

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

January 6, 2003

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner
Steve Harvey – Vice Commissioner
Ron Luce – Secretary
Dan Sullivan - Treasurer
Danny Agosto – Advanced 2 Division Rep

Lenny Randazzo – Intermediate A Division Rep
Rob Frazier – Intermediate B Division Rep
Jim Finch – Intermediate C Division Rep
Michael Miller – Power Division Rep

The meeting was called to order at 7:26 PM.

- I. Secretary's Report – Ron had nothing to report. Don moved to approve the minutes of the board meeting of 12/02/2002; Jim seconded; vote: 4-0-5.
- II. Treasurer's Report – Dan reported that with the payment of \$26,000 we are finally caught up with last year.
- III. Division Representative's Reports:
 - a. Advanced 1 Division – Angel Hance was not present due to his hospitalization. In his absence, Don and Ron reported that Advanced 1 has been running smoothly.

Waseem Akhtar – Recreational Division Rep – arrived at 7:45 PM.

 - b. Advanced 2 Division – Danny had nothing to report.
 - c. Intermediate A Division – Lenny reported that the referee has used his Yellow Card. This should have some effect on calming down the players.
 - d. Intermediate B Division – Rob reported there are 15 candidates for captain for next season. One player who had dropped out showed up again.
 - e. Intermediate C Division – Jim announced that the division had an excellent season, culminating in a great final at the tournament. He hopes for a big enough turnout at tryouts to have 10 teams next season. He will urge all the captains to recruit coaches.
 - f. Recreational Division – Waseem had nothing to report.
 - g. Power Division – Michael reported that the division experienced the usual attrition during the season, with attendance at 75% early on, down to 50% at the end of the season. He expects a full division next season, but will not be able to attend tryouts himself.
- IV. Member-at-Large Report –
 - John Hatton was not present.
 - Steve Harvey nominated Ricky Middleton to the position of Member-at-Large acting as Spring Season Director; Don seconded; vote: 10-0-0.
- V. Vice-Commissioner's Report – Steve Harvey
 - The tryouts will be run "the Old-Fashioned way". One waiver will be completed by the entire team and turned in with the payments.
 - Everything is on track for the party. A list of members is needed for the door (Ron will provide from season rosters)
 - For accounting purposes, Steve suggests that the total amount taken in at Open Play sessions be recorded on the master sign-in sheet and the sheet wrapped around the cash.
 - On the tournament days, the gym will open at 9AM; first match begins at 9:30AM.
 - Security is done through the end of January. Danny Agosto will take over from there.
- VI. Commissioner's Report – Don Murray
 - Windows must be closed by 10PM. On next season's schedule, the team playing in the second match that does not referee the third match will be responsible for closing the windows. Failure to comply will result in forfeits.
 - The website for Big Apple XX is up and running and registrations are being accepted on the NAGVA website.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 3rd from 7 to 10 PM.

Steve moved to adjourn; Jim seconded; vote: 10-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

March 10, 2003

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner

Ron Luce – Secretary

David Freedman – Treasurer

Nick D'Andrea – Advanced 1 Division Rep

Lenny Randazzo – Intermediate A Division Rep

Rob Frazier – Intermediate B Division Rep

Jim Finch – Intermediate C Division Rep

Waseem Akhtar – Recreational Division Rep

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM.

- I. Secretary's Report – Ron had nothing to report. Jim moved to approve the minutes of the board meeting of 02/14/2003; Waseem seconded; vote: 7-0-1.
- II. Division Representative's Reports:
 - a. Advanced 1 Division – Nick reported that there are a few members that have not paid; those members have not played either. There are some hardship cases, and still some people in the pool list.
 - b. Advanced 2 Division – Danny Agosto was not present.
 - c. Intermediate A Division – Lenny reported some partial payments and one dropout.
 - d. Intermediate B Division – Rob reported four dropouts. The captains of the division decided that Giselle should be prohibited from captaining in the future because of her draft irregularities. The referee has asked Rob, as Rep, to tell an offensive coach to “shut up”. Don will email all referees to tell them that they can remove an offending person from the gym in accordance with USAV rules.
 - e. Intermediate C Division – Jim presented the following motion: “I move that the remaining INTERMEDIATE C spring season games move to the EAST GYM and the POWER LEVEL afternoon session move to the WEST GYM. This will begin Saturday March 15 and conclude with the last game of April 26. I further move that prior to the start of each subsequent season the Gotham Board decide on a schedule by which both divisions can play in each gym on an equitable basis.”; Waseem seconded; vote: 7-0-1 Jim also expressed a need to facilitate players' transition from the Recreational Division to Intermediate C. Players in the Recreational Division should be urged to come to Wednesday night open-play sessions during the summer, and to speak to Intermediate C captains, indicating their interest in moving up.
 - f. Recreational Division – Waseem reported that some Recreational Division players join the Power Division to improve their skills and facilitate the move to Intermediate C.
 - g. Power Division – Michael Miller was not present.
- III. Member-at-Large Report –
 - John Hatton was not present.
 - Ricky Middleton was not present.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – David (and Don) reported that there is \$8500 in the leagues bank account; there is an additional \$10,000 dues to deposit from Intermediate A & B.
 - The books are in disarray; the records are in Microsoft Money; David has a friend who is more familiar with Microsoft Money and will help him to figure out where everything is recorded.
 - The lack of budgets for the last 3 years has left leases unpaid, leaving an illusion of plenty of money until the unpaid leases come to light.
 - Possible money savers are to cut back on paid referees, double up the last match on Saturday to cut an hour off the lease, give up elevator service, liquidate awards left in the closet to purchase less at the end of the season, cut back on food at the banquet, outreach to the membership via email to raise funds.
- V. Vice-Commissioner's Report – Steve Harvey was not present.
- VI. Commissioner's Report – Don Murray
 - Standings, minutes and budget must be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway during each session.
 - Windows closing has been good.

