

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

Thursday March 20, 2014 1:30 pm  
Commerce City Recreation Center  
6060 East Parkway Dr., Commerce City, CO  
Date sent: March 24, 2014

President Fran Zelinkoff called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

**Seven Board members:** Fran Zelinkoff, Art Smoot, Kathleen Danna, Dave Damouth, Adele Strawn, P. J. Ricker and Norvin Morrow. **Thirty-one others were present:** John Anthony, Jim Barnett, Glenda Blosser, Lou Bluestein, Barbara Brant, Floyd Brown, Bill Cavanaugh, Ray Childs, Kimberly Chrisman, Charlie "Czar" Czarniecki, Madelon Eichhorn, T.J. Hayden, Stacy Heikes, Andy Herrebout, Jody Kaplan, Darlene Kasenberg, Bill Law, Ivy Liu-Hawkins, Bob Lowrey, Bob Lynn, Mary Murray, Nancy Holm, Richard Parks, Lowell Pierce, Philip Powers, Jim Rennell, Tom Rochester, Carl Roedel, Tom Russell, Barry Sweeney, Bill Vallina,

MINUTES from the February 6, 2014 meeting were approved and filed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Dave Damouth presented the report dated 3/18/2014. It was accepted and filed and is available on the CSVA web site. Current assets in CSVA's accounts are as follows:

General	\$19,383.58
Restricted	7,426.00
Designated	00.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,809.58</b>

**FINAL 2014 WINTER LEAGUE & TOURNAMENT REPORTS:** Fran Zelinkoff distributed the final 2014 Winter League and Tournament results (see attached) and thanked all of the rec centers and site directors for their help. All in all, the caliber of play continues to improve each year.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Online Requirement for Financial Assistance to national events** – CSVA will no longer accept paper form requests for financial assistance to attend national and international tournaments held in the U.S. The online form, available on the CSVA web site ([www.CSVA.org](http://www.CSVA.org)), is easier to use than the old form. Anyone who needs help with the online form should call one of the CSVA Board members for assistance.

**Sonoma Wine Country Age 50+ Games, Santa Rosa, CA – June 7 & 8, 2014** – If anyone is interested in combining a volleyball tournament with a vacation to the California wine country, please see the flyer about the Sonoma Games that is posted on the CSVA web site.

**Web site report** – Art Smoot reported that his server recently suffered a fatal accident when a cabinet fell onto it. Within 12 hours, the web site was up and running on the backup server. Art encourages anyone who encounters a problem with the web site or who has any suggestions about it to let him know. He also asked for volunteers to help with the site.

**Scheduling Issues and a Scheduling Challenge** -- Scheduling the league matches has become increasingly difficult for several reasons: gyms offer very few time slots for the league; a large number of teams register; and teams as well as centers continue to make requests that constrain the scheduling (e.g. "all teams playing out of this center must play on the same day"; "the gym is not available at all on a certain date").

The online registration form for the 2014 Fall League will be available in June. Completed forms and checks for the fee must be received by Art by the deadline of July 28, 2014. After team placements are approved (7/31/14 CSVA Board/Team Rep meeting), the schedules will be devised.

Art has developed software that can assist the scheduler. On the CSVA web site (under Announcements), you will find a scheduling "game" based on this software and the data (teams, centers, constraints) from the 2014 Winter session. Art has issued a challenge -- a \$50 reward to the first person who can create a workable schedule using these data and his software.

**The Island CSVA Party – Friday, April 4, 2014** – Adele Strawn reminded everyone about the upcoming party, for which CSVA is covering half of the total cost. Pre-registration is required, and the participant fee is \$10 per person. A flyer about the party is attached and is also posted on the CSVA web site under Announcements.

**NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION OF AND VOTING ON MOTIONS**

**MOTION 1.** Made by Fran Zelinkoff. 2nd by: Lowell Pierce. Move that female participation on all CSVA league teams continue to be strongly recommended, but that the mandatory female position be in effect for Divisions 1,2 & 3 only, as it had been prior to March 2013.

**Rationale:** This year teams in Divisions 4 thru 8 have found it very difficult to find a female player who can commit to being there every single week, and as a result more Division 4 thru 8 teams have forfeited matches. There are not enough female subs available for those divisions, especially for a last-minute emergency or injury situation. Two teams in Division 6 have actually had to drop out of the league or disband because they were not able to find a female player.

**Discussion:** it is sometimes hard to find female players for teams or for the women's sub list, especially for the lower divisions; some male players keep the ball away from their female teammates as much as possible; female players on some teams improve the quality of play and female players should be included; if the female rule is not in place, many teams will have 6 male players on the court at all times, which generally confers a height advantage.

**Results of the vote:** FOR – 39 AGAINST – 9 ABSTENTIONS – 0

**MOTION 2.** Made by Bill Law. Move that the requirement for a woman to be on the court at all times be rescinded for divisions 7 and 8.

**Rationale:**

1. For teams with only one woman, this rule presents a hardship in finding a substitute if said woman happens to be unable to play at the last minute.
2. In these divisions, it has been my observation that the women play as well as the men--and in many instances better than some, if not all, the men. Since there is not a lot of spiking in these divisions, the advantage of being male is somewhat mitigated.
3. It is very difficult to recruit women at these levels, especially from the team's local area.
4. This rule is discriminatory.
  - (a) In these divisions, since there is no significant difference in the level of play, the women should sub in just as the men do.
  - (b) The man next to the woman in the lineup must sit out for two rotations before subbing back in.

