

## **Minutes of Regional Commission Meeting, 30 July 2011 SportPark, Loughborough**

**Reg/11-12/1 Present:** Charlie Orton (Regional Commission President & London), Dave Gardner (East Midlands), Phil Dodd (North East), Freda Bussey (South East), Ron Richards (South West), Alan Bell (North West), Bryan Youlden (West Midlands), Mike Turner (Yorkshire), Stuart Johnson (Volleyball England)

Apologies for absence: Brendan Osborne (East), Janet Inman (East Midlands & Development Director)

### **Reg/11-12/2 Minutes of Last Meeting - 17 April 2011**

Agreed to be a true and accurate representation.

### **Reg/11-12/3 Matters Arising**

3.1 RTDP – Charlie Orton to discuss with Performance Commission.

Communication with Performance Commission was difficult and brief. The President of Performance Commission stated the Commission had had their budgets cut and made their plans accordingly.

A lengthy and concerned discussion took place over the revised talent plans. There seems to be a reduction in the size of the talent pool from which national squads players are drawn. There was unanimous disbelief that the decisions over the Talent Pathways 1 - Club and Coach intervention could have been made by Volleyball England without any consultation and a total disregard of the views and priorities of the regions. Janet Inman, Development Director, acknowledged through email:

*"The communication of the changes, the programme being shut down, was not clearly articulated and the staff, commission presidents and board all agree that this must not happen again."*

It was agreed that nothing constructive could be achieved by further discussions and that regions would have to advance and finance their talent plans independently.

3.2. Involvement of Regional Commission in the Development of Volleyball England Initiatives  
Attendance at the Volleyball England staff meeting by the President of the Regional Commission was not a success, due to a misunderstanding of the expectations of the 2 parties.

3.3 New National Child Protection Guideline Framework

**Action** - Janet Inman, absent, will present new framework at the next meeting.

**Reg/11-12/4 Regional Reports** - 9 reports received in advance (see App. A below)

**Reg/11-12/5 Volleyball England Initiatives** (Stuart Johnson)

#### **5.1 Junior Competition Review**

- Completed by Will Roberts (Schools and Youth Commission President)
- Now being considered by Senior Management Team, Competitions Commission and Board as to implementation feasibility
- U15 proposals – Regional Commission Opinions

Stuart outlined the details of the final draft review document (attached as a PowerPoint file. The proposed calendar is App. B below). Debate centred on the Under 15s competition, which offers extra matches to all the teams that make the Divisional Round. Whilst all

generally in favour, concern expressed over the additional cost of the new proposed national final stages.

**Action** - Charlie Orton to liaise with Competitions Commission, as they don't have convenient meeting before the start of the season.

### **5.2 Premier League 4 Sport**

- Project extended until August 2013. Volleyball likely to be retained at 19 clubs (Portsmouth have opted out / ongoing discussions with Middlesbrough)
- Additional sports added – Basketball, Handball, Hockey and Netball

Funding reduced: £2k to hub club & £500 to satellite clubs.

The proposed Premiership Rugby Club program was a non-starter due to a lack of funding.

### **5.3 Change 4 Life Sports Clubs**

- Project extended until August 2012
  - Primary School element will be multi skills. Secondary Schools still sport specific
- Information from YST over take-up still awaited. Meeting Monday 1 August with YST.

### **5.4 School Games**

- 9 School Games Level 3 Pilots now complete
- 2012 Level 4 event confirmed for 6–9 May including activity on the Olympic Park. Volleyball will take place at the Excel Centre. Other Home country involvement not confirmed

### **5.5 Community Development Coaches**

- Adverts currently live for the posts in Tottenham and Tendring to replace Nitesh Mistry and Alex Porter
- Additional model with Greenhouse Schools to go live in October. Additional coaching posts advertised.
- Audrey Cooper will be working with existing and new partners from September to secure funding for posts, ideally until March 2013

### **5.6 Go Spike**

- The [gospike.net](http://gospike.net) website is live – need a big push on getting people to sign up
- Semi Permanent equipment due in mid August – negotiations with sites ongoing
- HEVOs – into full swing from September
- Team to Club – 28 clubs in initial phase now working to recruit new people to try volleyball
- On the Beach / In the Park – activity going on to the website as soon as received
- Events – ongoing programme of major events designed to give people first experience of volleyball
- Reporting monthly to Sport England to begin end of July
- Amy Seaman to take on role of Go Spike Project Manager

Volleyball England's Go Spike initiatives are being carefully monitored by Sport England. We need to encourage clubs to sign up and for participants to register on the [www.gospike.net](http://www.gospike.net) site.

