



## **From the President**

*Charles Ezigbo*

Well, it's that time of year where the trees start to shed, summer vacations are but a memory, and school busses add even more chaos to the morning commuting madness. All of this can only mean one thing – it's time for indoor club volleyball! As many of us transition our thoughts to scheduling our fall and winter activities, we hope that playing, coaching, officiating, or otherwise just being involved in some capacity in CHRVA/USAV programs are in your plans. Hopefully you will spend the time to read through this newsletter to see what may have changed in any of the regional programs.

To give you a heads-up on the season's biggest undertaking of note, the region will be taking its initial step at consolidating all of CHRVA Junior Regionals into one weekend at one major facility. This year, we are taking the first step in this venture by holding a significant percentage of Girls Regionals at the Washington DC Convention Center. The 34 courts that have been obtained this year will accommodate the Girls 12s, 13s, 14s, 17s, and 18s Club and Open Regionals on April 12 and 13, 2014. The 15s and 16s will be held on April 5 and 6. Next year, we will be able to apply for more courts in order to add the remaining girls' and boys' teams. More information will be distributed to the clubs prior to the start of the season. We are very excited to begin this undertaking since this type of event has proven very successful in a number of other USAV Regions.

Behind the scenes, the Board of Directors has taken another initial step, in which the rewards may not be immediately observable to the public, but is a major step toward creating internal efficiencies in order to be able to provide better overall service to the needs of the CHRVA participants and the programs. A short term, three-year plan, has been outlined that will focus on three major areas for improvement. First, "Governance," The structure of the Board has been identified as an area of possible focus in order to be more nimble so it can keep up with the explosion of the volleyball community. Next is "Technology," Although the Region has very positive feedback about its website, the other "customer-facing" products, such as tournament registration will be targeted for improvement. Finally, the "Officiating" program will receive the focus it deserves in order to get it on the path of regaining the nationwide status of excellence in officiating the Chesapeake Region was once able to claim.

On an ending note, our parent organization, USA Volleyball, continues to work in the background with all the Regions, including our own, in order to continue to improve your overall quality of volleyball. To do this the national office requires that a certain percentage of the registration fees the Regions collect are directed to the central office. This pool of money is used to develop, implement, and maintain the wide variety of services required to grow and

sustain the large number of programs at the National and Regional levels. These programs range from administrative services, technological tools, national team programs, national events, coaching education, background screening, etc. [View a complete list of these services.](#)

Good luck to you all and hope to see you enjoying yourselves in the upcoming 2013-2014 CHRVA/USAV volleyball season!