



## Yankee Board Meeting

04/12/2022, 7:30 PM

Marriott Newton and Zoom

Board Attendees: Jeffry Powell, Judy Katalina, Mark Archibald, Amy Grigg, Geoff Tasca, Lauren Bennett, Miriam Moodley, Brianna (Bri) Han, John Kubilis

Board Absences: None

Guests: Dave Peixoto, Daniel Chen

### **1. Approval of Prior Minutes**

- a. Minutes were distributed to be voted on.

### **2. Reports**

- a. Registrar's Report (Judy)
  - i. Region has 2,045 active members (players).
  - ii. Still getting new members every week including about 30 in the past week.
- b. NERVA Report (Dave)
  - i. Membership for NERVA is over 13,000.
  - ii. Meeting with Mohegan Sun shortly with hopes to move our event up a weekend (further from Christmas). Having a meeting regarding potential Players's Party as well.
- c. Ratings Report (Jeffry)
  - i. Lower level women and mid-level men have added a few raters.
  - ii. At this point people who have been playing all year are unlikely to go up before champs.
- d. Social Media Report (Amy)
  - i. Amy and Lauren are working to get more onto Instagram.
  - ii. Using software they found to schedule posts.
  - iii. Created an event for Yankee players at USAV Nationals.
  - iv. Have gotten 30 more Facebook likes in the past month.
- e. Web Editor Report (Amy, Jeffry)
  - i. Miriam went through website and made a list of things that need to be fixed or would be ideal to have updated. Jeffry will share Miriam's report.
  - ii. Decision needs to be made whether to put the effort to fix the current site or go to a completely new site. Our site requires pretty specific coding and band-aids cost more, may need to go with a larger company.
  - iii. API with Sports Engine would save us a lot of work. Goal is to automate as much as possible.
- f. GrassRoots Campaign Report (Jeffry)
  - i. Last scramble had more than half of the participants as new players.
  - ii. The one weekend membership with ability to upgrade has made joining late in season more appealing.
  - iii. Will probably try and run a 6<sup>th</sup> scramble next year.
  - iv. Biggest hurdle with scrambles this year was getting enough referees.
  - v. NERVA working on ways to assist with the referee shortage including possibly making it easier for our player base with good knowledge of the rules to get certified.
- g. Tournament Director's Report (Mark)
  - i. For Champs the high level tournaments sign ups have been slow and the CRC- was changed to an RCO C- in an effort to get more teams.
  - ii. First Champs tournament is RCO C+ on April 24<sup>th</sup> and has 24 teams signed up.
  - iii. Concerned about getting enough referees for the Champs weekends.

- iv. Mill Works facility is an issue, Dave and Judy will handle that discussion.

### 3. New Business

- a. Yankee Board Elections
  - i. Update on things that need to be done.
    - 1. Nominating committee (Glenn Corwin, Corey Day, Will Barnhill) needs to get together list of nominees with biographies and pictures which will be on the website.
    - 2. Voting will open around May 15<sup>th</sup> and closes day before Yankee picnic. New board will be announced at the picnic.
  - ii. Drafting of by-law changes to be voted on.
    - 1. Brought up by Francis Dallatore at the last meeting a by-law stating that persons running for President or Vice President must have previously served on the board was tabled to work on the wording. Ideas included having the Board or Nominating Committee nominate the persons to run for those positions.
    - 2. A possible by-law change to stagger elections for members of the board to avoid possibility of the entire board changing over in a single election was also tabled for discussion. Need to look at extending term limits if we stagger. Will try to better document the duties of board members, the President and Vice President. Board turnover has traditionally been pretty high and the number of people running fairly low. Lot of work done without pay (lots of people think board members get paid) and high time commitment.
- b. Review of proposal on USAV tournaments that was emailed
  - i. Proposal to allow A- players in USAV B tournaments and A players in USAV BB tournaments was tabled to discuss further or possibly re-write after review of Nationals mappings.
  - ii. Discussion was had on looking to the option of a college team membership to try and allow a college team to play Yankee as a team and help infuse our higher levels. Amy and Lauren will work on drafting a proposal for a possible college showcase,
- c. Rule changes limitations
  - i. It was decided that the board will make no changes that change the rules of playing effective for the current season (the rule can be voted in to take effect the following season.)
- d. Conversation on the success of the supported friendship format and member feedback on that format and the need for educating work teams further.
  - i. Supported friendship format generally went pretty well.
  - ii. Max of 4 courts per referee assigned.
  - iii. There were some complaints of a specific supervisory referee not doing much and not being engaged enough.
  - iv. We should better layout guidelines of what is expected of the supervisory official.
- e. New players at convention center tournaments (member feedback)
  - i. Convention center tournaments are one of the biggest sources of new members so not allowing them will not happen. We will instead try to have better rater coverage to avoid teams that are deemed unfair winning.
- f. Yankee Championship Tournaments update
  - i. Covered in tournament directors report.
  - ii. USAV Adult Nationals update
    - 1. 27 teams registered as of now.
    - 2. NERVA will be offering gifts for Yankee players at Nationals again.
    - 3. Dave will be talking to USAV about rotating the schedule on what divisions are on the weekend.

### 4. Executive Session

- a. Executive session was held.

## **Key Future Dates**

- Nationals May 27 – June 1, 2022 Orlando
- Yankee Picnic, June 11, 2022