



Competitions Commission Meeting

Saturday 10th May 2014

National Volleyball Centre, Kettering

MEETING MINUTES

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| Minutes prepared by | : | Laurence Shenker |
| Circulation | : | Competition Commission |
| Distribution | : | From Paul Bohannan |

| Commissioners present and apologies for absence | |
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| Paul Bohannan | Competitions Commission President Super 8's Commissioner |
| Bill Boagey | Division 1 Commissioner |
| Brian Kendall | U15 Commissioner |
| Lenny Barry | National Cup Commissioner |
| Ian Cheesebrough | Division 2 Men's Commissioner |
| Keith McAdam | Division 2 Women's Commissioner |
| Kevin Hamblin | Division 3 Men's Commissioner |
| Sarah Hill | Division 3 Women's Commissioner |
| | Jonathan Moore Competitions Manager |
| | Rohan West Participation Director |
| | Laurence Shenker Competitions Administrator |
| 1. Apologies | |
| Ade McGraa | Student Cup Commissioner |
| Sanjib Sahota | Major Events & Commercial Manager |

In **bold** – voting members

The meeting commenced at 10:35

| | | Action |
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| 2. | Minutes of Previous Meeting | |
| | <p>Update of good will deposit has gone out with new team applications.</p> <p>Long Discussion between all regarding Refereeing in the NVL.</p> <p>Ref Comm's looking to mix appointments across the board rather than making appointments down the leagues. Steve is looking to mix priority of what they need, appointing where they see fit to do so. Appropriate appointments rather than block booking each division.</p> <p>Communication from teams is that there is a lack of referees for NVL games.</p> <p>Rohan – Looking into getting those leaving University into club structures.</p> | |

Paul & Lenny discuss refereeing in NVL divisions below super 8's. Fees between super 8's and lower division teams should be different to highlight lack of referee appointments.

Future decisions can be made once ref com have had their meeting. Better referees being sent to better games. Better referees potentially will not accept appointments in lower divisions. Loss of referee's is coming from poor discipline and poor player behaviour during the season from lower division clubs.

Regional referee administrators are causing issues due to lack of activity. The problem is that we are unsure if regional administrators are active? Confusion on website with different names listed on VE website. Unsure of who is listed as regional administrator. **Brian** suggests potential for putting together a national conference. Getting suggestions for issues regarding schools, referees etc.

Differential in price between division joining. Always has been, easy to say differential in price is possibly lack of referees.

PB: Differential in price is due to the potential that you will not have a referee for all your games.

Kevin: referee shortage in numbers, there used to be in the handbook a couple pages outlining referees who can be contacted. Naivety from clubs, not expecting that they are due to officiate. Lack of planning from club. Teams wait for last minute to make referee appointments.

Jon: Martin Shakespeare and ref com are looking into referee block appointments, July – December, November – rest of season.

Courses are later than NVL programme, Lenny unsure of commitments being fulfilled. Same with Keith.

Qualified refs not on whostheref,

Jon: List of referee's to be put in website for start of next season.

Section D4 in NVL Handbook to have an increase section about referees. Educate teams about reading the handbook and when action is required regarding referee appointments. Inform teams when handbook and fixtures are sent out, highlight section about telling teams about their appointment.

Lenny: Who is telling new teams where to look? In handbook, 'teams please look on whostheref to find NVL fixture referee appointments. (PB is wording it for handbook)

Brian & Lenny: In case of no appointment, VE will supply an appointment D4 has points added. See above.

Major issue of geographical numbers of referees. (North west etc.)

Future joint thought process between ref com & workforce to address issue of refereeing appointments and numbers. Targeting those that leave the sport (players etc.)

Lenny: Asks what is view of commission and reason why there is a differential in price for divisions paying for Referees? This point has never been mentioned to the clubs. If we can tell the clubs the reason behind this then we can defend ourselves.

Agreement that Referee Commission should be leading the line with regards to getting more people refereeing/ courses.

Minutes: **PB** calls a vote after **LB** queries what has been written in the minutes.

Vote on 'are we happy with how ref com appoint Referees

6-2 in favour of appointing referees Top divisions – down.

Ian: Paul to send an 'official' email asking how Ref Com can overcome issue of lack of referee appointments and what they are doing to remedy the situation?

JM to put qualified referee's on the VE website.

Section D4 in NVL Handbook to have section of listed referee's.

PB: Putting sentence in NVL Handbook stating that 'teams must look on whostheref to find NVL fixture referee appointments. VE/ Ref Com will look to supply a referee if none has been supplied.

PB: Send an email to ref com asking how they can overcome the issue of 'lack of referee appointments and what they are doing?'

