



## Yankee Board Meeting

10/19/2022, 7:00 PM

Sudbury Point Grill, Sudbury

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

Board Absences: Lauren Bennett, Mark Archibald

Guests: Tom Cassell

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

- a. Minutes were distributed to be voted on.

### **2. Reports**

- a. Registrar's Report (Jeffry)
  - i. Have over 1,200 members already, more than 850 with ratings. 60% Male, 40% Female is the make up so far.
  - ii. These numbers put us at 37% of last years membership and on pace to surpass last year's membership numbers.
  - iii. 200-300 have been joining weekly in the early part of the season.
  - iv. A decent number of junior memberships are being converted to adult.
- b. NERVA Report (Judy)
  - i. Nationals is in Dallas this year and has announced Columbus for next year.
  - ii. Juniors event at Boston Convention Center (BCC) is at 85% capacity and some clubs were shut out completely.
  - iii. Juniors events continuing to fill allows Yankee to continue to operate.
  - iv. At time of this meeting Aces Wild adult event at Mohegan is 78% full and will likely sell out completely.
  - v. New officials coordinator, Tim Velozo has been able to add 15 new officials already.
  - vi. Waiting to hear back from USAV after NERVA expressed concern about people being allowed to play multiple levels despite it being in the rules manual that it is not allowed. It may change to people are allowed to play multiple levels. Tournament itself may shorten to one 3-4 day session instead of two sessions a few years down the road.
- c. Ratings Report (Jeffry)
  - i. Have had coverage at most tournaments but need to add some new raters as we see who is playing and what levels need more coverage.
  - ii. Several teams have been disqualified already.
  - iii. Discussion was had that if there is an opposite gender rater at a tournament that they can probably give a player their first rating if no same gender rater present.
  - iv. Geoff will add a column on the rating sheet for jersey number.
  - v. An idea was posed for the new website to have functionality to automatically pull a list of new players from the rosters.
- d. Social Media Report (Amy)
  - i. Have been seeing more reactions overall. About 6,000 on Facebook and 1,600 on Instagram. Followers are over 3,100 on Facebook and 1,500 on Instagram.
  - ii. Primary age range of social media interaction is 25-44.
  - iii. Scheduled posts are being used to post at prime times.
  - iv. There was discussion of possibly having a Google Form tournament directors could fill out to have Yankee promote upcoming tournaments.
  - v. Short videos on Instagram are popular and perhaps we can have members submit clips for a video if the month promotion.
  - vi. As an organization we will not be able to live stream at BCC because of Baller TV contract.

- e. Web Editor Report (Amy, Jeffrey)
  - i. Potential candidate has been found to work on the new website and will need to meet with them further.
  - ii. Current website issue is that the membership list is not working. Jeffrey will try deleting about 5,000 lapsed entries and seeing if that helps to fix the issue. Otherwise will need re-coding and will look at creating a CSV file of the membership more often for members to access.
- f. GrassRoots Campaign Report (Jeffrey)
  - i. First scramble coming up. Women's side is full with 7 new players and men's side is at 20 with about half of them new.
  - ii. Next scramble is in November and likely will fill.
  - iii. We have 4 scrambles this session and likely 3 in the spring session.
- g. Tournament Director's Report (Jeffrey/Judy)
  - i. There is a CR in a couple weeks that is not full that we will likely change to an RCO.
  - ii. Mohegan Sun tournament we have 18 courts. Mark reached out to all the MA/AA captains from last year and to this point only 1 has signed up. WA/AA will definitely run.
  - iii. November 7<sup>th</sup> is drop dead date for getting prizes. May need second place prizes for divisions with 15 or more teams.
  - iv. Both days start at 8 am. Saturday we need to be done by 7 pm while Sunday we need to be done closer to 4 pm.
  - v. No athletic trainers will be on hand but will have EMTs to handle injuries.
  - vi. Players party is set for Game On and we will promote on our social media. First 200 attendees will get a free beer or wine coupon. Board members will rotate shifts at the door. Facility will not be shut down to other guests but we will have a sectioned off area.

### 3. New Business

- a. Mohegan Sun and BCC tournament preparation
  - i. Mohegan was covered in Tournament Director's Report.
  - ii. For BCC we will hire an official to handle the official assignments for playoffs and the day in general to avoid the confusion we ran into last year.
  - iii. The National sitting team will be at BCC this year.
  - iv. The second weekend will feature the adult Open showcase. Jeffrey will talk to GEVA about running it together.
  - v. Harsh penalties will be put in place if teams leave early when supposed to work at Convention Center (or any) tournaments. For convention centers will tell teams they need to check out before leaving to be sure.
- b. Nationals mapping discussion
  - i. Discussion was had about removing the mappings at most or all levels. Would likely do away with stipends if we do remove the mappings.
  - ii. It was determined we really can't move on this until we get further word from USAV about whether they will be allowing players to play multiple levels.
- c. Discussion on the rating for female players in men's tournaments
  - i. Discussion was had about whether females should continue to count as a rating down or just count for their rating in men's tournaments.
  - ii. General discussion agreed that it is not really an issue at C+ and higher tournaments but that C and C- tournaments have a lot of females playing and at those levels they are providing a pretty big advantage to their teams.
  - iii. It was decided that before a motion could be made we should look at how it would be implemented and will discuss further by email or at the next meeting.
- d. Discussion on amending rule for replacement of injured players early in the day.
  - i. Discussion was had about proposal sent by John about making it possible for an injured player to be replaced earlier in the day and eliminated from the roster allowing them to bring in a player of the same rating with conditions and TD approval.

- ii. The proposal was sent just before the meeting so after discussion subject was tabled to allow all board members to read the proposal.
- e. Website suggestions from community.
  - i. Possibility of adding the update posts to the website as well in a manner that is easily accessed (for new posts and older posts) on was had as the Facebook posts get lost quickly.
  - ii. Having a better warning for illegal rosters being submitted was discussed. Amy may also post a PSA on social media about the coed roster rules.

#### **4. Old Business**

- a. Separate rating for RCO proposal.
  - i. Heavily linked to the new website and will move along to the proposal stage when we know more on that.

#### **5. Executive Session**

- a. Executive session was held.

#### **Key Future Dates**

- Mohegan Sun Tourney December 16-18, 2022
- BCC February 24-26
- Yankee Picnic, June 11, 2023
- Yankee Board Meetings: Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>; Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>; Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>