right now is the renovation. Everyone is being moved around. February 18/19 would be the date.

11:05 Bob calls Executive session

12:03 Linda Logan: Thanks us for her award in December. NCAA – Omaha. GCSC was very aggressive with ticket sales. They will still have a code for presale. In the initial 3 week window, there were 5,600 tickets sold. In Nebraska, the GCSC sold 3,300. We (GCSC) have seen zip codes from Nebraska and Canada. 400 ticket spike in Ohio on first day of sales. All promos and special codes are through Ticketmaster. Women's Sports Report is February 17th. Bob will be on the panel during this event. There will also be a VIP reception the evening before. Linda and her team will be in town for the Qualifier at the end of the month. GCSC will be heading to Indy for sales as well. The GCSC bought a replica NCAA trophy for photo opportunities. Bill asks how many people can Nationwide hold- there is seating for 18,500. We could break ticket sale record. Having a Big 10 represented would be a plus to help ticket sales. Cap clinic being held on that tournament weekend. OVR/USA to promote a leadership

conference? We are looking for cooperation from OHSAA. Boys Championships is almost wrapped up in cooperation with USAV. Whatever we (GCSC) can do to bridge the gap we are willing to do (regarding the JVA tournament here in Columbus).

Brian: clinics were great. Added 59 new referees to make a total of 464 which is the most we've ever had. This group was very well prepared. Online materials and modules were available to officials that missed the clinic and still did well at evaluations. Some club directors are still struggling understanding the availability of online training for juniors' players. Reminder, we are no longer using WebPoint for training due to all the issues in years prior. Winterfest; USA National clinic will be that Saturday evening. 18s Qualifier is set with staff, along with boys WinterFest. EM2 is the new housing service for the Qualifier. Things are a bit slower through this housing agency. Boys Regionals will be covered as needed. Officials pay schedule-per match fee in June and in October went back to original scale. There were some concerns. 2 day tournaments are where we will see a large impact. The format is a max of 8 rounds of play. On Sunday there are 7. Who gets the most matches? Who decides? Looking at other regions, they use the per match scale. In terms of numbers, this will impact less than 10% of our tournaments. The tournament directors will be saving some money with this scale also. Over the course of the season, this amount will add up. For the 2 day National tournaments, Al likes to get checks cut and ready to pay officials when done. Tom: keep in mind when teams drop, the TD still have the \$\$ to pay the officials. When tournaments do not fill, that is a valid concern. We need something in print that says we do or do not pay an official for being an R2. Independent contractor. If the contract says the official is getting paid for officiating 6 matches, the TD has the right to make sure they work 6 matches. We need to be more specific. What is the definition of work? A main concern is trust issues with some officials and tournament directors. We do not need to pay people for work they are not doing. Both systems seem to work well. Middle ground can be reached with this. If you have 4 courts and 13 teams you are required to hire 6 officials. There is nothing in the rules that say we can hire 5. The verbiage in the rules needs to be fixed regarding this. Who is responsible for telling the official they are not needed? Need to take these things into consideration. We can discuss this again in June. For tournament directors, it made sense to try to save them some money. Need to define roles. We provide every local tournament will referees. Other regions do not. Format for 2 day events is essential to have moving forward. Went green with clinics this year! The \$10 clinic fee helps cover cost for travel and facility fees along with clinician fees and stationary. Noncompliance of non-solid color uniforms is something we deal with every year. USAV modified solid color jersey module involving the use of logs (online).

Jenny Hahn from JVA Adam had a conversation with Jenny at the Rock and Rumble tournament in Cleveland and thought it was a good idea to bring her in and ask questions. Dialogue is important. Bob wants to know what the Mission of the JVA is? Jenny says it is to provide education resources and advocacy. They are the independent voice for juniors' volleyball. No USA no AAU affiliation. There is no independent voice for the juniors now. More specific is junior's coaches and club directors. Bob feels this is a conflicting statement-that is two different things. Where is the voice for the juniors? Milwaukee Sting- we have direct contact with the kids players and parents. If the JVA is just being a voice, why offer something else than just joining? Jenny says the JVA didn't intend to do that. In 2008, the JVA decided to run their own end of year Championship because the USAV Championship was running so late in the

