



Secretary:
Ron Richards
3 Woodside Grove
Henbury
Bristol
BS10 7RF
mobile 0797 685 0618
Email: Rricha7122@aol.com

SOUTH WEST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

Agenda of the AGM to be held on Saturday June 2nd, 2018 at 10.30 (PROMPT START PLEASE - coffee available from 10.00) at Priory Community School, Queensway, Weston-S-Mare, BS22 6BP.

The AGM will take place in the Conference Room in the Main Block at Priory Community School, Weston super Mare.

To find the school, take the Weston road off junction 21 (M5) and turn immediately left off the dual carriageway toward Worle and St Georges. Carry on over the road you have left, and over the railway line. You will then reach two sets of traffic lights close together. You should keep the Homebase store on your left as you turn right at the first lights and then straight ahead at the second set of lights into Queensway. The school entrance is on the right immediately after the light controlled pedestrian crossing. Turn left at the bottom of the entrance road and park in the car park in front of the main building.

Once you have parked in the car park at the front of the school, go into the main entrance / reception area, then diagonally across the atrium, to the back corridor and the Conference Room.

Please let me know if you are attending as it allows me to confirm the numbers for lunch on that day (if you have not already done so).

Please find the agenda and papers on the following pages.

Ron Richards, Secretary, SWVA

Agenda of the AGM to be held on Saturday June 2nd, 2018 at 10.30 at Priory Community School, Weston-S-Mare, BS22 6BP.

10.30		Welcome & introductions			
10.35	1	To approve minutes of the AGM held on June 3 rd , 2017 and the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on February 24 th , 2018 (both attached).			
10.40	2	Matters arising			
10.45	3	Apologies			
10.50	4	Annual Report - please read carefully and be ready to question report writers:			
		a) Chairman	b) Secretary	c) Treasurer	d) Competitions
		e) Coaching Sec.	f) Referees Sec.	g) Junior Dev.	h) Junior Comps
		i) Junior Squads	j) Beach Vball	k) Inclusion Volleyball	l) Area Associations
11.30	5	Election of Officers			
		a) Chairman	b) Vice Chairman	c) Secretary	d) Treasurer
		e) Competitions Sec.	f) Coaching Sec.	g) Referees Sec	h) Junior Dev.
		i) Beach Volleyball	j) VE Regional Commission Rep	k) Safeguarding	
		l) Sitting Volleyball	m) Executive Committee Members (up to 5)		
11.40	6	Urgent planning items for 2018/ 2019: (eg dates and venues etc)			
		a) Competitions			
		b) Junior Development		c) Junior Squads	
		d) Coaching	e) Refereeing	f) Beach	
		g) Sitting VB	h) Finance	i) 50 th anniversary (initial thoughts)	
12.15	7	Volleyball England update -			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Commission - Dave Reece - verbal report on meeting of May 27th • Gillian Harrison, VE Technical and Talent Coordinator 			
12.50	8	SW Annual Awards			
13.00	9	Dates of future meetings			
13.15	10	AOB			
13.20		Close & lunch			

**SOUTH WEST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017**

Minutes of A.G.M held on June 3rd, 2017 at Priory Community School, Weston Super Mare.

1		Welcome.
		Attendance Ron Richards, Roy Pankhurst, Dave Reece, Mark Horseman, Jurek Jankowski, Tim Clifford, Chris Semmens, John Boughton, , Geoff Allen, Gillian Harrison, Richard Parkes, Rachel Swindell, Cat Snell, Neil Bentley, Richard Morten
		Apologies Cliff Ball, Charlie Huitson, Ben Fairweather, Jo Turville, Dave Walrond, Ros Sutherland, Phil Heads, Anna Maria Lotowska, Andrew Potter
3		Minutes & Matters arising Minutes of A.G.M held on June 4 th , 2016 were approved. Matters arising: GA asked if JJ was now having better communications with the National Office. In his absence, RR felt that he was. CSe also felt that communication had improved. Minutes of the SW Executive Meeting on March 4 th , 2017 were approved. Matters arising: There were none
4		Annual Reports.
	a	Chairman - received and noted.
	b	Secretary - received and noted. GA asked if increased referee and coach registrations were due to an increased number of courses. CSe and JJ felt that this had contributed to the increase.
	c	Treasurer - received and noted. DR explained the difficulties we faced at the end of the previous season with IRC squads funds not having been banked. DR had chased up out of date cheques and most had been paid, a few will be written off. JJ volunteered to chase up the missing cheques. CSn reported that this had been a year of clearing up the accounts and these were now much clearer. The meeting thanked Cat for taking on the task so successfully. RR apologised for not including the accounts in the Annual Report and said he would circulate these to members.
	d	Competitions Secretary - received and noted. GA asked GH if as many weekends would be required for national squads training in the future. She

		replied that this was dependent on the review that was currently taking place.
e		Coaching Secretary - received and noted. JJ reported that communications with the national office has improved. No L2 course ran in the region this year, he hoped to arrange one in the coming season. GA asked GH about plans to review / re-jig the L1 & L2 courses. She confirmed that this was under review. It is hoped to make changes to the L1 to increase the numbers able to access this award. Costings were complicated as a shorter course may allow reduced charges, but it is unlikely that Sport England will fund coach development and therefore these costs may have to be covered by participants. JJ asked GH to check on discrepancies in how some coaches qualifications were recorded. RP asked if the L2 requirement for NVL still stood. There was no clear answer to this and there appeared to be a discrepancy between Technical and Competitions Commission on this matter.
f		Referees Secretary - received and noted. Questions were asked about the referee mentoring. RM said that the SE and SW were at the forefront of this development, though RR and TC felt this had not developed as hoped in Bristol this season.
g		Junior Development Officer - post vacant
h		Junior Competitions - no report received
i		Junior Squads - received and noted. A successful season, all training sessions ran apart from the March date affected by the Riverside fire. It was also a successful weekend with final positions as follows: U14 Girls A = 6th U14 Girls B = 6th U15 Boys = 5th U16 Girls = 3rd U17 Boys = 1st Particular congratulations to the U17 boys (though London are disputing the result).
j		Beach Volleyball Development Officer - post vacant
k		Inclusion Volleyball Officer - no report received
l		VE Regional Commission Representative
m		Area Associations. Reports were received from:
	Bristol	received and noted. TC added that he felt numbers would probably reduce slightly next year as some teams had been overstressed this season.
	Cornwall	No report received. CSe reported successes at NVL and regional levels.
	Dorset	received and noted. A report was also received from RP on the Investment Zone. RP will be co-opted to the local committee.
	Exeter	No report received. DR reported that 19 teams

			had taken part in local leagues, which had been completed despite the difficulties caused by the Riverside fire. In the summer a lot of outdoor volleyball takes place.
		Gloucestershire	received and noted. Riverside a new club have won the league and cup and may move on to join the SW League. Some issues with unplayed games (particularly police and college).
		Guernsey	Received and noted.
		North Devon	No report received
		Plymouth	received and noted. RSu reported that Kitto may well be encouraged to install two full size courts suitable for NVL. The 4 courts used for training / SW Championships would remain.
		Wiltshire	received and noted. RM reported on good junior development taking place.
5		Election of Officers . The following officers were appointed:	
	a	Chairman	Dave Reece
	b	Vice Chairman	Roy Pankhurst
	c	Secretary	Ron Richards
	d	Treasurer	Cat Snell
	e	Competitions Secretary	Rachel Swindell
	f	Coaching Secretary	Jurek Jankowski
	g	Referees Secretary	Chris Semmens
	h	Junior Development Officer	Jurek Jankowski
	i	Beach Volleyball Development Officer	Vacant (GA to seek possible nominations from Dorset)
	j	Inclusion Volleyball Officer	Andrew Potter (tbc)
	k	VE Regional Commission Representative	Ron Richards / Dave Reece
	l	Safeguarding Officer	Neil Bentley
	m	Executive Officers	Charlie Huitson Ros Sutherland Richard Parkes Cliff Ball Anna Maria Lotowska (tbc)
6		Urgent Planning Items for 2017 / 18	
		Competitions	Vets - Oct 29, open to teams beyond the SW if an early advert does not attract sufficient teams from within the

