

Vol. 11 No. 2 • April 2009

THE OFFICIAL WORD

NEWSLETTER



GLENN'S NOTES

by Glenn Sapp
VP Official's Division

I hope everyone's season is progressing and that we are finding tournaments to be challenging and fulfilling as well as having some fun. The Qualifier aspect of the season is in full swing and we are approaching our national events to be held in May, June and July.

By now, I think most of you have signed up for the National events; if not please check availability with George Egan (george.egan@usav.org) at the USAV office.

The Officials Commission completed the meetings in March. It was a full two and a half days with much accomplished and much more work still to be done. Probably of most import to many of you would be the change in the May meeting schedule. In the past, the RVA Referee & Scorekeepers meetings were held on Friday mornings. Due to many scheduling conflicts as well as the advent of the USAV Congress (more on this later) the meeting had to be shifted to Thursday morning. This was logical in order to hold the other meetings (Scorekeeper Sub-Commission, Referee Sub-Commission etc) afterwards so that we can consider everything being presented to the RVA's and their reaction and input to potential development and changes within the Officials Commission.

Some of those issues to be presented and discussed on both the Officials level as well as the combined USAV level (i.e. Regional Commissioner's, Junior's and USAV Staff) would include:

- o Combining the national clinic fee and the OD dues for national level referees - making the yearly fee \$55; a savings of \$5 for the year;
- o Setting minimum standards for Junior

Scorekeepers and Second Referee's at National Qualifier events;

- o The handling of inappropriate protests at national level events;
- o Creation of the "Bronze Whistle" award for the best Junior National candidate;
- o Plans on how to select the candidate for the USAV Board of Directors once Mike Carter's term is completed;
- o Background screening for national level officials and how that might work in conjunction with the Region's current programs;
- o Good Standing within Regions so that there is a fair and equitable national standard;
- o Job descriptions for all members of the Officials Commission;
- o Development of a new admin manual to reflect the recent changes in the USAV and Officials Commission structure;
- o Pay increase and differential (between responsibilities for Scorekeepers & Referees) over the next 8-10 seasons;
- o Beach officials (that only work beach) become USAV administrative members for those whose Region does not offer "Beach" only memberships and;
- o This year there will NOT be a group picture of either Referees or Scorekeepers taken at the Open Nationals.

As you can see we were very, very busy.

Many of these ideas and thought processes are in the

Continued on page 3



APPROVED VENDORS AND UNIFORMS

Only four vendors currently authorized to sell officials' uniforms

by Marcia Alterman
PAVO Executive Director

There are four vendors approved to sell uniform shirts carrying the "Volleyball Certified Official" logo on the sleeve. The PAVO/USAV uniform policy allows several choices regarding the uniform. A long-sleeved uniform shirt was approved several seasons ago, and a vest (to be worn over the uniform shirt) was approved as well.

At this time, only shirts made of 100 percent cotton or a 50/50 blend are approved fabrics. No other fabrics, such as Dry-Weave or polyester blends, have been approved. Those fabrics are being considered, and an announcement will be made if and when final approval is given.

To ensure your uniform purchase is "legal," you should buy only from one of our approved vendors. These vendors have the specifications regarding thread color, fabric weight, and style that both PAVO and USAV have approved. These vendors also can provide you with other officiating tools such as whistles, measuring chains, ball pumps, and sanction cards.

Great Lakes Apparel
Mary Malpede
(630) 691-8170
mmalpede@aol.com
www.greatlakesapparel.com

The Ref Shop
Michael Hertz
(727) 392-7294
backset@tampabay.rr.com
www.TheRefShop.com

Time Out For Sports
Nancy Sommer
(888) 594-4884
nlsommer@yahoo.com

Roof Sportswear
Verna Klubnikin
(888) 530-7672
roofsport@aol.com
www.roofsportswear.com



NATIONAL RATING SITES 2009

Ratings will take place at five sites

by Mike Carter
NRT Director

Five rating sites have been confirmed for 2009. Ratings will be conducted Aug. 28-29 at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Va., and the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio. Ratings will be conducted Sept. 4-5 at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colo., and Fordham University in Bronx, N.Y.

Applications submitted by candidates have been vetted and the 21 accepted candidates have been notified that they'll have a chance to earn their PAVO National certification this fall.

Of the 21 candidates, one is a reciprocal candidate from USA Volleyball. By contracting with five sites, it was again possible to keep the total number of candidate spots higher than pre-2008 levels.

An article in the June edition of the Official Word will provide training tips and suggestions to help candidates prepare for their endeavor, and provide tips for officials applying for 2010.

PAVO extends a thank-you to all National referees who wrote recommendations for this year's candidates and affiliated boards for preparing their candidates.



NATIONAL & JUNIOR NATIONAL REFEREE CANDIDATES SELECTED

by Brian Hemelgarn

Director for National and Junior National Referee Certifications & Evaluations

Our April 1 deadline for National and Junior National referee candidates has now passed. Applications have been reviewed, and 56 applicants were selected as Junior National referee candidates, while 30 applicants were selected as National referee candidates. Congratulations and good luck to our Class of 2009!

