



## **Digs – Winter 2015 Issue**

### **From the President**

*Charles Ezigbo, CHRVA President*

As we prepare for the New Year, I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season! Additionally, I hope the upcoming volleyball season is one of your most rewarding ones.

The Chesapeake Region is still one of the largest and growing regions in the country and the region administration continues to strive to make its members' experience competitive and fun. We cannot always do it alone, so consider making one of your New Year's resolutions to find an area in the region administration where you can help out. Contact any member of the staff listed on the CHRVA list of contacts if you think your skills are suited for a particular position of your liking. Or, you might consider running for the Board. We are currently in the nomination period. See the article about Nominations & Elections in this issue of Digs.

This year, there are not many changes in the USAV rules. The main one is the solid color jersey rule. It states that either the libero OR the other members of the team have to be in a solid color jersey. Visual examples and further explanation of the rule can be found on the CHRVA website. Junior players must adhere to this rule. However, USAV has granted a one-year only waiver for the adults. Starting in the 2015-2016 season adult players will also be bound to this rule. Additionally in 2015-2016, the team or player's names on the uniform may not contain graphics (only lettering). More on this will be conveyed prior in due time so the rule is well known prior to the start of that season.

This year the Junior regionals will be held at various locations (as in the past) as opposed to the D.C. Convention Center, where it was held last season. It is anticipated that starting in the 2015-2016 season, we will resume that competition at the D.C. Convention Center since the region is entering into a multi-year agreement with that facility. More information will come in a future issue of the Digs.

In the meantime, we hope you have a wonderful season!



## Digs – Winter 2015 Issue

### Commissioner's Corner

*Lisa DiGiacinto, CHRVA Commissioner*

We are all on our way to a successful indoor season.

Online clinics for referees and scorers are ready for everyone to watch. Even if you aren't preparing to be a referee or scorer this season the clinics are a great resource.

Yes, it feels like we just started, but adult teams should start making their plans for the 2015 Adult Open Championships. Adult teams traveling to Detroit, Michigan, for the 2015 USAV Open National Championships need to look for more information in early January. Adult Teams will need to [register online](#) and [send me](#) a copy of the official registration form. The official form and fee is sent directly to the USAV office. Adult teams who do not forward me a copy of the official registration form will not be considered for region reimbursement. Remember, your team code in AES needs to match your team code in Webpoint. Senior/Master teams must [send me](#) a copy of the form and fee they mail directly to USAV in order to be considered for reimbursement from the region.

This season begins the new rules for uniform shirts. If your team is utilizing the libero position then it is very important to purchase uniforms that conform to the new rules.

Good luck to all of our teams this season and may your vertical jump be inches higher and your focus stays on the ball.



## Digs – Winter 2015 Issue

### Call for Board Nominations for the 2015 Election

*Lynette Muller, Nomination and Elections Chairman*

### Let your VOICE be heard!

Now is the opportunity to participate in the selection of your future leaders within CHRVA. We want the best leaders and we need your input to make that happen!

The CHRVA Nominations Committee is seeking nominations for members who are interested in serving on the CHRVA Board of Directors May 2015 to May 2017. Members of the CHRVA Board of Directors are stewards of the Region and responsible for reflecting the views and interests of all of our members. The Board is responsible for the fiscal health of the organization and provides leadership and a common mission and vision.

**The deadline to nominate yourself or someone else is February 28, 2015.** The individual must be a CHRVA member in good standing in order to be nominated.

Each nominee will need to provide a bio including volleyball background, regional activities as a player/coach/official/staff/etc., and a brief description about how the individual would like to utilize his/her skills to help the Board and the Region.

**[Nominations may be sent to me by February 28, 2015.](#)**

Eight individuals will be elected by CHRVA members to the Board when elections are held in April 2015.

Thank you in advance for taking an active role in the nomination process. We hope you will use this opportunity to make your voice heard.



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### From the Registrar: USAV, CHRVA Registration and Membership FAQs

*Barb Cline, CHRVA Registrar*

Q: HOW CAN I UPGRADE MY MEMBERSHIP?

- Log into Webpoint using your Username and Password.
- At the top of the screen you will see TO RENEW ONLINE CLICK HERE.
- Click there and complete the following screens.

Q: HOW DO I PRINT A MEMBERSHIP CARD?

A: Membership cards are only available with a CURRENT membership status (NOT pending or lapsed). Once you log into Webpoint using your Username and Password, on the left-hand side click on MEMBER AREA, and click on PRINT MEMBER CARD.

Q: WHY CAN'T I CHANGE REGIONS?

A: Region changes have to be made **before** you register on line and pay. [Email me](#) and I will help you. Since we don't transfer memberships and monies between Regions, if you pay before you make the Region change, email the Registrar from the other region. Your membership will be canceled in the wrong Region; they will issue any refund based on that Region's policy; they will change your Region to the correct one; and only then you can login and re-register in CHRVA and pay our fees.

Q: WHY CAN'T I MAKE ANY CHANGES TO MY MEMBERSHIP RECORD?

