

**Executive Board Meeting held on Saturday 30th June 2012
SportPark, Loughborough**

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes prepared by	: Alex Henderson
Circulation	: Executive Board, Senior Management Team, Commission Presidents
Distribution	: From Richard Callicott

EB/10-11/82	Directors present and apologies for absence	
	Richard Callicott (RC)	President
	John Boughton (JB)	Finance Director
	Janet Inman (JI)	Development Director
	Marzena Bogdanowicz (MB)	Marketing Director
	Gordon Neale (GN)	Disability Director
	Lisa Wainwright (LW)	Chief Executive
	Stuart Johnson (SJ)	Head of Development
	Rob Harding (RH)	Head of Marketing and Communications
	Craig Handford (CH)	Head of Technical Development/Excel
	Apologies:	
	Brian Stalker (BS)	Vice-President
	Richard Dobell (RD)	Playing Director
	Wayne Coyle (WJC)	International Events & Competitions Director
	Keith Nicholls (KN)	Technical Director
	Martin Lindsey (ML)	Head of Operations
	Jilly Holroyd (JH)	NGB Liaison Manager, Sport England

In **bold** – voting members

The meeting commenced at 9:30

EB/11-12/12 Apologies

Apologies noted from Richard Dobell, Wayne Coyle, Keith Nicholls, Martin Lindsey and Jilly Holroyd.

EB/11-12/13 Approval of Minutes

The Minutes for the 19th May 2012 Board Meeting were approved by Richard Callicott and seconded by Janet Inman.

EB/11-12/14 Matters Arising

At the last meeting GN reported that EFDS would like to help Volleyball England run the Sitting Grand Prix.

Action

GN also advised that EFDS will donate £5,000 towards the Grand Prix. CH / Dan Griffin to follow up with GN.

CH

National Volleyball Centre Review – JB asked for a Progress Report at the next meeting.

CH

Risk Management – Report required for next meeting.

ML

Beach Volleyball Strategic Review – MB to produce an update report to confirm what actions have taken place as a result of the review. This will be circulated to the Commissions along with the original review report.

MB

EB/11-12/15 Olympics / Paralympics

RC gave an update.

Volleyball Teams – The GB Men's and Women's Indoor teams have now been launched with no appeals on selections but huge disappointments for players not selected, as expected.

Beach Volleyball Teams – The beach teams will be announced on Monday 1st July. Although the GB men's team did not meet the criteria the BOA have accepted a team on a legacy basis. There are no women's appeals and the men have until tonight to lodge any appeals.

Accreditations – The BVF British Performance Management Group has allocated the accreditations but there is inconsistency amongst the teams. The FIVB has increased it to two coaches for beach but this will not be applied until Rio 2016. There are four to sit around the bench for the women and five for the men. The BVF are currently fighting for the women's fifth accreditation. Track, field and swimming events have more accreditations than volleyball.

Paralympic Programme – This has gone through and the squads have been announced. There was one appeal but the selection panel's decision was upheld. The player involved is a reserve only and not in the squad. CH advised that both Sitting Squads are at a 6 week residential camp at Loughborough University from Monday 1st July before going to a holding camp in Bath.

LOCOG – RC met with Bob Clarke who confirmed that additional tickets have been put on the market. Now the draw has been made we have received a letter from Italy requesting an exchange of tickets. We have declined.

Olympic / Paralympic Equipment – Suzy Stevenson and Dan Warburton managing. The request from Scotland is not too disproportionate. A percentage of 850 balls are to be made available. Volleyball England will get approximately 500 indoor and 200 beach balls. A full weekend is planned at the NVC, Kettering for clubs to collect the equipment on 13-14th October. It cannot be re-sold as it is a gift but there is a cost involved in transporting and storing it. All regions will benefit.

Post-Meeting Note – The weekend has been postponed to 10-11th November. This is all subject to the actual equipment we receive from LOCOG.

Pathways – It is critical that we look at pathways. Sport England and UK Sport have signed up and unless we can demonstrate clear player development pathways there is a chance we will get little funding. We have to be ready to fill in a 10 page document including evidence and detail to show how pathways exist. LW and CH are attending a meeting in Sheffield on Friday 6th July to discuss this.

LW / CH

Governance – This is a big challenge and there is lots of work to do across sport. LW advised that as a sport and a Board we are excellent in terms of current criteria. JI suggested that the Government should be withdrawing funding for others sports if they do not follow governance procedures as they should. GN added that they must take into account disability sports also.

GN and Dan Griffin met with the French Federation who asked us to support them with their Sitting Volleyball programme.

JB asked how disability will impact on other disciplines. There was a discussion around player pathways and regions. Other home nations do not have the resource for player pathways. RC stated that we need to find resources for development.

LW advised that she has been invited to a meeting on Thursday 5th July to discuss legacy and future of disability in sport. Volleyball is the only sport to have been invited to the DCMS to meet with GOE.

LW

Inspired programme – We are looking to bid and expect to receive something, the deadline is the 31st August.

CH

PMG Report – There is a recommendation for a new BVF constitution with a new membership and terms of reference. PMG have invited one member of staff from Volleyball England and one from Scotland to sit on the Board. Volleyball England confirmed we would nominate CH.