Candidates should work hard to prepare for the rating sessions! A new document, "USAV Techniques, Mechanics and Procedures for Match Administration", is available for download from the USAV website: <http://volleyball.teamusa.org/content/index/405>. Likewise, current rule interpretation bulletins should be studied, and the revised USAV Casebook will be available to referees in the coming weeks. All of these materials will help candidates reach their goal of attaining their next level of certification. By browsing the newly re-designed USAV website, referees can find numerous resources to help them in these endeavors. Under the Resources tab, "Rules & Officials" will point us in the right direction!

Existing Junior National and National referees should mentor our new class of candidates during this spring season to help them become strong candidates. Contact your regional referee chair to find out if your region's candidates need your assistance! And candidates should seek the top referees in their regions for help and guidance. Members of the National Rating Team are often available for a quick Q&A during a tournament, so candidates should feel comfortable asking them for feedback as well. We should all be available to assist our next cadre of national-level referees. Thanks for your help in that endeavor!

Glenn's notes continued from page 1

process of being addressed by the USAV Joint Admin. Council (consisting of the Officials Commission, the Regional Commissioners, the Junior's Commission, the beach Commission and USAV Staff) since many of the issues are germane to others. We also very much need our own constituencies opinions and thoughts on how we might best proceed making this years meetings even more critical than in the past as we embark upon a new quadrennial and a new leadership structure.

It is also important for those attending the meetings on Thursday morning to attend the first USAV Congress to be held later that afternoon. The Congress will "present useful and thought-provoking information in a format that invites participation and interaction. Participating in the Congress will be representatives of USA Volleyball's Board of Directors and our Regional Volleyball Associations, as well as members of our Junior Assembly, Beach Assembly and Officials Assembly. The Congress will be an excellent opportunity to network with other groups and individuals having mutual interests." It will include reports from Doug Beal on the "state of the Game" and an overview of USAV's "Strategic Plan" and presentations by some of the new USAV Board of Directors. Everyone is encouraged to attend. For those that wish, the Boyce banquet will be held Thursday evening and is always a fun event.

Please contact myself or any of the Officials Commission members should you have any questions.

Have a great rest of the season.



NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR HONOR, EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE AWARDS

Awards honor members for commitment to PAVO and for contributions to officiating

by Crystal Lewis
PAVO President-Elect

PAVO is accepting nominations for its Honor Award, the organization's highest honor. Candidates at least 30 years old and have worked in promoting officiating through PAVO for at least 10 years. Candidates should be persons of high moral character and personal integrity who, by their leadership and efforts, have made an outstanding contribution through officiating. Honor Award recipients are enshrined as members of PAVO's Hall of Fame. Written nominations should be submitted via email to Crystal Lewis (president.elect@pavo.org) by Aug. 1, 2009. For

more information call Crystal Lewis at 1-850-277-4558.

PAVO is also accepting nominations for its Excellence in Service Award. The honor is given annually to a PAVO member who has demonstrated dedication, commitment and service to PAVO and/or its members, on a local, regional or national level. Written submissions should be submitted to pavo@pavo.org by Aug. 1, 2009. For more information call Miki Kennedy at 1-888-791-2074.

THE REF SHOP

P.O. Box 3694
Seminole, FL 33775
727-392-7294
727-392-4050 fax
therefshop.com



Featuring the
"NEW"
approved Long
Sleeve Shirt

Bags Uniforms Supplies



"Everything a Volleyball Referee Needs!"



THINGS I LEARNED AT THE PAVO BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

A rookie's musings about his first board meeting.

*by Jung Park
Director of Finance*

As a new PAVO board member, I attended my first Board of Directors meeting in Kansas City in March. Not only was I blown away by how hard everyone worked, but I learned a few other things during my 2 1/2 days in the nation's heartland.

1. Miki Kennedy, PAVO Member Services, is awesome.
2. Eating tacos the night before the day one meeting is a bad idea.
3. If you are a rookie, it's always your birthday when you eat out.
4. Rules Interpreter Marcia Alterman really knows her stuff.
5. While the board doesn't always agree on everything, the members are passionate about PAVO and its well being.
6. Nothing gets glossed over; the board goes over everything.
7. I am amazed at how much work each BOD member does.
8. Me as the Finance Director? Good God...What were they thinking?! Better go get a new calculator.
9. I wonder if Mara Wager will eat both of her apples.
10. BOD members like to sing randomly. Some of them are pretty good singers.
11. Comedy Central presents "Anne Pufahl & Mara Wager," the funniest two women in volleyball. You should buy a ticket. They are two funny people.
12. Web technology is here to stay. It's going to help us to better train and educate our members.
13. Karen Gee, former finance director, is so smart and insightful with everything. We truly will miss her.
14. Kansas City is a beautiful city according to our hotel staff. I never got to see it.
15. We easily have the most competitive people on our planet. We cheat to win in our silly group games. Wait, what happened to my winning prizes?!
16. All the members were extremely open to new ideas. I was even allowed to disagree with some people even though I'm just a rookie.
17. Skipping lunch on day two is not a good idea. You get a headache.
18. We work very long hours in this meeting.
19. At 2:44 p.m. on the second day, we all lost it as Julie, Peg and Anne started to dance to a Christmas song. Carlos tells me not to worry. Apparently it happens a lot.