**Because Motion 1 passed, Bill Law withdrew this motion.**

**MOTION 3.** Made by Stacy Heikes. 2nd by P. J. Ricker. Move to change the rules to state that the mandatory female position be in effect for only Divisions 1 and 2.

Rationale:

- It is difficult in our small community to find enough women who can commit to a team every week, especially at the higher levels of ability. Having only one woman on a team puts a lot of pressure on that person.
- The “female position” rule makes fair substitution impossible. We like to have all players sit out an equal amount of time. This is not possible with the woman rule
- Often a female is forced by the current rule to play at a level where she is not comfortable. This can be a negative experience for the female and for the team as a whole.
- There is nothing discriminatory about having a pure setter or defensive specialist, which allows people to play where they can best contribute. The female rule makes that not possible.
- Most teams do not wish to discriminate against women, and many voluntarily have several female players. Elimination of the mandatory female position rule will have little effect on the number of women playing, but it will simplify fair play and substitution.

**Discussion:** if this motion were to pass, there would be one set of rules for Divisions 1 and 2, a different set of rules for Division 3, and yet another set of rules for Divisions 4-8; some teams would take advantage of this rule to have three males on the front row at all times or to play with no female; the women’s sub list was set up to help teams avoid forfeiting.

**Results of the vote:** FOR – 3 AGAINST – 32 ABSTENTIONS -- 9

**MOTION 4.** Made by Fran Zelinkoff. 2nd by Nancy Holm. Move to amend the CSVA Rules Sheet to delete the bolded sentence in RULES SPECIFIC TO DIVISIONS 1, 2 & 3 ONLY under GHOST RULE that for the past year has been stated: “When the ghost position is in the front row, the player in position 5 may act as a front-row player.” All other wording under the GHOST RULE would remain the same as it has been for many years.

Rationale: CSVA for the most part uses current USAV rules, with a few modifications. USAV rules do not allow a team to play with fewer than 6 players. In the top three divisions, CSVA has always given teams quite a bit of leeway to allow 5 players and a Ghost to avoid forfeiting. To also allow the player in position 5 to act as a front-row player is seen as giving that team the added advantage of its strong hitters being on the front row a greater percentage of the time (~60% rather than 50%). After one full year, some teams have elected to use their five best players (as long as one of those players is a female) and a ghost instead of a sixth (possibly weaker) player. It is viewed as almost handicapping the team that always tries to have six players present.

**Discussion:** having only 5 players is already a disadvantage and keeping track of the ghost makes it even more so; allowing three players on the front row all the time would promote the highest possible level of play; it would be simpler for the referee if he/she had to keep track of the position of the ghost only when the ghost rotates into the service position rather than all of the time; it would be simpler to keep the current rule.

**Results of the vote:** FOR – 25 AGAINST – 10 ABSTENTIONS -- 7

**MOTION 5.** Made by Kathleen Danna. 2nd by Art Smoot. Move to delete Rule 8b (“Center Back Row Substitution”), which currently applies to divisions 4 through 8. Teams will no longer have the option of using center-back substitution but can still use regular substitution, as described in Rule 8a, whenever more than six players are present for a match.

Rationale: Having only “regular substitution” for all divisions in the league conforms to USAV guidelines and simplifies CSVA rules, making it easier for the referees. Moreover, regular substitutions afford teams more flexibility in determining line-ups.

**Discussion:** the motion was made originally because of complaints that because the female doesn’t rotate out in one position, the male next to her has to sit out twice in a row; rotating into the center back is the only way some teams can give equal playing time to all players; the current rule does not preclude using regular substitution, though teams cannot use both center back rotation and regular substitution in the same set.

**Results of the vote:** FOR – 4 AGAINST – 35 ABSTENTIONS -- 3

**OTHER BUSINESS:** On behalf of all of the Colorado Springs teams, Lowell Pierce expressed thanks to everyone for their support in honor of Bob Reinman and to CSVA for naming the end of league tournaments in his honor.

Fran Zelinkoff proposed that all CSVA matches be scored as follows: rather than having three sets to 25, the first two sets will be played to 25 points, with a cap at 27; if the third set does not commence by 40 minutes past the actual match start time, it will be played to 15 points, with a cap at 17. This system is currently used at Commerce City and Lakewood because of gym schedule constraints. The rationale for expanding this system to the entire league is that many players have to take time off work in order to play and they need to have reliable start times and matches that last no more than one hour. Discussion included the following: if a gym has scheduling restrictions, this requirement makes sense, but otherwise, why impose this limit; why not just have 3 sets to 21 points (this was done in past years); many teams that travel a lot would not consider an extra 10 or 15 minutes to be significant; this proposal would change a rule and therefore should be implemented only through a motion next year. The consensus was that there will be no changes in this rule for the fall 2014 and winter 2015 sessions. If necessary, additional centers may adopt the altered scoring format to accommodate a tight gym schedule.

Lowell Pierce moved that the meeting be adjourned. Bob Lynn seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

**The next CSVA Board / Team Rep meeting will be on Thursday, July 31, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. at the Commerce City Recreation Center.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen J. Danna, CSVA Secretary  
1909 Hardscrabble Dr.  
Boulder, CO 80305-7132  
303-494-4166  
Email: [CO.Sr.VB.Secr@gmail.com](mailto:CO.Sr.VB.Secr@gmail.com)

**Enclosure/Document sent with Minutes:**  
Final CSVA 2014 Winter Tournament Results (9 divisions)  
Flyer for April 4, 2014 party at The Island