



## Yankee Board Meeting

2/3/2026, 7:30 PM

Embassy Suites, Marlborough

Board Members Attending: Jeffrey, Judy, Geoffrey, Mark, Amy, Melissa, Aly, Miriam

Board Member Absences: Steve

Guests: Daniel Chen

### 1. Approval of Prior Minutes

- a. Prior minutes were motioned to approve by Jeffrey with a second by Judy. All 8 attending board members voted yes and minutes are approved pending correction to the year on Picnic date.

### 2. Reports

- a. Registrar's Report (Jeffrey)
  - i. See attached for full breakdown.
  - ii. Adult members with ratings is at 89% of all of last year so it looks likely we will match or exceed last years number of members.
  - iii. 25% of our membership are new players this year.
  - iv. Jeffrey shared a breakdown with Amy to share on social media.
- b. NERVA Report (Judy)
  - i. Huge change at USAV as John Speraw fired 12 people including one who was seen as the biggest proponent for the regions.
  - ii. This leads to a possibility of USAV trying to take over the regions but there is no threat of that happening with NERVA.
  - iii. There is a meeting of the regions with USAV the week before adult Nationals.
  - iv. USAV has decided that players can participate in multiple levels at Nationals.
  - v. The goal and hope is that the USAV MMS that will be replacing Sports Engine as our membership system will be available for New England to trial run at some point this season.
- c. Ratings Report (Jeffrey)
  - i. Have added quite a few new raters and will be removing a few.
  - ii. Have pretty good coverage overall with the exception of women's ratings in Maine. Jeffrey has gotten some suggestions from Sam Commeau and will be looking to add some members as raters in that area.
- d. Social Media Report (Amy)
  - i. See attached report for social media statistics and updates.
  - ii. Winner and second place photos get shared a lot.
  - iii. Will post a save the date for the Yankee picnic and alert of its new location in late March or early April.
  - iv. Will continue no vaping reminders but need to find another way to alert members that it is not allowed in any facility and can result in sanctions. Having TDs post a sign at tournament desk was suggested.
- e. Web Editor Report (Jeffrey/Mark)
  - i. Current website is struggling. Put in request with DJ to purge a bunch of older memberships.
  - ii. Attacks have been attempted through people spamming some of the forms on current site. These attempts are ineffective but the site has security issues.
  - iii. Mark was able to show the board a Site Map for the new site and how the front page will roughly look.
  - iv. Mark asked Sly Fox to bring the Safe Sport drop down to a more prominent, easier to find location.
  - v. The plan is to upgrade the players looking for teams/teams looking for players section.
  - vi. There are a few tournaments up on the sample site to show set-up and functionality. Plan is to add the flat levels to the search area.
  - vii. The ability to filter by state or geographical distance was brought up as opposed to just by facility..

- viii. On the new site when a captain enters a team they will automatically be entered onto the roster, this will be more convenient for captains and save the trouble when people do not realize as captain that they need to enter themselves on roster also.
- ix. Estimate for completion was the end of January so that target was not hit but still moving along to be able to test run this season and switch over in the offseason.
- x. During this report Judy received an email informing that the new membership system will open in August 2026.
- f. GrassRoots Campaign Report (Jeffry)
  - i. See attached for full report on scrambles this year with two more remaining on the schedule.
- g. Tournament Director's Report (Mark)
  - i. Snowbrawl Day 1 went well. Day 2 was impacted by the big winter storm. Weather was watched all week as often these forecasts are inaccurate but this storm turned out significant. Mid-day Saturday contingency plans were developed to end the tournament earlier running smaller tournaments.
    - 1. Some levels were cancelled altogether due to too many teams dropping, others ran with as few as three teams.
    - 2. Were able to wrap the tournament up by about 1:30 PM.
    - 3. Teams that dropped out (about 50% of originally entered teams) were issued full refunds due to the severity of the weather.
    - 4. There is a lot of money and resources put into Convention Center tournaments and, therefore, a lot of potential to lose money in instances like this storm.
    - 5. For events that also feature Juniors all decisions will be driven by the Juniors divisions.
    - 6. After COVID it is near impossible to get event insurance so NERVA keeps a fund going to assist in situations like this.
  - ii. BCEC tournament lottery will run this week as registration for the lottery closes Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.
    - 1. All tournaments being offered are full (or in most cases well overfull)
    - 2. All 10 courts available to Yankee were distributed in lottery so with all being at least full there will be no expansion or cancellation of divisions.
    - 3. Friday night tournaments were all cancelled as the Juniors tournaments needs the courts we would have used for that.
    - 4. Adults will not have Boston as a convention center going forward so next year will be only Mohegan Sun in December.
  - iii. Yankee Champs sign-ups are open and going well.