GOLD, SILVER... AND BRONZE!

*by Brian Hemelgarn
Director for National and Junior National Referee Certifications & Evaluations*

As an addition to our national awards for referees, the Referee Sub-Commission has chosen to implement a new award this year - the Bronze Whistle! We already present a Gold and Silver Whistle award annually during the US Open Championships week. The Bronze Whistle completes this award series and is also a tribute to the great medal successes of our USA national teams in the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games!

The Gold Whistle is awarded to an existing USA National referee for an outstanding tournament performance at the US Open Championships. The Silver Whistle is awarded to a new National referee for excellence in officiating during his/her first year at the US Open Championships. And our new Bronze Whistle award will be presented to our best Junior National referee candidate at the Girls JOVC.

Award criteria are available on the USAV website and in the USAV Guidebook. Work hard and good luck! The awards committees will be watching!



PAVO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REVIEW

Technology was a key theme at the 2009 meeting

by Marcia Alterman
PAVO Executive Director

The PAVO Board of Directors voted to establish two-levels of certification for line judges and during its annual meeting in March in Kansas City. The board also explored how to use technology for communication and education, and established a committee to work on revamping the PAVO referee certification process.

Technology, and how to best use it for training, was a major topic of discussion during the three-day meeting. The board agreed that the technology available for educational programs is inspiring and is clearly the way of the future. But it also realized that technology often is expensive and time consuming to implement, and that PAVO has limited funds available.

Nonetheless, PAVO continues to incorporate technology to better serve its members. The new-and-improved look of the PAVO website, with increased services for members and enhanced usability, is one very visible change that has already begun to take shape. The “skin”, or overall look and graphics, improved the readability, and the new features such as the Officiating Opportunities page will make the site even more valuable to members. Other new features are coming soon.

Computerized scorekeeping is being developed, and vendors are being considered. There is a possibility that it will be ready for “beta-testing” this fall.

The Directors voted to establish a two-level line judge certification program, with the National level line judge criteria based on demonstrated excellence on the court. Line judges can meet the on-court requirement for this certification through an assignment to an NCAA post-season event or by attending a National rating site for evaluation. More details will soon posted be on the PAVO website, and in the next Official Word.

The Directors voted on another change that will affect line judge and scorekeeper certifications. A pin will now be sent to each certified line judge or scorekeeper each year when they complete the requirements for certification or re-certification, indicating the current year. For example, all line judges and scorekeepers who meet the requirements for the 2009 season will be sent a “2009” pin to attach their patch to their uniform shirt. Wearing the current year pin on the

certification patch will demonstrate that the certification is current.

The Directors formed a committee to work on a revamping the PAVO referee certification process. Over the next year, regular updates will be provided by the committee to the Board, with a final report and possible vote at the 2010 Board meeting.

The Board approved a new online study guide for use by PAVO members. PAVO will contract with RuleBox software providers to establish a website where PAVO members can take practice exams prior to their “real” examination. The cost will be \$10 per member, and the process can be used at the discretion of the individual member.

Recruitment for new officials was a significant topic throughout the meeting. Consideration will be given to developing recruitment marketing materials to be made available at no cost to local boards along with a public service announcement, and a workshop outline.

The final budget for 2009 was approved, with several noted changes and additions. More detailed information on the financial status of PAVO and the budget will be provided by Finance Director Jung Park. Highlights of the budget items include:

- ➔ The OTP Clinic registration fees for 2009 have been increased. More details are available in the clinic article in this newsletter.
- ➔ Increased funding was set aside for new technology, such as more video-editing software and hardware. Funding also was designated for subcontractors to help in the development of educational materials.
- ➔ The use of webcasts for clinic delivery will be funded for extremely outlying areas (Alaska and Hawaii) and hardship cases (on a case-by-case basis). Prior to contracting, it will be necessary to find a webcast vendor that can provide reasonably clear video delivery.

The discussion was intense, varied, and lengthy. The group certainly missed the presence of Dale Goodwin, but welcomed Jung Park at his inaugural board meeting.



INTERNATIONAL SCOREKEEPER UPDATE

by Donna Wigton
Chair, International Scorekeeper Sub-Commission

We have good news for our certified and qualified USA-International scorekeepers working the Open matches at this year's National Tournament: assistant scorekeepers will be assigned and paid! We appreciate USAV for supporting improved match management of this division, and believe it will better prepare our scorekeepers for future assignments. These assistant assignments, as well as primary ones, will be filled with our certified and qualified scorekeepers who attend the **IRTC clinic on Friday, May 22 from 1:00 to 2:30 pm.** This clinic is **mandatory** for those desiring these assignments as well as for those National Scorekeepers wishing to become qualified. To maintain your certified or qualified status, you are required to do one practice sheet on an Open match (unless assigned to one) and return it to me for review. Practice matches are also encouraged for those referees assigned to the High Performance tournament.