A: Many fields within Webpoint are locked for security purposes after you register. Individuals cannot make changes to: Name, Birth Date, Gender, Region, Club (unless they chose UNDECIDED) when they initially registered. Just [email me](#) with the changes needed and I will make them for you.

Q: I AM AN ADULT MEMBER COACHING FOR A JUNIORS TEAM AND PLAYING ON AN ADULT TEAM. CAN I BE AFFILIATED WITH BOTH CLUBS?

A: You can only be affiliated with ONE club and that must be with the Juniors Club you are coaching for. Once the Adult Team Registration form is submitted to the Registrar, you will be manually added to the correct Adult Team Roster.

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Q: WHAT IS A COLLEGIATE MEMBERSHIP?

A: A Collegiate Membership is for a full-time college student who will be playing on an adult team only (not coaching a Juniors Team). You will need to [email a copy of your college schedule to me](#) before you can be put on an Adult Team Roster (the Registrar is the only person who can add this type of membership to an adult team roster.) If you are a college student and will be coaching for a Juniors Team, you will need the full season membership; or upgrade your Collegiate Membership if you chose this by mistake.

Q: IS THERE A REFUND IF MY DAUGHTER DOESN'T MAKE A TEAM?

A: The \$20 One-Event Memberships are **non-refundable**. The \$50 full season memberships have a partial refund (\$22.50 for the 2014-2015 season). The families should [email me](#) requesting a refund (please include the player's name and reason for refund). This will cancel the current membership and the refund will go back to the credit card used at the time of initial registration.

Q: CAN A JUNIOR PLAYER ALSO BE AN ASSISTANT COACH?

A: Yes. The Junior will still register with a Junior Membership (as they are under 18 yrs old) and pay the \$50 full season fee. They will have to sign the Junior Code of Ethics form, which can be obtained via [the CHRVA website](#) or by [emailing me](#). The form will need to be forwarded to me and then you'll need to complete the IMPACT Training. Club Admins can't add them to team rosters. They will have to ask me to do this. Then if they turn 18 during the season, they will have to request a Background Check to be completed within 30-days of their turning 18. I will email the Club Admins letting them know this must be done.

Q: WHY CAN'T A CLUB SEE A MEMBER IN THEIR DATA-BASE TO ADD THEM TO A TEAM ROSTER?

A: If you can't add someone to your team roster it is one of these reasons. For each of these reasons the family/player needs to [contact me](#) directly:

1. They are registered in another Region and need that changed.
2. They paid \$20 for a one-event membership and did not upgrade to a full season membership.
3. They chose the wrong club affiliation.
4. They entered the wrong birth-date so their record is showing up in the wrong age group.
5. They chose the wrong Gender so are not able to be added.
6. If it is an Adult Player who is also a coach for a Juniors Club; they must be affiliated with the Juniors Club they are coaching for so you won't see them in your data-base of players and I can add them for you.
7. If it is an Adult Player and chose a Collegiate Membership they need to submit their schedule to the Registrar for verification and then will manually add to Team Roster.

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Q: WHY IS A PERSON IS BEING LISTED MORE THAN ONCE ON MY TEAM ROSTER?

A: Usually this is due to the fact that there is more than one certification in the same category (Referee or Scorer). [Contact me](#) if you see this on your team roster.

Q: WHAT HAPPENED TO MY CLUB ADMINISTRATOR'S ACCESS?

A: Club Administrator rights are linked to your membership record and expire at the same time as your membership does. If you re-register prior to October 31 of any year, then your Club Admin rights will continue. However, if you register after October 31 and your membership expires, so do your Club Admin rights. You will have to [email me](#) so I can reactive them in your record.

Q: CAN I MAKE CHANGES TO MY TEAM ROSTER AT A TOURNAMENT?

A: Junior Tournaments – the ONLY thing you can write on a team roster are Jersey Numbers (however, we prefer that you enter jersey numbers into Webpoint). You cannot write in any names for players or coaches. If you want to move any girls between teams (they can play up to a higher age level), please [contact me](#).

Adult Tournaments – yes, you can write in any subs you are using. Include the name of the person, membership number, club/team they are being borrowed from.



## Digs – Winter 2015 Issue

### Adult Program Survey

*Julie Briggs, Adult Program Director*

**[Survey responses are kindly requested by January 7, 2015.](#)**

It is the mission of the Adult Program Committee to provide the best possible playing experience for the adults in CHRVA. Since we don't see or talk to everyone on a regular basis, we have prepared a survey with questions intended for you to evaluate the current program and get your feedback on ideas for the future.

Probably the most common thing that I hear is, "Why do we have that rule?" At the time the Handbook was written, things were very different in the Region. Times have changed. Please take the time (5-10 minutes depending on how much thought you need for some of the questions that might be a bit off the wall) to complete this brief survey.

I promise to post the results on the Adult page of the CHRVA website within two weeks of the survey deadline, as well as publish them in the next issue of Digs.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. Remember that you can only submit one survey per email address on file with CHRVA.

If you would like to be part of a focus group to work on creating new programs within the adult program, please **[contact me](#)**.

Ready? Take the survey now.



