

Maine Volleyball Coaches Association Annual Meeting 2011 (Husson College)

The meeting was called to order at 11:05.

Attending high school coaches: Jim Senecal-Yarmouth, Todd Brophy (President)-MDI, Steven McGinley-Calais, Kelvin Hasch-Greely, RobThompson-Cape Elizabeth, Mike Kelly (Vice President)-Ellsworth, Chris Davis (Treasurer)-Washington Academy

Attending college coaches: Pat DeBeck-Husson

Attending guests: Andrew Degifico-Maine Athletic Fundraising, Chris Cameron-Maine Athletic Fundraising

Order of Business:

- I. Todd Brophy, President, informed the meeting participants that Diane Clark was unable to continue as the secretary of the MVCA and as a result had resigned. Todd asked the participants if anyone was willing to volunteer for that role. Rob Thompson accepted and was nominated for the Secretary position. We shall get Diane a thank you card for her dedication.
- II. Introductions were made and a review of last year's minutes took place. Mike made a **motion** to accept the minutes as read and Steve seconded the motion.
- III. The treasurer's report was postponed.
- IV. The Maine Athletic Fundraising Company gave a presentation to the attendees. The fundraising organization has raised over one million dollars in Maine using "discount cards" and they would like to get more involved with volleyball teams. They are willing to come to any school and do a "kick off" presentation to any interested teams to explain how the cards work. The program usually starts during pre-season or at the beginning of the season and runs about 2-3 weeks. Maine Athletic Fundraising will split the profits 50/50 with participating schools and offer additional prizes as well. Those that are interested can contact Andrew Degifico at (207) 232-9967 or andrewd@maineaf.com
- V. **Treasurer's Report** was given by Chris. There is currently \$2415.59 in the account, major deposits included \$460 in Program sales and \$1750 in Ad revenue. Kelvin **moved** to accept the treasurer's report and Jim seconded the motion.
- VI. **Officers.** The current officers are: President-Todd Brophy, Vice President-Mike Kelly, Treasurer-Christine Davis, Secretary-Rob Thompson, College Representative-Pat DeBeck, and MPA Representative-Gary Powers.

VII. **President's Report** was presented by Todd.

- a. **Senior Showcase.** The showcase went very well this year. Chris has Showcase Academic Certificates for some that will be mailed out. We spent a little more on the Showcase shirts, but the overall feeling was that it was worth it. Mixing up the teams seemed to work well and made the Showcase more competitive. Jim asked if we should increase the roster or have A and B squads. The group felt that this might depend upon the number of Seniors, because if we committed to more players participating we might not have enough Seniors to fill the spots. The Showcase should highlight “the best” Senior players, but also try to be a representation of all teams. The MaxPreps Statistics program seems to be a logical way to determine the best players and it would be easier to have the East and West Committees continue to look at players from their own region, as the coaches will see these players in action as well as have access to their statistics. Steve made a **motion** to have each coach send out their Senior player rosters in advance, so other coaches could watch the players during matches, Kelvin seconded. Jim made a **motion** to have five sets, 12 players per team, and try to have the committees represent all teams as much as possible, Steve seconded. The East Committee shall be comprised of Chris, Steve, and Mike while the West Committee shall include Rob, Jim, Kelvin, and any others that are interested. Todd shall create a protocol for this and send it out for review.
- b. **All-State Volleyball Team.** There was a great range of statistics sent in by coaches last year. If the player was in between the first and the second team, the player was bumped up. If a player almost made the second team then they were given “Honorable Mention.” Todd shall create a protocol for this and send it out for review. Rob will take this information and create a one sheet document containing the pertinent information in an “easy to read” format.
- c. **Junior Olympic Club Volleyball.** Portland North JO Club changed its name to Maine Juniors Volleyball Club in order to be more representative of the entire state. This year they had a total of 155 players, 16 teams, and 25 coaches. The club was also able to add a 16's team and an 18's team that was more centrally located. These teams included players from Ellsworth, MDI, Calais, and Jonesport. The club continues to offer a wide range of coaching development opportunities and was able to send about 15 coaches to Hartford, CT to attend the USAV Coaching Accreditation Program (CAP) I or CAP II sessions. The club is in the process of arranging for the Gold Medal Squared

volleyball program to come and do a three-day coaching clinic, November 4th-6th. The director of the club, John Razsa, asked if the MVCA would like to participate or possibly contribute funds to the endeavor. Many of the meeting attendees believe that the MVCA is not currently in a financial position to assist monetarily to this opportunity. Kelvin made the **motion** to advertise and promote the Gold Medal Squared coaching clinic, but not contribute funds at this time, Steve seconded.

