

**Referee Commission Meeting**

**10am, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017**

**Volleyball England Hub, Loughbrough.**

Attendees	
Steve Evans (SE)	Nick Heckford (NH)
Steve Matthews (SM)	Martin Shakespeare (MS)
Richard Morten (RM)	Greg Thompson (GT) Via Skype
Glynn Archibald (GA)	Sam Jamieson (SJ)
Fiona Sweetman (FS)	

**Apologies:** Sebastian Widlarz (SW) Debra Smart (DS)

Item	Action
SE made some introductions and welcome Sam to the meeting.	
<p><b>1. <u>Volleyball England Updates S.J.</u></b></p> <p>SJ gave a presentation on VE and 'The Way Forward'.            VE have funding now until March 2019 but it is results driven but £928K has been awarded (over 18 months). The presentation has been used across the country to communicate the current position that the sport governance finds itself.            The presentation covered:            Where we are heading? Being fit for purpose and how we continue to secure funding and the implementing the new governance structure. The office staff (15 at present from 32) is there for support rather than through delivery.            How? New Board and Governance structure proposed with an independent chair, with 3 independent directors which is a full requirement of the Sport England funding.            5 Areas which will be funded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Volleyball Insight - better understanding of membership</li> <li>■ Volleyball Culture - club development programme</li> <li>■ Volleyball Environments - based on HEVO ethos and expanding volleyball into new environment</li> <li>■ Volleyball Competitions - review of the pathway and ensure we are serving the competitors</li> <li>■ Volleyball Futures - identification and support of junior players and potential to put them on a development pathway.</li> </ul> <p>The future is also to how we expend the routes to funding and how we open up new income streams and how they deliver the vision for the sport.</p>	

<p><b>2. <u>Minute of Previous meeting</u></b></p> <p>SE went through the minutes from the previous meeting. Matters arising;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NVL Protocol; approved by competitions commission and added to the NVL Regulations.</li> <li>• Conference; the meeting was made aware that there were a few NVL matches on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept which was overlooked when agreeing on the date.</li> <li>• Expense payment; Expenses are being paid end of month following - request that we change the Claim form so that it is clear what the payment terms are and that the recipient receives notification of the payment.</li> <li>• Uniform; Current uniform stock appears to be okay.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>3. <u>Beach Development</u></b></p> <p>GT raised the issue of the development of the beach referees into a position for an IRCC. 4 referees in the group and Brian Stalker put together a budget as to how this could then be developed. NH asked GT about a review of the development programme GT advised that there were no illusions regarding what may occur.</p> <p>Budget was requested for £900 for observations to be completed. This was prior to the overhaul of the VEBT structure. There is now no requirement for the referees to be present at the VEBT event. The referees were still attending the events and whether we can still provide some support for observations. NH explained that there was no budget agreed and the initial plan spend of £1000 was therefore not agreed. GT was disappointed that VE did not stipulate any requirement for refereeing at any VEBT event this year. All planned VEBT events have all been classified at different 'starred' levels (i.e. 1*, 2*, 3*, 4* and 5*) for this season onwards. SE and GT agreed that they would put a paper together to get some observations at Weymouth or the VEBT Finals are being held in Bournemouth to get some support for Andy Worrall to attend either as an observer.</p> <p>The Swedish V.B.A. had approached V.E. via Deb requesting assistance in providing referees for the NatWest Island Games Beach competition 2017 in Gotland. 5 referees attended, Paul Whittle, Sian Godwyn, Katy Hooton and Ray Capewell. Sian worked the Women's Gold Medal match and Ray on the Men's.</p> <p>The Swedish VBA has also invited referees from VE to attend the Swedish National Championships in Falkenburg in August, no final numbers confirmed to date.</p> <p>Is there any interest in running a regional referee course? DS to coordinate with RM and then via RRC's. Jake Sheaf (Deepdish) is trying to organised a NEVZA event but no dates have been mentioned / confirmed or backed by V.E.</p>	<p>SE, GT</p> <p>DS, RM</p> <p>DS</p>

<p>VEBT 2017 review; SE enquired as to whether there would be a review following this year's series. SJ noted that Jake had sent out an email re the future of VEBT to be held in October.</p>	
<p><b>4. <u>E-Learning</u></b></p> <p>SE introduced the reports back from the EL trial. SE gave SJ an overview how the Rules R system worked and what data is available. Following a previous meeting agreement a discussion was had with SE, NH and Guy Bradbury (OCP Group) discussing a full version package and quote, this was presented to the meeting. RM mentioned that a local/portable Wifi network may be necessary to accommodate the package if it is to be used for the G4 courses and exam. NH went through the finance details for the payment of the package. A discussion was held over the proposal; SE had a draft paper ready to go to the SMT once approved by commission. A date for the 1st Oct had provisionally been agreed with OCP Group. Course applications documentation would need to change to show the new fee. The new registration cost of £40 should be current on the website.</p>	<p>SE</p>
<p><b>5. <u>Referee Conference</u></b></p> <p>Discussion took place on the format and contents of the Agenda. It was agreed that tea and coffee would be provided, Lunch would <b>not</b> be provided. Referee Conference to start at 10 for 10.30.</p> <p>Agenda items: VE Update, E-Learning launch, Casebook session (our own), NVL Protocol, Rules development (can we get some video), Sitting re-grading's and Upgrades.</p> <p>GT informed the meeting that this years Beach conference was held on the 10th June via skype.</p>	
<p><b>6. <u>E-News letter.</u></b></p> <p>Articles were required for the next E-news letter to be with Fiona by this Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July for publication W/C 9<sup>th</sup> July.</p> <p>Conference NVL protocol Expense Payment Clarification Uniform Orders NVL Availability for WTR The Hague Sitting Grade 4 Course</p>	<p>SE SE FS SE SE SE NH &amp; GT GA</p>

