



Competitions Commission Meeting

Saturday 5th January 2013

SportPark, Loughborough

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes prepared by	: Will Westwood
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Commissioners present and apologies for absence	
Paul Bohannon	Competitions Commission President Super 8's Commissioner
Bill Boagey	Division 1 Commissioner
Keith McAdam	Division 2 Men's Commissioner
Lenny Barry	National Cup Commissioner
Brian Kendall	National U15 Commissioner
Martin Shakespeare	Referee Liaison
Ian Cheesbrough	Division 2 Women's Commissioner
Will Westwood	Business Support Administrator
1. Apologies	
Kevin Hamblin	Division 3 Men's Commissioner
Sanjib Sahota	National Competition & Events Manager
Martin Lindsey	Head of Operations
Ade McGraa	Student Cup Commissioner
Jonathan Moore	Competitions Officer
Wayne Coyle	International Events & Competitions Director

In **bold** – voting members

The meeting commenced at 10.30am

		Action
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
	<p>MVP discussions from previous meeting haven't been taken any further as yet.</p> <p>Coaches not to receive bench personnel cards; clamped down this season, qualified coaches to pay their registration fee.</p> <p>London Lynx fees were paid in time. Previous outstanding fees from other teams have been paid.</p> <p>Leeds Carnegie debt is still outstanding. Decision was made based on other ties</p>	

	<p>not to pursue the debt via legal routes. Transfer embargo placed on players as per the Birmingham situation.</p> <p>Oxford Students Men's debt was paid.</p> <p>Still in need of an U16/U18 Cup commissioner PB Currently undertaking role and Div 3 Women – WW currently undertaking the role.</p>	All
3.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Send 2013/14 and 2014/15 calendars and also put on the website</p> <p>Teams to be reminded that fees are due shortly for next season</p> <p>It was discussed as to whether minutes of the previous meeting should be on the website</p> <p>LB suggested that we could schedule the 2nd round Cup losers to be the away team in their first Shield match to avoid issue with regards to venue bookings.</p>	<p>SS</p> <p>JM</p> <p>PB to discuss with ML</p> <p>LB</p>
4.	<p>Competitions Review</p> <p>First meeting as a group took place; LB, JM, PB, SS (WC) Second meeting: LB, JM, PB, SS, WW, (WC)</p> <p>The objective of the review is to look at each competition under certain criteria; Participation, Promotional, Performance, Commercial, Development. Reviews of each competition have been sent to those involved in discussions to add their comments and return to individual responsible who will then collate views into one document.</p> <p>Another meeting is scheduled for the final weekend in January for further discussions and to refine the review documents.</p> <p>A meeting with stakeholders is scheduled for February 23/24th. The Presidents of the other commissions have been invited to attend or send a representative.</p>	
5.	<p>Code of Conduct</p> <p>Player's code of conduct produced by PB as a result of discussion between Competitions Commission. It will be presented to Regional Commission as it is stated to apply to all players. Feedback requested by February. It's intended to be printed in the NVL Handbook and go out as a condition of entry for Volleyball England Competitions and also be put on the website. The intention is for it to be sent to all affiliated clubs.</p>	
6.	<p>Divisional, Cup & Junior Competitions Commissioner Reports</p> <p>Super 8s: Men; all teams played 50% matches, Team Northumbria are top with 100% wins, 2nd, 3rd and 4th are very close on points. SGTV Solent lost their appeal with regards to court time (against LL1)</p> <p>Women; played 50%+, Team Northumbria unbeaten, Polonia IMKA London 2nd. One transfer issue- Tameside to Salford. Outstanding fee claims raised. Resolved by PB, however releasing club weren't happy although they had no proof of debts owed. Team Northumbria changed venue for 1 fixture, played same date and time.</p> <p>Div 1: A lot of teams playing with minimum numbers, all confirmations received on time. Wessex BU and London Docklands are join top in the men's.</p> <p>Div 2: Women; one fixture moved to allow u18 fixture to be hosted. Loughborough</p>	