- Website changeover has been slow (since it is being implemented via email).
- Big Apple XX has 63 teams registered – 2 B teams dropped out.
- Emails received:
 - ★ Joe Bannon, Tim Nolan and David Freberg wrote expressing concern over players presenting themselves as available at tryouts and then dropping out, leaving teams short-handed. A number of possible solutions were presented to avoid this situation.
 - ★ Herve Jean-Baptiste wrote expressing a need to foster volleyball skills improvement within the league and outlining possible methods for implementing this.
 - ★ Lori Morse of Ross Galleries wrote expressing an interest in possibly helping to organize a fundraising event in the form of an art show and auction.
- Executive Board, Captain and team All-Stars Elections will be held at the last session of each division. Nomination sheets for Executive Board and Captains must be posted during each of the three sessions before the last session.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 11th from 6:30PM to 9:00PM.

Ron moved to adjourn; Jim seconded; vote: 8-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

April 11, 2003

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner
Steve Harvey – Vice-Commissioner
Ron Luce – Secretary
David Freedman – Treasurer

Nick D'Andrea – Advanced 1 Division Rep
Danny Agosto – Advanced 2 Division Rep
Rob Frazier – Intermediate B Division Rep
Michael Miller – Power Division Rep

- I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.
- II. Secretary's Report – Ron had nothing to report. Michael moved to approve the minutes of the board meeting of 03/10/2003; Don seconded; vote: 7-0-1.
- III. Division Representative's Reports:
 - a. Advanced 1 Division – Nick reported that the entire division is paid up except for \$5.
 - b. Advanced 2 Division – Danny had nothing to report.
 - c. Intermediate A Division – Lenny Randazzo was not present.
 - d. Intermediate B Division – Rob reported that all money is in. The captains decided to leave the decision on sanctioning for improper draft procedures up to the board. The board believes that this decision should be in the hands of the membership and that if adequately informed, they will vote their conscience and an offending captain will not be re-elected.
Waseem Ahktar – Recreational Division Rep arrived at 7:54 PM.
 - e. Intermediate C Division – Jim Finch was not present. In a phone call to Don before the meeting he reported that he would begin posting the nomination sheets for Board of Directors and captains at the next session.
 - f. Recreational Division – Waseem reported that the members of his division have expressed an interest in electing captains at the end of the season to choose the teams for the next season. With this amount of interest, the board decided to have Waseem survey the division membership about splitting into two divisions, one with elected captains, the other organized at the beginning of the season from interested individuals and remaining open to new members throughout the season. The division will run a round-robin tournament at the end of this season.
- IV. Power Division – Michael Miller indicated that he would poll the members of the division on their preference between organizing Power as 3 groups meeting for 3 hours with 2 coaches or as 5 groups for 2 hours with 1 coach.
- V. Member-at-Large Report –
 - John Hatton was not present.
 - Ricky Middleton was not present.
- VI. Ted Gelpi (Webmaster) was not present. Don reported that the changeover is progressing, although slowly.
- VII. Treasurer's Report – David projects a deficit of \$2,827.87 at the end of the Fiscal Year, and initiated a discussion of ways to save or raise money. Ideas suggested were:
 - Booth at Gay Pride Street Fair
 - Sell Summer subscriptions
 - 6-2 clinic at the beginning of the summer
 - \$10 donation from members - possibly make it a raffle of goods and services donated by members.
- VIII. Vice-Commissioner's Report – Steve Harvey stated that the board should lead by supportive, positive example.
- IX. Commissioner's Report – Don Murray
 - Don will write a letter to Ren Osbourne regarding his removal from his team (repeatedly) and his refusal to accept the decision by his team. Michael moved that the board supports the Commissioner's Executive Power in meting out the disciplinary action of suspending any member from being on the premises during Gotham sessions for a time to be determined by the Commissioner; Wasseem seconded; vote (8-0-1).

- Don is drafting proposals to change the by-laws to be more specific about the passing and presentation of budgets and financial data and to require a majority vote of the membership for the league to donate money that came from membership dues to any organization outside of the league.
- It is important for standings, minutes and budget to be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway during each session.
- Window closing has been going very well.
- Summer dates were discussed to finalize the summer lease.
- Open/close has been handled well despite having no schedule. Let's keep up the good work.
- Paperwork for Big Apple XX is not wrapped up yet due to the fact that Don has been too busy dealing with the financial situation of the league.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 2nd at 6:30PM (we will not wait for latecomers past 7PM to begin).

Michael moved to adjourn; Danny seconded; vote: 9-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

May 2, 2003

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner

David Freedman – Treasurer

Danny Agosto – Advanced 2 Division Rep

Rob Frazier – Intermediate B Division Rep

Jim Finch – Intermediate C Division Rep

Waseem Akhtar – Recreational Division Rep

Michael Miller – Power Division Rep

- I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
- II. Division Representative's Reports:
 - a. Advanced 1 Division – Nick D'Andrea was not present.
 - b. Advanced 2 Division – Danny reported that the members of his division are concerned about the change to the party format; many would prefer food and no alcohol because they do not drink. Members have had issues with Raphael rushing the games too much.
 - c. Intermediate A Division – Lenny Randazzo was not present.
 - d. Intermediate B Division – Rob reported that people are asking who will referee the Int A & B tournaments. He also reported that the reffing complaints have ceased.

