

Carolina Region/USAV
May 6, 2018 Juniors Advisory Board meeting
Adobe Connect Online Meeting



Attendees: Trey Mainwaring (Girls Rep); Linda Osterman (Alamance Force); Doug Balsler (Champion); James Marshall (Stanly County); Steve McKeon (NC Coastal); Andrea Stephens (Thunder Cats); Chuck Morris (Granite City); Dylan Mulkey (Carolina Union)

CR Board Attendees: Jim Ross; Tina Reading
CR Staff Attendees: Kevin Wendelboe

Meeting began: 1:00 pm

- I. Welcome/Introductions
- II. 2017 Minutes - A copy of last year's JAB meeting minutes was emailed to all pre-registered attendees. Motion by Reading, second by Mulkey to:

Motion 1: approve the May 7, 2017 minutes of the Carolina Region Junior Advisory Board meeting. MSA

- III. 2018 Season Review – We saw growth in both Boys and Girls again this season. We had 8228 junior and youth girls (+317 over last year) and 132 boys (+22). Junior girls' teams grew by 38 to 805 teams. Boys teams grew by 1 to 10 teams. Total teams in each age group and realm were reviewed. We are recommending no change in which age groups play together on their assigned weekends. We lost the first weekend of the season due to inclement weather and parts of another. This caused our overall tournament entries number to drop some over last year. Regionals and East/West Championships participation went well again this season.
- IV. End of Season Survey Results – This season we sent the Annual Program Review Survey to all club directors as well as all Junior Team reps. We had 80 responses out of 824 possible responses as of Thursday before the meeting. The responses submitted were reviewed. The Junior Advisory Board can use the survey responses when considering several issues that will be discussed during the meeting.

- V. Recruiting/Tryout Policy – Current tryout policy was reviewed and survey responses about the shortened signing dates were discussed. Kevin recommended one update to a sentence about encouraging clubs to allow players to attend tryouts from multiple clubs. Motion by Morris, Second by McKeon to recommend to the Carolina Region Board of Directors to:

Motion 2: approve the amended 2018 Carolina Region Tryout Policy. MSA
See Appendix 1

- VI. 2018/2019 Schedule – Kevin presented a proposed schedule for the 2019 season. With Easter being later in 2019, it helps put the schedule together. Only issue is with a potential Junior Hi Neighbor date. It looks like the Big South Qualifier will be over the first two weekends of April with Easter the weekend after that. Kevin will contact the Junior Hi Neighbor administrator to see let them know about the conflicts s they cannot go on a Regionals weekend. There were no suggested changes to the proposed schedule by the group. Kevin reminded everyone that this schedule is not final until approved by the Carolina Region Board of Directors at their summer retreat. Motion by Ross, second by Balsler to recommend to the Carolina Region Board of Directors to:

Motion 3: approve the 2019 Junior Tournament Schedule as proposed by staff.
MSA See Appendix 2

- VII. New Issues:
A. Tie-Breakers – The season ending survey again had a question about tie-breaker sets at tournaments. We continue to get complaints from tournament directors and some teams about the added length of tournaments when tie-breakers are involved (they can add 60-90 minutes of time). For the first time, the survey results supported eliminating tie-breakers at regular season tournaments. The survey results did not support eliminating tie-breaker sets at the Regional Championships or the East/West Championships. Group decided to eliminate tie-breakers at regular season one-day tournaments and would re-evaluate next season. Motion by Morris; second by Ross to recommend to the Carolina Region Board of Directors:

Motion 4: to eliminate tie-breaker sets as the method to break 3-way ties at all Carolina Region one-day Regular season tournaments. MSA

After lengthy discussion on pros and cons of breaking 3-way ties using all the results of all matches in the pool versus using just the match results between the three tied teams. We took a straw poll on how to handle and the group wanted to break ties using the results of just the three tied teams. Question was asked about what other regions and tournaments do. We will look into that, present the results to the board at their retreat, and make a final decision then. The goal is that no matter what process we come up with, we will strive to program it into our spreadsheet so our TD's will not have to calculate anything directly.

The group discussed how to handle tie-breakers at the Regional Championships and the East/West Championships. The group decided to make no changes to our current tie-breaking procedures for the Regional Championships and East/West Championships. They will still be broken with tie-breaking sets.

B. Alternative tournament formats:

We have had some requests to develop some tournament formats that utilize wave play so sites can host more teams and make additional revenue. Our survey responses were heavily in favor of keeping our existing tournament formats and not introduce wave play. After short discussion, we decided to continue studying the issue but will not introduce next season. Also discussed reintroducing tournament satisfaction surveys that could be electronically tabulated. If we had some good questions that we thought would help us make decisions to improve our programs and tournaments, then we could post and see what kind of responses we receive.