Assignments have been made for FIVB events this summer. World League Primary scorekeepers will be **Debbie Reed, Cathy Hoy,** and **Terry Lawton,** assisted respectively by **Roger Ozima & Roger Thinnes, Margo Juergens,** and **Sue Lemaire.** The Pan American Cup scorekeepers assigned are **Donna Wigton, Debbie Reed, Dixie Collins, Sue Mailhot, Amber Fulk,** and **Becky Brockney,** with a few assistant duties covered by **Jennifer Gale.** The World Championship Qualifier scorekeepers will be **Dixie Collins** and **Emi Vishoot.** Thanks to these individuals for accepting the assignments and continuing the excellent work of our sub-commission.

We thank the USAV staff for recognizing the contributions of our certified and qualified

scorekeepers at the High Performance tournament last year. Scorekeepers invited this year to the premier/training court are **Travis Karlin, Renee Paser-Paull,** and **Carlos Rodriguez,** with **Dixie Collins** as Scorekeeper Supervisor. Head Scorekeeper for the event will be **Donna Wigton,** supporting the following qualified scorekeepers working this event: **Donna Beasley, Roy Benasaraf, Rob Brecheisen, Malcolm Grimes, Jeff Hoppen, Debra LaValley, Scott Master, Mike McNeil, Thang Nguyen, Mary Uhlman, Lynn Updegraff,** and **Jenny Vogt.** Also working and mentoring will be certified scorekeeper **Sue Mailhot.**

The USA-International Scorekeeper Manual will be updated and emailed to all certified and qualified scorekeepers by May 1. My deepest thanks to **Janet Blue,** outgoing Chair of our sub-commission for undertaking this project for me! We are hoping that the link on the USAV website for the PowerPoint presentation she and **Steve Crane** created will be active by then as well. Reviewing both of these will prepare you for the clinic and your assignments. Any National Scorekeeper interested in attending the IRTC Clinic as a candidate for qualified status **must** request a copy of the manual by sending their email address to Janet at jbb4vbirtc@aol.com and complete an application available at the clinic.

Lastly, we regretfully accept the retirement of certified scorekeeper **Kay Brown,** who is finding the role of grandmother both rewarding and time-filling. We thank Kay for her many contributions to our sub-commission. Our loss is Chase's gain!

I look forward to seeing all of you in Minneapolis.



PAVO - OTP CLINIC SCHEDULE - 2009

by Anne Pufahl
OTP-Clinic Director

PAVO will host 29 clinics this summer over five weekends. The clinic sites and host contact information are listed below. You may contact the site host directly to get clinic start times. The clinic schedule will also soon be posted on the PAVO website as well, and clinic details may be obtained there.

As in previous years, clinic registration will be handled online. The PAVO Board of Directors voted for an increase in the 2009 clinic fees. For the past three years, the message distributed at the OTP clinics has been that fees would be increased. Fortunately, during those years, it has been possible to control costs to avoid the increase. However, this year the projected increases for clinician travel expenses and technology improvements necessitate an increase in clinic fees, both for the basic registration fee and the walk-in fee.

Thanks for your support and we look forward to seeing you at a clinic!

The 2009 clinic fees are:

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>PRE-REGISTERED, PRE-PAID ONLINE</u>	<u>WALK-IN (Payable at the door)</u>
Current PAVO Member	\$25 + local charges	\$50 + local charges
Non-PAVO member, non-collegiate referee	\$30 + local charges	\$55 + local charges
Non-PAVO member, women's collegiate referee	\$75 + local charges	\$100 + local charges

Complete clinic schedule on page 9

ROOF SPORTSWEAR

CERTIFIED OFFICIAL VOLLEYBALL CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES



Including Many Accessories:

