

EAST MIDLANDS VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

Volleyball in the East Midlands continues to expand. There are a growing number of teams playing at all levels from NVL to local league. There are growing numbers of qualified coaches but the number of active referees is a cause for concern. The Regional Association, chaired by Paul Lamb, has started to look at a number of new developments in line with the EVA 'Whole Sport Plan.'

Competitions.

Teams in the region compete in a whole range of competitions.

The NVL teams in the region have had varied success, Loughborough Men and the RAF Harriers exchanged places with Loughborough being promoted to Division 1 and Harriers dropping to Division 2. Congratulations to Nottingham Ladies who in their first season in Division 3 just missed promotion, better luck next season.

BUSA.

Congratulations to our top regional university teams who excelled in this years BUSA finals - Loughborough (ladies) and Nottingham (men) Universities won their respective National titles.

British Colleges

Wyggeston and Queen Elizabeth's School from Leicester dominated the British College Finals competitions this year, winning the Women's and Mixed sections and finishing runners up in the Men's final. Congratulations to Sharon Cobb, her coaching staff and players.

EMVA League

Once again there were not enough women's teams to run a Regional league. The Men's league is now consolidated and ran with 6 teams. Nottingham Rockets taking the title.

Local Leagues

Local leagues ran in 4 of the 5 counties in the region.

Northamptonshire	3 Divisions – 2 Men's, 1 Women's	18 teams /11 clubs
Nottinghamshire	1 Mixed Division	6 teams / 6 clubs
Leicestershire	4 Divisions- 1 Men's, 1 Women's, 2 Mixed	24 teams / 16 clubs
Lincolnshire	3 Men's Divisions	15 teams / 12 clubs

The number of clubs and teams continues to rise in each of the counties. In Derbyshire there is a league that runs from a local sports centre.

Coaching

The region has run 26 coaching courses this season.

Volley Sport - 5	Level 1 - 14	CSLA - 7
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A huge vote of thanks goes to George Bulman who retires as the East Midlands Coaching Administrator after many years of dedicated service.

The region has 2 Community coaches, one working in Lincolnshire and the other in Leicestershire. The coaches who are working in schools, clubs and as part of local community holiday schemes.

Refereeing

There have been several attempts this season to run a grade 4 referees course in the region. Dates have been set but all courses have had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers. There is a need for more referees but clubs must now take responsibility and ensure they have qualified referees able to officiate at all levels. Dave Gardner continues as the regional Referees Administrator, anyone wishing to know more about courses for the 2005/6 should contact him directly.

Junior Development

Regional Talent Development Programme

The RTDP ran throughout the season. The number of training sessions available this season doubled. Although more players took part in the training sessions and they came from a larger selection of schools, clubs and counties, the standard of the players still needs work. The region entered 3 of the 4 age groups at the Inter Regional Tournament. Thanks go to the RTDP staff, Paul Lamb, Gus Goodwin, Steve Jones, Navaz Sutton, Chris Brown and Janet Inman for their continued support.

The coaching programme now running through the Community Sports Coaches will see more schools working with the RTDP and Lincs. Notts. & Leics. will all working towards developing elite county squads that can then be linked into the Regional Training Programme.

Lincolnshire Youth Games

For the first time Volleyball was one of the sports taking place at the Lincolnshire Youth Games. The event brought player in 3 groups to The Mere's at Grantham. Boys and Girls played in an U13 3 V 3 competition and U11 Primary pupils played a 2 V 2 mixed competition. The scores from all the pools were then aggregated with West Lindsey District coming out on top.

Janet Inman

Youth Development Officer