Ron Luce – Secretary arrived at 8:00 PM.

 - e. Intermediate C Division – Jim reported that a runoff election is required to decide next season's captains; before the runoff is set up, Waseem will double-check the results of the original election.
 - f. Recreational Division – Waseem reported that the members of his division are excited about having captain elections for Rec A (the division is splitting into Rec A & B in the fall). The coaches are happy and most will probably repeat. Altogether, a positive season. The members would like to have more involvement in the parties.
- III. Power Division – Michael regrets that he has not been able to attend much due to his approaching move. There is nothing major to report about the division, coaching is good as it stands and he is searching for candidates to replace him as board rep after he leaves.
- IV. Member-at-Large Report –
 - John Hatton was not present.
 - Ricky Middleton was not present.
- V. Webmaster Report – Ted Gelpi was not present. Don reported that the changeover is progressing, although slowly.
- VI. Treasurer's Report – David reported a current balance of ~\$10,000. The bank statements for May 2000 through November 2002 are expected to arrive from Citibank by May 12. Cutting food at the party and running the additional Friendship Tournament on May 3 should leave a small surplus at the end of the fiscal year. John Hatton will research the possibility of executing a month-to-month lease for the summer in order to minimize the required cash outlay upfront. In the search for financial records from previous years, cash (\$70) and checks (\$85) were discovered. All financial information, in any form, should be delivered to David. **A big thanks to members who have graciously donated money (anonymously) to help the league through this difficult financial time.**
- VII. Vice-Commissioner's Report – Steve Harvey has resigned this position, and, as much as the board would like him to complete his term, the by-laws do not require an acceptance of a resignation, so the board has no recourse to keep him on the board.
- VIII. Commissioner's Report – Don Murray
 - Don's letter to Ren Osbourne is still in the works.
 - Email tone and content can be extremely ambiguous; for critical discussions, please use the telephone. Double-check the distribution list on any email communications, since many recent communications to/from the board have include people that are not on the board. Keep board business strictly between board members.
 - Please be very certain not to be involved in collecting or counting ballots for a position for which you are running; assume you will be under scrutiny.
 - Bylaw changes:

By-law Change #1

Old Section 2. of Article II:

Section 2. Membership dues. Membership dues shall be determined per season by a majority vote of the Executive Board and are payable on the first day of play on the commencement of each session. Special situations requiring more time for dues payment shall be brought to the Executive Board's attention by the individual.

New Section 2. of Article II:

2. Membership Dues. Membership dues shall be determined, per season, by a majority vote of the Board and are payable, in full, by the first week after the commencement of each season. Special hardship cases, requiring more time for the collection of dues payment, shall be brought to the Board's attention, by the individual or his or her respective Division Representative, for approval.

2a. Dues collected shall not be donated to any outside organization, group, or individual unless there is a four-fifths (4/5) majority vote from the League. This Clause is not to restrict the Board or League Members from holding specific fundraising events for the purpose of donation.

Don moved to poll the membership on this bylaw change; David seconded; vote: 8-0-0.

By-law Change #2

Old Section 14. of Article III:

Section 14. Treasurer: Powers and Duties. The Treasurer shall keep or cause to be kept full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements of the Corporation, and shall deposit or cause to be deposited all moneys and other valuable effects of the Corporation in the name and to the credit of the Corporation in such banks or depositories as the Executive, Board may designate. At the annual meeting of the Executive Board and whenever else, required by the Executive Board, he or she shall render a statement of the Corporation's accounts. He or she shall at all reasonable times exhibit the Corporation's books and accounts to any officer of the Corporation and shall perform all duties incident to the position of Treasurer subject to the control of the Executive Board, and shall when required, give such security for the faithful performance of his or her duties as the Executive Board may determine.

New Section 14. of Article III:

14. Treasurer: Powers and Duties. The Treasurer shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements of the Corporation, and shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, all monies and other valuable effects of the Corporation in the name and to the credit of the Corporation in such banks or depositories as the Board may designate. At the Annual Meeting of the Board, and whenever else required by the Board, the Treasurer shall render a statement of the League's accounts. The Treasurer, at all reasonable times, shall exhibit the League's books and accounts to any Board Member and shall perform all duties incident to the position of Treasurer, subject to the control of the Board, and shall, when required, give such security for the faithful performance of his or her duties as the Board may determine.

14a. The Treasurer shall produce and publish to the Membership an annual-operating budget for the League within sixty-days (60 days) of the beginning each Fiscal Year.

14b. The Treasurer shall produce and publish a financial statement within thirty days (30 days) of the close of each quarter, as defined in Section 14c below, to the Membership.

14c. The publishing of quarterly statements should be consistent with the League's Fiscal Year; Q1 ends on August 31st, Q2 ends on November 30th, Q3 ends on February 28th, and Q4 ends on May 31st.

14d. All financial records (paper and electronic), including invoices, bank statements, canceled checks, paperwork, budgets, etc., shall be turned over to the new Treasurer within fifteen days (15 days) of leaving office.

Don moved to poll the membership on this bylaw change; Michael seconded; vote: 8-0-0.

- Michael moved to have Waseem organize a raffle to take place at the party. A budget of up to \$200 to purchase items and other items will be donated; Don seconded; vote: 7-0-1.
- Minutes and Budgets must be posted at every session.
- Summer open play will be advertised as Adv 1 & 2 and Int. A on Thursday and Int. B & C and Rec. on Wednesday. Clinics will be offered when enough interest has been raised.
- Fire Island tournament will be held on July 26th. Steven Black will organize it.

