

London Volleyball Association Meeting - Thursday 4th June 2020

20.15-21.15

Present: Gary Beckford, Fabienne Goalen, Charlie Orton, Cormac Byrne, Alex Pavkov, Val Grisenkov, Lorenzo Pepponi, Allan Mungroo, Bartek Luszcz

Apologies: Joanne Carne-Howell

Approval of last minutes – outstanding actions

ACTION CHO/FG: to send all information about the usual protocol for running the AGM to FG – ChO sent none and recommended to look at agenda from previous meetings

ACTION GB/AP/FG – to discuss the different options holding the AGM – ONGOING following government guidelines

ACTION GB – to send the proposed changes to the League rules to League Subcommittee - COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM EM, JCH, GB, ChO, CB, VG

As CO has stood down. GB will gather all the comments and set up a Zoom (or other app) meeting with the existing 5 Div Admins to discuss the suggested changes as some haven't contributed yet. After they have had an input, these rules will go back to the exec for approval. Div Admins to contact: Antonio Codrington, Krystian Kowalski, Madonis Thomas, Sepideh Yousefi and Yinka Obisesan.

ACTION GB/AP – to copy guidelines for registration over to the new website - GB to send over

ACTION AP – to send the link to VG to be able to browse the new website

ACTION AP – send website link to VG

ACTION AP/ALL/FG – to launch the website on Saturday 13 June – STILL ON TARGET – ALL to send content to put onto the website if available. Diana has created a document with all comments received. AP could not share here so FG to attach to these minutes.

ACTION AP – To update the League tables – one table still to be decided, waiting for the appeal (Onyx/Giants) to be finalised. GB confirmed the appeal is now ongoing. AP stressed the importance of being resolved quickly to be able to put the final standings on the new website.

Many people have been contacting ChO about the tables being changed. As President, he should not reply individually to the members but guide them to the LVA sec /chairman so that the whole executive committee can look into answering their questions. That would be an appropriate way for the President to look after the interests of all members, as written in the constitution, and let all members of the committee be aware of possible grievances and questions. How many emails were received so that we can address this issue correctly? ChO has not specified.

ACTION ALL - to send information about who holds social media accounts to FG – ONGOING

ACTION GB will chase AH – DONE but ChO would like to know if there is another way to contact AH to check on progress if he doesn't come back to GB. Could ChO help to set up? GB to follow up.

Minutes approved by all

1) LVA DATA ARCHIVE

ChO, CB, AP and EM – working on options to use and store information/data.

ACTION CHO/CB/AP/EM – ONGOING (including communicating with teams within GDPR rules & guidelines)

2) PROPOSED ROLES AND THE CONSTITUTION – TO VOTE

Secretary – No change

VOTES: 7 For

President

- Can someone be President and hold a role on the executive? Is the tone negative if we say what the role should not be? It can be reworded in that case. CB thinks if the President cannot call an EGM/SGM (check the constitution), then s/he could maybe be an exec member. ChO was there when this role was written: it's good for the President to be able to call a meeting as s/he can stop a rogue exec member trying to pass through decisions going against the greater good, so there

would be a conflict of interest if s/he were able to vote on the exec and hold two roles. The exec has safeguards in place to stop this happening as well.

- The President should be elected for how many years?
Reasons for changing to 1 year – to be consistent and in line with other roles; to be able to attract other volunteers who may not be keen on being in that role for 3 years; to be able to change the President if s/he is not doing expected role.
Reason to keep for 3 years: historically hard to find people to fill in these roles; to have a continuity on the exec. Another proposal to keep the continuity– both the President and the Chair can be elected for 2 years, in alternance.
- President should not be part of a pool of experts if these are on the executive.

VOTES:

Can the President hold two roles (President and executive member)? - 7 Against (reword in a more positive way)

The President should have automatic rights to go to every meeting without invitation – 7 For

How long should the president be elected for?

1 year: 4 For (GB, AP, FG, CB) / 2 years: 2 For (ChO, VG) / 3 years: 1 For (BL) – so elected every year as other roles

Chair

- It is not appropriate to demand necessary skills and experience in man-management and we do not ask volunteers for references.
- Ensure VE meetings are attended when requested.
- Ensure the Finances of the Association are conducted efficiently and timeously.
- Liaise with London Sport as required. Not necessary to name London Sport as this should be done with all London sports organisations.

