

OVR Board Meeting Synopsis: August 9-10, 2003

OVR directors, officers, staff, and guests met on August 8-10, 2003 at Mohican State Park for the annual retreat. Early discussions began on Friday night, with the board meetings running from 8:15AM-6:18PM on Saturday and 8:17-10:15AM on Sunday. Saturday night featured the annual OVR Awards Dinner.

Attendance (board members italicized):

Present: Ron Wyzynski, *Bob Price, Nick Nystrom, Terry Miller, Art Faura, Bill Zehler, Al Herbert, Keith Burke, Michelle Fox, Brian Hemelgarn, Bob Dickenson, Elaine Viney, Emi Vishoot, Tom Kohl, Glenn Purdy, Steve Donahue, Jimmy McKinzey, Barb Strome.*

Not present: *Troy Dixon, Patty Salvatore.*

Guests: Paul Claridades, Eric Gillespie.

Introduction of Guests – Bob Price

- Bob welcomed Elaine Viney to the board and introduced Barb Strome.

Ron Wyzynski – CEO/Executive Director

- Ron thanked the board for their support and confirmed his commitment to the OVR.
- The OVR continues to be in a financially sound position due to frugal spending, solid business practices, valuable fundraisers, and dedication of our staff.
- Molten® volleyball sales benefit our membership, and sale of Baden® volleyballs is a valuable opportunity for Ohio schools.
- The 2004 OVR Regional Championships and the OVR-Molten National Bid Qualifier will be held on April 16-18, 2004 at the Columbus Convention Center using 40 courts. Adult Regionals will provide non-playing tournament directors.
- The 2004 OVR Junior Championships will be held on May 1 at various Columbus sites and on May 8-9 and 14-16 at the Columbus Convention Center (36 courts).
- Working with Paul Claridades, the OVR will host a new tournament in Charleston, to help grow volleyball in West Virginia. This year's event will take place on April 24-25 (setup April 19 or 23), coinciding with the Ringling Brothers Circus at the Charleston Civic Center.

- Molten® will be the official ball of the OVR (and of USA Volleyball) through 2008. OVR members benefit through excellent rates, including direct shipping.
- Official volleyballs for 2003-2004: Molten® Super-Touch™ for men, women, and girls 13s-18s; Pro-Touch™ for boys; Volley-Lite™ for girls 10s-12s
- **Staff changes:** Building on last year's successful online registration, any paper registrations for 2004 will go to Nick. Steve will continue to collect checks and continue with verifications. Tom Kohl will be more involved in seeding, following Yoon's resignation. Due to the online reporting Nick introduced last year, coordinating juniors' results no longer requires a separate position. Al Herbert is increasingly involved with running tournaments at KSU and Charleston.

Bob Price – Commissioner/President

- Background checks probably will not be implemented for this season.
- Juniors' directors and coaches must avoid violations of OHSAA's 3-player rule. This includes apparent violations that might occur through not updating their rosters on the OVR website.
- Player transfers do not exist in the Ohio Valley Region, excepting certain extenuating circumstances. Transfers for tournaments following the OVR Championships, for example, are not granted.

Michelle Fox – Women's Tournament Dir.

- Registration information will be sent by e-mail, sending hardcopies only on request.
- Regionals: Steve Donahue and Al Herbert will assist with setting up playoffs to avoid delays. Players greatly appreciated having certified officials for pool play. The entry fee for Regionals will increase to \$150, in return for all-day officials. A format playing all adults on Sunday was strongly recommended to the Bid committee.

Keith Burke – Men's Tournament Dir.

- Divisions have reached an unprecedented

level of equality: 2003 Regionals required more matches to decide playoff spots than ever before. Pre-playoff games were needed on all 4 courts of Men's A, including 2 games on one of the courts.

- Keith suggested having a computer and database at the championship information desk would help guests locate teams and individuals. Nick offered to arrange it.

Brian Hemelgarn – Referees' Chair

- The following referees passed their ratings at this year's championships: *Jr. National Referees:* Kristine Mullen, Rich Pillar, Rich Hambrook, Nathan Mahaven, Jim Sagenich; *National Referees:* Dan Litteral, Jimmy McKinzey.
- Requirements for libero uniforms have changed (Rule 11.3.2.1).
- High school will use rally scoring (3/5 varsity, 2/3 sub-varsity) and the net serve next year. West Virginia and Pennsylvania are using rally scoring this year. Ohio may use the Libero in 2005. This is an opportunity to invite HS officials to OVR membership and training.
- Rule stability is expected to continue through 2004, after which FIVB will meet (following the Olympics).
- Online testing will continue this year, but with a new 1-hour limit (including for Regional referees).
- Professional Officials' Clinics: Westerville: December 6, Toledo: December 14, Pittsburgh: January 3, KSU: January 10.
- The region increased from 309 to 326 officials, including 34 new provisionals.
- Rating tournaments will be the second and third tournaments at KSU, along with the boys' tournament. The *Presidents' Cup*, February 14-16, may also be used.
- Bob Price suggested that the region pay several raters to visit larger tournaments, providing valuable feedback to experienced officials.
- The officials' pay scale for 2003-2004 is unchanged: \$135/day for up to six matches. Any matches beyond six at a

