

AGENDA
General Meeting
TASO – Austin Chapter Volleyball
November 9, 2016 – APD Association Union Hall
Food Served Starting at 6 p.m.

Board of Directors:

President – Charlie Tamez
Vice President – Kevin Carlyle
Assigner – Marilyn Wahl
Secretary – Roni Downey
Treasurer – Bonnie Caddell

At-Large Reps:

Rhiannon Stracener A-E
Katherine Bratton F-M
Gilbert Mokry N-Z

Call to Order

Charlie Tamez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He apologized for the food being late. Olive Garden has reported that they are on their way.

Assigner's Report

Marilyn Wahl

Marilyn stated that she plans to email out the 2016 end-of-year report. However, she gave a recap of what that email will entail. She was disappointed that she did not get all of the yellow/red card reports for this year. There was only one UIL incident. There were a total of eight scratches received from UIL. Cancelled matches were 66. Turnbacks were down this year. No secretary likes to deal with turnbacks. There were about 1 to 2 no-shows. The total number of matches in Arbiter was 2,734. The payout for those matches from the schools was \$352,170. All Varsity matches had two people on them.

Marilyn went on to honor a few individuals:

Rookie of the Year: Janiece Nelson

Most Improved Officials: Cornelius Williams and Tony Weaver

Thank-You's: Debbie Anika and Gloria Cox (Marilyn explained that these two officials took her under their wings and took time to show Marilyn the ropes when she moved to Austin from Florida about 20 years ago.)

Go-to Guys: Gordon Harper, Allen Laughlin, Janine Patton, The husband/wife team of Felix and Brenda Gray (Marilyn explained that she could always rely on these officials to respond to her requests of changing assignments. Their response was, "Yes, I will go.")

#1 Thank-You Person: Kevin Carlyle (Marilyn explained that Kevin always had her back. He has helped Marilyn with the schedule for the last 10 years. She could not have done it without Kevin looking over her shoulder.)

Marilyn explained about her health, especially her blood pressure. She needed to take away some of the stress as per the recommendation of her doctor so that is one of the reasons she is giving up the Assigning Secretary position. She is backing off for a little bit.

She stated that all of the people running for the Assigning Secretary position were equally qualified. However, she is recommending Janiece Nelson to take over her job. Marilyn proceeded to explain why: "She is totally free and you have to be totally free to do this job. She knows the coaches, she knows the officials. She has a rapport with the coaches because she has been in volleyball for over 30 years." Marilyn said she will be there for Janiece if she needs help. That is what Marilyn said her recommendation was for the chapter.

Marilyn was given a standing ovation in gratitude for her work in ACV.

Treasurer's Report:

Bonnie Caddell

Bonnie gave the financial report as follows:

\$10,891.55 in Checking and \$2,752.70 in Savings

Bonnie stated that the ACV is still waiting on over \$2,000 in scrimmage fees. She is confident those will come in soon. Some of the school districts are a little slow. She reminded everyone to turn in their chapter applications. She had brought in some blank ones but not enough for everyone. She stated that officials could give her a check but she cannot process the check until she gets the application. Bonnie said that it would be good for officials to keep good records. She stated that in the memo section of the check to please write "chapter dues". She said that in July when a reminder is sent out, some officials tend to pay twice. Then, she has to do the extra work of paying back.

District Director

David Plaisance

David said that he has no news to report.

Agenda:

Awards

Bonnie and Roni presented small tokens of the ACV's appreciation to Marilyn Wahl and Kevin Carlyle. Bonnie explained that the ACV wanted to give them something but keeping it on a light note. This was given on behalf of the board and all of the members.

Charlie presented a small token to Gloria Cox, who decided to hang up her whistle. She is no longer going to be officiating. Charlie asked for everyone to please stand in recognition of all the contributions that Gloria Cox has made to the world of volleyball. Gloria gave a brief recollection of how she got started in volleyball in the spring of 1982. She explained that she has held every office except that of Assigning Secretary. It is time for her to get off of committees. Gloria ended with, "Thank you for the memories. You have meant so much to me. Thank you for the friendship."

Charlie continued with recognition. He asked for everyone to please thank Tyler for allowing the ACV to meet at this facility. Tyler goes out of his way to ensure that the facility is ready for us. A round of applause was given for Tyler.

ByLaw Proposals (please see ACV website/newsletter/email) – Larry Friedenber & Committee

Charlie stated that Gloria Cox would be assisting him as Sergeant at Arms. He asked that everyone be courteous as each group/individual presented their proposals. The first one was from the ByLaws Committee.