**Action** - Contact Amy Seaman to get open sessions on the Go Spike site. (All)

**Action** - Circulate details of the Team to Club participating team/clubs (SJ)

### **5.6 New Volleyball England Web site**

- The new site has been design by Fluid CM after a lengthy tender Process. 12 company's tendered and this was short-listed to four

- Mock ups of the new site were circulated. The examples are 1<sup>st</sup> drafts but show in principle how the new site will look
- The Regional Commission can have one page as per current site or one page per region. This would have regional contact info and county links
- Stage 2, after consultation with Regional Comm. would be to create individual sites based on our main site for the regions if there is requirement from the Regions. There would be significant cost to this.
- There is no plan for Regions to have access to the Content Management System
- Will run parallel to existing website for 2 weeks. Should be going live in September.

### **5.7 Sport England Strategy Consultation**

- Sport England currently consulting on their 2011-15 Strategy
- Maximise value from current NGB investment, Places People Play, set criteria and support system for NGB 2013-17 investment, Market Development, Strategic direction and market intelligence
- Priorities; community grassroots sport, participation, WSP NGB funding, focus on 16-25, focus on doing a few things really well
- Talent still important, new dimension on inactivity and participation in disability sport
- Submissions to be prepared from October 2011 – May 2012
- Award Letter will arrive October 2012

Informally, there should be more lottery money available in 2013 due to the ending of Olympic funding

### **5.8 Continental Cup**

- Event delivered to a very high standard
  - Over 200 volunteers involved during the event
  - GB final placing is positive in view of pushing for Paralympics qualification
- Partners impressed, which should help for future major international events.

### **5.9 Beach Hubs**

- Sites being worked on at present Crystal Palace, Highbury Fields (Islington), Score Centre (Leyton), Victoria Park (Tower Hamlets), Westminster Academy
- Likely offers also to be tabled to work with Richmond Athletics Association, Whitby and National Volleyball Centre Kettering
- The sand used at the Beach Volleyball Test Event being donated by LOCOG to this project with a value of approximately £200,000

### **5.10 Regional Planning**

- South West complete and plan produced. Circulated at meeting.
  - North West actions to work up proposal for new constitution and regular junior competition structure
  - Yorkshire consultation complete, refining the plan and agreeing actions ongoing
- Action** - Other regions should contact Stuart Johnson directly.

### **5.11 FIVB World Development Centre**

- Now confirmed Kettering will be an FIVB World Development Centre, the first in Europe
- FIVB Level 3 coaches course running during August 2011

### **Reg/11-12/6 Inter Regional Competition 2012**

All regions were in favour and committed to preparing regional teams for the Inter Regional Championships. The usual May Day Bank Holiday weekend clashes with the Level 4 School Games, so an alternative date needs to be found for 2012. Possible 3 day weekends are Easter and the Spring Bank Holiday. Neither of these were deemed to be suitable (national squads

weekend & during exam time). It was suggested that it would be possible to run the competitions over 2 days, either 2 competitions on one day and 2 on another, or all 4 competitions over a weekend.

**Action** - Stuart Johnson to take proposal back to Sanjib Sahota, National Competition and Events Manager (SJ)

**Reg/11-12/7 Satellite Academies**

Stuart outlined the current position and explained that late release of information was due to the funding from SkillsActive only recently being confirmed. 30 Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence (AASE) positions are available starting September 2011.

Deadline for schools/colleges to apply is 15 August 2011. Concern was expressed over the transparency of the application process, as institutions that applied in 2009 for the national academy were apparently being fast tracked as satellite academies, effectively excluding new applicants.

