



**HAMPSHIRE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2016**

Present	Bev Cooper Ashley Cullen Mark Simmons Richard Osborne Andy Edwards Dave Gunter	Junior Development/Adult Participation Chair/Finance Officer VRM Hampshire and Dorset Investment Zone Secretary/Sitting Volleyball Website Administration Coaching Adviser
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Item 1 - Welcome and Opening Remarks	Action
<p>1. Having welcomed attendees Ashley's opening remarks centred on high level issues. He explained that 2017 is likely to be extremely challenging for volleyball nationally due to an anticipated significant reduction in funding by Sport England and a corresponding expectation that clubs and Associations will self-fund. The matter had been discussed at a recent Investment Zone meeting where Ashley had cited three clubs that he considered to be the most mature in terms of structure and models from which others could learn. He opined that in all likelihood the little funding available from Sport England will be invested in those clubs and organisations that can demonstrate they have mature, sustainable structures. Mark stated that volleyball is a priority for Sport England in terms of county sport.</p> <p>2. Ashley went on to describe the high turnover of staff within Volleyball England recently, including the departure of its president, Geoff Allen. He further described a productive meeting he attended with Janet Inman, the interim CEO at VE, which had yielded some positive outcomes.</p> <p>3. Ashley was of the firm view that the HVA's profile had been elevated in recent months as a result of a number of factors: the sitting volleyball mini-league had been well organised and attracted media attention, including television coverage; the Indoor Grand Prix was already proving to be more successful than formats used in the past, with positive feedback from teams; junior development is progressing well, with links being made between clubs; and the Association is in a good place financially.</p>	
<p>Item 2 – Review of previous minutes and actions arising</p>	
<p>1. Richard took attendees through the minutes of the previous meeting. At Item 3, concerning the Indoor Grand Prix, a discussion had taken place about the need to notify teams about the arrangements for the competition. The action is complete; however, Andy suggested that further emails containing fixture schedules should be sent to teams prior to future competitions. The committee decided this would be sensible and Bev agreed to take action to notify teams two weeks in advance of each competition.</p>	<p>Bev</p>
<p>Post Meeting Note: Bev sent emails dated 17 Nov 16 to men's and ladies' teams in advance of their respective GPs.</p>	
<p>2. At Item 6, Bev had taken an action to contact Freda Bussey who had expressed an interest in utilising Bay House for SEVA junior training events. Bev did contact Freda but it emerged through discussion that Bay House was unable to accommodate the dates Freda had identified for training.</p>	

