



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Agenda

**Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH**

**North American Gay Volleyball Association
Annual Meeting of Membership
Friday, May 26, 2016**

Registration Begins at 6:00 pm / Meeting Begins at 6:30 pm (estimated)
Hyatt Regency Columbus – Delaware ABC Room

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|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Welcome & Introductions
State of the Organization | Jason Fallon, President |
| 2. Financial Report | Lew Smith, Treasurer |
| 3. Member at Large Elections | Brian Crumby, Vice President |
| 4. Amendment Proposals | Mark Ebel, Secretary |
| 5. Department Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>a.</i> Eligibility - Eric Nelson<i>b.</i> Regions – Jen Callen<i>c.</i> Tournaments – Mark Davis<i>d.</i> Officials – Kent Hansen<i>e.</i> Registrar – Anton Mulvaney<i>f.</i> Webmaster – Ed Blankenship<i>g.</i> Canadian Representative – Jason Pelletier | |
| 6. Member at Larger Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>a.</i> Trevor Brink<i>b.</i> Andre Carneiro<i>c.</i> Scott Kilburg<i>d.</i> Rich Sucre | |
| 7. Membership Fees Discussion/Vote | Lew Smith, Treasurer |
| 8. New Business | Mark Ebel, Secretary |
| 9. MAL Election Results | Mark Ebel, Secretary |
| 10. Adjournment | |

Member at Large Elections

(The following individuals have submitted written interest by the publication of the Annual Meeting announcement. Other individuals may be nominated during the meeting)

James Schultz	Joshua Brown	Clinton Moore	Richard Sucre
Derek Saenz	Daniel Dubree	Tyler Anderson	



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Member at Large – Letters of Intent

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

James Schultz:

Dear Mark Ebel and NAGVA Board of Directors:

I, James Schultz, would like to formally announce that I intend to run for a Member at Large position on the NAGVA Board at the 2017 Championship's Annual Meeting held in Columbus, OH.

I seek this position with the complete understanding of the responsibilities and duties of the position.

I want to run for this position because I care deeply about this sport and creating opportunities for players at all levels. I have a ton of experience at all levels of volleyball. I played club volleyball and high school growing up. I then went on to play NCAA Volleyball at Carthage College where I was named All Conference and AVCA National Player of the Week. My tenure there also allowed me to play in a national championship match as well as two additional Final Four appearances. After graduating, I continued my volleyball experience by being the Graduate Assistant Coach for Tufts University and then Carthage College. While at Tufts, I was part of the NESCAC Coaching Staff of the year and coached an All American. Continuing coaching, I helped bring Carthage to a record of 23-2 and coached 5 All Americans.

I bring some diversity to the board coming from a different background than many other people involved in NAGVA. I think that my experience with many different levels and organizations has given me the knowledge and skills necessary to continue to grow NAGVA at all levels. All board members must bring balance to the position and help to grow the organization fairly at all levels as everyone deserves the chance to play volleyball in the safe space that NAGVA provides.

I look forward to becoming more involved and helping grow this amazing organization.

Sincerely,

James Schultz



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Member at Large – Letters of Intent

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

Joshua Brown:

Dear Mark Ebel and NAGVA Board of Directors:

I, Joshua Brown, would like to use this email as my “letter of intent” to formally announce that I intend to run for a Member at Large position on the NAGVA board at the 2017 Championships annual meeting in Columbus held May 25-28, 2017.

I am doing so with the complete understanding of the responsibilities and duties of the position I am seeking.

There are many reasons why I am seeking this position but most importantly I believe I will bring a new energetic and effective voice and attitude to the board. I have been a member of NAGVA since 2010 and I believe not only my experience as a member but also a team captain will bring great insight to this role. Over the years I have helped cultivate a safe space for players throughout all divisions of NAGVA. I have worked with new members who want to find a new team while also giving guidance to recently uprated or down rated players who just want to enjoy the sport they love. Through education and support, I help background players become team leaders that create new teams and further our ambitions of growing and strengthening our NAGVA community. I believe that using the network of players I have built during my time as a member and team captain in our organization, I can and will be a voice for players that sometimes struggle to be heard.

I look forward to the opportunity to become greater involved in this amazing organization.

Sincerely,

Joshua S. Brown



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Member at Large – Letters of Intent

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

Clinton Moore:

Dear NAGVA members of the Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to express interest in applying for the position of member at large. I believe that NAGVA is a wonderful organization that provides a safe place for the LGBTQIA community and its allies to gather and express themselves in an athletic manner and express themselves as individuals. I am very interested in assisting and promoting the growth of this organization to increase awareness and acceptance of its athletes.

