LONE STAR REGION USAVOLLEYBALL FEBRUARY, 2012

COMMISSIONER'S NOTES

We started our 2012 Season on a sad note, with the loss of one of our longtime volleyball family members. On January 6th Regina Daniel, a former Board member, and Life Time Member of the Region, passed away. She had been battling respiratory problems since stepping down from her Board position as Secretary. She served in that position for ten years. Regina was honored as a recipient of the 1997 Robert L. Lindsey Meritorious Service Award. But, I'm sure if she could tell you of her proudest volleyball accomplishments, it would probably be during her time as a Club Director. During this time, she had her daughters (players and coaches) and granddaughters representing her club. Yes, Regina was one of our outstanding and dedicated leaders, who will be sorely missed by all who knew her. And, if you weren't fortunate enough to know her, it was your loss. She was a true friend and valued member of our volleyball family.

During the 2011 Season we had a total of 14,829 members. Already during 2012 we've registered over 15,300, with over 500 members still remaining on the Region's Unpaid List. Club directors are reminded to constantly monitor their club database and ensure that all of their members are paid. If a club director has someone on their unpaid list, and they have no idea who the member is, then please contact me and I will take the necessary action to get the name remove, and placed on the proper listing with the correct club. Additionally, club directors should ensure that each player is listed on a team roster.

As you know by now, we are continuing to use the AES, for the majority of our tournament entries. I'm sure that you have also notice a number of improvements, in this area. Just remember, for the AES to work properly you need to keep it updated. This means any time you have a change in you Webpoint data, you need to make sure the data is exported into the AES. For those events not using an on-line entry system, the Webpoint Team Roster should be used as your tournament entry. Club directors should make sure that their team rosters are always current. They can then log on to their club database and print the team rosters and send them to 9 tournament hosts, as the official entries. A few of the adult events are using the AES entries, but the two systems have not yet been incorporated. All data, for the adults, must be manually added to the AES entries. In these cases, be sure and use your club and team names, as they are listed in our Region Database. The correct Club and Team Codes are required and are listed in your Region Club Database.

Each season, we always have a number of members who are not satisfied with their choice of clubs, and wish to change after they have completed their on-line registration. There is no problem changing the club as long as you haven't yet played with your current club, in a sanctioned tournament. In this case, all you need do is contact the Region Office and request the change. But, if you have played with the club, it is very likely that your request will be denied. The Region policy has always been, and remains, that once you have registered with a club, and actually played with that club in a sanctioned tournament, you will be expected to remain with that club for the remainder of the current season.

Club directors are also reminded, when creating a new team, that the team names are stable entries in the club database. You cannot delete the old team and create a new one. If you wish to do that, then you must contact the Region Office, because we are the only ones who can make the changes in the team data. This is why we asked each of you to create a system for naming your teams, so that we would not be required to make changes to the team names, each year. You should not incorporate the coaches' names into the team name. What happens when the coach move up, next year, with the players? Now, you will have to create a new team with the coach's name at the next level. Eventually, some of the larger clubs will have a great number of inactive teams, which is nothing but junk in the club database. If you develop a numbering system, or a color system, for your teams, all you need do the next season is add the members' names to the teams. And, you're not creating excessive junk in your system. If this sounds familiar, it's because I include it in the Newsletter each season, at this time.

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2012 USA VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The adult pre-tournament package is already on the USA Volleyball website (http://usavolleyball.org/events/7761). All events will be played in Salt Lake City, Utah, on May 26 – Jun 2, 2012. On-line entry information, fees. and entry deadlines are available at the above site. All entry forms and checks for the 2012 USA Volleyball Open National Championships are to be sent directly to the USAV Events Department, USA Volleyball; 715 S. Circle Drive; Colorado Springs, CO 80910. A copy of the entry form will be provided to the Region Office.

- Adults: Open; Seniors (W65, W70, M73, M76, M79) *In the National Office by 5:00 pm; Mar 21, 2012
- Adults: Masters/Seniors (40, 45, 50, 55, 60, M65, M70) *In the National Office by 5:00 pm; Apr 4, 2012
- Adults: Club (AA, A, BB, B), U-Volley, Co-Ed *In the National Office by 5:00 pm; Apr 4, 2012

*Note: There have been a number of major changes for the 2012 event. **Be sure and check the 2012 Pre-Tournament Manual.**

The Girls Junior National Championships will be in Columbus, Ohio and the Boys Championships in Dallas, Texas. Additional information and entry instructions are outlined in Pre-Tournament Manuals on the USA Volleyball website (http://usavolleyball.org/juniors/indoor). Regional entry deadlines are as follows:

