

Colorado Volleyball Officials Association
Annual Business Meeting – Minutes
July 7, 2024

- **The CVOA Annual Business meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by President, Bruce Bird.**
- **Executive Board members in attendance were Bruce Bird, Larry Ruane, Deb County, Rob Livingston, Tammy Davis, Emil Ewing, Georgie Lameiro, Kara Weathers, Nici Akey, Kathy Cox, Terry Porter, Pam Gilroy, Sarah Cantu, Shannon Gerber, Alma Grandpre, Roland Cook, Rick Kuper, Alicia Crist, Amy Sidener, Denise Greene, Deanna Russell, Penne Hamilton, Mindy Finley, Talana Davis, and Denise Close. Absent Tony Lim, Marc Bower, Ken Beltran, and Kami Oliver. Tony Lim, Marc Bower, and Ken Beltran designated their voting proxy to Tammy Davis and Tammy had 4 votes for Area 1.**
 - o Terry Porter moved to approve the minutes from the January 15, 2024, and July 9, 2023 meetings. Denise Close 2nd the motion and passed unanimously.
- **President – Bruce Bird’s Discussion items:**
 - o President Bruce Bird gave an update from the “You look in stripes” promotion sponsored by CHSAA. Unfortunately, not all new officials were reimbursed. The funds from CHSAA ran out in September of 2024. President Bird opened the floor for discussion, and Shannon Gerber supported her area with purchasing of uniforms and felt what she did for her area of purchasing items up to approximately \$600, felt dupped and some Area Directors and officials were reimbursed, and some did not. The communication from CHSAA was not given. CHSAA stated they feel they will not do a promotion of this nature again. The reimbursements given were from monies received from a Foundations that supports CHSAA. From this program, CVOA is seeing a lack of individuals based on the paid and unpaid list. Currently seeing a slight decline in registrations for the 2024-2025 season.
- **New officials’ communication update:** New officials’ information is to be sent to Bruce Bird and Deb County and Bruce will then set the individuals up in account 104524. Once this has occurred then Monica Tillman will set them up in account 103372. Bruce will not set up any new officials up as ready until individuals have paid. Bruce will then help assist all area directors to run reports and to link the new officials to their areas.
- **Reciprocating Dues** are \$15.00 per member and area directors should contact Deb and Deb will confirm with Monica Tillman receipt of their dues received by CHSAA.
- **Out of State officials** – Individuals who moved to Colorado from another state may officiate in Colorado once CVOA receives a letter from their state association verifying their years of service. CVOA will grant years of service up to 3 years for an individual who transfers from another state.
 - o **Test Scores** – Bruce Bird will send reports to area directors of which has the individuals test scores and the report is presented in excel format and can be sorted alphabetically. The report is not generated by areas; therefore, the area directors will need to verify their members.
 - o **Chain of command** – CVOA members need to utilize the proper protocol regarding chain of command. Please help CVOA to have officials first go to their area director, then to the Executive Committee. If it is a rule interpretation, Nici Akey, Rule Interpreter is to be emailed and then Nici will communicate with CHSAA and return a response back to the Area Director.

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- How does CVOA disseminate information, and whose responsibility is that local members understand the information from CVOA or CHSAA including post season requirements? The following shall occur:
 - The Executive Committee and Rules Interpreter are the first points of contact.
 - CVOA Website – main area of communication for CVOA members and Larry Ruane, VP is responsible for CVOA’s website.
 - Area Directors
 - For their respective members, please resend information to your members as some of our emails from Arbiter go to individuals SPAM folders.
 - Provisional members need to be verified from the master list you will receive from Deb County. M Deb will send the master list of members by July 22, 2024 if not sooner.
 - Deb County utilized Arbiter to help verify the new members and reconciling our records versus CHSAA.
 - Update of rule and case books – Area Directors have received their new officials orders from Monica Tillman. Some mailed packets are missing Casebooks. Please verify with Monica Tillman.
 - Bruce will confirm with Monica Tillman via email when members packets will be sent from CHSAA.
 - Update of the NFHS test: Preseason Test Part 1 is live.
 - Preseason Test Part 2, CVOA is waiting for delivery – Bruce will check with Monica regarding the download from NFHS and CHSAA. All officials once in Arbiter have access to Test 1 and Area Directors will be required to give Test 2 for new officials.
 - Sportsmanship – especially bench decorum update:
 - CVOA has added information as a Point of Emphasis to coaches and officials in their regional presentations. Please make this a priority with all the members within your area. If we ignore, we are not prepared to be an official.
 - As a crucial reminder, CHSAA sports are an extension of the classroom.
 - Schools would not allow players or coaches to be disrespectful towards authority figures in the classroom or school, so why do we as officials think it is acceptable behavior?
 - The Executive Board is asking If an official gives a yellow card, please notify CVOA President, so Bruce can help support their warning.
 - Coaches’ clinics or Out of Blocks/League meetings – Every coach has access to the Arbiter account, and it is their responsibility to take their required tests. If you, as Area Director are asked to attend, please use the Power Point as presented from NFHS. The PowerPoint is available on our website. The location of the PowerPoint is under the rules interpreter link.
 - **Per CHSAA guidelines, we must use the presentation that Nici has created.**
- **Terry Porter is offering to create additional documents for reporting just like we do for the “red card” violations.**

