

WEST FARGO VOLT VOLLEYBALL
MEETING MINUTES

11/15/2021, 7:00 pm
Dakota Medical Foundation
4141 28th Avenue South
Fargo, ND 58104

Mission:

To develop the athletic abilities of the players and to promote teamwork and a positive volleyball experience.

Opening:

- The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.
- Attendance/Introductions

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Twila Nogowski, Director | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mackenzie Odden, President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica McClaflin, Co-Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steph Lauritsen, Co-Vice President (virtual) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angie Saxlund, Treasurer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristen Dinger, Secretary |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betsy Dodds, Accountant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betsy Schulz, Concessions Chair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chelsey Mahon, Concessions Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Bloedow, Concessions Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristen Peterson, Concessions Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kami Muchow, Sponsorship/Special Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caitlin Killoran, Member at Large (virtual) | |

Other:

Secretary Report (presented by Kristen D):

- Review of Meetings Minutes from the October 11, 2021 board meeting
 - Motion to Approve Minutes by Heidi, 2nd by Kristen P. - Motion passed

Old Business (presented by Mackenzie):

- There has been little conversation around the process for finding an Assistant Director. The Board will continue to assess and evaluate candidates to ensure that the right person is brought to the Board for approval.
- There was discussion about how VOLT could best support the high school teams who made it to the state tournament.
 - Motion to Organize, Purchase and Deliver Crumble Cookies to the volleyball teams from Northern Cass, Sheyenne, West Fargo, and Fargo Davies by Heidi, 2nd by Steph – Motion passed

New Business (presented by Mackenzie):

- There was discussion about the current Board structure and roles. If the titles and duties are restructured, a vote to amend the Handbook will be necessary. Sponsorship/Special Projects has gotten larger. The Member at Large could be converted to a full member. "Tournament Facilitator" could be a role. The treasurer could organize and oversee the collection of

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admission fees at the tournament. It was noted that this is already in the handbook. The treasurer could also look into the possibility of using online pre-purchased tickets rather than taking cash at the door. The Accountant (Betsy D.) is not considered a voting member of the Board. The Director and future Assistant Director are voting Board members. The Board felt like 12-14 Board members is the appropriate number. Other areas of need that were mentioned include: building out scholarship program, golf tournament, fundraising chair, facility committee, communications, marketing, and social media. Currently Kaitlin Boehme runs the social media with information given to her from Twila and Mackenzie. VOLT has Facebook, Instagram and the website. It was also mentioned that parent committees could be helpful. A Board member would chair a committee and ask parents to be involved. Currently Sponsorships/Special Projects handles hotel reservations which is an ongoing project. The golf tournament will be a big project. It was agreed that Concessions can absorb photos for the time being. Apparel is a work in progress as we are working on a new logo/design and looking for ideas. Once this is decided on, an online apparel store will be set up and go live. MacKenzie will work to reorganize roles and send a follow-up email.

Director's report (presented by Twila):

- NCR made a mistake and scheduled Moorhead and Concordia's tournaments the same weekend as the VOLT tournament. Jamestown will also be hosting a tournament the same weekend. There were ideas brought up about how to make sure our tournament is competitive, but ultimately the Board agreed that we should stay the course with the VOLT tournament as planned.
- VOLT camp finished with 152 athletes – this was the first year of running a fall camp.
- Fall tune-up had 208 athletes.
- There were 330 athletes who tried out for Winter and Spring. Prior to Covid, VOLT had approximately 250 athletes try-out.
- There was discussion about how to make Registration less confusing. It was agreed that the process gets confusing at the step where a person leaves the SportsEngine site to purchase an athlete's full NCR membership. People don't realize they have to come back to SportsEngine and complete the registration. It was noted that the process is improved from prior years, but we will work with NCR and see if there are additional ways it can be improved. Parents were also confused about the difference between Winter and Spring and often didn't understand the Winter season required travel.
- The first weekend of try-outs overall went well. They are still evaluating the call-back process. They are always working to make sure we have the most effective process in place. There were 8 Winter teams created and the tournament registrations for Winter are approximately 3/4th of the way done.
- The coaching staff is starting to come together and is an exciting group of talent. Coach bios will continue to go out on social media. The Board agreed that this was a great use of social media. There are still coaching positions to fill as we need approximately 34 coaches for Spring.
- There was discussion about hiring 2-3 assistant coaches. These coaches would float between several teams and attend tournaments. It would provide another set of hands and eyes at practices as well as back-up at tournaments. All coaches receive \$15/hour for practice. In the past, coaches were provided a flat, daily amount for each tournament day as well as hotel and mileage.
- Motion to Hire 2-3 assistant coaches by Betsy S. 2nd by Jessica – Motion passed