- Girls JNC: *(Open At-Large) In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; Mar 30, 2012
- Girls JNC: *(Nat'l & American) In the Region Office by 5:00 pm; Mar 30, 2012
- Boys JNC: **(Open At-Large) In the National Office by 5:00 pm; May 11, 2012
- Boys JNC: **(Club) In the National Office by 5:00 pm; Jun 6, 2012

*Note: The entry deadline for the girls' event is the same as the entry deadline for the Girls Regional Championships. Only teams with a National entry on file, in the Region Office, will be eligible to compete in the BID portion of the Regional Championships. If you're sending anything, to the Region Office, via special delivery (UPS, FedEx, Express Mail, etc) do not send it with a signature or receipt required. This could only delay the delivery process, should I happen to be out of the Office at the time of delivery.

**Note: Tournament entry form and fees, for the BJNC, will be sent directly to USA Volleyball, with a copy to the Region Office.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The annual Board of Directors meeting will be on Friday, March 30th. The meeting is open to all members and will be at the South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center; 2500 South Shore Blvd; League City, TX 77573. The meeting is scheduled to start at 8:00 pm. Those positions up for elections are:

POSITION INCUMBENT

Vice Commissioner
Secretary
Referee's Chairman
Junior Development Director
Tournament Director
Player Representative (Men)
Hal Naumann
Renee Blakely
Thomas Hoy
Dick Kappel
Vicki Barnes
Thang Nguyen

Area Representatives

Austin Virgie Mallett
Brazos Valley Wally Simpson
San Antonio Mar Resendiz

Although only current Board members present at the meeting may vote, nominations can be made by any Lone Star Region member. Not only can you nominate someone for a position on the Board, you may also wish to appear and make a presentation on behalf of the nominee. The only thing that I ask when making the nomination is that you also provide notification, so that time can be made available for a presentation. If you think that one of the Region incumbents is not properly representing you and our Region, now is the time to speak. Nominations should be mailed or Faxed (NLT March 12, 2012) to:

WILL VICK, Commissioner Lone Star Region, USA Volleyball 1608 Canyon Oak Schertz,TX 78154-3660 (210) 945-8630 Fax

FROM THE REFEREE'S STAND By Thomas Hoy Referee Chair

What do New Referees need to do to get Rated

For a new referee certification this season, and so you do not have to start over next season, referees need to get ratings completed. This rating portion usually completes the process of referee certification along with 1) an application at a clinic, 2) exam with corrections as needed, and 3) of course USAV registration. Do not let this portion keep you from getting your certification completed. Here's what all referee applicants need to do: a) print out a referee rating/evaluation form at www.lsvolleyball.org under "reference" and have it ready, b) go to a junior or adult tournament, club scrimmage or any volleyball match (recreation, coed, or church) where they are using USAV rules and regulations, and a rater is present, and c) when completed send the rating/evaluation sheets to me (my address is on the form) for entry into the USAV database. I am often asked "who can rate me"....well if you are a Junior or Provisional referee it can be any Regional or higher certified referee, or if you are a Regional referee then the ratings must come from a Junior National or higher referee. I am also often asked "how do I find a rater"and of course the answer is any of the places mentioned in (b) above by checking with the tournament director listed on the website. The rating referees are going to attend almost all junior tournaments between February 25 and March 25, to try to get applicants rated; most adult tournaments have raters available. If a rater is not available, then for Junior and Provisional referee applicants I allow one rating by the tournament director (have the form with you, they do not always have one). If clubs want to rate their referee applicants at a club scrimmage, please contact a national-level referee in your area or contact me for assistance.

What new Rules do I need to know this Season

There are a few rule changes or updates that I will emphasis in this newsletter. Court lines must be used but under 1.3.1 they only need to be contrasting, not necessarily a 'light color.' In USAV 2.6, all basic court equipment now includes a padded referee stand, and if one is not available, then the referee stands on the floor. Adults (not juniors) can wear jewelry as long as in the judgment of the referee it is not a hazard. Under 19.1.1, a team can designate two Liberos (be sure to read 19.1 through 19.5 for the whole story). Best regards!

CONTRIBUTE NOW By Rachel Nobles Women's Player Representative

The newsletter could use your help. Hanging out today listening to my mom carry on about the lack of interest in the newsletter. My suggestion was to have more input from the Region members. So...this is a call to all to send articles about your travels and pictures of your volleyball experiences. Juniors and adults, women and men. Share your stories. The newsletter publishes next in May, 2012.



Will Vick, Commissioner Lone Star Region USAVolleyball 1608 Canyon Oak Schertz, TX 78154