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| <p>3.</p> | <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Discussion regarding cup entries.</p> <p>Volleyball England Season Calendar</p> <p>JM – Wants discussions about calendar at least a year in advance. Future discussion/ calendar group to meet potentially including other departments such as talent.</p> <p>Lenny: Questions where does priority lie with the NVC? Which department gets priority?</p> <p>Discussions have taken place between Jon, Adi & Audrey- findings were that the calendar suits all parties. Lenny suggests that the relevant commissions are involved in future discussions regarding the calendar to safe guard in case Jon leaves. Before it gets ratified, while still in draft, send round to commissions to gain agreement from all parties. If future changes are required, send through commission to Jon.</p> <p>Handbook did come out but was late. Lenny asks that the Handbook is sent out last on time.</p> <p>*2014-15 Handbook out on time* Date agreed by Jon- Handbook is to be circulated by 1st September*</p> <p>International Transfers:</p> <p>Div 1 teams can go through similar process but not subject to admin fees- no money is paid. FIVB do not allow administrative transfer fees. A Letter from Wanye to CEV has been put together asking not to include Div 1 this season and continue solely with the S8's. This allows head office more time to get used to the process as well as the teams.</p> <p>Notify Div 1 teams telling them what is happening. Send same information to all divisional teams including S8's. (Only S8's are allowed to make international transfers). Apply same principles as last season. International Transfers begins as soon as windows open. Potential rise in price from other federations. Wayne & Lisa has taken the issue to FIVB & CEV. Apply same principles and processes as last year.</p> <p>Scenario of team walking out due to bad flooring. Who would be liable if Referee said they had to play? PB checked and was told by experts that it would be covered by our insurance.</p> <p>Limited budget to allow marketing structure. Currently use Facebook & Twitter as the main way of getting people to attend our events. New NVC coordinator to look at ways to increase support from local area & foot fall to major events.</p> <p>Rohan – looking to make substantial improvements throughout Kettering when major events occur. Next year will see improvements.</p> <p>U16 boys & Girls to be on different weekends or same. Discussions are ongoing. Continued talks about when to host these rounds. Next Seasons calendar is congested pre-Christmas and is difficult to split round 1 of boys and girls. After Christmas is far less congested.</p> | <p>JM & Competitions: Get NVL handbook out to clubs by 1st September</p> <p>JM to send email to all NVL clubs informing them of information regarding International Transfers (only Super 8s)</p> |
| <p>4.</p> | <p>Portas Review Update</p> <p>Commissioned by VE to look at governance of sport. Backed by finances from Sport England. Review highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working group set up. 5 sessions already had & ongoing • Discussions are ongoing on how the set up will be. • No word 'commissions', Competitions likely to grow as Beach & international become part of our 'Team' • Structure of the company will be divided into 4 separate teams: | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure led by Rohan West, Strategy and Finance led by Martin Lyndsey, Marketing and Commercial led by Rohan West and Technical led by Audrey Cooper. • Priority to look at increasing numbers (playing, refereeing, coached etc.) • The Competitions team will remain. • Key outcomes is that Competitions includes Beach. Potential advisory groups etc. <p>Issues and concerns raised about there being no defined leadership structure with the new potential infrastructure. Who decides how competitions are formatted?</p> <p>PB: Talent & Technical will be involved in some tournament planning. Directors of Talent & Technical (Audrey Cooper) and Participation (Rohan West) will be responsible for discussing and coming to agreements if and when both departments are conflicted.</p> <p>Discussion about infrastructure of VE.</p> <p>Discussion about distribution and merit of Portas review.</p> <p>Brian: Portas- why has it not been on the website? / Circulated to members. Review will not be going out in July at AGM.</p> <p>If Portas review is requested then it will be supplied.</p> <p>Until agreements have been finalised and made, information regarding the report will not be published.</p> <p>Brian requests that Portas is discussed with membership. Outcomes of next Portas meeting to be communicated to relevant people.</p> <p>Lenny & Brian suggest that looking for AGM on website is difficult to find on website. Both Suggest putting date of AGM as a prominent fixture on website permanently.</p> <p>Brian: Proposes that the board give a full report of where they are at the next meeting and calls for a National Conference in August/ September to discuss implementation of Portas.</p> | <p>PB If the Portas review is requested then it will be supplied.</p> |
| <p>5.</p> | <p>U18 National Championships Women -20 teams Men -21 teams</p> <p>U18 Grand Prix Clashed with CEV U20 round 2. Wessex won both.</p> <p>U16 National Championships Girls – 29 teams took part Boys- 20 teams</p> <p>U15 National Championships Roughly 2 and a half teams per region. 1 entry from northern region. Growth of Academies has had an impact, nor has Olympic legacy. Link inter regionals with U15's? Problems with eligibility. Issues with venue being in London. (inter regionals)</p> <p>Continue for 1 more year but tighten up with eligibility rules. Advertise to all secondary schools through mailing. Advertise competition internally, website, e-magazine. Ask people for ideas for change.</p> <p>Proposals for change- See document. (BK)</p> | |