### 3. New Business

- a. Women's Rating Proposal
  - i. The plan is to move back to female ratings having their own Ratings Chairperson.
  - ii. This transition will happen over the rest of the season.
  - iii. Melissa Novack will serve as Chair and Miriam Moodley as Co-Chair.
  - iv. Will need to iron out who has what responsibilities and how stipend is divided.
  - v. Melissa and Miriam have already had discussions to this end and will meet with Jeffry Powell, current ratings chair for both committees, in the coming weeks.
  - vi. Melissa and Miriam are cognizant of a need to add more raters in the Maine and Connecticut communities as those continue to grow.
  - vii. Likely need a new email for the female ratings board.
- b. BCEC Tournament, Champs, Picnic and Election Discussion as needed
  - i. BCEC was mostly covered in Tournament Coordinator report.
    - 1. Will be QR Code and ID entry again this year. Will be much more strict on this than Providence was.
  - ii. Jeffry needs to get the dimensions of field to calculate how many nets we can fit for the Yankee picnic. If it's less than previous years we may run fours to try and let the same number of people play.
  - iii. Election items will be handled at our next meeting.

1. Purpose of this proposal is to guarantee that incidents are handled in the same timely manner and in the same way in terms of acquiring witness statements and issuing sanctions.

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

- a. Compliance Action Committee & Due Process Document
  - i. The Yankee Due Process Document is being ironed out by the committee and will be presented at the next meeting.
  - ii. Miriam has worked on cleaning up our sanctions document and Dave Peixoto will supply us a list of appeals that have been brought to NERVA.
  - iii. Timelines and flow still need to be worked on and discussed with NERVA.
- b. Captain Leadership Award
  - i. Miriam worked on the document (see attached) for the award then a Zoom call was held with the committee (Miriam, Mark and Geoff) to iron out the details.
  - ii. The committee will gather the list of members who meet the minimum qualifications and narrow to a group of finalists for each division. Then solicit feedback from the board, tournament directors and other members before voting on the award.
  - iii. The plan is to present the award at the Mohegan Sun Aces Wild tournament in December.
  - iv. As this is the first year of the award things will be fluid in terms of process to determining winner and will be able to edit the criteria and process in the future.
- c. Teams playing well below level at Convention Center tournaments
  - i. Teams of all new players participated at the two RICC tournaments and after being assigned ratings ended up well below the tournament level.
  - ii. This can be frustrating to both the new team members and the existing members who have one of their matches against a lower team.
  - iii. Hard to have a set rule with all the players new but the frustration is understandable and board members were encouraged brainstorm ideas to make this less likely to happen.
  - iv. Jeffrey motions to close the open portion of the meeting, Judy seconded the motion. All eight attending board members voted yes.

#### **5. Executive Session was held**

##### **Key Future Dates**

**Yankee Scrambles – 2/15, 3/14**

**2026 Picnic – Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Board Meetings – Mon, March 30th**

## [YankeeBoard] registrar report

Jeffry Powell <jeffrypowell@gmail.com>  
 Reply-To: yankeeboard@googlegroups.com  
 To: yankeeboard@googlegroups.com

Mon, Feb 2, 2026 at 6:58 PM

I did this on 1/23 when I was doing some other slides for Amy.