I have actively played NAGVA since 2011 and have participated in approximately 40 NAGVA sanctioned tournaments since then. In addition to playing in NAGVA tournaments I have also volunteered my time in assisting with ratings and volunteering however needed at tournaments. I additionally have a background as an official for Missouri High School girls and boys volleyball for the past 5 years and have served as an assistant coach for two high school and club volleyball teams and assisted with several summer camps and players clinics over the years.

I believe that I would be an excellent choice for board member because of my extensive back ground as a player, coach and official whom can assist with creating new policies and serve as a liaison between members and the board to promote understanding of the policies in place. Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to this opportunity and am excited to keep seeing NAGVA grow as an organization.

Sincerely,

Clinton Moore



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Member at Large – Letters of Intent

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

Richard Sucre:

Dear Mark Ebel and NAGVA Board of Directors:

This letter serves as a formal announcement that I intend to run for a Member At Large position on the NAGVA Board at the 2017 Championships Annual Meeting.

I do so with the complete understanding of the responsibilities and duties of the position.

Currently, I am one of the Co-Presidents of the Balls of Furry Volleyball Group in the San Francisco Bay Area, and have functioned as one of the Co-Tournament Directors for the Red, White & Blue Ball in San Francisco, which is entering its seventh year. I've also recently taken on the responsibility of Tournament Director for the upcoming Hoa Aloha Invitational in Honolulu, HI from December 8-10, 2017. In addition, I've been proud to have helped establish a gay volleyball league in the San Francisco/Bay Area, which is ending its fourth season.

Since 2011, I've been a NAGVA member, and have participated in over 30 tournaments in the B Division as a Middle Block. I am interested in growing NAGVA by growing our tournaments, refining how we run our tournaments, and introducing more new players to NAGVA. For our organization to grow, we need a consistent influx of new members, who are mentored and introduced to NAGVA. I am organized and motivated, and am happy to represent a West Coast perspective on the NAGVA Board.

NAGVA has been one of the best experiences, and I've definitely enjoyed the friendships that I've made through NAGVA. I look forward to continuing my work on the NAGVA Board, and becoming more involved and engaged in this organization.

Sincerely,

Richard Sucre



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North American Gay Volleyball Association

Member at Large – Letters of Intent

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

Derek Saenz:

Dear Board Members;

I have been a member of NAGVA since 2002 and rated AA up until summer 2016. It is my intent to represent the AA division as a Member-At Large on the NAGVA Board. Please accept this letter as my intent to run for this position.

I think my 10+ years of participating in NAGVA as a AA member will bring insight of the division to the board. I see tremendous opportunity to grow the organization at every division, especially AA since in the past 10 years the opportunities for young athletes to play college has grown immensely. Lots of growth in the Junior College system, NAIA, and even a whole new Coastal Carolinas conference for NCAA Division 1 has sprung up in this time. The participation from AA in NAGVA has diminished, but I think the opportunity to make it bigger than ever before is just waiting for us.

I am hopeful that by working together, we can make NAGVA a better place for all players who come to this organization in search of a fun, safe, inclusive, and family like environment to play the sport of volleyball.

Sincerely,

Derek J Saenz



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Member at Large – Letters of Intent

**Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH**

Daniel Dubree:

Dear NAGVA Board Members,

I, Daniel Dubree, submit this letter to formally announce my intention to run for a Member At-Large position on the NAGVA Board of Directors at the 2017 Championships' Annual Meeting in Columbus, OH.

After with reviewing the NAGVA Bylaws and speaking with others, I am fully aware of the responsibilities and duties of the position which I seek.

I have been a proud NAGVA player, team captain and tournament coordinator for fourteen (14) years. It would be my honor to serve ALL of my fellow NAGVA members as a representative on the Board, if elected. We must continue efforts to have effective communication, create a fair, safe and competitive play environment, and ensure the highest standards of fiscal responsibility are achieved.

I believe my extensive legal, leadership, project management, initiative, problem solving and communication skills would complement the many talents of other Board members. My core values of integrity, fairness, respect, appreciation of diversity and compassion would allow me to serve with distinction.

Here is a synopsis of my background:

Current and/or recent non-profit Board experience:

- ... Board Treasurer for the United Church of Christ Cornerstone Fund
- ... Board Treasurer and Executive Director for the Cathedral of Hope – United Church of Christ
- ... Board Treasurer for the Dallas Independent Volleyball Association (DIVA)
- ... Legal Advisor to the Board for the IB Gymnastics Booster Club

Professional work experience:

- ... Twenty-seven year Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) veteran (Special Agent; Assistant Director)
- ... Led 800 member staff in support of a global mission; \$200+ million annual budget
- ... Management experience of all administrative functions - budget, personnel, facility, physical security, procurement, and information technology
- ... Lawyer and Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE)

I look forward to becoming even more involved in our great organization and to work hard on behalf of ALL NAGVA members.

Sincerely,

Daniel Dubree



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Member at Large – Letters of Intent

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

Tyler Anderson:

To Whom It May Concern:

I started playing NAGVA in April of 2014. Since then, I have played in 30 tournaments across the country including Championships in Washington DC, Seattle, and Dallas. I would like to become a Member-At-Large on the NAGVA board because of how much NAGVA has given me. NAGVA helped me find a community that I've found confidence and even an identity within. NAGVA has also helped me make friends across the country that has served as professional resources as well as personal ones that I value dearly.

I'm particularly interested in serving on the board because I would provide a unique perspective. I don't come from a city or state that has a dominant presence in the NAGVA circuit – rather, I've been given the opportunity to play with teams from other countries as well as cities across the entire United States. This means I've both heard and been a part of conversations of people who feel completely invested into the NAGVA community, but also those who are a part of NAGVA as a means to play the sport they love. These experiences have truly helped broaden my understanding of the diverse backgrounds and experiences that our various NAGVA members bring with them into each tournament that they attend.

My professional experiences would further enhance my ability to serve as a Member-At Large. I work in a high pressure, sales based environment that requires availability at all hours to ensure closing the deal. It requires organization of information, foresight within planning, and the ability to make decisions confidently and with assuredness in order to help sell faith in me as an employee, but also within the product that I am selling. All of these qualities translate well into a leadership position on the NAGVA board because leaders are people who can both inspire trust in their character but also their abilities.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Tyler Anderson



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Bylaw Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

1.) BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Andre Carneiro (Member# 161110), Joshua Christensen (Member #153713)

Submission date: February 24, 2017

Article to Amend: 3.06 – Removal of Elected or Appointed Officer
4.04 – Voting and Deciding Vote

Description of Change: Defines how board members should resign and requires a super majority for the Board to remove an appointed or elected board officer. Article 4.04 is being updated for clarity/consistency.

Current Article:

3.06 - Removal of Elected or Appointed Officer

An elected or appointed Officer, or Member At Large position, may be removed by the Board of Directors, whenever in its judgment the best interest of the Association would be served thereby.

4.04 - Voting and Deciding Vote

Decisions of the Board of Directors shall be by majority vote. The deciding vote, in the event of a tie, shall be cast by the President who shall only cast any vote on decisions when there is a tie.

Proposed Amended Article:

3.06 - Resignation and Removal of Members of the Board. Each member of the Board shall hold office until the expiration of the term for the position to which she or he serves or until his or her death, incapacity, resignation, or removal.

A. Resignation. Any member of the Board, except the President, may resign from office at any time by delivering a resignation in writing to the President. If the President resigns from office, she or he shall deliver a resignation in writing to the Secretary.

B. Removal. Any member of the Board may be removed by a two-third (2/3) vote of members of the Board present at a special meeting of the Board called for that purpose at which there is a quorum.

4.04 - Voting and Deciding Vote

Unless otherwise noted in these by-laws, decisions of the Board of Directors shall be by majority vote. The deciding vote, in the event of a tie, shall be cast by the President who shall only cast any vote on decisions when there is a tie.

Board Position: Unanimous support



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association
Bylaw Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

2.) BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Andre Carneiro (Member# 161110), Joshua Christensen (Member #153713)
Submission date: February 24, 2017

Article to Amend: 3.07 – Vacancies

Description of Change: To require a special election to fill vacancies in elected positions.

Current Article:

3.07 – Vacancies

- A. If there is a vacancy in the office of the President, the Executive Vice President will assume the office of President until the next Annual Meeting, at which time the General Membership will elect a new President to fill the remaining term.
- B. If there is a vacancy in the offices of Executive Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer, one of the appointed officers, or Member At-Large (MAL) positions the President will appoint an acting Officer, with the approval of the Board of Directors, to fill out the remaining term.

Proposed Amended Article:

3.07 – Vacancies

- A. If there is a vacancy in the office of the President, the Executive Vice President will assume the office of President until the next Annual Meeting, at which time the General Membership will elect a new President to fill the remaining term.
- B. Upon the death, incapacity, resignation, or removal of any elected member of the Board other than the President, the vacancy created must be filled through a special election in no more than 60 days from the creation of the vacancy pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 2.09, or at the annual meeting whichever is sooner. Eligibility to vote in this election will follow section 2.02 with all definitions interpreted at the time when such election is held.
- C. If there is a vacancy in one of the appointed officers, the President will appoint an acting Officer, with the approval of the Board of Directors, to fill out the remaining term.

Board Position: 4 supported, 4 opposed, 2 abstained



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Bylaw Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

3.) BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Andre Carneiro (Member# 161110), Joshua Christensen (Member #153713)
Submission date: February 24, 2017

Article to Amend: 4.01 – Voting Rights of the Board - and redact 4.02 (C)

Description of Change: To clarify that no voting member of the board may hold more than one voting position on the board. As it is currently written every other position on the board aside from the Officers could be held by one person. The redaction of 4.02(C) is to create/maintain consistency.

