



## Minutes of Volleyball England Board Meeting at 6pm on 22 July 2024 at SportPark, Loughborough and via Teams.

Directors Present	Titles
Andres Hernandez [AH]	Independent Director
Brendan Fogarty [BF]	Elected Director
Jess Keen [JK]	Elected Director
Jess Plumridge [JP]	Elected Director
Jill Osleger [JO]	Independent Director
Richard Harrison [RH]	Elected Director
Simon Griffiths [SG]	Elected Director
Staff Present	
Charlie Ford [CF]	Chief Executive Officer
Guin Batten [GB]	Deputy Chief Executive

### EB/24-25/21 Apologies

In the absence of the Chair, in accordance with 22.2 and 22.3 of the Volleyball England Articles of Association, RH nominated SG to chair the meeting.

Jake Sheaf, Tracy Newton, and Ali Shipway, Adam Walker, Brendan Fraser, and Phil French submitted apologies.

### 21.1 Directors Conflict of Interest & Disclosures

RH declared that he had been contacted by a Member of the Volleyball community in his capacity as Member elected Nominations Committee member.

### 21.2 Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved by all present.

### 21.3 Matters arising

CF informed that there were two outstanding actions, which were in progress:

- EB/24-25/16 The Case management group would be consulted on publishing safeguarding info.
- EB/24-25/18 Updated policies and procedures would be published on the website in due course.

### EB/24-25/22 AGM 2023 Investigation & Proposed way forward

CF provided a summary of the events and actions taken on the lead up to and post the 2023 AGM.

In addition, CF provided a summary of the legal advice given to date and the options moving forward.

The Board discussed the situation and concluded that Volleyball England had a number of tools that could be used to manage the situation and as the National Governing Body the time was right to use those tools to manage the behaviors of members who have for many years sought to undermine the Board and the work of Volleyball England.

The Board concluded that CF would work with our independent legal advisor to draft a report/letter summarising the events leading up to the 2023 AGM and potential consequences should vexatious behaviors continue.

The Board unanimously reinforced that the actions of a small group of Members were undermining the authority of the Board and despite attempts to engage with the involved parties and despite this, the situation had been deteriorating over the last three years.

Following approval from the Board, correspondence would be sent and a short statement released on the Volleyball England website to inform the membership that the investigation and appropriate action had been taken.

#### **EB/24-25/23 Board structure & responsibilities**

JO asked how many groups she should be involved in. CF responded that fair distribution and where best Board Members felt they could contribute were the deciding factors. SG asked about the timescales for completion of expression of interest. CF responded that there was still time for sending responses to AW.

CF reported that business critical roles included:

- Vice Chair
- Senior Independent Director
- Members of Nominations Committee and FSR.

The meeting item was adjourned in the Chair's absence. AW would follow up with the Board on this shortly.

#### **EB/24-25/24 Volleyball England Foundation – Trustee and Chair approval**

Board approved the Trustee and Chair appointments for Volleyball England Foundation as proposed in the paper.

#### **EB/24-25/25 CEV Presidency Manifestos**

CF reported that:

- A meeting had been had with Eric Adler and Leo Wencel
- The team had not met with Renato Arena yet.

- Discussions had been had with Roko Sikiric but the team had not met him in person.

Board discussed manifestos of each of the candidates and made their recommendation to CF on the direction of voting.

## **EB/24-25/26 Meeting Finalisation**

### **26.1 Review of Actions**

Actions have been noted.

### **26.2 AOB**

There was no other business.

### **26.3 Meeting Close**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Who</b>
<b>EB/24-25/16</b> The Case management group would be consulted on publishing safeguarding info.	<b>CF</b>
<b>EB/24-25/18</b> Updated policies and procedures would be published on the website in due course.	<b>GB</b>
<b>EB/24-25/22</b> CF would work with our independent legal advisor to draft a report/letter summarising the events leading up to the 2023 AGM and potential consequences should vexatious behaviors continue.	<b>CF</b>
<b>EB/24-25/8.2</b> CF and GB would decide the best course of action re Northumbria Uni team ban appeal.	<b>CF/GB</b>
<b>EB/24-25/18</b> GB would amend and publish the policies as approved by the Board.	<b>GB</b>
<b>EB/24-25/23</b> AW would follow up with the Board on expressions of interest re roles and responsibilities.	<b>AW</b>

