

JUNIOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY (JGA) MEETING

November 13, 2005

In attendance:

Dana Voight	Commissioner
Jim Fales	Assistant Commissioner
Connie Denaburg	Treasurer
Michael Hubbard	Operations Manager
Darin Clark	Official's Chairperson
Yvonne Devlin	Jr. Coordinator-Girls
Robert Smith	Jr. Coordinator-Boys
Mike Farah	Jr. District 4 Representative
Sheryl Greene	Meeting Secretary

Clubs in attendance:

Big Lake Juniors	George May	North Florida V-ball Academy	Rita Buck-Crockett
Boomers Volleyball Club	Teri Jimenez	Oceanside Volleyball	Jennifer Olds
Brandon Sparks	Bill & Christie Warnken	Orlando Gold VBC	Jim Beaird
Broward Performance	Shane Marcey	Orlando Volleyball Academy	Yvonne Devlin
Broward Wildfires	Orestes Pablos	Palm Beach High Performance	Christopher George
Cape Coast V-ball Club	Connie Denaburg	Pinellas Heat Elite	Terry Small
Central Florida V-ball Club	Carlos Pizarro	St Augustine Volleyball	Mark Melton
Clay County VBC	Tom Arnold	Sandspurs	Gary Larkin
Club 4-U Palm Beach Jrs	Sam Skelton	Sarasota Volleyball Academy	Steven Haugh
Club Florida	Rick Reyes	South Brevard Spirit Volleyball	Bonnie Priester
Eagles Volleyball Academy	Ron Large	South Florida Volleyball	Ann Marie Indorf
Florida Golf Coast V-ball	Lori Eaton	Suncoast Volleyball	Jeff Horr
Mizuno Gainesville Jrs	Jeffery Reavis	Tallahassee Select V-ball Club	Chad Davis
Gulf Cost Jrs V-ball Club	Jen Deterding	Tallahassee Volleyball Assoc	Faydre Hawkins-Brown
Kaepa Indian River Jrs V-ball	Bonnie A McCall	Tampa Bay Jrs Volleyball Club	Randy & Lauri Dagostino
Indian River V-ball Academy	Ron Jacobs	The V-ball Academy of Wtr Spgs	Isaac & Jackie Raphael
Jacksonville Jrs. Volleyball	Adis Imamovic	Treasure Coast Volleyball	Martin Bielicki
Lake County Juniors	Steve Bishop	Untimate Volleyball Club Inc	Ricky Schultz
Lakeland Area V-ball Assoc	Chuck Waddington	United Performance	Chris & Jen Belshe
Lyman Volleyball Club	Dave Crowder	USA South Volleycenter	Jaye Flood
Manatee Area Volleyball	Nancy Cothron	Volei-Tech Training Systems	Dre Sloan
Miami Volleyball Club	Jose Bermudez\	Weston Thunder V-ball Club	Barry & Julie Sikorski
Miami Elite	Scott Doan	Whitesands Volleyball Club	Ruth Montgomery
National Volleyball Assoc.	Keith Edwards	Yahweh Volleyball Club	Tammy Campbell
North Florida Pirates	Brian Smith		

At 11:45 a.m. the meeting was called to order by Dana Voight, Commissioner.

I. Commissioners Report

Dana Voight reporting.

A. Welcome

Dana opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 2005-2006 Season of Florida Region Volleyball. Board members introduced themselves. Dana did a roll call of the member clubs. Afterwards the list was passed around the room, and the clubs updated their contact names, phone numbers and email addresses.

B. Meeting Minutes

Mike Farah made Motion #1 to approve the previous JGA meeting minutes. No discussion and all approved.

C. Next JGA Meeting

The next JGA meeting date is scheduled for Friday, April 28, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. Clubs can send any parent, coach or representative to this meeting.

D. Background Checks

The National Office has approved a new background check form. It is available on-line and must be completed every two years.

E. Picture IDs

The Region has purchased the equipment to make photo IDs during events. It is very similar to a hotel key card. For all who paid for cards last year and didn't receive them, they will be free this year. Teams that win and are going to Nationals will receive new cards to take with them. The coaches' IDs can have their certification level listed on them.

F. Website

The Region website is www.usavfl.org. The calendar will be kept updated. All region-sanctioned tournaments will be listed with links to each tournament's information.

G. Regionals

The Girls' Regionals will be April 29-30, 2006 at the Orlando Convention Center in the new building. Information is posted on the website.

