

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

January 22, 2004

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner
David Freedman – Treasurer
Ron Luce – Secretary
Nick D’Andrea – Division 1 Rep
Danny Agosto – Division 2 Rep
Rob Frazier – Division 4 Rep

Henry Mui – Division 5 Rep
Waseem Ahktar – Division 6 & Recreational Rep
Jean Brassard – Power Division Rep
Ted Gelpi – Webmaster
Bob Arcari – Director of Tournaments

- I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM.
- II. There was a mini-meeting on January 8, 2004 at which a vote was held on a motion by Don Murray to rename the divisions of the league to “1” through “6” and “Recreational”. David Freedman seconded the motion and the vote was (9-0-0).
- III. Secretary’s Report –
 - Ron reported that S.A.G.E. will be holding their summer fundraising event, including the beach volleyball tournament, on July 17, 2004, a week before the Fire Island tournament again this year.
 - Don moved that the minutes from the board meeting of November 14, 2003 be approved; Henry seconded; vote (11-0-0).
- IV. Division Representative’s Reports:
 - a. Division 1 – Nick had nothing to report other than that there are 7 captains lined up for the division and, if an 8th is not found, he will fill in as a captain himself.
 - b. Division 2 – Danny had nothing to report.
 - c. Division 3 – The position of representative for this division is vacant due to the resignation of Jonathan Martin.
 - d. Division 4 – Rob reported that one of the captains would be unavailable for tryouts so the first alternate has been moved into the vacant position.

A discussion of the document of “Captain’s Responsibilities” ensued. Rob will update the document, if necessary, to explicitly include “attend tryouts in person to pick team” and send the document to Ted for posting on the Website so that all prospective captains can readily access it.
 - e. Division 5 – Henry had nothing to report.
 - f. Division 6 & Recreational Division – Waseem reported that one of the captains for Division 6 had to drop out due to injury, leaving 5. Waseem will serve as the 6th captain. Waseem will be in Puerto Rico over the weekend of the Recreational Division formation. Angel Martin will preside.
- V. Power Report – Jean reported that the clinic costs were \$700 leaving an income of \$1245.
- VI. Tournaments – Bob reported that the friendship tournaments drew 6 teams on the first Wednesday, 8 teams on the first Thursday, 8 teams on the second Wednesday, and the second Thursday session was cancelled due to school closing. Don is processing the credit for the session with the Board of Education.
- VII. Webmaster Report –
 - Ted expressed concern over the management structure for the Website. Don will communicate to all involved on this issue to make sure that all changes to the site are communicated to all of the parties involved before during and after any change is executed.
 - The “Member Profiles” were started with free software, but have not been completed due to insufficient time.
 - There is a problem with ISPs marking email from our web host as SPAM. This occurrence can possibly be cut down by putting a “Not SPAM” notice in the title and the text of all FLASHes and including an unsubscribe link.
- VIII. Treasurer’s Report –
 - David reported that the current bank balance is \$16,946.93. He presented the budget current through the end of December for publishing on the Website.
 - He is working on wording for a “surplus maintenance” amendment to the Bylaws.
 - Discrepancies in referee invoices for the Fall season are being researched.

- Payments for referees and coaches will no longer be rolled over to pay for dues. The paperwork is too convoluted.

John Sullivan – Vice-commissioner arrived at 8:35 PM.

- There are hardship cases from the Fall season that are not fully paid. These people will not be allowed to try out for the Spring season if they are not paid in full. An email to this effect will be sent to people in this category.

IX. Vice-Commissioner’s Report –

- The tryout absence form was fixed on Monday.
- Email lists are complete with no extraneous email addresses.
- Steve Osada will write the “Member Profiles” software, to be implemented during the Spring season.
- “Refereeing Style” should be standardized over all referees for the league.

X. Commissioner’s Report – Don Murray

Immediate Issues:

- Thanks to Jonathan Martin, Jean Brassard and Waseem Ahktar for their hard work to make the banquet a great success.
- Holiday gifts should be given to Bob Kenney, Principal Marino, Shamus Dooley (head custodian) and the assistant custodian. David will buy and deliver gift certificates.
- Don would like to find a person to perform the duties of “Operations Manager” taking responsibility to:
 - ★ Plan events
 - ★ Oversee open/close
 - ★ Help run tryouts and signups for open play sessions
 - ★ Oversee referees
 - ★ Schedule of play
 - ★ Window closing
 - ★ Banquet
 - ★ Tournaments

This position could be on a seasonal basis or divided up amongst people for each day the league operates. They could be a voting member of the board and would be exempt from paying dues. Don will seek candidates for this/these position(s).