Proposal submitted from the ByLaws Committee

- *Remove all references in the body of the By-Laws stating: "The Chapter," "chapter," "Chapter," "The Austin Chapter," "Austin Volleyball Chapter," "Volleyball Chapter," "Austin Chapter Volleyball."*
Change to: ACV
- *Remove all references to the Executive Committee*
Change to: Board of Directors
- *Remove the Code of Ethics from the By-Laws*
Move to: a stand-alone document, subject to the same rules as the Stated Policies.
- *Remove: These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or called meetings by three-fourths (3/4) majority of the votes cast of members present at the meeting.*
Change to: a two-thirds majority of the members attending a regular or called meeting be required to change the by-laws and that the change(s) be made effective immediately or at a subsequent date, as stated in each approved amendment."

Following is the discussion about this proposal that occurred at the meeting. Larry Friedenber, the Chair of the ByLaws Committee, addressed the group. He said that the proposal was in four parts; however, it was one proposal. He read each bulleted item above. Gilbert Mokry asked if the two-thirds majority would take place on December 1 if it passed. The answer was December 1 because that is what the current ByLaws state. Kevin Carlyle asked about the proposal to make the Code of Ethics a stand-alone document. If the ACV decides in future to make changes to that document, how would we go about making that change? Bob Block stated that the proposal says that it would be treated that same as the Stated Policies. David Plaisance stated that he planned to vote against the proposal because it is vague. First of all, he has problems with two-thirds of the members present at the meeting. He used an example of those present. If 100 people showed up, only 67 members would be representing the chapter. Other concern is that David feels that the proposal changes should be a higher threshold. It should not be meant to change on a whim. Bob countered by talking about the Constitution of the State of Texas and its regulation. The only place with reference to ¾'s is in the U.S. Constitution. He did not feel that the ByLaws rise to the Texas Constitution or the U.S. Constitution. He feels that this will bring amendments to the Chapter so we can move forward. He explained that the ByLaws Committee has done a lot of work. This proposal presented contained the simple changes for possible changes in the future.

Marilyn wanted to clarify that this was a package deal. Bob answered yes, it was. Someone asked if all parts did not pass, then would we have to wait until next year. Bob said yes. Larry Friedenbergh added that e-voting is under consideration but at the time these proposals were written, it was not introduced at this time. He also wanted to address David's example. With a room of 100 people attending, it only takes 25 people plus 1 to shoot a recommendation down. James Mahlen would never categorize the ByLaws with Texas or the U.S. Constitution. But he said that we are talking about what affects us. He does not agree with the changes being proposed. As a package deal, there were things with which he did not agree. He also suggested to narrow the wording down, like 2/3 of what. Need to define the wording more.

Charlie stated that voting was going to commence. It would be done by show of hands. The following officials assisted with the vote count: Philip Franco, Gloria Cox, Jim Sanso, Bobby Rogers, Brenda Gray, Janine Patton.

THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY THE BYLAWS COMMITTEE DID NOT PASS.

Audit Committee Recommendation – Katherine Sullivan

Proposal Submitted from the Audit Committee

- Section 5 The Treasurer of the Austin Chapter shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
ADD: File all mandatory IRS and State tax documents and provide copies to the Recording Secretary for Chapter records.
- Section 6 The Recording Secretary of the Austin Chapter shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
ADD: Maintain copies of all mandatory IRS and State tax documents submitted.

Charlie next recognized Kathy Sullivan, who had a proposal from the Audit Committee. She read the proposal. Roni asked if this was a package deal with all those under one. Kathy said yes. Gloria asked if this was doable for the Treasurer. Bonnie replied that it was but it was time consuming. Bonnie added that currently we do not do any type of reporting.

John Smith asked if 1099's are required to be compliant with the IRS. Kathy explained about her committee and she recognized them. Her background is a degree in accounting. The committee has done a lot of research with the IRS and CPAs. These proposals are just for clarification; not to say that something is being done wrong. Jason Gold asked what does the ACV need to provide 1099s for? Kathy explained that any time a person makes \$600 or more, they need to be provided a 1099. Bobby Rogers asked if we are going to generate 1099s now. Kathy explained that we are only working on the ByLaw proposals right now. She stated, "We are not telling the board what to do." The committee is just giving the information that they found during the research. This is something the chapter will do. Bobby White asked if we are going to file taxes with the IRS? The answer was no.

