



Newsletter

May, 2008

Commissioner's Notes

The 2008 Season is almost over. We only have a few tournaments remaining, including the USA Volleyball National Championships. Each of our Regional Championships are now behind us, and right now many of our adult and junior members are preparing for their respective National Championships. We currently have 26 adult teams scheduled to attend the 2008 USA Open Championships, in Atlanta from May 24 through May 31, 2008. We have 61 teams qualified and selected to compete at the 2008 Girls Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships, in Dallas, on June 26 - July 5, 2008. We are currently planning on having three outstanding boys teams representing the Lone Star Region, in Sandy, Utah, at the 2008 Boys Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships on July 2-9.

Both the adult and junior regional championships went well. The adult tournament was hosted by the Corpus Christi Volleyball Club, in Corpus Christi. The girls events were hosted by the Austin Junior Volleyball Club and Houston Juniors, and played in Austin and Houston, the same as last season. Many thanks to each of the event hosts for their outstanding efforts—great job!

It's now time to start planning for our 2009 Season. Individual registrations will again start on September 1st, and all registrations will need to be completed through the USA Volleyball On-Line Registration System. This means each of you will need to know your **log-in information**. The best way to keep track of this information is for each of our members to periodically review their records and keep them current, throughout the summer—**keep you contact information current. This includes both mailing and email addresses.** To log on to your record you will need to know your **user name** and **password**. If you did not keep a record of this information you should now go to the Region web site, www.lsvolleyball.org and select **Registration**. at the top of the Home Page. This will take you to the Registration Instructions, where you can use the **Forgot Password** option to get this information. That is always your first option for getting this information. With the number of records in our system the Region Office does not have sufficient staff to maintain and retrieve this data for those who can not accept the responsibility for maintaining their own data. If you have to call the Region Office to obtain this data, be prepared to explain why you couldn't use the proper procedures for getting this information. For the 2009 Season we will have a new phone number to be call for registration information; however, this doesn't relieve the individual from keeping track of their one log-in information.

In the Region database we currently have 419 members still listed on the **UNPAID List**. These are members who have registered on-line but have not yet paid their individual registration fees, for the 2008 Season. Most of these individuals are players, but we also have many officials and coaches who are unpaid. Once an individual has registered on-line they send in their required forms to their club director or the Regional Office, along with the appropriate fees. This has not yet been done, or at least the forms and fees haven't gotten to the Region Office. These records must be cleared from the Unpaid List before we can start registrations for the 2009 Season. Hopefully, we can get those members registered, who actually participated in sanctioned events or practices. If not, I will start deleting them from the system as soon as all our competitions are completed for this season. Club directors you will have until the end July to get these "Unpaid" members straightened out. After that, I will start deleting them from the system. I'm sure many of them will be interested to know that they were not actually registered, when they had actually been participating in sanctioned events.

As in past years, a copy of our Board Minutes are being published in this issue of the newsletter, for your information. The Annual Board of Directors' Meeting was held on Friday night prior to the Adult Regionals. Take the opportunity to read through this minutes, since those changes addressed here will be those which affects us during the 2009 Season.

Lone Star Region—Regional Champions

Adult Regional Champions

Women's A	1st—Kaboom	2nd—Ballbangers
Women's BB	1st—Salt & Pepper	2nd—Phoenix
	3rd—Ninjas w/Attitude	3rd—Walk By Faith
Women's B	1st—Pure Energy	2nd—Serves You Right
Men's A	1st—Texas Rangers	2nd—Punishers
Men's BB	1st—Kingwood Krushers	2nd—GCVA181 Gators
Men's B	1st—Homeboyz	2nd—HVA Smack

