

Colorado Volleyball Officials Association
Annual Business Meeting – Minutes
July 13, 2025 – 8:30 AM to 4 PM

- **Welcome** – Meeting called to order at 8:36 a.m.
- **Roll call** – CVOA Executive present: Bruce Bird, Larry Ruane, Deb County, Rob Livingston, Nici Akey, Ken Beltran, Marc Bower, Tammy Davis, Tony Lim, Georgie Knaub-Lameiro, Kara Weathers, Kathy Cox, Terry Porter, Denise Greene, Pam Gilroy, Sarah Cantu, Penne Hamilton, Shannon Gerber, Mindy Finley, Roland Cook, Alma Grandpre, Rick Kuper, Talana Davis, Alicia Crist, Kami Oliver, Amy Sidener, and Denise Close. Absent: Deanna Russell – Alicia Crist designated as Deanna’s proxy, and Emil Ewing – Georgie Lameiro designated as Emil’s proxy.
- **President – Bruce Bird**
 - o Approval of minutes
 - July 7, 2024 -Amy Sidener moved to approve the minutes as presented and Tony Lim seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- **President – Bruce Bird**
 - o Chain of command – team uniform discussion:
 - Uniform modification
 - Enforce from day one, any uniform issues, no leniency
 - All uniform issues to be directed to Nici Akey and she will speak with CHSAA regarding legality of the uniform.
 - o How is information disseminated, and whose responsibility is that local members understand all information from CVOA or CHSAA including post season requirements?
 - Start with The Executive Committee and Rules Interpreter
 - Website – Larry Ruane is responsible for all website information and required to keep it updated as received.
 - Area Directors – you are the main contact first for your members, then The Executive Committee.
 - o Members – all individuals registered under CHSAA account 104524 per area.
 - o Provisional members verify your list with Deb County.
 - o Area Directors, send prospective new members contact info (First/Last name and email address) to Bruce Bird, who will add to Arbiter, for the new member to pay their dues – Send only individuals who have committed and not your entire list that may be interested. Contact Bruce Bird if there are any issues. Terry Porter asked about collecting the \$15 for books and then give back to the new prospective official once they are registered in Arbiter.
 - o All rule and case books – Links to videos will be attached to our website, but you are able to copy and paste from Arbiter. (only works periodically)
 - We are asking CHSAA to pull a paid list Monday July 21, 2025, and then again Monday August 25, 2025. Assignors and Area Directors are frustrated that the later deadline worked two years ago, but we need to look at changing. Terry Porter moved for a deadline of June 1st for registration fees, then a \$15.00 late fee after June 1st as this does not impact them for post season play. Rick Kuper seconded. Discussion: Area Directors and Assignors do not want to wait until July. It needs to be a separate line item within the membership manual. The new line item will be part of Article II, section 1. No longer will any official manual publication be mailed, it is accessible as a digital copy. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Rule & Case Books, Officials Manual, Pre-season guides

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- Preseason Test Part 1 is live – test was not sent via hard copy prior to Annual Business Meeting, Bruce Bird will send via email the week of July 14th.
 - Preseason Test Part 2 we are waiting for delivery – Usually CVOA should receive late July.
 - Sportsmanship – especially bench decorum – per Bruce Bird and CHSAA it is in a declining mode. Rob Livingston reminded area Directors to pass on to the members, “we have the tools to handle poor sportsmanship”.
 - We added it as a Point Of Emphasis to coaches and officials in their presentations
 - 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?
 - Coaches’ clinics or Out of Blocks/League meetings – CHSAA guidelines they must use the presentation that CVOA created located on our website under “CHSAA documents”.
- **Vice President – Larry Ruane**
 - Website – Need the local areas to use it more frequently as Larry does a great job with the website. Suggestion for regional clinic post on the home page so it is easier for individuals to see.
 - Hall of Fame - <https://cvoaref.org/hall-of-fame-nomination/> Bruce will send out an additional email for voting. Biographies and any supporting documents are available on the CVOA website. Larry Ruane will take action to improve the Hall of Fame form.
 - George Barrows
 - Angel Chavez
 - Scott Cull
 - Monica Hinds
 - Jo Lynn Idler
 - Ballot <https://forms.gle/dEiY65tE6Xznq3Xz9> an email will be sent to notify area directors there are additional individuals and may continue to vote, but only the maximum can be voted on.
 - You may vote for a maximum of 5.
 - 2/3 majority of voting required by Executive Board Members are required for selection.
 - Deadline September 1, 2025 @ 6 pm
- **Secretary/Treasurer – Deb County - Treasurer’s report accepted as no motion is necessary for the Treasurer’s report.**
 - Treasurer report 2025
 - Budget July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025
 - Budget July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026
 - Proposed budget July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 - Ken Beltran moved to approve the proposed budget and Mindy Finley 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
 - 2024-25 state championship information presented.
- **Rules Interpreter – Nici Akey**
 - PowerPoint presentation and answer any questions on New Rules or Points Of Emphasis. Nici requested everyone to put your questions on a piece of paper and after the

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presentation will go through them as some of the questions are taken care of during the presentation.