**Action** – Encourage known, interested schools to apply, even if just to raise awareness or for advanced consideration for 2012-13. (All)

**Reg/11-12/8 London 2012 Legacy Progress**

It had proved too expensive to bring anyone from LOCOG. Charlie Orton provided an update. Successful indoor test event at Earls Court. Approx 300 volunteers involved. 500 tickets each day. 850 school children attended on the first 3 days and experienced world class volleyball.

Due to limited time and importance attached to legacy, it was agreed that the next Regional Commission meeting will be solely devoted to the wider Olympics Legacy.

**Reg/11-12/9 Constitutions and the Framework Document**

Freda Bussey requested help for the changes in the SE constitution.

**Action** – Development Director & CEO

**Reg/11-12/10 AOB - None**

**Reg/11-12/11 Next Regional Commission Meetings: 22/10/2011 & 14/1/2012 at SportPark, Loughborough. (Board Meetings: 1/9/2011, 19/11/2011 & 18/2/2012)**

Meeting closed at 15.07. Minuted by Mike Turner.

## **Appendix A – Regional Reports**

### **A.1. Region: London Date: 25/7/2011**

#### **What activity has taken place since the previous commission meeting?**

1. All Nations Tournament  
Another successful tournament - 290 competitors
2. Central London School Games Pilot  
A successful first run by Gaby Xavier - her first event, supported by young officials.
3. London Youth Games, Preliminary and Finals  
48 teams entered from the 33 Boroughs, only 42 turned up.
4. London AGM  
Usual elections un-opposed, some constitutional amendments went down with insufficient votes in favour - too many abstentions.
5. Increased Media coverage  
Mainly on Beach Volleyball and ticket sales. Double page coverage in the Evening Standard of LOCOG's advertising campaign featuring Nicki Osborne. A number of other <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> page items.
6. Kensington and Chelsea - Viva Volleyball Week  
Come and Try it - Aimed mainly at schools in the Olympic Borough, it largely failed to attract sufficient numbers.
7. Indoor Test Event  
Generally went well and a lot learnt by LOCOG's organising team. Great success for the GB Men's team with 2 wins. More media coverage in the London Evening Standard.
  - ~900 school children got to attend, and 2,500 adults given the chance
  - 150 volunteers to assist in running the event.
  - GB Women got to play 2 games each against Japan and Holland, losing all 4.
8. Beach Hubs get the go ahead  
Sand from the Test Event to be used to construct Beach Courts across London.
9. Volunteer to run a Mixed League withdraws
10. Greenhouse project want to expand into East London Schools

#### **Priorities for next 3 months delivery**

1. Beach Test event
2. Initiate Beach Volleyball development on the new Courts
3. Recruit a Mixed League Administrator, and assist to get the League Started.
4. London League preparations
5. Enhance the London Junior League

#### **Opportunities / Challenges / Threats**

1. Beach Test event  
Opportunity to build new courts  
Challenge to bring the courts into use before the summer finishes  
Challenge to ensure the demand takes up the available 5 extra courts
2. NVL NTO  
Continue to use and develop the NTOs attracted to the Olympic Programme  
Encourage new referees to also learn to work as NTOs to ensure legacy
3. Greenhouse  
Finding the extra money to support the initiative.
4. London Youth Games  
Opportunity - they are funding Saturday morning clubs to expand interest into other Boroughs  
Threat - they insisted in changing the format of the Preliminary event, which actually reduced the amount of Volleyball played.

### **Ideas / Suggestions / Best Practice / Other**

Getting Stuart to sign up to our Website to facilitate automatic transmission of Meeting agendas and notices has also enabled him to partake and give input to Region discussions on Website Forums.

