



G  **OTHAM**
V O L L E Y B A L L
• EST. 1981 •



ANNUAL REPORT
2021



The mission of Gotham Volleyball is to improve the quality of life for LGBTQIA+ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL

Dear members of our Gotham Volleyball Community,

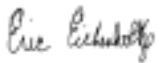
We are presenting our 2021 Annual Report to you at the conclusion of a unique and challenging year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were unable, for the first time in our community's existence, to hold any volleyball activities for the entire year. It was simply not safe to do so, and the health of our community came first.

However, not even a global pandemic prevented Gotham Volleyball from fulfilling its mission of building community through the sport of volleyball. We gathered for monthly Zoom events. Each week, the Gotham Volleyball newsletter kept us connected with Gotham as a league and as a community. We mourned members who passed away, highlighted other members of Gotham, shared recipes and learned more about Gotham's history. Our social media marked some of the most transformative moments during the past year. We showed our solidarity with the Black community and Black Lives Matter following the murder of George Floyd. We highlighted Gotham members going to the polls during the historic 2020 election with our #GothamVotes2020. We checked in with members during the holiday season. We're celebrating and honoring the 40th Anniversary of Gotham Volleyball. All of these things kept our community going and allowed us to support each other during an unprecedented, challenging time.

While we reflect on the challenges of the past year, we are also looking forward to kicking off a new year for Gotham that we expect to be filled with restoration and new beginnings. We are going to be resuming volleyball activities in the coming weeks. We are collaborating with the LGBTQ+ Center on an event honoring our 40th Anniversary and celebrating Pride in June.

I look forward to seeing you all back on the court in the next few months! I'm excited lead our organization and community through its emergence from the COVID-19 pandemic into our new, and better, normal.

Respectfully,



Eric Eichenholtz
President, Gotham Volleyball League

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LEADERSHIP





2020-2021 Gotham Volleyball Leadership

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Eric Eichenholtz

Secretary

Kyle Williams

Treasurer

Andre Carneiro

Vice President for Division Play

Patrick So

Vice President for Training

Zack Vojt

Vice President for Activities and Outreach

Max Szadek

Vice President for Tournaments and Open Play

Joe Hemsing

Directors

Johnny Cordero

Mike Hess

Joe Mignano

Joey Osio

Amy Santiago

Past President

Josh Christensen

Lew Smith

Clovis Thorn

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair, Communications Committee

Kyle Williams

Members

Max Szadek

Joey Osio

Erik Johnson

Jonathan Cordero

Gregory Rubin

Jonathan Garcia

Brady Ginn

David Whitman

Liban Gomez

Jarred Johnson

Walton Nunez

Marc Christensen

Douglas Morris

Devin Daily

George Fowler-Brady

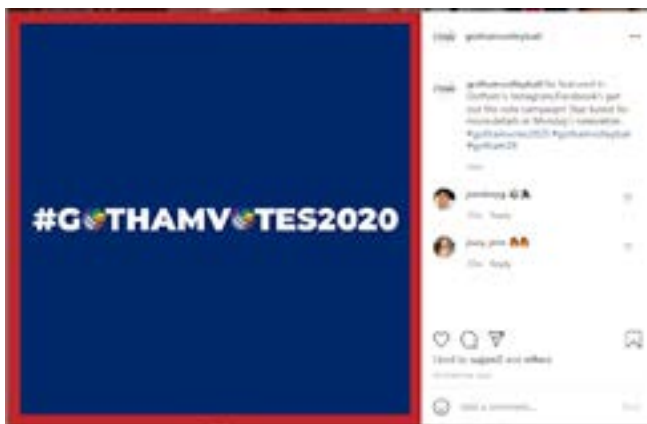
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Contributed by Kyle Williams, Chair of Communications

Throughout the 2020-21 year, the Communications Committee worked non-stop to keep the membership informed and engaged despite a lack of on-court volleyball activities. One of the main vehicles that was used to accomplish this was the consistent publication of Gotham's Weekly Newsletter. The group worked hard to source fresh content week over week in a time when no volleyball was played. In addition to recapping the monthly zoom events that the A&O LG held, the group made a concerted effort to highlight members through Membership spotlights associated with Women's History Month, AAPI Heritage Month, as well as highlighting LGBTQIA+ Black Athletes during Black History Month.