Once again, Charlie explained that we are just voting on the proposal. Christle asked what has changed to make the Treasurer do this. This chapter has been here for 30 years or more. We have never paid this expense before and now we are going to have to. Diane explained that in 2014 a tax ID was requested from IRS. We are now under their radar. The QuickBook program actually does the 1099. It is a no brainer; we need to do the right thing. Christle expressed concerns about the compliance costs. We have to report to the IRS and there are costs. This is only involving four people. Diane explained that we never have had a TaxID until 2014. We need to get up to speed. The 1099 can be done electronically with Uncle Sam.

Melvin Tealer stated that he works for the IRS. He explained that he agrees with the Audit Committee. Once you apply for the TaxID, you are now on the IRS radar. You are obligated to file depending on your status. The IRS is not trying to hunt you down. The chapter needs to be in compliance. If you comply, you won't have any trouble with the IRS. It is called voluntary compliance. Kathy added that the reason Bonnie had to get the EIN number in 2014 was for us to get paid from the schools. She had a legitimate reason for getting that number. Craig said that he does not see a reason to vote on it. It seems logical that the Treasurer should do this. David Plaisance wanted to clarify that the Chapter does not pay the Assigning Secretary. We individually as members pay the Assigning Secretary. The Chapter does pay the Webmaster, the Trainers, and the Assistant Assigning Secretary. Kathy did counter that the Assigning Secretary could possibly get a sum of \$600 because sometimes members are delinquent. We also pay for telephone use. Voting commenced on this proposal.

**THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE PASSED
AND WILL BE IMPLEMENTED EFFECTIVE 12/1/2016.**

Member Recommendation – David Plaisance

Proposal #1 Submitted by David Plaisance

Change: These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or called meetings by three-fourths (3/4) majority of the votes cast of members present at the meeting.

To: These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or called meetings by three-fourths (3/4) majority of the votes 1) cast of members present at the meeting 2) cast by electronic voting of eligible members for the week prior to meeting, and 3) proxy votes delivered at

the meeting. Electronic voting includes emailed votes, votes using web-based mechanisms, or other procedures approved by the board.

Charlie next recognized David Plaisance. David read his first proposal. He stated that this allows for electronic voting. Jerri Bates stated that other chapters allow TASO to do it. This keeps it out of everyone's hands. She would like to see it included. Gloria explained that we have to vote on what is proposed. We cannot introduce new proposals. Bruno spoke against the proposal. The ByLaws Committee was not given this proposal in advance to review. It seemed that some proposals were introduced late. Kathy Sullivan stated that this proposal is clarifying there are different ways to vote. David said that was correct. Officials have legitimate reasons for not being here. It is hard for people to come to the meeting to vote. When ByLaws were created, we did not have Internet.

John Smith voiced concerns about leaving it to the board. There is no clarification for proxy voting. No determination of how this is done. Gloria stated that proxy voting is outlined in Robert's Rule of Order. Gloria explained how this would work. Gloria said that we also trust our board otherwise we would not have elected them. Larry Friedenbergsaid that if we allow electronic voting or proxy voting, then people cannot hear the discussion that is occurring right now. The last line is open ended. He is not sure he wants to give that much power to the board. David explained that "other procedures" allows the board to have some latitude.

Chris Ng stated that he was confused. From his understanding, there is a ByLaws committee. Yet now, David is coming up with additional changes. He wanted to know what is the proper procedure. Larry replied that currently the ByLaws do not limit changes submitted just by a committee. The current committee was appointed by Charlie. He explained that proposals can be brought up by individuals as long as they meet the requirements. He explained the requirements. David was asked to run it by the committee but he chose to continue on his own and put it out there. Currently, under the ByLaws, there is nothing to prohibit this.

Kevin stated that electronic voting came to his attention two to three weeks ago. He stated what he found out about using TASO. It was a secure log-on similar as if a member was going to take the test. He brought this up to the group and they thought this was great. He explained that if we had an election tonight, then we could allow for voting after the meeting. Open it up and then announce the results. This proposal will make it allowable for next year. He added "if we don't do it now, then who knows when it is going to happen." He strongly suggested that "we should go for it."

David asked to comment regarding Larry's explanation. David stated that he did run three of these proposals by the ByLaws Committee. Bob responded to Kevin's comments, stating that he was all for electronic voting. However, his concern was that it would not allow for nominations from the floor. This could be problematic if electronic voting was done before the meeting. The current ByLaws state the voting should occur during the meeting.

Craig Smith commented that these all needed proper verbiage. This is just a matter of dotting the I's and crossing the T's. These proposals are not major earth-shattering proposals. Don't think that what these people are proposing are going to hurt the chapter.

