



Cambridge Boston Volleyball Association, Inc.

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019

Annual Meeting: Saturday, May 18th, 3:30pm at King School

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Commissioner's Report 3
 - Board of Directors (“Board”) Elections and Board Composition
 - 2017-2018 Indoor Season Awards
 - Goals for the 2018-2019 Season
 - Key Changes
 - Key Successes and Highlights
 - Looking Forward
- Executive Board 7
 - Financial Report
 - Communications Report
- Committees 9
 - Indoor Committee
 - Outdoor Committee
 - Ratings Committee
 - Player Development Committee
 - Tournaments Committee
 - Social/Events Committee

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

I. Board of Directors (“Board”) Elections and Board Composition

This year, we maintained the same Board structure from the 2018-2019 season. Elections took place in May 2018, followed by a transition meeting in the same month.

This year's Board consisted of the *Executive Board*:

Commissioner: Brian Chau
Deputy Commissioner: John Santa Maria
Secretary: Chris Moyer
Treasurer: Marcio Correa

The remainder of the Board was composed of:

Indoor Committee Chair: Ben Rubinger
Outdoor Committee Chair: Tim Hanlon
Player Development Committee Chair: Lucia Song
Ratings Committee Chair: Adam Fogel
Tournaments Committee Chair: Tom Hanrahan
Social Committee Chair: Brittany Harvey

To round out representation from all levels of the league, the Board was joined by **AA At-Large Representative**, Chris Thomas, and **D At-Large Representative**, Jon Bourgault.

The Executive Board met on a monthly basis, while the Board of Directors met every other month. Each committee chair was assigned to an Executive Board member, effectively strengthening the interface between the Executive Board and the committee chairs. With the more streamlined structure, we found that this created a comfortable balance for board members' time commitment while still setting up the board to successfully lead the league. Unprecedentedly, we were able to meet the quorum for every board meeting this season.

II. 2017-2018 Indoor Season Awards

The award recipients from the past season were as follows:

Joe Gage Leadership Award: Benjamin Lin
David Hildebrandt Mentor Award: Lucia Song
Marco Ugalde Spirit Award: Marcio Correa
Ally Award: Beth Hughes

Most Improved AA Player: Lucas Di Picoli Garcia
Most Improved A Player: Brian Chau
Most Improved B Player: Will O'Brien
Most Improved C Player: Rudy Munoz
Most Improved D Player: Jon Bourgault

Please join me in congratulating the above award recipients for their contributions to the league and acknowledging our members' growth as volleyball players and athletes!

III. Goals for the 2018-2019 Season

With the foundation built around programming from the previous season, CBVA experienced tremendous growth in membership over the past year. This year, the Board focused its activities around three primary strategic goals/guiding principles:

1. To develop and expand the volunteer base at CBVA.
2. To strengthen community within CBVA.
3. To strengthen outreach to the Greater Boston LGBTQ and sports communities.

IV. Key Changes

Increased Annual Membership Fees

In order to sustain the needs of CBVA and to provide the best possible equipment and experience for members, we made the decision to raise the annual membership fee from \$30 to \$35. The proceeds have contributed toward the purchase of indoor play supplies (e.g. new volleyballs, new antennas, replenished first aid supplies) and social events for our members.

TeamArrange Court Management Tool

Developed and maintained by this year's Indoor Committee Chair, Ben Rubinger, TeamArrange (TA) has become the tool for CBVA's team of court managers to manage indoor play. Inspired by the need to streamline and simplify the court management process, Ben developed this tool to expedite player sign-in, team creation, and payment management. Ben has built in a multitude of useful functionalities into TA, including the ability to import membership status from LeagueApps and player rating from the database, as well as a random team generation function programmed to balance out teams by player ratings.

While Ben will be transitioning from his role as the Indoor Committee Chair in the upcoming season, he has generously agreed to continue to partner with the new Chair and the Board to refine TA.

