



ANNUAL REPORT

2022





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

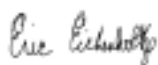
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL

Dear Members of our Gotham Volleyball Community,

This year's Annual Report looks back at an exciting year of renewal for Gotham. To kick off the year, we partnered with the Center to celebrate our 40th Anniversary in June. In July, following well over a year without being able to play volleyball, Gotham returned to volleyball play at the 2021 Fire Island Tournament. Then, in September, we resumed indoor play at our host schools. We did so safely thanks to the tireless efforts of our leadership team to develop new safety protocols and contact tracing processes. Many of us were overjoyed to see fellow members of our Gotham community together again in person as we got back on the court, shook off the rust, and played the game we all have come to love. After an abbreviated Fall season, we held a full, 10-week season offering Divisions and Power classes at full pre-COVID levels in the Spring. None of this would have been possible without our dedicated volunteer leadership team, to whom we all owe a huge debt of gratitude.

For me personally, this is a bittersweet time. At the end of this month, I will be concluding four years of service as President of Gotham Volleyball. It has truly been an honor to lead Gotham during these unprecedented times. I'm proud of all that Gotham has accomplished in the past four years and I'm excited for our new leadership to build on those accomplishments.

See you on the volleyball court,



Eric Eichenholtz
President
Gotham Volleyball League

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LEADERSHIP



September 2021, Gotham Leadership hosts information session on new covid protocols and first open play in our host schools since Spring 2020.

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

Blake Rogers

Vice President for Activities and Outreach

Juan Arevalo

Vice President for Tournaments and Open Play

Joe Hemsing

Directors

Joe Mignano

Joey Osio

Past President

Josh Christensen

Lew Smith

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/Jason Shaw

Division 5 Representative
Eric Ma

Division 6 Representative
Brady Ginn

Division 7 Representative
John Cafarelli

Division 8 Representative
Anthony Fontanello

Division 9 Representative
Amy Santiago

Division 10 Representative
Edwin Raagas

Division 11 Representative
Victor Ortiz

Division Play Leadership Group

Contributed by Patrick So, Vice President for Division Play

Fall 2021 was our first season of Division Play programming (following a halted Spring 2020), as schools, coming out of the COVID-19 lockdown, started to open up their facilities to outside community groups. During this transition, certain changes to the school permit availabilities shifted some of Division Play scheduling: for Fall 2021, we ran a truncated EOS format to allow running our tournaments in our core facilities (as the colleges, CCNY and Queens College at that time were still not allowing outside groups onto their campuses until Spring 2022); also starting in Spring 2022, permit time changes necessitated moving Division 4 to a 6-team structure for it to play at the Lab School, the first time we had consistently used Lab School for Division Play. We were however pleased to have accommodated 11 divisions of Division Play for both Fall 2021 and Spring 2022. With the use of more facilities, we successfully expanded our leadership structure by more fully incorporating our team captains as Gotham Leaders on Duty during Division Play blocks. As part of our return to play policies, we followed the Board of Education's COVID safety guidelines and also installed certain rules of our own e.g., masking at all times including during on-court play; no spectator policy, reporting processes, or procedures for cancelling/postponing play should there be any outbreaks within any division. Thankfully we did not have any significant disruption to play in Fall of 2021, and in Spring 2022 continued to follow BOE policies when masking requirements were lifted in March 2022.

TRAINING

TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP



TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP

Vice President for Training

Blake Rogers

Power Director

Leah Hughey

Power Coaches

Power A

Eric Lodde

Joe Muir

Power B

Chris Lacap

Arvin Rada

Power C

Troy Riddle

Tenzin Kunga

Power D

Leah Hughey

Takuya Oka

Power E

Austin Voges

Tyce Dagel

Power W

Chris Lacap

Leah Hughey

PowerPlay

Leah Hughey

Heriberto Estrada

Edgar Lazaro

Abishek SM

Christian Torres

Jonathan Vasquez

Patrick So

Team Power B1

Edgar Lazaro

Shyne Mon

Team Power B2

Tenzin Kunga

Jonathan Vasquez

Team Power B3

Joe Muir

Nic Sanchez

TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP

Power A Representative

Kyle Alexander

Power B Representative

Matt Keller/John Wetsell

Power C Representative

Donna Kong

Power D Representative

Andrew Dowdye/Mike Vallecoccia

Power E Representative

Andy Hall/Ryan DeRosa

PowerPlay Representative

Alex Deng

Power W Representative

Sonia Parada

Team Power A Representative (Fall '21)