- Big Apple has 54 teams registered with 11 paid.
- The scoring of a forfeited game as 1-0 is not a large enough penalty. David moved to score forfeits as 15-0; Henry seconded; vote: (10-2-0). A double forfeit will be scored as 0-0. Ted will check to make sure that the “Division Standings” code will operate properly with 0-0 games.

XI. New Business

- No new business.

XII. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 23rd 7PM – 10PM at David Freedman’s apartment: 2 Columbus Avenue #39-C.

Don moved to adjourn; Danny seconded; vote: (12-0-0). The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

February 23, 2004

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner
David Freedman – Treasurer
Ron Luce – Secretary
Lenny Randazzo – Division 3 Rep

Rob Frazier – Division 4 Rep
Henry Mui – Division 5 Rep
Waseem Ahktar – Division 6 & Recreational Rep
Jean Brassard – Power Division Rep

- I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:53 PM.
- II. Secretary's Report –
 - Don moved that the minutes from the board meeting of January 22, 2004 be approved; Jean seconded; vote (8-0-0).
- III. Division Representative's Reports:
 - a. Division 1 – Nick D'Andrea was not present.
 - b. Division 2 – Danny had nothing to report.
 - c. Division 3 – Lenny reported that everything is fine with his division, except for the forfeit issue, which will be discussed later in the meeting.
 - d. Division 4 – Rob reported that everything is great with his division.
 - e. Division 5 – Henry reported that one captain had to drop out at the last minute due to a work conflict; the remaining 7 captains nominated a replacement and the tryouts went on without a hitch.
 - f. Division 6 & Recreational Division – Waseem reported that recreational division formation created 3 teams, going on 4; two teams have coaches, two do not. The Thursday night Rec clinic brought in \$90.
- IV. Power Report – Jean reported that the mid-year shuffling is done and everything is in order in his division. Jean has been sidelined with an injury for an indefinite amount of time due to a sprained ankle; it will be difficult for him to fulfill his duties, but he will attempt to do so, with the help of any board members that might be present on Saturdays.
- V. Tournaments – Bob Arcari was not present.
- VI. Webmaster Report – Ted Gelpi was not present.
- VII. Treasurer's Report –
 - David reported that the current bank balance is \$11,279.82 and the league is in good shape financially. He will publish a budget when the dues payment period for the Spring season is over.
- VIII. Vice-Commissioner's Report – John Sullivan was not present.
Danny Agosto – Division 2 representative arrived at 8:24PM.
- IX. Commissioner's Report – Don Murray
Immediate Issues:
 - Forfeit Issue – there has been some dissention amongst the captains regarding the change in the forfeit policy. Lenny moved to change the forfeit scoring to 5-0 retroactive to the beginning of the season; Waseem seconded; vote: (7-1-1).
 - Two balls have been stolen already; we should make an effort to lock up the balls.
 - Equipment – we need to order:
 - ★ 4 Game Balls
 - ★ 4 Clinic balls
 - ★ 2 stopwatches
 - ★ 5-10 Harmonic whistles
 - Don is still searching for a person to perform the duties of "Operations Manager" for the Spring season, taking responsibility to:
 - ★ Plan events
 - ★ Oversee open/close
 - ★ Help run tryouts and signups for open play sessions
 - ★ Oversee referees
 - ★ Schedule of play
 - ★ Window closing

★ Banquet

★ Tournaments

- A Banquet Manager is still being sought for the May 15th banquet.
- David has been unable to buy and deliver the Holiday gifts for the school staff. Gifts should be given to Bob Kenney, Principal Marino, Shamus Dooley (head custodian), Jerry (custodian) and Doreen (security). Ron will purchase and deliver gift certificates.
- Rules & Procedures – David will spearhead the effort to update and publish this document.
- Don will attend AVP dinner.

X. New Business

- Don moved to offer Russell Rodriguez the position of Referee Manager – this position will include an additional \$20/week; Danny seconded; vote (9-0-0).
- Saturday Divisions MUST STICK TO schedules. The sessions must not run late.

XI. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 5th 7PM – 10PM at David Freedman's apartment: 2 Columbus Avenue #39-C.