H. Junior Coaches

Junior Coaches are not allowed as we cannot do background checks for anyone less than 18 years old.

I. Executive Director Position

The Board of Directors is meeting this evening to finalize this position. A committee will oversee the Director.

II. Director of Coaches Education Report

Nicole Evans was not available for this meeting. Dana Voight reporting.

A. Impact Clinics

Mike Farah is having an Impact Clinic on January 8, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome. All coaches and assistant coaches must be certified. There will be two more clinics, one mid-season and one prior to regionals and nationals. If a coach was Impact Certified a long time ago, they may provide written proof. If they do not have their paperwork to provide proof, then they will have to redo the clinic.

Other Impact Clinics:

Dec. 10, 2005	8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Outdoor Academy, Sarasota	Contact: Nicole Evans
Jan. 8, 2006	8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Middleburgh High School	Contact: Nicole Evans
Jan. 8, 2006	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Spanish River, Boca Raton	Contact: Mike Farah
Jan. 13, 2006	6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.	Champions Sports, Orlando	Contact: Nicole Evans
Jan. 15, 2006	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	John Paul II Catholic H.S.	Contact: Larry Spark www.larrysparkman.com

III. Region Office Report

Michael Hubbard reporting.

A. Finance Report

There is some money still in reserves. Scholarship money went unused last season - \$500.00 and no one applied. Info on the website on qualifications and how to apply. There is \$500.00 for this season. Mike Farah mentioned that All-American Volleyball has \$1000 scholarship. See Mike Farah for info.

B. On-Line Registration

The new system approved by the National Office doesn't work the same as "SignUpToPlay". The new system is good for new junior members, adults, coaches and chaperones. Also it keeps track of background checks. Not good for renewals as an email address is necessary. Cannot do a mass renewal either. Michael suggested that Clubs renew everyone on "SignUpToPlay" and send hard copies of the registration to Michael. Michael will then renew everyone in the new system. Do NOT send the Medical Release forms. Michael has handouts on how the new system works should anyone wish to have a copy.

IV. Official's Chair

Darin Clark reporting.

A. New Rule Changes

1. Overpass of the Plane of the Net

The Setter cannot touch the ball while in the plane of the net. This will be called as an Over Violation. Player must contact the ball prior to crossing over the plane of the net.

2. Uniform Numbers

Recommended for next season but will be required by November 1, 2007. The uniform numerals must be centered on the front and back of the uniforms. Minimum requirement is 4" on chest and 6" on back.

3. Pursuit Rule at Sanctioned Events

D.C.R. hosting an event. Need six feet six inches (6'6") clearance to use the Pursuit Rule.

4. Injured Libero

If the Libero is removed from the court for an injury and then another Libero is designated, the first Libero cannot reenter for the remainder of the match.

5. Number of Substitutions

12 is still the maximum number of substitutions – NOT 15

B. The Junior Officials' Clinics

The Jr. Officials' Clinics will be more streamlined. Let Darin know your preferred dates. Each District will now have its own coordinator.

District 1 – James Phillips

District 2 – James Phillips and Dave Carstenson

District 3 – Dave Carstenson and Jim Fales

District 4 – Dave Greenlee

The Board of Directors will be discussing penalties and/or fines for not attending these clinics. Probably will require that the requirement for attendance be completed by the second weekend in February. Possibly a fine may be imposed. Possibly not eligible for sanctioned events.

V. Junior Girls Coordinator Report

Yvonne Devlin reporting.

A. Forms & Insurance

Hand in all forms to Michael Hubbard to get a new booklet. It's a good idea to have Directors & Operators Insurance. Talk to Michael Hubbard for further information.

B. YJOV Report

The minutes for the last YJOV report have still not been made available.

C. Bid Tournaments

The Nationals will be in Atlanta, Georgia from June 28 to July 5, 2006. The National Invitational will be in Minnesota from June 29 to July 2, 2006. These dates and further information is on the website. Bid Tournaments for American and National information is on the website. A Qualifier and the Regionals are on the same date. We want teams to do both so we will be proposing a Bid Tournament.

D. Sanctions

You need to get a number for all sanctioned activities, including tryouts and hosting tournaments. Make sure that all tournaments and events you enter are sanctioned or you will not be covered by insurance. All sanctioned tournaments will be posted on the website. Check the website, if not listed do not enter without finding out if it is a sanctioned event.

E. Ranking System

We will continue with the current ranking system. You may suggest an entirely different system or changes to the current system. The ranking results from last year will be used for seeding at the first tournament.

