



## Volleyball England AGM

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July, SportPark, Loughborough University**

**Present (non-Voting):** Sandra Andrews (**SA**), Ilona Berry (**IB**), Maria Bertelli (**MB**), Paul Bohannon (**PB**) John Boughton (**JB**), Richard Callicott OBE (**RC**), Rob Cook (**RCK**), Audrey Cooper (**AC**), Dirk George (**DG**), Colin Hill (**CH**), Stuart Levy (**SL**), Martin Lindsey (**ML**), Jim Mutton OBE (**JM**), Charlie Orton (**CO**), Will Roberts (**WR**), Lisa Wainwright (**LW**), Tracy Watkinson (**TW**), Rohan West (**RW**), Jefferson Williams (**JW**), Hannah Winsbury (**HW**) and Gerard van Zwieten (**GVZ**).

**Apologies:** Keith Nicholls, Delvin Lane, Steve Matthews, Brian Treadwell, Gillian Harrison, Steve Evans, Brian Stalker, Brian Youlden, Richard Harrison, Aneel Khanna.

### **Voting Members Present:**

**Alan Bell (AB)** - Wirral

**Brian Kendall (BK)** – Preston and District Volleyball Club, North Riding Eagles VC

**Chair** – Garstang Natives Volleyball Club, Lelardoux Exiles, University of Worcester, Cherwell Volleyball Club, The Skinners Volleyball Club, Great Yarmouth and Gorleston Volleyball Club, University of Brighton, Essex Beach Volleyball Club, Cardiff Volleyball Club, Redhill (Worcester) Volleyball Club, University of Essex, Chelmsford Volleyball Club, Stowmarket Stingers, Volley Wallies, South Hants Volleyball Club, Stowmarket V.C., British Airways, CSSC Volleyball, Harrogate VC, University of Nottingham Volleyball Club, University of Sunderland, University of the Arts London, Panshanger Piranha (Volleyball), Isle of Wight Volleyball Club, PARS, Harrogate Juniors, COLVIC (Colchester Sixth Form College), Bournemouth Beach VC, Team Southampton, Norwich Spikers, South West Junior VC, Strood, Blackley Volleyball Club Manchester (BVCM), Tameside, Plymouth, Northumbria University, Newmarket, Dartford, Newbury V.C., Hillingdon Volleyball Club, City of Bristol, Reigate VC

**Geoff Allen (GA)** – Poole Panthers Volleyball Club, Academy of Beach Sports, Wessex

**James Murphy (JM)** – Maidenhead

**Phil Chanin (PC)** – City of Salford

**Will Roberts (WR)** – Keele University, Tendring, Newcastle (Staffs) VB

<i>Minute</i>	<i>Item</i>
<b>AGM/15/02</b>	<b>Appointment of tellers</b>  Proposed SA and IB selected as tellers to support Caroline Jepps (CJ) from Electoral Reform Services with votes – no objections
<b>AGM/15/03</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>  These are stated above.
<b>AGM/15/04</b>	<b>Confirmation of eligibility to vote</b>  Voting system changes were explained, the reasoning behind these to ensure impartiality. As of the 23 <sup>rd</sup> July (12:00pm) 53 proxy forms had been received – 41 of these votes were given to the Chair, 7 to alternative proxy holders and 5 to appointed representatives of clubs.

	<p>All proxy holders are required to sign voting form, despite discretion. Forms will be signed and collected by SA and IB, counted and added to non-discretionary proxy votes. GA to receive and declare result of votes. All votes require a simple majority to be passed.</p>
<p><b>AGM/15/05</b></p>	<p><b>Approval of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th July 2014</b></p> <p>GA went through the Minutes from 2014 AGM for accuracy, there were no concerns. Minutes approved with no objections. Forms signed and handed to tellers.</p> <p><b>43 votes in favour, 8 abstentions. Passed.</b></p>
<p><b>AGM/15/06</b></p>	<p><b>To receive the Annual Report 2014-2015</b></p> <p>GA to go through, questions to be received at each stage.</p> <p>Excellent progress in Let's Play Volleyball numbers, participation reports generally well received. GA encouraged clubs running an open adult session to brand these as Go Spike. Alan Bell (<b>AB</b>) said these figures do not count all Satellite Clubs, with reference to those ran by Premier League 4 Sport (<b>PL4S</b>) – LW explained these reports are in reference to clubs supported by specific funding streams. GA suggested that perhaps both reports could be combined as a footnote.</p> <p>Charlie Orton (<b>CO</b>) questioned the counting of Go Spike sessions – RW clarified for Sport England reporting purposes, sessions must last a minimum of six weeks, and therefore one off events would not be classed as a Go Spike session.</p> <p>Brian Kendall (<b>BK</b>) expressed confusion between Satellite Clubs, Hub Clubs, and Academies. GA confirmed an article on the website explaining the differences could be looked at.</p> <p>There were no questions on Investment Zone Reports, Student Volleyball, or Go Spike. GA referenced the This Girl Can campaign and expressed support for this as one of the primary female sports.</p> <p>There were no questions on Talent, GA congratulated the significant progress made, with reference to Chris Gregory and Jake Sheaf qualifying for Baku, Beach Volleyball and Sitting Volleyball results, and recent funding successes. No further questions.</p> <p>No questions were raised regarding coaching; refereeing; competitions and commercial.</p> <p>Membership – BK confirmed accuracy of Volley123 club figures – LW confirmed these numbers reflect currently accredited clubs. AB expressed concerns at inability to renew accreditation, but did not wish to raise issue formally.</p> <p>There were no questions regarding equity and safeguarding, regional reports, or Annual Awards.</p> <p><b>43 votes in favour, 8 abstentions. Passed.</b></p>

