

Carolina Region/USAV
May 10, 2022 Juniors Advisory Board meeting
Online Meeting



Attendees: Doug Balser (Champion; Treasurer); Sherry Fadool (Triangle); Rory Lewellyn (Champion); Steve McKeon (NC Coastal; Girls' East Rep); Chuck Morris (Champion; Secretary); Cathy Sescourka (Carolina Spike Force); Ed Sescourka (Carolina Spike Force); Julie Tuten (Carolina Performance)

CR Board Attendees: Steve Ellis; Tina Readling; Jim Ross

CR Staff Attendees: Kevin Wendelboe, Wade Brence

Meeting began: 7:00 pm

- I. Welcome –
- II. 2022 Season Review – We had a nice bounce-back from the COVID lockdown this season but have not reached pre-Covid numbers yet. We had 773 Girls teams (+101) and 25 Boys teams (+12). Our individual full membership totals as of March 31 were: 7931 Girls (+978); 295 Boys (+147); and 220 Youth (+106). We had an increase in Outdoor memberships as well: 300 Girls (+76) and 99 Boys (+31). We had 12 weekends of sanctioned indoor tournaments in 2022 with 1487 entries for Regular season events and 309 entries on Regional Championship weekends. Two weekends were affected by inclement weather. 68% of eligible teams participated in a Regional Championship event.
- III. 2022/2023 Girls' Schedule – Kevin presented a proposed schedule for the 2023 season. With Easter being later again in 2023, the schedule is the same as the 2022 season with only the 2023 dates being updated. Kevin reminded everyone that this schedule is not final until approved by the Carolina Region Board of Directors at their summer meeting, which is coming up May 13-14, so the schedule will be released earlier than in past seasons. Motion by Balser, second by Morris to recommend to the Carolina Region Board of Directors to:

Motion 1: approve the 2023 Junior Girl's Tournament Schedule. MSA See Appendix 1

- IV. 2022/2023 Boys' Schedule – Due to the growth in boys' teams and an effort to continue to grow Boys', Kevin proposed to publish a Boys' Schedule of events for 2023. These events would be open to boys' teams from other regions as well. We would schedule these events under same process as our Girl's events and provide officials. After discussion, it was determined that some of the dates may need to be flexible depending on other possible conflicting regional boys' events, but we'll publish this schedule to begin with so clubs can begin planning their schedule. Kevin will send this schedule out to the Boys' clubs and receive feedback on whether any dates need to be updated. We will also look at updating the format for the boys' tournament to provide a 4th guaranteed match with the understanding this may depend on entries and facility limitations. Motion by Morris, second by Balser to:

Motion 2: approve the 2023 Junior Boy's Tournament Schedule with entry fees to be the same as the approved Girl's entry fees. Boy's teams would be eligible to participate in the Boys' Regional Championships by participating in one (1) CR-sanctioned Boys event. MSA See Appendix 2

- V. Region Bids to USAV Junior National Championships – It has been several seasons since we have had enough entries in an age group to require an actual bid tournament to be held. Recently, just entering the bid tournament would guarantee the bid. Kevin proposed not holding a bid tournament, but accepting applications for the bids and then coming up with a process to award the Region bids based on performance in Regional and National competitions. This would allow teams more flexibility with their national scheduling. After discussions, it was decided to try this process with the 18's age group in 2023 since those bids need to be determined earlier. We will also have the 12's – 17's age groups also submit an application for bids this season but will also announce possible bid tournament dates. Depending on interest in the bids, we may hold a bid tournament for those age groups while we further evaluate a process for determining the bids without a bid tournament.

- VI. Admissions – The current Admissions policy allows hosts to charge \$5 for all adults 18 and older. There has been a request to revisit this to allow hosts to bring in some more revenue but also maybe curb the number of younger people coming to events. Most did not want a higher fee but did want it to apply to more people. Motion by Fadool, second by Tuten to:

Motion 3: allow Carolina Region one-day tournament hosts to charge a maximum of \$5 per person 11 and older (10 and under are free). MSA

A question was raised whether to establish a policy on parking charges. It was decided to wait another year to see if the revised admissions policy reduces the need for parking charges for some hosts.

