Minutes of Regional Commission Meeting  
Saturday 23 August 2014  
Sport Park, Loughborough

Meeting Started at 11:00.

**Reg/14-15/1 Present** Charlie Orton (President, London), Paul Bohannan (East), Lenny Barry (North West), Brian Kendall (North West), Colin Hill (West Midlands), Freda Bussey (South East), Dave Reece (South West), Rohan West (Participation Director), Jonathan Moore (Competitions Manager item 3)

**Reg/14-15/2 Apologies**  
Mike Turner (Yorkshire), Steve Jones (East Midlands), Keith Sowden (North East), Bryan Youlden (West Midlands).

**Reg/14-15/3 Inter Regional Competition**

3.1 Purpose

It was agreed that the purpose of the event was providing the reason and opportunity for young players from across each Region to come together from clubs both large and small, to train with good coaches, and play as juniors against juniors.

To raise the aspiration of juniors, especially from small clubs, to play volleyball at a high level. To enable them to see that Volleyball England is concerned and active in providing them with an opportunity to play in a National Competition.

To encourage all regions to extend the opportunity to all clubs and schools to attend training and selection events.

All regions expressed a desire to compete in 2015, including those not present at the meeting.

It was agreed that the regions would identify and share how they organise and promote training and selection events with the aim of developing a best practise model.

**Action: Regions**

3.2 2015 Event

The need for a decision from Volleyball England on the date for the event in 2015 was urgently needed. It was accepted that both Bank Holiday weekends in May could be considered, and Jonathan Moore was asked to obtain quotes in time for the Competitions Commission to make decision at their September 2014 meeting.

**Action: Competitions Commission**
3.3 Eligibility – Change to Regulations

It was agreed to change the eligibility of players to:

Players MUST have a connection to the Region they play for.

Either, residence, attending a school, or being registered as a player with a club in the Region.

3.4 Long Term

The meeting agreed that a Junior Competitions Review should be re-convened, and agreed to work with that to determine the long term role and funding for the Competition.

Ideas that were suggested for consideration included:

- Increasing the number of sections
- Separating sections to increase the choice of possible venues

3.5 Ancillary aspects of the Event

The use of young and aspiring referees on the event, with Regions selecting a referee to travel with the teams. These referees to receive mentoring and support from Referee Commission in lieu of payment for the event.

The use of Junior Coaches with the squads is to be encouraged.

If there is a possibility of requests for 2nd teams to fill spaces in the schedule, then the other regions to be advised in advance so they can retain more players in their training groups.

The meeting discussed allowing Welsh teams to enter which would enhance the tournament structure to allow two pools of 5 teams. It was agreed to allow the Welsh teams to be offered a place in the tournament. The president to write to the Welsh Association when date and venue set.

Action: President

The relationship with national squads was discussed and it was agreed that they would be informed of the dates and that we would welcome participation by squad members and attendance by squad coaches. For future events, there should be closer collaboration between the Regional Commission, Competitions Commission, Performance Commission and the office teams to ensure appropriate scheduling, within the constraints set by FIVB, CEV & NEVZA.

Reg/14-15/4 Individual membership

A discussion focused around the problem and drawing together membership and Volleyball England.

It was agreed that in some areas, a disconnect has developed between Volleyball England and members. The both the Regions and National Office to work to close the gap.
Some short-term, and relatively simple solutions include:

All regional and county web sites to display Volleyball England logo link to the Volleyball England website.

Action: Regions

Volleyball England to consider offering to host a league table and results service which will draw membership to the Volleyball England website.

Action: Rohan West

To investigate what the DPA requirements are on regions collecting membership information and making that available to Volleyball England.

Action: Rohan West

Reg/14-15/5 Sanctions Recording

The Board minute EB14-15/10.5 was raised. Generally the issue of sanctions in the region leagues was not consider a problem. London did collect information in its Men’s Premier Division, the South West had all their scoresheets available on line if it was thought necessary to analyse them. Some regions can supply the detail, some cannot.

Reg/14-15/6 Volleyball England re-organisation

The current situation was outlined with another meeting of the Leadership Group discussing the new situation set for Sept 20th. No firm decisions have yet been taken as to what to recommend to the Board.

Members were asked to explain their attitudes to the formation of Delivery Teams and Advisory Boards. The commission members expressed a concern that wider discussion of the proposals was required, and clear communication on the progress of discussions.

Reg/14-15/7 AOB

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 15:20.