



Commissioner's Notes

We are quickly closing out the 2008/2009 Season, since we are now changing the calendar on the USA Volleyball season. The 2009/2010 Season will officially start on September 1st, and members will be able to start their on-line registrations at that time. The 2010 Season will run from September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010. Even though the USAV season is changing, it shouldn't have a drastic impact on our Region operations. We will be changing our adult tournament schedule a little. And, for the 2010 Season we will evaluate sanctioning and scheduling of future adult tournaments, for the months of September and October. For this next season, we plan to continue to run unsanctioned **FRIENDSHIP** Tournaments throughout September. Then during October we will schedule our **EARLY MEMBERSHIP** Tournaments. The **REGULAR ADULT** tournaments will be scheduled from November through May, as they have been in the past. The Friendship events will be unsanctioned, as in the past, and members need not be registered to compete. During the Early Membership (October) events, members must all be registered with a regional volleyball association, before they will be permitted to participate. For this season the members will not be required to be affiliated with a specific team/club. Also, during the October events the uniform requirements will be waived and we will only require each member to have a legal number on the front and back of the playing jersey, for identification. Hopefully, this will provide more opportunities for the players to determine on which teams they wish to participate, during the Regular season.

Now, before we completely close out this season we need to take the time to recognize a few of our outstanding members for their many contributions to the Lone Star Region and USA Volleyball. For the 2009 Season, I had the pleasure of nominating five of our hard working members for the **2009 Robert L. Lindsay Meritorious Service Award**. Each year USA Volleyball recognizes a maximum of five members from each region for contributing outstanding participation, motivation, and other services, in the promotion of volleyball. I am happy to announce our 2009 recipients are: **Allen Bowie**, Club Director, player, and coach, with Homeboyz VBC; **Robin Gerlich**, Coach and Director with Strikers VBC; **Donise King**, Club Director and Tournament Host, with Austin Junior Volleyball; **Carolyn Pickett**, Coach and Director with Willowbrook VBC; **Stephanie Rhodes**, Coach and Director with Texas Tornados Volleyball.

In addition to the above members, there were many other who made outstanding contributions the Region, throughout the 2009 Season. Among these were the many members, players, coaches, administrators, and officials, who actively participated in each of the USA Volleyball National Championships. Again this season, the Region was well represented at each of championships. And, I sure there were many of our members who were appropriately recognized at these events. However, I must rely on our team and club representatives, coaches, and officials' chairs to provide us with the names of those individuals. But, I would like to offer my congratulations to our Regional teams, that I'm aware of, who won a National Championship. Their pictures are displayed on the home page of the Region Web Site, www.lsvolleyball.org. First, was **Absolute Volleyball Association of Texas - 18 Performance** winning the National Championship in the Girls 18 Gold, National Division. The **Texas Tornados -18 Mizuno** won Girls 18 Gold, American Division. In addition to these and other team pictures, you can get the complete results for each of the national championships by going to the USA Volleyball Web Site, www.volleyball.teamusa.org.

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Commissioner's Notes**(Cont.)**

Registrations for the 2010 Season will start on September 1st. Registration instructions are on our web site, www.lsvolleyball.org. This is an individual on-line registration system, and has been designed for each member to complete their own registration. Club directors should not be registering their members. The individuals should have their individual User Name and Password. If they do not remember it, they should use the FORGOT PASSWORD option on our web site. The Region does not have the staff to continuously provide members with this information. It is the member responsibility to keep their record current. This includes keeping the mailing and email addresses up to date, at all times. You should also be aware that you must have an email address with which the USA Volleyball System can communicate. Many of the systems, such as schools and employers, cannot be contacted by the Webpoint System. Without email communications, you are not going to be able to retrieve your contact information from USA Volleyball, or the Region Office.

Background Screening requirements remain basically the same for the 2010 Season. Anyone working with the Junior Program, who does not have a current screening, will be required to complete the Background Screening Application portion or the on-line registration. This includes directors, coaches, trainers, officials, and others who are to be listed on the team rosters. All referees who plan on working any of the junior events during the 2010 Season will be required to complete the Background Screening Application, when registering on-line. The fee for each background screening applicant will be \$18.

Creating a New Adult of Junior Club/Team can be accomplished by logging on to the Region Web Site, www.lsvolleyball.org. There you will click on Registration. Then, just scroll down through the registration instructions and you will see exactly what you need to send to the Region Office. You will need to provide the **CLUB NAME; CLUB ADDRESS; NAME OF THE CLUB DIRECTOR; CLUB PHONE NUMBER; CLUB EMAIL; and is it an Adult or Junior Club**. Once the club has been created and listed in the On-Line System, you will be notified and the club members may start their registrations. All club names must be approved by the Region prior to any registrations. Please, tell your members not to start their registrations until the club has been created.