Long-term issues:

- The Bylaws need to be reworked soon.
- Coaching Clinic during open play – tabled.
- Refring – summer issue (to be discussed further over the summer) - tabled.

The next meeting will be discussed and scheduled by email

Don moved to adjourn; David seconded; vote: 8-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

June 10, 2003

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner
David Freedman – Treasurer
Ron Luce – Secretary

Danny Agosto – Advanced 2 Division Rep
Rob Frazier – Intermediate B Division Rep

- I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:39 PM.
Waseem Ahktar – Recreational Division Rep arrived at 7:45 PM.
- II. Secretary's Report –
 - Don moved that the minutes from the board meeting of May 2, 2003 be approved as corrected; Danny seconded; vote (5-0-0).
 - Ron is working with Carl from NAKED BOYS SINGING on a Gotham night as a fundraiser in mid-August. Discussion suggested a price of \$40 per ticket or 2 for \$75.
 - A board meeting soon should be held at the closet in the school to familiarize all board members with the contents of the closet and re-organize things in a more efficient manner. Rob mentioned that we are currently out of ice packs. Don will arrange for re-supplying.
 - Would it be feasible for the league to host the first NAGVA sanctioned Masters-only tournament in New York City? Waseem will check on facilities at John Jay College. We could collaborate with S.A.G.E. for synergy. Ron has contacts at S.A.G.E. from working on the Hamptons fundraiser.
 - We need to update the contact info for board members.
- III. Division Representative's Reports:
 - a. Advanced 1 Division – Nick D'Andrea was not present.
 - b. Advanced 2 Division – Danny requested help with Open/Close on Thursdays.
 - c. Intermediate A Division – Lenny Randazzo was not present.
 - d. Intermediate B Division – Rob reported that there have been a number of complaints regarding the multiple skill levels of the players on Wednesday nights. Don will author a FLASH to the membership regarding open play.
 - e. Intermediate C Division – Jim Finch was not present.
 - f. Recreational Division – Don officially thanked Waseem for organizing the raffle at the Spring party and the sale of the Sports Ball tickets.
 - g. Power Division – Michael Miller has moved to Florida. The board appreciates his dedicated service in the position of Power Rep over the past year.
- IV. Member-at-Large Reports:
 - John Hatton was not present.
 - Ricky Middleton was not present.
- V. Webmaster Report – Ted Gelpi was not present. Don reported that the changeover is still progressing, although slowly.
- VI. Treasurer's Report –
 - David reported a surplus (TBD) at the end of the fiscal year.
 - The balance in the account is currently \$2412.66 with some FY '03 invoices still outstanding.
 - The Citibank statements from previous years have finally arrived. David will begin reconstructing the finances of the previous administrations immediately.
 - All invoices from FY '03 should be submitted ASAP. Please tape them to an 8½" x 11" piece of paper with a written explanation.
 - The dues will be going up in the fall. We should consider revising the fee structure to make the party optional with a separate charge.
 - We should host more friendship tournaments on weekends next year to increase revenues.
- VII. Vice-Commissioner's Report – John Sullivan was not present as he is in Paris playing in their volleyball tournament. He regrets that this necessitates his missing this meeting.
- VIII. Commissioner's Report –
 - Ren Osbourne received the letter regarding his suspension (the certified return notification came back). The organizing committee for the Fire Island tournament chose to honor the suspension.

- The sign in sheet for open play will be redesigned and printed.
- Please double-check the recipients on all emails to avoid dissemination of information to improper parties.
- Fire Island tournament – Sufficient volunteers have been enlisted, should we recycle awards or buy new ones?
- Gay Pride parade – no one present is able to spearhead the effort; an email will be sent to the entire board requesting a volunteer. If no volunteer is forthcoming, a FLASH will be sent to the membership asking for a volunteer.
- Security – Pay May, get June invoice and submit July.
- Lease – Dates have been submitted for the entire summer according to the posted schedule. We should cancel Wednesday, July 2nd due to the holiday week; submit change to B.O.E. and change on website.
- Big Apple XX – the books are not closed out yet; NAGVA presented the tournament with an award for the Largest Tournament of the Year.

Long-term issues:

- Insurance – we have NAGVA and the Front-Runners to use as examples.
- Taxes
- Coaching Clinics during open play – Carlos Reynoso volunteered to coach the skills clinic for free (Waseem will contact him to confirm). Don will solicit a coach for a 4-week 6-2 clinic starting June 26th.
- Member-at-Large – this board position requires an obligation to attend meetings and inform the board on all issues covered. Waseem moved to reappoint John Hatton as a Member-at-Large; Don seconded; vote: (5-0-1).
- Fundraising Chairman – non-board position. Waseem will draft a Request For Proposal.
- Banquet Manager – non-board position. Discussion tabled

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, July 10th at 6:30PM at the closet in the High School.

