

UNIVERSITY AND HEVO GUIDANCE 2025-26

**HIGHER EDUCATION
VOLLEYBALL OFFICER**

 **VOLLEYBALL
ENGLAND**

WHAT IS THE HEVO PROGRAMME?



The Higher Education Volleyball Officer (HEVO) Programme is a volunteer initiative that sees students take up official ambassador roles and deliver recreational volleyball at their university during the academic year, with support from Senior HEVO's, university leads and Volleyball England.

ROLE OF A HEVO

1. Attend the HEVO Conference for induction training in September. This event is comprised of practical and theoretical sessions, along with plenty of opportunity to network and get to know the other HEVOs and Senior HEVOs.
2. Deliver weekly recreational volleyball sessions for the academic year at their university. This is a great way to develop coaching skills, motivate others, and share your passion for the sport.
3. Organise at least one tournament, mass participation volleyball event and/or inclusive participation event (grant funding to be used to aid this).
4. Collate and share weekly volleyball and mass participation event data with Volleyball England as per stated termly deadlines.
5. The official Role Description can be found [here](#).

ATTRIBUTES OF A HEVO

- Motivates and inspires other students
- Excellent communication skills
- Passionate about developing sport
- Good organisational skills
- Friendly and approachable
- The volleyball voice at university
- IT and social media literate
- Can work independently and as a team
- Keen to learn



WHY THE PROGRAMME IS SO POPULAR?

Reaching the less Active Support and Wellbeing

- Over 4900 students playing engaging with weekly sessions last year.
- 78 mass participation events were run all together across the program last year
- 93% agreed that the programme improved their leadership skills.
- 86% agreed that the programme made them feel part of a community and more confident

Student experience

- Overall satisfaction for the 2024 HEVO Conference was rated 4.48/5
- 96% felt prepared to deliver volleyball at the end of the conference
- 79% would recommend the HEVO Programme to a friend

WHAT STUDENTS SAY ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

"It has been an amazing experience teaching everyone how to play and have fun, I think it's important to be a role model to a sport not many people know about."

"I would rate my experience as a HEVO as excellent. The role provided meaningful opportunities for growth, collaboration, and impact. I felt well-supported and empowered to contribute effectively, and the experience significantly enhanced both my leadership and communication skills."

"I've had enormous fun engaging people in Volleyball at my university, the sessions that I host have always shown high attendance rates, and the interest in volleyball here seems only to be growing. I've also helped to hold a successful mass-participation event, and the HEVO conference itself was a grand experience."

"I really enjoyed the conference and the friends I made in just two short days."



PERKS OF THE PROGRAMME

Employability

85% of HEVOs felt they developed a professional skill set through being part of the programme.

- Enhanced CV and improvement in transferable skills
- Networking opportunities
- Eligibility for the Volleyball England Annual Awards

Training

- Students are inducted into the role through the heavily subsidised HEVO Conference.
- Students will complete a number of practical and theoretical workshops, including how to organise tournaments, run beach volleyball, & sitting volleyball workshops.
- Students will also receive a range of CPD resources and have the opportunity to attend additional workshops and catch-ups with their regional HEVOs and Senior HEVO.



PERKS OF THE PROGRAMME



Grant Funding

A grant of £300 for new universities and £200 for returning universities is awarded to universities involved in the programme to help support their volleyball development.

This funding will be transferred in 2 separate chunks to the university on completion of the SLA and after the conference.

The first part will be sent shortly after the conference, and the second part after Volleyball England have received the Term 2 reports in March.

Courses

Free or Discounted course places for each university. 2x free Grade 4 Referee course places (RRP £80) OR £160 discount for an Assistant Coach Award course place.

HEVO CONFERENCE

Dates: 2 days in the second week of September 2025 (exact dates TBC soon).

Location: Loughborough University, Leicestershire

Transport & Accommodation

Transport to and from the venue and accommodation is to be confirmed, but will be supplied unless stated otherwise.

Kit

All HEVOs will receive a HEVO-branded Kukri kit in a size of your choice*

In 2024, HEVOs rated the kit 4.5/5

Training

HEVOs will participate in both practical & theoretical workshops, specifically designed to provide them with the necessary tools required for the role.

Food & Drink

Lunch & dinner will be provided on day one with breakfast and lunch on day two. Cold refreshments will be provided throughout the conference.

