

Minutes from the Southern Region
January 9, 2022

In attendance: Deidre Brown, Colleen Craig, Shawn Davis, Stephanie Finn, Duane Hill, Steve Kenyon, Kim Kenyon, Jim Kirkpatrick, Apple Kridakorn, James Lawson, Heather LeMay, Anthony Marshall, Kevin McClure, Brenda McIntosh, Christopher Miller, Mary Beth Peake, Rose Powell, Mark Prater, Michelle Prater, David Schnieders, Jessica Turnbull, Bob Watson, Keith Weller

Guests: Emily Brown, Steve Channell, Shelby Foyer, Marsha North, Scott Thompson

Call to Order

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

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

Financial Report:

Motion #1 was made, seconded and passed unanimously – We go into Executive Session.

Motion #2 was made, seconded and passed unanimously – We come out of Executive Session.

Steve reported that the leftover plush toys awarded at 2021 SRVA Regionals were donated prior to Christmas to Toys for Tots.

There was discussion on how to continue financial give-back programs to our members.

Handbook:

Q - A Board member was asked “Why is the commissioner a member of a club? Doesn’t that provide an unfair advantage to that club when region decisions are made?”

A – USAV requires a member to join in the physical region in which they reside or where their club is registered. I have been a part of CAJ since 2007 so it seemed to make sense to continue that association. Technically I am a member of 15-20 SRVA clubs as I am in their SE HQ as a USAV administrator with governing season access. I hope this clears up any questions and if there is another club that wants to include me as a member all they have to do is ask.

Motion #3 was made, seconded and passed unanimously – The GJNC hotel room block, secured by the SRVA, will be offered to the winners of the Bid Divisions at the 2022 SRVA Jr. Regional Championships. If a club has already been selected in the Tier 1 Lottery, their teams are not eligible to participate. If there are more requests than room nights available, a random selection process will be employed.

If SRVA doesn't use the room block, it only costs us about \$3 per room.

Motion #4 was made, seconded and passed unanimously – For the 2021-2022 season only, a team that is forced to withdraw from a non-waivered event due to a positive Covid test or exposure to someone who has Covid will receive a 100% refund.

Motion #5 was made, seconded and passed unanimously – For the 2021-2022 season only, the SRVA Board of Directors approves the reinvestment of surplus funds from the 2020-2021 budget in the following manner. “Each approved SRVA Club (indoor and beach) which has a minimum of one approved team in each age and gender division that they offer registered in a minimum of two SRVA sanctioned events will receive a credit of \$500. This credit will be applied to their club account.

Motion #6 was made, seconded and passed – For the 2021-2022 season only the SRVA will allow a team to participate with a “Ghost Player” as defined by the “SRVA 5 Players Policy”. This document will be posted on SRVA.org and distributed to Club/Tournament Directors.

Boys Program Updates: The craziness of Covid set plans back on this program somewhat. SRVA is committed to supporting Boys' growth, and will move ahead.

C2 hosted a boy's tournament prior to Christmas, and it was a success with over 30 teams participating.

HP Program: We will have a minimum of 4 teams again this year. We had hoped to offer more regional training access, however, gym space has become an issue and may not be possible.

Last season, all 4 of our HP teams placed in the top 4 in the national event.

The camp will be at Life University again this season – it was a great success last year.

We received a lot of positive feedback on the program last season from clubs, players and parents.

Tryout Policy report: Jessica, Duane and Mary Beth reached out to clubs to gauge their feelings about our current tryout policy. There was no over-whelming feeling that the “wild west” (no tryout rules) would be a benefit.

Holding tryouts immediately after National competition also received no over-whelming support, as there seemed to be a feeling that it would be trading one set of problems for another, and no matter what we did, Non USAV clubs would hold theirs earlier.

Many people felt that the 14 and under tryout window should be changed to the 1st Saturday following Columbus Day, as opposed to the second Saturday in October, although no motion was made to do so.

There are many third party complaints about tryout problems, which cannot be addressed. A suggestion was made to have a form for filing a complaint, which spells out what would be needed to do so. Shortening the tryout window from 5 to 4 days also received some support.

A motion for the 4-day window needs to be worked on so that we can vote on it electronically and implement next season if it passes.

Feedback from the Diversity Scholarship recipients: There was nothing to report.

Additional Items: Keith brought up the potential for age waivers in smaller areas.

Board Elections

Candidate biographies were presented, and those present spoke, followed by a Q&A.