Don moved to adjourn; Danny seconded; vote: 6-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

July 15, 2003

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner
David Freedman – Treasurer
Ron Luce – Secretary
Ted Gelpi – Webmaster

Rob Frazier – Intermediate B Division Rep
Jim Finch – Intermediate C Rep
Waseem Ahktar – Recreational Rep

- I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.
- II. Secretary's Report –
 - Waseem moved that the minutes from the board meeting of June 10, 2003 be approved as corrected; Jim seconded; vote (7-0-0).
 - Ron is working with Carl from NAKED BOYS SINGING on a Gotham night as a fundraiser. Discussion suggested a change in date from mid-August to October. Ron will check with Carl to see if this is a possibility.
 - The S.A.G.E. Hamptons event on July 19th is all set to go. The volleyball tournament portion of the event will be run on 2 nets with three 4-person teams and five 6-person teams. They are still accepting entries, hoping for a fourth 4-person team.
- III. Division Representative's Reports:
 - a. Advanced 1 Division – Nick D'Andrea was not present.
 - b. Advanced 2 Division – Danny Agosto was not present.
 - c. Intermediate A Division – Lenny Randazzo was not present.
 - d. Intermediate B Division – Rob reported that the complaints regarding the multiple skill levels of the players on Wednesday nights continue. There is also a difference in the way that Wednesday and Thursday nights are administrated – on Thursdays, captains are appointed and pick teams that play on a set schedule; on Wednesdays, teams are assigned (6-2 in one gym, 4-2 in the other) by the administrator(s) and the winners stay on the court. Two signup sheets are needed – one for 6-2, one for 4-2; when the 6-2 signup sheet is full, people must choose to go on a 6-2 waiting list or go onto the 4-2 signup sheet. If people sign up for 4-2, they MUST play 4-2 and be fair (good examples)! Waseem will send a FLASH to the membership in this regard.
 - e. Intermediate C Division – Jim Finch had nothing to report.
 - f. Recreational Division – Waseem had nothing to report.
 - g. Power Division – Don would like to transfer Danny Agosto from Advanced 2 Rep to Power Rep and appoint a new Advanced 2 Rep.
- IV. Member-at-Large Reports:
 - John Hatton was not present.
- V. Webmaster Report – Ted Gelpi reported that the new site currently shadows the old site; his goal is to take the new site live for the Fall season (September 1). We have plenty of storage on our webhost provider, and we can use some of this space to store archive files.
- VI. Treasurer's Report –
 - David reported that Michael Miller found an additional \$1897.50 in Power payments in the process of his move; This will leave a greater surplus for FY 2003 – the exact amount will be provided when these checks clear.
 - David moved to increase dues for team-play divisions from \$105 to \$120 and for Power from \$175 to \$185; Jim seconded; vote (7-0-0).
 - Hardship payments will be set at 3 payments of \$40 by weeks 2, 4 and 6.
 - David presented the budget for FY 2004. Don moved to accept the budget; Rob seconded; vote (7-0-0).
- VII. Vice-Commissioner's Report – John Sullivan was not present.
- VIII. Commissioner's Report –
 - Don reported that there is an association called Lawyers Association of New York (L.A.N.Y.) that provides legal services on a pro-bono basis to organizations that pay a one-time fee of \$375. This could be useful for getting the legal help the league will need to set itself up as a valid 501(c)3 charitable organization.

- Security has been paid through July.
- Don suggests we consider sponsors and banner ads on the website to bring in additional income and provide greater services to our membership.
- Don is currently weighing the benefits of associations with Team New York and Out of Bounds.
- Don suggests running a “Biggie” Friendship tournament at the High School in Early January, between the Fall and Spring league sessions.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 12th at 7PM at West 57th Street, 20th Floor.

David moved to adjourn; Jim seconded; vote: 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

August 19, 2003

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner
John Sullivan – Vice Commissioner
David Freedman – Treasurer
Ron Luce – Secretary

Ted Gelpi – Webmaster
Danny Agosto – Advanced 2 Division Rep
Waseem Ahktar – Recreational Rep

- I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:50 PM.
- II. Secretary's Report –
 - Waseem moved that the minutes from the board meeting of June 10, 2003 be approved as corrected; Danny seconded; vote (7-0-0).
 - The S.A.G.E. Hamptons event on July 19th was a big success. The volleyball portion of the event ran very smoothly; all reports from players were very positive. S.A.G.E. is beginning planning for next year's event, to be scheduled about the same timeframe.
- III. Division Representative's Reports:
 - a. Advanced 1 Division – Nick D'Andrea was not present.
 - b. Advanced 2 Division – Danny Agosto had nothing to report other than the fact that he always opens on Thursday nights.
 - c. Intermediate A Division – Lenny Randazzo was not present.
 - d. Intermediate B Division – Rob Frazier was not present.
 - e. Intermediate C Division – Jim Finch was not present.
 - f. Recreational Division –
 - Waseem will not be able to attend tryouts, as he will be traveling. Danny will stand in for him at Rec tryouts.
 - Balls, Boards & Blades event – over 400 Gotham members attended
 - Metrosource – phone out, website in
 - Wednesday night skills clinic is going well. Should we continue 4-2 basic skills clinic on Thursday nights in the Fall? Carlos Reynoso is willing to continue coaching it.
 - Search aggressively for Rec coaches for the season. Include in a FLASH.
 - g. Power Division – Don reported that the coaches are set. Don moved to transfer Danny Agosto from Advanced 2 Rep to Power Rep; Danny seconded; vote (6-0-1). Don also reported that Troy has been handing out cards to players in the park over the summer with contact information for Power Rep and coaches, so we should notice an influx of "straight" players with an interest in Power for coaching.
- IV. Member-at-Large Reports:
 - John Hatton was not present.
- V. Webmaster Report – Ted reported that Phase I (transferring existing functionality to the new look) is nearing completion. The new look will go live around September 1st. Phase II will be the ongoing effort to increase functionality of the website. John Sullivan volunteered to assist in managing the updates. Discussion suggested a new position of "Content Manager" to separate update management from the Webmaster's maintenance task.
 - Documents to be posted on the website for public perusal should be converted to PDF format (with security) and delivered to Ted.
 - The calendar for December through July has been cleared and set up for scheduling of future events.
 - Recreational schedule and results will need to be update to reflect split to Rec1 & Rec2.
 - Big Apple website will be moved to Cedant; Phase I: move site as it existed before; Phase II: updated look (with Brian Martin).
 - Functionality for Fire Island tournament can be added to either GothamVolleyball.org or BigAppleVolleyball.org – Ted will figure out where it fits.
 - Ted asked if we should pay a service to improve our placement on search engines. This prompted a discussion about marketing of the league. The consensus is that we do not need to pay for search engine placement since we show up in most searches and the website is not a

major source of members or income. Waseem will author a FLASH to the membership asking for volunteers who would be interested in performing a Marketing function for the league. Implementing members' profiles on the website could provide demographics to assist with the Marketing function.