Whistles, Gauges, Pumps,
Cards, Bags, Flags, Jackets & Much More

**Look at Colors, Styles, and Varieties
then use our Easy Online Ordering**

CHECK OUT OUR ONLINE CATALOG AT

WWW.ROOFSPOWTSWEAR.COM

Toll free: 888-830-8374 • E-mail: roofsport@aol.com

Office: 562-927-2267 • Fax: 562-372-7800

12138-1/2 Woodruff Ave • Downey CA 90241

PAVO - OTP CLINIC SCHEDULE - 2009

DATE	SITE	Host	Host email
July 25th	Oklahoma City, OK	Tracey Harrison	harrisonvbref@yahoo.com
July 25th	Kansas City, MO	Wally Hendricks	wally-h@uiuc.edu
July 26th	Louisville, KY	Nancy Funk	nfunk@insightbb.com
July 26th	Minneapolis, MN	April Sutor	aprilsutor@yahoo.com
Aug. 1	Los Angeles, CA	Verna Klubnikin	vernaref@aol.com
Aug. 1	Bay St. Louis, MS	Angelle Simms	iwiltouchu@aol.com
Aug. 1	Indianapolis, IN	Bill Thornburgh	wthornbu@yahoo.com
Aug. 2	Denver, CO	Alan Suzuki	asuzuki@wac.org
Aug. 2	Houston, TX	Carlos Rodriguez	losref@aol.com
Aug. 2	Chapel Hill, NC	Tad Watson	twatson@nc.rr.com
Aug. 8th	Murfreesboro, TN	Elaine Mitchell	earl_warpool@bellsouth.net
Aug. 8th	Fargo, ND	Milo Moyano	moyano@moorheadcity.com
Aug. 8th	Phoenix, AZ	Charlie Brown	cbrownvb@aol.com
Aug. 9th	Tampa, FL	Eric Vlahov	evlahov@ut.edu
Aug. 9th	Allentown, PA	Roy Benasaraf	abevball@ptd.net
Aug. 9th	Santa Clara, CA	Ray Mink	psbomail@aol.com
Aug. 15th	Chicago, IL	Jennifer Mahler	jmahler@bigten.org
Aug. 15th	Baltimore, MD	Arlene Geppi	ageppi@aol.com
Aug. 15th	Omaha, NE	Bill Stanley	hopsinc@cox.net
Aug. 16th	New York, NY	Russell Rodriguez	russellvbref@optonline.net
Aug. 16th	Dallas, TX	Carlos Rodriguez	losref@aol.com
Aug. 16th	East Lansing, MI	Ann Hutchins	annhutchins@hotmail.com
Aug. 16th	Atlanta, GA	Bob Hume	bhume@charter.net
Aug. 22	Tacoma, WA	Marc Blau	blaumarc@qwest.net
Aug. 22	Springfield, MA	Pat Demers	coachdemers@verizon.net
Aug. 22	Parkersburg, WV	Karen King	kkingsb@verizon.net
Aug. 23	Lorain, OH	Diane Plas	jplas@prodigy.net
Aug. 23	Spokane, WA	Dale Goodwin	goodwin@gonzaga.edu
Aug. 23	Boston, MA	Steve Webster	steve@srwebster.com



NCAA WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL RULES

- How are changes determined?

by Marcia Alterman
NCAA Rules Interpreter

This year's rule changes are relatively minor, when compared to changes made in recent years. A more detailed explanation of the rule changes and the points of emphasis will be highlighted at this summer's OTP clinics. The changes also will be detailed in the next "Official Word", and information about the changes will be available on the PAVO website as well.

In the meantime, it might be helpful to understand the rules-making process.

The voting members of the NCAA rules volleyball committee are coaches or administrators representing all three NCAA Divisions. The NCAA has guidelines for all sports about a minimum percentage of members who must be in an administrative role at their schools. Sometimes, a rules committee member is both a coach and an administrator, and that helps achieve the minimum requirements. NCAA regulations do not allow differentiation of the rules by division in any sport.

The committee members take their role seriously. The committee meeting always starts with a reminder about any conflicts of interest, and a short "tutorial" on writing effective rules. Once the discussion of potential rules starts, the committee members typically spend significant amounts of time discussing the possible effects (good and bad) of each change, and try to determine any unintended consequences that might result. Committee members often speak to the need to represent their constituency rather than their own philosophy. It is, sometimes, a heavy responsibility.

At the annual committee meeting, there are several people present besides the voting members. Invitations to attend are sent to a representative of USA Volleyball (either the chair of the Rules Testing Commission or the Rules Interpreter), National Federation of High School Associations (NFHS), and an actively-working NCAA official. The NCAA Rules Interpreter (me) and an NCAA staff liaison facilitate the meeting.

Suggestions for changes come from a variety of sources. Any coach at an NCAA member institution

can submit a "Rules Change Proposal" form (the form must be signed by two coaches from other NCAA institutions to be considered). The committee also reviews reports on injuries provided by the NCAA via the injury surveillance system used by athletic trainers. The differences between USAV/FIVB and the NCAA rules are always reviewed, given the current philosophy of only being different when the NCAA committee feels there is a good reason to be different.

There is a Volleyball Championship Committee for each of the three divisions, and those committees can propose rule changes based on their concerns and observations at the NCAA Championships. And, as Rules Interpreter, I can suggest changes to be considered based on officiating issues that have been highlighted by protests (or "near-protests"), the conference coordinator's group, or my own observations.

Often, changes that are brought before the group result in a survey question rather than an immediate rule change. A survey is distributed via the Internet each fall, and responses are gathered from coaches, administrators, and officials. Those results are considered carefully at the subsequent rules meeting. Sometimes, the responses from one group are weighed more heavily than others. For example, when the discussion regarding the 25-point game took place last year, the responses from the officials on that particular survey question were not regarded as heavily, as that is not an officiating issue per se.

The rules committee meets in person for about 2 1/2 days each year. But numerous conference calls and e-mails keep the group in communication throughout the year. The chair of the committee and the rules interpreter attend the Divisional meetings at the AVCA convention each year to gather input, and a committee representative meets with the Division I coordinators at the Championships as well.

