



SOUTH WEST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL REPORT

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 1989/90

This has been a season of consolidation - a polite way of saying we have not grown. In fact our affiliations are at a lower level than last season - by nearly 10%.

I suspect that this has been caused by a number of factors. Firstly the increased level of fees, secondly the failure of schools to reaffiliate (perhaps due to lack of finance or possibly due to the comprehensive publications available to affiliated schools at low prices last year). The loss of some block affiliations has also kept our figures down. Unfortunately we lost our Girobank sponsorship agreement at the end of the 1989 season and have been unable to find another sponsor with obvious effect on our finances.

We are however grateful to the South West Sports Council who have funded much of our Development Plan projects for this season - in particular the Womens Development programmes in Gloucestershire and Cornwall, our Development Centre courses and our Regional Junior Squads.

After a long gap we were able to organise a successful Level 2 Coaches Award Course. We are still not running as many coaches award courses as we should - unfortunately it is an administrator that we lack - we have some excellent and active coaches.

As in recent seasons the 4 regional junior squads took part in the National Junior Championships at Telford. They have received a full programme of squad sessions and as individuals will have gained from the high level coaching. We are grateful to the EVA and SW Sports Council for the grants which help to finance the squad. There is however a continuing concern that over the financing of squads which gather together from such a geographically spread region. It costs players a large sum to travel to training and to the Telford tournament. With £1,400 available in grants to the squads the young players are still likely to have to pay £25 each for the "honour" of representing their region. I am particularly grateful to the coaches and managers who have worked so hard this season. Congratulations to the U19 Men who won their tournament.

In Geoff Giddy's report he mentions the lack of entries for some of our cup competitions. I hope that we can do something to make them more popular and successful next season but it is difficult to know what to do as we receive so few comments from our members - how can we know what you want unless you let us know?

I am afraid that I am getting to the point where I am finding it difficult to be enthusiastic about servicing SW clubs when I spend so much time reminding people about reports, articles for newsletters etc. In a recent letter I asked the question whether it was worth producing a newsletter (it takes me about 20 hours of my time to write, print, collate and post to clubs for each edition). I had one response - it is obviously not worth it!

I apologise to those who I end up chasing - I am sure that they are in the same situation as me - in their case finding it difficult to get interest and help from their local members.

I would like to express my thanks to all those who through their organisation, coaching and refereeing make volleyball possible in the SW and in particular to Rich Insley for having agreed to take on the Treasurers role. We need to find a Coaching Administrator and a Competitions Secretary - please help.

R. Richards,
Secretary, S.W.V.A.

SECRETARY'S EXPENSE ACCOUNT

The Treasurer funds an expense account held by the Secretary which allows him to pay for stationery, printing, postage etc.

These were the costs of these expenses for 1989/90:

	£
Postage	596.98
Typing	34.00
Telephone	42.60
Stationery	81.20
Gifts	26.72
Administration	10.00
Total	791.50

R Richards

REGIONAL REFEREEES ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

One of the initial aims of the Referees' Development Plan was to develop and maintain an up-to-date list of officials in the region with details of a) Registration and its continuity, b) level of activity, c) availability for appointment, and d) desire and prospects for up-grading. I am pleased to report that, thanks to increased and improved communication from referees in the Region to myself, such a register is now in existence and a fuller picture is developing. Many thanks to those who responded positively and promptly to my circulars - they can rest assured that the information they have provided is being used and any positive suggestions have been or will be considered. It is hoped those who have not yet provided the required information will do so immediately following publication of this report. If I do not receive the details I cannot represent individuals and our joint interests.

The second aim of the full Development Plan I originally submitted was to keep clubs, areas and officials up-to-date on current rule interpretations and any changes that occur. Hopefully a start has been made with the initiation of a Referees' Newsletter, 'Whistle Stop', in the South West Magazine. It is also hoped that the newsletter will develop into a vehicle for news and discussion of all matters appertaining to 'officials'.

One of the aims of the plan which I am disappointed to report has not yet been achieved has been the establishment of an Annual South West Seminar. We have succeeded in persuading the E.V.A.'s Referees' Commission to match the finances provided by the region for holding such an event, but as yet have been unable to find a suitable venue at reasonable cost. Several formats have been fully discussed, guest speakers approached etc., so it is hoped that a seminar, or smaller versions in each area, will materialise in the not too distant future.