Photography

There will be a professional photographer at the conference and photos will be circulated after the

Please be aware that to get the exact sizes you need, the applications and payment need to be completed by 10th July. Beyond this, we will strive to provide the exact kit sizes, but might size up or down depending on availability

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Insurance

All clubs who are part of the HEVO Programme need to be affiliated to Volleyball England. This means you will be covered by Volleyball England's insurance for any recognised activity.

Anti-doping

Any individual who participates in recognised volleyball activity by Volleyball England is subject to UK Anti-Doping Rules for a minimum of 12 months from the commencement of membership or attendance at an event, in accordance with the Volleyball England Anti-Doping policy. This still applies if you are not a citizen of, or resident in, the UK.



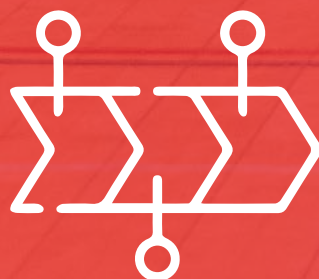
STEPS FOR STUDENTS TO JOIN THE PROGRAMME

1. Contact your sport department about the programme and contact us if you require additional information. You can watch the promo video [here](#) and read the role description [here](#).
2. Complete the student online application [form](#), please note that this includes information we need from you to attend the conference so please take some time to complete this fully. The deadline is Monday 26th August 2025.
3. Please note that your university will also need to complete the [university application form](#) to secure your place. Volleyball England will send a welcome email with information on how to make the payment via VolleyZone or the next steps for invoice payments once your application AND the university's application have been received.
4. Liaise with your university lead to make travel arrangements to attend the HEVO Conference. All other arrangements including a room for night one of the conference, the stated food and transport will be made by Volleyball England.
5. Attend the two day [HEVO Conference](#) in the second week of September 2025. Volleyball England will send out a welcome pack with all the conference information 2 weeks before the conference & what to expect from the 2 days.
6. Run weekly recreational sessions during the academic year and record weekly attendance. Run a mass participation event during the academic year. Volleyball England will send out reporting reminders per term to both universities and students.



STEPS FOR UNIVERSITIES TO JOIN THE PROGRAMME

1. Recruit one or more students to become your HEVO(s) who have the attributes identified on page 4 and in the role description.
2. Complete the university online application form, please note you will need your university finance details to complete the form. The deadline is Monday 26th August 2025.
3. Volleyball England will send a welcome email with information on how to make the payment if paying via VolleyZone or via invoice once both the university's application AND student(s)'s application have been received. Please make payment via VolleyZone or raise a PO for us to invoice you. Please note an invoice incurs an additional 10% admin fee.
4. Liaise with the student(s) to make travel arrangements for them to attend the HEVO Conference. All other arrangements will be made by Volleyball England.
5. Volleyball England will send out a welcome pack with all the conference information 2 week before the conference & what to expect from the 2 days.
6. Ensure that your HEVO(s) have at least a one-hour weekly slot in your sports hall for the weekly recreational sessions - this should be separate from the regular training slots. Volleyball England will send out reporting reminders per term to both universities and students.



PAYMENT AND INSURANCE

The conference fee is heavily subsidised to £140 for your first HEVO place, additional places are £300 each.

Please make payment using VolleyZone. Details of how to make the payment will be sent in the welcome to the programme email you will receive once both the student & university have signed up.

If payment cannot be made via VolleyZone, there is a 10% admin charge for invoices.

The university must maintain appropriate and adequate insurance which covers such liabilities as may arise in the delivery of this programme. Insurance can be obtained through affiliation to Volleyball England.



CONTACT DETAILS

Volleyball England

General inquiries : hevo@volleyballengland.org : 01509 974700

Laura Allcoat- Strategic Manager : l.allcoat@volleyballengland.org : 01509 974706

Regional Chairs

Please feel free to get in touch with your regional chairs. If you are looking to enter community leagues, offer coaching or refereeing in your local area or access local support, they will be able to help.

Eastern - Lewis Fenech: lewisfenech@yahoo.com

East Midlands - Paul Kaerger: paul.kaerger@ntlworld.com

London - Sandra Simoes: lvachairman@gmail.com

North West - Jane Ashbrook: janebetts@gmail.com

South East - Zuzana Restarova: chair@southeastvolleyball.co.uk

South West - Dave Reece : dave.reece@network100.co.uk

West Midlands - Kara Griffiths: karagriffiths@outlook.com

Yorkshire - Doug Lawson: dynamodoug_bvc@yahoo.co.uk