## **Digs – Winter 2015 Issue**

### **Juniors News**

*Dado Singer, Director of Junior Programs*

#### **Girls**

We are expecting a very full season. So far 675 teams have registered and we have 236 tournaments planned. Maryland Juniors has added another multi-day tournament to the region, joining the Capitol Hill Classic, which is held over Presidents' Day weekend and MVSA's Capital Festival held in May. The Maryland MLK Challenge is a two-day tournament held over Martin Luther King holiday weekend.

Girls' Regional Championships will be held over the last two weekends of April. The Open Division will be a two-day tournament, while Club will continue to be played on one day.

Mark your calendars now for High Performance tryouts. They are scheduled for May 31 and June 6.

#### **Boys**

Our boys' program continues to grow. Right now we have 37 regional teams and are planning four local tournaments. Still, we recognize that there is a need for more playing opportunities for boys. Consequently, we are continuing the practice of allowing boys on girls' teams and in girls' tournaments. At the ages of 12, 13, and 14, boys are allowed to compete with the girls either on a co-ed basis, or as an all-boys team playing in a girl's tournament. The all-boys teams will only be accepted if the tournament is not filled. Additionally, the boys' team will not displace a girls' team that is willing to play. Coed 12, 13, and 14 & under teams may compete in the Club division of regional championships.

The older boys teams are invited to play in all men's tournaments. If you haven't done so in past seasons, an adult representative must register the team in SportsCommander, the Adult Program online tournament entry system. For instructions on registering with SportsCommander and using the system, the men's tournament schedule, and the contact information for the Men's Tournament Coordinator, [visit the men's page on the CHRVA website](#).

George Mason University hosted a men's collegiate tournament at the VVC in Sterling with two teams each coming from Boston to the Carolinas. Local boys' teams helped work the tournament. This was the first exhibition which we hope will display the game of volleyball to boys in our region, and help us build the sport!

CHRVA boys - Bobby Wilden of NVVA FIRE-17 committed to Penn State, and Will Schwob of Annapolis VBC committed to Grand Canyon.

### **Outdoors**

You may be thinking winter, but we are already planning for the 2015 outdoor season. We will again have Beach High Performance tryouts in May and a stop on the Junior Beach Tour.

Samantha Harris and Shannon Williams were featured in a Washington Post article about their recruitment to play NCAA sand. Samantha will be playing for Stetson University and Shannon for University of South Carolina. Shannon and Samantha placed 3rd at the UUA East Coast Championship, and placed 2nd in the women's open division at the Mayors Cup tournament in Rehoboth. Cameron Rodrigues, 17, partnered with Reid Jackson, won the open division of DC Doubles this fall. Since Cam grew up playing at the DC courts since he was 10, many regulars who witnessed him growing up cheered him on.

CHRVA partner KidsGoneBeach volleyball ran a fall sand training program called "Sunday Sand." We were glad to have cooperative weather, which allowed the program to run through the first week of November. Jordan McKinney who participated in the program traveled to California to play in their collegiate sand showcase "Endless Summer." Jordan and her California partner were moved up from U16 and competed in the event at U18 finishing pool play at 5W-1L. They lost in playoff rounds but caught the attention of coaches by playing up, and performing well! Jordan McKinney and Savannah Siegrist teamed to win the Southern Sands event on November 22. Both were members of the CHRVA Regional HP Beach Team and the Sunday Sand Training program.



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### PVL Update

*Daniel Davidson, Rising Tide General Manager*

Tis the season to play volleyball! With the start of the New Year will come the kick-off of the [Premiere Volleyball League](#) season around the country. (PVL is USA Volleyball's effort to create a professional volleyball league in the United States.) Along with 10-15 other programs, our region's men's and women's teams – the Chesapeake Rising Tide – will hold tryouts and begin playing in exhibition matches as part of preparation for PVL Nationals in May.



### What if I would like to find out more about the Premier Volleyball League or the Rising Tide?

Please visit the main [PVL website](#) or the [Rising Tide webpage](#) (off of the main CHRVA site).

### What if I am interested in watching the Rising Tide play?

The Rising Tide will begin competing in local and regional tournaments in the March – May timeframe, including at a number of CHRVA-sanctioned juniors tournaments and regional adult tournaments like Pop Idell. Other regions who have established PVL teams or who have begun organizing teams include:

- Carolina (W)
- Keystone (M)
- Garden Empire (M,W)
- New England (M,W)
- Iroquois (M)
- Old Dominion (M)

Please do check the Rising Tide webpage for updates to the schedule throughout the year.

### What if I am (or someone I know is) interested in trying out?

Tryouts are open to the public, and will occur in late January or early February. The date is still being finalized, and all details will be posted on the Rising Tide homepage in late December. Tryouts will be one day only, held on the weekend at a facility near Washington, DC. Feel free to contact me if you have any specific questions regarding tryouts.

As always, as the General Manager, I am open to any and all ideas on how to improve the program, including sponsorship/fundraising ideas, locations for exhibition matches, or opportunities for clinics/outreach. So please [send your questions, comments and suggestions to me](#) and don't forget to follow us @RisingTideVB! Go Tide!