

## 2019 National Cup Finals update – June 2018

As you know, the Competitions Working Group were tasked with reviewing the format and staging of the National Cup Finals for 2019. The group sought volunteers to sit on the project working group to identify the content for the Cup Finals. We had a great response with 10 people volunteering and support from two Volleyball England (VE) hub staff. An agreed date and time was arrived to begin this important phase of VE's competitions development.

During the initial call we considered the project background, aims, activities and overall project time line. The focus was identifying the key stakeholder groups so that we could consult on what the different groups felt was most important in terms of content. We recognised that timescales are very tight to decide who will host AND to give time for the venue to be booked and the event organised.

The key stakeholder groups that were chosen for the first stage of the project were; Sitting Volleyball, the Regions, Junior Volleyball, Parents/Family/Friends, Volunteers, Top Teams, Officials, Core Market (previous shield finalists) and Diversity.

We also identified there were other stakeholders that would need to be engaged in the second part of the project; Media (local/National), VE Board, VE Hub, Sponsors/Advertisers, Venue.

Members of the group were tasked with consulting their nominated groups above and following feedback from the stakeholder groups we met again to review the stakeholder input and consider what the shape of the content for 2019.

Unsurprisingly, with a diverse group of stakeholders there were different views on what was deemed most important to them, perhaps more surprising to us were that even within stakeholder groups there were significantly different views.

To give just one example: There were views expressed that said that the Cups Finals should be restricted to a single day Men's/Women's Senior Cup Finals and that VE should no longer host any other Cup Finals. At the other end of the spectrum, there were views that VE should hosts as many Cup Finals as possible (for both gender, Senior Cup, Shield, U15, U16, U18 and Sitting).

The group agreed that there would be a need to articulate clearly the factors that were considered and how a decision was reached.

We brainstormed the criteria we believed (based on stakeholder input and our own experience) we should use to judge the options we had for content. Each Stakeholder representative then scored the criteria to ensure that the most important criteria had the most impact on our scoring. With limited points available, each stakeholder had the difficult job of prioritising the areas that they saw as most important.

Below is the criteria and the weighting that resulted.

Criteria	Top/Regions	Officials	Volunteers	Diversity	Juniors	Sitting	Core	total
Men's Cup	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
Women's Cup	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
Cost	1	3	10	10	10	10	5	49
Income	10	3	5	5	10	10	5	48
Player experience	10	1	5	3	10	10	5	44
Spectator appeal/experience	10	1	5	3	10	10	5	44
Men U18	5	10	5	10	3	5	3	41
Women U18	5	10	5	10	3	5	3	41
Sitting	5	5	5	10	5	5	5	40
Volleyball development (something to aspire to, to inspire)	1	1	10	3	10	5	10	40
Officials development	5	10	3	3	5	5	5	36
Attract media	5	1	10	5	5	5	1	32
Men's Shield	1	5	3	5	1	1	10	26
Sponsorship appeal	10	5	1	3	5	1	1	26
Women's Shield	1	5	3	5	1	1	10	26
Boys U16	3	3	5	5	3	3	3	25
Girls U16	3	3	5	5	3	3	3	25
Volunteer satisfaction	5	1	3	3	5	3	1	21
Travel & accommodation	3	1	1	1	1	3	10	20
Boys U15	3	1	3	3	3	1	3	17
Girls U15	3	1	3	3	3	1	3	17
Coaches experience	1	1	1	1	5	1	3	13
Parental involvement	3	1	1	1	1	3	1	11
Reward and recognition	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	11
Working time directive	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	11

We then identified five potential options; Each option was scored for effectiveness against the criteria above (including weighting).

Option	Score
Option 3 - Two Finals	6136
Option 5 – As is plus Sitting & U15	5920
Option 4 – Single Court Setup	5838
Option 2 – Split Juniors	5728
Option 1 – As is plus sitting	5704

This resulted in Option 3 & 5 being the two favoured options. We then did a sense check to ensure the mathematical answer “felt” sensible.

We agreed that we had a sufficiently clear view of what was required that we could begin the procurement process and begin a Request for Information process (RFI).

Appendix

Note the timings and sequence are indicative at this stage and subject to further consultation before they are finalised

## Option 3 – Two Finals

Time	Court 1
08:00	Set-up
12:00	Women Cup
16:30	Men Cup

Time	Court 1	Court 2
10:30		
13:00	Men Shield	Women Shield
15:30	U15 Boys	U15 Girls

Time	Court 1	Court 2
10:30	U16 Boys	U16 Girls
13:00	Sitting	
15:30	U18 Men	U18 Women



## Option 5 –as is plus sitting U15

- 2 Court Set-up

Time	Court 1	Court 2
10:30	Men Shield	Women Shield
13:00	Sitting	
15:30		Women Cup
18:00	Men Cup	
10:00	U16 Boys	U16 Girls
12:30	U15 Boys	U15 Girls
14:00	U18 Men	U18 Women

