

Florida Region of USA Volleyball
Board/Staff Retreat Meeting Minutes
June 12-13, 2009

In Attendance:

Steve Bishop, Richard Purtz, Mike Gale, Mike Farah, James Phillips, Dave Carstensen, Donna Beasley, Shanon Lewis, Terri Jimenez, Rita Crockett

Absent: Bryan Carver, Mitch Sadowsky

Board/Staff Retreat meeting called to order at 5:00pm by James Phillips.

Review and approval of last meeting minutes. Any changes? No.

Mike Gale moves to accept meeting minutes, Mike Farah 2nd. All in favor – minutes approved unanimously.

Open Discussion Session 1:

James gave an update on the member count for the Florida Region currently at 7,450+ members. James said we should discuss having an Assignor for Officials, who will help streamline the assigning and training of officials in the Florida Region. He also brought up the National Office is going to increase membership fees by \$10.00 in the near future. James also wants to discuss an incentive for any official that attends the PAVO event will have a chance to have a free membership for the following season.

Steve did a recap of the 08/09 season highlighting the following milestones:

53 courts and 400+ teams at Girl's Jr Regionals

350+ players attended HP tryouts

33 girls teams from the Florida Region going to JO's

12 boys teams from the Florida Region going to JO's

A new Florida Region Medal

Successfully combined boys & girls HP training camp

We have 2 HP boys teams

We are the Host Region for HP Championships & Co-sponsor of Opening Ceremonies Dinner

Mailed Welcome letter with Florida Region Decal to all new members

70+ new officials trained in 2009

Partnership with Exclusive Sports Marketing (ESM)

130 junior teams in Siesta Key Beach Tournament

Grass Volleyball in Tampa – 40 teams, free kids clinic with 2 Olympic players

Exceeded 12 outdoor beach clubs

Registered almost 7500 members

Created Super Lounge/Play Area for officials at GJR

Awarded \$4,500.00 in scholarships

Steve received National recognition for Online Desk Top Calendar

Steve was named to USAV National Budget Committee

Session 1 ended at 6:30pm for dinner

Session 2 – 8:30pm

Open discussion of ESM contract with the Florida Region. There are no financial benefits to the contract this year just great exposure to beach volleyball. Several junior beach tournaments scheduled during the summer which will help increase our overall membership count.

Discussion of trying to hold a Corporate Volleyball tournament and raising money for the scholarship fund and High Performance program. There are 5 potential locations, Jacksonville, Miami and 3 in Ft. Lauderdale.

Session 2 ended at 10:00pm

Session 3 – 9:00am

Steve reviewed the Pan Am email that was sent through webpoint to clubs asking them to post it on their club websites. Pan Am will be in Miami the region office is trying to get our members interested and excited about attending.

Steve gave an update on the HP program. We have 5 girls teams and 2 boys teams participating this year. Nick Cheronis from University of Florida is the Technical Coordinator overseeing 21 coaches. Nick received the Extra Mile Award at the Awards Banquet for his support of the HP Program.

We reviewed the HP budget and had discussion of ways to increase the HP Financial Assistance program. We need to have an HP financial assistance application and have a review group to select the players who would receive this assistance based on select criteria.

The National Office has set new season dates beginning for the 09/10 season. These will fall inline with the age definition dates Sept 1 – Aug 31. There was a lot of tryout dates discussion based on the season date changes, whether to allow August tryouts or hold off until November.

Motion by James – 2009 tryouts begin August 22nd & 23rd & August 29th & 30th with a commitment date of September 1st. The 24th – 28th of August would be blackout dates, with no age restriction on these tryout dates. 2nd by Terri J.. All in favor –approved unanimously. With a friendly amendment to send out a proposal to all clubs with 1 week to respond on their opinion of the motion. The BOD will then have final approval.

Break at 11:15am – regroup at 11:30am

Open discussion about Girl's Jr. Regionals. Steve suggested splitting into 2 tournaments, BID in mid April and Non-BID in May. Shanon thinks we should move Boys Regionals to May vs. June, since they have no separation between their high school season and club season.

Steve reviewed concept paper for having District Jr. Forum Meetings. Basically have a Jr. Forum Meeting in each of the districts, smaller more personal meetings.

Lunch at 12:30pm

Session 4 – 1:30pm

The Florida Region is going to host/sponsor the social at the beginning of the PAVO Convention. (\$2,000)

Discussion about James' idea of free memberships for officials that attend PAVO conference. It was decided that any registered official that attends the PAVO conference can submit proof of attendance and we will do a drawing for a free membership for the 10/11 season. Membership only, the official would be responsible for the cost of a background screen.

Motion by Dave C – Allocate up to \$2,000.00 towards memberships for officials that attend the AVC/PAVO Conference as part of an Education Incentive Program. 2nd by Rita. All in favor – approved unanimously.

Discussion about the Regional Officials Assignor Position. Individuals should apply for the position with the region office. Steve will prepare a job description with a pay scale and post the position on the region website. This will be a contract position that answers directly to Mike Gale, who will then report to Steve and the BOD. The salary would be offset in an increase of tournament fees.