

Minutes from the Southern Region
January 8, 2023

In attendance: Deidre Brown, Emily Brown, Colleen Craig, Shawn Davis, Stephanie Finn, Shelby Foyer, Duane Hill, Steve Kenyon, Jim Kirkpatrick, James Lawson, Heather LeMay, Anthony Marshall, Brenda McIntosh, Kevin McClure, Christopher Miller, Marsha North, Mary Beth Peake, Mark Prater, Michelle Prater, David Schnieders, Scott Thompson, Bob Watson, Keith Weller

Call to Order

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order.

Unfinished Business

Motion #1 – was made, seconded and passed unanimously: We approve the minutes from the 8/8/22 SRVA Board meeting.

There was no other old business.

New Business

Motion #2 - was made, seconded and passed unanimously: We go into Executive Session.

Motion #3 – was made, seconded and passed unanimously: The SRVA Board will create a budget line item dedicated to funding legal services as needed.

Motion #4 – was made, seconded and passed unanimously: Motion #3 may be published in the minutes.

Motion #5 – was made, seconded and passed unanimously: We come out of executive session.

Handbook and Policy Items:

SRVA had sent out a survey to club directors and received a 33% response asking about changing our tryout policy. 60% said they favored it because clubs are having trouble competing with non-SRVA clubs.

Motion #6 – was made, seconded and passed unanimously: SRVA Junior Tryout Policy

- **Tryouts for Girls' youth and junior athletes for the next USAV season may take place at any time after the completion of the prior season's final Girls' USAV Junior National Championships.**
- **Athletes or their Guardians may officially select and commit to a USAV club in the Southern Region beginning on September 1st of each year.**
- **Once an Athlete or their Guardian has accepted a club invitation in SportsEngine that acceptance will be binding for the entirety of the current club season which begins on September 1st of each year.**
- **Athletes may only affiliate with one indoor club during the USAV indoor club season which ends at the completion of the final USAV Girls' Junior National Championships.**
- **Requests for transfers to another indoor club will be handled in accordance with the Southern Region Athlete/Member Transfer Policy.**
- **It is the responsibility of Tryout Hosts and Participants to be careful not to violate any high school or collegiate rules that may apply.**
- **A tryout fee no greater than \$75 may be collected during these periods**
- **All personal business/legal commitments made between the club and a player's family will remain the responsibility of the related parties. The Southern Region will not be responsible for enforcing private agreements. Contracts between a club and family are independent of any region obligations and policies.**
- **All club websites must prominently post the SRVA tryout policy or a link to it entitled "Link to the SRVA Tryout Policy" where their tryout information is located.**

- **All clubs will also be required to acknowledge the SRVA rules/policies as defined in this Handbook and certify that the SRVA Tryout/Commitment policies were followed as a part of the recruiting/forming the teams being registered BEFORE any team registration can be processed further.**
- **Violations of the Tryout/Commitment policies may be subject the club and possibly any athletes involved in the violation to suspension from SRVA along with a non-refundable revocation of all team (possibly club) fees submitted.**

Motion #7 – was made, seconded and passed unanimously: SRVA Club Transfer Policy

ATHLETE/MEMBER TRANSFERS: An athlete may represent only one club in the same season. A junior cannot transfer clubs without the permission of their current club by being released in SportsEngine.

All permanent transfers are subject to all SRVA related fees and USAV rules limiting player participation in qualifiers, Nationals or other tournaments.

Motion #8 – was made, seconded and passed unanimously: The SRVA Board of Directors approved the creation of the following position: SRVA Officials Training Coordinator.

Motion: #9 – was made, seconded and after discussion withdrawn and sent back to committee for clarification and rewording.

Provide a grant of \$1,500 to high schools that start or operate a boys volleyball program. All members of the school team would be required to obtain an SRVA membership. This would be effective for this 2022-2023 fiscal year.