Alisa Jaganjac

Team Power B Representative

Abishek SM

Sid He

Team Power BB Representative

Clif Wallace

TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP

Contributed by Leah Hughey, Power Director & Blake Rogers, Vice President for Training

Coming out of the longest hiatus in the league's history, Gotham's Power training programs were more vital than ever. The Training Leadership Group, as headed by Power Director Leah Hughey and incoming Vice President of Training Blake Rogers, saw to the successful return to all of our original class offerings, with some programs being expanded or modified to meet demand, as well two successful seasons of one-off clinics and clinic series. In service of our mission statement, the Training team remained committed to offering training opportunities to members at all levels of play.

The Fall '21 season included the return of all of our Individual Power classes (A-E, W, and PowerPlay), and our first Power W2 Clinic Series, a set of classes for Beginner to Intermediate players looking to play on a women's height net. For team training, our Team Power A and B1-2 programs provided opportunities for teams looking to prepare for upcoming NAGVA tournaments. All of these programs were led by a lineup of new and returning coaches who worked hard to ensure that our classes gave players the opportunity to better their skills in a supportive, community-building atmosphere. Programming in the Spring '22 season was largely reflective of the Fall season, with an expansion of Team Power B that included 3 separate sessions of 3 teams each.

The return to play would not have been possible without the support of our new and returning power representatives, who worked hard to navigate the unique challenges of engaging in team sports during the end of a pandemic. Whether enforcing Gotham's new Health & Safety procedures and policies ("Masks up, please!") or managing contact tracing for their classes, their efforts helped keep our players safe and informed in one of Gotham's most challenging eras.

The Training Team is excited to continue providing new opportunities for Gotham's members to take to the court more knowledgeably and confidently than they were when they started.

ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH

TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP

Vice President for Activities and Outreach

Juan Arevalo

Members

Jason Calomadre

Zhun Che

Matthew Dec

Andrew Dowdye

Michael Dreimiller

Jake McIntyre

Bleron Samarxhiu

Max Szadek

ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH LEADERSHIP GROUP

Contributed by Juan Arevalo, Vice President of Activities and Outreach

The 2021-2022 year was a busy one for the Activities & Outreach Leadership Group. We kicked off the year with a virtual celebration for Gotham's 40th Anniversary in partnership with the LGBTQ+ Center. Thanks to Max Szadek for organizing and running that exciting event. Once volleyball activities resumed after our COVID-19 pause the Leadership Group strategized on how to create more social events engaging the community. This past season started off with our Welcome Social at Industry where we wanted our members to enjoy being together after this long pandemic. In addition, we have partnered with Tournaments when planning some of our events including raising funds for Ukraine. Heading into the future, we are looking to march in the Pride parade and create activities partnering with different organizations. Finally, an annual Gotham tradition returns as the EOS party returns this June we have been finalizing details to make sure it runs well. A special thanks to active participants of this committee especially Jake McIntyre. Through his vision and initiative, we are heading in the right direction. Another huge thank you for Juan Arevalo for his willingness to serve and great work as Vice President during this challenging time.

TOURNAMENTS AND OPEN PLAY

TOURNAMENTS AND OPEN PLAY LEADERSHIP GROUP

Vice President for Tournaments and Open Play

Joe Hemsing

Friendship Tournament Director

Andrew Dowdye

Open Play Director

Bryan Hobgood

Spring Fling Director

Eric Eichenholtz

Fire Island Tournament Director

Clif Wallace

Members at Large

Jason Calomadre
Zhun Che
Michael Dreimiller
Joe Forzano
Evan Henke
Jae Ryu
Bleron Samarxhiu
Aec Troxell

ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH LEADERSHIP GROUP

Contributed by Joe Hemsing, Vice President of Tournaments and Open Play

To report on what the past year has looked like from the perspective of the Tournaments & Open Play leadership group, it is extra special to think back on the first activity that Gotham held in its “Return to Play” strategy, which was the annual Fire Island Tournament. While it was unclear exactly what participation would look like after about a year and a half of volley-pause — whether folks would still be hesitant to gather or feel eager to return to the sandy courts — one thing was certain, we were excited to see our sport come back to life. With a freshly appointed group of leaders, the T&OP LG spring into action with plans that had been drummed up while play was pause and started working on the plans for that beloved 3rd Saturday in July. While some elements of the tournament were slightly different, it is a good thing this was an outdoor activity, because the excitement of bringing our community back together would have blown off any roof. A group of hard-working volunteers coordinated by Clif Wallace were thrilled to host a nearly full 9-court tournament in what would be the official comeback event.

