

**OHIO VALLEY REGION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**MEETING MINUTES - SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2020 @ 9AM**

This regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ohio Valley Region, Inc. was held virtually (online) due to COVID-19 restrictions.

**I. ATTENDANCE**

Board Members present: Mr. Bob Price, Mr. Brian Hemelgarn, Ms. Diane Hood, Mr. Tom Kohl, Ms. Stephanie Grieshop, Ms. Patty Salvatore, Mr. Stephen Donahue, Mr. Al Herbert, Mr. Bill Zehler, Mr. Matt Mihelic, Mr. Gary Hajek, Mr. Corey Verchio, Mr. Jim Hammar, Mr. Chris Bielby, and Ms. Tonya Thompson.

Staff Members present: Mr. Ron Wyzynski, Mr. Josh Hall, Mr. Dave Chapman, Mr. Glenn Freed, Ms. Valerie Gillespie, and Ms. Angie Shafer

**II. CALL TO ORDER** – Commissioner Bob Price called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM.

**III. AGENDA AND/OR ADDITIONS** – The agenda was reviewed. January Board minutes were approved on March 19, 2020.

**IV. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT**

Ron Wyzynski has been providing updates to the BOD and staff via email as they occur. Since the Bid tournament and the Junior Championships were canceled due to the pandemic, the Greater Columbus Convention Center has given the OVR a credit of \$1500 (Bid) and \$1500 (Junior Championships) to be used on future events. In addition, the OVR returned \$87,000 in Junior Championship entries fees to clubs that paid early (Jan/Feb).

The OVR received \$92,178 from the federal Payroll Protection Program (PPP), which has been applied toward monthly payroll since June. Those funds will be depleted after the August payroll has been processed. Necessary paperwork will be filed to seek partial or full debt forgiveness from the PPP.

Ohio Wesleyan University is renovating their gymnasium and will be renting courts from the OVR for their fall season, beginning early August (flooring rental value is approximately at \$10,000). USAV plans to rent OVR courts for the 18s National Championships next spring at the GCCC. USAV had planned to rent our courts for the High Performance Championships this summer, but that event was canceled due to the pandemic.

A meeting is scheduled in September with the GCCC staff to discuss future events and contracts for the 2023 season. Our next contracted GCCC event is the 2020 Boys Holiday Tournament this December. Contracts for both the 2021 season and the 2022 season are complete.

The OVR business account balance is \$480,695.46, and the money market account balance is \$448,685.34. The ADP (payroll) account balance is \$984.76.

**Hotel Liaison, Ms. Valerie Gillespie.** Has maintained communication with our hotel contacts for GCCC events. We currently hold contracts with the Hyatt for some 2021 events.

## V. COMMISSIONER REPORT

Commissioner Bob Price hosts weekly conference calls with club directors to share updates. An average of 30-35 club directors participate each week. Topics have included tournament entry fee refunds from tournament directors, early signing contracts, state high school fall sports, use of local school district facilities (now and in the near future), and updates from USA Volleyball. Also, monthly Board of Directors conference calls are taking place on the first Monday of the month to improve our communication channels.

Chris Bielby and Al Herbert worked with Tom Kohl to develop & implement a process to request tournament sanctions online. The tournament director must be a current OVR member. Registration to become a member opens September 1; online tournament sanction requests will be available at that time.

The legal action that was taken against the OVR should be coming to a resolution shortly. There was a change in the legal counsel for the person who filed suit against the OVR, and the court has given the plaintiff two weeks to prepare for deposition.

Commissioner Bob Price attended Terry Miller's memorial service last month and presented Terry's daughter with a recognition award for Terry from the OHSAA.

Tournament admission fees were discussed at length, including the motion the Board passed in January to allow any/all tournament directors to charge \$5/day or \$10 for two days. The admission charge is limited to spectators 19 years of age and older. A new notation will be included in the online tournament listing to indicate whether a tournament will charge admission.

MOTION (Brian Hemelgarn/Bob Price). Postpone for one year the January decision that allowed local tournaments to charge an admission fee but maintain the decision that allows admission at large events. Discussion ensued. Motion was withdrawn.

## VI. OFFICER & STAFF REPORTS

**Beach, Mr. Dave Chapman.** A small number of Beach events have been sanctioned in Columbus in accordance with local health department guidelines. The OVR did not host any Beach National Qualifiers this summer, and USAV moved the Beach Nationals from California to Huntsville, Alabama. The OVR is slated to host two Beach National Qualifiers (Cincinnati & Columbus) in May/June 2021.

**Website & Member Management, Mr. Al Herbert.** Report on USAV's new Member Management System (MMS) and the transition from Webpoint to SportsEngine. Noteworthy points:

- Families may share a single account with multiple children under that account.
- Members will have to sign up for two memberships – one for USAV costs and one for OVR costs, resulting in two separate charges.
- Background screening payment and procedures have changed; details will be provided to our members.
- After tryouts, club directors will send an invitation to the players they want on their teams through SportsEngine. More information will be provided to our members about this process.
- The SportsEngine roster can only be used in a USA Volleyball sanctioned tournament. Club directors may have to build separate rosters if they participate in non-USAV tournaments.