	<p>Students sent the incorrect start time for one of their matches- court was booked for 5pm but opposition told 11am. Home team was fined and forfeited the match.</p> <p>Men; Brentwood Boswells leading M2S. High fixture imbalance (7) means that the league winners could be decided over the next couple of games should results go a certain way. Leicester had to cancel some fixtures due to leak in the sports hall- matches will be rearranged. Appeal for a rematch between Horndean and Guildford due to an incorrect player on the line up sheet. Rematch awarded at the expense of Volleyball England due to the error being a refereeing error.</p> <p>Div 3 Women: North; Sunderland City Predators are top</p> <p>South; 2 teams (Essex Trinity and Dartford) are on 19 points at the top</p> <p>West; Birmingham are top however Black Country, TeamBath and City of Bristol on 22, 20, 20 with 2 games in hand. Cardiff Ladies complained about referee costs, however Martin Shakespeare has dealt with the complaint and Steve Evans sent a response.</p> <p>National Cup: Teams are not playing on scheduled dates due to lack of communication/planning. Matches on track though</p> <p>Student Cup: Round 1 completed, finals on 9th-10th in Norwich</p> <p>U16/U18: 1st round has been played, 2nd round scheduled for the weekends of 19/20th and 21/22nd January, with the Last 8s scheduled for 23/24th February.</p> <p>U15: Closing date for entry is Monday 7th, may struggle to run divisional rounds on current bookings due to lack of time.</p> <p>Sitting GP: 3 GP's have taken place so far. Issue at the 3rd GP in terms of teams not arriving with a full compliment of players. Do we need the December GP? Similar issues with availability last year.</p>	
7.	<p>(Session with Regional Commission)</p> <p>Charlie Orton (LO Chair), Freda Bussey (SE Chair), Brian Youlden (WM Chair), Janet Inman (EM Chair), Stuart Johnson (Head of Development), Mike Turner (YO Chair), Ron Richards (SW Secretary)</p> <p>Regional Commission informed of the competitions review currently being under taken, and notified that they'll be contacted with regards to input to the review. Any decisions will not affect any competitions this year.</p> <p>Inter-regional: View of the regions is that they'd like the 3 day competition over the first May bank holiday- not possible for this year or next due to booking restrictions. Date for this year is set and will go ahead. The general view is that the parents/players need to know the date for 2014 well in advance to be able to plan- irrespective of date, the vast majority of players will work around whatever date is set.</p> <p>FB suggested that the later date is actually better for her Region as the earlier one clashes with exams.</p> <p>Where does the funding come from for the competition moving forward?</p> <p>Jl; regional programme allows best players to play together, rather than playing as an individual in a school/club.</p>	

