



Florida Region of USA Volleyball, Inc.

2010 District Jr. Forum Meeting Summary

Prepared By: **Steve Bishop**, Executive Director

Below are the hot topics that garnered the most discussion during our five Jr. Forum meetings that took place in August 2010. Additionally, at the end of this document you will find the discussion items that were brought forward from the floor and will be forwarded to the Jr. Admin Board for discussion and possible action.

JR. FORUM HOT TOPICS:

- **Parent Education Partner** – We introduced Mr. David Benzel from Growing Champions for Life. Growing Champions will be our Official Parent Education Partner and will be contacting USAV Jr. Club Directors with information that they can use to help change the culture of our sport by providing parents with educational/inspirational materials and workshops. We encourage all Club Directors to make contact with David to see how he can help you with specific issues that may be impacting your club.
- **JAB Nominations/Election** – Two positions are up for election on the Jr. Admin Board (JAB). 7 candidates have been nominated and will be placed on the JAB Election Ballot e-mail. Clubs may vote for two of the seven names. The deadline to vote is Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at 5pm!
- **Staff Changes** – Krissy McKane has replaced Kelly Corkhill as the Marketing Coordinator. Kelly Mills has replaced Michelle Daniels as the Registrar. Michelle will now work part-time as the bookkeeper.
- **Regional Ranking Tour** – The Florida Region is starting a Regional Ranking Tour in 2011. The goal of this tour is two-fold: 1.) to create a series of ranking tour events that will allow more head-to-head competition for bid seeking teams that plan to compete in the Regional Bid Championships. 2.) to create a series of Regional events (Jan-May) that will be more attractive to potential mid/large tier companies for title sponsorships.
 - Note 1: Attendance at the events will be discussed by the JAB & the BoD prior to the start of the 2010/2011 season.
 - Note 2: Tournament selection was based on the following criteria:
 - 1st Criteria – Tournaments that have previously supported the Region by providing HP tryout space at no cost
 - 2nd Criteria – Tournaments that have no restrictions (other than space) for accepting teams into their events
 - 3rd Criteria – Size of tournament
 - Note 3: Any additional revenue that can be generated by securing a Title Sponsor for our 5 indoor Regional events will help us offset the

\$20,000 in additional administrative fees that we must remit to the National Office starting in the 2010/2011 season. (See Membership Fee Increase below)

- **Club Renewals** – Indoor Jr. Clubs need to renew their USAV clubs with the Florida Region office by Wednesday, September 8, 2010. We granted a one week extension from the original September 1st deadline. Clubs that do not renew by the September 8th deadline will be removed from the Indoor Jr. Club Directory and will have to sign up as a new club for the 2011 season.
- **Club Seal Program** – A new Club Seal Program is being implemented to recognize and reward clubs that are in compliance with the Club Director Code of Ethics that was implemented in 2008. Clubs that comply with the items listed on the Club Seal Program will be rewarded with a Gold & Silver seal respectively. Seals will be customized with the club's respective name and inception date. A seal will also be listed next to the name of the club on the 2011 Indoor Jr. Club Directory. Participation in the program is optional and clubs that do not participate or meet the minimum requirements will not receive a seal on the Indoor Jr. Club Directory and will not be provided with a seal to display on their website or marketing literature.
- **Annual Background Screen Requirement** – The State of Florida has passed a new law (House Bill 7069 & Senate Bill 150) that requires all adults affiliated with children to be background screened annually. All junior coaches, club directors, officials, and chaperones will now be screened annually and the annual background screen fee will be \$12. (The previous 2 yr screen was \$17.50)
- **Underage Coaches** – As a reminder, USAV coaches must be 21 to coach junior players. We do allow coaches between the ages of 18-20 to apply for a waiver to be an assistant coach only. We have also implemented a "Junior Coach Trainee" program for individuals between the ages of 16-17 to assist with 10U-13U teams (This program is only recognized within the Florida Region). Important note, for any waived junior coach below the age of 21, they must have a written waiver and comply with the underage coach requirements.
- **Membership Fee Increase** – The administrative fees we pay to the national office of USA Volleyball were increased \$10 per member by the USAV Board of Directors. We have only passed along \$5 of this fee increase for the 2010/2011 season. All membership categories were increased by \$5. We will absorb the balance of the increase (\$20,000+) with the annual club renewal fee, new tournament offerings, potential sponsorships, and by reducing our spending in various categories. (Note: For all members that require a background screen, their total fees will be reduced by \$0.50 since the membership fee was increased by \$5 and the background screen fee was decreased by \$5.50)

- **Recruiting/Harassment Policy** – As a reminder, all clubs must post the Florida Region Harassment Notice on the home page of their respective website. The exact language can be found on the Club Director Checklist that was distributed at the Jr. Forum meetings. This language must be present if a club wants their website listed on the Indoor Jr. Club Directory.
- **Incident Review Process** – We are required by USA Volleyball to have an Incident Review Policy w/ Due Process, which means that anyone accused of a violation must be given the opportunity to defend the claim and then they are afforded an appeal process if they are subject to punitive action of any kind. Our Incident Review Policy can be found on the FORMS page of the Florida Region website. A new Notice of Infraction (NOI) has been implemented to deal with minor violations for first-time offenders. A NOI will be issued after a minor violation is determined to have occurred.
- **Jr. Rules Training** – Clubs are required to train their junior players on the rules of the game and also on how to officiate a match. This can be accomplished two different ways: 1.) by using the Rules Training CD that was provided to each club designated rules trainer that attended the Train-the-Trainer sessions held during the Jr. Forum Mtgs. 2.) by hiring an approved trainer (Jr. National or National Official) to conduct the training with your club members. Contact the Region Office for more information.
- **Coaches Role During Officiating Assignments** – REMINDER, a coach is required to be at the scorekeeper table during the entire officiating assignment. (Note: Coaches may also serve as the R2 to fulfill this requirement) We are awaiting a decision from the Official's Division as to the penalty for a coach not being present during the entire assignment. We are also taking a look at a designated chair for the coach of the officiating team.
- **Florida Collegiate Volleyball League (FCVL)** – In an effort to create more post-high school playing opportunities for male volleyball players in Florida, we have partnered with the National Collegiate Volleyball Federation (NCVF) to create the FCVL. The FCVL will sanction home/away and tournament competitions for men's college club teams that want to play in the NCVF National Championships. Tournaments will be held at several of the larger convention center events throughout the Region. There are 38 possible colleges in Florida that could field a men's college club team, and 9 of those schools already have teams and/or have expressed interest in participating in the FCVL. We believe that this league will help promote boys volleyball across the state as we help to create more playing opportunities at our Florida colleges. The FCVL will be a self-funded program and should not have a negative financial impact on the Florida Region budget.

- **Indoor Jr. Club Directory** – The 2011 Indoor Jr. Club Directory will be posted on Wednesday, September 15, 2010. All clubs that have renewed by Wednesday, September 8, 2010 and are in “good standing” will be posted on the new Indoor Jr. Club Directory. To be considered in “good standing” and to be listed, clubs must complete the following items:
 - Renew their club information using the online club information form and agree to comply with the Club Director Code of Ethics.
 - Pay the \$100 club renewal fee
 - Ensure that the Club Director has a 2010/2011 USAV membership and current background screen
 - Have the Harassment Policy posted on the home page of their respective website
 - Attended one of the 5 District Jr. Forum meetings
 - Confirm that they have read the Jr. Handbook
- **Indoor Jr. Tournament Schedule** – The 2011 Indoor Jr. Tournament Schedule will be posted no later than October 1, 2010. Anyone interested in sanctioning a tournament for the 2011 season should submit their tournament information by using the Online Event Sanction Application.
- **Wilson One-Day Series** – Any club wishing to host a one-day USAV tournament should contact Sara in the Florida Region office to obtain information about having it branded as one of our Wilson One-Day Series events. The benefit of a one day USAV tournament for the participants is generally a lower team entry fee, no lodging costs (if they are within 2 hrs of the site), and a later start as one-day events normally start at 9am. The benefit for the tournament host is that we will brand it with the Wilson brand, provide discounted Wilson volleyballs, and assist with marketing the event to our member clubs.
- **Tryout Dates** – The approved dates for girl’s USAV junior club tryouts are as follows:
 - September 1, 2010 – All girls 8U-14U
 - November 21, 2010 – All girls 15U-18U

The primary reason for the change in our approved tryout dates was to allow our high school aged athletes to focus on their high school seasons and not be burdened with club activities.
- **Tryout Sanctions** – All USAV tryouts must be sanctioned with the Florida Region office prior to the actual tryout. Once a tryout sanction is issued, the USAV insurance is activated for the respective event and all registered members are afforded coverage. If you elect to hold tryouts under another organization, you may not use the USAV certificate of insurance, USAV Medical Release Form, or any USAV branded documents at your tryout.
- **Rankings (For Jr. Girls)** – We are waiting for the Ranking Committee to meet and determine what changes, if any, will be made to the Ranking

Guidelines used during the 2009/2010 season. Additional information will be distributed once the committee meets.