**Junior Tournament Director, Mr. Tom Kohl.** Stephanie Grieshop, Corey Verchio, and Bill Zehler will collaborate with Tom Kohl to work on tournament sanctions and scheduling for next season. Tournament director refunds to clubs are about 99% complete.

**Girls Program Director, Mr. Bill Zehler.** Girls' memberships grew by about 30 teams this season; registration in the 14s and 15s were near 100 in the American division, while the Regional division is shrinking. Clubs/teams that paid entry fees for Junior Championships have been refunded or checks were returned. 25 people took the ASEP course this year, and 8 new club directors are currently taking the ASEP course. Approximately 1,000 requests for player re-assignment were addressed.

**Boys Program Director, Mr. Matt Mihelic.** 94 registered boys' teams with 14 clubs (largest thus far) within the region this year. Boys Holiday Tournament hosted 114 teams. We still have USA Volleyball grant money available to help incentivize girls' clubs to start boys' teams.

**Officiating, Mr. Brian Hemelgarn.** Our online training for Professional and Junior referees will be changing with USAV's new learning management system. At the National level, there has been much discussion on establishing a National standard for Junior official certifications to ensure consistency across the country. Spectator conduct is a point of emphasis from USAV's Officials Development Department. USAV's ODD will be creating new recruiting tools, including social media, to help attract new referees; OVR will participate. OVR will minimize inventory of officiating shirts this season but will continue to carry referee equipment. OVR referees have been sent a survey to ascertain their feelings about returning to work in the current environment.

**Scoring, Mr. Josh Hall.** One National scorer candidate from the OVR, but the evaluation program at the BJNC was cancelled. Hall shared concerns regarding in-person referee clinics and lodging arrangements at GCCC events in the near future.

MOTION (Brian Hemelgarn/Diane Hood). Reduce referee match fees by \$2.50 per match for the 2020-2021 season only. Discussion ensued. Motion tabled for the October Board meeting.

**SafeSport, Ms. Diane Hood.** Few cases with SafeSport and USA Volleyball, although we have one case being investigated in the OVR.

**Interim Treasurer, Mr. Stephen Donahue.** Thanked Ron Wyzynski and CLA for the opportunity to help prepare and apply for the Small Business Administration Payroll Protection Loan of \$92,178.00 for Ohio Valley Region employees that was approved and distributed by US Bank to the OVR on 5/7/2020 for employee's salaries. He is currently doing the bookkeeping for the region for the months of January through the present.

**Verification's Officer Report, Mr. Stephen Donahue.** Membership compliance was a little over 98% for indoor IMPACT, SafeSport, Concussion and ASEP certifications. Reminders were provided about issuance of USAV insurance coverage certificates. Annual award recipients were announced and included in a separate report. Board elections were held online this year; candidates must be reminded about acceptable use of member contact information on the OVR website. Two new Board members elected (Chris Bielby, Jim Hammar), and three incumbents were re-elected (Hajek, Zehler, Kohl).

**Social Media, Ms. Angie Shafer.** Shared statistics on our social media platforms; actively posts information from the AVCA, including the webinars they have hosted, as well as with USA Volleyball; creating a new OVR Instagram account.

**High Performance, Mr. Glenn Freed.** 70 boys participated in two tryouts. Teams were selected but the season was cancelled due to Covid-19. USAV's new High Performance Director has reached out to the region to have a conference call with Price and Freed; Jim Hammar and Ron Wyzynski volunteered to participate in the call. Surplus income from the boys' tryouts (\$2600) will be used toward the HP Director stipend.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Date for the OVR Board's fall meeting will be decided during an upcoming conference call.

Program Directors must submit budgets for 2020-2021 season at, or prior to, the October Board meeting.

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **IX. ACTION ITEMS & SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

Director Brian Hemelgarn made a Motion, seconded by Bob Price:

Motion to postpone for one year the original decision to allow an admission fee at local tournaments.

Maintain previous motion to allow admission at large events. Discussion ensued. Motion was withdrawn.

Director Brian Hemelgarn made a Motion, seconded by Diane Hood:

Motion to reduce referee match fees by \$2.50 per match for the 2020-2021 season only.

Motion was tabled for the October Board of Directors meeting.

**ACTION ITEM:** Program Directors must submit budgets to Bob Price for 2020-2021 season at, or prior to, the October Board meeting.

**ACTION ITEM:** Select BOD fall meeting date.

**ACTION ITEM:** Revisit referee match fees motion at fall meeting.

## **X. NEXT MEETING**

Monday, August 3 – 8pm; conference call

The meeting adjourned at 1:05pm.