Current Article:

4.01 – Voting Rights of the Board

The Board of Directors shall be open to all Member Teams and Leagues, and chaired by the President, but voting rights in the Board of Directors shall be vested in the following:

- A. Those individuals who are currently elected Officers (4), plus the Vice President of Tournaments, the Registrar, the Vice President of Regions, and the Director of Eligibility, and the Vice President of Officials.
- B. Four (4) Members will be elected to the Board. These four (4) “At-Large” positions are intended to represent the membership.

4.02 – Nominations, Requirements and Term of Office

- A. Each of the Member At-Large (MAL) positions of Board shall be elected every two years at the annual meeting from among those candidates who have either submitted a letter of intent to run or have been nominated and seconded from the floor. These Officers will be elected the year following election of the President, Executive Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- B. The term of service of MAL position on the Board will be two years.
- C. Board Members, other than the Officers, may hold other elected or appointed responsibilities within the Association

Proposed Amended Article:

4.01 – Voting Rights of the Board

The Board of Directors shall be open to all Member Teams and Leagues, and chaired by the President, but voting rights in the Board of Directors shall be vested in the following:

- A. Those individuals who are currently elected Officers (4), plus the Vice President of Tournaments, the Registrar, the Vice President of Regions, and the Director of Eligibility, and the Vice President of Officials.

- B. Four (4) Members will be elected to the Board. These four (4) “At-Large” positions are intended to represent the membership.
- C. Board Members granted voting rights in this section may hold no more than one voting position on the board, but may hold other appointed non-voting offices.

4.02 – Nominations, Requirements and Term of Office

- A. Each of the Member At-Large (MAL) positions of Board shall be elected every two years at the annual meeting from among those candidates who have either submitted a letter of intent to run or have been nominated and seconded from the floor. These Officers will be elected the year following election of the President, Executive Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- B. The term of service of MAL position on the Board will be two years.

~~C. Board Members, other than the Officers, may hold other elected or appointed responsibilities within the Association~~

Board Position: Unanimous support
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4.) BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Jason Fallon (Member# 150081)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Article to Amend: 7.02 – Mandatory Positions

Description of Change: Remove two positions that are no longer needed and create a new position

Current Article:

E. Marketing/Publicity Director

1. Shall be responsible for tournament--related travel under the Association--related incentive travel programs.
2. Shall report to Treasurers, the Boards of Directors, and Membership Services.

G. Vice President of Championships

1. Shall be responsible for coordinating the overall planning and administration of regional competitions for the Association's Championship activities.
2. Shall be responsible for assignment of specific Championships activities to the members of the Board of Directors.

Proposed Article:

E. Director of Communications:

1. Monitors posts to assure users respect NAGVA's social media philosophy.
2. Works in concert with the Webmaster to implement and promote a social media strategy and manage social media sites
3. Engages in dialogue and monitors Members issues.
4. Uses social networking analysis tools to monitor trends and encourages adoption of social media tools.
5. Seeks out external media opportunities (PR opportunities).

~~G. Vice President of Championships~~

~~-~~

- ~~1. Shall be responsible for coordinating the overall planning and administration of regional competitions for the Association's Championship activities.~~
- ~~2. Shall be responsible for assignment of specific Championships activities to the members of the Board of Directors.~~

~~H. G. Vice President of Regions~~

~~I. H. Canadian Representative~~

RATIONALE

The Director of Communications will replace the position of Marketing/PR Director. The role of VP of Championships is handled by the Executive Board so it is a redundant position.

Board Position: Unanimous support



5.) BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Ed Blankenship (Member# 175168)
Submission date: February 24, 2017

Article to Amend: 7.02 – Mandatory Positions

Description of Change: Redefining/renaming the role of Webmaster

Current Article:

B. Webmaster

1. Shall oversee the application of the NAGVA website to distribute news, information, and technology applications for members as directed by the Board of Directors.

Proposed Article:

B. Vice President of Technology

1. Shall oversee the technology of NAGVA including, but not limited to the website, apps, services, and platforms, to distribute news, information, and technology applications for members as directed by the Board of Directors.

RATIONALE

The title “Webmaster” defines/indicates a smaller scope of responsibilities for the person filling this position. We want to make sure this officer is empowered to look at all technologies needed to help the organization’s volunteers, tournament directors, and athletes to be as successful as possible.

Broadening the scope of responsibilities beyond the website, including a title change, helps to make sure that as this officer works within the organization, and outside of the organization with partner services companies, their responsibilities are represented accurately.