VOTES: GB to make these changes: - 7 For

Treasurer

Dealing with financial matters promptly, in a timely manner – more signatories needed – to be IT literate

VOTES: GB to make these changes: - 7 For

League Secretary:

- CB change to '*present* improvements [...] to the exec' instead of '*report* [...]' as it's more appropriate to the League Secretary's role as an exec member (the exact wording is on comments emailed to the LVA secretary)
- GB In that same sentence, *League Sub-committee's acquired knowledge of the League* to replace '*League Secretary*' in that sentence, even though it may be the League Secretary presenting to the exec.
- While the Div Admins are expected to update and maintain league results and tables, the League Secretary is liable: takes responsibility for checking that this is done.

VOTES: GB to make these changes: - 7 For

Junior Dev

- EM did a thorough update on this role.
- Junior Dev cannot organise inter-regional competitions – to replace with London Inter-regional (London teams)

VOTES: GB to make these changes: - 7 For

Welfare

- Welfare officer to *oversee* the planning, practices and procedures if available and be aware of the risk assessment for junior events. *Signing off* might be too strict a wording as the Welfare officer can acknowledge by email if need be.

VOTES: GB to make these changes: - 7 For

Technology – No change

VOTES: 7 For

Marketing – AP: to work closely with technology – No change

VOTES: 7 For

Partnership – No change

VOTES: 7 For

Data Protection – No change

VOTES: 7 For

Community – No change

VOTES: 7 For

Referee Administrator

- To change to *Coordinator*, as in VE wording.
- Can we look into introducing a structure, like a sub-committee for the London referees, similar to the League sub-committee, as an additional workforce to help out when needed, when issues arise. ChO has confirmed that he has previously been helped informally by senior referees for observations and appointments. To be discussed at a later date.
- Development of referees can be done by the Training and Development Officer, working closely with the Referee Coordinator – so the direct burden is no longer on the Ref Admin.

VOTES: GB to make these changes: - 7 For

Training and development

- To be responsible for administering and organising courses/workshops – to activate or get other people to activate, looking after everyone and anyone's training needs (coaches as many more needed, referees, observers, executives, ...)

VOTES: 7 For

Not all of these roles will be on the exec (only 10 in the current constitution) – this will be discussed when we look at the proposed constitution, which we don't have the time to see now. This will be done in small chunks in future meetings as it is important.

ACTION GB – to make all the above voted changes and present to the exec for confirmation.

3) **AFFILIATION MEMBERSHIP**

To be discussed at future meetings

AOB

- **Volleyball England has today issued new guidance** on practising volleyball outdoors – no 2v2/no 3v3 games – coaching outdoors allowed with 6 people as long as the social distance of 2m is respected.
www.volleyballengland.org/news/article/6103/small-groups-permitted-to-arrange
The LVA cannot condone what individual members/clubs decide to run if it is against VE guidelines. If the LVA website is promoting such activities, we need to monitor.

ACTION VG – to put VE guidance on Facebook (Twitter may be counterproductive at this stage as hard to keep up-to-date)

ACTION GB – to liaise with Douglas Barr-Hamilton to check what Little Giants have put up on the website.

- **London League tables** – WP top teams: London Lionhearts and London Rebels. Reiterated that a vote did take place, not to change the rules, but to end the League in this Covid-19 crisis situation, with a head-to-head in case of a draw. We voted on the whole document that was sent previously and seen by all. AM, invited to this meeting, is aware that there may be a conflict with his presence here, but would like some clarification as to the determination of the winner. London Rebels have beaten Lionhearts at home so should be top as well, even though Lionhearts may have more points.

AP has emphatically spoken about the current worrying situation worldwide with the protests (Black Lives Matter) and Covid 19, adding that wishing to celebrate two teams and having joint winners is a positive move.

VOTES: to have joint winners in WP: - 6 For – 1 Against (ChO)

Meeting closed at 10pm

Next meeting to take place in the next 3 weeks.

ADDENDUM: Actions done the day following the meeting:

- ChO has sent some information about previous AGMs
- AP has sent website links to VG