Junior Regional Champions

18's	1st	Braggin Rights 181	17's	1st	Houston SW Heat 17 Ignite
	2nd	AHCA 18's		2nd	BCHVA 17 Gold
	3rd	Coastal 181		3rd	KABOOM 17 Explosion
	4th	KABOOM 18 Explosion		4th	Texas Elite 17 Blue
16's	1st	TX Tornados 16 Silver	15's	1st	WAC 15
	2nd	Texas Fury		2nd	Woodlands Stars—15W
	3rd	Brazos Valley—16 Navy		3rd	TCVA 15
14's	1st	Blackland Top Notch	13's	1st	Alamo 13 Gold
	2nd	GCVA 14 West Beach		2nd	Viper—13 White
	3rd	Brazos Valley 14 Navy		3rd	Coastal 13
	3rd	XTREME 14 Silver		3rd	KABOOM 13 Blast
			12's	1st	BCHVA 12 Silver
				2nd	Alamo 12 Gold
				3rd	SA Xtreme 12
				3rd	XTREME 12 Purple

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FROM THE REFEREE STAND

It has been another great season for getting members certified as referees. I want to thank again all the referee leaders that spend time rating our players, our national-level referees that prepared the new referees through our clinics held from October through May this year (about 40 clinics), and for those who went through this process to make the game better for everyone. It is not too late, so if you still have ratings or exams, send them in and we'll add you to the list of certified referees for this season. Remember, you can get rated at a tournament, club scrimmage or any event using USAV rules as long as a rater is available. The rating form is at www.lsvolleyball.org under reference.

Congratulations to all that were selected from the Lone Star Region to officiate finals at the 2008 Lone Star Classic Qualifier Championships in Houston and Dallas, Texas. Our region continues to play a significant role in producing top quality officials and we are honored to have them work important matches throughout the season, but especially at national-level events. Some of our referees (Gloria Cox, Carlos Rodriguez and Mary Blalock) serve on the USAV national referee rating team and their contribution is always appreciated as it keeps us in tune with the latest mechanics and protocols.

Thomas Hoy, Referee Chair

FROM THE SCOREKEEPERS' CHAIR

Use the Lone Star Region web site (<http://lsvolleyball.org>) to always get the most up to date information on anything relating to your Region.

Junior News

Dick Kappel, Jr. Development Director

Congratulations to the 61 teams which have qualified to play at the 2008 Junior National Championships in Dallas. These teams earned a bid via LS Jr Regional Bid Tournament, National Qualifier events, or Open-At-Large selection.

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| <p>18's Austin Jrs—18 Mizuno
AVA of Texas—18 Asics
South Shore—18 Mizuno
Alamo—18 National KAepa
TX Tornados—18 Mizuno
Houston—18 National
Texas Elite—18 Black
CC Wave—18</p> | <p>17's Austin Jrs—17 Mizuno
TX Tornados—17 Mizuno
Extec—17 National
AVA of Texas—17 Asics
SA Heat—17 National
Alamo—17 Nat Kaepa
Asics Willowbrook—17 Red
Texas Juniors—17 Force
Austin Jrs—17 Navy
Austin Jrs—17 North
Woodland Stars—17 Gold</p> |
| <p>16's Texas Tornados—16 Mizuno
Asics Willowbrook—16 Red
Austin Jrs—16 Mizuno
Houston—16 National
Alamo—16 National Kaepa
Southwest—16 Asics
AP V—16 Stealth
TCVA—16
Woodland Stars—15 Gold
AVA of Texas—16 Asics</p> | <p>15's Texas Tornados—15 Mizuno
AVA of Texas—15 Asics
Woodland Stars—15 Gold
Austin Jrs—15 Mizuno
Braggin Rights—151
Southwest—15 Asics
Texas Tornados—15 Black
Alamo—15 Nat Kaepa
TCA TX—15 TD
TRV—15 Elite
Asics Willowbrook—15 Red</p> |
| <p>14's Woodland Stars—14 Gold
Texas Tornados—14 Mizuno
Austin Jrs—14 Mizuno
Alamo—14 National Kaepa
TRV—14 Elite
Austin Jrs—14 Navy
SA Xtreme—14
Southwest—14 Asics
Houston—14 National
Texas Tornados—14 Black</p> | <p>13's Texas Tornados—13 Mizuno
Austin Jrs—13 Mizuno
Asics Willowbrook—13 Red
Braggin Rights—131
Maverick—131
BCHVA—13 Asics
Alamo—13 National Kaepa</p> |
| | <p>12's Texas Tornados—12 Mizuno
Austin Jrs—12 Mizuno
Alamo—12 National Kaepa
Impact—121</p> |