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| | <p>Year after- scrap inter regionals and scrap u15's. New competition format 'elite competition' for u16. Top players would lose out due to losing a competition. Put the final on the same weekend as national finals weekend. Secondary competition allowing B teams to play. District round/ before Christmas, 9 regional rounds after Christmas, followed by last 9 event.</p> <p>Junior membership list- regions give details of all juniors, where lived etc. Can be tied to where and who they play for. 2 weeks before a tournament, teams give a team list where we can check before where players come from. Names can be up on the website. No other date to go up on website due to data protection.</p> <p>U15's underrepresented throughout. Get competitions review committee/ regional commission to get moving and get reviewing. Draw in all proposals for competitions changes, once all in and reviewed send out to members for feedback. Wait to send BK's document to regional commission, first send to competitions review committee.</p> <p>55 teams at U15 level. Big role for VRM to come, leading to more VRM's out in communities around the country. Fear of heavy defeats lead to teams refusing to enter the U15's. Engage regions. By next meeting (September, look to go out to consultation on Junior competition formats. Get the group back together).</p> | |
| <p>6.</p> | <p>Match Results</p> <p>Judicial panel – matches going up on the website that are match forfeits will not be 3-0 (25-0, 25-0 25-0) unless respective divisional commissioner agrees and gives the green light.</p> <p>Results are sent through. No 25-0's (3-0) cannot go on the website unless Commissioner allows.</p> | |
| <p>7.</p> | <p>NVL League Structure 2014/15</p> <p>Blyth Valley – In Team Durham – Yes- providing we get support from region London Aces – Yes Arun – More information needed before entering- Support for region & look at accounts. Kernow - Chase up letter from region. UEL – Yes- but need more information</p> <p>Vote 6-1 by the Competitions Commission to accept UEL.</p> <p>Manchester Marvels Men- Yes Women- Get remaining 6 unsigned players on team sheet to sign. –Yes Hull – Yes South Hants – Need something from Region to identify standard. Farnborough Devils – Yes Richmond 2 – Write to region to ask for letter of recommendation. Chester – Require more information York – Yes Sheffield 2 – Supply list of players and provide further information. Nuneaton – No Vote – 8-0 by the Competitions Commission not to accept Nuneaton. EBC Greenhouse – Need more information but provisionally yes. United States Air Force – No Vote - 8-0 by the Competitions Commission not to accept United States Air Force. Invite Nuneaton & United States Air Force to join the cups.</p> <p>New NVL team registration form.</p> <p>Review should have happened sooner of processes involving forfeiture of NVL games.</p> | |

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| | <p>Send a letter from PB/JM to Devon Storm highlighting the issue and ensure it does not happen again.</p> <p>£75 fine followed by £150 fine. Third match forfeiture to be a review and potential removal from the NVL.</p> <p>City of Salford potentially will not be playing S8's due to lack of tea (pregnancy etc.) If this occurs the winner / loser of NVL Play offs will both be in Super 8's.</p> <p>Entries to be sent out next week with return date of 3 weeks.</p> <p>NVL Structure:</p> <p>NVL Divisions were discussed with movement of teams agreed. Proposals subject to change dependant on results of NVL play off Sunday 11th May 2014.</p> | |
| <p>8.</p> | <p>NVL/ Cup Competition Rules</p> <p>Regulations and changes to NVL Handbook were discussed. All changes were read out and agreed upon.</p> <p>End of season date change from 12th April – 26th April.</p> <p>Vote of prices staying as they were quoted in new regulations:</p> <p>In favour 5-1. (Lenny against)</p> <p>Score Sheet hand in was discussed, Ref Com were suggested to be more heavily involved. Ask Steve Evans to write to all referee's ensuring they inform all teams to have their match score sheet is sent to HQ.</p> <p>Rules addition to section F.1 ii Super 8 must send through a match programme.</p> <p>'Will' has been placed back into the NVL Handbook. Proposed was the replacement of 'will' to 'can' but a unanimous vote was that 'will' remained.</p> <p>Addition to Section G1. A fine of £150 for a second & any subsequent match forfeitures /offences.</p> <p>Administrative failures will lead to a fine of £20. The word 'maximum' has been taken out of the rule.</p> <p>Rule G.7 viii is changed to read 'shall submit copies of such items'. Further change to G.7 viii – Final section of last sentence is removed from regulations.</p> <p>Section N – Under Match programmes - home teams are to send in a match programme after each fixture.</p> <p>Section N- Addition of sentence 'under the regulations G.1'.</p> | |
| <p>9.</p> | <p>Date of next 2 meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13th September 2014 SportPark Loughborough • Saturday 10th January 2015, SportPark, Loughborough | |
| <p>10.</p> | <p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioners Skills and competencies • Publication of Commission Minutes <p>Succinct minutes which can go on the website once ratified by the commission. Minutes to be ratified within 10 days.</p> | |

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| | <p>NVL MVP's information to be sent out to commission over the course of the summer.</p> <p>Discussion about the purpose & relevance of MVP voting.</p> | |
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