Board Position: 7 supported, 3 opposed



6.) BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Mark Ebel (Member# 152039)
Submission date: February 24, 2017

Article to Amend: XV – NAGVA Hall of Fame

Description of Change: Creating a NAGVA Hall of Fame

Proposed Article:

15.01 – Description of NAGVA Hall of Fame

NAGVA established the NAGVA Hall of Fame in order to recognize the outstanding individuals who helped organize, shape, transform, advance, and play NAGVA volleyball.

Since our beginning there have been many members who have left an indelible mark on the organization and it is those people who we would like to recognize for their accomplishments and enshrine their names in our rich history.

Potential inductees should demonstrate high standards of sportsmanship, moral character, and ethical conduct. They must demonstrate outstanding and exceptional abilities in the capacity they served in volleyball.

15.02 - Nomination requirements

- A. Nominations can be submitted by any NAGVA member.
- B. Nominees should have been a member of NAGVA for at least 5 seasons.
- C. Nominations may be submitted from December 1 through April 1 of each NAGVA season.
- D. Nominations may be submitted by using the Hall of Fame Nomination form found on the NAGVA website.

15.03 – Selection process

- A. Hall of Fame nominations will be review by the Hall of Fame committee.
- B. Hall of Fame committee will be comprised of a Chairman: NAGVA VP and members: NAGVA MALs and Canadian Representative.
- 4. Committee shall meet or vote via ballot on nominees with decisions made by May 1st.
- 5. Hall of Fame inductees shall be honored at NAGVA Championships and posted on NAGVA website.

Board Position: Unanimous support



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association
Rules & Regulations Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

1.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Lewis Smith (Member #151303)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 1.02 (A) & (B) – Requirements to Join; 1.02 (C) & (D) are renumbered*

Description of Change: Removes dollar figure for team fees and consolidates/eliminates (B)

1.02 – Requirements to Join

A. For a Team or League to be accepted as a Full Voting Member in the Association, annual dues in the amount ~~of \$40.00 (paid on-line in US funds)~~ as determined during the previous Annual Meeting must be paid before a competition which has been designated as a NAGVA-sanctioned event. Teams that fail to register on-line and provide proper documentation prior to the start of the NAGVA-sanctioned event must register on-site and pay \$10.00 US more than the on-line rate. The Team must have actually competed in that tournament or in another designated NAGVA Sanctioned Tournament during the current Championship's Season (end of previous Championships to start of current season's Championships) to validate the Full Voting Member Team's right to vote. Leagues need to maintain current individual records and NAGVA registrations on all league participants, coaches, and officials to validate the Full Voting Member League's right to vote.

~~B. Teams that register for (at) a NAGVA-sanctioned tournament will be considered the same team at any other tournament during the NAGVA season if registered by the team captain or alternate (if they have at least four (4) players who have played under the same Team name at any previous NAGVA-sanctioned tournament). Teams that fail to register on-line and provide proper documentation more than one (1) week prior to a tournament must register on-site and pay \$50.00 US. (6/2005)~~

~~C.~~ While individual tournaments may restrict, Players wishing to enter a NAGVA Sanctioned Event, who are under the age of 18 at any time during the tournament, must obtain parent or guardian signature prior to registration for each tournament they attend. Proof of relationship of parent or guardian to the player may be required. (6/2004)

~~D.~~ Any player participating in a NAGVA-sanctioned Event must abide by the NAGVA Code of Conduct (6/2006).

RATIONALE

The by-laws state that dues will be decided upon at the Annual Meeting. Including them in the Rules and Regulations may create an incongruence should the Membership vote to change the dues and the R&R isn't changed to conform (as R&R amendments must be submitted 90 days in advance). Section (B), apart from the on-site team payment fee is not how NAGVA, in practice, has determined what a "team" is from one NAGVA tournament to another.

*An amendment to removing current Rule 1.02 (C), if passed, will further renumber the subsections of Rule 1.02.

Board Position: Unanimous support



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association
Rules & Regulations Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

2.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Lewis Smith (Member #151303)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 1.02 (C) Requirements to Join

Description of Change: Requiring all participants to be over 18

1.02 – Requirements to Join

~~C. While individual tournaments may restrict, Players wishing to enter a NAGVA Sanctioned Event, who are under the age of 18 at any time during the tournament, must obtain parent or guardian signature prior to registration for each tournament they attend. Proof of relationship of parent or guardian to the player may be required. (6/2004)~~

RATIONALE

Allowing minors to play in tournaments creates potential liability issues for NAGVA as well as tournaments. If minors were allowed to participate, NAGVA should/would need to add a molestation policy to its current insurance premium which would add up \$3,000 based on current estimates for less than 10 minors who play per year.

