

**LEE, JONATHAN "JON LEE"**

Commissioner, ERVA

Vice-President, Regional Operations Division-USA Volleyball

Arbitrator- USA Volleyball

Profession: Attorney since 1976

ERVA background- My wife, Susan and I, were introduced to USVBA aka USA Volleyball by our children all of whom played volleyball with significant amount of success, at either the junior volleyball, college and professional level. Our oldest, Jaimie Lee (Hosfeld) continues to play with the AVP. Katie Lee (Boggs) captained the Ferris High School VB team to the State Championship and our son, Brian, was named All American at the Boy's Junior Championships in 2000.

In approximately 1993, I was invited to serve on the ERVA board by Kevin Twohig, Commissioner. I have served as a volunteer for the ERVA and USA Volleyball since. The only position in which I receive a minor stipend is as an Event Arbitrator. All other service has been voluntary both at the ERVA level and USA Volleyball level.

As the Compliance Officer, I drafted what is now the ERVA due process procedure. I served as the Compliance Officer for the ERVA until 1996, was asked by Kevin to serve out his time as Commissioner upon his election as USA Volleyball's Treasurer. I have been the ERVA commissioner since 1996. I believe Russ Poage became the Assistant Commissioner at about the same time. I could not do what I do without the assistance of Russ Poage and the mentoring and advice of Kevin Twohig and others who have served as volunteers, so faithfully on the ERVA board.

In 1996, I also taught due process seminars to the Regional Operations Division of USA Volleyball. At about that time, all regions were mandated to incorporate due process procedures into their regional By-laws. The ERVA due process procedure was adopted in large part by many of the regions.

Also in 1996, Mr. John Littleman and others sought to establish the Puget Sound Region. At the time, USA Volleyball did not have a procedure or process for redistricting/splitting regions. The ERVA region was asked to review the request and act upon it. My recollection is also that I was elected as the Commissioner in 1997 and believe my opponent was Mr. John Littleman.

What is now the USA Volleyball redistricting policy was in large part drafted by me as a product and experience of the redistricting of the ERVA and Puget Sound Regions.

As the Commissioner of ERVA, I have run unopposed since then. Every year, I have written the Commissioner's Corner for our newsletter. When the region adopted a Webpage and went high tech, we included notice of open positions and qualifications annually both in the newsletter and webpage. We appointed Election Chairs.

The ERVA has been a leader in USA Volleyball. We were instrumental and one of the first to (a) create and adopt its own Due Process Procedure; (b) require Impact Certification for all coaches; (c) identify a need and adopt a back ground screening procedure which has since become mandatory for USA Volleyball for all coaches, chaperones, club directors, etc. who come in contact with juniors. The ERVA is one of only a few regions that also require its Officials to be background checked.

In 2000-2004, I served as the Compliance officer for USA Volleyball. The Questionnaire and Verification of Compliance document and spreadsheet utilized by USA Volleyball was also something, which was introduced by me.

In that same period year, I was elected as a RVA representative (one of 6) to the USA Volleyball Board of Directors. I am in my second four-year term serving in that position.

In approximately 2000, USA Volleyball also began its Event Arbitrator program. I have served as an Arbitrator since its inception and have been instrumental in a number of issues since the program emerged.

Since 2004-present, I have been serving as the Vice President of USA Volleyball's Regional Operations Division, overseeing all 40 regions. I also serve on USA Volleyball's Diversity Commission. As the VP-ROD, I also handle and review regional appeals for due process compliance arising out of the other 39 regions. Again, all voluntary.

In regards to the ERVA, I personally have been involved in the initial stages for numerous junior volleyball clubs, providing club directors the forms and documents [free of charge] for incorporation, etc. Some of these clubs continue to exist and others have faded away.

Likewise, I was personally involved in encouraging USA Volleyball to award the ERVA a host position for one of the 9 Junior Girls' Championship Qualifiers. The ERVA is only one of 4 regions that presently host a Qualifier. Since then, USA Volleyball has converted to a licensing agreement and we have contracted to host the PNQ for several more years. In 2006 the ERVA was authorized to host the Open Division for the PNQ, beginning 2007.

The impetus for hosting a Qualifier is to increase the number of bids and an opportunity for ERVA teams to compete at the Junior National Championships. As a secondary benefit, the ERVA needed a means to increase its income stream to cover the cost of operation of the region. [Up until only a few years ago, the ERVA needed to take out loans to continue the ERVA seasonal operations and keep the doors open 12 months of the year] As part of the means to defray costs to operate the PNQ, the ERVA also purchased some court systems which it now owns and uses, and rents to clubs, colleges and High School Associations to conduct their VB activities. The result is that the region has not needed to borrow funding to operate. A final benefit is that the Spokane Region has received a significant economic impact as a result of the ERVA efforts and the PNQ.

In 2006 I was honored to be awarded the Dr. Neville A. "Doc" Booth Commissioner's Award by USA Volleyball.

I have also assisted with numerous National Team events (both Men and Women) and NCAA Women's Final Four Championships to Spokane.