

London Volleyball Association Meeting

8 November 2019 @ 19:30pm

The Hydrant, Equitable House, 1 Monument St, London EC3R 8BG

Present: Gary Beckford, Charlie Orton (ChO), Fab Goalen, Elsa Merserlian, Douglas Barr-Hamilton, Alex Pavkov, Cormac Byrne, Antonio Codrington, Val Grisenkov

Apologies from Cisel Ormanci (CO), Lorenzo Pepponi, Roger Mullings, Bartek Luszcz

Meeting open at 19:50

	ACTIONS
<p>The vision for the future of the LVA has to be shared to be implemented efficiently and the chair wants to push an agenda that the executive and membership own, so the best way to do this is to brainstorm people's opinions/wishes/thoughts around the table. All participants have shared their thoughts for the following:</p> <p>ACHIEVEMENTS OF LAST 5 YEARS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Stability with the decision-making process with enthusiastic people, more energy coming-Referee appointments process working well; more referees, but the Brexit debate might influence these numbers and possibly reduce them.-Growth in number of teams and players in the London League*-More junior volleyball competitions*-Presence of volleyball in high profile iconic venues (Copper Box) with high-level presentation (for example Champions League)-More people joined the LVA as more people became members: people brought people, so better vibes-More equipment put in venues (for example posts)-More new venues <p>*Charlie and Elsa have given some numbers for evidence (Source: annual reports, minutes from previous meetings League Archive in LR).</p> <p>London League teams have grown from 40 teams in 03-04 to 74 teams in 14-15 with 1274 players to 90 teams (11 divisions) with over 1300 players at the start of the 19-20 season. London GP Junior competitions did not exist 5 years ago as they were implemented in 16-17, led by Elsa. That year, 9 U18 (girls) teams and 12 U15 teams (boys and girls) participated. Exact figures for youth volleyball will be given.</p> <p>ACHIEVEMENTS IN NEXT 5 YEARS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Sharing same vision across volleyball in London, prioritise goals; consolidate what we have now-Raise our profile even more (including grass root) – looking more professional, more transparent, with good governance, being clear in what we offer (constitution, code of conduct, ref courses, etc...)-A good working website providing accurate and up-to-date information to make volleyball accessible to all-Youths: development of the sport/more competitions for the youths; getting into schools to develop and ensure future of LVA; model on the basketball set-up to get into schools early, offering competitions, progression and a pathway, inciting juniors to choose volleyball over other sports as their preferred activity-Inclusive competitions and training, regardless of levels, age, backgrounds, gender, affiliated clubs with leagues for youths (U15, U18), sitting vb, more outdoor tournaments, community, which can also bring income-Clinics/courses/workshops for referees to improve officiating (online courses? More observation? Training in situ? On a regular basis? Mandatory for some referees?)	EM

<p>-Clinics/courses/workshops for coaches to improve behaviour (Online courses? Club to create a Hub for coach clinic? Coach to go to clubs for clinics?)</p> <p>-Introduce a code of conduct for all participants</p> <p>-Achieve a better balance between player participation and officials (restrict league entries? incentive to become an official?)</p> <p>-More sponsorship to grow even more, for the Juniors and the LVA in general</p> <p>-More liaison with beach and sitting volleyball, so the whole sport is covered</p> <p>-Allocate income to help the clubs (more refs, equipment...)</p> <p>-Get more people involved</p> <p>-Identify and get more venues</p> <p>In résumé: Growing the sport, juniors, refs, coaches, not operating in isolation</p> <p>We need to know what we want from juniors, website, coaches,... to be able to cost it, then we can prioritise and see what funding is needed, from where and for who/what – based on good governance.</p> <p>Some of these ideas have been formulated at the first exec meeting on September 18 and some working groups have been busy/are busy putting together these costs and working documents (see item 6). All agreed to see what comes out of these working groups.</p>	
1) FINANCE REPORT	
<p>This report is needed to see where finances are and the recent movements on the account. Since the new execs have taken on their roles, GB has not yet been made a signatory on the bank account. Needs to be sorted. Can ChO check the accounts, just to know what there is and protecting our members' money. What are the incomes, expenditures to date? Update on the balance? ChO can print it out.</p> <p>Once report is done, to send out to all.</p>	<p>AH ChO</p> <p>AH</p>
2) LEAGUE ADMIN REPORT/UPDATE	
<p>CO is very busy and was not able to produce a report at short notice, but from the date a meeting is proposed, a report can start being written for future meetings. Speak to her and see how we can go forward in supporting her – Antonio, Val, Douglas have offered to take on division admin roles if that would help with the workloads to ensure the smooth running of the league admin role. The presence of the league administrator in future meetings, to be able to participate in ongoing discussions, make decisions, vote and share ideas, would be beneficial for all.</p>	<p>CO FG</p>
3) CONSTITUTION - STRUCTURE	
<p>Lorenzo and GB will share the document that is being produced in one more week. It would be good to have something before Xmas for all execs to read through.</p>	<p>LP GB</p>
4) EXECUTIVE CONFLICT OF INTEREST	
<p>We are seen to be the 'guardians' of volleyball. We must be totally upfront with all that is happening.</p> <p>If someone wants to play volleyball in London, we should all be able to offer clubs in the area where people live/work. Will Facebook be the entry point or our website? How to stop members privileging their own clubs when answering requests for information on clubs? Elsa proposes that the inbox is monitored by more execs and the emails be BCCed to another inbox accessible by other members.</p> <p>Maybe seen as a conflict:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elsa aware that her actual position might be perceived as conflicting as she is now Chair and Head coach of a junior club. Elsa would like to make it known to all (LVA fb) that there is no 	<p>AP</p> <p>EM</p>

