Minutes prepared by: Sarah Hill
Circulation: Competition Working Group, Working Group Leads, Hub Team
Distribution: Jonathan Moore

1. Members present and apologies for absence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Hill</td>
<td>Super League Lead (via Teams)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Yip (SY)</td>
<td>Division 2 Women Lead</td>
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<td>Simon Cowie</td>
<td>Division 2 Men lead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Boagey</td>
<td>Division 1 Lead (via Teams until 13:41)</td>
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<td>Diane Hollows (DH)</td>
<td>Junior Competitions Lead &amp; Division 3 Men’s lead</td>
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<td>Herman Prada</td>
<td>Sitting Volleyball Lead (via Teams)</td>
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<td>Ade McGraa (AM)</td>
<td>Student Cup Lead</td>
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<td>James Murphy (JMu)</td>
<td>Competitions Lead</td>
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<td>National Cup Lead</td>
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<td>Steve Smith</td>
<td>Guest (via Teams)</td>
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<td>Martin Shakespeare (MS)</td>
<td>Referee Liaison (via Teams until 13:00)</td>
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Apologies

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<tr>
<td>Geoff Hollows</td>
<td>Results Processing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Moore (JMo)</td>
<td>Competitions and Events Coordinator</td>
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In **bold** – voting members

The meeting commenced at **10:30**

**Agenda**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Declaration of conflicts of interest
4. Competitions updates
5. Working Group updates
6. Strategic Update
7. Topics for further discussion (9 items)
8. Calendar 2020-21
9. Date of next two meetings
10. Any Other Business
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Action/Owner</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1 Apologies for Absence:</strong></td>
<td>Jonathan Moore – was attending a VE meeting with the board at SportPark and attended when possible.</td>
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<td><strong>2 Conflicts of interest</strong></td>
<td>JMu: Coach of Reading Aces (NVL2S) Player at Maidenhead, Treasurer BVA, Referee. No other conflicts MS: Referee DH: Referee BB: Staff tutor SC: Referee HP: Referee SH: Involved with UKBT at volunteer level AM: Referee, daughter that plays in Junior Competitions. SS: Referee, Treasurer &amp; Founder of Sitting BUCS VC, player in local league SY: Referee, Coach of Maidenhead (local league)</td>
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<td><strong>3 Minutes of Previous Meeting &amp; Matters Arising</strong></td>
<td>The minutes were accepted as be a true and accurate record. There were no matters arising. Outstanding actions have been completed, other than sending out the Draft Agenda to teams via WTR, due to unavoidable delays to the creation of the draft agenda.</td>
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| **4 Competitions Update** | **Super League:** Second half of the League fixtures are still not fully confirmed, despite the deadline having passed on 4/1. An issue with an unresolved transfer (query re. unpaid fees). disciplinary panel regarding an issue during a match to be held.  
**Division 1:** No real issues apart from poor admin from some clubs  
**Division W2:** Communications from clubs is quite poor.  
**Division M2:** One match unscheduled (M3N-17) to resolve.  
**Division W3:** No issues  
**Division M3:** No issues  
**Junior Comps:** Some complaints about u15, incl cost & location of games. To be discussed further.  
**National Cup:** No real issues apart from teams acting swiftly on booking fixtures etc.  
**Student Cup:** Almost full complement however there’s a couple of teams that may be dropping out. Should know by Mon 13th. BUCS tournament clash for some Northern teams for finals weekend therefore some teams were unable to commit to the cup.  
**Sitting Volleyball:** Successfully delivered 3 Grand Prix for sitting volleyball. Teams happy with new regulations in time for 4th GP.  
**NEVZA:** Not running in the UK anymore. Teams attended overseas and enjoyed the competition.  
**VEBT:** A nationwide tour takes place via a partnership with UKBT with national ranking points included | JMo, MS, DH, JMu |
| **5 Working Group Updates** | Consultation: Formal proposals (in a specific format) are requested from clubs who have made requests for change so that the request will be distributed to all active members of VolleyZone. Technical Timeouts will be added to consultation.  
It was noted that not all teams may be declaring the details of their sponsorship arrangements to the Hub in line with the regulation A8.  
Cup Finals to be held at Kettering again this year as no other Region/Venue bid. London have indicated they may be interested in future  
Review to take place for Junior Competitions, since recent changes which were approved at board level have met with some negativity. This review is suggested to be led with the following attendees: DH, JMo and Nick Shaffery (as Children & Young Persons Lead). This is a topic that may go to consultation in the future. |  |
### 6 Strategic Update

JMu attended the core market meeting. VE club day was discussed which included Club Conference, Annual Awards & AGM. It was commented that the notice given of the date was far too short - this feedback has already been given.