		SW. There was discussion about the timing of the event, but RSu would be unable to run it if it was after Christmas as TC suggested. League entry forms to go out this week. Closing date July 12, fixtures early August. Entry fee £95 per team, to remain the same. SW Championships May 12/13. Kitto are likely to increase fees significantly and we may need to wait until 9.00pm on the Friday evening to set up. Discussion took place on entry policy and dates for SW Championships, given that this season it was oversubscribed. Agreed to leave the decision to RSw.
	Junior Development	JJ suggested SWJGP dates in a paper which RR has forwarded. JJ wanted to involve Bristol, Bournemouth, Plymouth and N Devon in these events. NB suggested that Wiltshire could also be involved.
	Junior Squads	Discussion took place on the possibilities of the age groups / dates of IRC being altered. Freda Bussey's consultation on junior competitions will influence this. GH noted the comments and will feed back into the national consultation. JJ suggested training dates and other arrangements in a paper which RR has forwarded. Agreed to move some training dates to Bournemouth and Bristol. RSw to look at the possible changes to Riverside bookings. GA is hoping to set up a satellite programme in Dorset in the first half of the season.
	Coaching	No urgent planning items. JJ hopes to arrange a L2 course where the most appropriate venue would be.
	Refereeing	Possibility of running upgrading sessions in Bristol. RSw suggested the SW Vets tournament could be used as well
	Beach Volleyball	No urgent planning items
	Sitting Volleyball	No urgent planning items
	Finance	DR recommended the same charges for events / training next season, though he recognized the difficulty of some local charges for double court venues (as in Keynsham). There will need to be an adjustment of squads training fees to reflect shorter girls session / longer boys session. JB suggested that the meeting ought to have sight of and approve a budget which shows proposed income and costs (could be the AGM or the September Exec meeting).
7	Volleyball England Update	GH delivered a presentation on recent changes at Volleyball England and the proposals for new development plans. The VE AGM has been moved to July

	<p>29 and GH urged members to support the proposals. JB urged members to spread the word to other members - particularly using the new digital technologies & media. JB is standing down as a Board member and this was his last meeting as a Board representative to SWVA. JB thanked the association for its welcome, hospitality and good work over many years. The meeting passed its thanks and best wishes to JB.</p>
8	<p>SW Annual Awards 2017 Were awarded as follows: Bert Williams Referees Award - Chris Semmens (also nominated - Jacqui Pang) Coaches Award - Andrew Potter (also nominated - Joana Osorio, Denise Austin) Doreen Dingle Award - Tim Clifford (also nominated - Ron Richards, Dave Reece, Matt Stevens) Commitment to SW Volleyball - Geoff & Lynn Allen (also nominated Ros Sutherland, Dave Reece)</p> <p>Presented at the SW Championships - Player of the Match Award:</p> <p>Men - Jason Brinck - Yeovil Women - Magda Morgan - Kernow Benenes</p> <p>Congratulations to all our winners.</p>
9	<p>Dates of Future Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 7th • February 24th • June 2nd (AGM)
10	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR recommended appointing Andrew Potter's company to produce branded SW kit. It was agreed by the meeting. • DR raised the issue of a number of squad players who have not paid the entry fees for the IRC (more detail was provided to the meeting by NB). GH suggested that there should be a code of conduct for squad members. NB will look at the wording on parental contact forms. DR's proposal was agreed with some abstentions. • GA would like to increase awareness / involvement of Dorset clubs in the regional association. There was discussion on this item. RP hoped to be a conduit to these links. DR reminded members to send information to him for publication in the SW newsletter (or post it themselves on the SW website). • TC expressed concern that no trophies were presented to

		SWGP winners and runners up. Agreed to look at this for next season.

SOUTH WEST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Executive Meeting at Priory Community School, Weston Super Mare on February 24th, 2018 at 10.30.

1. Present.

Dave Reece (Chair), Ron Richards (Sec), Rachel Swindell, Charlie Huitson, Gill Harrison, Mark Horseman, Richard Parkes

2. Apologies were received from: Geoff Allen, Neil Bentley, Richard Morten, Roy Pankhurst, Cliff Ball, Chris Semmens, Jurek Jankowski, Ros Sutherland, Ben Fairweather

3. Minutes. The minutes of the Executive Meeting held on October 7th, 2017 were agreed

4. Matters Arising. There were none.

5. Officers Reports

Chairmans Report

Report received and noted.

Secretary`s Report.

Report received and noted. Discussion took place over missing club affiliations.

Treasurer.

Reports received from DR & RR.

Online banking has been set up for the main Lloyds Bank accounts with RR & DR having access.

Authorised signatories for the Secretary's Expense Account held with Nat West are

out of date. It is agreed that Ron Richards and Dave Reece should be the authorised signatories and a resolution was passed as follows:

It was resolved that:

- *the signing rules in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in section 2, be replaced in accordance with section 4; and*
- *the authorised signatories in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in section 2, be changed in accordance with sections 5 and 6 and the current mandate will continue as amended.*

Competitions.

Report received and noted. SW Championships entries all taken up within a few days. Discussion took place about the ongoing format and how SWVA might make it possible to provide opportunities for teams to take part. Agreed to return to these discussions.

Junior Development

Report received and noted. Members were pleased to hear of the additional numbers, events and improved finances and were grateful for the work of JJ and his team in making this possible.

Junior Squads

Reports received and noted. Training sessions have moved around the region this season. Income is down - which will have an implication for the charges to players for participating in the IRC. There was discussion about the availability of balls to the squads, but it was felt that sufficient balls were available for squads to use / share.

Coaching.

Report received and noted.

Referees

Report received and noted. There will be a referees upgrade session at the SW Championships. RP will talk to CS about the possibility of a formal referee upgrade clinic at the event.

Beach Volleyball

No report received

Inclusive Volleyball

No report received

Regional Commission -

Minutes of the recent meeting received and noted

6. Area Reports.

Bristol - report received and noted.

Cornwall - no report received

Dorset - report received and noted

Exeter and District - No report received. DR reported that the leagues are running well. Exeter Challenge tournament is fully subscribed. Referees L4 course has taken place.

Gloucester - report received and noted. There has been contraction, particularly in the women's league.

Plymouth - report received and noted.

Wiltshire - report received and noted.

7. Volleyball England update - Gill Harrison

Annual Awards nominations are now open. Funding guides now available. IRC entry forms will go out in March. There is a possibility of tying in the "Senior Academies Fair" to the IRC - would allow players access to staff / trials from the major volleyball academies (Northumbria / Essex / UEL / Bournemouth / Sheffield Hallam / Nottingham).

L1 Coaches course - new course released. More of a "volleyball coaches course" rather than a UKCC course. L2 - decisions still to be made as to whether it stays in the framework or becomes a VE specific course. It is hoped to allow coaches with relevant previous experience to take L2 without L1.

Laura Woodruffe, currently employed by VE is moving to the region. RR has invited

her to the AGM.

GH will check if guidance on GDPR will be provided by VE.

There is no update at present re the National Volleyball Centre.

There was discussion about how VE might survey members views. DR suggested the SW Championships was a good opportunity to survey members. RR suggested that Whitefield Tournament also offers similar opportunities. DR & RR suggested that there would be existing survey data from previous Volleyball Voice surveys.

GH expressed thanks to Ros Sutherland and Dave Gunter (from "Pool of Experts") who had provided valuable support in the development of VE technical programmes.

8. Urgent Planning Items

Finance / Treasurer - We still need to look for a suitable person to take up the position. In the meantime RR & DR will continue to share the responsibility. Agreed to revert to title of Treasurer rather than Finance Director.

Competitions - Vets date to be agreed and published

Coaching - need to arrange new format L1 courses. Bristol interested. GH - NVL ruling that clubs must have L2 coach will be introduced in a staggered fashion - this will have an impact on demand for L2 courses.