Continued on page 11

The actual language of the rule changes is being developed right now for the 2009 rule book which will be published in mid-June. A list of the most significant changes is below. Be sure to attend an OTP clinic for complete information.

A great deal of lively discussion, data review, broad-based consideration, and passion for the sport go into

the rule changes that are ultimately enacted by the rules committee. The majority of significant changes in the past decade are all driven by the philosophy that longer rallies and simplification makes the game more interesting for the average fan, and greater exposure will result in the growth of the sport. With that in mind, the 2009 season will be interesting to watch.

2009 Volleyball Major Rules Changes

Major Rules Changes

The following rules-change proposals have been approved by the NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules Committee. The proposals must be reviewed and approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel in April, 2009 before being incorporated into the 2009 rules. The rule and page references are from the 2008 Women's Volleyball Rules Book.

Warm-Up Area. (Rule 1.3.4, page 16)-The location of the warm-up area will be changed to 1.75 meters from the court and service area. **Rationale:** The previous language required the warm-up area to be 2 meters from the court and service area. The extension of the attack line ends 1.75 meters from the court, providing a standard visible mark that substitutes and referees can use to determine the limit of the warm-up area. The same measure is used to designate the area where coaches may stand during play, giving a consistent limit to non-playing team members.

Timeout. (Rule 11.1.2, page 55)-By agreement of both coaches, timeouts in a non-broadcast match may be extended from the 60 second default length to the same length as a media timeout (75 seconds to 90 seconds). If coaches do not agree to an extended length, the default of 60 seconds will be used. **Rationale:** Teams may opt for consistency in timeout length for all matches, both broadcast and non-broadcast.

Protest Procedure. (Rule 17.2.2.5, page 81 and Rule 17.2.3.1)-Additional resources may be used if needed by the referees or tournament protest committee in the case of a score discrepancy that results in a protest. The sequence of events can be reviewed by the referees by referring to (in order):

1. The Alternate Official, if one is used (see Appendix A).
2. The official statisticians if an electronic system is being used.
3. The team's bench statisticians or scoresheet, if both benches/coaches are in agreement as to the score &/or events.

Rationale: The previous rule language stated that the only information available to the referees in resolving a score discrepancy was the scoresheet itself and first-hand knowledge of the officials. In many cases, current technology provides quick access to accurate information that may assist the officials get the correct score recorded without significant delay.

Coaches. (Rule 5.2.4.4, page 28)-Coaches may make requests for substitutions, timeouts, or lineup checks from anywhere in the bench area, including the warm-up zone. It remains the coach's responsibility to communicate the request clearly to the second referee, regardless of the coach's location at the time of the request. **Rationale:** The previous rule language required the coach to be near the substitution zone to make requests. Coaches are frequently communicating with players or other coaches on the bench or in the warm-up area when a request is made. As long as the coach's request is clearly communicated to the referees, it should be honored.

Scorekeeping Instructions-Tracking the Libero. (Page 115)-The assistant scorekeeper's (libero tracker's) duties will be expanded to include tracking the number of substitutions and the player positions.

Continued on page 13



2009 PAVO CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN TAMPA

Convention will be held Dec. 17-19

by Joan Powell
PAVO President

In these tough financial times, it is difficult to write an upbeat, pre-convention, "gotta come to Tampa in December" article.

However, after spending some time at the PAVO Convention site with the AVCA staff, PAVO staff and our local experts-in-residence, Donna Carter (Central Florida Board Chair) and Steve Bishop (Florida Region Executive Director), that's exactly the message I want to deliver!

For those of you considering including the convention and Women's Division I Championships in your plans, here are some highlights:

- o PAVO Headquarters - Westin Hotel Harbour Island (725 S. Harbour Island Blvd.) - beautiful, on the water; \$119/night (Westin agreed to extend that rate three days on either side of the convention dates to allow people some additional vacation time at the discount). The Westin is the AVCA overflow hotel (AVCA headquarters is the Marriott, about a 3 minute walk away). Get your reservations for the Westin made early as the Howard Johnson, which is further away from the action is the next overflow hotel. However, ask about the cancellation policy as you confirm your reservation - that has not yet been determined for sure.
 - o The Westin has a 24-hr fitness center and business center.
 - o In and out self-parking for \$15 and valet for \$20 a day
 - o Internet is \$9.95 a day.
 - o Publix, a local grocery store, is in walking distance.
 - o Walk or jog on the world's longest sidewalk flanked by Tampa Bay and the gorgeous Bay Shore homes on the other side.
 - o Within walking distance of the Convention Center (AVCA Exhibit Hall), playing site (St Pete Times Forum), the Aquarium, and the Channelside district.
- o Restaurants - numerous, variety near hotel, both in Channelside (within walking distance) and Centro Ybor (Ybor City), which was the homeland of Cuban immigrants in the 1800's. *Columbia*, a five-generation owned restaurant, built in 1905 is a must - 1,700 seats, 15 dining rooms! Also, try *Stumps* in Channelside - good food, fun atmosphere!
- o Transportation - No Westin shuttle provided, but you can use Super Shuttle or Blue One Shuttle. Blue One uses the Westin as a hub, so it's a direct ride from the airport (no other stops). Discounted shuttle rates are being negotiated. A cab ride is \$25 from the airport to the hotel. Once you're in the area, use the Trolley - an unlimited three-day pass for \$9.00 will be offered with your convention registration. The trolley goes 2.2 miles around the local attractions, including Channelside, the Aquarium, and Ybor City.
- o Some of the local attractions include the Florida Aquarium, the Big Cat Rescue, canoeing, Busch Gardens (discount tickets will be available), Orlando's SeaWorld and Disney World.
- o Special events are being planned by the AVCA and PAVO, including a golf tournament on Dec.16 (mixed teams with coaches & officials!). Our city hosts, Donna and Steve, along with their local constituents, will host a social event on Wednesday night at the Westin.