If we are to develop a proper register of Referees and their activities and for them arrange seminars and modular courses at the Regional and Area levels, it is important that we have a network of Local League Officials' Secretaries who are communicating with the Regional Referees' Administrator and each other. Despite several requests I have not received information from, or about, some Local Referees' Administrators - in some cases I am not officially aware that they exist! The establishment of such a network needs to be an immediate target for next season - if not before.

Communication has developed at another level i.e. with the Referees' Commission. I have been fortunate enough to be able to fulfill my "duty of RRA and have attended several Commission Meetings on behalf of the Region. It has certainly helped me to keep au fait with developments at all levels and to represent the interests of the region's officials.

When I first made it my intention to commence officiating in 1982, having to travel from Jersey, my opportunities were naturally limited. However, I soon found that the quickest way to progress was to attend as many tournaments as possible, which I did for a period of eighteen months. I would strongly advise all referees to follow a similar approach, particularly if they are receptive to constructive criticism and are able to work with, and obtain guidance from, several senior referees at such events. Our regional tournaments have not been well attended, considering the number of officials we have in the region, and it is hoped that improvements can be made for next season. Almost immediately we will be looking to appoint scorers and line judges for the 'Supercup' event, which the South West is hosting in September. I would like to see written appointments made for all such events.

If referees are to officiate at above league level, then they must be registered with the E.V.A., but it is hoped that all referees will register for next season - particularly now that a two-tier system of registration has been introduced. It is important that all officials keep up-to-date with rule changes etc., and to register with the E.V.A. is one of the best methods. There can obviously be a vast improvement on our thirty plus registrations of 1989-90 - we only need bear in mind the number of referees who have qualified in recent years and on the courses held this season by both Dan Dingle and myself for several of our Area Associations. It is essential that any Area which has not held a course within the last twelve months should make it a priority this coming season. Some have not held a course since the last set of rule changes were introduced.

Even among the registered referees, there are those who do not make their intentions and ambitions clear, so it becomes difficult to respond to the Referees' Commission when they ask for details of who might be considered for National League appointments. It is hoped that next year more information will be forthcoming, both from and about individuals. I would also like to hear from qualified scorers who would like to be considered for major appointments and from schools who would like to volunteer their services as ball persons etc.

This season, progress has been evident but, as I might say in a school report, that rate of progress and the standards attained can be improved considerably with consistent application at every level. A trend in education is for the pupil to take responsibility for his/her own education, the staff becoming enablers. Our individual Officials may benefit from such an approach - viewing the 'Assessors' and Staff as individuals from whom they can seek help to enable them to attain their own short term and long term goals. If all set their own realistic development plans, and work to achieve their targets, the standard of officiating and its organisation in the region can only continue to improve.

DENIS LE BREUILLY
S.W. Regional Referees' Administrator

COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT - MAY 1990

REGIONAL LEAGUES

LADIES

The 198990 season saw the introduction of a two-tier geographical split for the ladies league to try to reduce excessive travelling. This drew enough entries to make the split viable. However, the ultimate success of this venture is difficult to determine. The feedback from the teams involved has been negligible and despite a request for information, only one reply has been received. My own opinion is that this idea, although welcomed, has not been particularly successful for the following reasons:-

- 1) Unavailability of the fixtures for the second part of the season, resulting in:-
 - a) fixtures left unplayed.
 - b) difficulty in booking venues.
- 2) The "second division" were left with effectively nothing to play for.

The Ladies section of the league also suffered from a number of teams lacking the necessary commitment and resolve to complete their programme.

On a brighter note, Priory Ladies are to be congratulated on achieving national league status.

MEN

The Premier division ran like clockwork with few problems, probably emphasising the nature of the division having long established teams with the necessary resources and commitment. Congratulations to both Bemis and Helston who have achieved National League status. I feel that in Helston's case, this is possibly a dubious distinction, having studied their fixtures, I wonder if the EVA really know where Helston is!

The first division, like the ladies, suffered from teams entering, not being aware of the commitment necessary and therefore finished with a number of fixtures unplayed and one team withdrawing in the later stages.

S.W. INTER-LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

This competition has, in the past, proved tremendously popular and has been a "seed bed" from which local league teams have tasted regional competition and have "grown" into regional teams.

However, this year the competition only attracted four teams, (of which two pulled out at a late stage), and this, despite (or because of) a ruling limiting national league players to encourage the local league teams to enter.