F. Boys in Girls' Tournaments

Younger boys may play up in girls' tournaments. Boys will be allowed up to the age of 14. No boys allowed in Bid Tournaments, but ok for Regionals. The exact rules and allowances will be posted on the website.

G. High Performance

Jeff Reavis, H.P. Coordinator, reporting.

We took three teams last year. The Youth Team placed 3rd, the Junior Team placed 7th and the High Performance Team placed 3rd. Lots of kids tried-out. There were 450 try-outs around the region. We are trying to make this program self-supporting. We are discussing having District/Regional Camps as a way to pay for the program. The try-out dates will be posted on the website by January 1, 2006.

Stand Alone National H.P. Try-outs will be held at Champion Sports in Orlando on March 3, 2006 for boys and on March 5, 2006 for girls.

VI. Junior Boys Coordinator Report

Robert Smith reporting.

A. YJOV Report

Please send in all your seeding/results. Too many Clubs not reporting. It is better to report a loss than nothing at all. Don't only send in the wins. Trying to get Boys High Performance for next summer. Possibly two age groups.

B. Regionals

The Boys Regionals will be in Orlando in June. The exact date and location are to be determined. Let Robert know who many teams and boys you have in each of your clubs. Robert reminds everyone that all events, try-outs and tournaments must be sanctioned.

C. Boys Volleyball in High School

Mark Melton inquired if the Florida Region is doing anything specific to try and get boys volleyball in the high schools in the northern part of the state. Robert, not at this time. It is a problem all over the state. Parents need to ask for it in their schools. If enough interest and participation, maybe the high schools will allow.

VII. Break-out Meetings

The following people were the spokespersons for their districts:

Dist 1 – Jeff Reavis – Carrie Prewitt unable to attend today's meeting.

Dist 2 – Connie Denaburg – District 2 will need to elect a new representative as Connie is now the Treasurer.

Dist 3 – Lauri Dagostino – District 3 will need to elect a new representative as Barb Small has stepped down.

Dist 4 – Mike Farah, District 4 representative.

Dana asked the Districts to discuss the following during the Break-out Meetings:

Location for regionals for 2007 and 2008

Boys in Regional Tournaments

Recruiting

Rank System

Motions from the JCA Meeting.

VIII. Districts Findings

Dana Voight moderating.

A. District Representatives

Dist 1 – Carrie Prewitt will continue as the representative

Dist 2 – Brandy Bradley is the new representative

Dist 3 – Sam Cibrone is the new representative

Dist 4 – Mike Farah will continue as the representative

B. Location for Regionals in 2007 and 2008

Districts 1, 2 & 3 agree that Regionals should be held in Orlando for 2007 and 2008. District 4 did not discuss.

Motion #2 – Regional Championships to be held in Orlando for 2007 and 2008.

Presented by: Mike Farah / 2nd by Sam Cibrone

Unanimous Vote – Motion Carried

C. Recruiting

Dist 1 – Should not be any recruiting. Needs follow-up.

Dist 2 – More should be done to enforce the policy. Flyers and emails ok to promote Clubs. Need bigger fines.

Need definition and policy by region. Advertising is ok. No individual contact, phones, face-to-face.

Dist 3 – Agree with the handout in theory. Needs definition of recruiting and the policy

Dist 4 – No personal contact. Policy needs to be sanctioned. Advertising is ok

Dana called for two motions from the floor:

1. Committee to write the policy

2. Define recruiting

A committee was made last year and that was the proposal discussed during the Break-out Meetings. A Straw Poll was conducted and determined that most do not approve the suggested proposal.

Motion #3 – To only allow email which is general information or paper or website advertising as the forms of recruiting allowed.

Presented by: Sam Cibrone / 2nd by Ron Jacobs

Vote – 20 yes / 3 no – Motion Carried

Sanctions for violating the Recruiting Policy were discussed. Connie presented a motion for \$1000 fines in increasing increments with suspension of the recruiter and/or Club Director. It was suggested that it wasn't fair to penalize a Club Director who may not have had knowledge of the violation by their coach. This would be very hard to prove who actually did and said what. Some clubs can't afford the \$1000 fine and could put them out of business and especially not fair if a coach is doing it and the director isn't aware. Yvonne – that is why you need the Director's Insurance. Suggested that you put the policy and fines in the coaches' contracts.

