



Yankee Board Meeting

06/30/2021, 7:30 PM

Zoom Meeting (Video Conference)

Board Attendees: Jeffry Powell, Judy Katalina, Mark Archibald, Amy Grigg, Geoff Tasca, John Kubilis, Miriam Moodley

Board Absences: Lauren Bennett, Brianna (Bri) Han

Guests: Dave Peixoto, Ben Feinberg

1. Approval of Prior Minutes

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

2. Reports

- a. Registrar's Report
 - i. Not applicable yet.
- b. NERVA Report (Dave)
 - i. NERVA has set the 2021-22 schedule.
 - ii. Options for December convention center tournaments were given as Mohegan Sun December 18-19 or Rhode Island Civic Center December 11-12. Mohegan Sun does not require booking of a certain number of hotel rooms while Rhode Island does. RICC requires less set up but not officially open yet while Mohegan Sun is ready to go. Mohegan has offered a 3 year contract. Friday night would likely be available also at Mohegan but not at RICC. Mohegan is further for a lot of the players and Providence is easier to get to. However, parking is plentiful and free at Mohegan Sun. The amenities and activities at Mohegan Sun could be a draw. The board, after being given all the details of each option from Dave Peixoto, decided to go with Mohegan Sun.
 - iii. BCEC tournament will be February 25-27 for the majority of adults (15-20 courts) with AA showcases likely the next week.
 - iv. Attempts will be made to work with GEVA and IREVA for the showcase again and possibly for the Mohegan Sun tournaments as well.
 - v. Player's Party for Boston is up in the air due to the lack of revenue over the last year and a half.
 - vi. Background checks for Junior coaches is now standard so NERVA has given a \$5 discount on the membership which will also apply to adult players so membership will be \$50 for 2021-22. Memberships will be available starting August 3rd.
 - vii. One-day memberships will now be replaced by one-weekend memberships for the same \$30.
 - viii. Judy Katalina is the NERVA board liaison to the referees board.
- c. Ratings Report (Jeffry)
 - i. Skipped due to no tournaments.
- d. Social Media Report (Amy)
 - i. Tabled till August.
- e. Web Editor Report (Amy, Jeffry)
 - i. Jeffry and Amy will discuss updates needed for the website and communicate with DJ at Peluche about those updates.
 - ii. Automating communication between our database and the Sportwrench database was deemed to be a high priority.
 - iii. With the new membership system there will need to be an update with step by step instructions of how to sign up for a membership on the Yankee site.
- f. GrassRoots Campaign Report (Jeffry)

- i. Tabled till August.
- g. Tournament Director's Report (Mark)
 - i. Draft will likely be held in mid-August.

3. New Business

- a. Use of referees in Yankee tournaments and costs
 - i. Court costs have gone way up.
 - ii. Keeping tournaments affordable may be a challenge.
 - iii. The idea of friendship tournaments being allowed the whole season was discussed with concerns being that player behavior can tend to degrade in Friendship tournaments and some teams have no one that is at an acceptable level for reffing.
 - iv. Another alternative was discussed of having one supervisory referee at a tournament to work some games, over see the others and train when necessary or asked. A concern with this is whether we would be assigned referees who are skilled enough to handle this role. Would likely need to work with the assigner.
 - v. Making materials to help players educate themselves on the roles easier to find was also discussed.
 - vi. Tabled till August when it is likely that we can more accurately layout what costs for players would be in each scenario.
- b. Discussion on modified RCO rules where guys can block guys
 - i. Discussion was had about the rule allowing guys to block guys that was used in Teamworks tournaments last year and that Wootown employs in their leagues.
 - ii. Tabled for further discussion in August (including possibility of allowing Tournament Director's to run with the ruling that they prefer)
- c. Convention Center tournaments for next season
- d. How to handle ratings given the long gap since Yankee tournaments were last held
 - i. It was determined that no pre-season adjustments to ratings would be made and that we will just have a quick trigger with players who have improved to the next rating.
 - ii. Work will need to be done with the new membership system to make ratings updates less time consuming. Getting this automated is key.

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 will also help with players who don't join early in the year as they may reach the two year threshold before playing.

5. Executive Session

- a. No executive session was held.

Key Future Dates

- Nationals: TBD (multiple years will be announced at the same time)
- BCEC: February 25-27, 2022
- Yankee Picnic, June 11, 2022