S.W. CHAMPIONSHIPS

These championships have long been regarded as the most prestigious in the S.W.V.A. calendar. However, this year there appeared to be a great reluctance for teams to enter and right up to the beginning of May there was a strong doubt as to whether the event was going to be financially viable. After numerous reminders and countless telephone calls (all at

extra expense to the S.W.V.A.), a healthy twenty-four teams had entered.

It is to the credit of all the mens' teams that the first day even ended, let alone with a set of comprehensible results. Upon arriving at Melksham, the teams were faced with a scene bordering upon farce, as a competition carefully scheduled to operate on three courts, was hastily rearranged to run on two, losing some ten hours' playing time.

In my opinion, although the lack of suitable equipment was the prime cause for this fiasco, the blame does not lie with the Christy Miller Sports Centre, nor any local authority. The blame lies with us, the S.W.V.A. and you, the players. Despite having some four thousand five hundred registered players, volunteers wanting to put something back in are desperately hard to find. This was the case with the 1990 S.W. Championships. If a (preferably) local organising body can be found to run these events, problems of this nature would not occur.

However, the venue at Chippenham proved to be first class and the event concluded with, from as far as I can ascertain, most teams (relatively) happy. The final placings for the tournament are listed below.

1990 S.W. VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS' RESULTS

MEN

1st	M.G.I. Wessex
2nd	Speedwell
3rd	Lovell Westward
4th	Whitefield
5th	Weymouth Jewson
6th	Priory
7th	Stroud
8th	Cardiff University
9th	Beeches Old Boys
10th)	Wootton Bassett
10th)	Tyndall Astros
12th	Plymouth Pumas
13th	Bemi Academy
14th	Helston
15th	Calne
16th	Winfrith Technology

LADIES

1st	Priory
2nd	M.G.I. Wessex
3rd	Speedwell
4th	Whitefield
5th	Sheldons
6th	Whitefield 'B'
7th	Tyndall Astros
8th	Bemi

TREASURER'S REPORT 1989/90 SEASON

MAY 1990

The accounts presented for approval at the AGM have not been finalised or presented to audit.

The financial year ends on 31st May 1990 and there are large outstanding sections to be finalised i.e. S.W. Championships, Junior Squads and development programmes.

The accounts are a true record as at 15th May 1990.

It is important to note that the items of expenditure in the above areas will take well over £2,000 from our income.

Income and Expenditure

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
League Entries	855 - 00	- (bills awaited)
Player Registration	618 - 00	-

Development	2175 - 00	-	(bills awaited)
Handbook/Newsletter	530 - 00	492 - 87	
Meetings	-	214 - 11	
Secretary's Account	-	800 - 00	
Junior Squads	1340 - 00	641 - 29	(bills awaited)
Fines and Expenses	117 - 96	117 - 96	
Coaching	717 - 12	417 - 12	
Bank Interest	52 - 48	-	
Miscellaneous	672 - 84	339 - 48	
	<u>7078 - 40</u>	<u>3022 - 83</u>	

Excess Income over Expenditure £4055 - 57

Balance of Accounts as at 15th May 1990

Current Account	£1101 - 79
Deposit Account	£2291 - 06

R. A. INSLEY

MENS' JUNIOR SQUADS

This year we had a total of around one hundred players, from both squads, starting the first training sessions held at Millfield School. After these sessions, it was evident that the nucleus of the U19 Squad would come from MGI, and it was decided to hold the remaining training sessions at Kemp Welch School in Poole for two main reasons -

- (a) we were able to use two areas at a very reasonable rate and
- (b) we were able to use their block for overnight accommodation which enabled the U17 to have two weekend sessions which were much needed. In all, the U19's had four days' training sessions and the U17's had seven days' training sessions.

The whole success of these squads is dependent on finance. We were able to have the number of training sessions we had, purely on the goodwill of Millfield School and Kemp Welch School and, of course, the skilful negotiations of Geoff Allen, indeed, if it were not for the hard work that Lyn and Geoff Allen put in with the squads, then the results would never be as successful as they are with our limited resources.

We started off with a grant of £500 for both squads which was later increased to £700. Besides the expenses for training sessions, we are able to pay the travelling expenses of both squads to the Tournament at Telford and assist with their accommodation a little; each player paid £25 for the weekend - we actually took two squads of twelve and gave them £3.60 each towards their expenses - multiply this by 24 and I think you will agree, we did well.

