

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

Thursday March 21, 2013 1:30 pm
Commerce City Recreation Center 6060
East Parkway Dr., Commerce City, CO
Date sent: March 25, 2013

President Fran Zelinkoff called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm, and everyone introduced themselves.

Six Board members and Bob Reinman, ex-officio were present: Fran Zelinkoff, Art Smoot, Kathleen Danna, Dave Damouth, Adele Strawn, and Norvin Morrow. **Twenty others were present:** John Anthony, Floyd Brown, Bill Cavanaugh, Margo Constable, Kimberly Chrisman, Geri Durbin, Madelon Eichhorn, Chris Freeman, Darlene Kasenberg, Bill Law, Snow Lopez, Philip Powers, Rick Powers, Issy Minott, Mary Murray, Martha Mustard, Alex Pchenitchnyi, Paul Simon, David Strawn, Rich Urbanowski,

MINUTES from the February 7, 2013 meeting were approved and filed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave Damouth presented the report dated 3/20/2013. It was accepted and filed and is available on the CSVA web site. Current assets in CSVA's accounts are as follows:

General	14,649.46
Restricted	5,046.00
Designated	0.00
TOTAL	\$19,695.46

ANNOUNCEMENT: Adele Strawn reminded everyone about CSVA's beach party at The Island on Friday, March 22, 2013 from 4-8 p.m. Based on pre-registrations and phone inquiries, she is expecting about 70 participants.

FINAL 2013 WINTER LEAGUE & TOURNAMENT REPORTS: Fran Zelinkoff summarized the final 2013 winter league and tournament results. Of special note were several very close league rankings that were determined by point spread (e.g. a 1-point difference between the first and second-place teams in Division 1). She thanked all of the centers, tournament site directors, and referees for their help, including a last-minute change in venue when Lakewood hosted the tournament originally scheduled in Greeley. In discussion, Site Director Fran Zelinkoff at Commerce City received thanks for ensuring a full afternoon of play for the Division 3 tournament after a team dropped out on March 14. Adele Strawn, Division 8 Site Director at Westminster, also had to adjust the morning wave schedule because of a no-show.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION: CSVA Referee Chair Bob Reinman discussed possible rule changes for next year and explained the relationship between FIVB [International] and USAV rules. In the USAV Rule Book, entries in normal print are adopted directly from the FIVB rules. Entries in italics in a shaded box are USAV modifications of FIVB rules. Significant rule changes and clarifications are always listed in the front section of the USAV rulebook. A *likely* rule change for next fall is that multiple contacts on serve receive will no longer be allowed. USAV Officials Chair, Glenn Sapp, has confirmed that he is unaware of any change from the current Molten R/W/B Super Touch ball we are now using.

NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION OF AND VOTING ON MOTIONS

MOTION 1. Made by Nancy Holm, 2nd by John Anthony. I would like to move that we have a pre-season tournament that would allow teams who are new or wish to move up an opportunity to show their stuff! All teams would not need to participate, but hopefully we could encourage at least one team from each division to participate in order to give a true representation of the levels of play. The final decision as to where to place teams would be determined from the results as well as observers who evaluate teams' strength.

Discussion included the point that only two teams (out of thousands) have been placed in wildly inappropriate divisions; rosters must be accurate as they are used for placement; and having a "pre-season" tournament is impractical (who would evaluate teams? who would pay for the tournament? where would it be held? which teams would participate?).

The motion failed: 1 for, 29 opposed.

Motion 2. Made by Dave Strawn, 2nd by Phil Powers. I move that we add a Men's Sub List for Divisions 1, 2 and 3 which is similar to the Women's sub list. This list would be maintained by Adele Strawn. "The Men subs cannot be shown on any team's roster, must sign a CSVA waiver prior to playing, must be requested from and assigned by Adele Strawn, and cannot play more than three (3) matches for the same team during the current season."

Rationale: A men's sub list would eliminate the need to search for additional players to add to a team's roster in order to field a team with six players. It would eliminate the possibility of forfeits and allow a team to be competitive in a match with 5 men/1 woman without the need to play with a ghost.

Discussion: One suggestion was to expand such a sub list to all divisions. This change would have to occur through a motion next year and would also require an additional administrator. Another point is that teams would not be able to request specific subs; Adele would assign them. Subs will have to sign a waiver. Some questioned the need for a men's sub list since teams often have their own rostered subs. An effort would be made to have "remote subs" to help teams traveling to or from Greeley or Colorado Springs when their regular team members cannot take extended breaks from work to travel so far.

The motion passed: 19 for, 10 opposed

Motion 3. Made by Rick Powers, 2nd by Art Smoot. I move to change a rule specific to Divisions 1, 2, and 3. **LEAGUE PLAY:** Allow 15 minutes each before 2nd and 3rd sets are defaulted due to insufficient players rather than 10 minutes each.

Rationale: A set would normally last at least 15 minutes, so allowing that much time for the "late" player to arrive will not hamper completing the match in 1 hour.

During **discussion**, some expressed surprise that teams had encountered a problem with forfeits that would be addressed by this rule change. Rick said that it has happened to the Boulder team twice. Another point was that this change would be at variance with USAV rules.

The motion passed: 23 for, 8 opposed.

Motion 4. Made by Rick Powers, 2nd by Mary Murray. I move to change a rule specific to Divisions 1, 2, and 3. **GHOST RULE:** Change to always allow 3 players in front row.