- d. **The Program.** There were significant issues with the formatting of many of the advertisements that were in the program. Some looked really good, but others did not. In addition, none of the corporate sponsors paid. We need to get more schools on board with the program, as this is the MVCA's primary source of income. Rob made the **motion** that each school be responsible for one mandatory \$50 ad, Kelvin seconded. There was also discussion of including the past year's Showcase team photos and MVP in the program, as well as a page for the Maine State Games, possibly with photos. In order to create a better program the following individuals agreed to follow up with aspects of the program:
1. Chris will look into having Debbie Hastings from Flying Change Web and Graphics assist us with formatting and finding a new printer for the program.
 2. Mike will look into changing the front of the program
 3. Todd will try to create a one-page template for the team pages that includes the roster and team photo.
 4. Kelvin will talk to one of his creative students about additional ideas.
- e. **Academic Teams.** This was one of the best years for getting the player information from the coaches regarding the academic teams. Chris mentioned that in addition to the Academic Team, she nominates her players for the American Volleyball Coaches Association's (AVCA) Academic Team as well. She encouraged other coaches to do the same, the information can be found on the AVCA webpage.

VIII. **New Business**

- a. **Sportsmanship Banner.** The current sportsmanship banner was provided by MaxPreps and as such has their logo placed on it. Our current MaxPreps representative is located in Iowa and as such has less involvement with our region. The attendees believe that it might make more sense to have the MVCA logo on the sportsmanship banner. Banners can be created on a fabric or vinyl background, the current pricing for a vinyl banner is

approximately \$75. Mike made the **motion** to purchase two Sportsmanship banners (A and B), with each team choosing an A and B team from the season, Chris seconded. Kelvin will continue to tally the votes. Possible logo choices for the banner shall be e-mailed to coaches to vote on.

- b. **Scheduling of Games.** There have been question regarding the current system for scheduling matches and whether that task should be delegated to a neutral party. Rob commented that the same discussion had occurred during the Southern Maine Coaches meeting and recapped that discussion. Currently all athletic directors draw names out of a hat to see who is responsible for scheduling matches of each sport. Last year it was the Greely A.D. Although this process seems fair, it may not take into account travel distances or other issues put forth by teams from the previous year. How can we get better continuity or forward additional information to the A.D in charge of scheduling matches? Also, the largest variable that seems to impact match scheduling appears to be the limited amount of officials in the state, as well as their limited availability. There was **no resolution** to the scheduling issue at this time. Jim mentioned that his team had not even been scheduled, most probably as a result of moving to Class B.
- c. **Senior Showcase M.V.P. Selection.** We have used different methods to pick the M.V.P. over the years. At times it was the coaches that picked, other times it was the MaxPrep's representative. In order to establish a more consistent policy, Jim made a **motion** that the two head coaches of the Showcase pick the opposing team's M.V.P. and then the head official would pick between those players, Kelvin seconded.
- d. **Plaque for Bruce Churchill.** Bruce Churchill, Greely assistant coach, has made significant contributions to advancing volleyball in Maine. To recognize these accomplishments, Todd made the motion to present Bruce with a plaque honoring those accomplishments, Kelvin seconded.
- e. **Maine Games Northeast.** The Maine Games have expanded to two sites this year in an attempt to include more teams from the state. The Games are scheduled for September 17th in the South (St Joe's College?) and September 24th in the Northeast (Ellsworth HS?). This is a fantastic opportunity to promote our sport, increase volleyball's exposure, and provide a great day of volleyball to our players. Coaches need to promote this tournament to try to get both tournaments filled, especially in the Northeast where this is a new endeavor.
- f. **Financial Situation of MVCA.** The MVCA is currently "in the black" financially and as such is in a position to do quite a bit. Priority should be given to items that continue to build and promote volleyball in the state.

- g. **Maine Principal's Association (MPA) Report.** Gary was not present to report for this meeting. The attendees discussed potential recommendations for the MPA to consider, they include:
1. MPA to provide a gold ball trophy to the winners of the state championship.
 2. Change the date of the first countable match. Currently it is on a Friday, if it were changed to the Wednesday before, it would potentially provide us with more time between matches and the ability to schedule more matches.
 3. Increase the amount of countable matches.
 4. MPA to provide a sportsmanship banner.
- h. **College Report.** Was provided by Pat DeBeck. He sent an email to all college coaches to see if they had any concerns or issues. No concerns were noted, however Pat would like more input from college coaches.
- i. **Additional Items.** Nick Bryant from the Maine Association of Volleyball Officials (MAVO) asked if the Southern Maine pre-season tournaments (usually held at Greely and Falmouth) could be set up in a similar fashion as the tournaments held Downeast in terms of scheduling. This change in schedule would help facilitate the training that MAVO officials currently receive during these tournaments. Rob will mention this request during the Southern Maine Coaches meeting that normally takes place during the "hands off period." Rob discussed the advantages of establishing clear goals for the MVCA that could be used to help with our decision making process as well as establish a long-range vision for the Association. He suggested possible goals as being: working towards the creation of more teams in Maine, providing professional development opportunities for volleyball coaches, creating a professional library of volleyball books and videos, and creating a coaches directory to promote communication between the coaches in the state.

Jim made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting and Pat seconded.
The meeting was adjourned at 1:15?

Respectfully Submitted,
Rob Thompson