Charlie Orton, London VA Chairman

### **A.2. Eastern Volleyball Federation Date: 25/7/2011**

#### **What activity has taken place since the previous commission meeting**

1. JUVO  
Very successful – 25th year!
2. CDCs  
Continue to do excellent work – various initiatives including Premier League going well. Series of meetings attended on behalf of Volleyball including Regional NGB forum, and County NGB Forum – NB County undergoing merger between County Sport Partnership and Legacy Team. They are consulting on the arrangements as to how to best liaise with sport and support the best way they can.
3. GB Women  
Very successful week in Essex. Training, accommodation, etc funded by Essex VA Chelmsford VC and others – a great partnership approach. Back with us this week supported similarly.
4. Eastern Federation AGM  
Well attended, all but Bedford represented  
Same Officers appointed Brendan: Chair and Commissioner, Paul Bohannon: Treasurer, Glynn Archibald: Refs Coordinator, Keith Nichols: Regional Competition Director, Liam Chinnery: Junior Development. Very pleased Tony Pennock rejoins us as secretary (first time I haven't had to do in a couple of years). Gabriele Corliano: Web Master. New position, Sitting Volleyball Development: Ken Edwards.  
Chief Exec VE attended and a very constructive general dialogue. RTDP and Academies discussed with Lisa.  
Constitution – agreed to accept recommendation to revise EVF in line with suggestions as existing constitution would require little change – nonetheless this bit of work still needs to be concluded.
5. Olympics Test Events  
A number of membership supported test events in different capacities – feedback seems to have gone well

#### **Priorities for next 3 months delivery**

1. Finalise constitution
2. Determine how we run the talent development programme in the new arrangements
3. Plan how we optimise opportunities of Olympics interest

#### **Opportunities / Challenges / Threats**

Opportunities - Olympics, Sportivate, Beach and Grass court initiatives  
Opportunity & Threat - Replacement CDC

### **Ideas / Suggestions / Best Practice / Other**

Combination of supporting GB and them getting out and meeting the membership and public

Brendan Osborne, EVF Chair

### **A.3. Yorkshire Volleyball Association - 26/7/2011**

#### **Activity Since Last Commission Meeting**

1. RTDP/IRC Fiasco  
It would be remiss not to mention this, as details emerged only after the last meeting. This has seriously dented Volleyball England's reputation with local volunteers working with junior players. On a positive note, it seems to have opened up communication channels, eg satellite academies, semi-permanent beach courts, etc.
2. LPV Festival, Saturday 4 June 2011  
Hosted at Leeds Met Uni, but poorly attended (14 teams). Lesson learnt - Don't put junior events in the school holidays!
3. YVA AGM, 7 June 2011  
All committee post filled, without any elections. Usual apathy from club representatives, who would vote for anything if it meant an easy life. Finally have found a Treasurer who has some accounting/Excel skills. Unfortunately, Martin Lindsey was ill and unable to attend. Our constitution has not been amended as the detailed information (from Richard Callicott) did not arrive until just before our AGM. Overall our constitution looks in good shape.
4. Strategic Planning Workshop, 11 June 2011, Ponds Forge SC, Sheffield  
Attended by only 7, all coaches, plus Stuart Johnson and facilitator, Will Parker, from Prospects4Sport. A draft plan was created which needs a little refinement. Event was useful in opening communications between regional personnel and national office staff and has led to further open discussions.
5. North Yorkshire School Games, 24 June 2011, York St Johns University  
Successful pilot volleyball event. Should be bigger and better next year.
6. Bridlington Mixed Beach Tournament, 2-3 July 2011 (29th year)  
80 4-a-side teams (approx. 400 people), playing on 16 courts in glorious weather. Report on Volleyball England news page. Profits raised go back into junior development in Yorkshire. Date for 2012 (30th year) - 7 & 8 July 2012  
Discussions ongoing with East Riding Council on a permanent/semi-permanent volleyball court next to the beach café.
7. Meeting with North Yorkshire Sport, 6 July 2011  
Discussions around filling the hole left by the RTDP and future volleyball development, in North Yorkshire. A volleyball development group is being setup to coordinate this.
8. Go Spike at the Great Yorkshire Show, 12-14 July 2011  
Thanks to North Yorkshire Sport and considerable effort by Steve Matthews, regional coaching administrator and other volunteers, we promoted Go Spike at the Great Yorkshire show. Over 300 participants, but 90% under 16 years old. North Yorkshire Sport were impressed and have already invited us for next year (10-12 July 2012).
9. Beach Volleyball Training Camp, 16 July 2011, Bridlington
10. Pushed Go Spike to Yorkshire clubs.  
After a slow start, there are now 6 weekly sessions in Yorkshire appearing on [gospike.net](http://gospike.net). Unfortunately, there doesn't appear to be as many clubs involved nationally as I would have hoped/expected.
11. Outdoor Tournaments  
Harrogate, Ilkley, Bridlington & York. Cleckheaton & another beach event (venue TBC) to come in August. A schools tournament was held on Thursday 23 June 2011, at Baysgarth School, Barton on Humber. Hull & East Yorkshire also ran their annual 2-a-side summer league with 14 pairs.