In addition, the team really focused on pushing out social media content that was focused on highlighting the Membership and the overall spirit of Gotham vs. using social media solely to disseminate information. Highlights of this shift in focus included the GothamVotes Campaign leading up to the November Election, the Volleydays Campaign in December, the Campaign highlighting Members of Gotham Leadership in April, and Campaigns highlighting Black History & Women's History Month. The group also worked to create and leverage fun Gotham related graphics to celebrate key holidays and milestones throughout the year. The group was also instrumental in creating content showing Gotham's support of important macro issues such as BLM, Violence against Trans Members of our community and #stopasianhate.

After such a major year, I just want to take a second to thank all of the members of the Committee for their contributions over the year. Gotham wouldn't have been the same without you. Looking forward to much more great content to come!



Gotham Social Media Recap

DIVISION PLAY



DIVISION PLAY LEADERSHIP GROUP

Vice President for Division Play
Patrick So

Division 1 Representative
Douglas Christian

Division 2 Representative
Ron Medina

Division 3 Representative
Royce Bugarin

Division 4 Representative
Ramone Nazario

Division 5 Representative
Eric Ma

Division 6 Representative
Brady Ginn

Division 7 Representative
John Cafarelli

Division 8 Representative
Anthony Fontanello

Division 9 Representative
Patrick Callahan

Division 10 Representative
Michael Wei

Division 11 Representative
Kevin Park

TRAINING



TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP

Vice President for Training

Zack Vojt

Power Director

Leah Hughey

Power A Representative

Kyle McCormick

Power B Representative

Matt Keller

Power C Representative

Donna Kong

Power D Representative

Andrew Dowdye

Power E Representative

Andy Hall

PowerPlay Representative

Alex Deng

Power W Representative

Sonia Parada

Team Power A Representative

Alisa Jaganjac

Team Power BB Representative

Clif Wallace

Team Power B1 Representative

Abishek SM

Team Power B2 Representative

Ricardo Matsumoto

ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH



ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH LEADERSHIP GROUP

Vice President for Activities and Outreach

Max Szadek

Members

Juan Arevalo

Jason Calomadre

Andrew Dowdye

Michael Dreimiller

Xie He

Erik Johnson

Keith Kemery

Brian Mateo

Douglas Morris

Keith Meyers

Stuart Ramgolam

Bleron Samarxhiu

ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH LEADERSHIP GROUP

Contributed by Max Szadek, Vice President of Activities and Outreach

The Activities and Outreach leadership group had a busy year! The Leadership Group worked hard to plan events to keep us united as a community during a very challenging year.

June 2020

On Saturday, June 27, 2020, Gotham hosted a Pride Zoom program featuring Gotham Secretary Kyle Williams moderated a Black Lives Matter panel discussion with Brian Mateo, Leah Hughey, and JT Tindall. Liban Gomez created a slideshow spotlighting his Gotham Pride March Memories from 2011-2019. Vice President of Tournaments & Open Play Joe Hemsing and Gotham Historian Josh Christensen hosted a Gotham Trivia Game. JT Tindall honored the memories of former members lost to COVID-19, Vinny Argiro, Eric Hector Reyes & Olan Montgomery, with a performance of J.S. Bach: Partita in A Minor for solo flute, Sarabande.
July 2020

On Saturday, July 23, 2020, Gotham hosted a Trans & Allies Zoom program with Onri Noel, Sid He, Keith Myers, Max Szadek, and Michael Dreimiller. Other highlights included Collage Artist Tom Cocotos's virtual studio tour, Former Commissioner Angel Martin's 'The History of Gotham's Communications' film shorts, and Evan Presto's one-of-a-kind balloon sculptures.

August 2020

On Saturday, August 22, 2021, Gotham presented a virtual Sangria Showdown program hosted by Charity Kase and Asheeta Paypa with guest "Lit Crew", Michael Dreimiller. This fun-filled event featured five original Sangria Recipes including Joey Skladany ('Pinot Grigi-OMG Yes!' Sangria) from his new book, 'Basic Bitchen: 100+ Everyday Recipes', Serena Paredes ('The Bronx Tale' Sangria), GYM Bar's Michael Vargas ('Impossible To F@ck Up Peach' Sangria), Seveda Williams ('Frozen Halle Berry' Sangria) and Arthur Espino ('Special Surprise' Sangria). Highlights included a Live Musical Performance by Jorge Altamirano, a Gotham Team Caricatures Art Presentation by Brady Ginn, and a Special Appearance by GYM Bar owner Erich Courage.

