



**HAMPSHIRE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION – MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 29 JULY 2016**

Attendees	Bev Cooper Ashley Cullen Richard Osborne Andy Edwards Dave Gunter Kat Booth	Junior Development/Adult Participation Chair/Finance Officer Secretary/Sitting Volleyball Website Administration Coaching Adviser South Hants VC
-----------	--	---

<b>Item 1 - Welcome and Introductions</b>	<b>Action</b>
<p>1. Ashley welcomed attendees to the Annual General Meeting. Apologies had been tendered by Mark Simmons, Tim Nash and Charlie Duff.</p>	
<p><b>Item 2 – Chair’s report</b></p>	
<p>1. Introducing his first report as Chair, Ashley paid tribute to the previous Chair, Tim Nash, for his effort in establishing the Hampshire Volleyball Association and work in taking it forward before deciding to step away last year. He further indicated his intention to input his report to the SEVA AGM which was scheduled to take place on 1 Aug 16. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes.</p>	
<p>2. Bev emphasised the creditable achievements delivered by the Association over the past 12 months and acknowledged the huge effort and contribution made by Mark Simmons, the Volleyball Relationship Manager for the Hampshire and Dorset Investment Zone, and the tangible results he has delivered; a sentiment that was echoed by all committee members. By way of evidence, Bev stated that the number of teams that participated in this year’s Hampshire School Games had more than doubled compared to last year, while Hampshire delivered more Go Spike events than any other county.</p>	
<p>3. Bev asked Richard if the sitting volleyball mini league was delivered under the auspices of the HVA or Portsmouth Sitting Volleyball Club, to which he indicated the former. Furthermore, a mini league table can now be found on the HVA website which includes the results from the first fixture held on 3 Apr 16 (<a href="http://hampshirevolleyball.org.uk/league.html">http://hampshirevolleyball.org.uk/league.html</a>).</p>	
<p><b>Item 3 – Finance Report</b></p>	
<p>1. Ashley took attendees through his finance report, which is attached to these minutes. On Mark Simmons’ behalf, Richard advised the group of Mark’s ambition to increase and develop the volleyball workforce within the education sector across Hampshire, as he feels it holds the key to the growth and development of the game at grass roots level. He would further like to see additional competition for the satellite clubs that have been established over the last 12 months or so.</p>	
<p>2. Dave was fully supportive of Mark’s suggestion concerning teacher workshops and said he is aware that volleyball is being delivered in schools but in some cases it is by staff who have no concept of how to teach it. He suggested there is at least one school that is interested in receiving a workshop designed to assist teachers in introducing volleyball in the school. He described how his club had successfully delivered workshops to schools/teachers who then delivered a series of sessions over a six-week period before approximately 180 children participated in a catch and</p>	

throw mini tournament, which was a great success. Dave indicated that he has capacity to deliver something similar on behalf of the HVA if there is an appetite.

3. A general discussion followed on where the HVA's finances would be best spent and a number of suggestions were proffered by members. It was subsequently agreed that the next committee meeting would be used to identify the projects and initiatives the Association wishes to deliver or support over the next 12-24 months and to estimate the associated costs. It will then be possible to assess those initiatives that can be funded from existing finances and those for which applications will need to be identified, be it from Sports Lottery, local authorities etc. The identification of any new projects/initiatives will need to be prioritised and included in the development plan. Ashley stressed, and members agreed, that any money expended must have holistic value i.e., to benefit volleyball across the county, not any single club or individual.

#### **Item 4 – The Indoor League**

1. Ashley led the discussion with a review of the 2015/16 season. He described the main issues as: cancellation of matches at short notice by some teams resulting in congestion in fixtures and logistical difficulties in rearranging matches; a deterioration in communication, with some team secretaries leaving without nominating a replacement; late payments and expensive hall hire costs. He invited an open discussion to scope options and opportunities for the forthcoming season.

2. Kat stated that she had sought feedback from the South Hants ladies team who were fully committed to entering a team next season, it being the only competitive outlet open to them, while the men's team is also keen to continue. The HVA league was described as a 'stepping stone' between local and national league and it was acknowledged that it had been useful in helping teams develop throughout the season.

3. It was acknowledged that the Indoor League had required a large number of dates and fixtures to be identified, some of which proved incompatible with national league commitments, and it became unwieldy for some clubs. Dave suggested that it may prove beneficial to simplify the arrangements, suggesting a change to a Grand Prix style tournament may prove more successful. The group considered the option to fix four dates in the calendar, approximately six weeks apart and spanning the period from Oct 16 to Mar 17, taking into account holidays which historically have impacted the university's ability to compete. Participating teams would all attend each fixture, which would last about 6 hours, and play a round robin format with points awarded according to finishing positions. These would accrue over the season so that the top teams could be identified and put forward for the SEVA competition. Bev volunteered to undertake some research to identify those venues that have two volleyball courts, are affordable and available and will report back out of committee.

4. In the first year of the Indoor League bespoke referees had been used to officiate matches. This year, however, teams had officiated amongst themselves. A return to the arrangements in year 1 was preferred. Attendees shared their views on the duration for each match and, if they were capped to, say, one hour what would happen in the event of a tie. Consideration was also given to the potential to rotate venues so that no team had to travel too far, but it was generally felt that players expect to travel to play games and the league is Hampshire based so travel will be limited to within the county. Rotation of venue may require posts and equipment to be transported, which would not be ideal.

5. Andy asked how the committee could encourage more teams to enter the Indoor

**Bev**

<p>League next season, indicating that as the format is to change the new offer may be more attractive to those clubs that have not entered previously. Ashley agreed to develop a message to promote the league in its new format and encourage more teams to enter. Once received, Richard will distribute the message <i>via</i> email to his contacts.</p> <p><b>Item 5 – Election of Officers</b></p> <p>1. No changes were proposed to roles currently being undertaken by committee members. Ashley is to remain as Chair and Finance Officer; Richard will continue as Secretary while co-ordinating Sitting Volleyball activity; Bev will oversee adult/junior development; Andy will lead website administration but may also co-ordinate the Indoor League if it is converted to the proposed new format; and Dave will offer advice and expertise on coaching. In addition, Kat signalled her willingness to assist with match schedules for the indoor league in the event the transition to the new format goes ahead.</p> <p>2. Ashley welcomed those from any of the Hampshire clubs who want to get involved in the HVA to come forward.</p> <p><b>Item 6 – Any other business</b></p> <p>1. Dave mentioned that Noadswood School has received a grant to install four beach volleyball courts at the school. Kat asked whether there will be a summer tournament next season. Ashley acknowledged that one hadn't taken place this year but indicated his intention to host one next year.</p> <p><b>Item 7 – Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>1. The next committee meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday 30 Sep. Richard undertook to fix a venue and advise members out of committee.</p>	<p><b>Ashley / Richard</b></p> <p><b>Richard</b></p>
--	--