Electronic Signatures are now being used for the Waiver and Release of Liability, as well as the Background Screening Applications. So, it will not be necessary for members to print these forms at the time of registration. However, the Medical Release Forms and Coaches Code of Conduct should be printed, when applicable. The Medical Release Forms will be maintained by the Club, and the Code of Conduct will be provided to the Region Office, along with the payment of the registration fees. Again this season, clubs will send a copy of their UNPAID LIST and the appropriate fees to the Region Office. Individuals, who wish to send in their fees, should include a copy of their Registration Confirmation, along with the check. **There will be on electronic means for making payments to the Region Office.**

Finally, I'm sure many of you are now aware that we did not publish our April Newsletter. Therefore, we were unable to send out the Board Minutes, to our members. The Annual Board of Directors' Meeting was held on Friday night prior to our Adult Regionals. So, a copy of those minutes are now being attached for your information. Take the opportunity to read through these minutes, since those changes addressed here will be those which affect us during the 2010 Season.

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

**Friday, April 3, 2009
Hilton NASA Clear Lake
Houston, Texas**

Presider: Will Vick, Commissioner

Recorder: Regina Daniel, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: The Commissioner, Will Vick, called the meeting to order at 8:15 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Absent but excused were Keith Kubicek, Toni Leech and Virgie Mallett.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The 2008 BOD minutes were approved as written. (Steve Crane moved/Mar Resendiz seconded).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as written. (Mar Resendiz moved/Annell Neale seconded).

INDIVIDUAL APPEAL OF TRANSFER DENIAL: BOD member Michelle Hanlon chaired this appeal presentation. Commissioner Vick excused himself from the proceeding as an involved party to the appeal. At this time, Jeff Mamaux waived his right to a three (3) member panel and presented his appeal to the Board of Directors appealing the Lone Star Commissioner's decision to deny Mr. Mamaux's daughter's, Kirsten Mamaux, request to be released from Club Kaboom and allowed to finish the current season with a club of her choice. The Kaboom Director was absent but presented her case in writing and provided pertinent emails pertaining to the subject dispute. After deliberation of the appeal the BOD unanimously voted to uphold the Lone Star Commissioner's decision to deny the Transfer.

DATE AND LOCATION OF 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: Based on policy defined by the BOD, the 2010 meeting will be held in conjunction with the adult regional championship tournament. The specific date and location 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, Toni Leach, Golden Triangle Representative, had submitted her written resignation. Steve Boucher was nominated for the position of Golden Triangle Representative. All non-opposed positions were accepted by acclamation. (Mar Resendiz moved /Wally Simpson seconded)

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

REGISTRATIONS: Currently there is an overall increase in individual, as well as team registrations. We closed the 2008/2009 season with 10,950 individuals and 949 teams. As of April 3, 2009, we had registered 11,649 individuals and 998 teams.

REFEREE'S CHAIR: Thomas Hoy reported that it has been another successful year for Lone Star Region referees. The Lone Star Region has established a reputation for superior training, recruiting and referee certifications. To-date, Lone Star Region National and Junior National Referees have conducted 48 referee clinics with a total of 1,402 applications submitted. Of the 1,402, 986 applied, paid their fee and registered with the region, 189 were re-certifying and 361 were renewing. He also reported that to-date; the Region has 26 National Referees, 21 Junior National Referees, 85 Regional Referees, 305 Provisional Referees and 64 Junior Olympic Referees. Mr. Hoy reported that the Region received 10 Junior National Referee applications and 5 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.

At this time, Mr. Hoy took this 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 107 scorekeeper clinics two free adult clinics held in various locations of the state. He reported that the Region currently has certified 1 International Scorekeeper, 14 National Scorekeepers, 15 Regional Scorekeepers, 64 Provisional Scorekeepers, and 885 Junior Olympic Scorekeepers.

Mr. Crane also reported that the Region hosted two free of charge clinics for adults. These clinics afforded the parents an opportunity to learn the USAV rules. He also thanked Gordon Morrison and Joe Campbell for conducting these clinics.

Mr. Crane also reported that the scorekeeper certification process has changed. If you complete the certification process (register, apply and pay fee) your certification will be valid for two years, with no further requirements until the end of the two year certification.

Mr. Crane also reported that there are no major changes to the score sheets for the upcoming season.

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 846 entries this season.

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

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Vicki Barnes reported that the adult membership continues to decline. She also reported that divisions are being combined to facilitate tournaments.