PROPOSAL #1 SUBMITTED BY DAVID PLAISANCE PASSED AND WILL BE IMPLEMENTED EFFECTIVE 12/1/2016

Proposal #2 Submitted by David Plaisance

Change: Article XI Discipline, Section 3 subsection b "Upon conclusion of the investigation, the committee will make recommendations to the President as to the actions that should be taken against the member in violation"

To: "Upon conclusion of the investigation, the committee will make recommendations to the President as to the actions that should be taken against the member in violation unless the President is involved as either the complainant or the accused, in which case the committee will make recommendations to the Vice President."

Change: Article XI Discipline, Section 3, subsection d "If the member is in agreement with the recommended actions or sanctions and notifies the President or Vice President of their acceptance, they will be enacted and no further action is needed. "

To: "If the member is in agreement with the recommended actions or sanctions, they should notify either the President or Vice President (unless either was involved in the violation as the complainant or the accused, the notification should go to the officer not involved), they will be enacted and no further action is needed."

Change: Article XI Discipline, Section 3, subsection e "If the member is in disagreement with the recommended actions or sanctions, they must notify the President or Vice President within ten (10) days of receipt of the notification that they wish to proceed with Section 4 below."

To: "If the member is in disagreement with the recommended actions or sanctions, they must notify the President or Vice President within ten (10) days of receipt of the notification that they wish to proceed with Section 4 below. In the event the President or the Vice President was involved in the violation as the complainant or the accused, the notification should go to the officer not involved."

Change: Article XI Discipline, Section 4 "In the case of a member not in agreement with the actions or sanctions as recommended in Section 3 above, the member will have the opportunity to meet with the Board of Directors regarding the alleged violation. Once the President or Vice President has been notified, the member will be notified of the time and the location of the regular or called meeting of the board. This member must be notified via email and/or certified mail a minimum of 10 days prior to the Board of Directors' meeting.

The member may waive the notification requirement if notified in person. At the request of the member and with mutual agreement of

the board, this 10-day requirement may be waived in order to expedite the matter. Upon conclusion of the meeting with member, the Board of Directors will vote on the matter. A majority of the Board of Directors must be in attendance and a majority of the votes cast is required for the recommended verbal reprimand, probation, suspension, and/or termination to take effect. The member will be notified of the decision of the board by certified mail, or by email when confirmation of receipt is received within 48 hours.”

To: “In the case of a member not in agreement with the actions or sanctions as recommended in Section 3 above, the member will have the opportunity to meet with the Board of Directors regarding the alleged violation. If the complainant is a member of the Board of Directors, they will not participate in the meeting. Once the President or Vice President has been notified (assuming neither is the complainant or the accused, in which case the notification should go to the officer not involved), the member will be notified of the time and the location of the regular or called meeting of the board. This member must be notified via email and/or certified mail a minimum of 10 days prior to the Board of Directors’ meeting.

The member may waive the notification requirement if notified in person. At the request of the member and with mutual agreement of the board, this 10 day requirement may be waived in order to expedite the matter. Upon conclusion of the meeting with member, the Board of Directors will vote on the matter. A majority of the Board of Directors must be in attendance and a majority of the votes cast is required for the recommended verbal reprimand, probation, suspension, and/or termination to take effect. The member will be notified of the decision of the board by certified mail, or by email when confirmation of receipt is received within 48 hours.”

Change: Article XI Discipline Section 5 “In the case that a member has been verbally reprimanded, placed on probation, suspended, or terminated, said member will have up to thirty (30) calendar days from the date of notice to appeal the decision. Any appeal must be in writing and submitted to the President or his/her designee. The Board of Directors will set up a meeting within fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of the appeal with said member and allow that member to present any further information to the Executive Board. This notice of meeting must be by certified mail, or by email when confirmation of receipt is received within 48 hours. The Board of Directors will then have fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of the meeting to take action and inform said member of the final decision. Notice of the final decision must be made by registered mail. Failure to follow any portion of the appeals process, by either party, will result in the probation, suspension, and/or termination being upheld or dismissed.”

To: “In the case that a member has been verbally reprimanded, placed on probation, suspended, or terminated, said member will have up to thirty (30) calendar days from the date of notice to appeal the decision. Any appeal must be in writing and submitted to the President or his/her designee (excepting when the President is the complainant or the accused, the appeal will be made in writing to the Vice President). The Board of Directors will set up a meeting within fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of the appeal with said member and allow that member to present any further information to the Executive Board. This notice of meeting must be by certified mail, or by email when confirmation of receipt is received within 48 hours. The Board of Directors will then have fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of the meeting to take action and inform said member of the final decision. If a member of the Board of Directors is the complainant or the accused, they will not participate in the appeal deliberation meeting. Notice of the final decision must be made by registered mail. Failure to follow any portion of the appeals process, by either party, will result in the probation, suspension, and/or termination being upheld or dismissed.”