Lone Star Volleyball Association
Minutes of the
Annual Board of Director's Meeting

Friday, April 4, 2008
Emerald Beach Holiday Inn
Corpus Christi, Texas

Presider: Will Vick, Commissioner

Recorder: Regina Daniel, Secretary

CALL ORDER: The Commissioner, Will Vick, called the meeting to order at 8:20 P.M. -----

ROLL TO CALL: Absent but excused were Wally Simpson, Toni Leech, Gene Chambliss and Pat Johnston.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The 2007 BOD minutes were approved as written. (Steve Crane moved/Thomas Hoy seconded).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as written with the addition of Coaches Conduct and Referee Fees. (Thomas Hoy moved/Hal Virgie Mallett seconded).

DATE AND LOCATION OF 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: Based on policy defined by the BOD, the 2009 meeting will be held in conjunction with the adult regional championship tournament in Houston, Texas. The specific date will be released at a later date.

ELECTIONS: Commissioner Vick called for nominations from the floor for the positions currently up for election. The Commissioner announced that incumbent, Pat Johnston, Player Representative (Men) had submitted his written resignation. Keith Kubicek and Marc Holmquist were nominated for the position of Player Representative (Men). All non-opposed positions were accepted by acclamation. (Virgie Mallett moved/Mar Resendiz seconded)

At this time, the nominees for the position of Player Representative (Men), Marc Holmquist and Vicki Barnes for nominee Keith Kubicek, in his absence, respectively, presented their presentations to the BOD. At the conclusion of the presentations, the BOD was requested to cast their vote for their candidate of choice for the position of Player Representative (Men). Secret ballots were cast, counted and the results will be announced at the close of the meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

REGISTRATIONS: Currently there is an overall increase in individual, as well as team registrations. We closed the 2007-2008 season with 10,606 individuals and 881 teams. As of March 30, 2008, we had registered 10,950 individuals and 949 teams.

REFEREE'S CHAIR: Thomas Hoy reported that it has been another successful year for Lone Star Region referees. To-date, Lone Star Region National and Junior National Referees have conducted 45 referee clinics with a total of 1,490 applications submitted. Of the 1,490, 819 applied, paid their fee and registered with the region, 191 were re-certifying and 350 were renewing. He also reported that to-date; the Region has 26 National Referees, 15 Junior National Referees, 88 Regional Referees, 284 Provisional Referees and 69 Junior Olympic Referees. Mr. Hoy reported that the Region received 18 Junior National Referee applications and 6 candidates were recommended for advancement to the junior national level. He also reported that Renee Blakely and Luis Ramos have been recommended for advancement to the national level. Mr. Hoy reported that congratulations are extended to Mary Lou Flink, Charlie Tamez and Andy Strickler on their new Junior National Referee status and to Connie Brennan and Tim Craft on their new National Referee status. He also reported that there is a data base on the Region's website that can be accessed by Region members that contain their referee status.

At this time, Mr. Hoy took the opportunity to extend the Region's gratitude and appreciation to the Junior National and National Referees for their outstanding work in conducting referee and scorekeeping clinics, providing ratings and their help in obtaining facilities for the clinics.

SCOREKEEPER'S CHAIR: Steve Crane reported that there were 100 Scorekeeper clinics held in various locations of the state. He reported that the Region currently has certified one International Scorekeeper, 13 National Scorekeepers, 10 Regional Scorekeepers, 64 Provisional Scorekeepers, and 778 Junior Olympic Scorekeepers.