Officials - RP will talk to CS about the possibility of a formal referee upgrade clinic at the SW Championships.

Junior Competitions. Paper from GA re the future of junior development. The meeting supported his views and ways forward, though felt it was unlikely that there would be much change in the short term.

Junior Squads - no further discussion

Beach - no further discussion

SW Annual Awards - RR will distribute forms. DR will add to website. RS will distribute at SW Championships. Agreed to add an award for Contribution to Volleyball (for younger contributors - probably under 25 - RR to word). In addition to have an award at SW Championships for "Spirit of the Championships", which might be given to an official, coach, player or administrator.

9 Dates of future meetings

- June 2nd , 2018 (AGM)

10. AOB - there was none

Annual Reports 2017-18

Chairman's Report

The end of the indoor season is always a busy time for everyone and a successful time for the SWVA. With the SW League program going down to the last round of matches, the SW Championships selling out within 48 hours, the SW Junior Grand Prix concluding and the Inter Regional Championship squad build up with their final squad selection, matches and training sessions.

Once again, I would like to thank our 30 plus volunteers who have worked throughout the year on our events and activities for the benefit of the sport within the Region.

On the business side we are in good shape, previous dept issues have been resolved and although we are still missing a Treasure we do have better all-round access to our accounts. Plenty of things to sort out for the next season, see you all at the AGM.

Dave Reece
SWVA Chairman

Secretary's Report

Affiliations

I am grateful to VE headquarters staff for regular affiliation updates. I have extracted the following details from the most recent report and provided comparative figures for recent seasons:

County	Clubs				Coaches				Referees			
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2018	2017	2016	2015	2018	2017	2016	2015
Avon	10	9	7	10	18	12	19	16	28	21	35	19
Cornwall	2	3	4	3	1	3	3	5	1	5	1	2
Devon	23	13	15	17	18	33	26	38	34	30	16	10
Dorset	11	13	10	12	17	17	21	28	5	7	4	7
Gloucestershire	7	7	7	6	3	3	3	4	8	6	12	8
Guernsey	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	3	2	0	0	0
Jersey	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	3
Somerset	7	7	10	8	8	8	7	6	10	15	13	3

Wales	10	12	10	10	15	20	7	6	17	25	11	1
Wiltshire	9	10	9	10	12	13	17	13	9	13	10	15
Total	69	75	73	77	92	112	104	121	114	123	104	70

The figures above are based on the VE report for April 2018. As you can see there is a decrease in club affiliations, coach and referee registrations, compared to last season. However, the report below from VE this week shows coach registration levels to be higher, but still down on last year.

Within the region, there is still a mixed picture with some areas having very few affiliations / registrations in some categories. I have copied Area Secretaries with the affiliations figures and can only urge them to chase up missing affiliations.

This is how we compare with other regions (figures received from VE last week:

Region	Clubs	Coaches	Referees	Population
Yorkshire	28	36	31	5.2m
West Midlands	39	69	84	5.6m
South West	69	105	116	5.2m
South East	75	123	148	8.6m
North West	41	39	48	7.0m
North East	19	40	14	2.6m
London	61	61	80	8.1m
East Midlands	28	50	55	4.5m
East	45	59	70	5.8m

The Regional Commission

There have been a number of telephone conference meetings this season (please see my report to the last meeting). Last weekend there was a face to face meeting at the IRC event. I was unable to attend, but hopefully Dave Reece will be able to update us at our AGM.

Local Associations - later in this document you will find reports from local areas - my thanks to those who have provided them. Generally the picture is good, though a few areas seem to be struggling to attract as many teams into their leagues.

Competitions - I am grateful to Rachel for her efforts in ensuring smooth progress in SW Competitions - both league and championships. We still have a very strong regional competitive structure which would, I think, be the envy of most regions. The Vets and SW Championships

both "sold out early".

Junior Competitions - In a similar way, junior competitions remain a strength of the region. For this, many thanks to the team that have made these possible this season, in particular to Jurek for picking it up in addition to his other responsibilities.

Accounts - a big thank you to Dave Reece for picking up the reins (or the books!) when our Treasurer stood down during the year.

General - I am really grateful to all those who give up so much time to make volleyball in the SW such a success, there is so much excellent work going on.

Ron Richards, Secretary, SWVA

Treasurer's Report

SW Account

At the moment we have been unable to find a replacement Treasurer since Cat stood down at the end of 2017. Myself and Ron have access to our bank accounts and hence all bills and cheques are being paid and cashed. We have resurrected our on-line Lloyds bank account which allows clubs and teams to use BACS payments without any risk to our deposit and administration accounts. Recently used for the SW Championships and currently being used for the IRC squads.

At the time writing (23rd May):

	2018	2017
Lloyds Deposit Acc:	£21,067.57	£21,529.68
Lloyds Cheque Acc:	£220.65	£1,698.35
Lloyds On Line Acc:	£1,577.00	£0
Total / SWVA Funds:	£23,675.22	£23,228.03

Other Admin Accounts

Natwest Admin Acc: £ balance not known to me, small amount held

SWVA Program Accounts

Other than Rachel's SW League and Tournament accounts, I have not yet received any accounts for the SWJGP, IRC program or SW admin.

Dave Reece

Competition Secretary's Report

SWVA Veterans Tournament

It was fantastic to see a full complement of 12 teams for this year's Veterans tournament. Five teams had an average age between 46 and 50, giving the highest age handicap of the day and only one "young" team averaging just under 40.

In the morning pool rounds Yeovil chased Cheltenham & Gloucester all the way in Pool A as both teams progressed to the semi-finals. In Pool B City of Bristol were the only team to challenge Wiltshire Mavericks taking them to a draw, but unfortunately a couple of other matches didn't go their way and it was the 2015 champions Saga Louts that took the final place in the semi-finals.

The morning pool rounds had obviously taken its toll on the pool winners as they were both knocked out in the semi-finals, setting up a very close final between Saga Louts from Torexe and Yeovil. Saga Louts regained their title by just 3 points from Yeovil, which was the same points margin in the third-fourth play-off, to give Cheltenham & Gloucester third place.

There were also some very closely fought battles to determine fifth to eighth places and the oldest team in the competition Cardiff Volts came good in the end, having not won a match in the pool rounds to win both their play-offs and finish ninth.

The decision taken at last year's AGM to open entries to the SW Veterans tournament much earlier and before the National and SW League fixtures were finalized has paid dividends, with the tournament filling up by the beginning of August.

2017 Results

- 1st Saga Louts - Torexe
- 2nd Yeovil
- 3rd Cheltenham and Gloucester VC
- 4th Wiltshire Mavericks
- 5th City of Bristol
- 6th Plymouth Mayflower VC
- 7th Royal Navy
- 8th Exeter One
- 9th Cardiff Volts
- 10th Mature Cheddar
- 11th Countrymen
- 12th Torexe

SWVA Leagues

It is great to see that the men's league has expanded this year with three more teams than

last year, taking us back to a healthy nine teams. We welcome back Kernow and Bristol after a short break and Weymouth after a somewhat longer absence, with their first appearance in the league this century!

Despite their long absence Weymouth Beach made an impressive return to the SW League and dropped only one match right at the end of the season. They have applied for entry to National League for next season and we wish them well in their endeavours. City of Bristol had another strong season finishing second to Weymouth, with third place decided on set difference where Kernow just edged out Yeovil.

The ladies league has also increased by one to a total of ten teams, although we have lost last year's winners Yeovil as they are focussing on their National League side this year and Hartpury who thoroughly enjoyed their time in the league last season but had too many graduating to continue this season. We welcome two new ladies teams Exeter Storm and Taunton making their debuts in the ladies league and it is great to see Cardiff bring a ladies team back into the SW League to complement their NVL side.

Wiltshire Mavericks dominated the league for the majority of the season unbeaten until the last two rounds of fixtures. The penultimate round saw a clash with their closest rivals Torexe, who proved the stronger team on the day. The very last match of the season saw Cheltenham and Gloucester fighting to hold on to their third place up against Wiltshire Mavericks. It was a five set thriller and after going two sets to one down against Mavericks they fought back to take the last two sets, securing their third place, but demoting Wiltshire Mavericks to second on sets difference. After coming second four times in the previous five years, Torexe finally take the title, by the closest of margins.