#### **Priorities for Next 3 Months Delivery**

1. Complete the Yorkshire Development Plan
2. Plan/fund/deliver a Yorkshire Talent Development Program
3. Engage with Change 4 Life schools, other schools & the new School Games Organisers
4. Develop relationships with County Sports Partnerships
5. Deliver a Grade 4 Refs course

### **Opportunities / Challenges / Threats**

1. Opportunity - Sportivate funding
2. Opportunity - HEVO's activities in the new academic year could produce new players for regular clubs
3. Challenge - Integrating Go Spike participants into clubs
4. Challenge - Communication. As mentioned above, there are signs this is better, but still scope for improvement.

### **Ideas / Suggestions / Best Practice / Other**

Communication of Staffing News. We heard that Chris Stott was leaving from North Yorkshire Sport. It would be nice if the regional coaching administrators had been informed, rather than hear through a 3rd party.

Mike Turner, YVA Chairman

### **A.4. West Midlands - 26/7/2011**

#### **What activity has taken place since the previous commission meeting?**

1. CDCs – Ongoing excellent work
2. AGM  
Well attended and completed without significant issues  
Chief Exec VE attended which was well received and allowed explanations on RTDP, Academies and other issues of concern including regional funding (lack of and VE failure to support the region which resulted in a loss of income).  
Committee generally re-elected with Competitions Secretary Steve Evans standing down but replaced by Carl Brookes. Continuing problem over Treasurer position unfilled. Help offered via volunteer route by Ilona at VE.
3. Sandwell Tournament  
Completed successfully with better organisation and positive reports. Still does not attract teams from outside region as it used to (competition from more and better located alternatives?)

#### **Priorities for next 3 months delivery**

1. Review constitution – decided not to raise at AGM as only received shortly before meeting.
2. Review talent development programme. Junior team have responded positively to the set back and are looking at delivering a different style of programme.
3. Initiate new strategic plan if VE can provide the support already offered to other regions.
4. Push Go Spike initiative with clubs.

### **Opportunities / Challenges / Threats**

1. Loss of Regional Talent coaches to new VE initiatives.
2. Loss of CDC funding.
3. Concerns over Competitions Commission accepting teams to NVL despite recommendations against.

### **Ideas / Suggestions / Best Practice / Other**

Where does Regional Commission sit now? Other commissions appear to have funds to allocate and initiatives to promote which they often do with little liaison with Regional Commission. Surely the latter should have a central role to play, supporting as it does the majority of the membership?