	<p>FB; the majority of regions are willing to support the cost of funding training/travel/accommodation etc. Need to keep the competition as it's an opportunity to showcase the best junior players, lack of opportunity as it is. Would be good to know the costing of the event so they have a rough amount of money at which to aim for.</p> <p>BY; that for his region, it's the biggest/best event they compete in all year, fundamental to development of volleyball in the region. It's now a question of how we can take it forward.</p> <p>BK; vital for divisional coaches to talk to regional coaches, currently lack of communication.</p> <p>RR; need to make a provisional booking for 25th May (ish) for the next couple of years.</p> <p>Agreed that Competitions Commission will deliver the competition, with Region Commission having input into the date and structure of the competition. Rules will be delivered by Competitions Commission via consultation with stakeholders in the competitions.</p> <p>PB suggested that anyone could play, not restricted to which squads you are in. Region is based on where you live.</p> <p>LB; rules and competition set/delivered by Competitions Commission. Rules generated based on consultation with stakeholders.</p> <p>Regional Champions Trophy:</p> <p>This year's competition booked for September 2013 rather than May.</p> <p>BY; some regions don't want national league players competing, others don't mind it. Difficult to decide which approach to take as there are people for and against both scenarios.</p> <p>Difficult to track NVL players in local league.</p> <p>FB; usually the 3rd team that go to the RCT as due to unavailability's of the top 2 teams. Winner usually has the majority of the team made up of NVL players.</p> <p>Code of Conduct- electronic copy to be sent to CO for feedback from Regional Commission</p>	<p>PB to send electronic copy to Regional Comm.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Instructions to Referees</p> <p>3 sets of guidance notes produced for referees based on issues that have arisen so far this season;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -clarification on who may be deemed Head Coach (no.4) -court time bookings (no.5); guidance to be changed after discussions -clarification on how to deal with an incorrect player on court (no.6); wording to be changed slightly after discussions <p>MS suggested the purpose of the guidance notes are to provide referees with advice on how to deal with things that may not be covered under the rules of the game; i.e things that are beyond the control of the organisation (e.g leaking roof)</p> <p>New Rules of the Game. Referee Commission has yet to confirm if they wish to include all the changes for next season</p> <p>What do we need doing to get more referees? Currently very few referees that are put through referees courses continue through to referee in the NVL.</p> <p>Regulations say Referee Commission will appoint referees for the NVL and Cup, however it doesn't oblige teams to accept for the Cup- it says home teams are</p>	<p>MS to amend guidance notes</p> <p>PB to speak to Ref Comm</p>

	<p>responsible for providing a referee so there is the option to decline. MS would prefer this option to be removed as teams are currently declining cup appointments in favour of using their own referees.</p> <p>IC; we need a proposal to send referee commission to outline the decline in referees and increase in costs. Clubs are currently picking up the cost of 'elite referees' having to travel further as the 'elite referees' are assigned to the Super 8s games.</p>	<p>PB to speak to Ref Comm</p> <p>PB to speak to Ref Comm</p>
9.	<p>Changes to Regulations for 2013-14</p> <p>A reminder to all for any regulation changes that you'd like to see come into place for next season.</p>	<p>All send to PB by end of February</p>
10.	<p>Minimum Operating Standards</p> <p>75% of clubs aren't Side Out or Volley123 accredited. Currently comparatively little sanctions against clubs that aren't. All are supposed to be by end of 2012/13 season, however the vast majority won't be.</p> <p>KM- we should send details on how to complete accreditation to clubs that aren't currently accredited details on how to complete their accreditation, or make it a requirement of new clubs to prove they are working towards it to complete within their first 2 years.</p> <p>LB suggested it wouldn't work, costs clubs money and no real benefit to them.</p> <p>We need to discuss whether this is worthwhile pursuing.</p> <p>Teams need to get into the mentality that the MOS are for their benefit to try and improve the 'product' that each team has to offer.</p>	<p>PB to discuss with various people to try and reach a decision</p>
11.	<p>Date of next two meetings</p> <p>11th May 2013 – SportPark, Loughborough 21st September 2013 – SportPark, Loughborough</p>	
12.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p><i>Statistics</i> Gary Beckford currently has a website that details stats for the Super 8s division. He's asked whether it is something that could be taken further, using those that were trained to do stats for the Olympics. Generally agreed that it would cost money to move it forward, and it's more benefit for the teams rather than Volleyball England.</p> <p><i>Team Communications</i> LB had conversations with a representative from Darkstar Derbyshire regarding their communication. Is it acceptable, do we need guidelines or a template for match withdrawals? Kevin Hamblin (division 3 men commissioner) has contacted Darkstar regarding their communication style.</p> <p><i>Mikasa Sponsorship</i> Deal ran out on 1st October 2012, however Rob Harding (Head of Marketing) is in discussions with a couple of suppliers regarding a new deal. Generally agreed teams wouldn't be too happy with a change of regulations with regards to the ball due to further costs in purchasing more.</p>	