**East Midlands Volleyball Association**

Committee Meeting 21st June 2017

Sport Park, No. 3 Oakwood Drive Loughborough Leicestershire LE11 3QA

**In attendance:** Steve Jones, Gemma McDougall, Daniel Thompson, Dave Gardner, Ian Clews, Sandra Andrews, Janet Inman, Tom King, Phil Cobb, Daniel Harrison

**Action points from last meeting**

* Communicate with Will Hughes (Belper Hammers coach) to encourage U15s to inter county tournaments **GM / IC**
* Consider structure of boys regional training and tournaments to support involvement of Wrenn and Hermitage and strengthen inter regional squads **GM / IC**
* Planning of an East and West Midlands beach event over the summer I**C**
* Communicate with Darkstar IV (Mens Division II) to assess viability of this team being entered due to high volume of forfeited matches this season **BG**
* Raising of referee courses (combined courses) at Higher Education Coaches Meeting **SJ**
* Organising of a Womens only level 2 coaching course **SJ**

**Apologies:** Bryan Gladwin, Naz Sutton, Betrand Olie

1. **Junior Round Up and Awards IC**
	* Please see *EM Junior Development Season Review.pptx*
	* In summary as a region we entered into the VE national championships
		+ 2 x u15 girls teams (top finish of 5th at National Finals by Ashfield Vipers + participation from Hermitage and Darkstar)
		+ 2 x u15 boys team (competed in regional (Wrenn) and divisional round (Nottingham Rockets + Northamps + Ashfield Vipers))
		+ 1 x u16 girls team (finished 3rd in National Championship, Ashfield Vipers + Darkstar)
		+ 2 x u16 boys teams (competed in preliminary round, round 1 and round 2, Wrenn A and B)
		+ 2 x u18 girls teams (competed in preliminary round, round 1 and round 2, Ashfield Vipers + Hermitage + LC)
	* At the VE inter regionals we entered a full complement of teams, with players from Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire
		+ Girls U14A placed 2nd
		+ Girls U14B placed 5th
		+ Girls U16 placed 4th
		+ Boys U15 placed 7th
		+ Boys U17 placed 7th
	* At NVL level we have juniors playing for the following clubs
		+ Darkstar (W2N)
		+ Nottingham Rockets (W3N)
		+ Ashfield Vipers (W3N)
	* Players involved in England Junior development programme
		+ Francesca Britten (Darkstar)
		+ Bess Ashall (Darlstar)
		+ Maddie Wood (Darkstar)
		+ Emily Smith (Ashfield Vipers)
	* U15 Inter County Grand Prix Final Results
		+ 1st Northamptonshire, 2ns Nottinghamshire, 3rd Leicestershire, 4th Derbyshire
	* U17 Boys Grand Prix
		+ 1st Hermitage, 2nd Rockets / Darkstar / East Northants, 3rd Wrenn, 4th Kettering
	* U17 Girls Grand Prix
		+ 1st Ashfield Vipers, Joint 2nd Hermitage and Kettering, 4th Darkstar, Joint 5th Wrenn and Ashfield Vipers B
2. **Adult League Roundup and Awards IC**
	* Mens 2 – Winners Hermitage, Runners Up Loughborough Students
	* Mens 1 – Winners Darkstar II, Runners Up Polonia Leicester
	* Womens – Winners Ashfield Vipers, Runners Up Darkstar
3. **Chairs Report SJ**
	* Regional Overview – *See Overview EMVA.pptx*
4. **Junior/Schools Development IC**
* Junior development meeting held on July 12th to discuss next season developments. Outcomes described below.
* U17 GP
	+ To remain a separate competition for boys and girls, with 4 grand prixs for each gender during the season, held at Loughborough College.
	+ Boys and girls grand prixs to be held on different days.
	+ Time for the girls grand prix to be shortened, as 2 courts available.
	+ Boys grand prix to be held in conjunction with boys regional development programme training. 5 hour booking to allow about 2 hours of training, 2 hours for grand prix, with a break in between.
	+ Some flexibility with allowing U18s to play, if deemed appropriate by their coaches and grand prix organisers.
* U15 Inter County Grand Prix
	+ To remain county based, where clubs/schools can enter teams to represent their county, or players without a team can still come along to be placed in a team to represent their county.
	+ 4 grand prixs during the season, with venue alternating between the counties.
	+ Boys and girls to have separate competition, but run alongside each other at the same venue.
* New U13 events
	+ U13 event to run alongside U15 Grand Prix, using 1 court of the venue.
	+ No strict format. Likely to involve a bit of training, followed by matches.
	+ Use one of the events as a CPD session for teachers/coaches.
	+ If it proves successful and numbers grow, could look at running it on separate day to U15s later in the season.
* School games
	+ If school games is run in the majority of our counties, host a competition for the top 2/3 teams at each county school games, as an East Mids school games championship at the end of the season.
* Beach
	+ Successfully ran an U15 training session and tournament and 3 x U18 sessions (2 x turn up and play, 1 x competition
	+ Beach series has now come to an end. Although this didn't attract the number of players we were hoping for, it was great to see a handful of players experience beach volleyball for the 1st time through the training and competition offered. It was also great to give more experienced players the chance for some beach competition (without having to travel 200 miles!). We'll look at doing another event or 2 before the summer leaves us.