The "mini beast from the East" pretty much wiped out a busy weekend of matches in the league this year and coming so close to the end of the season, it was a difficult time to sort out re-arrangements. I would like to thank all the teams that worked hard to ensure that most of the matches were played, but unfortunately there were a few that could not be rearranged.

The men's Player of the Match award is shared this year between Josh Mudge from Cardiff Panthers and Sean Hendry from Weymouth Beach with 7 nominations each, just one behind were Olly Smith (Kernow) and Ryan Stout (Weymouth Beach). In the ladies competition it went to the last day of competition when Laura Kulmala from Royal Wootton Bassett once again proved her consistency to regain the title after coming second last season taking 9 nominations, with Gemma Macia Romero from Bristol Ladies 3 one behind in second and Sophie Batho from Torexe in third place with 7 nominations.

SW Men's League Final Results 2017 - 18

SW Mens

	P	W	L	Pts F	Pts A	Sets F	Sets A	Pts
Weymouth Beach 	16	15	1	1327	974	47	8	46
City of Bristol 	16	13	3	1357	1260	39	20	42
Kernow	16	11	5	1516	1320	40	24	38
Yeovil	16	11	5	1362	1347	35	26	38
PMVC Men	16	6	10	1281	1271	27	32	28
Torexe Topguns†	16	5	9	1099	1240	20	34	24
Cardiff Panthers	16	4	12	1183	1329	20	39	24
Beach Academy†	16	4	10	1159	1280	20	35	22
Bristol VC Men 2†♥	16	0	14	1011	1274	12	42	14

†includes void matches

SW Women's League Final Results 2017 - 18

SW Ladies

	P	W	L	Pts F	Pts A	Sets F	Sets A	Pts
Torexe	18	16	2	1427	966	51	8	50
Wiltshire Mavericks	18	16	2	1447	1022	50	10	50
Cheltenham & Glos	18	12	6	1472	1264	40	26	42
Royal Wootton Bassett	18	11	7	1417	1165	37	27	40
Taunton	18	10	8	1413	1373	37	32	38
Kernow Benenes	18	9	9	1399	1372	34	32	36
Bristol Ladies 3	18	7	11	1331	1408	26	39	32
Exeter Storm	18	5	13	1096	1471	19	44	28
Cardiff Jets	18	3	15	1189	1478	18	48	24
Beach Academy♥	18	1	17	749	1421	6	52	20

SWVA South West Championships

The season concluded with the South West Championships, which were once again held at the Kitto Centre in Plymouth. This event proved exceptionally popular this year selling out in less than a week! Although a couple of teams later dropped out due to conflicts with the NVL play-offs they were replaced by other teams.

Once again, we had 28 teams with 220 players and it was good to see some new teams from

around the region, with 14 in each division. They competed over 150 matches in an action-packed weekend to find the 2018 SW Champions.

In the men's division after two rounds it was amazing to see that we had 4 teams all tied on 6 match points and 59 points scored! Well into the Sunday morning session both divisions still had at least eight teams in contention for the top 6 places.

At the end of the pool rounds in the Men's Division, it was City of Bristol 1 who topped the group for the second year in succession ahead of Wiltshire Mavericks. Plymouth Oldboys and Swansea 360 came third and fourth and took on challengers Exeter Storm and City of Bristol 2, who clinched the final play-off position in the last round of the pool matches.

Yeovil men had an unfortunate tournament losing players to injury just before and during the event, meaning that they only had a complete team for the first match. Supported by some of their ladies they played on throughout the tournament with great spirit giving the other teams good matches, avoiding a lot of null games and my thanks go to the team for their support to the event.

In the play-offs Plymouth Oldboys beat Exeter Storm, for third place and in a very close contest City of Bristol 2 just pipped Swansea 360, perhaps the final pool round was a good warm-up for them! In the semi-finals it was a local derby on one side as City of Bristol 1 took on City of Bristol 2 and the defending champions proved too strong for their second team. Wiltshire Mavericks meanwhile put a halt to the Plymouth Oldboys strong run through the competition and the top two seeds from the pool rounds met in the final.

In the final City of Bristol 1 showed their determination to keep their title and stayed in control to once again finish the weekend without loss, beating Wiltshire Mavericks 25-16; 25-19.

In the ladies competition both Bristol 1.5 and Yeovil started very strongly and maintained this throughout the pool rounds, with neither losing a game. In contrast Torexe had a tough start meeting both Bristol 1.5 and Yeovil in the first two rounds, but after that they picked themselves up and didn't drop another game to take third at the end of the pool rounds. The all-stars Bemis Brunel side also showed good consistency dropping only two games. Despite a rocky start to Sunday morning City of Bristol 1 came through to take their place in the play-offs with Bemis Cabot just edging out Royal Wootton Bassett to set up a Bemis local derby in the ladies play-offs.

Torexe and Bemis Brunel proved their higher rankings comfortably earning their places in the semi-finals. After three consecutive years in the finals Torexe met their match in a close semi-final against Yeovil and were not able to overturn the result from Saturday morning. Bemis Brunel also gave Bristol Ladies 1.5 their closest match of the tournament but it wasn't enough to deny Bristol Ladies their chance to defend their title in the finals.

Defending champions Bristol 1.5 didn't allow Yeovil any chance to get into their rhythm in the

final and Yeovil ran out of steam in the second set allowing Bristol 1.5 to retain their title as SW Champions.

My thanks go to Andrew Potter for facilitating all the equipment, ensuring that we had everything in place and to our regular refs Charlie Huitson, Sue Brennan, Janet Leach, Jacky Pang and Dan Sarnik who once again came along for the weekend, joined by Richard Parkes on Saturday and Chris Semmens on Sunday. The refereeing team worked hard with the more junior teams encouraging them to get involved and gain valuable experience. It was great to hear that there were three put forward for upgrading and numerous observations during the event.

This year we added a new trophy to the event the "Spirit of the Tournament", which was unanimously awarded to Jacky Pang for her contribution to the tournament in so many capacities, as a referee, player and coach, all with a beaming smile!

Final Placings

Pos.	Men	Ladies
1	City of Bristol 1	Bristol 1.5
2	Wiltshire Mavericks	Yeovil
3=	Plymouth Oldboys	Torexe
3=	City of Bristol 2	Bemi Brunel
5	Swansea 360	City of Bristol 1
6	Exeter Storm	Bemi Cabot
7	Bristol VC 1	Royal Wootton Bassett
8	PMVC	PMVC
9	Cheddar	Plymouth Uni
10	Swansea Uni	Swansea Uni
11	Cheltenham & Gloucester	City of Bristol 2
12	Bristol VC 2	Cardiff Jets
13	Bemi Concorde	Bristol Ladies 3
14	Yeovil	Swansea 360