Our U17 Squad was very inexperienced and was somewhat overawed by the occasion on the first day, but on the second day, did very well to win their games and finished in good spirits, promising to train hard and get to the finals next year. Our U19 team won in convincing style and it was a privilege for all of us present to be associated with such a good team, setting such high standards, both on and off the court. The S.W. Association can be proud of them.

If we are to maintain the progress we made this year, we will need to have more training sessions, which will mean starting earlier in the year and we need more support from area coaches and secretaries pushing players

through. I know there are young players in Plymouth, Weymouth, Swindon, for example, but we did not see any from these areas and others.

I would like to thank all the coaches and teachers who have sent players along this year and of course my thanks go to Rich Insley and Ron Richards for their help and patience through the year.

AUSTIN LATHAM
Manager S.W. Junior Mens' Squads

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Another very busy year on the Regional Representatives' Committee (RRC) and by the time you read this, the main topic of the year, EVA restructuring, will have been voted upon at the EVA AGM on 2nd June 1990. The main changes planned are -

- reducing the size of the National Executive Council (NEC)
- disbanding of the Resources and General Purposes Committee (R&GP)
- and
- the evolving of the RRC into a Commission.

Such a big topic took up much of our time during the year and it is hoped that the planned changes will improve the organisation of Volleyball in England.

As the year progressed, another major item arose. The RRC had been considering the subject of competition below NVL level for some time. Now the EVA Competitions Commission were planning radical changes to the NVL and SWVA leagues. At the time of writing, nothing is decided as yet. Competition plans involve the de-regionalising of the NVL. As a result, teams from the lower, regional divisions of NVL will be forced out into Regional or Super-Regional leagues outside NVL.

Further plans in progress within the RRC are the production of a starter pack, which will include input from our region. It will be given to new clubs as an information pack. Also there is an Area Association Handbook which is designed to provide guidance to areas for the production of their own Handbooks. Both of these are hoped to be available by the time of the 1990 Administration Conference which is provisionally planned for 8th September at Nottingham. Regional and Area officials are to be invited to this Conference. The work of the RRC on Women in Volleyball has progressed. Initially there was a pilot survey to find out details of the involvement of Women in Volleyball and the problems they encounter. Now the Survey is to be extended to other regions, including our own. Our work on this subject is part of an overall EVA effort to increase the involvement of Women in Volleyball.

The future objectives of the Regional Representatives' Committee or Commission are as follows:-

1. To establish Mens' and Womens' Regional Leagues in ALL regions.
2. To improve affiliations in all regions.
3. To improve communications in general and more specifically with non-NVL clubs.

4. To review and improve services to members on a continuing basis.
5. To establish an effective Administration Conference to benefit the whole Association.
6. To monitor regional development and to assist regions with specific problems.

These objectives will be pursued in the coming year and once the EVA AGM is over and our status is known, we will be better able to achieve them.

The next meeting of the RRC is planned for 29th July at Nottingham and at that meeting your Regional Representative will be passing on the views of the South West Region.

DERYCK WILLIAMS
Regional Representative

AREA REPORTS 1989/90

CORNWALL

Whilst the end of the eighties saw a small decrease in the numbers of experienced players in the county, it is a pleasure to report that the new decade has begun with the redevelopment of Ladies Volleyball (helped by a Sports Council Grant), a good increase in the number of affiliated schools and at last, more volunteers to become coaches and officials. Indeed, not only do we now have a Junior Development Officer, but also some volunteers to coach/promote the game at schools' level.

We are, perhaps, at that frustrating stage of our development where more players need the stimulus of regional volleyball and beyond, but ever increasing costs and the time penalties imposed by our geography are currently keeping the numbers of those disappointingly low. Like all relatively new areas, there is great difficulty in attracting sponsorship and it is there our efforts must be concentrated before further expansion is possible.

Finally, it is our honour to have been invited to host the inaugural South West Counties Championships this coming year, another milestone which can only bode well for the game in our lonely peninsula.

DAVE ROBSON
Area Secretary

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

This season was a growth year for the G.V.A. Our league continued as before but with many more teams. Five new teams joined Mens' Division 2 and one extra team entered the Womens' Division. The G.V.A. league consists of the following teams:

Mens' Division 1

Stroud
Timeout Dowty 1
Dulux Glos.
Spirax Sarco

Mens' Division 2

Schindler Lifters
YMCA Cheltenham
Schindler Ryeworth
Caldicot

Womens' Division

Stroud Ladies
Beaufort
Phoenix
Channel Dolphins

College of St.
Paul & St. Mary
English & American
Insurance
Gloster Javelins

Arrows
Lydney Interceptors
Time Out Dowty
Beaufort

College of St.
Paul & St. Mary
Sixway Setters

At the time of writing Division 1 Championship is still being fought for by four teams, Division 2 is settled with Schindler Lifters first and Cheltenham YMCA second and the Womens' Division has been won by Stroud.