year. Since 2005 trying to address these issues with USAV and there was no changing. In 2008 the USAV Board decided to pull sanction from this Championship event-USA V said they didn't want a championship event before theirs. AAU and USAV are exclusive for insurance. JVA went out and found insurance to where anyone could participate. Diane wants to know what type of Policy is in place for safety. Specifically meaning Abuse. How do you handle this when the coach is banned from USAV? 80-85% of JVA members are registered with USAV. There is no database where this information can be found. The background screening process is the same as the one as the OVR uses. This only catches about 4% of people. Education and awareness which is what SafeSport does. The JVA is currently working on a template for each club that would be similar to SafeSport. How would you ensure the clubs comply with that.. Right now the JVA doesn't. Brian: Some people might see the JVA as a parasite. What have you created on your own to build your organization? Jenny says Why recreate the wheel when it's already made and made well? There was \$200,000 that went back to the clubs last year. Then perhaps making too much? Charge more money and are guaranteed less matches. You are competing with us without putting in the work. World challenge will always be held. Members said they wanted more events that were similar to the world challenge. It all comes down to marketing. Population: just under 1,000 clubs and different levels of memberships. Not sure of exact numbers. We (JVA) are constantly being bombarded by members about falsies regarding our region. Why all of a sudden does the JVA enter the OVR? Jenny: Because we are the biggest (most members). The JVA's vision is for every club to be a member of the JVA. Let the clubs dictate their playing schedules. There is no one else out there helping specifically the club directors. That's where the JVA comes in. So why do the events come in to play? The events allow the JVA to further help the club directors with vendors, demonstrations and so on. The JVA fees: \$ 65 goes to AVCA and \$ 50 stays with the JVA. The overall goal of the JVA is to have 4 major events. The world event is the only one they "own". They are doing what is best for the club directors business, not what is best for the kids. No tryout policies are in place, only recommendations are in place. There are no guidelines or rules, there just needs to be a member (of any club) associated with the JVA. Bob: If I took 6 kids from my high school, there isn't anyone who regulates this and it is causing eligibility issues for the kids. Jenny: The JVA is not responsible for checking this; that is the responsibility of the club directors. Jenny says their organization is a 501c3. There are 9 board members, 4 full time staff and 1 part time staff person. Partnered with AAU for world challenge and receive 2 entries per qualifying division, t shirts etc.....

JVA has been in contact with the Charleston Business Bureau to bring in a major event to the West Virginia area. Paul was contacted also and communication has stopped because the bureau felt there was no support from the OVR. We must maintain a positive relationship with OHSAA. The business aspect of volleyball is changing the landscape. We need to not sanction tournaments at facilities or with clubs that are not USAV/OVR. Ron does not want to close the door on facilities. If our kids need to play somewhere and there is a facility that is available, we need to keep that in mind. Tom has no problems telling people/facilities to get involved with juniors in order to run a tournament. Can we divide up the clubs and have each board member visit the clubs? Brian will divide this up and come up with a form to reach out to them. We need to revisit an associate membership for any adult parent.

Steve: Regarding compliance issues for Concussion certification in the State of Ohio, Concussion certification is a state law and any adults associated with junior athletes must be concussion certified before they work with the junior athletes. Unfortunately the State of Ohio does not have any reciprocal agreements with any other states for accepting other concussion certifications so members that reside outside the State of Ohio must take one of the concussion courses that the State of Ohio accepts and they must also meet their state requirements for concussion certification.

Steve puts completion codes in the system but at the BOD meeting it was determined that it is not required to put in completion codes. This year the State of Ohio added NAYS to the system to accept the concussion certifications.

Sara Morman, Program Manager for the Violence and Injury Prevention Program, for the State of Ohio stated that the State of Ohio currently accepts four types of Concussion certifications for coaches which qualify as Concussion certification for compliance with Ohio's return to play law:

1. National Federation of State High School Associations Concussion in Sports – What you need to know
2. National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) Concussion Training (added this year)
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Heads Up Concussion in Youth Sports Training
4. Ohio Department of Education Pupil Activity Permit

Steve made a motion: "That the Ohio Valley Region, Inc. accepts concussion certifications from any organization that the State of Ohio accepts for recognition of concussion certification". All seconds. Bob calls to question. All in favor. Motion carries.

Bob: Let us please try to be timely in our email responses, especially to board members. Refrain from responding to emails that are not in our area of expertise.

Michelle: High performance boys' tryout first weekend in March. We are looking for one facility in Columbus and one in Cincinnati. Girl's tryouts will be BID weekend and the second will be during the championships (TBD) Bob is wondering how many athletes are going on to play in college after HP? Bob is looking for data.

Don: Impact, either online or local, this is the lowest year of participation. Not a lot of new certifications. There are over 350 coaches with lack of concussion as of today. 477 are lacking SafeSport. 200 are lacking Impact. 100 head coaches not impact or cap certified. Donnie sends out a specific list that goes out to all club directors. Who enters the certification completions from the in person impact clinics? Don enters the information on USAV WebPoint.

Diane: SafeSport for officials, currently there are only 7 without. Still working on the coaches. Completed lifetime ban on Evan Prince. He was given a continuance and was interviewed by a

committee. USOC started a database that will say yes, there is an issue with a coach or no, there is no issue. They (USOC) will not provide details. There are currently no open cases. Please remind the clubs we come to contact with how important SafeSport is. We need to make sure we are including the parent link when discussing this! There is also a refresher course for those who have completed the course.