September 2020

On Saturday, September 26, 2020, Gotham's COVID & Our Community Zoom program featured Juan Arevalo, Gotham President Eric Eichenholtz, Lloyd Fider LCSW from Blue Harbor Psychotherapy, Scott Percelay LCSW from Citron Hennessey Therapy, Eric De Guzman, Dave Whitman from Trevor Project, and Bradley Schleyer. Gotham member and owner of Wild Angel Treats Joe Patrick treated viewers to a cake frosting demonstration during the presentation.

November 2020

On Saturday, November 7, 2020, Gotham's 'Home Life' Zoom event featured a New York City Real Estate Market Analysis (Sales and Rentals) with Licensed Real Estate Salesperson with Triplemint Erik Heitz and Associate Real Estate Broker with Compass Brad Malow. Interior Designer and owner of Francis Interiors shared home design solutions. Certified Sleep Science Coach and Back-To-Sleep owner Susan D'Addario offered tips to help get a good night's sleep. Our event also included a Preventing Sexual Harassment discussion with Joe Mignano and Gotham President Eric Eichenholtz. Moderators: Keith Kemery and Vice President of Activities and Outreach, Max Szadek.

ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH LEADERSHIP GROUP

Contributed by Max Szadek, Vice President of Activities and Outreach

December 2020

On Saturday, December 5, 2021, Gotham hosted a World AIDS Day Celebration on zoom featuring Gay Men's Health Crisis Community Relations Director Krishna Stone, Richard Dworkin, and Callen-Lorde's Community Health Center's Senior Director of Development and Communications Donnie Roberts, and Leah Hughey, a 5=10 Fashion Show featuring Mijon Zulu, Kevin Melia, Eric Eichenholtz, Stephan MacGehre, Patrick So, John Wetsell and Kevin Melia, and Doug Morris, and a LEGO Display and Ornament Demonstration with Keith Kemery.

January 2021

On Saturday, January 23, 2021, in celebration of Gotham's 40th Anniversary, we hosted a special Commissioners & Presidents Roundtable on Zoom featuring Lew Smith, Trevor Cano, Seth Eichenholtz, Frank Santoro, Clovis Thorn, and Peter Gorobetz, moderated by Gotham Secretary, Kyle Williams. We also spotlighted Henry Mui's Flaming Tigers team dynasty with a surprise tribute from teammates, coaches, and friends.

February 2021

On Saturday, February 13, Gotham's Commissioners & Presidents Roundtable, Part 2 on Zoom featured Angel Martin, Don Murray, Alan Amechazurra, Waseem Akhtar, Heriberto Estrada, and Josh Christensen, moderated by Gotham's Treasurer Andre Carneiro. Gotham member Will Varner for BuzzFeed with legendary Comic Artist, Illustrator Rick Parker.

March 2021

On Saturday, March 18, 2021, Gotham hosted a Power Program Retrospective on zoom. Power Director Leah Hughey joined the discussion with Vice President for Training Zack Vojt, former Power Technical Director Jeff Lipton, Power Coaches Juan Heribero Estrada, John Sullivan, Eric Lodde, Bobby Miller, Jeff Bagares, and former and present Power Representatives Patrick So, Clifton Wallace, Sonia Parada, Andrew Dowdye, and Donna Kong. Plus, we shined our spotlight on Vice President for Division Play, Patrick So and the members of Team Power's Manchouette, including John Pisciotta, Vinh Truong, Kevan Miller, Takuya (Tai) Oka, Clifton (Clif) Wallace, Jeff Knafelc, and John Wetsell. This Zoom program was moderated by Vice President for Tournaments & Open Play, Joe Hemsing.