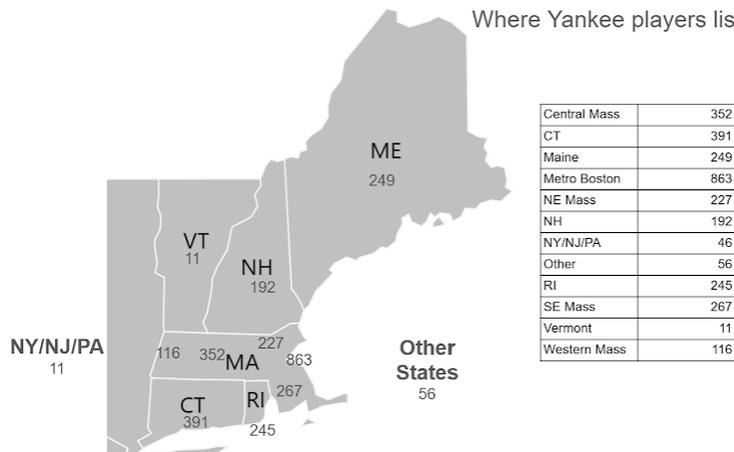
4721 total adults (92% of last year's total)  
 3011 adults with ratings (89% of last year's total)

751 new this year (454 male, 297 female)  
 25% of players new this year (this number was 19% in early December)  
 December/January --large amount of new players (184 male, 100 female)

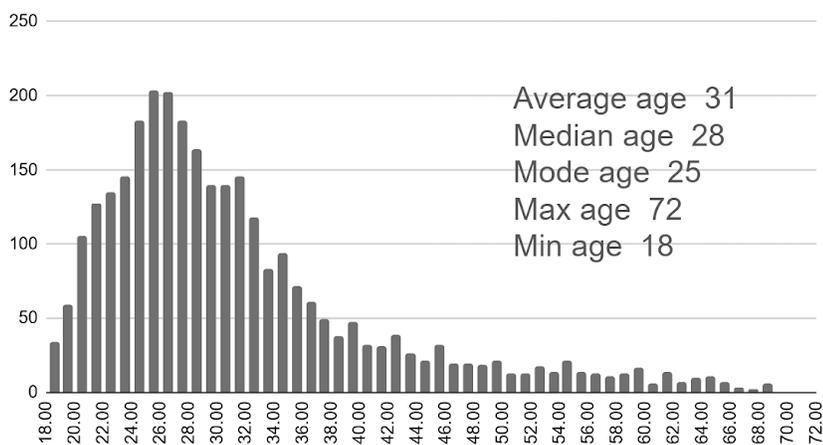
			Percent of Gender		Percent of total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
A	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
A-	11	2	0.62	0.16	0.37	0.07
B+	55	23	3.10	1.86	1.83	0.76
B	170	126	9.58	10.19	5.65	4.18
B-	390	237	21.97	19.17	12.95	7.87
C+	583	326	32.85	26.38	19.36	10.83
C	460	380	25.92	30.74	15.28	12.62
C-	106	142	5.97	11.49	3.52	4.72
D	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
# Players	1775	1236	3011			
Percent	58.95	41.05				
	Male	Female				
% of last year	89.69176352	87.53541076				

More fun stats:

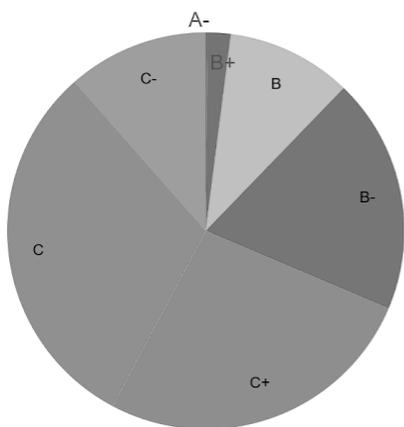
Where Yankee players list as their home



Yankee player age distribution

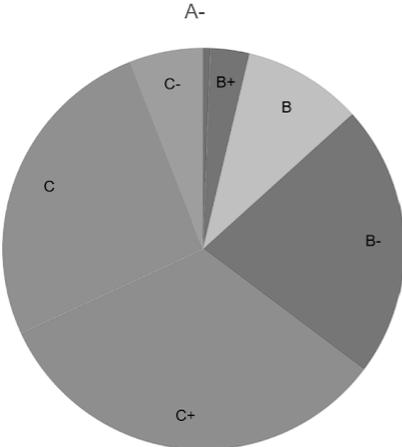


Female ratings (rated population is 41% female)