<p>Item 3 – Future projects and funding</p> <p>1. Richard introduced this item, drawing attention to a paper he had circulated out of committee and which distilled proposals tendered by committee members at the previous meeting that they considered should be the focus for HVA funding over the next 6-12 months. Members had been invited to vote on the proposals out of committee which were then prioritised according to the number of votes received. A decision was now needed on which proposals will be taken forward and whether the HVA will fund them using its own finances or by applying for funding <i>via</i> external streams.</p> <p>2. A lengthy discussion followed at the end of which it was decided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A Level 1 coaching course will be organised and delivered. Mark will canvass interest across clubs and will seek funding for any females who wish to gain the qualification through the Energise Me Project 500 initiative, which is aimed at increasing female coaches in sport. The aspiration is to deliver the course before the end of March 2017; b. A Level 4 referee course will be organised and delivered. Mark indicated that December is the optimum time to deliver as it tends to be a bit quieter, but it was recognised that time is short if the course is to take place this year. c. A sitting volleyball workshop will be organised and delivered. The committee agreed to a 50% subsidy based on 12 people attending. Mark and Richard are to trawl for interest; d. Junior volleyball sessions be organised and delivered, joining up junior clubs across the region. Work has already commenced, with three sessions booked at Bay House. Bev has also contacted clubs to canvass interest and has received good support. The next step is to arrange a sub-group that will consider the vision and purpose of the sessions and begin to shape the events. <p>3. Further work is now required to accurately cost the above initiatives so that either HVA funds can be released or bespoke bids for funding can be made.</p> <p>Item 4 – Indoor Grand Prix</p> <p>1. With two Grand Prix fixtures having taken place, Ashley wished to review arrangements in order to assess what has gone well and where improvements may be made. Andy had identified four issues that he offered for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The curtain that separates the courts does not go all the way to the floor and consequently any errant balls have a tendency to stray onto the other court, creating a risk of injury. This was particularly prevalent during warm ups. Andy enquired whether the temporary dividing wall could be fitted and Bev undertook to write to the school to ask. <p>Post Meeting Note: Bev has contacted the Pete Beadell <i>via</i> email and a response is awaited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. There had been a paucity of ice packs, particularly at the men’s GP where two ankle injuries required treatment and had exhausted supplies. There was no ice on hand at the venue. Ashley is aware and will make provision for future events. 	<p>Mark</p> <p>Mark</p> <p>Mark and Richard</p> <p>Bev</p> <p>Bev</p> <p>Ashley</p>
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<p>c. It was suggested that a main table be used to co-ordinate activity, for example, for score sheets to be collated. A further two tables are needed for the scorers. Bev undertook to write to the school to ask that these items be supplied in the future.</p> <p>d. The absence of a refereeing stand made it difficult to officiate. Bev agreed to ask Pete Beadell whether Bay House would buy a stand if the HVA bought the other.</p> <p>Post Meeting Note: As a first step, Bev has posted a message on Facebook to ask whether anyone is aware of any stands that are available. She has also contacted Pete Beadell to scope capacity for Bay House to split the cost with the HVA for two new stands.</p> <p>Ashley advised members that a number of items that weren't available for the first GP had subsequently been secured which demonstrated the HVA's commitment to listen to feedback and act on it in order to be as professional as possible. He further indicated his intention to write to Pete Beadell to invite him to the next ladies GP.</p> <p>Post Meeting Note: Ashley wrote to Pete B on 18 Nov 16 to invite him to the next GP.</p> <p>Dave was of the view that refereeing had been inconsistent and that the referee course that had now been endorsed would assist in improving the situation.</p> <p>Bev said that she had received favourable feedback from the participants at the first ladies GP. Everyone had a really good day and felt they had played plenty of volleyball. She further articulated an ambition to involve Gosport Jedi who have not entered the GP but nevertheless would like to play a friendly at the end of the next men's GP. South Hants men have agreed to play them.</p> <p>Item 5 – Development Plan</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mark updated members on progress against the respective actions in the development plan that fall to him. A summary of the salient points is appended to these minutes. 2. Ashley asked where Hampshire compared to other counties in setting up satellite clubs and Mark responded that in terms of clubs that are still running, Hampshire is among the top performers. 3. Mark shared an overview of an audit he has conducted that shows the current club provisions across the Dorset and Hampshire Investment Zone and the headline ambitions that clubs had reported in terms of their vision. 4. Richard drew members' attention to the out of committee report he had prepared on sitting volleyball, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. <p>Item 6 – Any other business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bev stated that Volleyball England is consulting with Park Community about delivering a talent identification session at the school, which has employed two staff members whose remit is to identify and develop talent across all sports. She added that Horndean Technology College is also liaising with Volleyball England with a view to hosting a talent identification session. 2. Dave described a course that had been run by British Gymnastics where it was 	<p>Bev</p> <p>Bev</p> <p>Ashley</p>
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<p>discovered that the average membership of each gymnastics club was 3,500, with it being common for waiting lists to exist for new members. The same is not true for volleyball and Dave suggested the reason lies in the number of sessions on offer each week. In gymnastics it is typical for athletes to train four times a week and Dave stated the need to consider how volleyball can accommodate a similar structure and how best to engage players from an early age.</p> <p>3. In closing, Ashley reverted to his opening statement, reinforcing the message that the HVA's profile has strengthened over the last 6-12 months but there was a need to do more to raise its profile <i>via</i> local media.</p> <p>Item 7 – Date of next meeting</p> <p>1. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 31 January 2017. Richard will advise members of the time and venue in due course.</p>	<p>Richard</p>
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