Membership Growth and Need for Additional Capacity - Saturday Third Session

CBVA has experienced a dramatic increase in its membership base and the demand for indoor play has skyrocketed. Open play, B, and C sessions have experienced repeated "max out" at 54 players on numerous occasions. As a result, court managers have had the unfortunate task of turning away members when at capacity. Given popular demand, a pilot was implemented for a *third* open play session on Saturdays. This was initially much less populated than the first two open play sessions on Saturdays, but has since grown to a comparable size. We hope to continue to be able to offer in 2019-2020.

V. Key Highlights

Growth in Membership

CBVA has become a very popular place to play volleyball! This year, we have seen an unprecedented growth in the membership base. As of May 17, 2019, we have over 340 registered members at CBVA. On several occasions, we hit "max out" capacity of 54 players per session and have piloted a third open play session on Saturday to satisfy growing demand. We have also seen an influx of female players, which has generated discussion around new ideas for play (such as RCO as a potential future format).

Financial Strength

CBVA is currently at a very healthy financial position. We continue to be net positive cash flow on our programming and have been able to grow our available cash. This will allow us to become more creative with programmatic offerings in future seasons, as well as keep up with indoor play maintenance.

Team Arrange (TA)

With the leadership of Ben Rubinger, this year's Indoor Committee Chair, and his committed team of volunteer court managers, we have fully adopted and implemented TA as a court management tool, which has dramatically improved the efficiency of the sign-in and team creation process. This has allowed play to start more promptly on a consistent basis, as well as made the on-boarding of new court managers a much easier task.

Efficiency in Rating Capacity and Timeliness

We have continued to build on the Yankee ratings model that we adopted from the previous season. Under the leadership of Adam Fogel, our Ratings Committee Chair, our panel of dedicated raters were able to successfully meet the demand of requests for ratings this year. This also included a turnaround period of two weeks, which is a remarkable improvement in efficiency and transparency compared to years past.

Popular Tournaments for the Masses

Our Tournaments Chair, Tom Hanrahan, worked diligently with his crew of volunteers to provide the best mix of tournaments possible, given the league's capacity and membership base. Almost every tournament this year was filled completely. We also saw very competitive play at each of these tournaments and this makes us hopeful that our players will continue to grow and develop as volleyball players and athletes through these opportunities to compete.

Growing Demand for Clinics

With the help of coach Nick Bryant, Lucia Song, our Player Development Chair, has managed to populate most of our clinics this season to capacity. Each clinic was very well received and there has been a growing following of players for the clinics offered through CBVA. In addition, this has helped many of our members improve their level of play and we had an increase in participation at our own Boston Beantown Classic (BBC) NAGVA tournament by Boston teams comprised of CBVA members.

Race for the Tiara (RFTT)

This year, we hosted the annual fundraiser, RFTT, in partnership with Victory Programs at the Machine night club. This event was very well-attended and involved numerous talented members of CBVA who performed in drag in order to raise money for our non-profit agency of choice, Victory Programs, this year. We were able to raise a total of \$6,400 that was donated to Victory Programs to support their operations with provision of services to clients who suffer from HIV/AIDS. A number of Board members were able to be present at the check presentation on April 29, 2019 and were given a tour of the site at Victory Programs. Overall, this was a very fruitful collaboration and strengthened our outreach and contributions to our community here in Boston.

VI. Looking Forward

I continue to say that I was fortunate this year to have such a strong and committed Board. The Board has certainly exceeded all of my expectations. Without the help and support of the Executive Board and the Board, our accomplishments this year would not have been possible. I hope you will all join me in congratulating the Board for a job very well done and thank each and every one of your Board members. Until you become involved in the details, it is sometimes difficult to know and appreciate how much work goes into ensuring that CBVA runs as a well-oiled machine. I believe that every Board member does this because they have gained from this league and wanted to give back and as such, it is a true testament to each of them and their characters.

As CBVA continues to grow, we are excited about the opportunities and possibilities that lie ahead of us. With the transition to the new Board, which consists of many Board members who served on the current Board, we are blessed with the continuity and momentum to build upon many of our successes from this season. In addition, we will be joined by several new Board members who have already demonstrated tremendous energy about their new roles come June.