VI. Treasurer's Report –

- A copy of the FY 04 budget will be converted to PDF format and posted on the website.
- David reported that an article on the league in N.Y. Blade misquoted the dues at \$125.
- 2004 Fire Island tournament should its own bank account. John Sullivan suggested that a "Letter of Understanding" be executed (L.A.N.Y.?) between the league and the organizer(s) of the tournament in order to indemnify the league and board members.
- David reported that FY02 and FY03 both ran deficits, but we still have a (small) positive balance from the previous surplus. He has still not received the FY02 Quickbooks data, which is required to reconcile the accounts.

VII. Vice-Commissioner's Report – John reiterated that he will work on Technology with Ted and Marketing, Banquet Manager and Fundraising positions with Waseem. John also suggested that the Secretary should prepare a To-Do Summary for each meeting.

VIII. Commissioner's Report –

- Don will initiate contact with Lawyers Association of New York (L.A.N.Y.) to see whether they can provide legal services including Incorporation as 501(c)(3).
- Don will work on the reffing schedule for the Fall season with Danny
- Supplies:
 - Power balls should still be fine from last season.
 - Don will try to locate harmonic whistles.
 - Tryout Supplies: Don will distribute documents for Captains' packets to division reps and Ted (for archiving on webhost). We should check on nametags, thick markers, sign-in lists and copy paper and toner.
- Tryouts: John Sullivan volunteered to organize the tryout process. Don will send John a tryout checklist.
 - Registration/Waiver – PDF on website for Ezpass at registration.
 - Player Lists: from last season's rosters (missing rosters – ADV1 (don?), ADV2 (john?, danny?), Power A (don?))
 - Ron will try to locate tryout attendance verbiage for website and FLASH in previous minutes.
 - Waseem will compose a FLASH to membership with tryout dates, attendance verbiage, and a request for volunteers to help out.
- Immediate Issues:
 - Division Rep elections will be held on the third week. Nomination sheets must be posted starting at the first week of play. These should include a description of responsibilities for the position and the term (1 year) and benefits (no dues). John will format and distribute a form to Division Reps.
 - BAXX – paperwork not completed yet.
 - Fire Island tournament – everything is done, David needs to meet with Steven Black to finalize paperwork.
- Long-term Issues:
 - Bylaws – Lucy is working on them, Don needs to contact her to check on progress.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 3rd 8PM – 9PM at the High School.

Don moved to adjourn; John seconded; vote: 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

October 13, 2003

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner

David Freedman – Treasurer

Ron Luce – Secretary

Ted Gelpi – Webmaster

Rob Frazier – Intermediate B Division Rep

Henry Mui – Intermediate C Division Rep

Waseem Ahktar – Recreational Rep

Jean Brassard – Power Division Rep

Bob Arcari – Director of Tournaments

I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:26 PM.

II. Secretary's Report –

- Waseem moved that the minutes from the board meeting of August 19, 2003 be approved; Ted seconded; vote (9-0-0).
- Ron had nothing to report.

Danny Agosto arrived at 7:29 PM.

III. Division Representative's Reports:

- a. Advanced 2 Division – Danny Agosto reported that there have been numerous complaints about the reffing; Referees are very inconsistent and not certain of the format of the timing of the matches. No-one is delinquent in their payments, 2 people are on payment plans.
- b. Intermediate A Division – Jonathan Martin was not present. Rob Frazier has been entering the scores for him, until he gets his access cleared. Sandy's team has an injured player and Sandy will need a replacement from the pool as soon as the paperwork is distributed and the available players are determined. Lenny gave the checks that he had already collected to Jonathan; they are still outstanding. There are six members on payment plans.
- c. Intermediate B Division – Rob Frazier reported that team B has 2 injured players (of 8 total) and needs to pick replacement(s) from the pool, but he has no paperwork for players that are in the pool. There have been some complaints about reffing (including timing announcements). There was a "fight" on one team but they have "kissed and made up" and everything is OK. There are no delinquent players in the division.

Nick D'Andrea arrived at 7:39 PM.

