

Geoff Allen
Nominated for President at 2014 AGM

EXPERIENCE

Aged 60, I have devoted 20 to 25 hours a week as a volleyball player, coach and administrator for over 40 years and appreciate the challenges of running clubs, local/regional associations and Volleyball England.

Club / Tournaments

- Formed Wessex VC 38 years ago, created/coached its junior programme, coached its NVL teams, raised funds and chaired. 80 internationals, 8 played professionally abroad.
- Developed strong links with Bournemouth University, LeAF Academy and local schools
- Founded Sandbanks Beach Volleyball Festival 20 years ago, 140 junior + 40 adult teams in 2014

Area / Regional

- Volleyball Dorset committee member since formation, Chair for last 18 years
- Former member of the South-West VA committee, SW Junior Development Officer
- England South Cadets Coach, SW boys coach
- Dorset-Hampshire Investment Zone Steering Group member
- Created and fundraise for Mark Pitman Fund for grants to young volleyballers

Nationally

- Marketing, Playing and Finance Directors, and Honorary Vice-President of Volleyball England
- Led volleyball's 1990's campaign for improved Sport England status
- Long-term member of Schools & Junior Development Commission
- England Men's Assistant Coach
- 33 years a Volleyball England Staff Tutor

Outside Volleyball

Group Finance Director of a group of 10 electronics and leisure companies in the UK, USA and Hong Kong for 24 years

WHY PRESIDENT?

- Having built up a successful, comprehensive volleyball club, a major tournament, worked nationally and regionally for volleyball over many years, demonstrating broad experience across virtually all areas of volleyball
- Wealth of experience in business management
- Eager to offer this experience and knowledge for the use of volleyball nationally
- Recently reduced voluntarily to a 2 day working week, allowing the time needed to perform the role of Volleyball England President
- I bring honesty, transparency and devotion to do the best for volleyball

AIMS

1. Much of the National Office's work, quite understandably, goes towards achieving the targets agreed with our major funders, Sport England, whilst servicing the needs of our members. To help move volleyball forward, I would try to increase involvement by current and former volleyballers, many with vast volleyball knowledge and experience, and professionals in their working lives.

2. To give volleyballers a greater voice and thus improve their engagement with Volleyball England and contribution towards volleyball's development. This means individual membership, with a vote, not just individual registration. I would therefore work towards bringing proposals to the 2015 AGM for this.
3. To strengthen our pyramid structure from grassroots participation to high-performance volleyball, we need a broad base of young players to feed into our clubs and universities, and to develop top-class adult teams. I would work to improve access for youngsters not at major schools/clubs to receive good coaching and further develop our junior competition structure.
4. Increase consultation with clubs, to help you succeed.

To give our top players England teams to aspire to, we need to enable the men's and women's squads to start training and playing again.