Rachel Swindell
SW Competitions Secretary

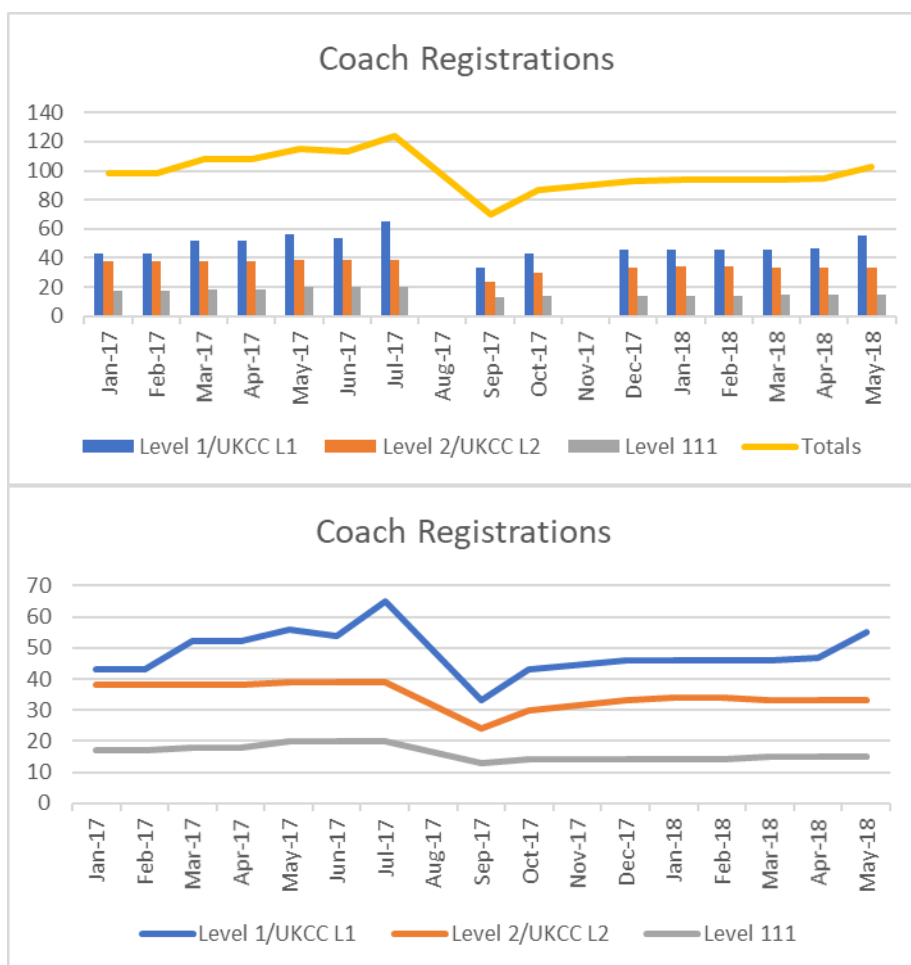
Coaching Secretary's Report

According to the latest Volleyball England spreadsheet of Registered coaches (May 2018), we have 103 registered coaches which is a drop of 10 coaches to compare to end of season 2017.

The huge drop from July 17 to Sept would be as a result of expiration of many coach registrations, particularly of newly qualified coaches who get free 12 months registration after their course and don't renew. Those active coaches that renew on an annual cycle would be consistent with the numbers we have today, bar a few retirements. The steady numbers from September have been very consistent which would make sense as no courses have been run in the last 12 months. The few that have registered since September would be as a result of late registration or possibly as a club need to have a registered coach for league rules purposes.

Current number of registered coaches (as of May 2018)			
Number of Volleyball England <u>registered coaches</u> in the South West	Level I or UKCC Level I	Level II or UKCC Level II Or UKCC Level II Theory	Level III or Level III Theory
	55 (+1)	33 (-6)	15 (-5)
	Total of 103 registered (-10)		

- Comparison to figures presented at SW AGM 2017.



Coaching Courses overview for 2017/18 Season

No courses were run through 2017 as Volleyball England has gone through a huge restructure to deal with the loss of large funding from Sport England. We were awaiting new course material and a restructure of workforce to support coaches nationally. Changes are still occurring but we definitely have the new Level 1 course released.

	Young Leaders	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Completed courses 2017	0	0	0	0
Future Courses planned for 2018	0	0	0	0

Coaching Courses update -

The new Level 1 course was launched by Volleyball England on February 1st 2018 and so I am now expecting many clubs and players who were waiting on the new course delivery to generate interest throughout the 2018-19 season.

The current UKCC level 2 course will remain in its current format until Dec 2018. There is no further information other than it will be reduced from its 4 day format.

I understand that there a number of candidates in the South West, specifically Bristol, who are waiting to attend a Level 2 course but I advised those interested parties to hold on until the new release date for the revamped version. There seems no point to pay a lot of money towards the current UKCC which is being superceded. It costs more and takes up more days and is less relevant to the coaching needs of 6 a side volleyball that has been a critical element of the UKCC Level2 course previously.

However, recent communication with Anna Maria Lotowska indicates she intends to go ahead with the current format and try for August/September.

Jurek Jankowski
Coaching Secretary

Officials Secretary's Report

Another year has passed and they seem to be going ever faster.

My sincerest congratulations to all those who have taken the initial step and qualified as a Grade IV Referee this year and even more congratulations to those who have continued in their development and have upgraded, I wish you all well for the future.

Volleyball, like any sport, is a game that can be passionately played, coached and officiated and rightly so based on the time, effort and commitment that is provided by all those here in the South West. However, it is the responsibility of everyone involved in the sport to be able to demonstrate the self control required to keep the sport of volleyball enjoyable for everyone involved. Something that may be minor in the context of the game can suddenly escalate and provoke a reaction to which can have long term consequences on the individuals involved and the sport and can be described as "road rage" on a volleyball court, which must stop. On the plus side these are very infrequent, but once is once too many.

May I also thank Staff Referees at Volleyball England who have travelled across the South West to hold courses and share their knowledge and experience. I was very fortunate to join Nick Heckford on a course at Exeter and found it extremely useful as there was information which I had forgotten, or maybe didn't learn the first time, which I picked up and have used it to assist my refereeing. Your time and experience are greatly appreciated here in the South West, thank you for your help and support.

Thanks also to the Referee Mentors here in the South West for your contribution, to which I was joined by two, Richard Parkes and Charlie Huitson at the South West Championships where three Referees were observed and assessed and recommended for upgrade. If you do not know who your mentor happens to be please let me know and also if you are looking to upgrade also let both me and your local Mentor know, or even if you are looking for support also get in touch.

Congratulations also to the Referees from the South West who were selected to Referee and Officiate at the Volleyball England Student Games in Norwich in February, the National Finals & Super 8 Finals in Kettering. It's great to see that we have the talent here in the South West to be represented that these events and also provides a goal for others to attain.

Here's looking forward to another successful year. Keep whistling.

Chris Semmens, SWVA Officials Secretary / Regional Referees Co-ordinator

Junior Development Officer's Report

My first year in this new role has had its challenges. One of the biggest problems I see is that there is not a lack of volleyball opportunities for young players to be engaged in training or competitions in the South West. The biggest problem they do have are logistics and perhaps too many clashes and needing therefore to make decisions about which they can attend, and which is one weekend too many; as parental support is always required which involves costs and transport to events. Often, the most talented juniors are doing too much as they also get called up for England cadets camps.

This may be a bizarre and bold statement to have made, but as I see it, certain clubs run their own healthy junior programmes and on top of those I try to engage children in monthly SW Junior Grand Prix events and monthly SW squads training sessions. As well as that, some junior players/clubs also juggle their players in National Cup competitions and some of the stronger juniors also participate in National league and/or the SW League.

This is not a criticism but an observation. It just emphasises that the region has wonderful playing opportunities for juniors and it needs a lot of support and coordinated effort to ensure we don't ask too much of players and their parents who often have siblings and struggle with managing their weekends.

South West Junior Grand Prix 2017-18

A productive and successful Grand Prix with excellent support from junior club coaches, their partners and parents. A big thank you to you all! This year we had hosting Bristol Spikers, Calne, Academy Beach Sports and Wessex.

U12 Girls Champions - Calne Comets	R Up - PMVC
U12 Boys Champions - Taunton Rascals	R Up - Bristol Spikers Hufflepuff
U13 Girls Champions - RWB	R Up - Taunton Stars
U13 Boys Champions - RWB	R Up - Bristol Spikers Firebolts
U14 Girls Champions - Exeter Storm	R Up - South Hants (invited)
U14 Boys Champions - Wessex	R Up - Academy Hammers
U15 Girls Champions - PMVC	R Up - Taunton Team FT
U15 Boys Champions - Bristol Spikers Dragons	R Up - Academy Spikers

Excess trophies from last year were reused alongside new ones and handed out to Winners, Runners Up and 3rd placed teams.