- d. Advanced 1 Division – Nick D'Andrea reported that two players in the division (Andre Edwin and Alejandro Rincon) that have not showed up to play all season and should be considered dropouts. One player has received a yellow card in response to a harangue toward the referee and the division rep regarding the Game Ball. There are no players in the division who are delinquent in their payments.
- e. Intermediate C Division – Henry Mui reported that one team is down to 7 players and wanted to pick up a player that was selected on a team in RecA. After much discussion, the board decided that allowing this to happen against policy would not be allowed; there should be a pool of players available for the division once the paperwork gets sorted out. Members of the division are wondering if the board will be providing more warm-up/practice balls. The board allows the old Game balls and Power balls to be used for warm-up and practice by the membership. These balls disappear (from loss and theft) at an alarming rate. Players are urged to bring their own balls (clearly labeled to avoid theft) if they feel that there are not enough balls available. Players from the division are concerned that they get one week less play than the weekday divisions. The board acknowledges this discrepancy, but it is a necessary situation in that the lease for weekend days is much more expensive than the lease for weeknights and even with a season differential of one week, the weekday divisions still end up subsidizing the weekend divisions. All players in IntC are paid up!
- f. Recreational Division – Waseem reported that there are a number of no-shows/dropouts in RecA. Based on the number of these reported, the board resolved to list the names of players who are delinquent in the minutes under each Division Rep's report (these names and amounts will be delivered to the secretary before the minutes are published). The four teams in RecB are completely full and will not be able to accommodate new players who may come to the league mid-season. The board will definitely consider increasing the number of teams in RecB from 4 to 6 in planning for the spring season; this will probably bring us to complete capacity for the

available time at this facility. Waseem also initiated a discussion about how to handle unsportsmanlike conduct. The board highly encourages positive reinforcement by Division Reps, coaches and captains as the first priority. Sanctions may be carried out if this approach does not have an acceptable outcome. (In the past, the board has allowed players to be voted off the team by the members of the team and, for repeated offenses, players have been suspended from the league by the board). Waseem suggests that the league continue to offer beginner-level skills clinics on a regular basis. Discussion ensued regarding a time that the clinic could be conducted in the playground area without conflicting with the divisions playing at the time (on Saturday, many of the possible attendees will be playing in the Rec or IntC divisions, and on Wednesday and Thursday nights, the space is heavily used by players warming up for upcoming matches). Don will contact BAP to see if it might be possible to conduct the clinic on Monday nights (when the playground may be less heavily used).

- IV. Power Report – Jean reported that the election process (and the duties of the Power Division Rep) is not clear to many of the members of the division, especially newcomers. He will make an attempt to show up occasionally at each of the sub-division sessions to enlighten the membership on the operation of the board (especially as it reflects on their division). The attendance has been good so far, although arrival and setup has been sporadic, due in part to the fact that he does not have keys to the closet yet. Mark Weaver bounced the check for his dues (and those of another Power Division member from whom he had taken cash) and has been missing ever since.
 - V. Webmaster Report – Ted reported that the season is all set up and running on the website, and email addresses and links and BackOffice access have been updated to reflect changes in personnel. Nick reported that he has been unable to access the BackOffice functions. Ted will resolve this with Nick ASAP. The picture gallery is up and running; Ted is continuing to work on the interface and navigation. Member database is still Division Rep’s responsibility for this season – this will soon go to individual profiles for each member, grouped into teams and inactive by captains and Division Reps. The Big Apple website is paid for the year; the content is being developed.
 - VI. Member-at-Large Reports:
 - John Hatton was not present.
 - VII. Tournaments – Bob reported that there were 8 teams in the August friendship tournament. There will be an increase in the number of Friendship Tournaments this year as many of the non-scheduled weeknights will be run as Friendship Tournaments rather than open play sessions.
 - VIII. Treasurer’s Report – David reported that the current bank balance is \$39,946.14. He presented the up-to-date budget. The budget will be delivered for publishing on the website at the end of the October.
 - The Fire Island Tournament books are closed with a profit of \$3734.52. Don moved to write a check to AVP for \$3700, with the balance of \$34.52 going into the Gotham League’s accounts; Ted seconded; vote: (10-0-1).
 - Discussion was initiated regarding accepting only checks or Money Orders for all dues and Friendship Tournament payments. This would cut down on the amount of confusion and risk of cash loss or theft. The discussion was tabled.
 - IX. Vice-Commissioner’s Report – John Sullivan was not present.
 - X. Commissioner’s Report – Don Murray
- Immediate Issues:
- Supplies: Don will order balls, whistles and 2 more stopwatches. Rob will provide scoresheets, one more clipboard, a box of pens, and scotch tape.
 - Chris Clary had written an email to the board regarding perceived weaknesses in the tryout/draft process. He suggested patches including captain’s term limits (which currently exist in a limited form), rep & 2 board members veto ability on picks 6 through 8 of draft, and a rating system that would indicate who is eligible for what division(s). Don will draft a response to Chris.
 - The board would like to give Carlos Reynoso a gift for donating his time to run the beginners’ clinics all year long. Don moved to have Waseem obtain a \$200 gift certificate; Danny seconded; vote: (10-0-1).
 - Awards – Don would like to present a Commissioner’s Award as a plaque or a gift certificate.
 - Banquet Manager: Don move to offer the position to Steve Harvey for Fall 2003; Danny seconded; vote: (9-0-2).
 - Fundraising Manager: Don moved to offer the position to Francois Calderone in exchange for dues and 10% of funds raised over \$1200; Danny seconded; vote: (10-0-1).

Long-term Issues:

- Tryout Policies: (Online registration with “EZpass” form printed from the website, separate lines for check-in).
- Fire Island tournament: Jonathan Martin is interested in taking the helm, with guidance from Stephen Black.

XI. Opening/Closing Schedule

XII. New Business

- Ron suggested that we develop a board area on the website (only accessible to board members) where we could each update our own contact info that other board members could access it.

XIII. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 14th 7PM – 10PM, Location: TBD.