Steve reviewed the election procedures. Steve Kenyon, Jim Kirkpatrick and Anthony Marshall (representing all 3 states) were the election supervisors.

Ballots were cast and there was a run-off needed.

There were 8 successful candidates – the 9th position was left open since none of the candidates in the runoff received a simple majority.

Elected/Re-elected for a 3 year term (7/1/22 - 6/30/25) Colleen Durham Craig, **Shelby Foyer**, **Emily Francis**, **Marsha North**, Mark Prater, **Scott Thompson**, Jessica Turnbull, Robert Watson.

Steve sent out email notifications of the final results to all candidates and the Board of Directors after the meeting.

Commissioner's Report

Steve presented his report. There was some discussion about reducing the size of the SRVA Board, although that would take a change in the By-Laws and no formal suggestion was made.

Steve recognized and thanked Carmen Foster and Kim Kenyon for their long-term service to the board and the many contributions that they had made to the region over the years.

Our insurance premiums are forecast to increase by \$10/person next year, so the membership price reduction we offered this year, will most likely not be feasible next year.

Because USAV will no longer host an HP Beach event, Steve and a group of other commissioners in adjoining regions are looking in to hosting our own, similar to the indoor HP event last year when USAV didn't host.

Other Reports

Brenda McIntosh, Mark Prater and Keith Weller presented their reports.

The next Board meeting will be August 14. The location has not been decided upon at this time.

Motion #7 was made, seconded and passed unanimously – The meeting was adjourned.

The following motions were approved and brought forth from committees after the meeting was adjourned. These motions were approved by electronic vote on 1/28/2022.

Tryout Committee motions;

Motion – TO1; Update the SRVA Tryout policy girls 14 and below for the 2022-2023 season as follows

Current wording:

For age groups 14 and below a 5-day tryout period **will not begin earlier than the dates listed below or by default on the second Saturday in October.**

Proposed wording;

For **girls** age divisions 14 and below a **4-day** tryout period **will not begin earlier than the Saturday which immediately follows Columbus Day each year.**

Motion Passed 19-1

Rationale:

The clubs which were surveyed expressed concerns that the current policy often set tryout dates on the Holiday weekend which created challenges to potential players who wanted to attend but would be out of town. The decrease from 5 days to 4 days was suggested as a possible way to make our clubs more competitive with Non-USAV clubs while still offering protection for the players.

Motion – TO2: Update the SRVA Tryout policy girls 15-18 for the 2022-2023 season as follows

Current wording:

A 5-day tryout period for ages 15 through 18 will not begin before the first day after the completion of each state’s high school championship.

Proposed wording:

A 4-day tryout period for **girls** age division 15 through 18 will not begin before the first day after the completion of each state’s high school championship.

Motion Passed 19-1

Motion – TO3: Update the SRVA Tryout policy girls 15-18 for the 2022-2023 season as follows

Current wording:

For players age 15 and above, the 6th day after the completion of that state’s high school championship.

Proposed wording:

For **girls division** players age 15 and above, the **5th day** after the completion of that state’s high school championship.

Rationale: This change is required to reflect the 4 day tryout period that was implemented for the 14 and under age divisions.

Motion Passed 20-0

Boys Grant Committee motions:

Motion – BGC1: For the 2021-2022 season the SRVA will provide reimbursement for up to 2 Adult Coach SRVA Memberships & Background check per organization (SRVA sanctioned club or High School joining as an SRVA sanctioned club) who are involved with boys indoor programming.

Motion Passed 19-0-1

Motion – BGC2: For the 2021-2022 season the SRVA will provide entry fee reimbursement for up to 2 SRVA Sanctioned indoor Boys Events per SRVA sanctioned Boys Team using the following parameters;

- Each SRVA sanctioned club may request a maximum of two Boys Grant Fund entry fee reimbursements per SRVA event that they participate in.
- The Boys Grant Fund entry fee reimbursement will not exceed \$250 per SRVA sanctioned boys team per event.
- Each SRVA sanctioned boys team is eligible for a maximum of two Boys Grant Fund entry fee reimbursements for the 2021-2022 season.
- The Boys Grant Fund entry fee reimbursement total for the 2021-2022 season will not exceed \$1000 per SRVA sanctioned club.
- Each SRVA sanctioned club will fill out and submit the online entry fee reimbursement request form prior to the end of the indoor season.

Motion Passed 20-0

Rationale: Define how to appropriately disperse the allotted Boys Grant Funds to grow boys' volleyball in the Region with the focus of growing participation in our SRVA indoor boy's events and memberships.