In the months that followed, the T&OP LG returned to partial operation by offering multiple Open Plays, following the protocol established by our Return to Play Team to ensure the safety of participants to the best of our ability. As soon as the DOE granted us access, we quickly got things running by offering a set of Open Plays for players and teams to reassemble in the divisions they last played in back before the start of the pandemic, followed by a number of pre-tryout Open Plays that would mark the welcoming of the Fall 2021 season. Fall 2021 would continue to offer a full calendar of Open Plays, and in the Spring 2022 season, we resumed offering Friendship Tournaments.

We added two new leadership positions to the group to help the group run more effectively: Bryan Hobgood was appointed to Open Play Director and Andrew Dowdye was appointed to Friendship Tournament Director. Each director was responsible for the day-to-day operations and low-impact changes within their respective programs, while the Leadership Group in entirety would continue to discuss grander-scale changes as needed. Some changes to note this year was the addition of a 4th eligibility tier among Friendship Tournaments, and a redistribution of the eligibility tiers within Open Plays accounting for the addition of Division 11 in 2019-2020.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

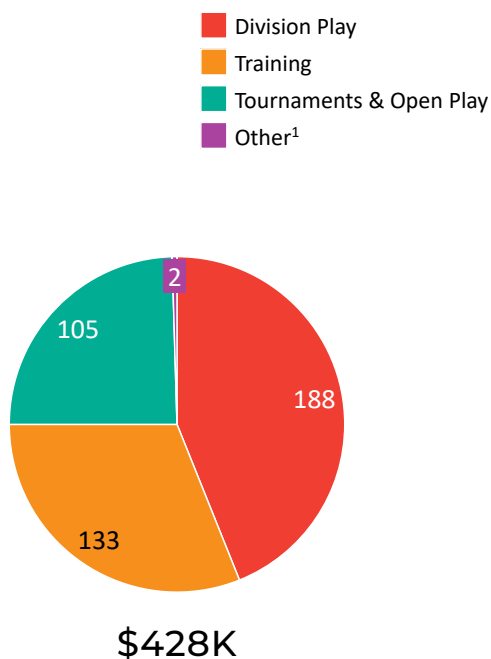
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Contributed by Andre Carneiro, Treasurer

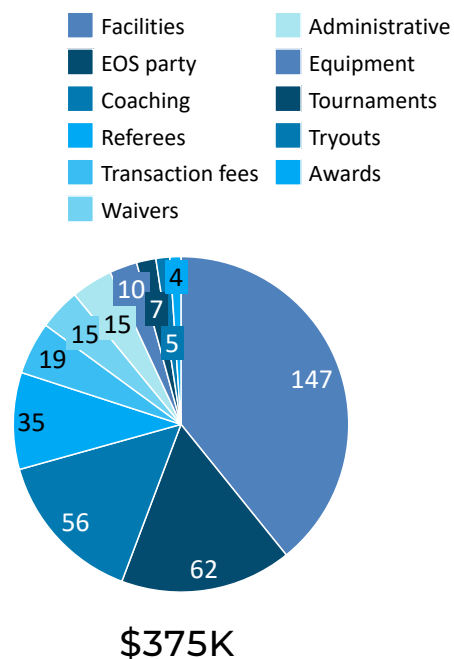
Highlights of the Year:

- Highest revenue run-rate ever: \$428K despite partial year
- Cash reserves above target: \$349K with no price increases
- Key partnerships established with LeagueApps and Ramp
- 100% dues collection with much less effort
- Delegated purchasing authority with full control
- New initiative: Wally Kunukau Scholarships!
- Historically low administrative costs: \$15K

REVENUES (GROSS)



EXPENSES



¹ Other revenues: cashback, membership purchases, interest

² Estimated expenses: EOS party balance of \$35K

Report Designed by
Brady William Ginn, Division 6 Representative

