

**Minutes of Regional Commission Meeting  
Saturday 5 January 2013  
SportPark, Loughborough**

Meeting started at 11.10.

**Reg/12-13/1 Present** - Charlie Orton (President, London), Bryan Youlden (West Midlands), Janet Inman (Development Director, East Midlands), Mike Turner (Yorkshire), Ron Richards (South West), Freda Bussey (South East), Stuart Johnson (Head of Development, Volleyball England).  
Apologies - Keith Sowden (North East)

**Reg/12-13/2.1 Minutes of Last Meeting (14 April 2012)**

The minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate representation.

**Matters Arising**

**Reg/12-13/2.2 Minute Taking**

The PA to the Chief Executive and Board has the minute taking of this commission in her job description.

**Action – Stuart Johnson/ Charlie Orton to investigate**

**Reg/12-13/2.2 Unfulfilled/Outdated Action Points**

Mike Turner pointed out that a number of long unfulfilled action points had become stale/redundant. Recent resignations of the Playing Director and President of the Performance Commission suggest there may be more serious issues over Talent Development and communication. The Regional Commission's Terms of Reference states it should:- ***act as a facilitator in the delivery of Volleyball England's Strategic Plan.*** But currently, it seems to just be ignored.

**Action – Janet Inman to communicate concerns to the President**

**Reg/12-13/2.3 Communication**

The above-mentioned vacant posts and other Board vacancies have been advertised on the Job Vacancies page of the web site (closing date 7 Jan 2013), but were not widely circulated. There hasn't been an Inside ViEw newsletter for some time (November 2011). Ron Richards said that he didn't seem to be receiving the eNews email newsletter, although everyone else was receiving it.

**Action – Stuart Johnson to follow up on communication**

**Reg/12-13/3 National Child Protection Guideline Framework**

Janet Inman gave an update on the new national policies. The previous multiple CRB checks and certificates will now be unnecessary. A single **Vetting and Barring Check** (replacing the CRB check) will be required. Checks are required only for **Regulated Activities**, not all activities will require a vetting and barring check. (Google for "Regulated Activities" to find out more.) There will only be one copy of the certificate; it will no longer go to the employing organisation, only to the candidate.

Ron Richards offered to do a presentation of online threats.

**Action –Charlie Orton to consider for future meeting**

**Reg/12-13/4 Regional Reports**

7 out of 9 reports received before the meeting. No reports from North West and the East who were not represented at the meeting.

**Action – Charlie Orton to look through the reports for trends.**

**Reg/12-13/4.1 Volleyball Academies**

There is confusion over the proliferation of the use of Volleyball Academy and concern about the lack of information about the official Volleyball England Academies. The recruitment of students was not clear. It was clarified that there are 7 Volleyball England Academies, following the model outlined in the 2009-13 Strategic Plan:

2010 - Loughborough College

2011 - Ernest Bevin College (London), Tendring Technology College (Essex), The Boswells School (Essex)

2012 - LeAF Academy (Bournemouth), Middlesbrough College, Newcastle College (Staffs).

#### **Reg/12-13/4.2 Talent Player Pathway**

There is still confusion over eligibility for regional, divisional and National Squads. Some talented players in the South East are choosing to play for the regional squad, because of the better opportunities offered to play in matches, rather than attend monthly divisional or cadet training with no competitive outlet.

**Reg/12-13/4.3 HEVOs** – Many mentions in regional reports, but there is concern that the information on who the HEVOs actually are has not been circulated. Stuart Johnson explained that the HEVO initiative was designed to increase participation within the HE establishments and wasn't necessarily outward facing.

**Action – Stuart Johnson to circulate HEVO contact information**

**Action – Charlie Orton to consider inviting James Abbott, the National Higher and Further Education Development Officer to present at a future commission meeting**

#### **Reg/12-13/5 Membership Review**

A discussion took place on the decision of the EGM on 10 November 2012 to reject the Individual Membership proposal. Concern was expressed that the proposal appeared to be a centrally imposed dictat, rather than addressing the needs of the members.

**Next Steps** - Janet Inman has taken on responsibility, working with Rob Harding, Head of Marketing for a bottom-up review - ***What do the members want to improve their volleyball experience.***

**Action – All to send members' desires to Janet Inman**

#### **Reg/12-13/6 Competitions Review**

Meeting joined with the Competitions Commission. Paul Bohannan explained that there will be a competition review with broad consultation and a follow-up meeting in March.

**Action – All. Review and respond to consultation requests**

#### **Reg/12-13/7 Inter Regional Championships**

The IRC will take place on 25-27 May 2013 at the National Volleyball Centre.

For 2014 the National Volleyball Centre has already been booked for another event, so either an alternative date or an alternative venue needs to be agreed!

A new contract with the National Volleyball Centre is under discussion. Volleyball England exceeded the agreed number of days at the centre in past years, so the IRC could conceivably be hosted elsewhere. The current Volleyball England funding is about £2.5k, but a large cost is providing referees for the event.

Division of responsibility: The Competitions Commission will run the event on behalf of the Regional Commission, in the absence of any interest from the Performance Commission and the Schools and Youth Commission.

#### **Reg/12-13/8 Regional Champions Trophy**

This will take place in Sept 2013 at the National Volleyball Centre.

#### **Reg/12-13/9 Player Code of Conduct**

Paul Bohannan distributed a draft. Comments requested by the end of February 2013.

The meeting divided into 2 separate commissions

#### **Reg/12-13/10 The 2013-17 Strategic Plan**

Stuart Johnson outlined the Sport England decisions in December 2012. Volleyball England will receive funding for 2013-17 of £4.6 million, plus another £500K conditional funding. The BVF has

received an award from UK Sport of only £400K, targeted for women's beach volleyball. This will have impact on the current arrangements for sitting volleyball.

**Reg/12-13/11 AOB**

Polonia Academy are playing an Italian junior girl's team on 19 Jan 2013 at Westminster Academy. Anyone is welcome to come and watch some high quality volleyball.

**Date of Next Meeting – TBC (possibly National Finals weekend?)**

Meeting closed at 15.28