AGM/15/07	<p><b>To receive the Financial Report 2014-2015</b></p> <p>JB presented the Finance Report. BK raised the fact these accounts are <i>not</i> full accounts – JB explained these are full <i>published</i> accounts, the company are limited by guarantee and therefore not obliged to disclose any further guarantee. Needs to be a debate at Board Level going forward if level of disclosure is increased.</p> <p>GA mentioned that JB is up for re-election next year, and reference Sport England Guidelines stating directors should not exceed 8 years unless there is no obvious replacement. LW replied good governance and a common sense element is needed. JB staying on in post could be considered.</p> <p><b>41 in favour, 1 against, 8 abstentions. Passed.</b></p>
AGM/15/08	<p><b>To confirm the re-appointment of auditors and to confirm the ability for the Board to fix their remuneration</b></p> <p><b>43 in favour, 8 abstentions. Passed.</b></p>
AGM/15/09	<p><b>Election of officers</b></p> <p>Hand over to WR to chair elections section. WR expressed thanks to GA. A number of positions are up for re-election, all votes by poll.</p>
	<p><b>Finance Director - Uncontested</b></p> <p>During the vote for the Finance Director role, various competitions were discussed, notably Spring Cups.</p> <p><b>Vote to re-elect John Boughton as Finance Director – 43 in favour, 9 abstentions. John Boughton is re-elected.</b></p>
	<p><b>Playing Director – Uncontested</b></p> <p>During the vote for the Playing Director role, the Competitions Review was discussed. Timeline – some recommendations to be implemented by the start of the 2016/17 season.</p> <p><b>Vote to re-elect Jefferson Williams as Playing Director – 46 in favour, 1 against, 6 abstentions. Jefferson Williams is re-elected.</b></p>
	<p><b>Performance Director – Uncontested</b></p> <p><b>Vote to re-elect Alex Bialokoz as Performance Director – 45 in favour, 0 against, 7 abstentions. Alex Bialokoz is re-elected.</b></p>
	<p><b>Coaching Commission President – Richard Harrison to step down, Gillian Harrison nominated.</b></p> <p>During the vote for the Playing Director role, various things were discussed. AB asked if Merseyside could be persuaded to include volleyball in the School Games – WR expressed that he could not help in his job role due to a conflict of interest. It was suggested that the Schools &amp; Youth Commission could potentially help with this.</p>

	<p>WR noted that this was a local issue.</p> <p><b>Vote to elect Gillian Harrison as Coaching Commission President</b> – 43 in favour, 1 against, 8 abstentions. <b>Gillian Harrison is elected.</b></p>
	<p><b>President – GA standing for re-election against Tracy Watkinson</b></p> <p>Candidates will have a ten minute slot to address the room.</p> <p><b>GA gave his address to the room.</b> GA spoke about his personal volleyball background, where he would like to see Volleyball England heading, and mentioned key areas for improvement, these are noted below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pay more attention to school volleyball. GA fully supports Schools &amp; Youth Commission</li> <li>2. Strengthen accessibility for young players not at mainstream schools/clubs</li> <li>3. Develop Competitions – supports Competitions Review</li> <li>4. Referee Development – need more, need more respect towards officials</li> </ol> <p><b>TW gave her address to the room.</b> TW introduced herself and explained her role on the Board, including work in change management. TW is standing to “<i>make necessary change</i>” and noted the following as key areas of change needed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Changing pace of delivery of strategic delivery</li> <li>2. Changing relationship between Volleyball England and all involved in the sport</li> <li>3. Maximising knowledge and talent in the sport</li> <li>4. Change in accountability</li> </ol> <p><b>WR – move to poll vote.</b></p> <p><b>Vote for Volleyball England President role</b> – 34 in favour of GA, 11 in favour of TW, 8 abstentions. <b>Geoff Allen is re-elected as President.</b></p>
<p><b>AGM/15/10</b></p>	<p><b>Concluding remarks</b></p> <p>Geoff Allen thanked those in attendance for their faith, and encouraged people to contribute towards achieving Strategy 2024.</p>