



Yankee Board Meeting

10/15/2024, 7:00 PM

Embassy Suites, Marlborough

Board Members Attending: Jeffry, Judy, Geoffrey, Mark, Nick, Amy

Board Member Absences: John, Miriam, Steve

Guests: Dave Peixoto, Brendan Lounsbury

1. Approval of Prior Minutes

- a. 8/14 minutes were voted on via email.

2. Reports

- a. Registrar's Report (Jeffry)
 - i. A third of our membership with ratings from last year has already joined.
 - ii. 38% of males have re-joined so far this year, 33% of females.
 - iii. 15% of current membership is new this year.
 - iv. Three scrambles have been run (CT, MA, ME)
- b. NERVA Report (Dave)
 - i. Dave served on the Personnel Committee working to choose a new CEO for USA Volleyball. Nine interviews conducted in August which the committee then narrowed to three which they interviewed all again in person in Chicago.
 - ii. John Speraw was chosen.
 - iii. Lots of talk about improving adult participation in other regions with the feeling that regions must commit to making adults work.
 - iv. John Speraw started right away and came to Boston for the Regional Volleyball Directors meeting. John spoke to Dave for an hour and a half on how we run adults in our region.
 - v. 38 out of 40 regions attended the meeting which included a boat cruise, a speech from the new CEO of USAV, 9-5 meetings and evening socials. Meeting was a good look for NERVA and still receiving thank you emails.
 - vi. There will be no courts for adults on Friday at the Liberty Challenge.
 - vii. Nationals has a lot of buzz being in Denver, thinking it will be well attended by New England teams.
- c. Ratings Report (Jeffry)
 - i. Several raters have been removed from the board and will be adding some new ones that play more frequently.
 - ii. Geoff and Amy will work on a guideline for ratings to help new raters accurately rate players and give the player base a solid base for self-rating.
- d. Social Media Report (Amy)
 - i. Facebook up 71 followers and Instagram up 65 since start of the season.
 - ii. About 40% of the followers on both fall in the 25-34 age range. Lots of analytics available as to the followers.
 - iii. Stories and reels get the most interaction along with the update posts.
 - iv. Winning team photos have Yankee branding added to them this year.
 - v. Emily Kern has agreed to share photos with Yankee.
 - vi. Will publicize that USAV still is calling doubles unlike NCAA.
 - vii. Created an event for Rhode Island Rampage.
 - viii. Players Party info will be posted and Mark will give Amy the information for hotel blocks.
- e. Web Editor Report (Jeffry)
 - i. Jeffry, Amy and Mark ran tests and 13 code failures were identified, 11 have since been solved.
 - ii. Closing tournaments is currently an issue. Worked the first weekend but currently TDs can not close tournaments. End tournament button is re-directing to a page we do not have available. Going through backups until we can locate that page.
 - iii. Realistically can not estimate a date to have everything up and running smoothly.

- iv. Potentially may look at a pre-designed sports management site in the future but our site has a lot of customization which is why updates had not always been done in the past.
- f. GrassRoots Campaign Report (Jeffry)
 - i. Mostly covered in Registrar's Report. Jimmy Guo and Sam Commeau have both reached out about running scrambles as well.
- g. Tournament Director's Report (Mark)
 - i. First Yankee sanctioned tournament of the year was this past weekend. Women's B- tournament ran with 3 teams and the players had a fantastic time and were happy we ran it.
 - ii. Rampage numbers are lower than Aces Wild in the past but have been creeping up last couple days. The dates falling between Christmas and New Year's likely the main reason for slightly less interest.
 - iii. Mark will adjust levels up and down as needed. Open levels look likely to run.
 - iv. Due to the finances involved will work as hard as possible to max out teams on all the courts.

3. New Business

- a. RI Rampage tournaments planning
 - i. Players Party will check on how to handle drink tickets and game cards.
 - ii. Bartender of our own in the room for the Player's Party.
 - iii. Hoping to have a full contingent of officials for the tournaments.
- b. Discussion on possibility of separate ratings for gender and RCO
 - i. John not present and don't change rules in middle of season so subject was tabled.

Jeffry motioned to close the open part of the meeting, Nick seconded the motion. All present board members voted in favor.

4. Executive Session will be held

Key Future Dates

Yankee Scrambles – October 12th, November 10th, December 1st, January 12th

RI Rampage – December 27th-29th

Liberty Challenge (Boston event that will have adult tournaments this year) – April 12th & 13th

USAV Open Nationals Denver, CO – May 23rd-28th

2025 Picnic – Saturday, June 14th

Board Meetings – October 15th, December 9th, February 12th, March 27th