



Super 8 Hosting Finals

Decisions required

Agree to mothball Super 8 finals at least until a sponsor is found or a Super 8 team can run the finals without undue cost to VE.

Agree to increase the size of the top division to make it the same size as the other division and to choose a name of division (either Super League or Premier League)

Choose an option for the promotion/relegation principles to fill the new structure.

Background

At the last board meeting we presented a project to look at getting the S8 finals hosted by a S8 team. No team were willing to host the finals.

Recommendations

- 1) The Super finals are mothballed as the approximate 10k hosting costs are unsustainable at the current time. We would of course prefer not to make this choice and would look to reinstate the current format if a suitable commercial arrangement could be made with a sponsor or a Super 8 team can run the finals without undue cost to VE.
- 2) Removing the S8 finals process will reduce the number of games played at the top level; during the last competitions review preference for divisions of 10-12 teams over smaller divisions was indicated, so we are recommending a division size of 10 teams and this will require a rename from Super 8s. We recommend a name that does not include a division size to enable flexibility for the future. We also recommend a distinctive division name for marketing purposes. We ask the board to choose a new name, we are suggesting either the Super League or the Premier League.
- 3) Increasing the size of the top division has a knock-on impact on promotion and relegation decisions throughout the league. As two members of the working group are coaches for teams and therefore there is a potential conflict of interest we offer three options with pros and cons and the view from the working group and ask the board to make the final decision. Note due to some teams dropping out in lower divisions we will need to change the promotion relegation regulation we have published regardless.

Options

Option 1 follow the following principle; we fill the divisions from the top with bottom team from the higher division being demoted, and top team(s) are promoted from the lower division(s). The lowest remaining team from the higher division plays off against the next highest place teams to fill the remaining places in the division.

Pros this ensures the teams get the number of games they have indicated they want from the previous competition review survey. It gets the change completed in one go. Teams that are struggling in a higher division are relegated. The playoff ensures the strongest teams are in the higher division.

Cons this is a change to what some teams are expecting.

Option 2 don't change S8 promotion relegation or league size this season whilst still removing the finals process.

Pros this is a smaller change and gives teams more time to get used to the change.

Cons the top teams play fewer game, the change takes 2 seasons to implement rather than one.

Option 3 no relegation from the top division, winners and runners up in Division 1 are promoted to the top division, no play-offs between runners up of div 1 and 7th in top division. Other divisions follow a similar pattern (due to league structure and teams dropping out there will be variations).

Pros this ensures the teams get the number of games they have indicated they want from the previous competition review survey. It gets the change completed in one go.

Cons this might mean that teams that are struggling in higher divisions continue to struggle and may drop out. Second place teams that were expecting a play-off game might not get one and again the divisions would not have the "right" teams in it.

For information option 1 was the preferred option of all members of the working group and is shown visually in the appendix.

As we need a final decision at this board meeting so we can give teams sufficient notice of playoff regulation changes if you have any questions on this pre-read then either email James.murphy@volleyball.co.uk or call me on 07909 896632.

Visual representation of Promotion/Relegation for NVL Men at the end of this season under preferred Option 1



MEN'S NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE STRUCTURE 2017-18

Super 8s		Division 1		Division 2		Division 3			
8 Teams		8 Teams		9 North Teams		9 North Teams			
1	Team 1	1	Team 1	1	Team 1	N	1	Team 1	N
2	Team 2	2	Team 2	2	Team 2	N	2	Team 2	N
3	Team 3	3	Team 3	3	Team 3	N	3	Team 3	N
4	Team 4	4	Team 4	4	Team 4	N	4	Team 4	N
5	Team 5	5	Team 5	5	Team 5	N	5	Team 5	N
6	Team 6	6	Team 6	6	Team 6	N	6	Team 6	N
7	Team 7	7	Team 7	7	Team 7	N	7	Team 7	N
8	Team 8	8	Team 8	8	Team 8	N	8	Team 8	N
		9	No Team	9	Team 9	N	9	Team 9	N
		10	No Team	10	No Team	N			

10 South Teams		
1	Team 1	S
2	Team 2	S
3	Team 3	S
4	Team 4	S
5	Team 5	S
6	Team 6	S
7	Team 7	S
8	Team 8	S
9	Team 9	S
10	Team 10	S

8 Central Teams		
1	Team 1	C
2	Team 2	C
3	Team 3	C
4	Team 4	C
5	Team 5	C
6	Team 6	C
7	Team 7	C
8	Team 8	C

11 South Teams		
1	Team 1	S
2	Team 2	S
3	Team 3	S
4	Team 4	S
5	Team 5	S
6	Team 6	S
7	Team 7	S
8	Team 8	S
9	Team 9	S
10	Team 10	S
11	Team 11	S

 Promoted
 Playoff
 Relegation