C. Club Tryout Process Suggestions:

We received a letter of concern about a particular club tryout that was attended by this family. They had some concerns and suggestions for improvement for the club tryout process as a whole. Kevin told them he would bring to the Junior Advisory Board for discussion. After review, most of the issues are things that clubs cannot necessarily know ahead of time or control. After brief discussion, no action taken.

D. Border Tryout Issues:

We heard from one of our clubs that is near the coast and near the Virginia border about issues they have with keeping players due to the proximity to the Old Dominion Region (ODR). The ODR allows their tryouts in July. Many border area players try out in ODR and are choosing to commit in that region. Since CR tryouts are much later our border clubs are at a disadvantage. It was suggested to let them know that they can still choose to hold tryouts during the summer if they wish and offer spots. Our tryout policy just states we will not publish any tryouts held before the posted

tryout period. The club should also keep the signing dates in mind as those are required.

E. Declined National bids:

Kevin reported that we had three Carolina Region teams turn back earned Region bids to the USAV junior National Championships this season. We have not had a team turn back a bid in a very long time. The teams have been sanctioned by both USAV and the Region. The sanctions involve the team's and club's eligibility to participate in 2019 Qualifiers and the Region bid tournaments. After discussion, no action was taken on introducing additional sanctions for future violations as a way to help prevent this from happening in the future. We will increase our communication to teams that enter the National bid tournaments in the future. If we continue to have teams turn back bids, we can revisit the issue.

F. Region IMPACT clinics:

Kevin informed the group that USAV will be offering the IMPACT clinic for free online beginning with the 2019 season. He wondered if we still wanted to offer an in-person IMPACT clinic. 18% of the individuals that received an IMPACT certification this past season did it at an in-person Region clinic. There is a fee for the in-person clinics to pay for the facility, manual, and clinician. Attendees also still have to take the SafeSport course online as it is no longer a part of the IMPACT clinic. The group felt that offering one in-person clinic was still of value to some coaches and clubs in the region. We will hold one IMPACT clinic in central part of the state this season to determine if there is still a demand for it.

G. Tournament System Name for Site Assignments:

After a brief discussion during an earlier unrelated topic, the group revisited the names given to sites in our Tournament System. We currently assign out sites under the name of "Division 1"; "Division 2", "Division 3", and so on. This causes much confusion to clubs, teams, and parents if they are assigned to a site with a division number higher than the group level they chose at the beginning of the season when they registered the team. Kevin explained the difference between the team registration labels (Groups 1-5) and the site designations (Division 1 to however many sites are needed to assign out all teams in 4-team pool increments). The two terms are not related at all. Kevin suggested changing the name in the Tournament System to "Sites" for regular season tournaments to help get away from the Level connotations. We will still use "Divisions" for the Championship weekends. Motion by Readling, second by Balser to:

Motion 5: change the Site assignment labels in the Tournament System for all Regular Season events to "Site" from "Division". MSA

H. Purple Card:

Group had a brief discussion on the Purple Card policy. It was agreed that we need to continue to educate and train the Professional referees on the use of the Purple cards. Showing good judgement on when to use and not use will enhance the effectiveness of the program.

VIII. 2018 Junior Beach Tour – This is the eighth season for the Carolina Region Junior Beach Tour. The old RVA National Tour and USAV’s Junior Beach Tour merged this year and the national tour is now known as The National Beach Tour. We have two events that earn bids to the National Beach Tour. We also have three other events that earn bids to a Regional Division being held at the National Championships. The High School Beach Club tournaments are still going strong. Overall, the growth of beach volleyball in North Carolina is still positive.

IX. Other Business/Issues:

A. None

X. Elections:

A. Girls – The following individuals have been nominated to be on the Girl’s Rep ballot: Doug Balser (Champion); Latacha de Oliveira (NCVBA); Trevor Hewitt (Twin City); Savannah Linduff (Carolina Juniors); Krista McGivern (NCVBA). No additional nominations were received from the JAB attendees. Doug Balser was elected by the Team Reps in attendance. He will serve a one-year term.

B. Boys – We will hold a Boys election after the Board retreat in July among all the current boys’ team reps.

XI. Next Meeting – The group agreed to hold the next JAB meeting online again. There were some conflicting events being held this first weekend of May. We will look at other possible weekends that we might be able to move this meeting to so we can get even more participation. We will try to set that at the Board retreat in July.

XII. Adjournment - Motion by Morris, second by Balser to:

Motion 6: adjourn the May 6, 2018 meeting of the Junior Advisory Board at 3:52 pm. MSA

NOTE ON PASSED MOTIONS – PLEASE READ

Motions passed by the Junior Advisory Board do NOT establish policy. These are recommendations to the Carolina Region Board of Directors for consideration and implementation if the board agrees. Please refer to the minutes of the subsequent meetings of the Carolina Region Board of Directors to verify that the motions passed at the Junior Advisory Board meeting were adopted.