SW Mini Champs

We took a chance on returning to an old favourite venue, Hutton Moor Leisure Centre. It has its benefits in that it can stage very comfortably an 8 court event. However, that would rely on at least 24 teams participating to make it financially viable. The risk is not enough teams attending and making a huge loss as the sports hall has stringent rules on cancellation charges. With the average amount of teams attending this seasons events ranging between 16-20 we were taking a chance. Many of the players and club coaches liked the choice of venue. Fortunately, we did not make a huge loss, 2 team entries short of breaking even but the loss was offset by profits from other tournaments.

For next year's Mini Champs, I have reserved a 6 court venue in Taunton for **16th March 2019**, knowing that I can cancel without strict cancellation criteria but hope to run the event again at Hutton Moor; we can go with Hutton Moor by gauging the amount of participating teams active in the new season commences before committing.

U12 Girls Champions - PMVC	R Up - Calne Comets
U12 Boys Champions - Taunton Bigger Rascals	R Up - Taunton Rascals
U13 Girls Champions - RWB	R Up - N/A
U13 Boys Champions - Bristol Spikers Firebolts	R Up - RWB
U14 Girls Champions - Exeter Storm	R Up - N/A
U14 Boys Champions - Academy Spikers	R Up - Academy Hammers
U15 Girls Champions - PMVC	R Up - Bristol Spikers Ravenclaw
U15 Boys Champions - Bristol Spikers Dragons	R Up - Academy Hitters

Excess trophies from last year were recycled alongside new ones and handed out to Winners, Runners Up.

Financial summary

JGP Series 2017/18

			In	Out	Profit/Loss
JGP1	Sep-17	Bristol	£180	£85	£95
JGP2	Oct-17	Calne	£75	£210	-£135
JGP3	Nov-17	ABS	£375	£0	£375
JGP4	Jan-18	Bristol	£270	£208	£62
JGP5	Feb-18	LeAF	£300	£262.50	£37.50
	Trophy engraving			£130	-£130
SW Mini	Mar-18	Hutton Moor	£300	£326	-£26
			Total Profit/Loss		£279.00

		In	Out	Profit
Totals for season		£1,500	£1,221	£279

- The large loss at Calne could be attributed to being in the Half Term.
- The huge profit attained at Academy Beach was thanks to PETROC not charging Denise Austin for the sports hall due to the close links/relationship with school club links.

JGP vs JUVOTO 2018-19 Season

I have prepared dates which will be released to junior club participants after the AGM. I plan to run 5 x Junior GP events as per previous years with a SW Mini Champs March. There is also a suggestion to rebrand the competition to appeal more to the younger generation. A suggestion would be to adopt what other regions have named **JUVOTO**. Up to debate!

South West Junior Regional Development Training

We managed to hold a total of 9 regional sessions, 6 x Exeter, 2 x Bournemouth and 1 x Bristol. There was a nice spread of participants from many junior clubs, namely:

- Academy of Beach Sports
- Bristol
- Bristol Spikers
- Calne Comets
- Cardiff Celts
- Devizes
- Exeter Storm
- Plymouth Mayflower
- Royal Wootton Bassett
- Stroud
- Taunton
- Torexe
- Wessex

There was an attempt to move the sessions around the region but with that came benefits and disadvantages. Both benefits and disadvantages have been thrashed out between the Head Coaches and Management and it was decided that it is better to hold the sessions at one venue for next season. However, we have a plan to run 1 x Bristol session at the start of the season (Saturday 22nd September) which will be led by Kate Falkner and for the U15 Boys and Girls age groups.

The U17's will have their session in Exeter.

Message from Volleyball England regarding changes to National Junior Cup competitions

Another notable change is to the **Under 15 championships**, which will now follow the same format as the U16 and U18 National Championships. The Under 15 competition will begin with a preliminary round in January and played out over five rounds in total. In recent years, the competition had just three rounds: regional, divisional and national.

"As we communicated to the membership in June 2017, we are going to test a new format for the Under 15 championship," says Freda Bussey, the Competitions and Events Director. "With more rounds, better teams can enter later into the competition, meaning the teams in the opening rounds will enjoy more competitive matches, which will hopefully increase their enjoyment and encourage them to develop their interest and passion for volleyball."

The changes were made after feedback and it was felt that the previous format of the competition was not doing enough to help develop young volleyball talent.

"Before making any changes, there was a consultation with the teams. Most clubs gave feedback and expressed a desire to try something new. The teams supported having more closely-fought games so it would be a more enjoyable experience for players of all abilities," says Freda.

The Under 15 is the youngest junior competition run by the national governing body and there is still the vision to develop volleyball with even younger age groups.

"The regions are also encouraged to continue to develop volleyball for the Under 14 age group," says Freda. "It would help players get hooked on the sport at a younger age and increase the number of players coming through to senior level. The goal would be for the regions to run Under 14 competitions and then for Volleyball England to host an Under 14 championships national final."

Dave Gunter is acting for the South West as part of the Volleyball England Working Group to gather/collect feedback from coaches to answer many questions about the format of the junior finals going forward.

National Under 14 Regional Competition

Based on the recent statement from Volleyball England's Freda Bussey, we may need to be closer to making a decision on how we decide our Region's U14 SW representatives for a National competition play off. It is not clear from the statement if this would be 6 a side. One proposal we made from last year was to hold the U14 competition alongside SW Mini Champs, or else we choose the strongest players from random clubs to get together for a few training sessions prior to the competition and allocate a club coach to the group of players. It would make sense to choose players who attend the monthly squads camps. The chosen coach could be the Head Coaches of the U15 Boys and Girls squads. Not every volleyball club has a squad of 6 players to enter a Regional play off hence my last statement.

Junior Squads Reports

Neil Bentley, Team Manager is best placed to write a report on the Season as it was. I believe his main report will be written once the IRC Finals weekend is over, so in the meantime I submit this brief report which repeats some of the material I submitted in my Feb report but may not have been discussed as I was not present to answer questions at the last SW Meeting.

The season of monthly sessions have completed successfully

- 23rd September - Bristol
- 14th October - LeAF
- 4th November - Riverside, Exeter
- 16th December - Riverside, Exeter

- 6th January - Riverside, Exeter
- 10th February - LeAF
- 17th Mar - Riverside, Exeter
- 21st Apr - Riverside, Exeter
- 19th May - Riverside, Exeter

Moving the training around the region has had its benefits and also its difficulties. The benefits have been fairness for players and parents who regularly travel to Exeter and enjoyed seeing it closer to them for a change. Also, notably greater participation, particularly Bristol and near Bristol attendees when it was closer to them, but it was noted that we did not see them at the other camps, bar one or two.

The difficulties most notably for the coaching staff (Head and assistants) who are predominantly Exeter based. We saw logistical problems with them getting to other venues, sharing or not sharing lifts and greater costs in subsidising travel costs when travelling independently. Also to add to that, we saw poor planning of getting the Riverside stored equipment to the non Exeter venues, as Riverside is the storage area for volleyballs and wagons.

Although I have not seen all the figures, my understanding is that we have not run any session at a loss. I am uncertain as to the coaching and assistant coaches expectations of reimbursement when the sessions were not in Exeter. This financial side was not discussed in the Summer planning meeting and it may have become an issue this season.

From my perspective, some coaches travelled alone in separate cars to the same venue and were hoping for petrol compensation even though they were travelling from similar areas and could have absorbed costs by sharing.

For a first, it was my plan to trial running all squads simultaneously at LeAF i.e managing 4 squads across 4 courts. This was to bring all coaches together and all players together, so that it brought a social element to the season, everyone recognising that the programme has a bigger picture than what we see on a month to month basis, and to appreciate and promote to the players and parents that they are part of a larger group playing volleyball in the South West. That it may also entice and encourage the players to continue playing and attending as the excitement of seeing their peers and opposite gender is what it should all be about. Sadly the first of these sessions, the 14th October, showed lateness of coaches and poor coordination of resourcing equipment. Numbers were low across all 4 courts. Incredibly many Wessex players failed to attend also (we were hoping to get their numbers high for this session).

On the 10th February, we repeated this scenario at LeAF and I am yet to hear if we improved on our failings from the first venture. I was unable to attend.