In order to continue to build upon the foundation that we have established, it is critical that each and every one of you consider how you can contribute and give back to this community at CBVA. Ask your friends, inquire with board members; the key to this league's success is you and without your involvement, this league will not run for a day.

I hope you will all consider ways in which you can become more involved in the upcoming season and help to strengthen our community here at CBVA.

Cheers,
Brian

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Financial Report – Marcio Correa, Treasurer

As of May 13, 2019, CBVA currently has an operating income of \$12,489. It should be noted this number assumes that indoor sessions for the final two weekends of the year will be considered 100% profit as the gym rental has been accounted for on an accrual basis. As such, the total operating income for FY19 ending on May 31, 2018 is projected to be approximately \$13,400.

CBVA Income Statement (in \$)	Fiscal Year Ends May 31	
	2018	2019
Revenue		
Membership Fees	7,071	11,237
Profit / (Loss) from Indoor Play	4,745	9604
Profit / (Loss) from Outdoor Play	271	293
Profit / (Loss) from Clinics	1,556	2,413
Profit / (Loss) from Tournaments	2,148	697
Profit / (Loss) from Indoor Summer League	0	175
Donations/Miscellaneous Revenue	530	0
Total Revenue	16,321	24,419
Expenses		
Play-Related Expenses	(1,370)	(1,410)
Administrative & General Expenses	(4,328)	(5,210)
Social Events Expenses	(2,920)	(5,060)
Donations Expenses	(250)	(250)
Total Expenses	(8,868)	(11,930)
Operating Income / (Loss)	7,453	12,489
Net Income / (Loss)	7,453	13,400¹

¹ Projected Net Income at end of FY2019.

Boston Beantown Classic (BBC) Tournament

During the current fiscal year, we have worked on the reconciliation of BBC funds, which now reside in a separate bank account (and not in CBVA's operating account).

Race for the Tiara (RFTT)

RFTT net income/loss has not been reported in the income statement above, but CBVA was able to raise and donate a net amount of \$6,400 to Victory Programs.

Communications Report – Chris Moyer, Secretary

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

This year, we set the goal to publish a CBVA newsletter every other month as a tool to share information within CBVA and strengthen our community. This was somewhat successful in the first half of the year where we were able to release 3 newsletters in 6 months. However, we were only able to release 2 in the second half of the year. The main strategy around newsletters was to reach out to members to write articles for the newsletter, rather than relying on the secretary alone to create all of the content. It became challenging in the latter half of the year due to time management and competing priorities for the secretary. This can be addressed by continuously work on the newsletters throughout the months, rather than work on them and compile all content in one or two days. However, the overall feedback for the newsletters has been positive.

Promotional League Video

We also set the goal of developing a new video that captured important aspects of CBVA, as well as explained the different levels of play. Unfortunately, our efforts were mostly unsuccessful. We attempted to reach out to a few members; there was expressed interest, but minimal commitment and follow through. At the end of the year, however, a student from Emerson College reached out to the league to film a documentary for a college class. He has agreed to return to obtain more footage, as well as edit his current footage into a video that would suit the purposes for this promotional video. This will have to wait until the fall when he is back in the city for school, but will continue to be a priority moving forward.

Website Maintenance

There is currently no webmaster for the website. It has historically been incorporated into the secretary's role, but Marcio has also helped maintain the website as he had built the initial iteration. The board will make a determination as to how the website will be maintained and updated beginning in the next season.

COMMITTEES

Indoor Committee – Ben Rubinger, Indoor Chair

The 2018-2019 indoor season was very successful. We focused primarily on improving the logistical efficiency of our indoor sessions, specifically around the court management process.

Ben prepared for this with the creation of TeamArrange (TA), several months before the season started.

TeamArrange (TA)

After a few pilots, TA was implemented for this year's indoor season. At first, the results were mixed; court managers often opted to fall back to paper and pencil. Fortunately, TA eventually gained traction and we have seen its full adoption and implementation by the end of the season. TA has provided us with several advantages, such as:

- enabled more transparency in the creation of teams with respect to play level and balance.
- simplified the process and made it less intimidating to new volunteers.
- allowed for greater efficiency and as a result, prompter session start times.