Board Position: 10 supported, 0 opposed, 1 abstained



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Rules & Regulations Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

3.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Lewis Smith (Member #151303)

Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 1.05 Team Name Changes

Description of Change: Allows name changes before team's first tournament

1.05 - Team Name Changes

If a Full Voting Team changes its name after playing in its first tournament of a season, the Team must re-register as a new Team with the Registrar, paying the required annual Full Voting Team dues.

RATIONALE

Team names are what are used to qualify for Championships. Should a team want to change their name before their first tournament of the season, there is no change to Championships qualification and therefore should not present any issues.

Board Position: Unanimous support



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association
Rules & Regulations Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

4.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Lewis Smith (Member #151303)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 1.06 Annual Registration Fee

Description of Change: Removes dollar figure for individual fees

1.06 - Annual Registration Fee

Each individual player, coach, or official participating in a NAGVA-sanctioned qualifying tournament must pay ~~\$35.00 (US fees, paid on-line)~~ an annual registration fee as determined during the previous Annual Meeting, due for (at) the first competition of the player's respective fee, for purpose of general liability insurance coverage and administrative, operational, and organizational costs. Players that fail to register on-line and provide proper documentation ~~more than one (1) week prior to a tournament must register on-site and pay \$45.00 US. (6/2008)~~ prior to the start of the NAGVA-sanctioned event must register on-site and pay \$10.00 US more than the on-line rate.

RATIONALE

The by-laws state that dues will be decided upon at the Annual Meeting. Including them in the Rules and Regulations may create an incongruence should the Membership vote to change the dues and the R&R isn't changed to conform (as R&R amendments must be submitted 90 days in advance).

Board Position: Unanimous support



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North American Gay Volleyball Association
Rules & Regulations Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
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5.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Mark Ebel (Member #152039)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 2.04(C)

Description of Change: Changes to the initial rating of a player

Current Section:

2.04 Player Ratings

C. Ratings for Championships

1. No changes can be made to a player's rating to affect Championships as of April 1st each NAGVA season, unless due to administrative or clerical error. If a player's rating changes between April 1st and Championships, that new rating will be effective at the conclusion of Championships of that NAGVA Season.
2. At Championships, if a player has been re-rated, and that player's rating remains at his/her current level, his/her rating is effective at the conclusion of Championships. This player may be re-rated at any time.
3. At Championships, if player has been re-rated, and that player is rated up to a higher level, his/her new rating is effective at the conclusion of Championships. This player may not be re-rated down for a six month period from the date this player was most recently re-rated.
4. At Championships, if a player has been re-rated, and that player is rated down to a lower level, his/her new rating is effective at the conclusion of Championships. This player may be re-rated at any time. (6/2006).

Proposed section:

1. No changes can be made to a player's rating to affect Championships as of April 1st each NAGVA season, unless due to administrative or clerical error. If a player's rating changes between April 1st and Championships, that new rating will be effective at the conclusion of Championships of that NAGVA Season. [See Rule 2.04C Section 5 for exception.](#)
5. At Championships, a player, that received his/her initial rating during the current season and only played in the tournament in which he/she was initially rated, is re-rated to a higher division, the rating is effective immediately.

RATIONALE

This addition is an attempt to stop teams from getting a player rated and then "sitting" them until Championships.

Board Position: 5 supported, 4 opposed, 1 abstained



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association
Rules & Regulations Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

6a.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Lewis Smith (Member #151303)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 2.04(G)

Description of Change: Changes period of inactivity for granting a Non-Rate

2.04 Player Ratings

G. Requests for Inactivity Re-Rate

Members with a break in participation of at least ~~53~~ consecutive ~~seasons~~years are eligible to return to play as a non-rated player. The request must be submitted in writing to the Director of Eligibility, following the appeal process defined in Rule 2.01. Upon verification that no participation occurred over the prior ~~5 seasons~~3 years, the rating change is approved and effective immediately. Participation is defined as and verified by record of the member's signature on an official team roster/waiver for a sanctioned tournament. Last Rated Date is not a valid time point for verifying a period of inactivity.
(Amended 5/2012)

RATIONALE

The current rule requiring 5 seasons of inactivity before requesting a non-rate is a long time and may exclude some Members who may find it difficult to keep up skill-wise in their division after that much time away from NAGVA. Additionally, this would change the requirements from "seasons" to "years" as NAGVA's current technology can easily track the last tournament by a Member.

Board Position: Unanimous support

6b.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Eric Nelson (Member # 150518)
Submission date: February 9, 2017

Section to Amend: 2.04(G)

Description of Change: Changes period of inactivity for granting a Non-Rate

2.04 Player Ratings

G. Requests for Inactivity Re-Rate

Members with a break in participation of at least ~~5~~ 3 consecutive seasons are eligible to return to play as a non-rated player. The request must be submitted in writing to the Director of Eligibility, following the appeal process defined in Rule 2.01. Upon verification that no participation occurred over the prior ~~5~~ 3 seasons, the rating change is approved and effective immediately. Participation is defined as and verified by record of **paid registration** and/or the member's signature on an official team roster/waiver for a sanctioned tournament. Last Rated Date is not a valid time point for verifying a period of inactivity.

