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**Volleyball Canada Board of Directors**  
**Tuesday, 12 October 2021, 20:00 EST**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**Minutes:**

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**In Attendance** :Kevin Boyles; Joanne Mortimore; Boris Tyzuk; Marie Christine Rousseau; Parrish Offer; Cam Wheelan; Sylvie Bigras **Staff:** Mark Eckert

**1. Review and Approval of previous minutes**

Kevin

**Motion: Joanne Mortimore**

**Second: Marie Christine Rousseau 7-0**

**2. Conflict of Interest Declarations**

- no conflicts declared based on agenda and distributed materials

**3. External Relations Update**

- NORCECA Mark
  - U21 Men's Pan Am Cup will be hosted in conjunction with youth Nationals in Edmonton
  - Women's Pan Am Cup to be hosted first week of September, currently, we do not have a host city, intent is to offer it to the losing VNL city.
  - Board Meeting scheduled for mid November
- Sport Canada Mark
  - Last meeting I mentioned all funding programs were on hold, that has changed
    - o COVID Recovery, 70 million, over two years for sport
    - o Application comes out October 18<sup>th</sup> with a December 7<sup>th</sup> deadline, includes reference level funding
  - Community update at the end of the month
    - o SFAF
    - o Status of Governance Report Card
    - o Gender Funding envelope ( Sunsets this fiscal year )
- FIVB Mark
  - Submitted two expressions of interest for VNL
    - o Calgary
    - o Ottawa
  - In person FIVB Board meeting October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>
    - o All other commissions up and running virtually
  - Amount and duration of funding for the women's program being finalized
  - CBC Broadcasting FIV Beach Tour Finals
- COC Mark
  - Launched recovery fund for NSO's – this is similar to the NSF enhancement fund and will focus on Governance – deadline is October 15<sup>th</sup>
  - COC will be announcing a vaccine Mandate for Beijing
  - Announced Lulu as the new clothing Games partner
- OTP Mark
  - Tokyo de-brief will take place Wednesday and Thursday of this week announcing a
  - I am doing a Presentation on Creating a Culture of Excellence
  - November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> our the dates scheduled for HP Reviews





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## Operational Reports

### Men's Program

- Senior Team - All players now with their Pro clubs
  - Head Coach position now posted and advertised. Deadline for applications is October 10.
  - Drawing of lots for 2022 World Championship was held on September 30. Canada in Pool E with Italy-Turkey-China. Top 2 will advance plus 4 third-place teams
- U21 Team - Finished 10th at U21 World Championship (12th in 2019)
- Trinity Western U finished 2nd at Pan Am Cup (represented VC)
- OTP 2024 HP plan due November 9. Review meeting is November 23

### Women's Program

- Senior Team - All players now with their Pro clubs
  - Finished 4th at Pan Am Cup (mix of Senior A team (4) and NextGen players)
  - Drawing of lots for 2022 World Championship pools will be held in November
- U18 team finished 16th at U18 World Championship (14th in 2019)
- HPD will travel to Vancouver October 4-7 to debrief with Head Coach and other stakeholders
- OTP 2028 plan due November 9 (to access NextGen funding for 2022-2023). Review meeting is November 23

### Beach Update

- Melissa Humana-Paredes/Sarah Pavan competed in the 2021 World Tour Finals in Cagliari, Italy October 6-10, 2021. Link to results: <https://en.volleyballworld.com/en/beachvolleyball/worldtour/2021/wita2021/women/results/maindraw>
- Beach league and court rentals at the Downsview VC Beach High Performance Centre (HPC) are operating at full capacity (7 days per week).
- The Beach National Team extensive Quadrennial (2017-2021) debrief process led by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party facilitator (Nora Sheffe) has been completed and the Summary Report will be released this week (Week of October 12<sup>th</sup>).
- Indoor Next Gen training at the Downsview HPC will begin October 12. Players registered for the Itapema, Brazil 4-Star event November 10-14 will continue to train outside at Ashbridges Bay (Weather permitting) for the remainder of October.
- The 2022 Next Gen Carding Selection Camp will take place at the Downsview HPC November 19-21.

### Sitting Update

- Men had selection camp in September and will continue to train monthly in preparation for Zonal and World Championships
- Women's team will return to training post Tokyo November 18-21, 2021
- Quad and IST Debrief in process for Women's Sitting Program
- Zonal Championships dates are to be confirmed but likely in December in Ohio, Columbus
- Women's Own the Podium review is November 22, 2021 – Nicole will be presenting in person
- World Championships in April or May 2022 in China

### Athlete & Coach Pathways

#### Youth National Team Program – 2021

- U18 Women – World Championships 16<sup>th</sup> place

#### National Excellence Program (NEP) – Women

- Athlete Injury – Surgery in BC, athlete returning to Alberta. Will bring in new athlete



#### Coaching Development

- Performance Coach Workshops – ongoing – Beach – December, follow up evaluations
- Dev and Adv Dev workshops to be run in PTAs, VC to provide support and training to LFs