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- **Secretary/Treasurer – Deb County – Terry Porter moved to approve the proposed budget revisions as presented. Kathy Cox 2nd and motion passed unanimously.**
 - o Treasurer report
 - o Budget July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024
 - o Budget July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025
 - o Proposed budget July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

- **Rules Interpreter – Nici Akey presentation:**
 - o Nici presented the PowerPoint presentation and answered any questions on New Rules or Points of Emphasis. The presentation becomes a discussion item with the presentations.
 - o Uniform modification
 - Enforce from day one any uniform issues, no leniency – Very important and to reiterate zero leniency. Varsity level only and keep in mind uniform violations for undergarments, uniform bottoms is for all levels.
 - All uniform issues, need to be sent to Nici and she will speak with CHSAA – If the official has the ability to take a picture with approval of the coach, send to Bruce and Nici.
 - o <https://cvoaref.org/rule-interpreter-corner/>
 - o The website will be updated with all information as presented regarding uniform information and all pertinent information for the 2024-2025 season.
 - o Encourage your members (officials) to utilize their yellow card appropriately to help with sportsmanship (bench behavior).

- Uniform interpretation: Byers High School – black uniforms-mascot restriction one per 4.2.1(d) on undergarment only. Not uniform top.

- **Director of Training and Development presentation – Rob Livingston**
 - o Regional clinic
 - Regional Clinic module
 - In-person vs Online – On site have attendance record and require individual to print and not use their signature.
 - Regional Clinic Planning
 - o RefPrep cost = \$4,000
 - Move to another platform
 - Refprep step by step

- **Vice President – Larry Ruane**
 - o Website – Larry went through the website and has put in a lot of work to make it a more user-friendly version and adding calendars, and more up to date information. Larry has updated multiple links to help members see more accurate information.
 - o If you have any information you would like to be added to your area, there is a link to a google form. Please fill out and you may also send an email to Larry.
 - o List of individuals who have been nominated and will remain on for 5 years.
 - o Hall of Fame - <https://cvoaref.org/hall-of-fame-nomination/>
 - Ava Bair
 - George Barrows
 - Angel Chavez
 - Scott Cull
 - Monica Hinds
 - Jo Lynn Idler
 - Ray Lameiro
 - Ballot <https://forms.gle/dEiY65tE6Xznq3Xz9>

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- You may vote for a maximum of 7.
- 2/3 majority of voting board members is required to be selected. – Unfortunately, we do not have a full Executive Board of which votes and Hall of Fame induction is from the 2/3 of actual votes received.
- Deadline for voting is September 1, 2024 @ 6 pm