Rating	% of total
A-	0.07
B+	0.76
B	4.18
B-	7.87
C+	10.83
C	12.62
C-	4.72

Male ratings (rated population is 59% male)



Rating	% of total
A-	0.37
B+	1.83
B	5.65
B-	12.95
C+	19.36
C	15.28
C-	3.52

# [YankeeBoard] Social Media Report - 2/3

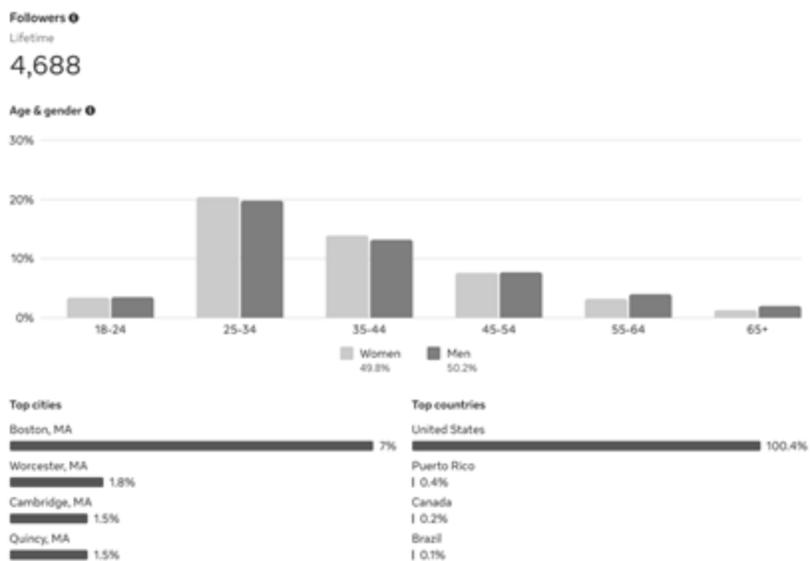
Amy Grigg <amyjgrigg@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: yankeeboard@googlegroups.com  
To: yankeeboard@googlegroups.com

Tue, Feb 3, 2026 at 4:09 PM

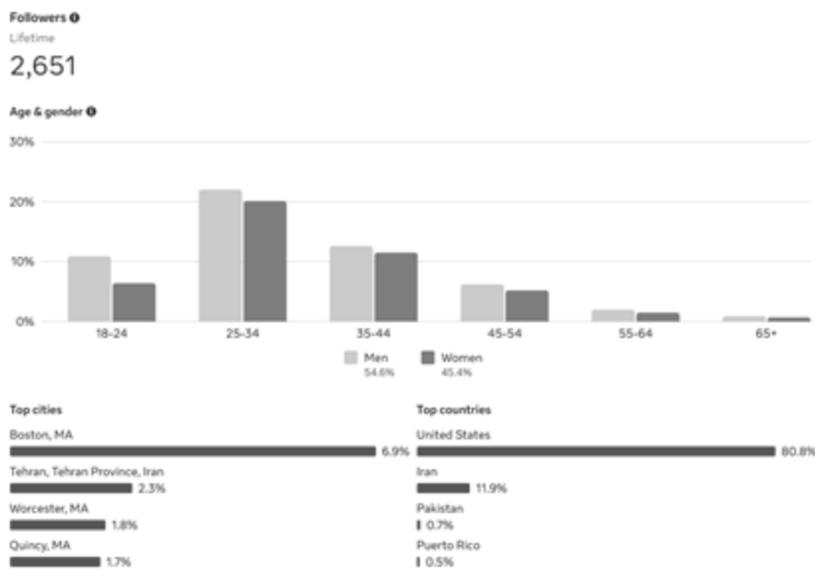
2/3/26 Social Media Report

## Total

- Facebook Followers: 4688 | New FB likes: 113, w/ 15 unfollows
  - 50.2% Male | 49.8% Female
  - Demographics:



