



Yankee Board Meeting

8/18/2025, 7:30 PM

Embassy Suites, Marlborough

Board Members Attending: Jeffry, Judy, Geoffrey, Mark, Nick, Amy, Steve, Miriam, Melissa, Aly

1. Approval of Prior Minutes

- a. 3/27 minutes were approved and added to website.

2. Reports

- a. Registrar's Report (Jeffry)
 - i. See attached report.
 - ii. Board members should join as soon as registration opens and must have SafeSport.
 - iii. 30% of our members with a rating were new last year with about 800 members from the previous season not rejoining.
- b. NERVA Report (Dave)
 - i. Dave was not present so Judy covered this.
 - ii. USAV is going to start getting more involved in grass volleyball in terms of sixes and doubles.
 - iii. Boston has been selected as a full qualifier for Juniors which likely means no courts for adults at the Boston Convention Center tournaments.
 - iv. Providence in December this year with Mohegan Aces Wild returning in 2026.
- c. Ratings Report (Jeffry)
 - i. Will need to add and remove raters once we see who is playing.
- d. Social Media Report (Amy)
 - i. Will publicize the USAV rule changes (no double calls on same side of net, screening rule adjustment, substitution rule change)
 - ii. Instagram followers at 2394 primarily in the 25-44 age group with 18% between 18-24.
 - iii. Facebook followers at 4449 with 66% between 25-44 age group and only 7% between 18-24.
 - iv. Will continue to post bigger tournament winners as an album as that has a bigger reach than single photos.
 - v. Stories on Instagram are very popular and among the most viewed.
 - vi. Amy does the set-up for posts on Canva and is looking to get more people on there with perhaps a dedicated email for the Canva work.
 - vii. Upcoming posts will address rule changes, a once a month SafeSport reminder, tournament reminders, board meeting date notices.
- e. Web Editor Report (Jeffry)
 - i. Will be using the same website for this season
 - ii. Might need to have Peluche Creative maintain website and purge memberships older than 4 years.
- f. GrassRoots Campaign Report (Jeffry)
 - i. Jeffry will be sharing scramble duties with Melissa this season.
 - ii. Jimmy Guo will likely run scrambles in Connecticut and Maine may run some as well.
- g. Tournament Director's Report (Mark)
 - i. Draft is underway and schedule will be up next week.
 - ii. Yankee has 10 tournament directors participating in the draft with 4 new ones.
 - iii. RICC will be done on a lottery basis but that will exclude men's and women's Open.
 - iv. RICC will be a lottery with registration opening October 1st and closing October 8th.
 - v. Yankee no longer takes checks as a payment form.

3. New Business

- a. Yankee/NERVA relationship (done before reports)
 - i. Yankee is the adult division under the NERVA umbrella.

- ii. Merva makes profit, Yankee loses money. Thus there is no budget for Yankee, Yankee asks for money as needed.
 - iii. The NERVA executive board is very supportive of adults.
 - iv. Convention center tournaments and player parties in particular cost a lot.
 - v. Yankee sanctions can be appealed through NERVA. Yankee is not involved once any complaint/dispute goes to SafeSport.
 - b. Yankee Picnic Update
 - i. The Yankee Picnic will be moving to a new facility in 2026 at the Norton YMCA.
 - ii. The location was recommended by John Kubilis and Judy went and met with Emerson Badessa, a Yankee member, who works there.
 - iii. Room for more courts and more picnic tables with plenty of parking.
 - iv. No alcohol is allowed at this facility.
 - v. Contract is for the next five years on the second Saturday of June.
 - c. Election Review
 - i. Only 10 percent of our membership with ratings voted.
 - ii. Was 18 percent the year before for the full election.
 - iii. Steve, Miriam and Judy's spots will be up for election this year.
- 4. Old Business**
- a. Communication and transparency proposal (Amy) review
 - i. Will be sent back out for review.
 - b. Ratings Guide (Geoff/Amy)
 - i. Will be sent back out for review.

5. Executive Session will be held

Key Future Dates

Yankee Scrambles – 10/11, 11/9, 11/30, RICC scramble 12/27, 1/11

2025 Picnic – Saturday, June 13th

RICC – December 26th-28th

Board Meetings – Monday Aug 18, Thursday Oct 2, Monday Dec 8, Tuesday Feb 3, Wed Apr 1