Don moved to adjourn; Danny seconded; vote: (8-1-0). The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

April 5, 2004

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner
David Freedman – Treasurer
Ron Luce – Secretary
Nick D’Andrea – Division 1 Rep

Danny Agosto – Division 2 Rep
Rob Frazier – Division 4 Rep
Henry Mui – Division 5 Rep
Bob Arcari – Tournaments

- I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.
 - II. Secretary’s Report –
 - Ron re-introduced the discussion of holding a Masters-only NAGVA tournament in New York in the fall. Such a tournament should be organized under the auspices of the Big Apple committee with minimal involvement of the Gotham board.
 - Don moved that the minutes from the board meeting of February 23, 2004 be approved; Danny seconded; vote (7-0-1).
 - III. Division Representative’s Reports:
 - a. Division 1 – Nick reported that two players were picked up to replace two dropped players and Rudy Villamar has stepped in as captain for David Freburg, who is injured.
 - b. Division 2 – Danny reported that the quality of the reffing has improved, and everything else is normal.
 - c. Division 3 – Lenny Randazzo was not present.
 - d. Division 4 – Rob reported that everything is OK with his division; there have been a couple of drama moments, but generally everything is fine.
 - e. Division 5 – Henry reported that everything is OK in division 5; there is some variance in the reffing levels, but no drama.
 - f. Division 6 & Recreational Division – Waseem Ahktar was not present.
 - IV. Power Report – Jean Brassard was not present.
 - V. Tournaments – Bob reported that the Wednesday and Thursday friendship tournaments before the Big Apple tournament went well, bringing in \$600 and \$675 respectively, for a net profit of \$675.
 - VI. Webmaster Report – Ted Gelpi was not present.
 - VII. Treasurer’s Report –
 - David reported that the current bank balance is \$49,202.69 and the league is in good shape financially.
 - David suggested that the board recommend a bylaw change to the membership as follows:

“Minimum Banking Balance
Gotham Volleyball League, Inc. must maintain a minimum banking balance of \$10,000 at all times. If the banking balance is expected to fall below the minimum requirement, for any reason, the Treasurer must notify the Board immediately, who in turn, must notify the Membership. In addition, any expense(s) that would bring the banking balance below its required minimum must be approved by the Board.

In subsequent years, the minimum banking balance may be increased by a majority vote of the Board. However, at no time shall the Board have the power to lower an established minimum banking balance except through a by-law change.”

Don moved to approve this amendment and recommend it to the membership for approval; Henry seconded; vote (8-0-0).
 - VIII. Vice-Commissioner’s Report – John Sullivan was not present.
 - IX. Power Report – Jean Brassard was not present.
 - X. Commissioner’s Report – Don Murray
- Immediate Issues:
- Equipment – we still need to order harmonic whistles.
 - Don will approach people to coordinate the entertainment for the May 15th banquet.
 - Rules & Procedures – David is spearheading the effort to update and publish this document.
 - Jean will prepare a survey to assess the satisfaction of the members of the Power division.

- Due to the problems that banquet organizers have experienced with the management of Escuelita, we should research the possibility of finding another venue for the league's parties; there is not enough time to complete such a search before the Spring party, but a search can be started over the summer since the next party will be at least 6 months in the future.
- Russell Rodriguez accepted the position of Referee Manager.
- Waseem is looking into running a 4-2 season or open play night over the summer, as Wednesday nights are becoming predominately 6-2. A proposal will be forthcoming.
- Sayville Gay Pride is scheduled for June 26. Don would like the board to consider having the league participate in some way.
- The security guards are hearing noise complaints from the neighbors again. Forfeits will be enforced if the windows are not closed properly.
- Elections – nominations forms and ballots must be prepared. Ron will prepare nomination forms for the Executive Board election, collect the nominations and prepare a ballot, including the Bylaw amendment. Rob will distribute templates for captain signup and captain and All-Star ballots. Forms and templates will be distributed to all division reps and should also be archived to the storage area of the website for future reference. Templates and forms must be completed, as required with division-specific information, printed and distributed by division reps.
- Awards – Rob will procure 1st & 2nd place season awards and 1st & 2nd place tournament medals. Waseem will buy volleyballs for tournament MVP awards.
- Seasonal Directors – a description of the position is being developed.
- Big Apple tournament did very well; a final budget will be forthcoming.
- Fire Island tournament – as planned, Jonathan Martin will shadow Steven Black in preparation for taking over the event in the future.

XI. New Business

- A new organization called the Gay & Lesbian International Sports Association (GLISA) has been created. This organization was created as a direct result of Montreal's disagreement with the Federation of Gay Games (FOGG). There will be a lot of press, both positive and negative, about each of these organizations. The board will remain neutral in this battle as it has no effect on the organization and operation of the league.

XII. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 26th 7PM – 10PM at David Freedman's apartment: 2 Columbus Avenue #39-C.

Don moved to adjourn; Nick seconded; vote: (8-0-0). The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.