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. She also took this opportunity to thank Thomas Hoy and Steve Crane for the information they provided that was instrumental in getting the Lone Star Region Member's Handbook online.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR: Dick Kappel reported that the number of junior teams (girls) increased by a 7.9% increase from 2008. He also reported six Impact Training Clinics were held. He informed the Board that the Impact Certification Course is available on the USAV website for a fee of \$70.00. This course can be used to complete the impact certification requirements. Mr. Kappel also stated that he will continue to work closely with Donise King to monitor the High Performance Program and to make a concerted effort to recruit women coaches.

COACHES DEVELOPMENT CHAIR: Gene Chambliss took this opportunity to tender his resignation from the BOD effective April 3 ,2009. Mr. Chambliss also reported that he is available to offer assistance to the new Coaches Development Chair.

SAN ANTONIO AREA REPRESENTATIVE: Mar Resendiz reported that the juniors continue to grow in the San Antonio area. He also reported that the adult participation in San Antonio is still decreasing and adult open recreational play at various community facilities is still increasing.

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

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

BUSINESS:

OFFICIATING TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES: A motion was made to include specific officiating team responsibilities in the Member's Handbook, under Region Rules. These instructions are to include the penalties to be applied when the scheduled officiating teams are late for their assignment. The motion was passed and will be written by Thomas, for inclusion into the Handbook. (Thomas Hoy moved/Dick Kappel seconded)

USA VOLLEYBALL HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM: At this time, a motion was made and carried that the Region pay the entry fees each year for the Jr. Girls High Performance Teams (not to exceed four teams) going to the National Championships.
(Dick Kappel moved/Annell Neale seconded).

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES AND REFEREE'S FEE STRUCTURE: A motion was made to raise the tournament entry fees to \$170 per day. This would be broken down as \$130 for tournament entry fee, and \$40 allocated to the payment for the referees. (Gordon Morrison moved/motion did not carry, due to lack of second)

After some discussion, it was determined that the tournament entry fees and the referees' fund will not increase for the 2009/2010 season.

REGISTRATION FEES-2009/2010 SEASON: The Commissioner reported that there would be no increase in registration fees for the 2009/2010 season unless dictated by the USAV National Office.

ONLINE REGISTRATION: A discussion was initiated concerning online registration. The Commissioner reported that online registration will be available on the USAV website beginning the 1st day of September. The Commissioner also reported that the USAV official season would begin September 1st, for the 2009/2010 season.

PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY MITCHEL CASTEEL: Mr. Casteel's letter was reviewed by each member of the Board and after considerable discussion, it was decided that Board action was not necessary. Those actions that he was requesting could be handled the same as a Tournament Request, by the appropriate regional tournament director.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn. The time was 11:40 P.M. (Steve Crane moved/Rachel Nobles seconded).

Respectfully Submitted,

Regina Daniel

Secretary

USA Volleyball Selects Phoenix as Site for its 2010 USA Adult Open Volleyball Championships

PHOENIX, Ariz. (July 13, 2009) – USA Volleyball has selected the City of Phoenix as the location for its 2010 USA Adult Open Volleyball Championships to be held May 29-June 5. The Phoenix Regional Sports Commission, in partnership with the Greater Phoenix Convention & Visitors Bureau, will serve as tournament hosts.

The 81st Annual USA Adult Open Volleyball Championships will take place at the Phoenix Convention Center. The USA Volleyball Annual Meetings will also take place in Phoenix in the immediate days preceding the USA Adult Open Championships.

Phoenix Regional Sports Commission President Jon Schmieder commended the team effort needed to secure the championships.

“The Greater Phoenix CVB, the Phoenix Convention Center and our area hotels worked well as a team in putting this bid together,” Schmieder said. “This is another great example of how entities across the Valley cooperate to achieve a common goal.”

“We are very excited that downtown Phoenix has the opportunity to host the 2010 USA Volleyball Adult Open Championships,” Greater Phoenix Convention Bureau CEO Steve Moore added. “This event will bring over 6,000 people to downtown, and all of them will get to experience our newly expanded convention center.”

Other national USA Volleyball events staged in Phoenix include the 2001 and 2003 USA Junior Olympic Boys’ Volleyball Championships and the 2003 USA Volleyball Girls’ Invitational Championship. USA Volleyball also hosted the 1994 National Collegiate Men’s Division Club Championships in nearby Tempe.

Last summer the Sports Commission set a goal of securing events that would drive at least \$100 million into metropolitan Phoenix. The target date for achieving the goal is May 2010.

“We are thrilled to be back in Phoenix in 2010,” USA Volleyball Managing Director of Events Mike Chandler said. “The athletes work so hard to get this far, and they deserve the best. The new facilities in downtown Phoenix will help us deliver a top-notch experience for everyone involved and show that the Valley is a great place to play volleyball.”

Along with the 6,000 people brought into the Greater Phoenix area, the USA Volleyball Open Championships are projected to occupy more than 12,000 room nights at area hotels. The event will generate an estimated \$4.2 million in direct visitor spending.