There have been some additional improvements made to TA throughout the course of the year. Initially, there was no integration with our membership data. The responsibility then fell onto court managers to ask players if he/she was a member and to manually update that information in TA. This placed an extra burden on court managers and players were occasionally dishonest or mistaken. This data is now linked and automatically pulled from our LeagueApps data, as well as subsequently displayed in TA. This had the unintended consequence of generating additional revenue in cases where players were mistaken or intentionally misleading us regarding their membership status.

Later in the season, Ben added another feature to boost efficiency dramatically: the ability to display teams on a tablet. Prior to this, court managers used paper to transcribe finalized teams for display. This feature is estimated to save an additional 3-5 minutes from the court management process prior to play.

Moreover, these improvements could not have come at a better time. Our indoor sessions have been fuller than ever before. We went through a period where we had to turn away players on Saturday open play sessions. It can feel very chaotic for court managers and this new process has become essential to being able to effectively serve our membership.

Other Wins

The improved efficiency of indoor sessions has resulted in an unexpected expansion of our membership base. Due to such significant demand, we decided to pilot a third Saturday open play session, which has been increasingly well-attended as the season comes to a close. We plan to continue to offer this in the upcoming indoor season.

One consistent and remaining challenge is ensuring that we have enough court managers and the addition of a third Saturday open play session has exacerbated this issue. Ben intends to continue to explore how efficiency can be improved around court management.

On another note, we have lost a significant amount of volleyballs over the course of this season (approximately 15). Some remain stuck in rafters while others have theorized that theft had a hand.

There has been some focus on repopulating D session. At its lowest, D session had fewer than 20 players this season. Through some strategic initiatives, we are excited to report we have seen some success in bringing in new players and are now consistently seeing upwards of 30 players in our D sessions.

Recommendations

The current laptop is old and outdated. Given our increase use of technology, it is recommended that CBVA invest in additional electronic equipment (e.g. tablet).

Another area of needed focus is on maintenance of our equipment. We learned later in the season about some of the emerging challenges with our net system. While the system remains functional, some of the protective pads are not staying in place and there appears to be issues with some screws not staying in place. We will work to address this issue for the upcoming indoor season.

As the indoor chair, I am proud and honored to have been able to serve the league as a board member this year and to have been able to successfully make improvements that will remain beneficial for the years to come.

Outdoor Committee – Tim Hanlon, Outdoor Chair

Outdoor play in 2018 showed an average player participation of about 24-48 players. With respect to attendance, Sundays were the most popular day of the week. Summer play remains free for members that pay their annual CBVA membership fee. A summer-only membership continued to be available to new members for the summer season at \$15.

At the conclusion of the 2018 outdoor season, the equipment remained in good condition. Therefore, no replacements will be needed for the 2019 season. The grass locker proved invaluable in providing a place for convenient storage. We have been fortunate to have several volunteers on the outdoor committee who have the code and access to the lockbox and can operate outdoor play, which has lightened the load for the Chair. Lawn care remains a concern. The committee will continue to work to address this issue.

Recommendations

As with seasons past, we would like to focus on improving attendance and participation in outdoor play. We plan on implementing strategies to increase our exposure to other LGBTQ sports leagues and continue to market the ability to play more competitively (e.g. quads, doubles).

Ratings Committee – Adam Fogel, Ratings Chair

This year's ratings were conducted in the same manner as they were in the previous season by a panel of raters from all levels of play. The raters were:

- AA:** Pete Biencourt, Tom Klemas, Chi Yin Li, Hayden Smith
- A:** Paul Le, Qiao Liu, John Santa Maria
- B:** Victor Alexio, Peter Boskey, Ying Kai Chan, Will O'Brien, Dietrich Warner
- C:** Lucia Song, Jesse Tarantino, Kyle Vernest
- D:** Jon Bourgault

We continued to use the committee-based, rolling ratings system that Yankee uses, where players are ranked relative to other players at a given ranking. This ensured that ratings were assigned in due time (usually within a two-week turnaround) and helped to sort new players to the appropriate level more efficiently. This season, the frequency of ratings decisions declined as the season progressed. This was an appropriate trend, as it reflected the requirement for an influx of new ratings at the beginning of the indoor season, which eventually tapered off as ratings were issued.