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regular, local tournament are an additional \$22.50 each. For Regionals, \$22.50/match under 2/3 format; \$15/match for two 25-point games (or 21-point games).

Terry Miller – OVR Scorekeepers' Chair

- *National Scorekeepers*: Ron Moose, Tom Joseph, Bill Kissell.
- There's a move to resume using professional scorekeepers for Nationals, and Jr. National certification is being reinstated.
- Professional officials should send Terry their scoresheets from 1 match each year.

Paul Claridades and Eric Gillespie – Charleston VBC

- The Charleston program has grown from 60 girls trying out for 30 spots for 2002 to 100 girls trying out for 2003. Geography, however, poses a significant problem, as it has been difficult to attract Ohio teams to West Virginia.
- Local education and training would be helpful. Bill recommended doing IMPACT and perhaps IMPACT+ to start.
- The region will assist through the Big Top Volleyball tournament, training, and perhaps other efforts.

Bill Zehler – Juniors' Program Director

- Bill and Emi attended the YJOVD meeting last week.
- The OVR registered 10,084 female junior members.
- Bill will contact Ron Sours to ensure that the region receives information on juniors' waivers.
- The OVR hosted 712 teams on 32 courts at the 2003 Junior Championships, leaving only 2 openings overall. Every team that entered on time was finally accepted.
- The deadline for next year's registration for Junior Championships will be April 1.
- 5 OVR girls made the Youth National Team. 4 are starters. Trickle-down from HP to grass roots is very favorable. Bill recommended a new HP sand effort, attracting summer interest from both boys and girls.

- Bob mentioned that at a coaches' meeting last weekend, 3 college coaches said that Ohio is now one of their top 5 states for recruiting.
- Bill will schedule a late-September forum at Westerville, at which one representative from each club will pick up rulebooks and receive instructions, updates, and clarifications. [This forum was later canceled due to low projected turnout.]
- The ROD requested scorekeepers for all National events.
- Bill distributed and discussed a report, *YJOC Champ Proposal to Improve and Grow*. All divisions will increase by at least 24 teams. New "National" divisions would include automatic bid for regional (Bid) champions. The National division would include the top 2 OVR teams, and the "American" division would include approximately 3-5 more.

Tom Kohl – Juniors' Tournament Dir.

- The *Juniors' Tournament Packet* is being revised extensively for 2003-2004.
- No points will be awarded for incorrectly run tournaments.
- Power Challenge tournaments will be run on March 6-7: 13s, 14s, 15s; March 20-21: 16s, 17s, 18s. Sites will be finalized by October 1. Tom Kohl will announce the Power Challenge tournaments and accept registrations early (as with Bids).
- Major OVR tournaments will be posted as soon as possible. The full schedule will be published on Sunday, November 30.
- A tournament directors' meeting will be held on Dec. 6 at Westerville South HS.

Al Herbert – Junior Officials' Development Director

- 10,000 certification cards and 500 patches were distributed to officials.
- Al expects next year's nationals to require certified second officials and scorekeepers (as before).

Emi Vishoot – Boys' Volleyball Liaison

- Boys' Nationals: 18 OVR boys' teams par-

ticipated at Nationals. Renaissance 18 Red won 18 Club, and Cincinnati Black 18 took 5th place. OVR teams also took 1st and 2nd in 17 Club. Selection criteria were established at the YJOVD meetings for Open. 2003 was the first year this event was over-subscribed. Earning a bid will be required through a designated Bid tournament to be implemented for 2005 and, if possible, 2004.

- Emi requested help with the OVR boys' fall league, expected to run September-October. Elaine volunteered Monte Moser as the tournament director. Emi will contact coaches through Monte Moser's list. [The league was postponed to 2004.]
- OVR Boys' Championships: Sunday, February 29. Keith will be the tournament director and secure a site. If more than one site is necessary, Jimmy will be the tournament director at the second site.