2018-19 SEASON

We were delighted with the news from Volleyball England when they announced the Inter Regional Programme is to become one of the main junior events in the Volleyball England Calendar. I was excited to learn that and I can't wait to witness the benefits this will bring over the course of the year.

The below dates have been submitted to Torexe for booking the Riverside Leisure Centre.

Volleyball Calendar		Volleyball Calendar		2018-19 Season	
Bookings dates for Riverside L.C				Notes/Comments	
SEPTEMBER					
Nr 1	22nd	Squads	11-2 or 3pm (U17's) Riverside 11-2 or 3pm (U15's) Bristol	Kate/Neil suggested having U17's training at Riverside and U15 perhaps Bristol area so to finalise on Saturday Split coaching to canvass U15 along M4 corridor	
OCTOBER					
Nr 2	20th	Squads	11-6pm		
NOVEMBER					
Nr 3	17th	Squads	11-6pm		
DECEMBER					
Nr 4	15th	Squads	11-6pm		
JANUARY					
Nr 5	26th	Squads	11-6pm		
FEBRUARY					
Nr 6	23rd	Squads	11-6pm		
MARCH					
Nr 7	16th	Squads	11-6pm		
APRIL					
Nr 8	13th	Squads	11-2pm	GIRLS SQUADS TRAINING ONLY	
	14th			Exeter Challenge Men	
	20th			Easter weekend	
	21st			Easter weekend	
Nr 9	27th	Squads	11-3pm	BOYS SQUADS TRAINING ONLY	
	28th			Exeter Challenge Ladies	
MAY					
Nr 10	18th	Squads	11-6pm		

I hope to secure the commitment of the Head Coaches and Assistant coaches for next season within the month and hope there are not too many changes.

In the new year we have lost the services of 2 x Assistant coaches for personal reasons

- Immy Dawes
- Claire Babbage

We greatly value their contribution to date and the door is open for their return. I will endeavour to find Assistant coaches in the Summer.

I continue to thank Neil Bentley for a sterling job as Team Manager all season. He has been totally committed and always at training to receive the children as they attend sessions, money collection, being there for parental queries and for coaching support. We are very fortunate to have him on board

Jurek Jankowski

Beach Volleyball Development Officer's Report

No report - position vacant

Inclusion Volleyball Officer's Report

No report received

Volleyball England Regional Commission Representative's Report

Notes by Dave Reece from the meeting on May 28th:

Items of interest

What is the point of the Regional Commission? Communication and sharing Best Practice were two of the main topics.

Code of Conduct:

The Conduct of some club members (clubs, players and coaches), which appear to be an issue in some regions and in particular in the VE's NL program was talked about. Not an issue that I'm aware of in SWVA events, the meeting was interested in the fact that we can and do expel teams. Other tools we use include a tournament black list and making sure teams are aware that if they are expelled, they can stay expelled from SWVA events or on the black list until they can show otherwise. Even the threat of these administration tools has paid dividends for us many times, other volleyball associations may wish to look at using similar tools.

Social Media Issues:

The London VA are having an issue with negative comments on social media, I believe this was a group on the Facebook platform with a very similar name but not a group administered by the London VA.

The London VA name is trademarked and threatened to test this in court if the owners / administrator of the alternative Facebook group did not remove these negative comments (which they have finally now done).

Items noted by the group. The SWVA does not have a social media group and hence we do not open ourselves up for this sort of issue and the additional administration costs involved (unlike others). Should we trademark the SWVA Name and logo?

Teams requesting to by-pass Regional League Programs

Riverside VC from Gloucester have requested an entry into the National League, the SWVA was asked to provide a reference which we could not do so as we are unaware of the club. I raised this and the meeting was in general acceptance of the club playing in the regional league first but the RC only has a view. It did get fed back to Jonathan Moore (who was not at the meeting) later in the day and he has replied to Ron's email and is currently waiting on a reply from the SWVA.

My understanding of the reply / conversation is that if there is no regional program (as in other regions) then there has to be a vehicle to accept teams in to the NL and hence a recommendation from the local county as in this case is acceptable. In this case, my understanding is that he is looking for confirmation that the Riverside VC has access and can take part in the SWVA Regional League (and are they aware of this?)

I highlighted that the SWVA Regional league is open to all VE registered clubs to apply within the region and associated regions. The AGM is next weekend where we will sort and approve the 2018-19 program with entry forms out following that. Having an extra team in the SW league has several benefits to us and the wide volleyball program in general. Jonathan is worried that if they do not join the NL, the players may leave the club and join another NL team. [IMHO, maybe more of a team of convenience than a proper club?]

International Transfer Fee

An AOB Item I raised:

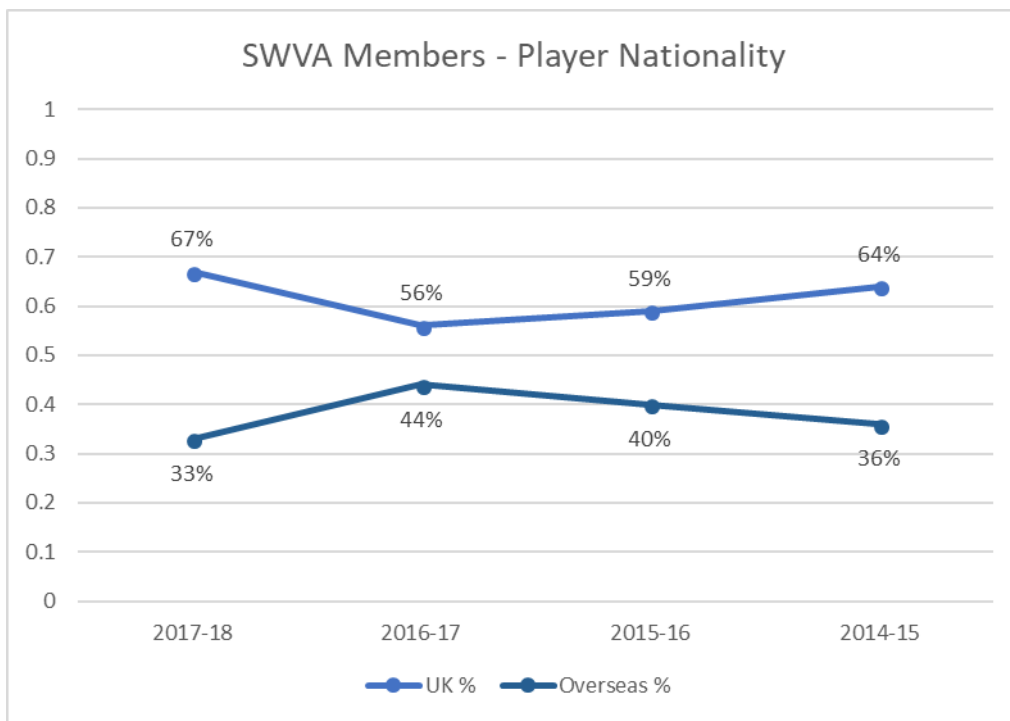
In the past we have noted the numbers and percentage of overseas players in our league expanding and this has a knock-on effect in various ways plus a potential team cost with respect to the FIVB International Transfer Fee. I asked for an update from VE as this has been propagating down through the VE's National League program.

Jonathan Moore later caught up with me and informed me that it is now enforced in both the VE National and Regional divisions but that the cost to club / team is generally nil but a new ruling by the FIVB is due later this year.

This will not involve regional leagues run by others, e.g. the SWVA. The only exception is if the player take part in an international match or event. Or if VE membership is voted in, in

which case existing wording could be interpreted otherwise.

Overseas players in the SWVA League (Adults) have been expanding in recent years, from 36% in 2014/15 to 44% in 2016/17 but dropped this season to 33%.



Other regions were unaware of their percentage of overseas players and did not appear to see this as an issue? London did suggest that they are likely to be in the 60 to 70 percent range.

Regional Championship Tournament

Regions were in general acceptance of having a Regional Commission tournament (which VE stopped supporting a few years ago). VE are not going to run this so would anyone else like to take this on. In a slightly separate conversation, the SE Champions would like to play the London League winners in an event and they will look at this, other I'm sure could join in.