As you can see, it's not just your basic convention site - Tampa awaits us!! And as some of us are still clearing out from

Continued on page 13

NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules
continued from page 11

Significant Editorial Changes

Coaches and Non-player Team Members. (Rule 5.2.4.1, page 27)-The language will be expanded to include non-player team members as well as coaches in the restricted area during play.

Playing Captain. (Rule 5.2.317.2.4.6, page 27)-Additional language will allow a captain to act as a coach if no coach is available.

Non-tournament Protest Procedure. (Rule 17.2.2.4, page 81)-A clarification has been made to indicate that if a protest is upheld and the teams choose not to replay the match from the point of protest, the official result of the match is recorded as a "no contest" for both teams.

Appendix A has been added to provide further guidelines for net system choices and facility recommendations.

Appendix B has been added to provide information about training and certification opportunities for referees, line judges, and scorekeepers.

Appendix C has been added to delineate the Alternate Officials duties, if one is utilized for an event.

Event Management. Guidelines for the announcer's duties and tasks have been added.

PAVO Convention in Tampa
continued from page 12

the winter's white stuff, it surely sounds enticing! If you are able to attend - try to come in early to enjoy the weather and the welcoming party on Wednesday night. Or, make an entire week of it - Tampa is 70 miles from Disney World, and there are a plethora of other attractions in the area as well. Come and enjoy!



EMI VISHOOT

by Emi Vishoot
Chair of USA National
Scorekeeper Sub-Commission

For those of you signed up to work as scorekeepers at the Opens in Minneapolis, below is the schedule of National Scorekeeper clinics. This schedule is not ideal, but I tried to balance the benefits of flexible arrival times with the realistic constraints of available clinicians. I am hopeful that the Scorekeeper Sub-commission will be able to establish a more user-friendly clinic system for 2010 and beyond. **Please note that these clinic times may not be reflected in the "official" meeting schedule handout.** The officials' workroom will post the scorekeeper clinic information for your reference.

Friday, May 22

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm overlaps with Open Referee Instruction

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm overlaps with National Referee Clinic—1st session

Saturday, May 23

6:30 am – 7:30 am I know this is early, but I'll be there with you!

Tuesday, May 27

5:45 pm – 6:45 pm overlaps with Beach Officials Clinic

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm overlaps with National Referee Clinic—2nd session

Wednesday, May 28

6:30 am – 7:30 am if needed; again, I'll be there, too

If your arrival doesn't fit these clinic times, the scorekeeper staff (head scorekeepers or scorekeeper raters) will discuss the clinic with you on an individual basis. This personalized clinic option does NOT apply if you are present and able to attend one of the above-listed clinics.

You should receive an email from me to find out which scorekeeper clinic you plan to attend. Again, I made every effort to be practical and accommodating without impacting your availability to officiate the tournament. I appreciate your understanding and cooperation! See you in Minneapolis.



2009 REFEREE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

USAV TEP - Premier Camp

*by Gloria Cox
Director for Camps and Training*

The USAV Officials Division will once again offer a great training opportunity this year at the Girls' Junior Olympic Volleyball Championship in Miami, Florida June 26-28.

Participants will receive training and feedback on four matches, two as an R1 and two as an R2, from members of the USAV National Training Team; along with the chance to work with a member of the National Training Team. The training will take place during the first three days of competition.

Campers will be observed during their matches, but without the added pressure of being rated or evaluated on the match. After each pair of matches, those referees will have the opportunity to meet with the National Training Team member to review the match, ask questions, and to learn rules and new techniques.

This camp will be especially beneficial for those referees who are looking to attain their Junior National or National rating in the next few years or for those Junior National or National referees who are just looking to hone their skills.

Here is some information you might find useful in helping you decide to apply for a spot at the TEP - Premier Camp.

