



**Sitting Volleyball Working Group Meeting**

**Wednesday 2 December 2020**

**Video Conference**

**MEETING MINUTES**

<b>Minutes prepared by:</b>	Janet Inman
<b>Circulation:</b>	Sitting Volleyball Working Group, Working Group Leads, Hub Team
<b>Distribution:</b>	Sam Jamieson

<b>Members present and apologies for absence</b>	
<b>Present</b>	
Steve Smith (SS)	Sitting Bucks SVC
Jonathan Moore (JM)	Competitions and Events Coordinator
Rob Payne (RP)	Core Market Coordinator
Gillian Harrison (GH)	Technical and Talent Coordinator
Richard Osborne (RO)	Sitting Volleyball Lead and South Hants SVC
Janet Inman (JI)	Volleyball England Foundation
Herman Prada (HP)	Sitting Volleyball Competitions Lead
Stewart Thorpe (ST)	Digital and Communications Manager
<b>Apologies</b>	

The meeting commenced at 1930 and closed at 2120.

Agenda Item	Notes	Action/ Owner
1. Introduction	RO introduced the members of the group. He believed an opportunity was lost to build on the legacy of 2012 in terms of developing Sitting Volleyball and consequently there was a need to invest more focussed attention on the sport to increase participation and the number of clubs. He described the aim of the working group, which is to advance sitting volleyball in England and build a sustainable infrastructure. RO's tenure as Lead is expected to last for 4 years and his ambition is to ensure he leaves a legacy for the sport.	
2. SV 8-Point Plan	The 8-Point plan was created as a framework for focussed effort on sitting volleyball initiatives and would be the primary document for the SVWG.  One of the key objectives in the short-term is to improve the resources available to coaches and to provide a suite of products that will give confidence to novice coaches who wish to deliver SV activity.	

	<p>There is already a bespoke email address that individuals can use to lodge interest in playing sitting volleyball (<a href="mailto:sittingvolleyball.information@gmail.com">sittingvolleyball.information@gmail.com</a>).</p> <p>RO follows up interest by either signposting the enquirer to clubs near them or retaining their details in a GDPR complaint spreadsheet that is used to monitor demand in a particular area, at which point RO links with local indoor clubs to assess their interest in delivering sessions.</p> <p><b>Action</b> – ST and RO to review and update the information on the webpage.</p> <p><b>Action</b> - ST to investigate developing a sitting volleyball URL - the new page will be launched in April 2021.</p> <p><b>Action</b> – ST to develop a Facebook group dedicated to SV coaches in the UK.</p>	<p>ST/RO</p> <p>ST</p> <p>ST</p>
3. Coach Education	<p>RO explained that there is a Sitting Volleyball Workshop that has been available for several years but demand is not considered to be high. He pondered whether the workshop could be removed from the suite of coach education products and the content instead added to the revamped SV website to help support coaches that are new to sitting volleyball.</p> <p><b>Action</b> - RO has developed a series of session plans for inclusion on the SV page and has asked SVWG members for feedback.</p> <p><b>Action</b> - RO asked members to advise whether anything critical is missing from the 8-Point plan.</p> <p>GH gave an overview of coach education plans. All coaching awards in England will align to new standards and NGBs are working to align their coaching courses which will include blended learning <i>via</i> e-learning and face to face workshops.</p> <p>The new coaching awards will comprise 3 parts:  Part 1 - Core Coaching and knowledge  Part 2 - Technical and Tactical  Part 3 - Assessment (First4Sport).</p> <p>GH asserted the new learning will make it easier for sitting coaches to receive a bespoke coaching award. Consultation will take place about the language used for sitting in these courses and a paper will be delivered to the VE Board in advance of its meeting in Jan 21.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>
4. SV Competitions	<p>SS asked whether an international tournament could be hosted in England and whether a National League could be created for SV.</p> <p>JM advised that regulations exist that determine the budget for events. He considered that running an international club event would be expensive, and that it would be cheaper to run a zonal competition. When asked if it would be possible to plan for an event once the COVID restrictions have been lifted, JM suggested there needs to be a reasonable aspiration and that effort should first be invested in building an infrastructure that would enable international events to be hosted in the future. He added that if a 2-court venue could be identified which is located near a reasonably priced hotel then it may be possible to look at hosting a smaller competition as part of a building process, to help support clubs, coaches and officials.</p> <p>RO asked if there was a possibility to run a regional level event for clubs that would be additional to the Grand Prix, stating he had been in touch with other clubs in the SE region and had received positive responses to his proposal for a southern league.</p>	