Change: Article XI Discipline Section 7 from “Any member of the Board of Directors that misses two or more called Board meetings may be immediately replaced by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The President then will be responsible to fill any vacancy until an Election can be held per Article X, Section 5.”

To: “Any member of the Board of Directors that misses two or more called Board meetings may be immediately replaced by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The President then will be responsible to fill the vacancy until an Election can be held per Article X, Section 5. If the member is replaced is the President, the Vice President will be responsible to fill the vacancy until an election can be held per Article X, Section 5.”

David proceeded with reading his second proposal. He explained the appeal process and how this proposal would work, especially if a board member was the person who was the complainant. Right now, it is left to the good graces of the person to reclude him/herself. He realizes that this proposal is detailed but felt it was necessary to do so. David gave an example where a board member would bring charges against a member. In this scenario, that board member would abstain. The language in this proposal changes the different sections. David stated that it was brought to his attention that he did not go far enough in this proposal and it should have been extended to all members of the board. However, he explained that he sees this “as a bridge to reaching that goal.”

Kevin Gehrlein stated that he had a problem with the wording. It needed to have more detail. He did not have a problem with it passing but felt that the original proposal could have been changed to make it better. If it passes, it will need to be changed in the future to make it more general.

PROPOSAL #2 SUBMITTED BY DAVID PLAISANCE DID NOT PASS.

Proposal #3 from David Plaisance

Change: Article X Elections Section 4 “The term of office for the President, Vice-President, Assigning Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and the three At-large Representatives shall be for a period of two (2) years beginning December 1st of each year.”

To: “The term of office for the President, Vice-President, Assigning Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and the three At-large Representatives shall be for a period of two (2) years beginning December 1st of each year. All officers may not be a dual member with another chapter. No person may hold more than one office. If a current officer is elected to another position that would

result in that officer holding two offices during a ACV fiscal year, the officer will resign the current office in favor of the newly elected office on December 1st.”

David read this proposal. He stated that this was personal because he wanted people to be dedicated to the Austin Volleyball Chapter. He wants what is in the best interest of our chapter. He said that if you are running for an office, then you should be dedicated to one office, committed to Austin. He went on to explain the part of a person holding only one office. He is excited to see so much interest in board positions. This is a rarity. He said there was a time when no one would step up. We need more diversity; we need more interest. With a person holding two positions, then that person would also get two votes.

Kathy Sullivan questioned David, “Are you saying that dual members could not represent our chapter fully?” “What do you consider a PAVO official?” “Don’t we also have PAVO officials in our chapter who do collegiate games?” Kathy stated that seems the same as a dual member. If we do not allow dual members, then where is the line? Kathy stated that she had a problem understanding how dual membership and holding two offices are related. This should be two separate proposals and not just one. David replied that dual members referenced in the proposal are as defined by TASO in high school. He is not talking about members in PAVO, USAV, or basketball, or soccer. He is talking about volleyball high school officials. If you are a dual member for volleyball, then “we welcome you and we need you.” He continued, “If you are going to be on our board, then ACV should be it and no other interests should be brought in.” He agreed that it probably should be two proposals but it is just one proposal.

Keith Poonwah said that we should vote against this. In soccer, there is dual membership. This needs to be two different proposals. In TASO, you have to declare which one is your home chapter. Larry stated that David makes a good point. However, a dual member “as defined by TASO” is not on the proposal. It needs to say that. Larry commented that he is a dual member and should he run for an office in the ACV, he would take care of the job. He would still be a dual member just to get some other assignment. H added that he attends more meetings than a lot of the members who are full-time member of the Austin Chapter. He goes to the clinics; he takes the test; he does everything required in both chapters. Being a good officer would be paramount.

Kevin noted that TASO does not put restrictions on what dual members can or cannot do. Yes, they do have to declare a primary chapter. David said that one restriction is that officials do have to declare a home chapter in order to vote for District Director. Your home chapter designation dictates for whom you can vote.

Linda Polley asked David about his District Director position. Why is not the District Director included in the proposal? David stated that the District Director can be a member of the board; that is in the ByLaws. What this proposal addresses is someone with two votes being on the board. Currently, the District Director only votes if there is a tie. The District Director would never have two votes. We never want to have one person to vote twice.

