



DDC Meeting Minutes

Friday Nov 16th 2018 - 2:30-4:00 pm EST

Attendees: Brian Newman (chair), Dawna Sales, Ed Drakich, Jim Plakas, Kerry MacDonald, James Sneddon (lead staff)

Regrets: Keith Hansen, Monette Boudreau-Carroll, Jonathan Chevrier, Glenn Hoag.

Approval of the Agenda:

No additions. Approved.

Approval of the Previous Minutes:

Previous Minutes were distributed to DDC Members, and approved.

Project Updates:

- Received a grant from Sport Canada to conduct grassroots program research and pilots.
 - Pilot 1: comparison between Atomic and Smashball in school intermural setting
 - Determine which program draws more kids to volleyball
 - Development of a Smashball app or resource included in the pilot
 - Pilot 2: Investigate effectiveness of Elementary Volleyball e-module and Teacher Guide

New Business:

1. Update on DDC process with the Board of Directors

The DDC is an advisory committee. The DDC will plan to have discussions to define a minor and major change, and what percentage of vote should carry.
2. Amended Motion: Change the roster size available for participation in a set from 12 to 14 for age categories with a Libero. **Motion defeated**

The group discussed the proposed motion and accompanying rationale at length. The group agreed that a playing roster of 12 is ideal to provide enough options for coaches to compete in a match, while still providing players on the bench meaningful opportunities for playing time.

3. Request to modify Committee Communication Schedule. **Defeated**
 - a. The OVA is requesting the timelines for rule changes be moved up from December to the June prior to the upcoming season (September). This means Ontario, New Brunswick and Quebec will have 2 months to promote any rule changes and the rest of the country will have 6 months.

The group discussed the request in detail as well as additional feedback from other partners. The DDC is comfortable with the existing communication schedule to ensure a timeframe that provides adequate communication/education to our members and partners. The current timeframe is beneficial for the Officials group and the time required to review new rules and add rules to the printable Rulebook. In addition, the current communication procedure maintains a caveat that VC may move forward with rule changes earlier if all PTA's unanimously agree.

4. Discussion: Allow 19U (Jan-Dec) players to play 18U National Championships provided the following conditions are met:
 - The athlete is not part of any OCAA, OUA, CCAA or USports team for the 2019-20 season
 - There are no more than two (2) 19U athletes on the team roster

The DDC is open to considering an exemption in these cases. The DDC will consider these requests if the PTA allows it. The group noted the need to consider clarity in the Age Category policy document to prevent confusion or communication issues. Adding the exemption process as listed above will create some confusion with the current policy (playing in a post-secondary institution is allowed for some, while not for others).

5. Discussion: Raise the net height to 2.43m for 16U Boys
The group discussed this suggestion and felt for developmental purposes there was no reason to make a change. Implementing a change like this is not being considered at this time.
6. Discussion: Allow 2 Libero's per match (passer and defender) as per international standards
The DDC is not considering this rule change at this point, as the rule change could further specialize the position, and be a detriment to the development of skills.

Next Meeting:

- The next in-person meeting is set for Friday December 14th, 9:00-2:00pm eastern time in Gatineau following the Technical Summit.

Circulation:

- DDC members, VC Board, NCC chair and staff liaison, National Officials Committee chair and staff liaison, posted on the Volleyball Canada website.

Adjourned: