



## Yankee Board Meeting

01/27/2021, 7:30 PM

Go To Meeting (Video Conference)

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

Board Absences: Lauren Bennett

Guests: Dave Peixoto, Daniel Chen, Marc Mitrano, Dennis Moore, Sarah Dufault, Crystal Huntoon, Gustavo Abath, Steve Simmons

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

- a. Prior minutes were approved online unanimously prior to the meeting

### **2. Reports**

- a. Registrar's Report
  - i. Coaches and referees only, total NERVA membership at about 50% of standard years.
- b. NERVA Report (Dave)
  - i. Meeting with Boston soon, with travel restrictions between states Convention Center tournaments as scheduled are unlikely.
  - ii. Juniors are meeting with the New England states weekly.
- c. Ratings Report (Jeffry)
  - i. Skipped due to no tournaments.
- d. Social Media Report (Amy)
  - i. Amy will be posting the video she created along with an In Memoriam for Melissa Hoerber and Victor Moquin
  - ii. The Yankee Facebook page will post information relating to the DIG (Diversity Inclusion Group) initiative. The organization has a website and an email newsletter and will be looking for donations to fund scholarships for 2 players per year.
- e. Web Editor Report (Amy, Jeffry)
  - i. Will need to have an interface with the new member system put in place but with likely cost of \$5,000 and no tournaments running will hold off for now. Likely to be some hiccups working with the new membership system once we start back up again.
- f. GrassRoots Campaign Report (Jeffry)
  - i. There have been a good amount of new people playing in the local indoor and outdoor volleyball organizations. An effort will be made to bring them into Yankee when we start up.
- g. Tournament Director's Report (Mark)
  - i. There are none.

### **3. New Business**

- a. Status of New England Volleyball
  - i. Status of BCEC and Taunton tournaments in the spring
    1. With current regulations unlikely that any play would be allowed before April or even May and at that point will it make sense to start up for just a few tournaments and will people join for just a few.
    2. Taunton has been giving credit for courts as we cancel because they have been able to fill the space but has warned that they may not give credits for Yankee Champs courts if they cannot fill the space. The

decision was made to release those courts now to give them a better chance to fill mitigating Yankee's financial risk.

3. The possibility of running larger adult tournaments at Rhode Island Convention Center and/or Mohegan Sun was raised by Dave and will be explored.
  - ii. Possible lower membership cost if we end up running a small amount of tournaments this season.
    1. This was determined to not be an option further solidifying that it makes sense to release the champs courts now as with full membership cost numbers would likely be low even if there was a window to run tournaments in April and May.
  - iii. Challenges we face for restarting in the fall
    1. Safety measures in place
      - a. Most likely we will just follow whatever the local guidelines are and hopefully New England is pretty uniform at that point.
    2. Potential lower membership
      - a. It will be a challenge to get back to the numbers we were at previously and will likely be a slow build back to normalcy.
    3. Finding gym space
      - a. Gym space will be a challenge if schools aren't allowing outside organizations to run. Lincoln-Sudbury High School will not be an option with Judy no longer there and we will likely lose the credits we had there.
    4. Likely increased costs
      - a. Gym space will likely be more expensive if more limited.
  - iv. Nationals Status and team approval process
    1. USAV is planning on a 300 team tournament for Nationals (smaller than a normal year).
    2. NERVA and GEVA likely will be short on teams.
    3. Regulations in the south have been different (tournaments are running in Georgia with spectators) so not impossible that it runs.
    4. New England teams going must all get full USAV memberships and put their roster in for approval. The ratings committee will have to use current ratings and best analysis of new players from other sources as basis for approval of rosters.
  - b. Scheduled Spring Elections
    - i. Do we have a pause year and just move elections to next year?
      1. Without a full base to vote and with the lack of a season to oversee this year it was decided that elections will be put off to 2022.
  - c. Yankee Picnic
    - i. Without a significant membership there is too much liability in running the Yankee picnic. Liability coverage that meets state guidelines without the protection of the USAV memberships would exceed \$7,000.
    - ii. Yankee had already paid for the location for 2021 so we will attempt to move that to 2022.
- 4. Online Business (discussed via email)**
- a. Possible adjustment of the 5 year list to a 2 or 3 year list to help avoid possibility of a player who hasn't played in years and improves a rating or even 2 making a team clearly unfair and also probably helps limit downrate requests for players coming off long term injury that no one has seen play in years. Had been tabled to work on wording and implementation. This was again tabled to hold off until tournaments are on the horizon and we are able to get familiar with the new system.
- 5. Executive Session**
- a. No executive session was held, there was instead another request for all pets to appear on camera. Everyone agreed that we can't wait to be back.

## **Key Future Dates**

- Nationals: May 28th to June 2nd (Louisville, KY)
- Yankee Picnic, June 11, 2022