1. **Workforce**
* Referees **DG**
	+ List of Referees and some contact information for the East Midlands provided and will be distributed to clubs in region
	+ Issue raised concerning communication between VE, region and universities regarding referee courses. Planned courses and course requests need to be communicated earlier to ensure all members can access training and courses are not cancelled.
	+ Suggestion to involve HEVOs in this matter and to recruit a HEVO to the EMVA committee
* Coaching **DT**
	+ Single level 1 course held this year in region (Northamptonshire) with some East Midlands coaches going to the West Midlands (Dudley) for a level 2 course.
	+ Highlighted again the need for increasing the number of courses in the region and ensuring recruitment of new coaches, combining forces with universities to aid with numbers and free facilities. Some work needed to get currently qualified coaches more involved in the region.
	+ Suggestion to work with VE to look at availability of small grants to help with payment of coaching courses in the region (particularly level 2) but also to assist with training older juniors in level 1. No longer any funding available from CSP.
1. **Updates from the Counties**
* Lincolnshire **NS**
	+ Report received via email from Donna and Naz Sutton
		- Lincolnshire Cup Final is taking place on Sunday 30th July between Lincoln Cannons and Spalding
		- Primary school Volleyball is back in the School Games next year with U11, U13 and U15 competitions
		- Lack of volunteers to help run anything on a county level meaning it is becoming harder and harder to keep things ticking over. Myself and Donna want to step away from Lincolnshire Volleyball Association however with no one willing to take anything on we fear if we do this there will be no county wide development of league. Any support from EMVA or VE on this would be great.
* Northamptonshire **NB**
	+ No report received
* Leicestershire **PC**
	+ Mens League - Loughborough Students 1st place, PVC 2nd place
	+ Womens League – Hermitage 1st place, PVC 2nd place
	+ Mixed League – Loughborough Students 1st place, PVC 2nd place
	+ Outdoor grass tournament cancelled due to lack of entries
	+ Samworths project proceeding well, contacts being gathered, schools in Melton, Harborough and Rutland participating
	+ Been into 8 schools so far. Another 14 schools accessible via the school games contact. Hermitage is now a 6 court venue for juniors (slider nets installed).
	+ Lutterworth High, Kibworth and Robert Smyth participating.
	+ Money has been spent on equipment to ensure schools have what they need to get volleyball going in the curriculum.
* Nottinghamshire **BG**
	+ No new updates
* Derbyshire **HB**
	+ Nocounty report or update from DVA received, Helen Britten has suggested a restructure of the DVA may be happening but EMVA are yet to receive any confirmation of this or who will be the county contact
	+ Darkstar juniors update from Helen Britten - This is the season 5 of the U18s and it has been our most attended season yet. A season of firsts:
		- This is the **first** season we have had numbers as high as 25 at sessions. The season started off with around 12-15 and we just kept growing which is brilliant and something I need to manage for next season so that we can ensure players are working to their full potential.
		- This is the **first** time we have had both a girls and boys team competing in the East Midlands Junior grand prix competitions – we entered a girls team in every U17s grand prix this season in Sept, Oct, Jan and March and we competed well. The boys joined forces with Northants and Rockets but for the first time we actually had enough boys to enter a team ourselves in March.
		- The **first** time we have had 7 players representing the East Midlands in the Inter Regional competition.
		- Littleover Satellite was a success again this season and often we had high teen numbers and aa few have progressed to the club sessions. We also had end of term schools competitions with the Derby City SSP.
1. **Finances PC**
* See EMVA Accounts 2017-18 June.xls
* £3178 in the bank, outstanding fees of approx. £1050, a few remaining payments to go out including Kettering, Inter Regionals and Trophies for Awards. Anticipated costs
* Phil would like to do a budget for next year to make more formalised decisions regards amounts going into Juniors, Beach, Leagues etc.
* Need to readdress the issue of clubs making payments at the end of season, suggestion being league entry must be upfront and players can be paid for midway through season.
1. **Higher Education Committee SJ**
* International 4’s Beach – event cancelled.
1. **Regional Calendar SJ**
* This has been sent round to committee members and dates required now for junior events, committee meetings, AGM, grand prixs, tournaments, competitions, courses etc. Earlier the better with these dates.
1. **Officers** **SJ**
* Reappointments
	+ Chair – Steve Jones
	+ Finance Officer – Phil Cobb
	+ Secretary – Gemma McDougall
	+ Webmaster - Bryan Gladwin
	+ Junior Development Officer – Ian Clews
	+ Referee Officer – Dave Gardner
	+ Coaching & Workforce – Dan Thompson
	+ Sitting Volleyball – *previously Carla de Silva (unconfirmed)*
* Appointments
	+ Competitions Officer *– Tom King (unconfirmed) \* new appointment*
	+ Safeguarding Officer – Dan Thompson
* County Chairs:
	+ Nottinghamshire: Bryan Gladwin, Ian Clews
	+ Northamptonshire: Dan Thompson, Neil Bates
	+ Derbyshire: *Unconfirmed*
	+ Leicestershire: Phil Cobb
	+ Lincolnshire: Naz and Donna Sutton
1. **AOB**
* League trophies – move to having a single trophy for each league which is engraved and updated with winners for each year and passed from year to year

**Action Points**

* Determine county representative for DVA, Northamptonshire VA and seek correspondence and attendance at future EMVA meetings **SJ / GM**
* Distribute list of East Midlands referees to clubs **DG / GM**
* Update regional calendar and distribute to region via email, website, social media **All**
* Chase outstanding payments for leagues / player registrations **BG / PC**
* Small grants research and application for coaching course **DT**
* Include a HEVO representative on committee **SJ**