The Knockout Cup was run again this year with a Plate competition for first round losers. The cup was won by Gloster Javelins and the Plate by English & American.

The GVA participated in the South West Ladies Development plan, and we would like to thank the South West for the help and encouragement that was provided for our activities. At seasons' end there is the prospect of two more teams in the Womens' Division next season.

Our Publicity Officer produced an increased coverage in the local papers with regular reports going in.

In April two important SWVA events were held at Stroud. On 21st April the Mens' Inter-League Championships and on 22nd April the Ladies' Development Tournament. While it is good to have such events in our County, neither were well supported by teams from other areas.

Outside our County Timeout Dowty entered teams in both the Mens' and Womens' Regional Leagues. In the National League, Stroud Ladies continued to play in Division 3 South, which they won and gained promotion to Division 2. Stroud Mens' team in their first season in Division 3 North, were relegated and return to Division 4 South. During the summer, many of our clubs will be playing in outdoor tournaments around the country.

Our summer outdoor tournament is to be played at Beaufort Sports Centre, Tuffley in Gloucester on Sunday 24th June. It will be open to any teams interested. There will be separate Mens' and Womens' competitions.

The GVA AGM is taking place on Monday 21st May at Gloucester Fire Station and plans will be made for next season. I would like to thank the other members of the GVA Executive Committee for their work over the season. They were :

Chairman	Colin Buckles
Vice Chairman	John Mitchell
Treasurer	Yvonne Hickman
Fixtures' Secretary	Dave Rice
Publicity	Andy Walker
Technical Officer	Mark Stedman
Schools' Officer	Rob Hall
Junior Development	Fred Lawson
Ladies' Secretary	Tracey Parr

D. WILLIAMS
Secretary

NORTH DEVON

This season has seen many highlights and lowlights. We started the season with 18 teams, many of them comprising new young players that we are keen to encourage and therefore develop their interest.

As we had an influx of new teams, we decided to hold an introductory course open to new/old players - this was held over two evenings and was successful as the whole association was brought together in playing, reffing, learning and perhaps, more importantly at that stage, getting to know one another.

The local league was reorganised this year, we initially ran three pools of six and then took the top three teams from each pool to form the first division with the remainder forming division two. The winners this year being Lovell Westward - Division 1 and Ilfracombe Division 2. When we hold our AGM we will discuss if this way of dividing the divisions was successful. I suspect that there will be mixed feelings.

We hoped to run a ref's course last November, unfortunately lack of interest/commitment forced us to abandon these plans as it would not have been financially viable - however we will approach the S.W.V.A. for further advice regarding this at the beginning of next season.

The Robinson Cooke Tournament was also cancelled for the same reasons and this will come under discussion at the next AGM.

Deserved success to Lovell Westward who, under the coaching of Pete Griffey, have won this year's E.V.A. cup, beating Wokingham 3 - 0. They are also doing well in National League.

F.B.M. strong opponents to Lovell Westward, have also improved, having benefitted from entering a team in S.W. League.

North Devon College and Park School continue to promote, encourage and produce new young players - Chris Rimmer, Mark Jeffery and Micha Smith, all being selected to represent the South West U17 Squad and Diane Edwards to represent U19's.

Ladies volleyball is still going strong and we have a ladies team in both the first and second division plus one in the S.W. League, all under the guidance of Dennis Rimmer.

Our annual dinner and dance is to be held on 8th June 1990 to be followed by an AGM in the near future.

○ ARAH BARTRIP

PLYMOUTH & DISTRICT

Tony Simmons, a stalwart of Plymouth Volleyball, has had to resign as League Secretary for personal reasons. Tony continues to play for Kitto Wunderplas and assists in their administration. At its AGM in September, the Association thanked Tony for all his efforts on behalf of the Association and of volleyball in general during the past six years. Jeff Brenton, the Association's Administration Secretary, was elected to replace Tony. It was decided not to appoint another Administration Secretary. It was decided to disband the Ladies Division after only one season. The decision was taken with much regret but it had become very difficult to raise enough sides to form a worthwhile League. Two of the ladies' teams from the previous season amalgamated to form Plymouth Ladies and entered into Division 3 while Marjons Ladies team also entered Division 3 playing as Marjons C.

