

**COLORADO SENIOR VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION
MINUTES – ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS / TEAM REP MEETING**

Thursday March 15, 2012 2:00 pm
Commerce City Recreation Center
6060 East Parkway Dr., Commerce City, CO
Date sent: March 18, 2012

President Fran Zelinkoff called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm, and everyone introduced themselves.

Seven Board members were present: Fran Zelinkoff, Art Smoot, Kathleen Danna, Dave Damouth, Adele Strawn, P. J. Ricker, and Carrie Fehringer.
Thirty-two others were present: Dennis Rominger, Madelon Eichorn, Andy Herrebut, Emilio Sanelli, Philip Powers, Ronald Theede, Lou Bluestein, Fred Nelson, Floyd Brown, Viola Duran, Mary Murray, Nancy Holm, Kimberly Chrisman, Issy Minott, Bruce Emo, Robert Dellapinna, Ralph Olinger, Jon Olson, Randy Peterson, Bob Reinman, Bill Cavanaugh, Carl Roedel, Pat Burgener, Snow Lopez, Dave Whitney, Joe Schamber, Diana Tait, Dick Eggleston, Darlene Kasenberg, Bill Law, John Merry, and Alexis Rankey.

MINUTES from the February 2, 2012 meeting were approved and filed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave Damouth presented the report dated 3/15/2012. It was accepted and filed. Current balances in CSVA's accounts are as follows:

General	13,909.55
Restricted	3,526.36
Designated	0.00
TOTAL	\$17,435.91

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Fran Zelinkoff announced that future CSVA meetings will be at the Commerce City Recreation Center at the regular time of 1:30 p.m.
- Fran Zelinkoff distributed the league and tournament results. Because the Division 9 tournament had seven teams rather than five, sets were limited to 17 points with a 19-point cap so that the gym could be cleared by 3:30 p.m. Several players requested 21-point sets instead. Fran explained that 21-point sets are possible but it would take two hours longer. Consequently, if the site has other programs scheduled, the tournament would stop at 3:30, even if the round-robin is not yet complete.
- Adele Strawn announced that CSVA is sponsoring a beach party at The Island on Wednesday, April 11 from 2-6 p.m. The cost is \$10 for CSVA members. The registration deadline is April 4, and the form is on the CSVA web site under "Announcements."
- Fran Zelinkoff announced a change in the procedure to request financial assistance for participation in national tournaments. Requests must be made before an event by *individuals*, not by team reps. An on-line interactive form is now available on the web site (see link under "Documents and Forms" or "Announcements").

NEW BUSINESS – Discussion of and Voting on Motions

MOTION 1. Made by Fran Zelinkoff, 2nd by Dave Whitney. *Move that all CSVA senior volleyball league matches start no earlier than 12:00 noon.*

Rationale: When the CSVA league was first formed, it was to be an "afternoon league" so that players who still work could work all morning, take a somewhat extended lunch hour to play a match, and then be able to go back to work the rest of the day. Lately matches at some Centers have been scheduled in the morning. Employers do not like it if one week their employee asks for morning time, the next week afternoon time, and back and forth up to 20 weeks during the year. Having both morning and afternoon matches almost requires working players to take a day off, depending on how far they have to travel to "away" matches, which ultimately discourages them from participating. Employers like requests for time off to be consistent, and getting back to being an afternoon league starting no earlier than 12:00 noon would definitely help younger players compete in all matches and not just those at their home site.

Following discussion (scheduling problems in gyms due to other programs; danger of losing sites), Fran amended the motion to state "... no earlier than 11:30 a.m." Dave Whitney agreed to the amendment.

The motion failed: 19 for, 22 opposed

MOTION 2. Made by Andy Herrebut and Lou Bluestein, 2nd by Adele Strawn. See Handbook, pg 12, Bylaws, Article1 – Section A – second paragraph "Each Team Rep and Board member will have one vote or be represented by written proxy." *Move to shorten the sentence to "Each Team Rep and Board member will have one vote." Then add: "If a Team Rep cannot attend the meeting, she/he shall designate one of her/his teammates to attend and represent that team's vote(s). If nobody from that team is present, that team does not get a vote." Reason:* If out of 6-8 players per team the Team Rep cannot conjure up enough interest for one person to be present at the meeting, then, quite simply, that's "tough luck." They don't deserve to have a say in the process. We need more teams represented at Annual Meetings – more teams, more discussion, more ideas – resulting in a better understanding of the CSVA organization itself and an appreciation of what the VOLUNTEER Board members do for the rest of us.

Discussion included concerns about weather problems that might be encountered for those who have to travel far; hardship for team members who work full time; and the desirability of having more participation.

The motion failed: 6 for, 33 opposed

MOTION 3. Made by Dave Whitney, 2nd Bruce Emo. *I move that the rule that is specific to Divisions 1 and 2, that requires a woman to be on the court at all times, be struck. All CSVA Division rules should be uniform on the subject of gender specificity. I propose the following replacement of language to the CSVA rules under; "RULES SPECIFIC TO DIVISIONS 1 & 2 ONLY". "LEAGUE PLAY. A team must have a minimum of 5 players to start the first set at the scheduled time. If the team has less than 5 total players, the first set is defaulted to the other team 25-0. The team has up to 10 minutes to supply a 5th player before defaulting the 2nd set, and up to an additional 10 minutes before defaulting the 3rd set. If both teams have less than 5 players, both teams forfeit."* The language remains the same, except references to gender.

