



MINUTES OF THE 2016 DELTA REGION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

*Held at BancorpSouth in Jonesboro, Arkansas
August 20, 2016*

Presiding: Joe Williams, President of the Corporation and Commissioner

Executive Board Members present: Jenny Lingenfelter, Juraj Okolicany, Danis Fuelling, Angela Walls, BJ Golden, and Lee Dewey.

Advisory Board Members present: Joanie Williams (Office Manager), Malafu Tiatia (co-Officials Chair), Keith Hutchison (co-Officials Chair), Mo Gray (Education Chair), Robin Everson (at-large), and Lanette Stineman (at-large). Not present: Megan Henry (Score Chair) and Keith Haney (Beach Rep).

Also present: Jitka Okolicany (Memphis Metro); Eric Everson (Fatchmo Volley); Todd Pedersen (Crittenden Club); Anna Stephens (MS Volleyball); Kelly Church (Jonesboro Storm); Travis Stephens, Jenn Douglas, Doug Douglas (Fort Smith Juniors); Victoria Washington, Dottie Townsend (Conway Juniors); Tina Seals (Level Elite); Jay Sabella (Blue Crush); Jenny Hazlewood (Infinity VBA); Jeff Pratt (Extreme Slam); and Winston Ford (Jackson Boom).

- Meeting was called to order at 9:30AM. A quorum was declared present.
- Minutes from 2015 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve 2015 minutes by Jenny Lingenfelter; 2nd by Juraj Okolicany. Passed unanimous.
- Commissioner, Joe Williams welcomed the newly elected Board members: Lee Dewey, BJ Golden and Angela Walls.
- Election of a Vice Commissioner for the region was discussed. It was noted that current bylaws state the Vice-Commissioner should be elected every three years (and by the current Board of Directors). It was brought up that this position should be elected yearly. Juraj Okolicany suggested it would be best to leave the position at 3 years since the position might be a 'learned' position. Travis Stephens commented that more folks could be exposed if the position was elected every year. It was also noted that the Board's positions are elected every three years which could conflict if we left the vice-commissioner position good for three years (they might not coincide). It was agreed that whoever had the position should attend USA Volleyball National meetings held in October for exposure to the national process. A motion made by Jenny Lingenfelter to change the Bylaws to read "The election of the Vice-Commissioner should be held yearly by the Delta Region Board of Directors". 2nd by Angela Walls. Floor was then open for nominations for the Vice-Commissioner position. Jenny Lingenfelter and Danis Fuelling were nominated. Voting continued with written ballots. Jenny Lingenfelter was elected.
- Joe Williams gave the State of the Game report from USA Volleyball. Joe mentioned that we have been changing Delta Region website to a mobile friendly site. The region had to establish a new, cleaner logo for the website graphics. Joe Williams asked directors to begin using the new logo immediately on website and paper products. Joe also explained the need for tournaments to have region branding using signage or banners from the Delta Region.
- Financial Report for the 2016 Season was reviewed by Joe Williams. Net income for the region was up \$7,098.83 (+41%) from last season at \$24,408.50. Motion was made by Jenny Lingenfelter to accept reports; 2nd by Juraj Okolicany. Passed unanimous.