USA Volleyball has showcased its USA Adult Open Volleyball Championships for 80 years since the organization’s founding in 1928. Except for 1943 and 1944 during the height of World War II, the Open has been a mainstay celebrating adult volleyball nationally. The event is one of the largest national championships in any sport in the United States, and the Open has featured the sport of volleyball from coast-to-coast.

About Phoenix Regional Sports Commission (PRSC)

A 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, the Phoenix Regional Sports Commission (PRSC) was created in 1988. The mission of the PRSC is to “Enrich Our Community Through Sports” by representing the citizens of the Valley to bring national and international sporting events to the state, assist in the promotion of existing events and teams, and support youth sports programs. To learn more about the Sports Commission, please visit www.phoenixsports.org.

About USA Volleyball

Founded in 1928, USA Volleyball is a Colorado incorporated non-profit organization recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and the Federation International de Volleyball (FIVB) as the National Governing Body for the sport of Volleyball in the United States.

USA Volleyball is responsible for both the Olympic disciplines of indoor volleyball and beach volleyball. USA Volleyball has over 240,000 registered members, 12,000 teams and 5,000 clubs nationwide. With an annual budget in excess of \$11 million dollars, USA Volleyball supports the USA men's and women's senior national team programs, youth and junior national teams, national championship events, coaching education and certification programs, grassroots development, and programs for the disabled and Paralympic Teams. USA Volleyball has a rich tradition of success as evidenced by winning an Olympic medal in every Olympic Games since 1984 and capturing numerous World Cup, World Championship and Continental Championship titles.

USA Volleyball is committed to and works toward opportunity for all to participate. It is an advocate for all Americans endeavoring to assure universal access to opportunities at all levels of the game.

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New Senior Club Director

Nancy Strader is now the Senior Club Director. Carl Thompson had a good, long run and has decided to step down. He will be sorely missed. By way of introduction, Nancy asked that we release the following contact info and let you know she's a late night person.

Email address: ns_lsr@peoplepc.com

Hm ph w/recorder: 254-675-8275

Cell: 254-855-2354

FROM THE REFEREE STAND

(Originally slated for May, 2009)

I would like to thank all the referee leaders that spend time rating our players/coaches, giving over 35 clinics from October through April this year, and also to those who went through this new two-year certification process to make volleyball better. If you still have ratings or exams, send them in to me and we'll be glad to add you to the list of certified referees for this season and next. Remember, you can get rated at a tournament, club scrimmage or any event using the 2008-2009 USAV Regulations as long as a rater is available. The rating form is at www.lsvolleyball.org under reference. The exam can be taken at <http://www.yankee.org/usavref/usavtest/> with the Lone Star password "LSP834." The test results come directly to me and I can input them immediately.

My congratulations to all that were selected from the Lone Star Region to officiate at the 2009 Lone Star Classic Qualifier Championships in Dallas, Texas and the 2009 Lone Star Junior Regionals in Houston, Texas. The Lone Star Region continues to play a significant role in staffing officials at major events and we are honored to have you work important matches throughout the season. We continue to have a number of National Referees serve on the USAV National Referee Rating Team and their contribution is always appreciated as it keeps us in tune with the highest level of officiating.

Finally, we welcome two new national referees to our region this season, namely Luis Ramos and a transplanted Craig Smith.

Thomas Hoy, Referee

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New National-Level Referees

"It is with great pride that we congratulate the following individuals for passing national-level referee certification in the 08-09 season--new Lone Star Region National Referees **Rene Blakely** and **Charlie Tamez**, and new Lone Star Region Junior National Referees **Charles Bennett**, **Anibal Colon**, **Toby Day**, **John Havens** and **Augusto Rodriguez**. Many of these individuals scored some of the highest ratings, or in a couple of cases the highest ratings, at their respective sites. It was not easy (i.e., only 47 of 54 candidates passed at GJOVC in Miami) and it took a considerable commitment by each of these referees and their families."

Thomas Hoy, Referee Chair

FROM THE SCOREKEEPER'S CHAIR

Just recovering from last season? Well the next one is just around the corner.

There are new score sheets this season. The change is a place for the Team Captains (Coaches for juniors) to sign after the completion of the match. They are available for download on our website, <http://lsvolleyball.org>, in the Reference section.

If you **completed** your certification last season, there is no action required on your part this season. To find out if you are certified you may login to your USAV record and print out your membership card which will include any certifications you have. You may also look on the web site under Official's Clinics & Info, then click on Scorekeeper Status.

If you do not show complete, and you want to be certified, then you must attend a clinic this season. The clinics will have new material and all exams have been revised.

Steve Crane, Scorekeeper Chair

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August, 2009



Newsletter

Will Vick, Commissioner
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