Rationale: It is penalty enough to play with only 5 players and also lose the serve and point whenever the ghost position rotates to serve. It would be one less thing for the referee to monitor. Many other Colorado city leagues operate this proposed way.

New wording would be: Rotation order as determined by the starting lineup must be maintained throughout the set (Rule 7.4) and the Captain must inform the Referee where the ghost player will be positioned. The team using the ghost player loses the serve and a point for the open ghost position. When the ghost position is in the front row, the player in position 5 may act as a front-row player. (During a set, if the 6th player arrives, he/she may enter in the ghost position when the ball is dead).

Discussion was minimal and primarily focused on clarification of how the new system would work.

The motion passed: 13 for, 9 opposed, 10 abstained.

Motion 5. Made by Chris Freeman, 2nd by Issy Minott. I move to change the senior volleyball league competition rules to state that **all teams in all divisions must have one position in the rotation designated as a "female position," and there must be a female in the position at all times.**

This rule currently applies only to Divisions 1, 2, and 3.

Rationale: This is an issue of gender fairness of opportunity in the CSVA competitions.

- It is my understanding that CSVA originated to provide opportunities for seniors (50+) to experience the joys of competitive league play in the Denver area. It was developed to be open to both genders to participate
- There are more women ages 50 to 80 that have been volleyball trained in their youth than men and so there must be many women players in the Denver area who would like to participate IF GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY.
- In senior National volleyball tournaments, there are almost as many women's teams participating as men's. For example, at the 2012 Huntsman Games there were **180** women's teams and **148** men's volleyball teams So, nationally, there are a lot of women participating WHEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY.
- There are always the discussions of which players are most valuable on the volleyball teams and the availability of female players. But, should these arguments/excuses or the biased opinions of other players be brought into this rule consideration, when this proposed rule change is really about **FAIRNESS OF OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE FOR BOTH GENDERS?**
- Lastly, this proposed change would make the rule concerning women players consistent throughout all divisions.

Additional Comments: The days of men controlling the participation opportunities of women in sports should be long in the past. Many reasons can be given as to why this continues in the CSVA, but the bottom line is that this type of limitation could continue for the following reason: The voting genders CSVA are 19 women and 38 men. This means that the males control 66% of the voting power.

So I am respectfully asking the voting males of CSVA to put themselves "in the shoes of the females" and **acknowledge the inequality of voting power and the inequality of the females' playing opportunities and consider taking a small step to rectifying this unfairness.**

PLEASE GIVE YOUR SUPPORT TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN CSVA!

Discussion was lengthy and at times heated. Specific points as well as questions and answers about possible repercussions are as follows:

- In divisions 4-8, when a team has fewer than 5 players, would one of them have to be a female? Yes
- If a division 4-8 team does not have a female on the court at all times, will it forfeit the set? Yes, the score would be 0-25.
- If teams are rotating an extra player onto the court (e.g. into the middle back position), what happens when it's the female player's turn to rotate out? If she is the only female on the court, she would *not* rotate out. Otherwise, she would.
- Rather than applying the requirement for a female to the entire league, perhaps the rule should be expanded to cover a few more divisions, such as 4 and 5.
- The goal of increasing participation by women would be better served if the league were truly coed. However, there are now some teams that reject female players. Some suggested that the league not become co-ed.
- Many team reps said that they value and enjoy having female players on their teams and sometimes the female is their best player.
- There was some concern that this new requirement might result in teams dropping out of the league.
- Fran reported that only 4 teams (one each in divisions 5-8) do not have a female listed on the roster. In some cases, the teams might refuse to have female players and in others, women don't seem to want to play on the teams. Another point is that being listed on the roster doesn't guarantee that the women actually get to play.
- Are there women who want to play in the CSVA league but who cannot find a team? No one knows.
- Because of the penalty (forfeit), the rule change would make sense if the women's sub list would be available to all divisions.
- The status quo, even if unfair, usually prevails if there are no rules to change it.

Following the discussion Chris proposed the following amendment to her motion: ***If (and only if) Motion 5 passes, the women's sub list would be expanded to include all divisions.*** Kathleen Danna seconded the amendment.

The amendment passed: 25 for, 5 opposed.

After approval of the amendment, a vote was taken on the amended version of Motion 5:

Initial count: 15 for, 14 opposed.

Because of the close result, a recount was performed.

The motion passed: 15 for, 14 opposed.

OTHER BUSINESS: Art Smoot reported that registration for the fall 2013 league will again be on-line. The deadline for team registration is July 29 and the registration form should be ready by June 1. Previously entered data for players will appear automatically on the rosters generated via the online form. Names can be added or deleted, and any prior incorrect information shown (e.g. new Team Rep, new addresses, new phones, etc.) should be corrected before submission to Art. One team rep asked whether the web site could contain a list of players in various age groups that could be used by those who want to form teams for Huntsman. It was mentioned that the Huntsman web site does have a team finder / player finder feature.

Kathleen Danna moved that the meeting be adjourned. Norvin Morrow seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

The next CSVA Board / Team Rep meeting will be on Thursday, August 1, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at the Commerce City Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen J. Danna, CSVA Secretary
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Enclosure/Document sent with Minutes:
Final CSVA 2013 Winter Tournament Results (9 divisions)