- Joe Williams explained the new over-time law to take effect in January. Jenny Lingenfelter noted that Joanie Williams has not had a raise in over three years. Joe Williams suggested that we wait to see how much Joanie Williams would make in over-time before a raise is issued. Joe noted that we would begin Joanie Williams' over-time pay at the start of this season (August 1) instead of waiting until January.
- Joanie Williams reviewed 2016-17 membership reports. Delta had an increase of 235 members (+5%), leaving the 2016-17 membership totals to 5339. Delta ended the season with 66 clubs (13 new clubs). Twenty-nine clubs had membership increases over the previous season. Joanie Williams went over the final membership numbers for all clubs. Largest junior club for the season was Memphis Metro with 376 members.
- Joanie Williams reminded attendees that the Delta Region will issue refunds to participants that do not make a club team (as long as they are not injured in the process of trying out). Joanie also noted that most memberships are paid for through Visa.
- Joanie Williams went over proposed changes to the Delta Region Bylaws. It was noted that in section 3-Process for filling a vacancy: Section 3-Process for filling a vacancy: Bylaws state: *A vacancy of a Delta Region director on the Delta Region Executive Board of Directors shall be filled by holding an election of the membership using the existing election procedure. This individual shall fulfill the remaining term of the individual to be replaced.* But, in ARTICLE VI- OFFICERS, Section 2 states: *A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise may be filled by the Board of Directors for the remainder of the term.* Joanie Williams asked "Do we want these two sections to read the same?" A motion was made by Danis Fuelling-2nd by Jenny Lingenfelter to strike Section 3 from the Bylaws and for the region to follow Section 2 where a vacancy be filled by the Board of Directors. Motion passed unanimous. It was also noted that the Vice Commissioner section of the Bylaws must be changed to reflect the one-year election of the Bylaws (from earlier in the meeting).
- Joanie Williams addressed suggestions needed for the Member Handbook. A motion was made by Jenny Lingenfelter-2nd Danis Fuelling, to ADD the words Coach and/or Player to the listed Player Eligibility paragraph on page 22 to include eligibility explanation of all members (both coach and player). Motion passed unanimous. Joanie Williams stated that we need to delete explanation of memberships from page 22-23 (MEMBER AND TEAM ELIGIBILITY). *Rationale: The same information is repeated on pages 25-26 under Membership Categories.* It was noted that a vote was not needed to make this change.
- Joe Williams advised all clubs to create and make available a Member Handbook for their club.
- Joanie Williams ask for a clarification regarding how votes should be distributed for elections. Does each adult member get one vote for each candidate or one vote for each candidate opening? Floor was open for suggestions.
- Joanie Williams explained the Summer Membership and encouraged clubs to use this membership to show new members the benefits of being a USAV member; take off of the membership site on September 1.
- A motion by Jenny Lingenfelter-2nd Juraj Okolicany to add *"The Club Director must be a Delta Region "regular" member prior to submitting a Club Application Form."* To the Club Registration section on page 26. Motion passed unanimous.
- A motion was made by Juraj Okolicany -2nd BJ Golden to update wording for the Club Contact form for Background Screening Reports on page 27. It now reads: **A Club Contact Form** should be completed and sent to the region office every season IF any background screenings will be ordered for the Club. *Change to: A Club Contact Form must be completed and sent to the region office every season for background screenings ordered for the club. Rationale: To emphasize the need to have this form on file each season. Rationale: To emphasize the need to have this form on file from each club.* Motion passed unanimous.
- A motion was made by Jenny Lingenfelter-2nd Danis Fuelling to update Libero Uniform policy to reflect new standards. Motion passed unanimous.
- Joanie Williams went over the Webpoint changes for the upcoming season. Changes included: *ADDING WORDING DURING THE JOIN/RENEW PROCESS--WILL ASK THE MEMBER ABOUT: THEIR MILITARY/VETERAN STATUS; IF THEY ARE INTERESTED IN PLAYING BEACH; IF THEY PLAY OR ARE INTERESTED IN SITTING VOLLEYBALL. ALSO ADDING WORDING DURING THE DURING THE JOIN/RENEW PROCESS ALERTING THE MEMBER ABOUT THEIR FEDERATION OF ORIGIN. THE CURRENT*

FIVB SPORTS REGULATIONS STIPULATE THAT THE FEDERATING THAT IS THE FIRST TO ISSUE A NATIONAL LICENSE FOR THE PLAYER IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE PLAYER'S FEDERATION OF ORIGIN REGARDLESS OF THE PLAYER'S CITIZENSHIP. THE CURRENT FIVB INTERPRETATION OF "ISSUE A NATIONAL LICENSE" MEANS REGISTERING WITH THE FEDERATION (IN OUR CASE, USA VOLLEYBALL). THEREFORE, PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOU REGISTER WITH USA VOLLEYBALL, AND SUBSEQUENTLY DESIRE TO REPRESENT ANOTHER COUNTRY IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE FIVB REGULATIONS REGARDING "CHANGE OF FEDERATION OF ORIGIN" WHICH INCLUDES THE PAYMENT OF SIGNIFICANT FEES TO THE FIVB AND REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SUCH APPLICATION BY THE FIVB.