Kathy commented that the District Director is the tie breaker. David would then get two votes if he became the next Recording Secretary. The same holds true to Bonnie since she is on the board and also the Past President.

PROPOSAL #3 SUBMITTED BY DAVID PLAISANCE DID NOT PASS.

Proposal #4 from David Plaisance

Add to Article X Elections Section 1 "In the event no candidate receives over 50% of the eligible vote, a new vote will be taken between the top 2 (with ties) candidates receiving the most votes".

David read the fourth proposal. He stated that our ByLaws do not provide for the majority vote. It is great what is happening this year; multiple people running for office. However, what could happen is that someone could win the election by 15 votes. He would like to see a run-off elections if no candidate receives over 50% of the eligible vote.

PROPOSAL #4 SUBMITTED BY DAVID PLAISANCE PASSED AND WILL BE IMPLEMENTED EFFECTIVE 12/1/2016.

Elections:

Conducted by Bob Block & Election Committee

Bob Block explained the ground rules. Gloria Cox is the Sergeant at Arms. Philip Franco is the timer. Individual candidates have three minutes in which to present their ideas. Philip will give the candidates a one-minute reminder, meaning that the speaker has one minute remaining. Bob will introduce the individuals one at a time. Bob explained that we will have a paper ballot. Those will be handed out after everyone has spoken.

Vice-President

Christle Miersma thanked the officials for allowing her to be the chapter trainer this year. The Vice President is in charge of coordinating all of the training. Her focus will be on training. She went over what the training involved this year, including having a group of high-level officials to assist with the training. As VP, she wants to further what was started this year. She wants to

possibly have more on-court demonstrations. Wants to expand video opportunities. Wants to address the ranking and evaluation system. Wants to propose a new ranking system that is measurable. Feedback will be provided in writing and will be given timely.

Roni Downey gave a powerpoint presentation, explaining that she wanted to serve everyone. Explained that she is often called by board members as the “negotiator”, the “peacemaker”. She explained that she was not into cliques; she graduated from high school a long time ago. As the VP, she does not want to tell officials what to do but to instead listen and to learn from them. Even though she has been quiet and writing the minutes as the Recording Secretary, she has been listening. She ended with “The greater the challenge; the more important that we all work together.”

Recording Secretary

Linda Polley expressed that she was grateful to have this opportunity to speak. She has served on sports-related boards since 1977. Her first venture in the volleyball world was in 1982. Since that time, she has served in several offices up until 2012 for another chapter. She has worked a lot in Hill County. She is asking tonight for your vote. She would be so grateful to serve on this great board and represent all of you. It should be member driven. “You all deserve the right to be heard. We should have a chapter that is transparent and that you, as a member, should know what is going on. We should all be held accountable to form the greatest organization in the State of Texas.”

David Plaisance thanked everyone for the opportunity to be able to speak. He stated that he wants to continue working for this board. He wanted to alleviate anyone’s concern that, if he is elected, he would abstain from voting in case of a tie, if needed, from the District Director. Has been the Vice President, the Trainer, and the At-Large Rep. He lost his quest when running for President. He knew he was doomed because his opponent promised pizza for everyone. He feels that when he served on the board, the board was transparent. He was in charge of the website and kept it up to date. The amount of information to the members has always been there. Could he have been more transparent? Yes, and there are always ways to make that happen. He pledges to do that. He addressed Linda and said that she was a great opponent. If she should win, then he would support her. He thinks Linda is a great individual. He thinks that either one of them could be a great representative for this chapter.

Assigning Secretary

Harvey Madrigal thanked everyone for the opportunity to address the group. He stated that he received an email yesterday listing the requirements needed to be a good assigner. He read the list. He stated that he has a full-time job. However, he has already met with his CPA and decided that he could be full-time as the assigner. In USAV, he already has this responsibility and does this year-round. Earlier in the meeting, Harvey stated that there was an endorsement made. One of the items mentioned was that the person knew the coaches. If elected, he plans to go out and visit with those coaches. That would be one of his first priorities, to meet with them face to face. The next thing is the kids. The assigner needs to be responsible for putting the right people in the right place. Currently, in USAV, he is entrusted to put the right people in the right place. He comes out with a spreadsheet that he shares with another of his co-assigners. He works closely with Craig Smith. If an official misses an opportunity, they will take that into consideration for the next time something is available. He tries to be fair and equal. This takes dedication and diplomacy. Diplomacy means how are you going to get better and how am I going to help you get better. Harvey stated, “I will not put you in a position not to succeed.” Wants to continue to concentrate on training. Transparency will also help.