- Instagram Followers: 2,651 | New likes: 155, w/ 50 unfollows
  - 54.6% Male | 45.4% Female
  - Demographics:



## Top Content Formats (FB)

- Photos
- Stories
- Links (moved up on list)
- Text (moved down on list)

## Average Top 8 Content Averages Formats (Facebook)

- Views: 7.4K (increased from 5.8K)
- Likes: 35.875 (increased from 24.125)
- Comments: 32.125 (increased from 12)
- Shares: 1.25 (increased from .75)

## Top Posts by views (FB)

- 1/7 Player Rerates : A LOT of ppl on list - 121 Comments & 54 Reactions → 9,700 Views
- 1/14 Player Rerates : 13 ppl on list - 5 Comments & 75 Reactions → 9,700 Views
- Ratings Sheet - 29 Comments & 19 Reactions → 8,000 Views
- Winner Photos: depends on who is in photos...ranging between 2 likes – 32 likes
- BCEC Lottery Post - 37 Comments, 26 Reactions, 2shares → 6,400 Views

## Facebook Honorable Mention

- *Lines Judging in Style – 96 likes, 2 comment, 6 shares*

## Average Top 8 Content Averages Formats (Insta)

- Views: 4.3K (same as before)
- Likes: 62.625 (increased from 45.5)
- Comments: .875 (slight increase from .75)
- Shares: 12.75 (increase from 7.6)

## Top Posts (Insta)

- Winner Photos: depends on who is in photos...ranging between 40 likes – 65 likes
  - Mix of Rampage and normal tourneys
- 1/7 Player Rerates : A Lot of people on this list – 124 likes, 7 comments, 45 shares

## Insta Honorable Mention

- *Marie's pancake at Snowbrawl – 114 likes, 1 comment, 8 shares*
- *Nationals Signup Notification – 41 likes, 1 comments, 4 shares*

## Recent & Current Marketing Campaigns

- Nationals Information
  - Opening and basic information to know posted about Entry being live - **posted**
  - Follow up Posts towards **Late Feb & March**
  - Reminders about Deadlines and Rosters etc **Late Feb & March**
- Player Rating Distribution and Location Lists
  - Two separate postings, so each can get its own primary image **2/3 @ 630ish**
- Tournament Winners - posting on Socials
  - Ongoing, by EOW - all winners until 1/19
  - Ongoing, by 2/13 - all winners until 2/1
    - Will be including some of Emily's Yankee People Posts smiling with the Snowbrawl Photos with link to gallery
    - Snowbrawl Winner Photos will be similar format like Rampage w/ the Yeti Icon & Team Name

- Ongoing, by 2/20 - all winners until 2/15
- BCEC Lottery
  - (Story) Reminder of Lottery Deadline - **Next Posting is Feb 3 @ 9PM**
  - (Post) Reminder of Lottery Deadline - **Next Posting is Feb 3 @ 6PM**
  - (Story/Post) Last Call – **Feb 4<sup>th</sup> at noon**
  - Post – Reminder about Rosters / Check-In Process with license / tickets
    - Or will this be easier like how SnowBrawl was

### Upcoming Plans

- Reminder about Code of Conduct / Safesport
  - Standard Post re: Safety of our Membership, hyperlink to the Yankee website
  - **Posting 2/5 at 7pm on FB & 3pm on Insta**
- Vaping – still an issue at tournaments
  - Was not told names, but was informed that there were multiple people vaping at RICC / Snowbrawl
- What is a Board Member / Roles of Yankee – **targeting a March Post time**
  - In progress
  - Have content of:
    - Board Members working the table + registration at large tournaments
    - Board Members helping to setup / tear large tournaments
    - Board Members at the Meetings – documenting 2/3 meeting for some snippets
    - Board Members as other roles : Referees or local TDs – photo of Amy reffing by Emily
  - Need content of:
    - Board Members at the picnic – does anybody have any photos of this?
- Tournament Reminders
  - Reposting of the Tournament FAQs about Roster Rating Clarifications **Posting Feb 10 (delayed from previous meeting)**
    - All Tournaments, Flat Rating Tournaments, Mens/Womens Tournaments, Mens Tournaments, Womens Tournaments
    - How Points Work with the Different Levels
    - Flat Tournaments
- Officiating Interest Flyer
  - Market this at BCEC - large poster needed?