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President's Report (presented by Mackenzie):

- Mackenzie will be spending the next 30 – 90 days learning how to run a Capital Campaign. She has numerous meetings scheduled with individuals who have run successful Capital Campaigns. She also needs to reconnect with Angels hockey. They are on track for groundbreaking in the Spring of 2022. VOLT can be on that timeline or on its own timeline. The biggest thing needed to break ground is cash flow and a Capital Campaign in motion with at least 60% of the total cost pledged. She has met with various individuals regarding the budget and everyone says VOLT is headed in the right direction.
- VOLT is live on the Giving Hearts Day website and the scholarship program is initiated. We are starting to receive inquiries about financial assistance. We will continue to work on the application for the scholarship program.

Vice President's Report (presented by Jessie/Steph):

- They have decided to sell cookie dough through Adrenaline Fundraising. The fundraising will begin in mid-January and is very tech savvy. Everything can be done through a phone, uses QR codes, and shareable links. Most payments are done via credit card; however, check writing is still an option. Adrenaline has done an incredible job of highlighting volleyball in South Dakota. We are working with them to bring this same awareness and marketing to North Dakota.
 - Motion to proceed forward with Adrenaline Fundraising allowing the VPs to make decisions about the best way to organize the process by Mackenzie 2nd by Kami – Motion passed

Treasurer's Report (presented by Angie/Betsy D):

- Betsy reviewed the Financial Report, Income and Expense, and Budget v Actual.
 - Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by Kami, 2nd by Kristen P. – Motion passed

Sponsorship/ Special Projects Report (presented by Kami):

- The Bison volleyball game was a success. There were approximately 40 – 45 tickets handed out. The group sat together and represented VOLT with all their gear.
- Kami reviewed the proposed Sponsorship card. The dollar amounts were larger than they have been in the past. There was discussion about how to distinguish benefits between Power, Ignite, and Spark. It was agreed that the following changes would be made: remove the t-shirt entitlement from Spark; swap Spark and Power order on the table; add "spotlight player of the month" to Power; update the due date to January 9; update player count to 300+ and coach/staff count to 40+; and clarify the deadline for logos is for applicable media. Kami will make the proposed changes and email the updated Sponsorship card for Board approval via email.
- Kami is working on group hotels for the tournaments. The NCR Smackfest rooms must be reserved by December 2nd.
- Angie reached out to Richie at Maple River golf course. He said the deadline for organizations who hosted tournaments last year to reserve dates for next year is December 1. She will call on December 2 to find out what dates are available.

Concessions Committee Report (Mackenzie/Betsy S):

- Dine N Donate generated \$130 raised for the Spicy Pie event in October and \$80 for the Papa Murphy's event in November. It was agreed that no Dine N Donates will be done December

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thru February and they will work with EPIC companies to do another Dine N Donate with Spicy Pie in March.

- There was discussion that Boston's Pizza does team meals. The kids receive 3 large pizzas and sodas. This could be used as a team bonding event. Steph will get more information on this.

Set meeting for next month:

- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 13th at 7:00 o'clock p.m. at Dakota Medical Foundation.

Adjourn

Motion and 2nd to adjourn at 9:38 p.m.

Website: westfargovoltvolleyball.com

Email: wfjuniorsvball@yahoo.com

Address: West Fargo Juniors Volleyball Club, PO Box 208, West Fargo, ND 58078

Director: Twila Nogowski (tnogowski@west-fargo,k12.nd.us) 701.499.1765

President: Mackenzie Odden (Mackenzie.Odden@chrobinson.com) 701.412.1607