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- **Director of Training and Development – Rob Livingston**
 - There has been a request from CHSAA for increased Line Judge training for the State Tournament. There is a packaged presentation available from RefReps specifically for line judges costing \$25 per seat and lasts ~20 minutes. CVOA would cover the cost for State Selected officials and the course would need to be completed prior to the pre-tournament banquet.
 - The Regional Clinic is again available online. Make sure to send attendance rosters to Rob and make sure individuals print names and not signatures.
 - We have switched providers away from RefReps.
 - The cost for the new provider is less than half what RefReps charged us with no limit on the number of seats for the course.
 - The web site registration process for the new provider is much more straight forward.
 - The online course will have a familiar format with 5 video modules and a quiz at the end of each module. Plan for 1 to 1 ½ hours to complete.
 - Quizzes are required to be completed to at least 75% before allowing continuation. Unlimited retakes are allowed.
 - Each module must be completed in order before advancing to the next.
 - At the end of the course, each student will receive a Completion Certificate.
 - Area Directors will be responsible for monitoring your members' completion status.
 - In person Regional Clinic meetings are encouraged.
 - It is recommended to have these prior to the season, although a member may qualify for post-season by taking the clinic on-line prior to the post-season deadline.
 - Area Directors that pursue the in-person option will need to account for attendance and forward the sign-in lists to me.
 - Final thoughts: CHSAA is asking for better training for all officials who are selected as a State Official, (quality). CVOA must have a "good faith" effort for CHSAA State officials to have a training prior to them working the state championship matches. Bruce Bird is suggesting that the area directors prepare their officials for post season, send the information back to Bruce and he will send to Bethany at CHSAA.
- **Proposals**
 - Pink Referee shirt – Alma Grandpre discussed proposal. The majority concern is the shade of pink and if it may differ. Terry Porter moved for the following information to be added to the membership manual Officials Uniform Section the following statement: **During Breast Cancer Awareness month, October, a collared pink shirt or school sponsored event shirt may be worn. The R1 and R2 shall agree on the color and style of shirts.** Ken Beltran seconded, motion pass unanimously.
- A. New members removable patch – Rick Kuper presented the proposal of a removeable patch be given to new officials upon completing membership requirements. Ken Beltran moved under New members

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the following information: **New Members:** A prospective member (“New Member”) shall pay the current dues amount at the time they receive any rulebooks, materials, or attend a clinic, half of which is non-refundable. If the New Member fails to pass the test, the Secretary/Treasurer will refund one half of the dues paid. New members will receive a set of red and yellow cards, a CVOA patch with magnet, pink whistle, and a flipping coin upon passing their test. Dues for new members will be sent to the CHSAA Officials Office no later than seven days after their first competition date. Kathy Cox seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Terry Porter moved to amend the first to have an effective date of 2026-2027 season. Tony Lim seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Deb County will receive quotes for the two vendors who currently provide the CVOA patch. The quote will contain the patch and magnet cost.

- Area-specific membership requirements – Rick Kuper presented information – Bruce Bird stated this is not a bylaw proposal and each area director should work with their members with the ranking system and evaluation. Referee evaluation is located on the CVOA website under CVOA documents.
- Scholarships – Roland Cook presented information regarding providing a scholarship to a student athlete. The proposal is not a membership proposal. Currently tabled until more information can be presented.

- **Other Business –**

- Clarify regional clinic deadline – regular season done within the fiscal year and post season 28 days prior to post season.
- Blue sweaters or long-sleeved polo allowable – Post season default will be blue with piping.
- Post Season process and clarification – Bruce Bird discussed criteria.
- Rankings for officials – CVOA is in the business of training and not ranking and evaluation is on the website. Encourage officials to attend more training so their ranking will/can be higher. Arbiter ranking is 100 – 999. 100 is elite. Encourage area directors to provide this information to their assignor and have done their due diligence to provide this information.
- Under 18 – CHSAA unwritten rule – CHSAA put a statement within their criteria on the website as individuals register. CVOA trains officials and the assignors will need to make sure they are not officiating as an R1/R2 for a Varsity match if under the age of 18. There are certificates available for them to help train.
- Late fee vs deadline to get books? - New date was voted as June 1st and late fee after June 1st.
- Supplies will be available at the end of the meeting.
- Elaine Torres from CBS contacted Tammy Davis to help with the Female in Sports – Tammy Davis will have a booth to recruit individuals to officiate. August 16th 2025. Terry Porter moved to approve up to \$500 to invest in Girls in the Game on August 16th, and a banner to be used for additional time. Mindy Finley 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Meeting Adjourned at 1:50 p.m.**