Al report: The OVR-Molten Boys Holiday Tournament was very successful with 66 teams across 18s, 17s, 16/15s and 14s. Next year we hope to separate the 16s and 15s as well as add 13s and maybe 12s. Matt has already started to advertise the dates to the boys clubs in other Regions. The OVR-Marathon Girls WinterFest Tournament registration is down from last year. We had 24 courts and 95 teams. This year we are at 18 courts and only 68 teams. Not sure if the Windy City Qualifier has drawn some teams away? The inaugural Ohio Valley 18s Qualifier has 16 teams in the Open Division (1 Bid at stake) and 22 teams in the USA Division (3 Bids at stake). To help fill the Convention Center, we moved the Boys WinterFest from Urbana. We have 13 courts with 32 teams in the 18/17s and 18 teams in the 16/15s Divisions. Last year at Urbana we had 8 courts and 20 teams in the 18/17 and 12 teams in the 16/15s. There will also be a 12s Boys Friendship Tournament being played on Saturday with 6 teams. The 18s Bid Tournament can handle 16 teams at Buckeye Sports. I have 13 National teams registered and I am holding 2 spots for the top two 18 Regional teams that would like to enter. So there is one open spot as of now. The Play-In Tournaments entries are down from last year. I think by raising the entry fee to \$250 made some teams really evaluate if they wanted to play. I am able to play these on one weekend instead of the two weekends last year. The OVR Bid Tournament currently has 108 teams registered. 17 National – 18 Teams 16 National – 19 Teams 15 National – 17 Teams 14 National – 20 Teams 13 National – 18 Teams 12 National – 16 Teams .In each division up to 2 American teams enter from the Play-Ins. Also the top team in the Power League II gets an entry. So that is another 16 teams yet to enter. At this time we would need 34 courts. Last year we had 148 teams but that included the 18s. I am surprised that we have fewer teams given that the Girls JNC is in Indianapolis. Membership registration as of today in comparison to last year at the same date: Adults - 2,807(2016) 2,945 (2015) Junior Boys – 659 to 675 Junior Girls – 15,648 to 15,176

Tom report: Juniors Tournament update as of 01/17/2016 Total Junior events sanctioned: 1131. Remaining unsanctioned events: 22. Friendship Events: 37 events. Regular Season: 789 events, 542 filled-69%. Regional Challenges: 35 events, 25 filled-71%. American Challenges: 23 events, 22 filled-98%. National Challenges: 36 events, 17 filled-47%. Elite Challenges (NCPL): 10 divisions, 6 filled-60%. National Bid Qualifier: 7 divisions, 0 filled. OVR Championships: 194 divisions (B & G). Tournament Directors: 98. Tournament sites: 118. Currently working on canceling, combining or changing tournament designations.

Bill report: roster change request are being maintained daily. 148 clubs now, 190 teams less than last season. We will start to get back to that level as clubs continue to register teams. Championship side has been a little slow. Please register if you will be sending a team for sure because the format will be a little tricky due to the construction at the convention center.

Ron: parking will be a little different. We will have 50chaser passes for WinterFest. NCAA- as of today we get 20 paid passes. \$70/2 days. Everyone will get one. We will pay for one. Officials' clinics have been

great. Vendors: \$60,000 for the year. Q sport –Ryan increased his offer. Ron has not made a decision as far as changing these vendors. No one believes the convention center will be done on time. Ron will book weekends through 2018. Don't assume we can get any weekend we want though. Portables: we currently own 20. We ordered 26 more. We will be selling off the old equipment. Banking: Al, Larry and Ron moved half a million into a different account. We will be moving other money once the other portables are paid for. Lots of rentals. We are not going to the big south. Free standing units are safer and easier to use. We are also not going to Penn State. We have enough rentals without doing this tournament. Inventory: January-end of December is our fiscal year just like everyone else now. Anything that the region owns we need to let Ron know.

Bob files have already started adding up with disciplinary actions. Cincinnati club is banned from OVR events. This is not something Bob enjoys doing but had to be done. Bob just wants everyone to comply. Anyone interested attending the Women's Sport Report breakfast February; Bob needs to know by Wednesday. 4 directors/coaches showed at the December club director meeting. Tryout issues were brought up. Point levels are adjusted if a tournament does not fill. This is a legitimate concern for some club directors. FAQ sheet for the OVR. Conflict of interest policy. A motion was made to accept the policy by Brian and seconded by Chris. (Motion: Accept the distributed document as the OVR's Initial conflict of interest policy, to be implemented as of January 18, 2016 for all existing OVR Board members and Staff.) Bob call to question: any further discussion. In favor: 14-0-1 (Bill exited prior to voting)

Awards: please feel free to make nominations to Steve, Patty or Ron. Deadline for awards is February 15th to be submitted online. What are we doing regarding Adults? No one has officially applied or shown interest.

Adam feels like we could touch base once a month on a conference call. Adam would be interested in making a motion to be in contact once a month. Email once a month as an overview to what is going on in the region.

We need to set aside more discussion time as to how we plan on dealing with the presence with the JVA. We must be proactive and solid how we will address the situation. Other regions are looking to us for a little guidance. We all need to be on the same page. They are in our territory and there is nothing wrong with competition but we need to collectively as a group take a stance. Do we need a special meeting? January 30th around 1 or 1:30 we will sit down to address this JVA concern.

4:33 Adam moves to adjourn. Terry seconds