****By acclimation the board approved an electronic vote on the reworded motion after the committee accomplishes this task.**

Motion: #10 – was made, seconded and after discussion withdrawn.

All members of the SRVA Board must actively serve on at least one sub-committee/working group.

It was decided that this would be better understood that serving on a committee/ sub-committee/working group is an expectation as Board member if it was included in the job description. Bob Watson has volunteered to rework the current job description to include this information.

Board Elections

Those running for a position on the Board of Directors were given 5 minutes to address the entire Board. We then reviewed the election procedures. There were 11 positions available, including 2 previous vacancies, one from an unfilled vacancy and one from a Board member resigning. We had 9 incumbents and 10 new candidates. The new candidates were invited to join us via Zoom as we were space limited. The final results of the elections were distributed on 1/9/2023.

Election results – with the new terms beginning July 1st, 2023 and running until June 30th, 2026

Anthony Marshall, Michelle Prater, Kevin McClure, Stephanie Finn, Keith Weller, Mary Beth Peake, Christopher Miller, Garrett Bitter (New), Sally Polhamus (New)

After the first round of elections, there were still two spots unfilled.

Motion #11 – was made, seconded and passed unanimously: After voting there were 2 vacancies and the Board approves a second runoff election to fill those seats in accordance with the By-Laws.

In the Run-off election for the 2-year interim positions, the following individuals received a majority of the votes. With their new terms beginning July 1st, 2023 and running until June 30th, 2025.

Rose Powell, Kittilax Kridakorn

As the reports were distributed electronically to the Board members prior to the meeting they were quickly presented with an opportunity for questions on each report.

Commissioner's Report

Steve asked for assistance with the hiring of a media coordinator. Emily Brown and Duane Hill both offered to help with this –Duane being a professional recruiter.

Other Reports

Registrar Report – we are within 80 members of the number at the end of last season, and it is only January.

Officials Report – SRVA has 345 adult officials. Parental behavior and the ability to get ratings are two of the main reasons we lose officials.

Boys and Beach Updates – Colleen is hoping AVP will be coming back to our Region.

First Point Foundation is aiming to have boy's high school volleyball sanctioned in all 50 states by 2028.

HP Report – Tryouts will be attached to a Tennessee tournament as well as the day before SRVA Regionals at the Georgia World Congress Center.

The 2023 HP tournament will be in Ft Lauderdale. 2024 will be in Des Moines Iowa.

The next Board meeting will be August 13 at a location to be announced.

Motion #12 – was made, seconded and passed unanimously: We adjourn.

**1/26/23 results of the electronic voting as approved in the 1/8/23 board meeting.

Reworded Motion #9 motion passed unanimously (no second is required as the motion came from committee).

To further promote the growth of Boys volleyball in the region the SRVA Board of Directors approves the following for the 2022-2023 season:

- The SRVA will work in coordination with Rally Volleyball and the Boys Volleyball of Georgia group to provide financial support to New Boys High School Club programs. Funding for this project will come from and shall not exceed the currently approved 22-23 budget Boys Grant Program line item. Should total fund requests exceed the budgeted amount, the overages of up to \$5000 will be backstopped by Rally Volleyball and the Boys Volleyball of Georgia group.

For the 22-23 season the following level of disbursement will be available:

- Any New team affiliated with a single High School is eligible for disbursement of up to \$750.
- Note: for 22-23 there is a maximum distribution of \$750 per High School.

To receive funding the following conditions must be met:

- The High School must be in the Southern Region of USAV.
- This must be a New Boys High School Club program for the school.
- All Coaches will be SRVA members and meet the eligibility requirements.
- All Athletes will become SRVA members.
- Each team must be affiliated with a single school, public or private.
- Conglomerate or hybrid teams are not eligible.
- Funds will be dispersed after receipt and approval of a complete application package. (This would allow these programs to have the funds to register their Coaches and Athletes with the SRVA.)
- Failure by a club to register their Coaches and Athletes with the SRVA will preclude their school from receiving future funding from this program.