### Outstanding Needs:

- Waiting on Emily for more updated photos for social media campaigns
- Info on new Committees / any new upcoming communication?

### On Hold

- Yankee Rating Level Description
  - hoping to roll out info about Ratings and Updating the Website based on the guide
    - Currently on hold
- Still need Marketing/Social Media email
  - on hold until new website
  - this email also will be transferred to the NERVA Canva Account
    - currently Amy's has been added for login info

--

---

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Yankee Volleyball Executive Board" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to [yankeeboard+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:yankeeboard+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com).

To view this discussion visit <https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/yankeeboard/CACWG%3DnMjQye9mUG%3Dmp%2BfLBov6hFMSMWon%2BwLY6s%3DwYqdGqqq2Q%40mail.gmail.com>.



---

Geoffrey Tasca <gwtaz13@gmail.com>

## [YankeeBoard] grass roots report

**Jeffry Powell** <jeffrypowell@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: yankeeboard@googlegroups.com  
To: yankeeboard@googlegroups.com

Mon, Feb 2, 2026 at 7:06 PM

8 scrambles so far (1 in Maine, 2 in CT, 1 in RI, 4 in MA)  
49 males joined full membership (16 one event that did not join)  
42 females joined full membership (7 one event that did not join)  
91 total new members (plus 23 with only one event membership)  
(12% of new members come from scrambles this year so far)

Upcoming scrambles:

2/15 (WC full with waitlist, MC 95% full)

3/14 (50% full)

# Yankee Captain Leadership Awards

## Purpose

The purpose of the Captain Leadership Awards is to recognize outstanding team captains within the Yankee Volleyball Association who demonstrate exemplary leadership, administrative reliability, sportsmanship, and positive contribution to Yankee Volleyball. Awards shall be issued annually to the top captains in each of the following divisions:

1. Women's Division
2. Men's Division
3. Reverse Coed (RCO)/CRC Division

## Eligibility

To qualify for consideration, a captain must:

1. Be listed as the official captain of a team participating in Yankee-sanctioned tournaments during the current season;
2. Enter a minimum of four (4) tournaments in the men's & women's division and minimum of eight (8) for RCO/CRC;
3. Maintain full compliance with all Yankee Volleyball Association rules, bylaws, policies, tournament requirements, USAV rules, code of conduct and rating guidelines.

Captains may be considered for multiple divisions if they meet eligibility requirements in each.

## Section 3. Evaluation Criteria

Awards shall be determined based on the following criteria, as applicable to each division.

1. **Leadership & Team Management**
  - a. Demonstrates effective leadership and guidance on and off the court.
  - b. Organizes complete rosters that accurately reflect appropriate rating levels.
  - c. Ensures team members understand and comply with the rules and expectations of officiating matches.
2. **Administrative Reliability**
  - a. Submits tournament registrations, rosters, and payments in a timely and accurate manner.
  - b. Maintains consistent communication with tournament directors.
  - c. Avoids late withdrawals or preventable cancellations.
3. **Sportsmanship & Conduct**
  - a. Models respectful and professional behavior toward referees, opponents, teammates, and staff.
  - b. Maintains appropriate team discipline and positive morale.
  - c. Encourages adherence to Yankee's Code of Conduct and facility rules.

#### **4. Contributions**

- a. Assists in helping new players or teams.
- b. Supports the development and improvement tournaments.

### **Scoring and Selection Process**

Captains shall be evaluated based on the following:

- Administrative Reliability
- Sportsmanship & Conduct
- Leadership & Team Management
- Contribution to the Division

Scores shall be compiled for each eligible captain, and the top individuals in each division shall receive a Captain Leadership Award.

In the event of a tie, the award may be shared or determined by the Executive Board.

### **Awards Presentation**

Awards will be presented annually at the first Convention Center tournament or through another official communication if in-person presentation is not feasible.

Recipients will be recognized on the official Yankee Volleyball Association website and may be featured in official communications.