Don Burroughs – Director of High Performance and Coaching Education

- Coaching education: Changes to the coaching education department at USA Volleyball will mean changes to CAP.
- High Performance: The HP Camp team finished 3rd out of 8. Coaches: Paco Labrador and Jeff Wagner. The HP Youth team finished 5th out of 8. Coaches: Wich Colchagoff and Tony Geer. 5 OVR players were selected for the Youth National Team, up from 1 last year. 2004 HP tryouts are tentatively scheduled for the Friday night before Bids.
- Don would like to move to coaching education funding better coaching education, and a summer HP camp funding the traveling teams.
- The International Children's Games will be held at Cleveland (Baldwin Wallace College) on Jul. 29-Aug. 1, 2004. 5-court, 3-day tournament: 14 international teams, 6 US teams. 15-and-under, FIVB rules.

Nick Nystrom – Editor and Webmaster

- Many improvements are planned to sup-

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Updated 2004 USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championship Dates

Girls' JOVC: Houston, Texas

18, 17, 16 Open & Club: Sun., June 27 - Wed., June 30
 15, 14 Open & Club : Wed., June 23 - Sat., June 26
 13, 12 Club : Wed., June 23 - Sat., June 26

The 12 & Under age classification tournament will add teams in 2004, going from 48 to 64 teams and competing over 4 days versus the previous format of 3.

Girls' Invitational: Austin, Texas

13-18 Club: Thu., June 24 thru Sun., June 27

With the Girls' JOVC adding teams and the geographical proximity of sites, the Invitational will not offer 12s in 2004. An earlier deadline date for entry with region qualification will be used in 2004.

Boys' JOVC: Austin, Texas

18, 16 Open & Club: Wed., June 30 - Sat., July 3
 17, 15 Open & Club: Sun., July 4 - Wed., July 7
 14 Club : Sun., July 4 - Wed., July 7
 13 Club : Wed., June 30 - Sat., July 3
 12 Club : Sun., July 4 - Tue., July 6

Note: The 15s age classification will add a 15 Open tournament in 2004.

Pre-Tournament Manuals for each tournament will be posted www.usavolleyball.org/juniors/main.htm on December 1.

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- port both professional and junior officials.
- Usage of ovr.org for the '02-'03 season is approaching 4 million pages served. The site will soon relocate to a new server to provide stronger infrastructure and better performance at lower cost.
- The 2004 OVR Handbook is proceeding well and will be published using recently matured technologies to improve access for browsers while still printing acceptably.
- The region must ensure that photos of regional champions are taken, for OVR records as well as to meet juniors' enthusiasm. Following Terry's recommendation, Nick agreed to direct OVR photography.
- Keith requested online reporting of men's tournament results and automated calculation of standings, as was done for juniors in 2002-2003. (Michelle prefers to continue receiving pool sheets, through which she reviews individual results.)
- Providing accurate dates of birth will be stressed for all registrations for positive identification and also for verification of age-group teams.

Steve Donahue – Verifications Officer

- The certifications database on ovr.org contains 3,137 records.

Filling Terms and New Positions

- Bill Zehler was re-elected as Juniors' Program Director (term: 9/1/03-8/31/07).
- Ron Wyzynski was re-elected as Registrar (term: 9/1/03-8/31/07).
- Barb Strome was elected as Junior Officials' Development Director (term: 9/1/03-8/31/07).
- Elaine Viney will serve as Elections Chair for 2003-2004.

Bid Tournaments

- 2004 Bid Committee: Art Faura, Al Herbert, Tom Kohl.

Awards (OVR, USAV)

- Awards Committee Chair: Bob Dickenson.
- Additional OVR Meritorious Service Awards have been determined and will be announced after they are presented, for instance at coaches' clinics.
- USAV Meritorious Service Awards are be-

ing framed for Wendy Alferts, Keith Burke, Don Burroughs, Steve Donahue, Michelle Fox, Scott Garver, Brian Hemelgarn, Al Herbert, Tom Kohl, Terry Miller, Nick Nystrom, Don Roderick, Hank Trimble, and Emi Vishoot.

- Art requested nominations for national awards by the end of January.

Fees Summary

- Registration and tournament entry fees are unchanged with the following exceptions:
 - The entry fee for adult Regionals increases from \$130 to \$150 to allow professional officials for pool play as well as playoffs.
 - Registration for female juniors increases from \$45 to \$50, reflecting increasing cost of the Junior Championships and operating expenses.
 - The entry fee for the Bid tournament will be determined by the Bid committee.

Future Board Meetings

- Oct. 19, 2003 10AM: Westerville South HS
- Jan. 19, 2004 9AM: Ramada Inn, Kent