- Joanie Williams spoke on the new courses available in the VRT (in English and Spanish) and explained that official's certifications from last year will carry over this season.
- Joanie Williams presented the new Junior Club Officials Guidebook. It is suggested that all clubs post this guidebook to their club website.
- Todd Pedersen addressed the Board regarding the use of player waivers. After much discussion, it was decided to continue with waivers as in the past. A straw poll was taken with only one opposition. No motion was made to change the existing policy. No vote was taken on the matter.
- Robin and Eric Everson discussed Beach events that Fatchmo held over the summer. Their tournaments throughout the summer continued to grow. They had 4-courts. June was really hot. Teams came from all over the region. 90% of kids that played had never played in sand. Had to turn teams away for the July 30th tournament. Most had a great time and already asking when next year's events are. They want to encourage other clubs to get involved with Beach, stating the many college opportunities in the future for Beach players.
- Transfer of players was discussed. It was decided to continue as we did last season: allowing players to transfer when their club playing season is over—no transfer to be granted to out-of-region teams.
- Joanie Williams brought up a need for change in the region's Code of Conduct to strike the words "registered junior volleyball player" to game personnel at any Delta Region junior event. The group present agreed. It was then discussed rather to change the wording from "event venue" to "courtside". A motion was made by Joe Williams-2nd-Jenny Lingenfelter to change the wording to "courtside". Motion passed.
- Subject of setting Tryout commitment dates for clubs was brought up. Joe Williams stated that we are not ready to set tryout guidelines for clubs. Club Directors should review each state's high school association's guidelines and follow set guidelines.
- A reminder was given that all officials hired to work Delta Region events must be SafeSport certified before hiring for event beginning this season (2016-17). Juraj Okolicany issued his concern on getting officials from other regions to follow-thru...and it's hard to find officials already for events. Lee Dewey was in agreement. Angela Walls asked how we check certification of officials. Keith Hutchison noted that if we get all the names of officials in advance we can check certifications for individuals. Joe Williams stated it is a problem—sees both sides of the issue. Joe stated that we make a best effort and notify officials immediately that they need to be SafeSport certified before working a Delta Region event.
- Malafu Tiatia asked if we need 'Central Referee Assignors' for the region as part of the process of developing officials. It was decided that tournament directors can hire who they want as long as they get each official approved by the Delta office or Referee Chair at least two weeks in advance. Keith Hutchison volunteered to help any region tournament director with the hiring and assignments of officials.
- Joe Williams noted that we have some smaller events on the region calendar for the 2016-17 Schedule that need to be supported. By getting volleyball more distributed throughout our three states continues to improve the level skills of the entire region. If you struggle with the 'why' to attend these events remember we all started similar.
- Malafu Tiatia and Keith Hutchison reviewed the National Training Clinic that was held in January. They decided to do more hands-on training of Delta officials throughout the season. They also spoke on the new rule changes for the upcoming season. Joe Williams explained that the Libero uniform ruling was going to be superseded to a more relaxed ruling.
- Joanie Williams reviewed the 2016 High Performance program. Four tryouts were held totaling 353 members; used 72 coaches in the tryouts. Players were not allowed to tryout more than once this year. There were 80

players that attended the camp, along with 28 college and elite club coaches. HP program ran with a -\$9500 loss. Joanie Williams stated that the 2017 camp would be the 10th anniversary of the camp. It was noted that coaches should wear region shirts during tryouts and not to wear club shirts to prevent parents from thinking there are prejudices in the selection process.

- Joe Williams discussed the importance of continuing talking about SafeSport and the importance of it. Joanie Williams noted that she planned to use SafeSport into all Delta marketing campaigns. Anyone attending or working at National events must be SafeSport certified—which will also affect the officials this year. Host a link to the SafeSport Handbook on club websites or give club members a paper copy. Joanie Williams talked about Bullying and the importance of educating our members regarding it. Bullying can stop within 10 seconds of bystanders standing up for the victim. Joanie then showed a Bullying video where a student considered killing herself and then stopped when another girl showed her kindness and stood beside her. Piers can help more than coaches. This year we had players take an Anti-Bullying pledge at events.
- Joanie Williams spoke on the Delta booth at the region's larger events. Giveaways at events included 1-year Delta memberships (5 were awarded).
- Joe Williams spoke about Delta/USAV branding at region events. He reminded tournament directors that the region charges a low dollar sanctioning amount.
- Joe Williams spoke on coaching clinics. Do we want a CAP Clinic or other type of clinic for coaches? It was noted that it's hard to get coaches to come to clinics.
- Meritorious Awards were announced for 2016-17 season: John Adams-Memphis Metro; Craig Cummings-Ar Juniors; Autumn Erickson-Fatchmo; Marissa Hollenbaugh-HollenBall Jrs; and Jane Sargent-Fort Smith Jrs received the honors. Joanie Williams noted that club's should nominate their members for the National awards.
- Motion was made by Jenny Lingenfelter to adjourn meeting; 2nd by Danis Fuelling. Passed unanimously.
- Meeting was adjourned at 3:30PM.