#### Canada Games

- Schedule revisions underway – NO NWT Men's indoor team

#### Club Approval

- Implemented into PTAs Sportlomo platforms

#### Regional Excellence Program (REP)

- North Vancouver/Burnaby/Kootenay/Regina - ongoing

### Referee

#### National Referee Committee

- Focused on bringing alignment to the updated terms of reference
- Developed a succession plan and have started implementation
  - Adjusted the terms of the committee members on to schedules that end on either an even year or an odd year
    - Domestic Development Beach (2022) – Domestic Development Volleyball (2023)
    - High Performance Beach (2022) – High Performance Volleyball (2023)
    - Women's Referee Development (2022) – Nominations and Awards (2023)
  - Staggered approach allows for ongoing continuity amongst the committee even during times of transition
  - The 2022 terms that are not going to be renewed to standing member of the committee have all identified new leaders to take on the role. Transition and succession planning are in progress
- Focus on bringing the equitable balance of members on the committee closer to 50/50 (currently 5 male : 2 female à 2022: 4 male : 3 female)
- 2022 looking to add a new committee member responsible for para volleyball development

#### Strategic Planning

- Restructured program objectives and operational requirements
- Engaged Referee Committee to be more active in the strategic planning process
- Engaged the Referee Committee to be more engaged and responsible for growth in their programs with specific relation to the program objectives, major initiatives and operational initiatives

#### Return to Sport

- All provinces are assessing the retention standards being experienced with the reintroduction of school based volleyball
- It may be an illusion, but the ability to provide resources and cover the requests of stakeholders is being managed across the country
  - This is likely being facilitated by a decrease in competition environments (e.g. restrictions on tournament hosting, restricted league environments, etc.)
- All provinces are slowly looking at ways to increase the referee base in anticipation of greater quantities of volleyball as post-secondary environments recommence and club volleyball starts nears

### National Competitions

- Richmond HS event was held Oct 1 & 2 and was a success. 48 participating teams and approximately \$2000 was raised for the WNT.
- The first Combine pilot will be held Nov 6 with the OVA. This event will welcome approximately 200 athletes. OVA is keen to host numerous events in the coming months
- Starting in 2023 (and possibly 2022) VC will host a 14U – 16U Beach Nationals in Vancouver on an annual basis with VBC. Toronto will continue to host 14U – 19U as well as Senior.



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- Starting discussions regarding COVID match and event protocols for nationals. A statement from VC has been posted on the Nationals website and will be in the Oct Newsletter informing teams that VC will follow & support all regional & facility requirements.
  - Website now lists registration dates and amounts as well as other Nationals details
  - Looking to confirm the 2021 hosting schedule for youth nationals by the end of the year – we are looking at our first 9 day event.

### **International Events**

- Submitted our Expressions of Interest to host VNL in 2022. Candidate cities are Ottawa (Jun 6-12) and Calgary (June 20-26).
  - Submitted a Alberta CIP MCSE grant application for VNL for Calgary
  - Initiated dialogue with ON government re VNL hosting grant support
- Confirmed Men's U21 Pan Am Cup for May 16-24, 2022 in Edmonton (at Nationals)
- Initiated search for host for 2022 Sr Women's Pan Am Cup (Sept 1-12).

### **VRS RFP Project**

- Sportlomo system went live on Sept 1
- As is expected, there were a number of issues and bugs but overall the system startup has gone relatively well.
  - Mostly membership registration so far but more event registrations to come.
  - ... not out of the woods yet...
- Tracking of background checks and SafeSport credentials has been a lot of work but also very valuable
  - Still bugs to be sorted out
- System is rich and complex – however it is also hard to learn and easy to make mistakes.

### **IST**

- Currently completing debrief and reviews for all IST in all NT programs
- Developing a mental health leave policy for NT athletes
- Negotiating a GMTM contract for virtual tryouts in 2022, including PTA access

### **Safe Sport/Gender Equity, Diversity & Inclusion**

#### **Safe Sport:**

- Developing concepts and plans for Safe Sport Videos to increase awareness
- Enforcing Screening Policy requirements for all Committee members
- Working on Injury and Concussion Prevention information for VC's website
- Assisting PTA's with screening implementation and issues resulting from CRC's.

#### **Gender Equity, Diversity & Inclusion:**

- Working with Women and Sport on Gender Equity Playbook. Second session with key staff and volunteers staged. Women and Sport to summarize recommendations and implementation plan for the next session.
- Meeting staged with Chrissy Benz who is working with the Canadian Congress on Inclusive Diversity & Workplace Equity. A new proposal that is better geared to NSO's is being developed.

#### **Communications**

- Worked with staff to create and disseminate VC's messaging on vaccine status at upcoming events and within programs. Monitoring changing national landscape regarding the pandemic and VC messaging.



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- Completed: Supporting the Paralympic Games team from Canada as liaison with CPC.
  - Completed and executed: Video content and messaging for virtual Hall of Fame.
  - Continue to work with all programs, including safe sport and diversity, to support these areas with consistency in messaging and branding. Participated in the Women and Sport meetings.
  - Working with staff on planning for next year. Staff working in updating VC Store and working with partners to promote merchandise.

### **Partnerships:**

- VolleyballStuff
  - Main pieces of agreement have been settled
    - Working on contract for extension
- Mizuno
  - Interested in renewal discussions
  - First right refusal ends October 15
- Bodylogix
  - Working with Sport Science and Comms on plan to move partnership forward
  - Still slow uptake on promotional code sales, which will be key in maintaining partnership

### **Operations**

- Robin Guy departing VC, new job with Canadian Chamber of Commerce. Last day Oct 15. Examining/reviewing short term and long term operational requirements in these areas and organizationally
- National Office lease renewed 5 years from Mar 1 2022

### **8. Next Meetings**

November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021                      via Zoom  
December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021                      via Zoom

### **9. In Camera**

### **10. Adjournment**