- **FHSAA Ruling on Transfers** - The FHSAA has a rule in their bylaws that may impact the athletes participating in our junior clubs. Below is the rule from the 2010-11 Edition of the FHSAA Bylaws:

***9.2.4 Participation in Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated with a School.** The FHSAA supports and endorses Florida's philosophy of school of choice for academic purposes. However, if a student chooses to attend or participate for a school, public or private, in which the student participated in any non-school athletic activities affiliated with a school that the student does not attend or did not attend in the previous school year (in the case of home education students, does not participate for or did not participate for) and then establishes his/her school residence (in the case of home education students, he/she participates) at the affiliated school within one calendar year of such participation will not be eligible in the new school until the student has been in attendance at that school for one calendar year. Establishing such school residence is bona fide evidence that the student is attending the school in whole or in part for athletic reasons.*

***9.2.4.1 Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated with a School.** Non-school athletic activities affiliated with a school are any athletic activities not sponsored by the school but are organized, coached and/or supervised by a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of the school's athletic interests (as defined by FHSAA Policy 36.2.1.1), or in which the majority of participants are students who attend the school. Such activities include, but are not limited to:*

(a) club teams;

(b) travel teams;

(c) grade school teams;

(d) recreational league teams;

(e) personal instruction sessions; and

(f) any other type of activity determined by the FHSAA to be an athletic activity.

The reason for addressing this rule is to make clubs aware, so that they can determine the impact (if any) to their club members and also to recommend that clubs disclose this rule to all families of junior players that may be adversely impacted. For additional information you should contact the FHSAA or a representative at your respective school.

DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR JAB:

- Outdoor Jr. Forum
- Point penalty for coaches that are not present for the entire officiating assignment
- Designated chair for coach of officiating team
- Clarification on outdoor ball handling
- Checklist on how to set up a league
- WebPoint verification of 18-20yo assistant coaches
- Printing rosters from WebPoint with no/ coaches
- Silicone armbands instead of paper
- Fingerprinting requirement for coaches in Florida
- International boys tournament in Miami
- USAV league coordination for boys
- Club Director forum with restricted access
- Photo ID's from WebPoint
- Middle school boys volleyball state championships
- Free promotional tournament for non-existent boy's teams/clubs
- Presentation to AD conference (FHSAA)
- Marketing statistics to support youth sports
- After school programs (Study Hall & Volleyball)
- Moving USAV junior beach tour stops to Saturday
- Launching "Bring A Friend" promotion for boys volleyball
- Approved season for Boys
- Target date(s) for Girl's Regional Bid Championships
- Meeting agendas posted 30 days in advance of a scheduled meeting
- FHSAA Transfer Rule Campaign

Questions, concerns, or suggestions on any of these items may be directed to any of the following individuals:

James Phillips, Commissioner	james@FloridaVolleyball.org
Shanon Lewis, Asst. Commissioner	shanon@FloridaVolleyball.org
Donna Beasley, Secretary/Treasurer	donna@FloridaVolleyball.org
Terri Jimenez, Indoor Chair	terri@FloridaVolleyball.org
Kendra Vanzwieten, Outdoor Chair	kendra@FloridaVolleyball.org
Doug Darling, Official's Chair	doug@FloridaVolleyball.org
Steve Bishop, Exec. Director	steve@FloridaVolleyball.org
Lori Eaton, JAB Rep	lori@FloridaVolleyball.org
Rita Crockett, JAB Rep	rita@FloridaVolleyball.org

Other JAB Members (non-voting):

Mitch Sadowsky, JAB Rep	mitch@FloridaVolleyball.org
Bryan Carver, JAB Rep	bryan@FloridaVolleyball.org