Don moved to adjourn; Ron seconded; vote: (11-0-0). The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 PM.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Meeting

November 14, 2003

Attendees:

Don Murray – Commissioner

David Freedman – Treasurer

Ron Luce – Secretary

Ted Gelpi – Webmaster

Nick D’Andrea – Advanced 1 Division Rep

Jonathan Martin – Intermediate A Division Rep

Rob Frazier – Intermediate B Division Rep

Henry Mui – Intermediate C Division Rep

Waseem Ahktar – Recreational Rep

Ted Gelpi - Webmaster

Bob Arcari – Director of Tournaments

- I. Don called the meeting to order at 7:43 PM.
 - II. Secretary’s Report –
 - Don moved that the minutes from the board meeting of October 13, 2003 be approved; Ted seconded; vote (10-0-1).
 - Ron had nothing additional to report.
 - III. Division Representative’s Reports:
 - a. Advanced 1 Division – Nick D’Andrea reported that process of replacing players from the pool of available players is working well for his division. He noted that when the Rec clinic is being held during Thursday play, there are insufficient warm-up ball for both the clinic and for league play.

A discussion of Balls ensued. Based on this discussion, a FLASH will be addressed to the membership regarding the use of balls provided by the league. The Yellow and Blue balls are for the use of the Power division only. The Black balls are for warm-up and practice. Members are encouraged to bring their own balls if they feel that there are insufficient balls for their needs.
 - b. Advanced 2 Division – Danny Agosto was not present.
 - c. Intermediate A Division – Jonathan Martin reported that there have been some problems with the quality of refereeing.
 - d. Intermediate B Division – Rob Frazier there have been some refereeing problems with outside disturbances distracting the referees. Troy is the only ref who handles these disturbances adequately.
 - e. Intermediate C Division – Henry Mui reported that there have been some reffing complaints in his division, as well.

Don will compose and send an email to all of the paid referees for the league addressing the issues of concern.
 - f. Recreational Division – Waseem reported that the clinic has been well attended. He suggested that the league might purchase four additional balls (of another color – possibly red or pink) for the use of the clinic.
 - IV. Power Report – Jean Brassard was not present.
 - V. Webmaster Report – Ted reported that rosters for all divisions except Intermediate A have been delivered to him and Phase 1 of the Member Profiles Project is in process. He is currently researching software packages to use for the project. The goal is to have Phase 1 up and running on the website by January tryouts.
 - VI. Tournaments – Bob opened a discussion about the proposed Friendship Tournaments in December and January between the seasons. Don and Bob will consider the possible combinations of Friendship Tournaments and Open Play Sessions for those dates. December 17 & 18 will most likely remain Friendship Tournaments. The January dates will be reassessed, including the possibility of adding a two-day weekend “mini-Big Apple” tournament.
 - VII. Treasurer’s Report – David reported that the current bank balance is \$40,733.16. He presented the budget through the end of the October for publishing on the website.
 - VIII. Vice-Commissioner’s Report – John Sullivan was not present.
 - IX. Commissioner’s Report – Don Murray
- Immediate Issues:
- Russell Rodriguez will be the Referee Manager to help Don manage the Referees.
 - Supplies: We still need to order balls, whistles and stationery. Waseem will help Don assess the needs and place the orders.

- Te elections for captains and team all-stars are coming up. Captains nomination sheets must be posted at every session for the next three weeks.
 - The board wishes to extend our sincerest sympathies to our Security Guard, Doreen, on the loss of her Mother.
 - Don initiated a discussion of the Forfeit Scoring Policy. The discussion touched on the possibility of using 1-0, 2-0, 15-0 or 25-0 for scoring a forfeit. Discussion was tabled for further discussion of Policies and Procedures.
 - Steve Harvey did not accept the position of Banquet Manager. The position is still empty. Jonathan Martin reported that preparations for the Fall season banquet are “well under way”.
 - Refunds: Three members of the Power divisions are requesting refunds for various reasons. A long discussion ensued regarding refunds, including the past policy of no refunds for Power, and pro-rated refunds for team-play divisions if the player is replaced. David moved to make an exception to this policy for these three players by taking a non-refundable deposit of 25% of the money that they paid for the Fall Season and applying the remainder of their payment as a credit toward their dues for the Spring Season. If they do not use this credit, it will be forfeited. This credit is non-transferable. Nick seconded the motion; vote: (8-2-1).
 - Francois Calderone has accepted the position of Fundraising Manager. Any funds raised up to \$1200 per season will cover his dues. He will receive a check for 10% of any additional funds raised.
 - A business plan is being developed for the development of a Gotham Sports Facility.
 - The lease and Security have been paid through the end of November. Don is doing all of the “processing” himself, so he will ask for a refund of the Processing Fee of 10%.
 - Big Apple XX – Don Murray and Steven Alan Black will co-chair the event.
 - Fire Island 2004 – Jonathan Martin is still considering “shadowing” Steven Alan Black to learn the ropes of operating the event with the intention of taking the helm for 2005. July 24 is being considered as a tentative date although there are possible conflicts (Don Murray and David Freedman will be out-of-town and unavailable for that date and there is a beach event in Asbury Park that weekend).
 - Awards: the season awards (trophies) will be presented mid-day on the tournament days and the tournament awards (medals) will be presented at the banquet. This arrangement is being continued since it has worked so well logistically in the past by presenting the bulk of the awards at the gym and transporting only medals to Escuelita for the banquet.
 - Waseem moved to budget up to \$100 for Don to use for a Commissioner’s Award at the Banquet; David seconded; vote (11-0-0).
- X. Open/Close schedule – No formal schedule, but it’s happening. Keep up the good work!
- XI. New Business
- No new business.
- XII. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 2nd 7PM – 10PM at David Freedman’s apartment: 2 Columbus Avenue #39-C.

Ron moved to adjourn; Waseem seconded; vote: (11-0-0). The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 PM.