Gloria asked if there were any question. Larry asked for each candidate to answer this question, “What is your own priority for your own schedule during the season?” Harvey answered that it is going to be a balance and making sure the assignments are out. Larry rephrased the question, “How are the Assigning Secretaries going to schedule themselves for Varsity games and tournaments?” Harvey said he will schedule himself in a fair way. It has to be a balance. Harvey stated that we have to give a good product to the schools. Larry once again rephrased, “Are you going to have a full schedule? Are you going to schedule yourself first and then plug everyone in around you?” Gloria explained the question another way, “Where are you going to schedule yourself?” Harvey stated that he is going to schedule himself in a fair way. A person can work themselves up to get more “responsible matches”. Harvey said that he has worked himself up there to get more responsible matches and he is not going to take himself off of them just because he is the assigner. He need to give a good product to the schools.

John asked for his question to be answered by each candidate, “What is your opinion about having the master schedule out there so that officials can see assignments during the year?” Harvey said that he saw no reason not to do that. If he has the whole year scheduled, then put it out there. However, he said that the assigner does reserve the right to make changes. He sees no issue with getting this done.

A member also asked for all candidates to answer this question, “Have you ever scheduled with Arbiter before?” Harvey said he had not. There are not a lot of members that have. However, Harvey did say that he uses Arbiter especially when entering in his availability.

Ronnie Kaase was not present at the meeting due to other obligations. He gave David a statement to read on his behalf. Ronnie

wrote that he has completed his 28th year of middle school and high school volleyball working primarily with the Austin chapter. He spent time back in the 90s with the Brazos Valley chapter in various capacities, including Training and Recruitment. He had also assisted the Assigning Secretary when she was unable to work and he had to do most of the scheduling. The position of assigning is not new to him because he has many years of experience in assigning volleyball matches. He has done large weekend volleyball tournaments. He is very organized when it comes to details. He is currently unemployed and he has the time and commitment to ensure that it is done correctly and timely. He plans to provide positive feedback so that officials can become better. He is not planning to officiate many matches but does plan to step in in an emergency situation when needed. This position fits in with his lifestyle since he is single. Wants to see ACV provide top-level officials. If elected, plans to be very visible to officials, coaches, and the sport of volleyball itself. He does not plan to schedule himself other than necessary. David stated that he could not answer the other two questions for Ronnie.

Craig Smith stated that he is a retired public school official. He was an administrator for 25-30 years. He has scheduled extensively, obviously in a school setting. He built a master schedule, year in and year out and that was one of the main priorities that he had to do. He has a combined 38 years in officiating sports. He is in his 19th year of officiating basketball and in his 19th year in officiating volleyball. He was an assigner for basketball, Varsity and sub-Varsity. He also does extensive scheduling for USAV. A lot of the ACV members officiate for Craig. As Harvey said, he always puts the best officials in the best matches. He believes that you should never set an official up to fail. To be put in a match above your level of experience can be frustrating. This is also a disservice to the kids. As far as scheduling himself, yes, he plans to work. This is mainly because of the numbers. We don't have enough officials. Will try to help officials move up, putting them in matches that they are capable of doing. He believes in pairing new officials with experienced officials. This allows the newer officials to see how things should be done. On matches earlier in the season, can do different pairings, putting a new official as an R1 and let the experienced officials guide them. He has not used Arbiter. He does know how to use the computer and can do scheduling. Due to his background as an administrator, he estimates that figuring out Arbiter should not take more than a couple of weeks. He has no problem with everyone seeing the schedule. He already does this for USAV. "Is everyone going to be happy? No." Keep in mind that you can schedule out but there are always going to be changes.

A member asked, "When you did basketball, what did you use if you did not use Arbiter?" Craig said that, back in the Stone Ages, it was done by paper. He did everything by hand.

Janiece Nelson started with, "Why should you choose a rookie to be your Assigning Secretary?" She feels that she is not a rookie. She has been officiating volleyball from the sidelines, just not wearing the correct uniform, for over 30 years. She has never yelled at officials. She may have given officials "the look" but that was the same look that she gave her kids. She is loyal. She worked for the same school district for 30 years. She never moved. When she went to Hutto, her first goal was to be a college coach. After she started working with the students, she fell in love with it. She stuck with it and didn't choose to move just to get a change.