Rationale:

- 1) The primary reason for this rule to change is that it forces Div. 1 and 2 teams to become too dependent on a single player. Teams can carry six guys on their rosters because oftentimes, one of the six guys can't make it. To carry an extra woman on a team's roster is usually impractical - there would simply be too much sitting. CSVA recognizes this problem and has attempted to mitigate it by maintaining a subs list. This proposed rule change would alleviate the need for the CSVA to maintain a woman subs list.

- 2) Div. 1 and 2 teams require not just a woman over 50, but a woman that is capable of playing at a high level. It is very difficult to find ladies that meet these criteria and have the work/life flexibility to be able to commit. There simply aren't enough of these ladies to field 12 teams, plus subs, effectively.
- 3) Injuries to the woman, or any long-term issue, can be devastating to a team.
- 4) I don't believe that the CSVA should have gender specific rules in any division. The CSVA is a Senior league that only requires its members to be over 50. We do not play on a gender-specific net, we play on a Senior height net. Even in Div. 1 and 2 we do not play by coed rules, other than the rule to have one woman on the court at all times.
- 5) Whereas Coed leagues are very common, this rule is unique to the CSVA. I have never heard of any other league in Colorado to have a rule like this. I believe that one reason why this peculiar rule is so rare, is that it simply doesn't work that well.
- 6) I believe Senior players should be able to play in the division they are best suited for, regardless of gender. Teams should be free to consist of the best players based on merit and skill, independent of any other factors.
- 7) I believe that by changing this rule, the number of forfeits will be reduced. The added flexibility of finding subs independent of gender, and the removal of dependence on a single player, will help in reducing team forfeits.

Heated discussion included the fact that there were only two forfeits for Division 1 (none for 2 and 3) and neither was due to lack of a female player; many matches were almost forfeited (one required contacting 15 people to find a female sub); many women on the sub list do not want to play in Div. 1; recruiting female players will continue to be a struggle; why not have the same rules for the entire league?; and a plea by several Div. 1 females not to regress to the 60's, with a concern for the direction CSVA is heading if the motion passes.

The motion failed: 10 for, 25 opposed

MOTION 4. Made by Phil Powers, 2nd by Randy Peterson. See Rule for Divisions 1 and 2 only "One position in the rotation must be designated as a 'female position,' and there must be a female in the position at all times." *Move to change the rule as follows: "One female to be on the court at all times."* **Reason behind change:** The current rule favors the teams that have taller female players. The female must play front row and block and hit with the taller men. There are many females with strong skills, but not tall enough to block/hit against the taller Division 1 and 2 male players. By allowing one female on the court at all times, a team with two shorter skilled lady players could compete against a team with a taller female on their team. Instead of having only 1 female playing at each match, there would be two (therefore more females in Division 1 and 2). Remember when Denver had the professional coed team (Denver Comets). The ladies played back row defense and set the 3 men playing the front row.

Discussion included the issue of height differentials for men (e.g. one male in Div. 2 is 6.8" tall) as well as women; some women who like to hit and are good at it would be relegated to the back row if the motion passes; more women might participate but each will play only half-time.

The motion failed: 2 for, 32 opposed

MOTION 5. Made by Fran Zelinkoff, 2nd by Diana Tait. *Move that Divisions 1, 2, and 3 all play by the same rules that are now in effect for Divisions 1 and 2 only.* **Rationale:** Teams are now so much more competitive in the top three divisions, and with forced movement of first and last place teams in all divisions, it's time to have the top three divisions all playing by the same rules.

Discussion focused on clarifying all of the changes for Division 3 (see Rules sheet) and a suggestion to have the same rules throughout the league.

The motion passed: 19 for, 16 opposed

Miscellaneous

Lou Bluestein asked about eliminating the coin toss for league matches. Fran Zelinkoff responded that the coin toss does not take much time and would still be necessary for the third set. Both 1st and 3rd set coin tosses are done at the beginning of the match, which also allows the referee to go over house rules. Both Art Smoot and Fran had previously replied to Lou's web site inquiry regarding this subject.

Nancy Holm suggested that CSVA send information about the league to all front-range rec centers in an effort to recruit additional teams and players, including women for the sub list. Carrie Fehring volunteered to do this.

In response to an inquiry, Bob Reinman reported that he is encouraged by the response he has had to a treatment protocol as part of a clinical trial. He feels energetic and pain-free.

The next National Senior Games (NSGA) will be held in Cleveland, Ohio on July 21 – August 5, 2013. The volleyball qualifier for this event will be on Thursday, September 20, 2012 in Westminster. See attached flyers for additional information.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

The next CSVA Board / Team Rep meeting will be on Thursday, August 2 at 1:30 p.m. at the Commerce City Recreation Center

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen J. Danna, CSVA Secretary
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Enclosures/Documents sent with Minutes:

Final CSVA 2012 Winter League Results (8 divisions)
Final CSVA 2012 Winter Tournament Results (9 divisions)
September 2012 qualifying tournament for National Sr. Games -- flyer
National Sr. Games Tournament (2012) -- flyer