Board Position: 3 supported, 7 opposed



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association
Rules & Regulations Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

7.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Mark Davis (Member #150017)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 3.02

Description of Change: Refund Policy

Current section:

3.02 - Tournament Procedures

E. Refunds to Teams

Tournament organizers shall return entry fees in the event a member Team withdraws or cancels at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the event; unless a "no refund" policy was clearly stated in the tournament announcement materials. (Amended 5/2012)

Proposed section:

3.02 - Tournament Procedures

E. Refunds to Teams

Tournament organizers shall return entry fees in the event a member Team withdraws or cancels at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the event; ~~unless a "no refund" policy was clearly stated in the tournament announcement materials.~~ (Amended 5/2012)

RATIONALE

NAGVA needs a standard refund policy for all tournaments to avoid confusion for players.

Board Position: 6 supported, 2 opposed, 1 abstained



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association
Rules & Regulations Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

8.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Mark Davis (Member #150017)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 4.02

Description of Change: Removal of International pool-bracketing format

Current section:

4.02 - Minimum Competition Standards

B. International pool-bracketing format:

1. Teams will be pooled by division, as in regular pool play, with consideration given to stronger/weaker teams being placed in similar pools (ex. 16 B teams = 4 pools of 4 teams.)
2. Match play continues, with teams being re-pooled according to win/loss records (ex. 1 pool of 3-0 records, 1 of 2-1 records, 1 of 1-2 records, 1 of 0-3 records = 4 new pools.) Pool play commences until finished.
3. After pool play is completed, teams will be re-pooled for championship play. Championship pools consist of the top teams with the best cumulative win/loss record. Winners of the Championship pool become division over- all champions, and so on for second place and third place. All-Stars would also be picked from the championship pool.

Proposed section:

4.02 - Minimum Competition Standards

~~B. International pool-bracketing format:~~

- ~~1. Teams will be pooled by division, as in regular pool play, with consideration given to stronger/weaker teams being placed in similar pools (ex. 16 B teams = 4 pools of 4 teams.)~~
- ~~2. Match play continues, with teams being re-pooled according to win/loss records (ex. 1 pool of 3-0 records, 1 of 2-1 records, 1 of 1-2 records, 1 of 0-3 records = 4 new pools.) Pool play commences until finished.~~
- ~~3. After pool play is completed, teams will be re-pooled for championship play. Championship pools consist of the top teams with the best cumulative win/loss record. Winners of the Championship pool become division over- all champions, and so on for second place and third place. All Stars would also be picked from the championship pool.~~

RATIONALE

This tournament format has not been used in a long time. Since the format is still subject to the individual rating system, meaning only B rated players can play in the B divisions or BB rated players and below can play in the BB division, the format does not differ significantly from the standard pool system.

Board Position: 7 supported, 0 opposed, 2 abstained



NAGVA

North American Gay Volleyball Association

Rules & Regulations Amendments

Annual Meeting 2017
Championships XXXV – Columbus, OH

9.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Tim Boyer (Member # 163629)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 4.01-4.07

4.01 - Precedence of These Rules

These "Rules of Competition" shall supersede any and all rules of the Federation Internationale de Volleyball, the Canadian Volleyball Association, the United States Volleyball Association (USAV), or any other sports federation that may or may not certify referees or sanction volleyball competitions. The Referees will be instructed before competition begins that this Association follows the FIVB lead in establishing playing rules and guidelines, but, that these competitions have been modified according to the wishes and desires of the General Membership.

4.02 - Rules Governing Play

The most current USAV Domestic Competition Rules (DCR) will be used to govern the rules of play.

- A. New rules released by USAV must be approved for implementation by the membership at the Annual Meeting will take effect in the following season of play.
- B. Playing rules must be stated in the tournament announcement materials.
- C. FIVB/CVA rules and guidelines may be used in tournaments outside the United States
- D. The Association observes the following alterations to the USAV DCR:
 - a. Players' jerseys must be marked with numbers not less the four (4) inches in height on the front and eight (8) inches in height on the back. Numbers shall be located in such a position that they are clearly visible and shall be a color contrasting to that of the jersey. Liberos shall also wear a clearly contrasting color to that of the color of their teammates that makes them easily distinguishable from the rest of their team.
 - b. Pursuit is not permitted. Any ball that crosses the plane of the net outside the antenna shall be a side-out.
 - c. If the playing surface at a facility utilizes distinct colors to differentiate the (in) playing court and the (out) free space, an edge line around the perimeter of the court is not necessary. (An attack line and a center line shall always be required.)
 - d. Teams must have six (6) players on the court in order to compete. If a Team becomes incomplete through disqualification or expulsion of a player the Team loses that game by default, keeping the points earned. If a Team becomes incomplete due to injury or illness that team may acquire a replacement player (who has met NAGVA eligibility requirements) at, or below the division in which the team is playing in. The replacement player shall be taken from an available player from the host city with the approval of the host city's tournament director or, if none available, from a team that has already been eliminated from the tournament.
 - e. The Regional Commissioner and the Tournament Director will decide the playing rules regarding the height of the ceiling and any overhanging objects, if there are any questions as to the ground rules prior to the start of competition. The Referees will then be instructed on what playing rules to call when the ball touches the ceiling or any overhanging object.
 - f. Captains must sign the scoresheet at the conclusion of the match.