This season, the panel of raters completed a total of **98** ratings to our members (this number is inclusive of several players who were rated multiple times during the season and several players who were CBVA "regulars" who lacked a formal rating). This was accomplished by working with the Indoor Committee Chair to "marry" indoor membership (through TA) with the ratings database hosted online and posted to the CBVA website.

We also worked toward improved transparency in the ratings process by:

- notifying players who requested an uprate regardless of the outcome.
- detailing the ratings process in our monthly newsletter.
- working with the general membership to generate ideas for ratings movements.

Recommendations

Moving forward, we propose the implementation of several policies to keep the ratings procedure running smoothly and to help balance the level of play. This may include a limit on the number of rerate requests per season and a "cooling-off period" in between ratings requests. We would also recommend a revision of the ratings guidelines for each session as recent commentary from the membership seems to indicate that C session has become weaker than it had been in years past. With the advent of the new indoor season as the current one ends, we will work on the distribution of a summary information sheet on how the ratings process works in order to better inform our membership

Player Development Committee – Lucia Song, Player Development Chair

Mentorship Program

This year, we continued our Mentorship Program, though we simplified and listed on the website a few members from each session of play who were willing to mentor others. Interested CBVA members could contact the Player Development Chair for the contact information of a mentor so that they can reach out to the mentor themselves. Only a few members this year reached out to ask for the contact information of available mentors. As discussed in our final board meeting, it seems that organic mentorships are often the most effective. It is likely that the Mentorship Program would be thus discontinued.

Clinics

All clinics this year were coached by Nick Bryant. We held them on Sundays from 12:00pm to 2:00pm in the third court at the King School. The feedback for the clinics was overall positive and attendance was high, with several clinics reaching the maximum capacity (18). Most attendees were at the CBVA B and C level. A few attendees were from D/recreational session.

During Fall 2018, we had a total of 10 clinics: 5 of them were on fundamentals and geared toward beginners and 5 were catered to intermediate players. We alternated the beginner-level and intermediate-level clinics on a biweekly basis so that players could go to both if they preferred. In the end, however, many players interested in improvement attended both the fundamental and the intermediate clinics. Here is a list of clinic topics and number of attendees for the fall, based on signups:

Clinic Topic	Attendees
Serve & Serve Receive 1	18
Serve & Serve Receive 2	12
Setting & Hitting 1	18
Setting & Hitting 2	15
Hitting & Blocking 1	10
Hitting & Blocking 2	14
Hitting & Defense 1	10
Hitting & Defense 2	11
Rotations, Team Strategy, & Skills Review 1	14
Rotations, Team Strategy, & Skills Review 2	15

For Spring 2019, we changed up the clinic format to follow a series of clinics outlined by Nick Bryant that were intended to build upon the series. Initially, we held clinics every other week (to allow the AA/A session to use the third court every other week). However, in the end, we had to duplicate certain clinics because they were so popular (and AA/A session did not need to use the third court often, if at all):

Clinic Topic	Attendees
Serve Receive & Serving	18
Setting	17
Hitting	21*
Hitting**	18
Digging	14
Hitting, Siding Out, & Blocking	17
Hitting, Siding Out, & Blocking**	14
Hitting in Transition	16
Hitting in Transition**	18
Speeding Up & Running an Offense	16
Speeding Up & Running an Offense**	11
Rotations & Team Play	18
Rotations & Team Play**	2***

- * Due to a clerical error, we had 21 attendees during this hitting clinic even though the cap was at 18.
- ** This clinic was a duplicate of the preceding clinic because the preceding clinic registration filled up too quickly.
- *** This number is based off of sign-ups as of 5/9/2019 and is expected to increase.