All awards (except Cup) should be moved to the Club Conference, Annual Awards & AGM, i.e. only Cup awards at Cup Finals.

Consultation expected on the restructuring of the NVL following requests that have been made (see item 7).

### 7 Topics for further review

#### Consistency of divisional leads

- **When do we allow rearrangements?**
  - First question should always be to try to find another venue before agreeing whether it’s an exceptional circumstance.

- **When do we fine?**
  - For match confirmations, one day's grace is given before a fine should be issued. A divisional lead may choose to send a reminder on the following day that a confirmation is due that it has not been received.
  - It is in the regulations that Referees: TBC is not allowed, therefore if a confirmation goes out with TBC then this is technically an admin failure as it is not a complete match confirmation. If a team can’t find a referee, then they need to nominate someone to give the opposition the chase to oppose.
  - It is agreed that any fines regarding failure to meet MOS and other sanctions recorded on the scoresheet will be applied from next season - a summary from SS will be distributed to Divisional Leads.
  - A pragmatic approach needs to be taken on fines regarding forfeited matches. The default is that the fine is issued, however it is accepted that there are exceptional circumstances and extenuating circumstances which will need to be reviewed on an individual basis.

**VolleyZone**

There has been considerable focus on improving VolleyZone from everyone from the board down and many issues have been resolved however we are not yet where we want to be. This remains a focus for VE and the supplier.

**Items for consultation (League Structure changes)**

Working Group members will take responsibility for contacting the requestors of changes requiring consultation to create the draft proposals which meet the specific format which has been created.

- BB will look at the requests for Div1 N/S split option
- SC will look at the Div2/3 Single Header/ Triangular option
- SY will review the Technical Time-Out removal option (he may also need to write this paper since it isn’t a specific request from a team, but an ongoing request that often appears).

JMu has made it clear that the volunteers noted above (except re. TTO) are not expected to write the papers, but to monitor that those submitted are acceptable and meet the format requirements, as well as chase any that are outstanding.

**Suggestions for Regulation Changes (to be approved in May).**

This allows teams to review the minutes and comment ahead of the next meeting and submit suggestion via leads of any other changes requested.

- ii. The home team in Cup and Shield fixtures must inform the Hub, Cup Lead and the NVL Officials Group Member of the date, venue and warm-up time of the fixture, within 4 days of the home team being aware of hosting their next match. Failure to do so will result in a £25 fine being levied.
- Make clear that NVL regulation supersedes FIVB rules of the game - to be appended in the introduction for the regulations.
- Remove the regulation regarding a minimum height above playing zone (currently 7.5m). FIVB applies at 7m.
- Change regs on money owing to limit to one month’s fees max and ensure club deals within debt within the season.

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<th>BB</th>
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- Removal of end of season transfer fee (since this will now be automated) - this would present a technical challenge to remove the fee within VolleyZone, however.
- Review regulations around registered vs qualified referees and clarify. MS to review this further.
- Other regulation changes required now that VolleyZone is implemented e.g. removal of emergency registration, since VolleyZone automates this.
- Potentially review the removal of the 1st March deadline for transfers - needs further discussion before approval or otherwise.
- Update regulations regarding league structure to make clear that matches take place on a weekend (rather than a specific day). A home team can request matches on a designated day if that is when their hall is available.

**Calendar**

| 8 Calendar | Calendar for 2020-21:  
| | - A draft has been prepared, no unusual significant issues  
| | - DH has advised that if required, she will prepare a spreadsheet that shows all Half Term dates across all authorities to give a good idea of availability for junior competitions. |

| 9 Date of next two meetings | Sunday 10th May 2020 at 10:30 - NVC Kettering *(second day of play-offs)*  
| | Monday 21st September at 18:30 is proposed *(via Teams)* |

| 10 Any other business | i.e. Not included in published draft Agenda:  
| | SH has requested that she could take a break from the Competitions Working Group (at least in a Divisional Lead role) due to increased responsibilities of a recent change in job role. DH will review emails going forward in the season until a replacement is found. To be reviewed in May.  
| | AM has requested a conversation with JMu & JMo regarding the effect of BUCS on Student Cup. |

The meeting closed at 15:15.