The League was to be formed of three divisions from nineteen teams, based on the previous season's results. Seven teams were allocated to Division 1 and six in Divisions 2 and 3. Two new clubs were formed at the Plymouth Land Registry Offices. The League again benefitted from its wide catchment area, attracting teams from as far afield as Exeter and Teignmouth.

To-date, with a few weeks of the season remaining, the likely outcome is as follows:-

Division 1	Plymouth Pumas
Division 2	Polytechnic A
Division 3	Plymouth Ladies/Drake's Dragons

The clubs this year have each made strenuous efforts to obtain good local publicity and there have been many regular reports and league tables in the local press. Plymouth Pumas have been particularly active and have managed to obtain good press coverage on a very regular basis.

The Association has run two very successful tournaments in the past twelve months. In July last year it held its first open air tournament at the Dinnaton Sports and Country Club. Teams taking part came from as far afield as Aberystwyth, Bath and deepest Cornwall. It was a superb day and the good weather was matched by an excellent tournament. The two competitions were won by Winfrith and Bath Volleyball Clubs respectively. The Association was grateful to Dinnaton Sports and Country Club for making all their facilities available to the competitors. Apart from the swimming pool and coffee bar, competitors made extensive use of the barbecue laid on by the Club. A large music system was set up and all matches were played with some good Beach Boys' music as background.

The Plymouth championships have just been completed. For the first time the Association invited clubs from other areas. The competition was held over two days and proved to be probably the most exciting yet. The standard of volleyball was very high and some matches were a joy to watch. Kitto Wunderplas won the championships for the first time depriving Plymouth Pumas of a hat trick of wins. Plymouth Fire and Rescue Service won the Plate competition beating Teignmouth in a very good final.

The past twelve months have not been without its problems for the Association. Although the standard of volleyball has improved, some clubs are not fulfilling their responsibilities to the League, particularly in relation to their administration. It is hoped that the next season will allow the Association to improve in these areas and to develop the quality of volleyball in the area to an even greater level. The aims remain - to actually encourage players to take up and enjoy the game, to give players the opportunity to enjoy the game at their desired level within the Association, to continue to provide leagues, tournaments, development, opportunities and other courses and events for its members; to ensure that the separate teams of the Association achieve a higher profile without losing their friendly relationships.

Officers 1989/90 - Chairman	Peter Sizer
Treasurer	Rich Dreher
Secretary	Jeff Brenton

JEFF BRENTON
Secretary

WILTSHIRE

Our main achievement this season has been the introduction of a second division to our league. We now have eight teams in Division 1 and ten in Division 2. This is a progressive step in our development, allowing less experienced and new teams to compete fairly.

We have had two of our teams, Calne and Wootton Bassett, competing in the South West League and Swindon in National League Division 3 South. This means we are now getting the structure in Wiltshire that allows players and teams to progress to a higher level.

Again this season we entered a mens' team into the County Championships in Leeds. (Mens' team only this year).

In a ballot, earlier this season, it was decided that we would no longer use the rally point rule in our league matches as it was felt it was not suitable for three set matches.

In September we are running a Grade Four Referee's course and I know there are players wanting Development courses but I need volunteers to help organise these. This is the limiting factor to our development, as I am sure most of you have experienced. How about more professional assistance for regional and area associations, to provide this backup?

PAUL FRANCIS
Secretary

WOODSPRING

This has been a quiet year for Woodspring, following the past two years' involvement in the South West Senior Championships and the 1989 Mens' National Championships.

Our league has grown to consist of fourteen teams in two divisions with keen competition for honours in both of them. Clubs have also been involved in three cup competitions throughout the season.

Teams have been kept informed of news, league placings etc. by the introduction of an association newsletter.

A Player Development Course and a Grade 4 Referees' Course are planned towards the end of the season.

Sixty-two teams played in the annual Priory Tournament in September with three local teams winning through to finals.

Churchill Volleyball Club's first outdoor tournament attracted twenty-eight teams on a fine sunny day in June.

The fourth annual Woodspring Beach Tournament attracted thirty-four teams from all over the South West.

As well as looking forward to these tournaments this year, the Association is proud to be involved in the EVA Nat. West Supercup which is being held in Weston-super-Mare on 1st and 2nd September.

SHAUN CROSS
Secretary