

MONTANA AAU VOLLEYBALL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING  
January 9, 2011  
Castle Rock Middle School- Billings, MT

**1. Roll Call of members present:**

Clubs present: Avalanche, Lewistown, Huntley Spikers, Rimrock Kaepa, Laurel, Shields Valley, Roundup, Livingston.

Officers present: Craig Allred, Michelle Martin, Tracie Beck, Peg Sundling, Kari Cellan, Jen Ebright, Natalie Bills, Dave Byerly, Iona Stookey.

Call to Order – Sport Director- Craig Allred

Establish the rules of the meeting – Additions to the Agenda: NONE

Adopt Agenda:

Moved: Dave Byerly  
Second: Iona Stookey  
Adopted.

**2. Approval of minutes from Previous Year Meeting:**

Moved: Jen Ebright  
Second: Michelle Martin  
Adopted.

Topics of the 2011 Agenda:

**3. Rule Changes:** Craig reports that there are no new rule changes in AAU Volleyball this year. He expressed that last year's inadvertent net rule caused problems as there were discrepancies between tournaments and referees not enforcing the rule. All tournaments need to enforce the rule. Michelle reminded club directors that it is a violation to step into another court during competition. Craig stated that the down referee and line judges need watch to make this call. Natalie expressed that coaches need to motivate their players to pay attention while refereeing. Iona stated that it is easier to call a replay when there is a call in question than to guess. Iona reminded that a ball on any part of the court constitutes a replay.

**4. Continue with Pre-set date for state meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> of January):** Craig brought up the possibility of having the AAU Annual meeting at the high school state volleyball tournament in attempt to get better representation from the western side of the state. Craig also will look into the option of video conferencing the meeting to motivate the same.

**5. Website:** Craig requested that discontinued clubs be removed from the contacts page on the website. Any help with identifying discontinued clubs would be appreciated.

**6. Tournament Fees:** Craig stated that club directors had expressed interest in raising the tournament fee from \$70 to \$80. Michelle states that an increase in cost only benefits clubs that host tournaments. Natalie suggested that raising the cost of tournament may motivate other clubs to host tournaments. Iona suggested a compromise of charging \$75 per tournament. There was no motion to raise the tournament cost. The tournament fee remains at \$70.

Dave suggested that the gate fee of \$2 per adult and \$1 per student be increased. Craig opposed because parents already pay for participation in the clubs. There was no motion to increase gate fees. The admission remains the same.

### **7. Discussion of Standing Rules:**

Natalie described problems with having teams register for tournaments and drop without consequence. Craig stated the option of requesting payment as registration. Craig stated that out of respect, club directors need to communicate with tournament directors. Natalie suggested the option of contracts between club directors and tournament directors. Craig stated that the policy is that if teams drop a tournament within ten days of the tournament they are obligated to pay the \$70 tournament fee. Kari motioned to have in the standing rules that a team must submit roster and payment 10 days prior to the tournament. Second by Jen Ebright. Adopted.

Peg suggested that AAU volleyball have a good graces list for it's members. Craig requested that tournament directors inform him of what teams have dropped tournaments and any other complaints and he will forward to future tournament directors to help eliminate problems and communicate. Kari motioned that tournament directors forward complaints to Craig, who will forward them to upcoming tournament directors. Second by Natalie. Adopted.

Natalie suggested that there be a set serving line for the u12 tournaments. Iona expressed that coaches need to have players take a step back after they have made a serve over the net, and brought up the 5 serve limit for the u12's. Craig expressed that the emphasis for the u12's should not be on the score and winning but rather on teaching the game (pass, set, hit).

**8. Financial Report:** Craig reported that we currently have \$1055 and that the only debit was \$302.50 to Rick Bakko for website upkeep. Craig reported that this year more clubs paid the \$1 per athlete dues, however, ALL clubs need to pay. Natalie and Kari suggested sending a bill for clubs that have not paid their dues. Dave suggested sending out a list of all clubs indicating which clubs have paid and which clubs have not.

**9. Tournament Calendar using Google Calendar:** Craig reports that he has embedded the tournament calendar to the mtvb.org website and all clubs will have access to the updated tournament calendar.

**10. Schedule:** Natalie Bills motioned to accept the tournament schedule. Second by Dave Byerly. Adopted. Craig explained that there is a new national rule that states there will be a \$100 late sanction fee for any tournament that is sanctioned less than 30 days in advance. Kari stated that she would like to host a Grand Prix tournament because Hardin is not planning on hosting a tournament this year. Craig suggested a Grand Prix tournament on the other side of the state and shared that he would like to have three Grand Prix tournaments in the state so that more Montana teams can go to nationals. Iona expressed that the Hardin tournament should be replaced with a Grand Prix tournament somewhere in the state.

**11. Nationals:** Craig reported that the AAU National Tournament will be held in Florida June 15-22, 2011.

**12. AAU tournament directors to check cards and AAU numbers:** Craig explained that tournament directors should make sure that the name on the AAU card is the name that is put on the roster. Natalie asked if all club coaches need to complete the tutorial for AAU. Craig said that it is required for all AAU non-athlete members and should take less than an hour.

**13. Other Discussion:** Craig asked if meeting in a classroom is suitable for the annual meeting or if we should meet in a conference room. There were no objections to meeting in a classroom. Craig reported that there are possible major changes with MHSA in regards to club volleyball. Craig states that his understanding of the new interpretation is that there should be no involvement with club volleyball if you are involved in high school volleyball. Craig said he will pass on further information as it becomes available to him and suggested that high school coaches meet with their administrators about the issue.

Dave motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Bills, Secretary