Bryan Youlden, Chair WMVA



## **A.5. South West Volleyball Association - 26/7/2011**

### **What activity has taken place since the previous commission meeting?**

1. AGM - June - 11 in attendance. New Chairman - Dave Reece, all other posts filled except for Coaching (again). Craig Handford joined us from VE. Long discussions with Craig about RTDP, IRC, Academies - we were able to make known our depth of feelings about these issues.
2. Development Plan - Updated at the AGM. Now waiting for Stuart to produce the final version. Will do more work on detailed planning at next Exec Meeting on Sept 10th.
3. New and much improved website - <http://www.swva.org.uk/>
4. SW Championships - Plymouth in May - 13 mens teams - won by City of Bristol, 10 womens teams - won by Devon Ladies.
5. Strong entries for SW Junior Beach events
6. Level 2 Coaches Award Course (funded by Regional Commission additional grant).  
Ros Sutherland reports: 12 Candidates on the course all passed. An epic job from Bill, It is not an easy task to run a 4 day course on your own. Good spread of candidates from all over the South West - 3 From Torexe who are working with Torexe Club beginners and SW team; 2 teachers both from schools already producing a player (One has already started working towards a winter Junior league for the area); 1 Young coach from Exeter College working towards a degree in coaching, 2 Bristol Uni coaches, 1 young coach about to move to Southampton, 1 coach from the Ordnance Survey Volleyball club who lives in Southampton; 1 Coach from Swindon who works with young people for Swindon Council and has offered to run a Level 1 in Swindon; 1 from Taunton Club
7. Whitefield Tournament. 130 entries (full). No indoor event - waiting to see survey comments about this. Not able to get VE branding items for display.

### **Priorities for next 3 months delivery**

1. League entries - closing soon. Indications are that entries should hold up.
2. Agreeing new format / funding for Junior Squads
3. Detailed planning for new Development Plan
4. Establishing plans for a Regional Club Development Session.
5. Constitution - we did not discuss in detail at AGM. We will look at it in the coming months. Interested to read other regions' comments on this in their reports.

### **Opportunities / Challenges / Threats**

1. VE Referee Conference - has this been moved from September 11 to 10? If so it causes a clash with SWVA Exec meeting.
2. RTDP / IRC we are willing to fund training and will look for sources of funding, but we need early agreement / commitment from VE and other regions re IRC
3. Satellite Academies - another example of poor communication. Very concerned that three potential sites have been given three months extra preparation time.
4. VE AGM. I was the only person there who was not an Officer / Member of Staff! I raised concerns about RTDP / IRC / Communication. I (and Charlie) also complained about the editing of regional reports in the Annual Report and the lack of reference to the success of RTDP.
5. National League structure - huge travelling distances in Div 3

### **Ideas / Suggestions / Best Practice / Other**

Happy to share Development Plan when published.

Ron Richards, Secretary, SWVA

## **A.6. South East - 27/07/11**

### **What activity has taken place since the previous commission meeting?**

1. SEVA Tournament held on 7th and 8th May and Sussex University [men] and Surrey Orcas [women] went on to represent SEVA at the Regional Trophy. Both teams reached the finals with Surrey Orcas winning the tournament.
2. The cutting of funding for the RTDP has caused much debate and consternation. SEVA coaches have agreed to continue with the monthly training sessions starting in September 2011 but higher training fees will have to be imposed and may deter some participants. There future of this competition still seems to be unclear.
3. Volleyball Academies have proved a thorny issue with many complaining that a lack of transparency from Volleyball England has meant regions have not been given an equal chance to develop academy proposals in time for September 2011.
4. Level 1 coaching course was held in May and a referees course planned for September has been filled already.
5. The regions biggest tournament was held in Dorking. The Ashcombe Tournament attracted 98 teams on Saturday and 80 teams on Sunday over the weekend of 25th and 26th June.
6. Margate held a successful Beach Tour competition on 9th and 10th July
7. It was a sell out when K2 Crawley hosted the GB Mens European League matches v Belgium on 24th and 25th June 2011 following successful European competitions held there last year.
8. The SEVA AGM was held on 22nd June and all positions were filled apart from a Competition Officer to run next years adult SEVA competition.
9. There was much discussion about the forming of a Hampshire Volleyball Association and a meeting is planned to try and bring together interested parties.

### **Priorities for next 3 months delivery**

1. Plan sessions and communicate dates for Junior training sessions to all known volleyball contacts in the South East.
2. Work with any remaining School Competition Managers and Local Development coaches to further increase curriculum and competitive volleyball in schools.