April 2021

On Saturday, April 17, 2021, Gotham hosted an Open Forum for our AAPI members focused on the fears, anxiety, and stress-related to the alarming escalation in xenophobia and bigotry resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. We'd like to encourage you to continue to look out for our friends, relatives, and neighbors to ensure everyone's safety and well-being during this time. We spotlighted one of our founders, Wally Kunukau (1984-1986 Commissioner). Speakers included Juan Heribero Estrada, Don Newcomb, Donna Kong, Michael Chia, Michael Wei, Joey Cinque, Gorge Gallardo, Keith Kemery, Juan Arevalo, Social Worker/Therapist Lloyd Fider LCSW, Therapist Scott Percelay M.S.Ed, MHC-LP, Certified Sleep Science Coach Susan D'Addario CSW.

TOURNAMENTS AND OPEN PLAY

TOURNAMENTS AND OPEN PLAY LEADERSHIP GROUP

Vice President for Tournaments and Open Play

Joe Hemsing

Big Apple, Golden Apple and Green Apple Tournaments Director

Lew Smith

Spring Fling Director

Eric Eichenholtz

Fire Island Tournament Director

Clif Wallace

Members

Andrew Dowdye

Michael Dreimiller

Bleron Samarxhiu

Joseph Forzano

Evan Henke

Bryan Hobgood

Michael Mirpuri

Chris Ng

Denis Sazhin

Alec Troxell

Wacey Turner

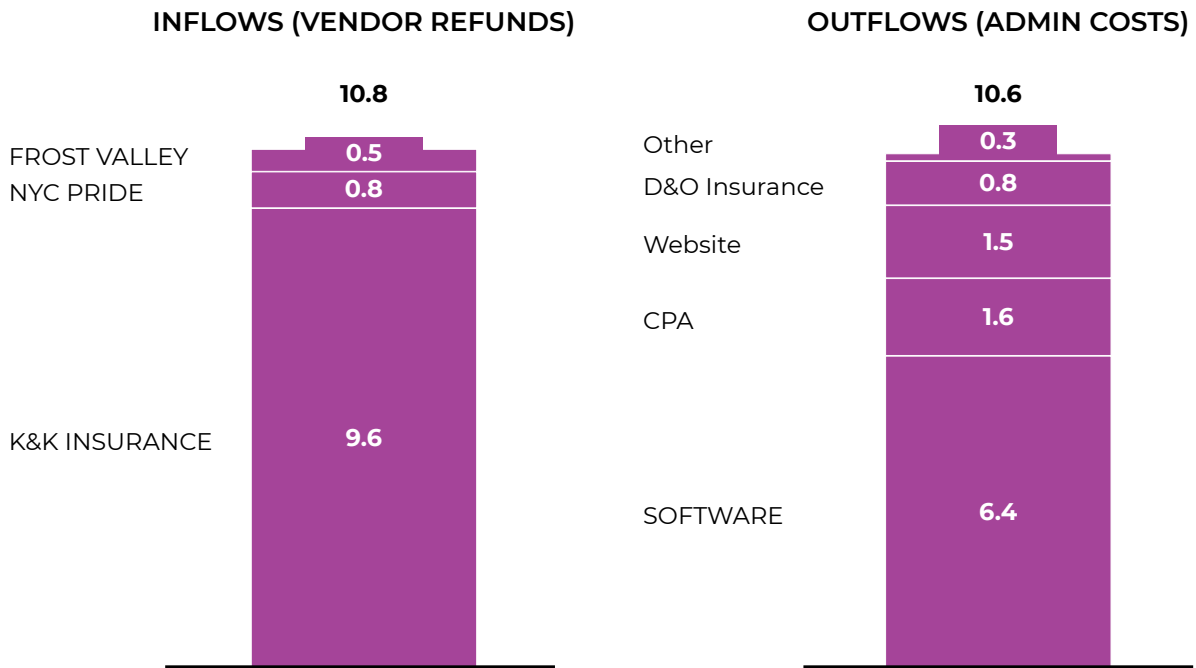
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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Contributed by Andre Carneiro, Treasurer

FY2020 Budget: An Unusual Year

- We had **no volleyball** activities (no revenues)
- We carried out **mass refunds**¹ from the interrupted season from FY2020
- We thoroughly vetted **admin expenses** given the need to avoid any unnecessary costs; a number of contracts were cancelled, refunded, renegotiated
- We streamlined some **processes**, e.g., IRS filings
- All in all, it was **neutral year** financially



OTHER COSTS : PO box, bank fees, issuance of contractor 1099s
¹These outflows are part of FY2020, not FY2021

Report Designed by
Brady William Ginn, Division 6 Representative

