



**Winter 2011**

**From the President**

Happy New Year!

Now that the holidays are over, we all can devote ourselves 24/7 to our great love, volleyball. So far we are off to a good start. As I write this, about two-thirds of our members have registered, the Adult Program has kicked off with the Fellowships in November and several weeks of tournaments, and the Scorekeeper Chair, Dixie Collins, tells me that she and her staff have processed more than 2000 tests. Last season we experienced record growth for our Region with an increase of 1300+ new members, or almost 24%. When compared with the other 39 regions within USA Volleyball, CHRVA lead the growth in the nation in both percentage and actual numbers. We hope we can surpass those figures this season.

Each season we focus on updating some of the existing procedures and programs and creating new. This season we continue to strive to improve the men's program and grow the boys'. We are trying to define better the three levels for the men, and reducing the number of tournaments, we hope that fewer tournaments will be canceled and teams will be able to plan better. We are also encouraging the boys' teams to play in men's tournaments as their schedules allow. MVP-18 Red played on December 4 and won that Silver/Bronze tournament. I was there and it looked like they had a great time and the men's teams were glad to play against them. If you have a boys team who might like to give it a try, contact the Boys' Program Director, Rob Lewandowski at [rob.lewandowski@chrva.org](mailto:rob.lewandowski@chrva.org).

We've added an outdoor program for Juniors. We have appointed a Program Manager, Sherita Hall. You'll need to stay tuned for the next issue of Digs for more information on the program, the schedule and location of events, and cost.

Everyone has been clamoring to be able to pay for tournaments online with a credit card or Paypal. It seems like it should be an easy thing, but there are many behind the scenes issues that must be resolved before we can get on board with this. Since this is a program that will take time, we are working on it now in hopes that we can unveil it next season.

Another big change that is coming this season is holding the Board election online. Your ballot will be emailed to you. It will include a bio for each candidate and a link where you can log in and vote for the candidates whom you feel will best serve your interests.

Speaking of the election and the candidates, we are looking for candidates to run for the eight open Board positions. Some or all of the incumbents may choose to run for another two-year term of service, but we do our utmost to present more candidates than open slots so that you have

an actual choice. Please see the article below on how to nominate yourself or someone else to run.

This is also the time of year when we start the planning process for the Regional Championships. The Girls', Boys' and Adults Programs all have different entry processes and deadlines. Please check with your division coordinator or program director for more information. Because we have gotten so large, we need lots of volunteers during those weekends. We have added locations and weekends in order to accommodate everyone. If you would like to volunteer to help out by checking in teams, selling t-shirts, directing teams and parents, or even monitoring matches, we can use all the help we can get. If you are interested, please contact me for the Adult Regionals at [julie.briggs@chrva.org](mailto:julie.briggs@chrva.org), Jackie Krampf for the Girls at [jackie.krampf@chrva.org](mailto:jackie.krampf@chrva.org), and/or Rob Lewandowski for the Boys at [rob.lewandowski@chrva.org](mailto:rob.lewandowski@chrva.org). If you would like to help out with any of the in advance work rather than day of work, please contact the CHRVA VP, Eugene Yee at [eugene.yee@chrva.org](mailto:eugene.yee@chrva.org).

I hope that everyone has a happy, healthy, and winning 2011!

Julie Briggs  
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