- o Cost of the camp is \$250
- o Registration deadline is May 1, 2009
- o Campers will not be paid for matches worked as part of the camp, but will retain those fees for matches worked outside of the camp.
- o To referee this event in any capacity, you **MUST** have attended the National Referee Clinic. If you have not yet attended the clinic for this season, one will be offered at the tournament on Thursday, June 25 at 6PM
- o All campers must attend the tournament procedures meeting which will follow the National clinic (beginning at approximately 9PM)
- o Training sessions will be held Friday, June 26 - Sunday, June 28.
- o Must be available as a referee for the entire camp period: Friday, June 26- Sunday, June 28.
- o Referee Chair signature is required on the application for Regional referees, unless the Regional referee is a Junior National candidate at the same event
- o All housing, transportation, and meals are the responsibility of the camper
- o If the camper is a Junior National or National referee, or is a Junior National candidate during the event, they **MIGHT BE** eligible for a rooming program when working a minimum of 6 matches/day for a minimum of 6 consecutive days

If you are interested in attending the camp, registration forms are available for download on the USAV website: <http://www.usavolleyball.org/content/index/3214>

Space is limited, so act quickly. Please remember that the deadline for registration is **May 1, 2009**.

If you have any questions regarding this camp, please contact Gloria Cox (Gloria-cox@austin.rr.com) or Kathy Ferraraccio (kathy@ferraraccio.com)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PAVO convention speaker Yeast is the real deal, on and off the field

*by Joan Powell
PAVO President*

Those who attended the PAVO Officials' convention are likely to recall keynote speaker Dave Yeast, whose first presentation was "The Right Stuff." Right after his second session, I had asked him to demonstrate his third strike signal. He declined, and jokingly said that he would throw out his shoulder if he did and that we would have to see him in action. I asked him to send me his schedule.

Yeast kept his word. He sent me his collegiate baseball schedule and serendipitously, he was assigned to the University of Arizona in late February, the same time I had planned to be in Tucson to visit my mother. Members of my family made plans to watch one of Yeast's three Georgia vs. Arizona games.

Yeast had called me when he got into town, but my mom had passed away. He extended his condolences. Then, unexpectedly, he came to my mom's funeral. He joined Marcia Alterman, Mary Blalock and Karen Gee. What tremendous friends!!

Eight of my family members were able to reciprocate for his sensitive gesture by going to the baseball game where Yeast was the home plate umpire. We waited for Yeast and his crew outside the diamond prior to the game. We cheered as they walked near their left field gate. Dave and I were able to capture a picture together.

Yeast's cheering section sat right behind the plate and were the only ones supporting the umpires.



Dave Yeast and Joan Powell

We continually cheered, "Way to go Blue" and "Nice Call Blue." The scouts, clocking the pitchers and taking notes, were puzzled by the unique support for the umpires.

OH MY!! Yeast has the "Right Stuff." I was able to see his unique third strike mechanics and there was neither a doubt nor a question from the batter. Yeast's crew was smooth; they obviously love what they do and they were respected by all of the participants because of their hustle.

It was so rewarding to be able to see an official friend from another sport. It was even more gratifying to observe someone who can walk the talk. I am happy to report that Yeast is the real deal on the field, and demonstrates the "IT" factor.

The Official Word
P.O. Box 780
Oxford, KS 67119

Address Service Requested

PRSRT STD
U.S Postage
PAID
Wichita, KS
Permit No. 84



PAVO Board of Director/Staff

www.pavo.org
1-888-791-2074

Joan Powell, *President*

Marcia Alterman, *Rules Interpreter*
Verna Klubnikin, *Director-at-Large*
Anne Pufahl, *OTP-Clinic Director*
Julie Voeck, *OTP-Camp Director*

Mike Carter, *National Rating Team Director*
Crystal Lewis, *President-elect*
Carlos Rodriguez, *Director-at-Large*
Mara Wager, *Director of Examinations*

Kathy Ferraraccio, *Board Delegate*
Jung Park, *Finance Director*
Peggy Schaefer, *Board Delegate*

Staff

Marcia Alterman, *Executive Director* **Miki Kennedy**, *Membership Services*



USAV Officials Division

www.usavolleyball.org

Glenn Sapp, *Chair, National Indoor Officials Comm*
Tom Blue, *Chair, Int'l Referee Sub-Comm*
Doug Wilson, *Assistant, Int'l Referee Sub-Comm*
Donna Wigton, *Chair, Int'l Scorekeeper Sub-Comm*
Janet Blue, *Assistant, Int'l Scorekeeper Sub-Comm*
Kathy Ferraraccio, *Chair, National Indoor Referees*
Glenn Reid, *Director of RVA Referee Development*
Gloria Cox, *Director for Camps and Training*
Michael McPoyle, *Director for National Clinic Program*
Brian Hemelgarn, *Director for National/Junior National Referee Cert. and Eval.*

Larry Dolvig, *At-Large Representative – Regional Volleyball Assoc.*
Emi Vishoot, *Chair, National Indoor Scorekeepers*
Nancy Funk, *Director for National Scorekeeper Cert. and Eval.*
Steve Crane, *Director of RVA Scorekeeper Development*
Alan Sowa, *At-Large Representative – Regional Volleyball Assoc.*
Steve Owen, *Chair, Beach Officials Division*
Keith Murlless, *Director for National Beach Referee Cert. and Eval.*
Steve Kenyon, *Director for RVA Beach Referee Development*
Marcia Alterman, *Member Organization Liaison*