



Yankee Board Meeting

8/27/18

Time: 7 PM

Lincoln Sudbury High School, Sudbury, MA

Board Attendees: Judy, Jeff, Mark, John, Casey, Bri, Sarah, Amy, Geoff

Guests: Olivia

1. Approval of Prior Minutes

- a. Minutes from prior meeting have not been distributed – Bri to follow-up

2. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report (Mark)
 - i. Mark and Judy to follow-up with NERVA to correct the latest financial report
- b. Registrar's Report (Judy)
 - i. No members yet. Registration opens on September 1st.
 - ii. Last year, we showed growth in our overall member base and look to do the same this year.
- c. NERVA Report (Judy)
 - i. Dave is going to set-up a Paypal account to allow people to pay for Yankee Sanctioned tournaments electronically. This will likely include the BCC and Champs. Paypal costs will be the same as check and Yankee will eat any costs of fees.
 - ii. The BCC tournament for adults in 2019 will be very similar to 2018 with a player's party, 3 days of play. The board will make sure to send any hotel information/discounts to its membership. For each tournament level, we will limit entry to 10 teams to ensure playoffs end at a reasonable time.
 - iii. The BCC tournament for adults in 2020 will be moving to Providence, RI as Boston will be fully booked with juniors' teams. More details to follow.
 - iv. The BCC tournament in 2021 will move back to Boston.
 - v. Mark/Judy to investigate adding a second BCC-like tournament for fall 2019, possibly in RI. Demand for this tournament has been very high and having larger tournaments like this invigorates the membership base.
- d. Ratings Report
 - i. Men's (Jeff)
 - ii. Women's (Sarah)
 1. No significant changes on either ratings committee. All re-rates were done shortly after indoor season ended.
- e. Social Media Report (Jeffry)
 - i. Jeff/Amy to determine a strategy for managing the Instagram/Twitter accounts.
 - ii. Jeff will maintain control of the Facebook account.
- f. Web Editor Report (Jeff/Olivia)
 - i. Olivia and Jeff are taking over a shared role for Sam as the Web Editor. They will spend time in the coming weeks/months to see what changes they can make from our prior "wishlist".
- g. GrassRoots Campaign Report (Jeffry)
 - i. There are currently 2 M/W scrambles set for the fall/winter schedule. There may possibly be an RCO or CR added. This fits our aim of 2-3 scrambles per season.
- h. Tournament Director's Report (Mark)
 - i. The draft took place from Monday to Thursday of last week and was posted late last week.

- ii. John was able to start running tournaments earlier in the season and the schedule starts in mid-September.
- iii. TDs stayed away from drafting CRs given that they don't fill as often as RCOs and often take 1-2 hours longer to complete. Based on feedback from the membership, a few RCO tournaments will be converted into CR tournaments. Jeff will post on Facebook mentioning the same.
- iv. TDs stayed away from drafting higher level tournaments given historical cancellation rates. Jeff will post on Facebook mentioning the rationale for this.

3. Online Business (discussed via email)

- a. The board voted and replaced the vacant at-large position with Sarah Dufault.

4. Old Business

- a. RCO Men's Cap (Max 2 points on guys in coeds)
 - i. After discussion, Jeff motioned and John seconded, the following rule was passed on a vote of 5 in favor, 1 opposed and 3 abstaining: For coed tournaments, teams may not have more than +2 points overall on the male gender. This rule will go into place in the spring session, starting January 21st.
 - ii. The discussion of this rule centered around back row guys dominating in RCO tournaments, especially at lower levels. Feedback from female players was that they do not get set and are disgruntled by the strength of guys "taking over" tournaments.
- b. -2 Ratings for Individual Players in Tournaments
 - i. After discussion, Jeff motioned and Casey seconded, the following rule was rejected on a vote of 3 in favor, 5 opposed and 1 abstaining: For all tournaments, no player may count as fewer than -1 point against their team's overall cap.
 - ii. The discussion of this rule centered around specialized talents in unique formats (generally male setters and defensive girls in RCOs) that are worth well more than their rating that allow teams to stock up on points and/or eliminating players that are egregiously mis-rated. Arguments in favor of the rule include the percentage of RCO B/B+ tournaments that had a C+ on the winning team, the increased ability for players to appreciate their re-rates and having more balanced teams. Arguments opposed to this rule included the "bastardization" of the rating system, overall confusion with having to implement two rules and the limited impact of this rule (mostly RCO Bs) – especially in tournaments that struggle to fill to begin with.
- c. Rating Clarifications – Ratings Sheet Makeover (Jeff)
 - i. Jeff to follow-up on a prior ratings sheet that Tracy Schaller had proposed
- d. Nationals Approval Timing and Ratings
 - i. The board agreed to allow the ratings committee chairs to begin approving Nationals rosters at their discretion starting December 1st. Guidelines for receiving approval include players playing in multiple tournaments at gender tournaments during the current year and overall knowledge of the players.
 - ii. The board agreed to adjust the Nationals mappings for MBB and WBB.
 - 1. MBB: A- and 3 B+s or 5 B+s (was previously an A- and 3 B+s)
 - 2. WBB: A- and 2 B+s or 4 B+s (was previously an A- and 3 B+s)

5. New Business

- a. Stipend / Budget Review
 - i. N/A – Judy to follow-up
- b. Appointed Positions
 - i. N/A – Judy to follow-up
- c. Yankee Picnic Follow-Up
 - i. Feedback from the picnic was overwhelmingly positive

- ii. Judy to discuss with Dave around Yankee buying their own nets so that they no longer need to borrow from other organizations. It was proposed that we buy 5 nets per year.
- iii. It was suggested that we could possibly have a fundraiser such as a 50/50 raffle and/or charge a small entry fee and donate all the entry fees to a corresponding organization (Special Olympics, etc.). Judy to follow-up with Dave on this.
- d. Yankee Tournament Prizes
 - i. The board is looking for suggestions for Yankee Sanctioned Tournament prizes. Ideas discussed were sweatshirts, hoodies, long sleeve dri-fits, sweat pants, hats, pint glasses, sunglasses, etc.

6. Executive Session

- a. None

Key Future Dates

- Board Meetings
 - Tuesday, October 23, 7pm at LSHS
 - Wednesday, January 2, 7pm Conrad's restaurant in Sudbury
 - Thursday, April 25, 7pm at LSHS
- Volleyball Events
 - BCC: February 22nd, 23rd and 24th
 - Nationals: May 24th to May 29th (Columbus, OH)
 - Yankee Picnic: Saturday, June 8th