- **Proposals –**

- Proposal 1 - Line judge registration fee: Denise Close moved and Kathy Cox seconded the motion to accept the verbiage as presented. The new proposal 1 passed unanimously.
- Proposal 2 & 3 - Referee uniform: Alma Grandpre moved, and Tammy Davis seconded the motion to accept the verbiage as presented. Discussion presented the Executive Committee can help with discipline. The new proposal 2 passed unanimously.
- Proposal 3: Bruce Bird presented the Cyan Blue design from Smitty. Discussion of the proposal and presentation was given adding “piping” or “no piping” for post season and the shirts from Smitty only comes with sublimation patches. Terry Porter moved the verbiage for item #3 should be: It is permitted to have the “Certified Volleyball Official” logo on the left sleeve and contrasting piping. These uniform shirts shall be worn during the regular season or post season competition. The all-white uniform shirt shall be the only one authorized. Note: Beginning with the 2025-26 post season competition the cyan blue with piping shall be the only one authorized. Rob Livingston seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Rob Livingston, then moved to remove the word “no” from all items listed as no piping. Tammy Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- Proposal 4 - Age certification 16: Denise Close moved and Kara Weathers seconded the motion to accept the verbiage as presented. The new proposal 4 passed unanimously.
- Proposal 5 - Girls season dues and late fees: Terry Porter moved to amend the proposal to state the late fee is \$20 after the first competition date as set forth by the CHSAA and remove the words, “and \$20 thereafter”. Kathy Cox seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously for Proposal 5.
- Proposal 6 - Dues refund: Terry Porter moved to amend Proposal 6 to remove the date of August 1 and replace it with “by the competition date”. Shannon Gerber seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- Proposal 7 - Boys season dues and late fees: Kathy Cox moved to amend Proposal 7 to remove the late fee of \$10 and replace it with \$20 and then remove the last portion of the sentence of and \$20 thereafter. Tammy Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- Proposal 8 - Girls Post Season: Shannon Gerber moved to accept Proposal 8 as presented and Kara Weathers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Proposal 9 - Boys post season: Tammy Davis moved to accept Proposal 9 as presented and Kara Weathers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Proposal 10 – Membership Required Uniform and Equipment: Rick Kupper moved to accept Proposal 10 as presented and Sarah Cantu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Proposal 11 – Membership Required Uniform and Equipment: Terry Porter moved to postpone Proposal 11 to a later date. Mindy Finley seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- No additional proposals were presented.

- CVOA Area Director manual is available on the website and Terry Porter and Emil Ewing will work to update.

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- Terry Porter requested to put a committee together to review minutes since CVOA only meets annually.
- **Other Business Discussion:**
 - o Why at the state tournament does CHSAA provide food for staff but not the officials – CHSAA does not have the budget for all officials, but available in their budget for the volunteers, since they did volunteer their time away from their current jobs.
 - o Mindy Finley is requesting how can we (CVOA) be able to assist with the court liaisons from year to year. Especially the prior year 5 officials who were selected to be the R1 during the championship matches. Those individuals are required to be a court liaison due to them being an R1 from the prior year.
 - o A discussion has been approved to ask all court liaisons to be part of the banquet for the Girls State Tournament starting with the 2024-2025 Girls State Tournament.
 - o Why is the boys state tournament treated differently, for example less fanfare...no dinner or breakfast, since they start in the afternoon – CVOA doesn't have the ability to do a banquet because of the location of the state tournament and the individuals work schedules. The state gift is different than what is given at the Girls State Tournament. CVOA is the only state association sports officials who has a banquet and Michael Book appreciates CVOA.
 - o Other than being in the bylaws, why is post season eligibility tied to when an official pays their dues? This has been a CHSAA mandate for all sports associations. The State Tournament is CHSAA's tournament, and we become the guest.
 - o Regarding being selected for state, should it be mentioned in the bylaws that the selection committee has final decision for state officials; it is not just determined by coach and officials votes. State selection is not part of our bylaws as it is CHSAA's requirements. The committee is now part of CHSAA and wear the "hat" under their umbrella. The state committees' first meeting is from the regions and how to balance the areas. The second meeting: setting the schedule and go through the history of all officials setting the finals officials. The selection for the semi's and then lines judges and then other duties fill in themselves. New officials will not work a semi or a final match. A 2nd year state official could easily work a semifinal. The committee tries to address multiple concerns. The committee has added to the quality of officials and not doing as a personal assignment.
 - o Discussion regarding the end of prematch warmup. The teams go to the end line and then after any anthem and player introductions, the R1 whistles and the players go the net and wish each other "good luck". After this takes place, some referees understand that the starters should go to their spots on the court and the rest of the players to the benches - R2 proceeds with checking the lineups and then the match begins.
 - What seems to happen instead is that after the players wish each other "good luck" at the net, all players return to the bench and the coach provides more instruction (for way too long in my opinion), and the officials end up having to whistle and coax the starters onto the court. Since warmups were just completed, the coaches had plenty of time to instruct players about strategy for the match. I would like to see that extra instruction time removed
 - let's play right after the "good luck" at the net.
 - Are other areas dealing with this "time wasting"? Should we be issuing a "delay of game" yellow? How can we approach a match with a "softer side". Use verbiage as a teaching moment.

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- Other business: From Deb: Asked all new area directors to please send an email with the subject line to read AD Shirt. Within the body of the email to please state size per gender and if you would like a “royal blue” or black” polo shirt. Also have additional flipping coins if you did not receive them.
- CVOA’s annual business was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

DRAFT