### **Opportunities / Challenges / Threats**

1. There are still no Volleyball Development Coaches in the South East.
2. Sportivate funding.
3. Go Spike initiative

Freda Bussey, Chairman SEVA

### **A.7. East Midlands Region - 28/07/11**

#### **What activity has taken place since the previous commission meeting?**

1. Go Spike events – Lincolnshire Show, Nottingham Riviera Festival, Lincoln City Beach Festival.
2. Beach Grand Prix – Skegness  
Crowds of almost 6000 turned out across two days of competition..  
See report: <<http://www.volleyballengland.org/News.php?articleId=2103>>
3. The first ever National Let's Play Volleyball Festival  
Hosted at Caythorpe Court, PGL Centre Grantham. 130 junior volleyball players, 23 chaperones, 8 Young Officials and 4 members of staff, take over the adventure activity site. A big thank you to all the PGL staff who facilitated the fun and activities across the weekend and a bigger thank you to all teachers, coaches, parents and chaperones who helped get teams there - without them the competition would not have been possible.
4. Wide variety of events taking place at the National Volleyball Centre in Kettering.
5. Nottingham Ladies – runners up of the Regional Championship. Worksop Men's team finished 4th.

### **Priorities for next 3 months delivery**

1. EMVA AGM and presentation evening – 2nd August 2011.
2. Development of a County Association and county leagues for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire at the start of the new season.

### **Opportunities / Challenges / Threats**

1. Chance to recruit new members through Go Spike events
2. Sportivate funding linked to work with the HE/Fe network.
3. Development of new county associations in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.
4. Olympic activities – Gold Challenge, Quest for Gold, Legacy of Test event sand – beach court in Kettering.
5. Development of sitting volleyball in schools through the Sainsbury's 1 million kids programme.

Janet Inman, Chairman EMVA

### **A.8. North East Region - 28/07/2011**

#### **What activity has taken place since the previous commission meeting?**

1. LPV Festival held early July in Hexham. 350 youngsters took part.
2. 2 regional beach tournaments: Tynemouth and Redcar, numbers up at both
3. Regional Grass tournament: Darlington White Rose, numbers down (probably affected by poor weather and worse forecast)
4. Regional Indoor Tournament: Ian Berry tournament. Well supported as ever.

### **Priorities for next 3 months delivery**

1. Re-focus regional talent development pathways.
2. Adapt new national comp structure
3. Establish new local open junior comps to provide opportunities for club and school players
4. Adapt to new National League structures.

### **Opportunities / Challenges / Threats**

1. Change 4 Life clubs in schools – lack of fit between those schools active in Volleyball in the region and those who signed up for Change 4 life. We have to concentrate our small volunteer resource to best effect and Change 4 Life schools are not being encouraged at the moment.
2. Volunteer resource spread too thinly to implement the recent initiatives such as Go Spike.
3. HEVO – looking to good results from this in Oct.
4. Some key partners being made redundant as a result of government cuts.

### **Ideas / Suggestions / Best Practice / Other**

1. LPV festival goes from strength to strength – held in school time with a good commitment from several schools in the region. Problem is getting those players into clubs.
2. Regional League developing well but how will it fit with the new NVL structure?

Phil Dodd, Chairman NEVA

### **A.9. NW Region - 28/07/11**

#### **What activity has taken place since the previous commission meeting?**

1. Chester tournament held in mid-June junior tournament cancelled due to lack of entries, senior tournament went ahead but with reduced attendance compared to last two years.
2. Pontins junior festival held at beginning of July. Attendance up 5% on last year with nearly 250 young players and teachers/coaches.

3. Several pointless come & play sessions under the Go Spike banner wasted hours of organisers and players time plus a considerable outlay on fuel for no useful result.
4. West Kirby junior beach tournament held on July 24th in conjunction with Wirral Borough Council Sport Development. A little more useful than the Formby Triathlon or the Birkenhead 'Race for Life'.
5. 'Paradise in the Park' beach volleyball summer league at Liverpool One shopping centre started on July 20th and will run through to August 31st. Monday & Tuesday evenings given over to low level competition for teams from local businesses, We've taken over Wednesday evenings this year to run Merseyside league men's and women's competitions. This looks like being very successful.

#### **Priorities for next 3 months delivery**

1. Try to implement plan for regional school U15 and U14 competitions, running in stages from inter-school/ borough to county level and then a regional final. Not sure at present how to source venue costs and trophies for finals.
2. Continue to encourage development of junior volleyball by organising and running one-off competitions and local leagues and by trying to increase the number of schools taking part.