<p>conflict of interest with her role as Junior LVA administrator and her advice is completely neutral and given in the best interest of the LVA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Andrew Haggard's company is sponsoring the league. – He should be aware there might be a conflict of interest, even if good intentions – needs to be addressed. Charlie to remove the logo from the League Republic. Previous exec members had thought a good idea to get sponsorship is to start posting results naming the sponsors. Can funding be done that way? Nothing came out of it so we need to re-think about this type of sponsorship. - What are the criteria to provide grants? For equipment? Previously, people have come with a budget and Charlie has himself donated some of his own money. If we give out money to members, we need a set of criteria to justify. How often has this occurred? <p>DBH is proposing that if the if LVA gives out equipment, we should know where it is, and it is then an asset for the LVA. It needs to be documented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We need to file and store all documents that are relevant to the running of the LVA, all aspects. FG to store all reports and liaise with AP. Elsa will send all the reports that she has since joining the exec team. <p>This item should be included in all agenda meeting</p>	<p>ChO</p> <p>ChO</p> <p>All</p> <p>AP FG EM</p> <p>FG</p>
<p>5) FUNDING STRATEGY</p>	
<p>Should be monitored carefully and know what we spend. We need to know what we are looking for, what we've got and where we could get money from. Good news: Juniors LVA have secured grants and Elsa has completed an application to start Southwark project with 2-3 primary schools around the London Bridge area with sessions once or twice week. Elsa to communicate more about this.</p>	<p>EM</p>
<p>6) WORKGROUP UPDATES</p>	
<p>Website - ongoing AP: Private developers cost 10-12 thousand pounds. Diane, front end developer and a player for Flaming 6, is willing to help for free. Time frame – mid December: choice of 3 looks and layouts, which we can update to suit LVA, with a budget of £500 (£100 per template from WordPress and webhosting - now £80 but it will likely double). Once approved, new website can be produced for mid-January. All should be documented on Asana. Money needed when? Mid December: one-off amount Keeping information up to date on the website– Who? EM proposes that the person who is sending the results in will input them in. AP is proposing the refs do that – to discuss and decide Clubs must update their details on the LVA website – to decide the mechanism of doing that</p> <p>Volleyball week workgroup - ongoing A weekend in London, create an event sometime in the Summer</p> <p>Div Admin Feedback as in minutes to be sent out. Use Observers (high-level referees) but we can also have feedback from coaches after matches with the added condition, proposed by Elsa, to wait 24 hours after the match to provide feedback on the referees. Process for appeals: communicating with DBH – appeal panel with 6 people. Every member of this panel should be a member of the LVA. As this will be a change in the appeal process, we will have an SGM to address that. AC explained the process of appeal within the Divisional Administrations.</p> <p>Data/GDPR</p>	<p>AH</p> <p>All AP</p> <p>FG</p> <p>GB</p>

<p>How can we deal with the quantity of data stored by ChO? Can we have a cut-off date? 7 years like European norms?</p> <p>The information should be stored in the cloud. AP to meet with ChO to see what information is needed and where to store it. EM willing to help technically with this.</p>	<p>AP ChO EM</p>
<p>7) BEDSA AWARDS</p>	
<p>British Ethnic Diversity Sports Awards http://bedsa.co.uk/</p> <p>CB wants to advertise this to all clubs to get nominations in January as the awards take place in February. To celebrate all diverse athletes (BAME) – lots of categories.</p> <p>What is wanted from LVA? Put it on LVA Facebook? How to spread this information?</p> <p>FG can send a letter to all club secretaries saying that they can nominate someone.</p>	<p>FG</p>
<p>8) SPONSORSHIP</p>	
<p>See above – item 4</p>	
<p>9) EQUIPMENT GRANTS - CRITERIA</p>	
<p>See above – item 4</p>	
<p>10) LYG UPDATE</p>	
<p>Boys on one day, girls on another day. Still at UEL. Also Primary schools competition and one day for School Games Y10 and Under. Primary schools will be doing sitting volleyball in the boroughs now.</p> <p>Beach volleyball London Youth Games: it was thought not enough boroughs had access to beach vb. Elsa has mapped all the capital's beach courts and all boroughs have access. Document to file. LYG not possible to put this on this year. But we can have a beach volleyball event on 4/5th July (LYG finals) to showcase that sport. LVA to create a story around it in wake of the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham 2022. Partner with ALL clubs to advertise their activities to have leaflets ready to give out on their behalf at that event.</p>	<p>EM/FG EM</p>
<p>11) BEACH AMBASSADORS</p>	
<p>Ideas before voting on it at the next meeting</p> <p>GB is thinking about role models, like the Bellos. Any others? Pick youths who represented London at the Inter regionals – 2 boys and 2 girls</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>AOB</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children receiving a Sports Aid grant usually buy items then invoice to the organisation. VE use to do that for children. Some children cannot afford to buy first. Elsa said that maybe LVA can pay in advance – shoes and kits, about £200 which will be refunded but Sports Aid – to vote as these are special circumstances and LVA execs don't need 2 weeks' notice for this item. 7 are in favour Treasurer to be ready to put this in motion - GB has accepted to run VE camps in London for Volleyball futures – indoors. More details to follow - Maccabi Games (https://www.maccabigb.org/) Can we get a Jewish team together? Part of raising the profile of the game. There are different categories (12-18, 18-35, ...) British VB federation will support us. Who will take this forward? 	<p>AH GB All</p>

Meeting finished at 10:30 – next meeting to be scheduled soon