She has the time to give this position. She retired four years ago. She has no other full-time job and she feels this would be a full-time job. The Austin Chapter has always been the number one choice when she was a coach. She only used this chapter. This position will get her full attention. She is a detail-oriented person. She is an organized person. Hutto went from 2A to 5A. She organized for different schedules, for different sports, for different levels. She had to cooperate with every school. Most of the coaches and officials know her from this area. Many of the trainings were done in Hutto and she worked with David who was the Trainer at that time. Hutto had over 700 athletes and she scheduled them.

She has seen Arbiter from all sides, the coach's and now the official's. She also sat down with Marilyn before deciding to run for this position to see it from Marilyn's side. She wanted to know what the Assigning Secretary's side of Arbiter is. She knows how to work with others. She would work with the board and the trainers. She might put officials in a match that might push their comfort zone a little bit. Being her first year, she knows what that feels like but does not feel that growth can occur without some challenges. She would still schedule herself. She knew that Marilyn worked a lot so she feels that she will be working a lot. One of our problems is on Thursday nights, especially only having one official. Middle school matches do need to be covered. She has no problem with putting out a master schedule but does know that changes can occur.

Charlie Tamez stated that he has introduced many changes to the organization in order to improve it since he has been President. Many of these have come from members' suggestions. He has fully read emails and answered them, many stating how happy they are that changes have occurred. He prides himself on listening to the chapter and answering the questions the best that he can. He mentioned some of the changes he has done: the committees he has created; access to Arbiter to see the schedule; top list of officials requested and now viewable on Arbiter by individual schools; ranking of line judges.

Charlie went on to discuss costs that are paid out to the Assigning Secretary. He stated that he would absorb the costs. This includes the cost of an Assistant Assigning Secretary. If he needs an Assistant, then he would pay for it. He would absorb all of the costs if the members elect him as the next assigner.

Charlie also felt that officials should not have to pay the fee for declining matches. He also said that he would accept less for the

assigning fees, a savings of 35 cents for high-school matches. He would also revisit the assigning fees for middle school matches, especially those that are self-assigned. Charlie did say that he voted for the raise; however, his proposal would be for it to be less. Regarding tournament for lead officials, it would be a percentage of what the Assigner is being paid. Charlie stated that the leads work hard to get everything set up for tournaments.

He would communicate better with officials. He would be the last person to be assigned. The only way he would assign himself would be if there was no one else to take the match. He is familiar with Arbiter and has scheduled for other organizations, such as the collegiate level. He also knows how to contact the Arbiter support so that they can help train him as well.

Charlie ended that, if he is elected as Assigning Secretary, he would choose to resign his position as President. He also believes that no one should hold two seats. He holds no objections to having the master schedule out all year.

A member asked, "Why would you choose to step down from being President?" Charlie said that he had different goals. His first goal was to be an At-Large Rep. Then, he wanted to be President, Assigner, and Trainer. Now that Marilyn is not running, he wanted to see about reaching his goal of being the Assigning Secretary. He felt that now would be a good time to do so.

Another question was what would happen to the President position. Charlie explained the current ByLaws. David also added that we would not have to wait until August to elect a President. The board would meet.

Another member asked if Charlie had other job commitments. Charlie stated that he did not have another job. He is a stay-at-home dad and both of his kids go to daycare.

A member asked about the Assistant Assigning Secretary position. Bob replied that at the moment that position exists in the ByLaws. It depends on whether the Assigning Secretary chooses to use the individual or not. Kevin added that technically the board assigns that position. This is done every year.

At-Large Representative #2

Chez Slayton said that she has been in the chapter for 3-4 years. The At-Large Rep position is to serve as a bridge between the members and the board. She stated that she is a good communicator and she is very organized. She has no problem with addressing any of the concerns that the officials have. She is very dedicated and will make sure that her schedule is clear to attend all of the meetings.

Gary Oncale would appreciate your vote. In the essence of time, he is going to make his speech short. He has held position in various organizations. He thanked everyone.

At the conclusion, ballots were handed out.

Other News:

Continue to Officiate - USAV

David explained about USAV. He said that even though this was a different rule set, it is still volleyball. Just like TASO, you have to join and then take the test. There are single-day tournaments as well as two-day tournaments. The season runs from December 18 through early May. The next clinic is scheduled for December 3 in Buda. Both David and Charlie said they would be glad to speak with any member who had additional questions or wanted to know more about USAV.

Bob Block returned to give the election results.

Election Results

Vice President: Veronica "Roni" Downey

Recording Secretary: David Plaisance

Assigning Secretary: Janiece Nelson

At-Large Representative #2: Chez Slayton

Adjourn:

Kevin Gehrlein motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Denise Neal seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Veronica "Roni" S. Downey
ACV Recording Secretary