SW Junior Grand Prix (SWJGP)

With ref to good practice across the regions, several regions call their equivalent of the SWJGP, JUVOTO (which I assume is Junior volleyball tournament), other names are JUVOLE which I assume is Junior Volleyball League and JUVO.

Should we look at a name change? Would it be better marketing and presentation, does JUVOTO sound more exciting? If we did, what we call the SWJBT?

JUVOB / JUVOBe (not that it's currently running but Denise has informed me that she is looking at a 2019 regional beach event, so we may be back in action soon).

Dave Reece

AREA ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Bristol & District Volleyball Association

In my report in February I said that teams had improved their administration and the league was running smoothly. I spoke too soon!

The season had started well with increased entries and some stability. Around the time that the league was splitting into two divisions we had the "beast from the east" and that one weekend of cancelled matches caused great difficulty for the second half of the season. Things did get back on track in most of the leagues, but there were real problems in Womens Div 2 with unplayed matches.

We held a Grade 4 Referees course in October - 11 took part - a successful course. We hope to run a Coaches Award course later in the season (possibly L2, but more likely L1 with the changed structures).

There has been some good junior development - - SW Junior GP in September & January at Wellsway. B&DVA League teams Bemis, Sidcot and Stroud are mainly juniors.

MEN'S DIVISION ONE

Team	Pts	W+L	W	L	Sets	Points
1. UWE VC - Mens 1st	8	5	3	2	7 : 4	243 : 219
2. City of Bristol VC	8	5	3	2	7 : 4	243 : 227
3. Melksham Volleyball - Cougars	8	5	3	2	7 : 5	249 : 258
4. Cheddar VC	7	4	3	1	6 : 3	202 : 171
5. Whirlpool Volleyball	7	5	2	3	4 : 7	238 : 261
6. Bristol VC 3	4	4	0	4	0 : 8	161 : 200

MEN'S DIVISION TWO

Team	Pts	W+L	W	L	Sets	Points
1. Bath University VC	8	4	4	0	8 : 1	203 : 149
2. Bedminster Volleyball (Concord)	4	3	1	2	3 : 4	153 : 115
3. Cardiff VC	3	2	1	1	3 : 2	105 : 53
4. UWE VC - Mens 2nd	3	2	1	1	2 : 3	96 : 114
5. Bristol University VC	1	3	0	3	0 : 6	24 : 150

MIXED'S DIVISION ONE

Team	Pts	W+L	W	L	Sets	Points
1. City of Bristol VC	8	4	4	0	8 : 1	211 : 135
2. Cardiff Wildcats	7	4	3	1	6 : 2	178 : 146
3. Vollewood	6	4	2	2	5 : 4	198 : 178
4. Inter TipTop VC	5	4	1	3	2 : 6	143 : 188

All the development (men, women, junior) initiatives continue. We ran our players development evening in September and Novice Tournaments in November and February. We would like, and need to, run a Level 1 Coaches Award, but since we can obtain hardly any financial support for the participants, it is on hold.

Junior - Wessex, with 4 Satellite Clubs, at Leaf Academy, Parkstone Grammar, Poole High and Lytchett Minster, plus their normal junior sessions, now run 11 junior sessions a week from September to May.

PARTICIPATION

Indoor - Veronica Arnaiz ran the weekly 2 division mixed league on 4 courts at Leaf Academy. With only 4 Division 1 teams and 9 Division 2 teams at the start of the season, we ran a league until Christmas and another in the New Year. The New Year league attracted 5 Div 1 teams and 11 Div 2 teams. The final tables are attached.

Ladies/Under 15 boys Division - playing one evening a month on a Grand Prix tournament basis, under the direction of Paula Reynolds and Julie Merrill.

PERFORMANCE

Jack Williams and Georgia McGovern, plus 5 former Wessex juniors, were selected for the England squads that have just played Scotland. Charlotte Wittram and Iraj Safaee represented England at NEVZA. Luke Honeybun has been selected for England Cadets squad.

TeamBU Wessex men and women have struggled in the Super 8's, but kept their places for next season. On the plus side, BU women won the Student Cup.

The Wessex U18 and U16 boys teams came 5th in their National Championships, while their U15 boys and girls came 3rd in the Southern Area Championship.

On the beach, Matt Hunter, Harry Jones and Izza Bartran all represented England.

REFEREEING

Nick Heckford continues to referee all over the world.

Geoff Allen
Chairman

EXETER & DISTRICT VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

No report received

GLOUCESTERSHIRE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

A disappointing season for the association, with the membership shrinking, and even then not all games were played in the Women's league.

In the Men's competition we lost Worcester Uni with hall and availability issues part way through the season, but Riverside, C&G (ex-Bournside) and Lydney were very close at the top, with Stroud and GlosPol taking the odd set from them.

In the Women's competition Lydney won from Hartpury, with the two university sides also involved. GlosPol were unable to fulfil any fixtures, but played a friendly versus Lydney in May in the hope that they might fare better next season.

In the Men's cup competition Riverside beat Lydney in three very close sets, but the Women's competition was abandoned without a game being played.

Tasos Zodiatas organised a Development Day at Stroud and was rewarded with a decent turnout of youngsters and newcomers. Hopefully this will encourage a few more to commit to regular volleyball.

Nationally C&G were a creditable 3rd in Men's Div 3 South, and also 3rd in the SW Ladies competition. And internationally we were pleased that Chris Gregory has progressed from GVA Div 2 a decade or so ago to 4th place in the Commonwealth Games Beach competition.

GVA Mens League

TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	SETS (F)	SETS (A)	SETS DIFF.	TOTAL POINTS
Riverside (Eagles)	8	7	1	22	7	15	36
C&G Volleyball	8	6	2	18	11	7	30
Lydney	8	5	3	17	10	7	27
Stroud	8	2	6	12	21	-9	16
Glos Pol	8	0	8	4	24	-20	4

GVA Ladies League

TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	SETS (F)	SETS (A)	SETS DIFF.	TOTAL POINTS
Lydney	5	4	1	12	4	8	20
Hartpury	4	2	2	7	6	1	11
Glos uni 1	3	1	2	3	6	-3	5
Glos Pol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Glos uni 2	2	0	2	0	6	-6	0

Mark Horseman

PLYMOUTH

A Brief Update:

Firstly, a general report back from Plymouth regarding the recent SW VB Champs hosted at the Kitto Centre, Plymouth. The tournament was viewed as the usual great success as in previous years, a feast and celebration of volleyball, for players, aspiring young coaches and referees, even for some senior players who once again dusted off their kit and bodies for a couple of competitive days of play. Bodies may have hurt during the following week, but all agreed it was a great weekend.

Thanks to all concerned who made it happen, in particular to Rachael and Dave, the brains behind the scene!

Plymouth Mayflower VC (PMVC) has had a good season, with much success with the junior club members who at times have excelled in their commitment and playing development that has been clear in recent tournaments results. Senior Ladies consolidated their presence in the NVL SW Women's Div 3 league, a league they will commit to next season. Senior men will enter the EDVA and Men's SW and know that if they want to take their volleyball to an even higher level, much commitment will be required to achieve this in 2018 / 19.

Plymouth Ladies, who have also been playing in the same league as PMVC ladies, just missed out on automatic promotion to the next NVL level and thus had a promotion opportunity in the NVL play offs in Kettering, unfortunately being held on the same weekend as the SW Champs meaning they had to pull out of the Plymouth weekend.

However, there was not to be a happy ending regarding the play off weekend as the team had to also pull out of that event at the 'eleventh hour'. This was due to four of their players deciding to leave the club, this resulted in too few players being available for the play offs. As can be imagined, all remaining club members were shocked and saddened by all these issues. They will once again be in the same league next season.

The two university sides, Plymouth and Marjon, have been playing various BUCs and recreational matches during the season with some players training with PMVC.

Charlie Huitson

Wiltshire Volleyball Association

No report received