RC stated that once we have approval from FIVB that we can continue as GB then we can proceed on securing funding. He asked if Volleyball England consider joining up with the BVF in an SLA to deliver the programmes within Volleyball England.

In principle the Board were supportive of this approach.

JB advised that two separate accounts would be required so we could report to the BVF and stated that as long as there are two organisations they need to work together / be managed properly so the other organisation does not take time and resources out of Volleyball England. CH advised that Dan Griffin is dual funded post so we have some experience managing that. The Board agreed, subject to finances. CH to produce paper to the next Board meeting outlining the positives and negatives if was to happen with JB and Neil Tunnicliffe.

CH / JB

Next BVF Board Meeting – 13th September

EB/11-12/16 Active People Survey (APS) and Satisfaction Survey Results

SJ circulated a report.

SJ contacted Andrew Spears who is in charge of APS and gave some background to the survey.

163,000 adults were telephoned on their landline and the survey identified 83 volleyballers which is the lowest in the last four years.

CH advised that 1,000 numbers are called per district and suggested that if you target those areas you can significantly increase your figures. MB added that we would need to pick a region that no other sports have hit. RC suggested picking 5 or 10 districts to focus resources and stated that his home area is likely to pick up more responses as inner cities are unlikely. LW asked if the phone calls are restricted to England and CH advised that they are not. SJ to have discussions with Sport England and in particular Lisa O'Keefe to explain what we are doing about this.

SJ

MB stated that 14-25 year olds don't have or answer landlines. APS are talking about mobiles but this has not happened yet.

JB stated that there is no consistency in the difference in surveys. It is one area one time and another area another time. RC advised that we can get a feel through our membership figures as to how many players there are in our sport. However, APS does not take into account the number of children playing volleyball. LW added that we need to get better evidence to demonstrate to SE that the survey results are not representative.

SJ stated that we do not know about people who play outside of the Volleyball England structure. MB advised people may be playing at places such as Centre Parcs and we should call them and find out about the use of their courts. RC suggested we send our own researcher to Centre Parcs to check! MB stated that if we are being measured on it we need to look at how much it will cost to access the right data. JI asked the professional staff not to think of yourself as being spread too thinly but to also use the Board, volunteers, etc. JI offered to visit Centre Parcs as she lives nearby.

JI

SJ gave an update on Go Spike key messages. SJ confirmed that we are ready for increased demand. The profile of the sport has been raised and now we need to work on the conversion rate. RC asked if we have figures for websites. RH replied that we get 60-80,000 website hits a month. RC suggested we use this information as evidence for SE.

RC advised that some sports have given automatic membership to all secondary schools and those numbers are in their figures. Some also automatically affiliate all Universities. RC asked the professional staff to consider this.

LW stated that we are excellent with Young People and Disability. We need to say to SE this is what we are doing and here is the evidence.

RH/SJ

EB/11-12/17 Independent Directors

RC reported that we are looking at the governance of the organisation and stated that we now have the opportunity of selecting some independent, non-executive Directors. We need to advertise and show an open process. LW advised that we currently have one co-opted Director (GN) and we can have one more as they are considered non executive.

LW

RC asked if we should be advertising for a particular skill set or should we pick what is the best from all applications received? LW suggested we look through list of top 50 list from the Sport and Recreation Alliance and then decide.

Jl advised that we should not just look internally within the sport and suggested we look for someone with a legal background. LW suggested someone with an HE/FE background. RC advised that an independent person will bring a business brain. LW to draft up role descriptor / advert. JB advised that we need to think about succession planning for Board members as we all have a life expectancy on the Board.

LW

EB/11-12/18 2012-13 Calendar Approval

Sanjib Sahota has produced a calendar. On the basis that it has been approved by the Competition Commission the Board also approved it.

EB/11-12/19 Nomination for Elected Directors, Annual Report and AGM Logistics

RC advised that Mr Bernard Kilkenny does not wish to stand as President of the Referee Commission. CH asked if the Board ask another member of the commission to stand as interim? RC replied yes but suggested looking for a 'fresh face to move the world of referring onwards'. LW / RC and KN to agree on temporary appointment.

LW / RC /
KN

RC reminded Directors that it is up to individual directors to find their own nominations. It is the Board's own responsibility.

Annual Report – RH picked up comments on membership and he had tried to make the report more visual. RC gave his congratulations.

AGM Logistics – The Board are comfortable with the proposals. RH gave a quick run through of the membership presentation to the Board. SJ asked if there is a discount for junior clubs. RH replied that there is. It is 12 x £5 = £60. Jl asked if she would have to pay to register twice as a member of VB Club and Sitting Club. RH replied that you only register once. JB stated that it is a good idea but asked if we pitch at this level how much resistance will we get because we are focusing on a figure. LW replied that once the special resolution is passed the Board will need to decide the level of cost.

EB/11-12/20 AOB

LW congratulated RC on being honoured by Queen with an OBE.

RC asked for Conflicts of interest to be put on all future agendas. There were no conflicts of interest during this meeting.

SJ advised that the Give and Win Pilot is picking up and will come back to a later Board.

The meeting finished at 11:50

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 28th September 2012 – Loughborough