LONE STAR REGIONAL WEB SITE UPDATE: Steve Crane reported that the Team Finder link on the Region's website continues to be very successful. It has received 809 entries this season and has an average of 350 visitors a day. He also reported that the juniors are now sorted geographically.

HOUSTON AREA REPRESENTATIVE: Gordon Morrison reported that the Junior Division in the Houston area is continuing to grow.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Vicki Barnes reported that there were a total of 72 adult tournaments scheduled for the 2007/2008 season. She also reported that commencing with the 2008/2009 season adult tournaments would be limited to two tournaments per month.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Annell Neale reported that the deadline for the May newsletter is April 15 and requested that any inclusions in the newsletter be submitted on or before that date.

WOMEN'S PLAYER REPRESENTATIVE: Nothing to Report.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR: Dick Kappel reported that the number of junior teams (girls) increased by 10.3% from 2007. He also reported 6 Impact Training Clinics were held with a total of 153 participants.

VICE COMMISSIONER: Hal Naumann had nothing to report.

LEGAL ADVISOR: Michelle Hanlon had nothing to report.

SAN ANTONIO AREA REPRESENTATIVE: Mar Resendiz reported that the juniors are growing in the San Antonio area. He also reported that the Team Finder link on the Region's Web Site continues to be very helpful. He also reported that the adult participation in San Antonio was decreasing but there has been an increase in adult open recreational play at various community facilities.

At this time, Steve Crane stated that he would add the information concerning dates and locations of the adult open recreational play in San Antonio to the Region's website.

AUSTIN AREA REPRESENTATIVE: Virgie Mallett reported that the junior divisions in the Austin area are growing. She also reported that there have been new facilities constructed in the Austin area.

CORPUS CHRISTI AREA REPRESENTATIVE: Melissa Garza reported that the junior divisions in the Corpus Christi area are growing.

At this time, Commissioner Vick took this opportunity to extend the Region's appreciation to Melissa Garza for hosting the 2008 Adult Regional Championship tournament.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The report was distributed to each Board member. Any questions concerning the report must be submitted in writing to the Commissioner.

BUSINESS:

USA VOLLEYBALL HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM: After some discussion, a motion was duly made and carried that the Region would withhold any contributions to the USA Volleyball High Performance Program for the 2008 season pending receipt of USA Volleyball High Performance Program's 2007 annual Financial Report. Said report should include an overview of the number of teams selected for the 2007 season and coaches and participants selected. After receipt and approval by the Region of the 2007 annual Financial Report, the Region will contribute to the 2008 season an amount (earmarked for entry fees) equal to the contribution made for the 2007 season.

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES AND REFEREE'S FEE STRUCTURE: After some discussion it was determined that the tournament entry fees and the referees' fund will not increase for the 2008/2009 season. (Vicki Barnes moved/Rachel Nobles seconded).

REGISTRATION FEES--2007/2008 SEASON: The Commissioner reported that there would be no increase in registration fees for the 2008/2009 season.

ON-LINE IMPACT CERTIFICATION: At this time, Commissioner Vick initiated a discussion concerning the Webinar Online Impact Certification Course being offered on the USA Volleyball website. He stated that registered members of the Region can utilize this course to complete their impact certification requirement. He stated that the Region supports this program but will continue to schedule Impact Training Classes at various locations within the region.

REFEREE FEE STRUCTURE: At this time, Thomas Hoy initiated a discussion concerning the difficulty the Region is experiencing obtaining enough officials for the smaller tournaments hosted by the Lone Star Region. He informed the board that the current rate of pay for referees is not sufficient to induce officials to travel to our tournaments from other regions. Commissioner Vick directed Mr. Hoy to form a committee to prepare a report that includes how many tournaments from the upcoming 2008/2009 season did not obtain the number of officials they required. Mr. Hoy is to present this report to Commissioner Vick and will be considered for action at the 2009 BOD meeting.