We charged \$15 per clinic and allowed for payment either online via our LeagueApps site or in person with cash. We also offered discounted 5-packs for \$50 (\$10 per clinic).

Clinic Cost Breakdown (as of May 9, 2019)

5-Packs Sold: $\$50 \times 41 = \$2,015$ (includes a partial refund of \$35 to one member)
Clinic Attendance Fees Collected (Cash & Online, Excluding 5-Packs): **\$2,445**
Clinic Costs (Coaching Fees, excluding Gym Rental): $23 \times \$50 + \100 (gift card) = **(\$1,250)**

Net Cash Flow: \$3,210 (excluding Gym Rental, hence different from income statement)

Recommendations

As described in the Mentorship Program section, we may want to dissolve the formal Mentorship Program, as it seems that the more organic mentor/mentee pairs are more effective.

For clinics, we should look into booking the gym for 10:00am to 12:00pm on Sundays to allow AA/A the full gym space. There were a few times during this past season when the sessions maxed out and were unable to use the third court due to the clinic. Due to the increase in tournaments in the spring season, we can likely continue to run weekly clinics during the AA/A session on the third court, as there was not very much demand for the third court space in the latter half of the season.

Another possible idea is to run small "friendship tournaments" on the third court during AA/A session in the spring where lower level players (i.e. C/D, maybe B) can form teams and compete. The higher level players can volunteer as coaches for each team. An additional idea is to have team coaching sessions or clinics aimed at helping a team grow together.

Tournaments Committee – Tom Hanrahan, Tournaments Chair

This season, CBVA hosted two outdoor tournaments and four indoor tournaments:

Outdoor

- Death Drop Doubles Tournament (Outdoor)
- Death Drop Quads Tournament (Outdoor)

Indoor

- Halloween Scramble
- Jingle Ball
- Valentine's
- Green Bean.

Our outdoor tournaments lost a few participants due to a rain-out on the original date, but fortunately we were still able run the tournament with twelve teams between the two divisions.

The Halloween Scramble was open to all levels and we successfully filled the tournament with 54 players, all of whom were CBVA members. We were able to utilize our new TA software to create even teams based on player ratings.

The Christmas Tournament was tailored towards our C and D level players, with a ratings cap in place for each team. The tournament was also filled with nine teams, all of whom were CBVA members.

The Valentine's Tournament was held in February and was tailored towards AA/A/B rated players, with a team roster restriction on C and D level players. Seven teams participated in this tournament, all of whom were CBVA members.

Our final indoor tournament for the year was our Green Bean Tournament. We evaluated our tournament participation statistics for the year and decided to remove the cap on B level players. This two-day tournament was filled with nine teams, of which two were from NYC. Due to permit restrictions, day one of the tournament was held at the King Open School in Cambridge, MA. The tournament was run similar in format to that of a NAGVA tournament and afforded participants a chance to learn more about their options for traveling tournaments. We also held social (formal and informal) events throughout the weekend at both Cathedral Station and Club Cafe. A majority of players were able to attend the events and it helped to strengthen the sense of community between both organizations.

All tournaments ran at least at breakeven and were able to generate additional revenue for CBVA, as well as introduce some new members to the league. The committee made every effort to tailor tournament styles and level of play to accommodate all members.

This year, the committee decided to implement gift card prizes for all tournaments with the exception of the Green Bean Tournament, which provided medals and trophies similar to a NAGVA tournament. In addition, the Halloween Scramble and Jingle Ball Tournament had a budget that allowed the committee to provide lunch for participants. In terms of other expenses, the committee also provided T-Shirts for all participants in the Green Bean tournament this year.

There are already a number of ideas being formulated for future tournaments. We will be hosting a Provincetown Scramble on August 10th, bringing the tradition back after we were unable to solidify the resources last summer. Looking ahead to indoor, the goal is to host 4-5 tournaments once again, to accommodate all levels of play. We will place an emphasis on an additional scramble style tournament.