#### **Opportunities / Challenges / Threats**

1. More interest in schools based junior competition than we have seen for many years, issues around how to cultivate this interest given the usual problems of finding coaches and organisers to run in curriculum and in/after school events.
2. Loss of competition managers and (most) PDMs being felt already and raise challenge of improving and maintaining communications with individual schools and teachers.
3. Go Spike initiative – How much did all the merchandising for this cost? Did VE deliberately design it to further alienate volunteers?

#### **Ideas / Suggestions / Best Practice /**

Draft competition programme for North West. Needs to link in to VE Junior competition programme to work properly. Anyone know where that's gone?

Alan Bell, Chairman NWVF

Appendix B – Proposed Junior Calendar 2011-12

Date	Under 15	Under 16	Under 18	Notes	
3/9/11	UK School Games				
4/9/11					
10/9/11	National Squads				
11/9/11					
17/9/11					
18/9/11					
24/9/11					
25/9/11					
1/10/11	<b>ENTRY DEADLINE</b>				
2/10/11					
8/10/11					
9/10/11					
15/10/11	National Squads				
16/10/11					
22/10/11				half term weekends	
23/10/11					
29/10/11					
30/10/11					
5/11/11		Preliminary round - boys	Preliminary round - girls	Student Cup Q	Snr-Cup - round 2
6/11/11		Preliminary round - girls	Preliminary round - boys	Student Cup Q	
12/11/11	National Squads			Student Cup Q	
13/11/11				Student Cup Q	
19/11/11	OPTION: Regional Championships - Boys/Girls				
20/11/11	OPTION: Regional Championships - Boys/Girls				
26/11/11		Boys - CUP r 1		Snr-Cup - Round 3	Student Cup Q
27/11/11		Girls - CUP r1		Student Cup Q	
3/12/11	OPTION: Regional Championships - Boys/Girls		Girls - CUP r1		
4/12/11	OPTION: Regional Championships - Boys/Girls		Boys - CUP r 1		
10/12/11	OPTION: Regional Championships - Boys/Girls				
11/12/11	OPTION: Regional Championships - Boys/Girls				
17/12/11	National Squads			Christmas Holiday weekends	
18/12/11					
24/12/11	Christmas				
25/12/11					

31/12/11	New Year			
1/1/12				
7/1/12			CEV Junior Europeans	
8/1/12			Snr-Cup - Round 4	
14/1/12	Boys - CUP r2		CEV Junior Europeans	
15/1/12	Girls - CUP r2			
21/1/12		Girls - CUP r2		
22/1/12		Boys - CUP r2		
28/1/12	OPTION Divisional Champs - b/g or Reg Challenger b/g			
29/1/12	OPTION Divisional Champs - b/g or Reg Challenger b/g			
4/2/12	OPTION Divisional Champs - b/g or Reg Challenger b/g		Snr-Cup Quarters	
5/2/12	OPTION Divisional Champs - b/g or Reg Challenger b/g			
11/2/12	National Squads		Student Cup Finals	
12/2/12			Student Cup Finals	
18/2/12			half term weekends	
19/2/12				
25/2/12	CUP Super 8s - b/g			Senior Cup semis
26/2/12		CUP Super 8s - b/g		
3/3/12				
4/3/12				
10/3/12				
11/3/12				
17/3/12	National Squads		BUCS Finals	
18/3/12			BUCS Finals	
24/3/12	National Champs/Challenger/Plate - Boys/Girls			
25/3/12	National Champs/Challenger/Plate - Boys/Girls			
31/3/12			Easter holiday weekends	
1/4/12				
7/4/12	National Squads			BCS National Finals
8/4/12				BCS National Finals
14/4/12				
15/4/12				
21/4/12	National Final - boys and girls @ play-offs?		Play Offs	
22/4/12				
28/4/12	National Final - boys and girls in place of Senior Shield?		Cup Finals	
29/4/12	Boys/Girls Cup Final	Boys/Girls Cup Final		
5/5/12	INTER REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS?			
6/6/12				