COACHES CONDUCT: After some discussion, it was determined that we, as a Board, collectively support and enforce USA policy ensuring that the coaches and members of the Region do not use inappropriate actions and we adhere to the rules and code of conduct pertaining to inappropriate language and behavior and adherence will be required by each member organization of the Lone Star Region.

OFFICE STAFF MEMBER: After discussion, a motion was made and carried that the Region employ Karen Tarmon, effective July 1, 2008, as a part-time staff member to assist with registrations and other various office duties. Commissioner Vick reported that her name and telephone number will be available on the Region's website.

ELECTION RESULTS: Commissioner Vick reported that by secret ballot, Keith Kubicek has been elected to the position of Player Representative (Men), effective with the 2008/2009 season.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn. The time was 11:35 P.M. (Mar Resendiz moved/Michele Hanlon seconded).

Respectfully Submitted,

Regina Daniel
Secretary

A Note from the Houston Area Rep

I decided to write this article in order to express my opinion. Even though I am on the Lone Star board of directors and an employee of Asics Willowbrook, this is MY opinion. And those of you who know me realize that I will not write something like this because someone asked me to do it.

I am having trouble with the lack of commitment of teams in our region. It is from many people and organizations. I do not mean everyone in the region, but the problem is growing. Most people and clubs are very committed and will work extra to make things better. But there are some of you who do not care.

I am the tournament director for Asics Willowbrook. I have run 12 tournaments so far this season. I have had two tournaments where teams have dropped out at 930PM on the Friday night before the tournament. Less than 11 hours before the first serve. I have had teams tell me that they have to wait until after practice on Thursday night to let me know if they are going to play in the tournament or not. I had 15 teams drop out the week before one tournament. I know this may be hard for some of you to believe, but I try to have a life outside volleyball. And I have a real job as well. I do not enjoy working playoff brackets and pools over and over again. Once I put the pools together, I do the playoff brackets. Typically, I finish the work on the tournament on Tuesday evening. And when teams drop at the last minute and I cannot add teams, I have to do the playoff brackets and pools again. Some of you have wondered why I am grumpy on Saturdays. I am up until 2AM Saturday morning reworking the tournament and I need to be at the facility at 5AM in order to reprint the paperwork and get ready for the tournament. And to help my mood, I have coaches, parents, and club directors that are suggesting ways to show that they know how to run a tournament better than I do.

I am a national referee and scorekeeper. I put my name on the emergency list for referees for the Cross Court tournament. If the head referees needed me, they could put me on the schedule. On the Monday before the tournament, the head referee told me that he had enough referees and he was going to cut some of the latest referees to tell him that they wanted to work. Great. I made other plans for the weekend. He called back on Thursday night. He had almost 20 referees drop out the week before the tournament. And 7 dropped out the day before the tournament. I was suddenly needed as a referee.

I realize that sudden illnesses or other things that can suddenly happen. But things like the prom, and the SAT do not just pop up suddenly.

Again, I am not trying to say that most of you do not honor your commitments. I am just saying that the numbers of you who do not honor your commitments are growing. If you plan to play or referee a tournament, then you should play or referee the tournament. Do not schedule the tournament if you are not going to be there. And look at your calendar before Wednesday night. You should not be calling the coach/club director/head referee to cancel on the Wednesday or Thursday before the tournament. Personally, I made a commitment to run all 13 tournaments this season plus the Friday night series. I had something come up on the 1 tournament. And I cancelled out of one tournament. Four months in advance. I did not tell them 12 hours before the tournament that I would not be available.

(As I am finishing this article, I had a team drop out for the tournament this Saturday. It is 11PM on Wednesday night. Thank you for proving my point.)

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Morrison

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May, 2008



Newsletter

Will Vick, Commissioner
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