



Yankee Board Meeting

11/28/2023, 7:00 PM

Embassy Suites, Marlborough

Board Members Attending: Jeffrey, Judy, Geoff, Mark, Miriam, Nick, Amy, Lauren (via Zoom)

Board Member Absences: John

Guests: (in person) Dave Peixoto, Brendan Lounsbury (via Zoom) Tom Cassell, Sam Commeau, Eric Bozoian, Wesley Cheung, Sarah Dufault, Daniel Chen, Steve Simmons

1. Online business

- a. Prior minutes were distributed to be voted on.
- b. On November 8th after some discussion a proposal was made in relation to RCO flat (+0) tournaments that read "In RCO Flat events the team total must be no higher than +0, and the top 3 rated players in each gender must also be no higher than +0." The motion was made by John and received a second by Geoff. All 9 board members voted in favor and the motion passed 9-0. Jeffrey updated the rules document.

2. Reports

- a. Registrar's Report (Jeffrey)
 - i. Information sheet with current numbers for the year was shared prior to the meeting and distributed at the meeting as well.
 - ii. 846 members have joined in the last month, 576 are players with ratings.
 - iii. Already at 72% of last years season long membership number.
 - iv. 70 new players already signed up for the coming weekend.
 - v. 57.96% of the membership is male, 42.04% female which is up a little for the female percentage.
 - vi. 60% of the membership with ratings is in the C- to C+ range.
 - vii. The membership numbers speak to how courts are distributed.
 - viii. 2% of female players are B+ or higher, 15% of female players are B or higher and 13% of male players are B+ or higher.
 - ix. 174 of the members are from Maine versus 220 for the full season last year.
- b. NERVA Report (Dave)
 - i. 11,600 unique members have joined so far.
 - ii. Clubs are still in the tryout process but all events are sold out or close to sold out.
 - iii. Planning is already underway for next season.
 - iv. In 2024 adults December tourney will be at Providence Convention Center with 18 courts the weekend between Christmas and New Years.
 - v. Boston in 2025 has weekends on either side of President's Day meaning two set-ups and two tear downs. The Liberty Challenge will be held on Easter weekend 2025 and will have courts available for Yankee.
 - vi. Junior membership is about 1000 above last year at this point.
- c. Ratings Report (Jeffrey)
 - i. Coverage overall is pretty good, could use more raters at Men's C+ tournaments and for both males and females some raters who are not really playing may be replaced.
- d. Social Media Report (Amy)
 - i. Current followers on Facebook is 3750 and Instagram is at just under 1800. Instagram is growing faster than Facebook this season.
 - ii. Reach rates (number of people seeing posts) have risen. Posts, reels and stories have kept people going to our pages.
 - iii. PSAs are being rolled out for various reminders.
 - iv. Posts will be made with information for Mohegan and BCC sign-ups.
- e. Web Editor Report (Jeffrey/Brendan)
 - i. Brendan and Jeffrey hoped to meet last week to go over the web site project but were unable to, will do that soon.

- ii. In working with Harper Solutions it has been decided best path is likely to continue working with Expression Engine but updating all the modules..
- iii. Timeline remains the same (goal of completion of Summer 2024) with integration with Sports Engine being a primary goal and the biggest hurdle. Updating the query process would save a lot of by hand import time.
- iv. Top spots visited on the Yankee site currently are the tournament schedule, player ratings and tournament result pages..
- f. GrassRoots Campaign Report (Jeffrey)
 - i. Two scrambles have run so far , one being men's/women's and the other being RCO with another RCO scramble this coming Sunday.
 - ii. 3 scrambles are scheduled for the Spring (1 men's/women's and 2 RCO). Might switch the second of the RCO scrambles to men's/women's.
 - iii. Region giving subsidies to help facilitate running scrambles in Maine and Connecticut scramble.
- g. Tournament Director's Report (Mark)
 - i. Working on setting up the Mohegan courts, pools and figuring out court managers.
 - ii. Draft will begin on Monday, December 4th. Maine tournament directors can run what they want due to geography.
 - iii. Champs schedule is being worked on.

3. Old Business

- a. Term lengths for board members, adding requirements for running for President and Vice President and potentially staggering elections
 - i. Qualifications for President and Vice President: idea is to require previous service on the board to run for President or Vice President so that there is a pre-existing idea of what is required and how to do the job. How long ago that service can be was also discussed. Will work on wording and make a motion online or at next meeting.
 - ii. Staggering elections: positive is to prevent all board members from turning over and to offer a more frequent refresh of the board, this staggering works well for the NERVA board. Negative is that having an election every year would be a bit of a pain.
 - iii. Term lengths: discussion of having longer terms for officers and maybe having some at large spots be one year and others be two years. Also some discussion as the spots to fill as our by-laws still has a Treasurer position but NERVA now provides the accounting.

4. New Business

- a. Mohegan tournament and Players Party plans
 - i. NERVA has graciously rented out the entire Game On facility for the players party. Requested more bartenders due to long waits last year and will ask for staggered food delivery.
 - ii. Non-members not allowed at the party but will allow guest for \$10 fee. May do wristbands for entry, other wise will need to check everyone against rosters.
 - iii. Party is 18+, bartenders job to check IDs at the bar.
 - iv. Memberships and rosters will be checked up to Thursday, all other changes must be made at the tournament table.
- b. BCC registration process/planning
 - i. Discussion was had about having a lottery system that would reserve a certain amount of spots for previous or frequent captains.
 - ii. There will be no payment at time of sign up for the lottery, teams chosen will have a set amount of time to make payment.
 - iii. After discussing some issues and complications with the caoptain based on lottery system the board settled on running a lottery system of all sign ups but anyone signing up that does not pay for their spot or decides to drop their spot later will not be allowed on any roster for that entire weekend. This is to prevent 6 people from the same team signing up and ending up with 100s of entries for a tournament.

- iv. BCC is spread over two weekends this year. A tentative schedule was discussed and after some feedback Mark and Jeffry will discuss and finalize in the coming days.
- v. Plan is to use QR codes for entry as soon as this year, would require a Wednesday deadline for rosters and a charge to change rosters after that date.
- c. Finalizing wording of injured player replacement amendment
 - i. Jeffry will work on the wording for distribution online or at next meeting.
- d. Discussion on not allowing new/unrated players to play during Champs
 - i. Reasoning would be that Champs is reward for our membership that has played all year and new unrated players puts stress on raters during Champs.
 - ii. Tabled to look at how many new players come in during Champs season.
- e. Ratings guidelines discussion
 - 1. This would be a ratings committee issue, not a board issue.

5. Executive Session was held

Key Future Dates

Mohegan Sun December 15-17

BCC February 23-25 and March 1-3

USAV Open Nationals May 24-29 Columbus, OH

2024 Picnic June 16th