Recommendations

The demand for tournaments are constantly in flux. As a result, it can be difficult to determine the correct level cap or ratings requirements. We will look to improve in this area, as well as think through some additional ideas and formats (e.g. RCO).

Please note that financial documents for tournaments have not been included, but can be provided if requested.

Social/Events Report – Board of Directors

This season, the social committee was not staffed until mid-season when Brittany Harvey was on boarded. However, due to a personal move, Brittany was no longer able to take on the social committee upon the conclusion of the Race for the Tiara (RFTT) fundraiser. The social committee was tasked with the responsibility of organizing and hosting the following events this year:

- End-of-Year BBQ
- Welcome Back Party
- Holigay Party
- Race for the Tiara (RFTT)
- CBVA Mixer

End-of-Year BBQ

Ben Rubinger spearheaded this event with assistance from our member, Saudy Hernandez. The end of the 2017-2018 season was marked by this BBQ held at the Danehy Park in Cambridge, MA. Food and drinks were provided within a budget of \$170. We were able to set up outdoor nets in order to allow members to make teams and play. There was also a thank you announcement for the conclusion of the season and award recipients were presented with their awards and gift cards (cumulative value of \$130).

Welcome Back Party

CBVA hosted a welcome back party to celebrate the first day of the indoor season for 2018-2019. We extended the hours to account for lunch and announcements with a budget of \$300.

Holigay Party

On December 8, 2018, CBVA hosted our annual holiday party at the Cathedral Station in the South End. The initial budget allotted for this event was \$2,000, but we only spent \$1,750. Prizes were given to members who won the challenge for Best Dressed. Food was provided in the form of appetizers, entrées, and dessert. The overall feedback for this event was incredibly positive and members who attended reported enjoying the party. We estimate that over 70 people attended this party.

Race for the Tiara (RFTT)

This year's annual RFTT took place on March 2, 2019 at the Machine night club. This year's event matched last year's event in popularity, the number of attendees, and the amount of money raised. The recipient of our donation was Victory Programs, which provides services, food, and other forms of assistance to individuals living with HIV. This year, our show's host was Miss Monica (Rick Doyon), who introduced our performers. This event ran incredibly well this year because of the number of volunteers we had. We would like to thank the following people:

Performers: Tim Hanlon, David Cummings, Timmy Xaykosy, Rick Doyon, Tim Dreher, Majenta, and an add-on surprise drag guest.

Event Volunteers: Brittany Harvey, John Santa Maria, David Cummings, Rick Doyon, Tim Dreher, Marcio Correa, Lucia Song, Chris Moyer, Scott Dunkley, Beth Hughes, Anni Abbruzzese, and volunteers from Victory Programs and 3 sister.

Judges: Neal Weinmann (Erma), Mark Davino (Victory Programs), Leonardo Donnie, Majenta.

CBVA was able to raise a total of \$8,532. After venue, prizes, and other expenses were accounted for, we were able to donate \$6,889 toward Victory Programs's operations. Though we increased the amount of money raised from last year, our expenses were also higher, so the net donation was slightly smaller than last year's amount of \$7200.

With 116 pre-sale tickets sold and remaining sales at the door, the venue was filled. Additional income included raffles sales and tips given by the crowd towards their favorite performers.

CBVA Mixer

In an effort to boost attendance for D session and repopulate our recreational level of play, the board implemented a CBVA "Bring a Friend" initiative where we set a goal of 30 guest sign-ins for D session in the month of January. If the goal were met, then CBVA would be able to sponsor a mixer with free appetizers.

Fortunately, the collective efforts of our members were able to hit our goal. We were able to offer a mixer for our members at 730 Tavern in Central Square on March 30th, which was very well attended. With a budget of \$600, it afforded members from different levels an opportunity to mingle and socialize and the collective feedback for the initiative and the event was positive.

Recommendations

RFTT is an enormous event that requires significant planning and coordination. We would recommend that the Social/Events Chair team up with members to ensure that planning starts as early as possible. In addition, the Machine night club will no longer be available as a venue for 2020, so advanced planning will be especially critical.