<p><b><u>Commissioner Reports</u></b></p>	
<p><b>7. <u>NVL &amp; Competitions M.S.</u></b></p> <p>The appointments panel are meeting the w/e 21st July and referees will be sent a reminder to update their availability.</p> <p>MS brought the meeting up to date on the competitions. It was noted the Regional Commission had asked to be informed regarding changes in the regulations and rejected the Club providing referees coming in to the NVL - 4 teams entered in Yorkshire without referee support.</p> <p>SE asked that RRAs received the most up to date lists of referee contacts for each region.</p> <p>MS gave some examples of the issues involved in setting the calendar / matches for each year.</p>	
<p><b>8. <u>Technical Issues N.H.</u></b></p> <p>NH gave a quick update on the current development of volleyball in the aims of getting a better control over the length of a match, but also trying to meet the aim of increasing the number of rallies.</p>	
<p><b>9. <u>Finance N.H.</u></b></p> <p>NH walked through the budget outline that was pulled together following the request from the Tech &amp; Talent meeting at Kettering after the National Finals. This had a net cost to VE of (£3,150) without considering the income from Referee Registration.</p> <p>The grade 4 referee pack (for course attendees) had been sourced and the whistles were currently held up with Customs.</p> <p>NH agreed to send the detail to the Delivery Group</p>	
<p><b>10. <u>Grade 4 courses; R.M.</u></b></p> <p>RM gave an update on courses; A Scorer's course ran with 22 candidates. 2 courses are to be held in the Chichester area in Sept - Katarina Dundjerski to staff the one additional tutor being sourced. 4 courses planned since our last meeting with 2 cancelled (Worcester &amp; Wolverhampton).</p> <p>Discussion took place regarding the future of the G4 course as to whether the practical elements are effective and whether this should be longer. RM noted that the candidates do get the pre-course material but do not use this enough. RM suggested we look at the structure of the course once the e-learning package had been embedded next Sept</p>	

<p><b>11. <u>Observation programme;</u></b></p> <p>In SW absence SE informed the meeting that due to the uncertain nature of any finance for the observation programme no appointments will be made until further notice, which will have a detrimental effect on our referee development strategy.</p> <p>It was agreed that the observations fees and travel would remain.</p> <p>GA gave an update on the All Nations competition, which was not particularly successful for referee development as it was in a different format to previous years.</p>	
<p><b>12. <u>Sitting Volleyball development G.A</u></b></p> <p>GA gave an review of the change of the referee grading structure from the current ABC to be in alignment with the 4-1 volleyball grading. C converts to a 4; B to 2; and A to 1. With some flexibility to appoint the current B grades to 3 or 2.</p> <p>GA will contact FS with the grading's so that they can be updated within the database.</p> <p>FS was asked to check if all the VB codes grades were on the registration card for those who had multiple qualifications.</p> <p>GA proposed a course to be run in line with the Sitting GP1 on the 17th September to be advertised in the next E-News letter.</p>	<p>GA &amp; FS</p> <p>FS</p>
<p><b>13. <u>Referee Grading</u></b></p> <p>A review of our referees took place to award any upgrades where appropriate.</p> <p>MS asked why we continue to have referees on the list that are no longer active but have retained the grade. It was agreed that Referees who are no longer NVL active be highlighted in the database to that effect, thus resulting in any unnecessary correspondence from club secretaries.</p>	
<p><b>14. <u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>SM advised on the changes that were happening at VE - e.g. 2 independent directors had been chosen.</p> <p>FS noted some feedback received that the change to the G4 course to one day had worked well and was a positive step.</p> <p>SE noted NEVZA referees for the Beach NEVZA - need 6 referees (GA</p>	<p>GT</p>

<p>may be out of leave by then). GA / DS would make the decisions on who would be asked to go.</p> <p>SE says that 2 referees have been requested for U17 for Denmark (Martyna Curtis / Peter Parsons); U19 in Kettering (Katarina Cepinova / Joe Gore) would be offered the opportunities.</p> <p>SE noted the referees for UKSG had already been nominated Matt Bell, Rich Burbedge, Lincoln Dokwani, Pete Whyard, Sophie Lomax, Jake Welsh, Jonathan Thaler, Aleksander Dimitrov</p>	<p>SE</p>
<p><b><u>Meeting closed at 15.50</u></b></p>	
<p><b><u>Dates for Next Meetings</u></b></p> <p>TBA</p>	