- VII. Recruiting Officials Challenges – There is a national shortage on officials in all sports. There are also more events than ever competing for volleyball officials. We had 138 officials work at least 1 tournament weekend this season. Most worked between 3 and 5 weekends out of a 12-weekend season. Officials can earn more at multi-day events than working our Saturday and Sunday tournaments. It was suggested to make a bigger push to recruit junior players to work on their off weekends. Kevin will be proposing an idea on this at the board retreat that may have an impact on that. The region will also be looking at raising our officials pay for next season, so Kevin asked whether a raise of \$25 on the entry fees would have an impact on the clubs. It was pointed out by many that our entry fees are much lower than surrounding regions and a good economic deal over playing in a multi-day event out-of-region. This feedback will be useful to the board as they look at this issue.
- VIII. Junior Representatives update – the Youth & Girls’ Rep position is currently vacant. The Girls’ Rep West and the Boys Rep positions have a 2022 expiration. We will be accepting nominations for those positions during the summer for an election in August or September. These positions have a 3-year term.
- IX. Items from the Floor:
- A. Sherry mentioned that she has met with most clubs in the Raleigh area about drafting a Fair Tryout Pledge in their area. The clubs she has met with have come to an agreement. Their hope is that families will look to play with clubs that pledge to have fair tryouts and hold clubs accountable that have processes that are not in the best interest of players. The Board will discuss whether to continue to have a Region-wide pledge or just point to an updated pledge drafted by these clubs. The region will continue to encourage clubs to operate in a manner that has the best interest of players in mind.
- X. Next Meeting – Online in May 2023.
- XI. Adjournment – Meeting ended at 8:45 pm

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.

APPENDIX I



***Proposed 2023 JUNIOR GIRLS' TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

January, 2023:

- Dec 31 – Jan 1 – Carolina Kickoff Classic (Tentative)
- 7 - Regular season tournaments begin; All divisions for age groups 14's, 17's
- 8 - Regular season tournaments begin; All divisions for age groups 15's
- 14-16 – City of Oaks Tournament – Raleigh Convention Center; (MLK trns)
- 21 - All divisions for age groups 13's, 16's, 18's
- 22 - All divisions for age groups 12's
- 28 - All divisions for age groups 15's, 17's
- 29 - All divisions for age groups 14's

February:

- 4 - All divisions for age groups 12's, 16's; 18's
- 5 – All divisions for age group 13's
- 11 - All divisions for age groups 14's, 15's; (ACT Test Date)
- 12 - All divisions for age groups 17's
- 18 – All divisions for age groups 12's, 13's; 16's
- 19 - All divisions for age groups 18's
- 25 – All divisions for age groups 14's, 17's
- 26 - All divisions for age groups 15's

March:

- 4 - All divisions for age groups 12's, 13's, 18's; MAPL Raleigh (Mar 4-5)
- 5 - All divisions for age groups 16's
- 11 – All divisions for age groups 14's, 15's; (SAT Date)
- 12- All divisions for age groups 17's
- 18 – All divisions for age groups 13's, 16's, 18's
- 19 - All divisions for age groups 12's
- 25 – Regional/East/West Championships for age groups 15's, 17's
- 26 – Regional/East/West Championships for age groups 14's

April:

- 1 – Regional/East/West Championships for age groups 12's, 16's, 18's
- 2 – Regional/East/West Championships for age groups 13's
- 9 – Easter

***NOTE:** This proposed schedule was presented to and approved by the Junior Advisory Board. It will now go to the CR Board for final approval. Thus, the 2023 schedule **IS NOT** confirmed until the Carolina Region Board of Directors approves it. Clubs/teams should not make definite plans based on this schedule until an APPROVED schedule is announced and posted on the Carolina Region website.

APPENDIX II



***Proposed 2023 JUNIOR BOYS' TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

January, 2023:

14-16 – City of Oaks Tournament – Raleigh Convention Center;
29 – Boys 14's/16's/18's

February:

26 - Boys 14's/16's/18's

March:

4-5 -Battle of the Bros - Raleigh
26 – Regional Championships Boys 14's/16's/18's

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