~~4.02~~ 4.03 - Minimum Competition Standards

Tournament organizers shall have the option between double-elimination championships or international-format "pool bracketing" championships. Notice of tournament format must be clearly indicated on tournament announcement materials and adhered to.

A. Double-elimination tournament:

1. Preliminary pool play shall consist of at least eight (8) 21 or 25-point games in four matches or nine (9) 21 or 25-point games in three matches per Team and at least three (3) second-round games.
2. Play-off brackets, especially double elimination brackets, will be set accordingly where the Team with the best record plays the Team with the last-placed record, and second best versus second-to-last, and so forth. Where appropriate, the Teams with better records will be given "byes" in the first round(s) of play-offs.
3. The double-elimination matches in the Losers' Bracket may be one (1) 25-point game, with "win by two points" and no time limit, OR may be a 2 out of 3 match with 15, 21, or 25-point games, win by 2 points, and no time limit (no cap in the deciding game).

B. International pool-bracketing format:

1. Teams will be pooled by division, as in regular pool play, with consideration given to stronger/weaker teams being placed in similar pools (ex. 16 B teams = 4 pools of 4 teams.)
2. Match play continues, with teams being re-pooled according to win/loss records (ex. 1 pool of 3-0 records, 1 of 2-1 records, 1 of 1-2 records, 1 of 0-3 records = 4 new pools.) Pool play commences until finished.
3. After pool play is completed, teams will be re-pooled for championship play. Championship pools consist of the top teams with the best cumulative win/loss record. Winners of the Championship pool become division over-all champions, and so on for second place and third place. All-Stars would also be picked from the championship pool.

~~4.03—Numbers on Jerseys~~

~~Players' jerseys must be marked with numbers not less the four (4) inches in height on the front and eight (8) inches in height on the back. Numbers shall be located in such a position that they are clearly visible and shall be a color contrasting to that of the jersey.~~

~~4.04—6 Player Minimum of Court~~

~~Teams must have six (6) players on the court in order to compete. If a Team becomes incomplete through disqualification or expulsion of a player the Team loses that game by default, keeping the points earned. If a Team becomes incomplete due to injury or illness that team may acquire a replacement player (who has met NAGVA eligibility requirements) at, or below the division in which the team is playing in. The replacement player shall be taken from an available player from the host city with the approval of the host city's tournament director or, if none available, from a team that has already been eliminated from the tournament.~~

~~4.05—Ceiling Height/Overhanging Objects~~

~~The Regional Commissioner and the Tournament Director will decide the playing rules regarding the height of the ceiling and any overhanging objects, if there are any questions as to the ground rules prior to the start of competition. The Referees will then be instructed on what playing rules to call when the ball touches the ceiling or any overhanging object.~~

~~4.06—Rules Governing Play~~

~~The most current FIVB/CVA and USAV playing rules and guidelines will be used to govern the rules of play (with the noted exceptions listed above). Playing rules must be stated in the tournament announcement materials.~~

~~4.07~~ 4.04 - Tournament Play Eligibility

Players must have played at least one (1) point during pool play rounds in order to be eligible for bracket play.

Board Position: 0 supported, 5 opposed, 4 abstained



10.) RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Lewis Smith (Member #151303)
Submission date: February 25, 2017

Section to Amend: 5.03 Team Eligibility

Description of Change: Reduced the core number from 4 to 3

5.03 - Team Eligibility

In order to be eligible to play in the Championships, a Full Voting Member Team must have participated in at least one (1) Association-sanctioned qualifying tournament during the current NAGVA season and each individual player must have participated in at least one (1) Association sanctioned qualifying tournament (to be skill-rated) during the past two (2) NAGVA seasons. A team must be comprised of a minimum of ~~four (4)~~ three (3) core members of cumulative year played rosters.

RATIONALE

Reducing the amount of core players required to participate would make it less difficult to form teams for Championships while still requiring teams that participate to have some consistency throughout the season.

Board Position: Unanimous support