

Carolina Region/USAV  
August 6, 2011 Officials Advisory Board meeting  
UNC-Chapel Hill



Attendees: Mitch Atkinson, Bill Bagley, Robb Boggs, Paula Boykin, Dennis Branch, Wade Brence, David Bryant, Darryl Buck, Cam Choate, Alston Cleary, John Darr, Gerald Edwards, Doug Fagan, Gary Foster, Rene Glass, Johnny Guterwill, Vaughn Hastings, Tony Hill, Michael Holder, Glenn Horton, Katrina Johnson, Brian Jones, Rick Laskey, Leann Madtes, Chuck Morris, Ronnie Mutter, Michael O'Connor, Barbara Pauli, Jeremy Phillips, Frank Quinata, Greg Sanders, Trina Sharpe, Bill Sherrill, RP Tallo, Steve Truckenbrod, Charles Tudor, Brian Webb, Carol Weigand, Ron Weigand, Phillip Wilson, Charles Yang

Staff Attendees: Marilyn Thompson, Officials Program Director; Kevin Wendelboe, Executive Director

Meeting began: 3:15 pm

- I. Welcome & Introductions –Ronnie opened the meeting with introductions of Ronnie Mutter, Referee Chair; Randy McLamb as Beach Referee Chair (not present), Michael O'Connor as last year's Board Representative, Marilyn Thompson as Officials Program Director, and Kevin Wendelboe as Executive Director.
- II. Ronnie announced that Diane Penner received her USAV National rating this summer (she attended under reciprocity agreement as a PAVO National). He also announced that Mitch Atkinson and Frank Motondo, Jr. received their Junior National Ratings during the Girls' Junior National Volleyball Championships. Ronnie mentioned that a Beach Referee Clinic was recently held in Columbia, SC and several Carolina Region officials received Beach ratings: Vaughn Hastings and Charlie Yang received a Beach Zonal rating. Glenn Horton and Johnny Guterwill received their Beach Local ratings. Randy will be working on additional beach rating opportunities in the future. This will be an important step as colleges begin holding intercollegiate competition in the beach game.
- III. Kevin went through items discussed at the Junior Advisory Board meeting that are of interest to officials:
  - A. Junior Advisory Board met May 1, 2011 in Greensboro
  - B. Juniors Program grew by 466 players (4822 total) and 35 teams (486 total).
  - C. The ending time of tournaments was a major topic of discussion for the Junior Advisory Board. Since we went back to full round-robin play for 5-team pools, the tournaments with 5-team pools were predictably longer. Ideas were discussed on how to shorten the tournament days. A task force was formed to explore all options and to make a report to the Carolina Region Board for their June retreat. At the retreat, the task force presented new play formats for tournaments that have 5-team pools, will insure all

teams play the required minimum of three matches, will provide a playoff mechanism so winners are determined, and it will end all tournaments around 7 pm. This format can be adapted tournament sizes of 7 teams up to 20 teams. If we have tournament sized on 4, 8, 12, or 16 we will still play the old format of 4-team round robin pool followed by playoffs. All other field sizes will use the new formats. Tournament directors will have to run the tournament using an excel spreadsheet provided by the Region. We will also investigate an online tournament administration option for those sites with internet access.

- D. Eligibility for the re-cert clinics was discussed. The Junior Advisory Board is in support of changing the requirement to be eligible for the recert clinics to only having been certified the prior season. The Officials Advisory Board will be discussing this issue later also for action.
  - E. The task force recommended and the Board passed a new policy that Professional Officials will work as R1 for all matches at the 12's and 13's tournaments. With the approval of the head coach and supervising official, a certified player referee may work the second set as R1 during pool play only. This is another effort to speed up tournaments at the younger ages.
- IV. 2012 Schedule – Kevin went through the 2012 Junior Schedule dates. The schedule can be found at the Region website under the Juniors section.
- V. Region Rating Opportunities – Marilyn discussed the current plans for rating opportunities. The Greensboro SportsPlex is planning on holding a play day tournament to test the new tournament formats and we can use that as a rating opportunity. Triangle VBC and NC Elite VBC are also interested in holding pre-season tournaments that we can use to rate officials. We will also continue using the first two weekends of December as rating opportunities during the Adult tournaments.
- VI. Region Clinics – Marilyn will begin work on the clinic schedule soon. She has tentatively scheduled the Professional clinic for November 14. The schedule will be posted under the Clinics tab – Adult Officials section as soon as details are known. Marilyn also discussed the region's expectations regarding professionalism. The region expects all officials to complete their membership application with payment and independent contractor agreement, attend a clinic, and pass the tests before working in a tournament. Last year we assigned officials that had not completed all their clinic/tests requirements and did not pay them until they completed them. This year we will not assign officials until this is completed. Attending clinics and passing tests are a common requirement for all officials and we expect our professional officials to be just as dedicated towards USA Volleyball work as to collegiate officiating. Marilyn discussed the importance of training the junior officials to call all calls that you would call if you were on the stand. Do not wait until the playoffs to start calling backrow and ballhandling. Blow the whistle from the floor and make the call if you cannot get the player officials attention to call it.

