

## **SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND'S ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

Volleyball England is putting forward a special resolution to its Articles of Association to enable the organisation to move to a system of Individual Player Registration from the beginning of the 2013/14 season.

The vast majority of the income we receive as an organisation for running volleyball in England is from external funding partners, like Sport England. Currently Club Affiliation fees make a tiny contribution (1%) towards the existing costs of the organisation, namely £24,000 out of a total Volleyball England annual income budget of £2,300,000.

The current club affiliation system has a number of additional shortcomings, principally it is 'indirect', it does not relate to individual participants and as a result Volleyball England has few details about those participating in volleyball and cannot take into account their needs nor communicate directly with valued members in a way that they want.

In putting forward this special resolution, it is understood that not all participants may want to use the vast range of resources available to them, but Volleyball England provides the structure for the sport in England and campaigns on behalf of ALL volleyball participants and helps and supports the development of the sport in many key areas.

Funding from external partners is a privilege, not a right, and if it is reduced or withdrawn it is vitally important that Volleyball England is able to continue the development and delivery of the sport in all its forms; indoor, beach and sitting to increase participation for the benefit of clubs.

### **AFFILIATION PRINCIPLES**

Subject to approval by members of the special resolution, the system currently under development includes the overriding principle that individuals will need to register with Volleyball England to play at all levels of the game, and for clubs to access qualified referees and coaches.

The club affiliation fee will remain (as will the associated voting right for the club) and each club will have to pay a minimum affiliation fee, which is based on the cost of registering 12 participants. A subsequent fee is then charged for each additional registered participant. There will be discounts for registering young people.

It is understandable that members will want to know what the proposed fees will be in the first year. The current fees under development are:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Prices</b>
Club Fee *	£120 (to include 12 registrations)
Individual Registration Fee *	£10 per adult (0.85p per month) £5 for Under 18s (0.43p per month) £2 for Under 11s (0.17p per month)

*\*It is proposed that in the first season of the new structure (2013-14) that clubs with over 40 members will pay reduced player registration fees for those after the first 40 registrations. These are proposed at £5 for adults, £3 for Under 18s and £1 for Under 11s.*

The membership year will reflect the main playing season. Subscriptions shall be valid from 1st August - 31st July in the following year. Clubs will continue to manage the registration process, as they do now. The membership recruitment/renewal process will be modern, clear and customer focused through Volleyball England's online membership portal which was set up this year as part of the new Volleyball England website.

The fee would be renewed annually. At the moment there are no proposals for monthly or weekly payment plans by direct debit.

## BENEFITS

Volleyball England membership benefits will be driven by the needs of the member. An annual review of the service to members will be undertaken to ensure that the benefits are relevant and appropriate. A board member will be given a portfolio for membership and lead the long term membership strategy and a full time member of staff will be in place to support club and players at all levels.

Volleyball England will focus on delivering benefits under four key areas; keeping safe and registered, keep in touch, saving money and developing skills. Benefits for the first year are currently being developed as follows, items in bold are new additions:

<b>Benefits</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Registered Participant</b>
<b>Keeping safe and registered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Liability Insurance</li> <li>CRB checks</li> <li>Voting Rights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Basic Personal Accident Insurance</b></li> <li>CRB checks</li> <li><b>Membership Number and Card</b></li> </ul>
<b>Keep in touch</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly E-news</li> <li>Access to Membership section of website</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Printed Copy of 3Touch Volleyball (England's only volleyball magazine)</b></li> <li>Monthly E-news</li> <li>Access to Membership section of website</li> </ul>
<b>Saving money</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discounts to VE shop</li> <li>Partner discounts</li> <li>**</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discounts to VE shop</li> <li>Partner discounts</li> </ul>
<b>Develop skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to all competitions and events</li> <li>Advice and Support from Volleyball England (child welfare, funding, online coaching website, new referee appointment system).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to all competitions and events</li> <li>Advice and Support from Volleyball England</li> </ul>

**\*\*Volleyball England is currently reviewing additional new benefits, especially for clubs. These include:**

- Club grant scheme, centrally or regionally managed to help clubs with equipment and facility issues.**
- Voucher for free volleyball(s) per club**

The board is putting forward the proposal for approval to ensure that volleyball continues to grow and prosper in England, especially post the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The additional fees proposed, which will cost registered participants as little as £0.08 per week are intended to be used to benefit both participants and our sport to both continue and expand, and we hope that members will support this proposal.