Motion #4 – To accept recruiting penalty of \$1000.00 in increasing increments for each violation with a one-year suspension of violating person and/or Club Director.

Presented by: Connie Denaburg / 2nd by Mike Farah

Vote – 10 yes / 12 no – Motion Lost

Motion #5 – First Offense - \$500.00 penalty and the player is not allowed to play for that Club

Second Offense - \$1000.00 penalty, plus Club suspended from Florida Region sanctioned events for one-year

Third Offense – \$1000.00 penalty, plus Club Director and/or coach suspended from USA Volleyball

Presented by: Sam Skelton / 2nd by Joel

Vote – 5 yes / 13 no – Motion Lost

Darin reminded everyone that there is still a review committee that the violating person will be brought before. Plus the Club Director can make their statements to this committee as well. This will all be done prior to any penalties or sanctions being handed-down.

Motion #6 – To suspend the recruiter for one-year from USA Volleyball if found guilty of recruiting after review by the Incident Review Committee.

Presented by: Connie Denaburg / 2nd by Lauri Dagostino

Unanimous Vote – Motion Carried

D. Boys in Regionals

Dist 1 - OK with boys at Regionals if it is a Bid Tournament

Dist 2 - No boys at all

Dist 3 – Would like to see the verbiage back in the handbook as it was in 2003. Needs more explanation. Ok with 14 boys with 16 girls. Need more boys' teams.

Dist 4 – Did not discuss

Motion #7 – That the “Mixed Gender Teams” section under “Players” be reinstated in the current Florida Region Handbook.

Presented by: Lauri Dagostino / 2nd by Mike Farah

Vote – 14 yes / 4 no – Motion Carried

Discussion regarding U14 boys playing with U16 girls:

This could be dangerous as some U14 can be very large. Connie stated that we need to promote boys volleyball in all the communities. Jim Beaird thinks that 14u is too old. Nancy Cothron asked about U14 boys playing with U18 girls. Mark Melton suggested U17 girls. Sam Skelton stated that mixed would be ok, but not all boys' teams playing against all girls' teams. Lauri Dagostino reminded everyone that this is for 1st year boys' teams or players not the boys that have had formal volleyball training. This will make the girls play better

because they will be playing against taller players. Bonnie Priester asked about have a co-ed division. Nancy reminded everyone that coaches need to be prudent in not over-matching that could cause injury.

Motion #8 – To add to the “Mixed Gender Teams” section of “Players” in the Florida Region Handbook that 14 & under boys as mixed gender rosters or all boys teams are allowed to play in girls 17 & under division tournaments.

Presented by: Lauri Dagostino / 2nd by Mark Melton

Vote – 18 yes / 1 no – Motion Carried

Motion #9 – That girls teams with a boy listed on their roster are not allowed to play in regional events where bids to the Girls USA JOVCs are awarded.

Presented by: Lauri Dagostino / 2nd by Jim Beard

Unanimous Vote – Motion Carried

Motion # 10 – To Reinstate the Parent’s Information Guide (P.I.G.) booklet with all new updates for this year and to post on the website.

Presented by: Yvonne Devlin / 2nd by Mike Farah

Unanimous Vote – Motion Carried

E. Bid Tournament on April 8-9, 2006

Dana explained how the date was selected. Mike stated that will interfere with Northern Nights tournament on same weekend. However, that isn’t a bid tournament. Sam Cibone stated this will weaken Regionals as Clubs will send their #1 teams to the bid tournament and then you’ll only have #2 & #3 teams at Regionals. Sam commented that Regionals should be “King of the State”, not who goes to Nationals. Can American Bid play in the Bid Tournament? No, but they can play in Regionals. Qualifier winners cannot play in Regionals. Elite teams will not be at the Bid Tournament because they are going to Jacksonville. Budgets and travel arrangements have already been made and now it is too late to change.

Motion #11 – We will have a bid tournament on April 8-9, 2006 at Champions Sports Complex. Must be pre-paid for Nationals by April 1, 2006.

Presented by: JCA / no need for a second

Vote – 5 yes / 12 no – Motion Lost

Mike Farah suggested to have both at Regionals and then have a playoff to determine the real winner. Have pre-pays play pre-pays and nons play nons, and then have one match to determine the true Regional winner. Yvonne wants a true Regional Tournament and not teams getting “knocked-out” by pre-pays. Sam Cibrone suggested a power bracket at the end of the tournament. Nancy stated that one team wants the right to play to be the Regional State Champion. Robert Smith suggested having a +1 format, Region Champ + Bid Group Champ play each other. Yvonne stated that there isn’t real competition in the Region group.

Motion #12 – To have the Region Tournament split format Bid & Region Entry run Region like last year. Bid is for all teams that have paid their entry fee to Nationals by April 1, 2006.

Presented by: Mike Farah / 2nd by Marty Bielicki

Vote – 16 yes / 1 no – Motion Carried

Motion #13 – To accept all Florida Region teams to the Regional Tournament. If a bid has already been awarded they will play in the Regional section. Also have a play-off match to determine a Florida Region Champion.

Presented by: Sam Skelton / 2nd by Mark Melton

Vote – 9 yes / 1 no – Motion Carried

F. Try-outs prior to the completion of the Florida State H.S. Championships

The JCA presented a motion regarding no try-outs for any age group prior to the completion of the Florida H.S. State Champions.

Dist 1 – Does not like the proposed motion

Dist 2 – Agrees with the proposed motion

Dist 3 – Policy should not be rewritten, keep as is and only limit high school players

Dist 4 – Agrees in part, but feels there shouldn't be any personal contact whatsoever, including info meetings

Sam Cibone stated that the younger kids need to get started earlier. They shouldn't have to sit around without playing for an extended length of time. This puts everything on hold for all age groups and you can't even start with uniforms, hotels, budgets, etc. Nancy likes the current policy of no try-outs for high school players. Lauri pointed out that the current policy protects the high school roster players and allows the younger groups to get started and playing sooner.

Motion #14 – No try-outs for any age group prior to the completion of the Florida State High School Championships. Organizational/classroom meetings will be permitted only. No physical activity including drills, testing, etc. No signing of contracts. No paying club fees or dues. Exception: Try-out fee may be collected at this meeting.

Presented by: JCA / no need for a second

Vote – 7 yes / 13 no – Motion Lost

Current policy has no penalty. Discussed violators will be suspended from regional and national events. Lauri stated that we don't have the authority to suspend from national events.

Motion #15 – Penalty for try-outs prior to completion of the Florida High School State Championships: Club will be suspended from USVA-FL membership for one year.

Presented by: JCA / no need for a second

Unanimous Vote – Motion Carried

G. Bid Tournament in 2007

Discussion regarding the Region hosting a separate Bid Tournament in 2007. Sam Cibone wanted to know why this was necessary. Yvonne Devlin explained that this would allow a true Region Champion. Sam was concerned that there were not enough members remaining at the meeting to have a true vote. Dana stated that the membership can present a motion to have it removed at the next meeting.

Motion #17 – Allow all teams to play in the Regional Tournament for the Regional Championship in 2007 and the Region will host a Bid Tournament in April 2007.

Presented by: Yvonne Devlin / 2nd by Connie Denaburg

Unanimous Vote – Motion Carried

H. Bound to a Club

The JCA presented a date of December 15, 2005 as the date that a player is bound to a club and have it listed on the registration form. Lauri Dagostino was concerned that this was too late. Also, if a player attends more than one try-out and the registration form is signed, which one is the correct date? Ron Jacobs suggested that the parents sign a Letter of Intent. Lauri suggested having the statement on the P.I.G. and using a date of December 1st. Ron asked is ok for a club to have the signature in November and then hold it until December 1st?

Motion #16 – Region considers a junior member bound to a club as of December 15, 2005. Statement to be added to the registration form.

Presented by: JCA / no need for a second

Motion withdrawn – no vote taken

Motion #18 – That the Region uses the reinstated Parent Information Guide (P.I.G.) form adding a parent's signature line, as the "Binding Club Assignment" commitment for every athlete. December 1st is the earliest date the P.I.G. form can be submitted to the Region.

Presented by: Lauri Dagostino / 2nd by Keith Edwards

Unanimous Vote – Motion Carried

It was agreed that the P.I.G. will be posted on the website as soon as possible and the first Binding Commitment date will be December 1, 2006.

I. Ranking System

Chad Davis wants to see the points adjusted by the number of teams in each qualifier and club division. It was agreed that the Ranking Committee will reconvene to address the Ranking System points. The committee will have a Ranking System in place by January 1, 2006. Committee members are Mike Farah, Randy Dagostino and Chad Davis.

J. Adjournment

Motion #19 – Adjournment at 4:45 p.m.

Presented by: Steve Bishop / 2nd by Connie Denaburg

Unanimous Vote – Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted by: Sheryl Greene, Meeting Secretary