- VII. USA Volleyball Rule Books – Kevin informed everyone that a new rule book will be printed soon and shipped out to the Regions. This book will be good for two seasons. It will be delivered to the Greensboro SportsPlex as this is most convenient place for us to handle the 50+ boxes of books we receive. Clinicians will need to pick up their allocation from the SportsPlex and we will make arrangements to get the books to individuals if they do not pick them up at a clinic. The book can be downloaded from the USA Volleyball website also.
- VIII. High Performance Championships – Doug stood up to tell the group about his experience at the High Performance Championships this summer in Tucson. Brian Webb also attended from the Carolina Region. Doug was very complimentary of the experience and it provides a unique look at international officiating for USAV officials. He would encourage any official that has the opportunity to go to attend. The regions recommend officials to the USAV Officials Division for selection to the event. Those with interest should submit their names to Ronnie.
- IX. National Ratings update –William Sherrill and Gary Foster are in the pipeline for the chance at a Junior National rating. They will continue to be trained and evaluated for possible 2012 nominations. Steve Truckenbrod is considering applying to be in the pipeline. Tony Hill will be our nominee for a National Scorekeeper rating in 2012. Ronnie mentioned that the National Officials Division is discussing changes in how officials are nominated and selected for the National Referee certification. We will keep the group updated as changes are communicated to us.
- X. Election of Region Board Rep – Michael O’Connor’s one-year term ends with this meeting. Michael was nominated again to serve, but he declined due to current time pressures in his life. Tony Hill was nominated from the floor and accepted. Motion by John Darr, second by Johnny Guterwill to:

Motion 1: close the nominations for the Official Rep position and elect Tony Hill by acclimation. MSA

- XI. Old Business:
  - A. Recert Clinic Eligibility – Kevin discussed the recert eligibility issue and reasons why changing to one year were advantageous. Tracking two straight years of certification and merging the file is not easy with the current online system. We are also experiencing very little change in rules from year to year. It is also hoped to reduce the over-crowdedness at the in-person clinics. USAV is working on shorter re-cert clinics so we hope to improve the experience of the online clinics as well. He Junior Advisory Board is in support of lowering the requirement as well. Motion by Robb Boggs, second by Darryl Buck to:

Motion 2: change the requirement to be eligible for the officials’ recert clinic to the following: An official must have been fully certified as a referee and scorekeeper the prior season in order to be eligible to take a shortened recert clinic. MSA

B. Junior Regionals Rating Process and Guidelines – We still would like some guidelines and procedures in evaluating our better junior officials as Junior Regional rating candidates. Ronnie volunteered to develop a form and criteria for achieving a Junior Regional certification. We will distribute this for comment to our National officials and then distribute when it is completed.

XII. New Business:

- A. Intramural Officials Training – Marilyn contacted several universities in North Carolina to see if we could aid them in their officials training for their intramural programs. The hope is that we could recruit some of them to work in our program as well. She has heard from Duke University and we will be training their officials this fall. She will continue to try to pull in some other schools. She asked for help with contacts at schools.
- B. Significant Rules Changes for 2011-2013. USAV just sent out the new rules changes. Kevin went over a few of them. The use of two liberos is the major one. The document will be uploaded to the Officials Forms section as well as the new scoresheets on the Tournament Director section.
- C. The Region was not able to award a Meritorious Service Award in May due to the recipients absence. Kevin felt it would be appropriate to award it at the Officials Advisory Board since it involved an official. Kevin presented a 2011 Meritorious Service Award to Ronnie Mutter for his prolonged service to the Carolina Region as an official and Referee Chair. We try to nominate at least one official each year so feel free to submit names to Kevin.

XIII. Adjournment - Motion by Tony Hill, second by Doug Fagan to:

Motion 3: adjourn the Officials Advisory Board Meeting at 4:27 pm. MSA

**NEXT MEETING**

In conjunction with July/August, 2012 OTP clinic. Time and site TBD

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Ronnie Mutter – Work on Junior Regional Rating Process and Criteria