

SOUTH WEST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH WEST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
held on January 10th 1990 at Bath Sports Centre

1. There were present: Mr. R. Richards, Mr. J. Young, Mr. D. Williams, Mrs. R. Sutherland, Mrs. G. Harrison, Mr. A. Searle, Mr. A. Gooding, Mr. G. Giddy, Mr. D. Le Breuilly, Mr. R. Insley.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record with one exception and that was the reference in Number 4 to Bert Jones which should have read Bert Williams.
3. Matters arising - there were none.
4. Apologies were received from Paul Francis, Sarah Jones and Jeff Brenton.
5. Competitions - Mr. Giddy reported on the progress of the Senior Championships to be held in North Devon. He reported that courts were available at North Devon Leisure Centre (2), Park School (1), RAF Chivener (1), Torrington (1). It was agreed to offer one Ladies and two Mens Divisions and that the ruling for the Mens Second Division would be a maximum of two National League players only.

Agreed that the approximate cost of referees would be £400 and of facilities approximately £800, making a total of £1200. Agreed to charge £50 per team and 50p for any player not already registered with the South West Association.

Mr. D. Breuilly informed the meeting that he wished to use the Tournament for assessing Grade 4 referees for their Grade 3 Award and that he and Bill Tabberner would organise the referees for the event.

b) Womens Development Tournament - Miss Stone announced the dates of 27th\28th April in Gloucestershire and 8th\9th June in Plymouth.

c) County Championships - Mr. Dingle informed the meeting that the Cornwall Association would meet on the following Thursday and would agree upon a date on that occasion - likely dates to be April 6th, 13th or 20th. The possibility of having Mens and Womens events on different dates were discussed but it was decided for this occasion to hold only a Mens Tournament.

d) Inter Area - Mr. Searle agreed to organise this event in Poole and would communicate with Mr. Dingle over the likely date of the County Championships so that the Inter Area could fit in with that. Agreed that teams would be allowed to have only two National League players.

e) Mens Novice Tournament - Mr. Searle to arrange a date for the Mens Novice Tournament to take place.

6. Coaching - Mrs. Sutherland had produced a written report to the meeting and informed the meeting that courses were to be organised at Level 1 in Exeter and Cornwall with a possibility of a Level 2 in Plymouth and\or Dorset. A CSLA course was to be organised in Weston-Mare on the 9th and 11th February. Discussion took place on the proposed NCF\SWVA course and it was agreed that it should be on the Prevention and Rehabilitation of Injuries. It was suggested by members that it should be an NCF Certified course so that it would fit in with the qualification requirements for the EVA Level 2 Coaches Award Course. The dates of June 9th\16th\23rd were suggested for the NCF\SWVA Course to take place at Priory School with a charge of £15 to be made for each applicant.

Mrs. Sutherland informed the meeting of her attempts to persuade Mike McKeiver at the National Office to invite Ralph Hippolyte to the South West Region for a Coaches course. There had seemed to be some confusion on this issue and Mrs. Sutherland had not been happy with the response that she had received from the National Office. It was agreed that a further approach should be made to see if Ralph



Hippolyte would be available to take a coaches course on Saturday 14th September to tie in with the Super Cup in Weston-super-Mare and that this could possibly be the basis of a South West Coaching Seminar.

7. Refereeing - Mr. Le Breuilly reported that there had been Grade 4 Referees Courses at Swindon in September with 17 candidates, in Poole in September with 16 candidates, in Weston-super-Mare in December with 10 candidates and in Jersey in December with 11 candidates. It was likely that a course will be organised in Weymouth in the near future. There had been some assessments for promotion from Grade 4 to Grade 3 and it was hoped to use the South West Championships, the Jersey Open and other Tournaments to provide upgrading for these Referees.

Discussion took place on the Burt Williams' Award. Mr. Dingle nominated Elaine Brain for the first Burt Williams' Award for her commitment to Refereeing and for her example to other Referees. This nomination was accepted by the meeting and it was agreed that Mr. Le Breuilly would purchase a perpetual trophy and an annual memento and it was hoped that the Award could be made at the presentations at the South West Championships.

A new Scorers Award Booklet has now been produced. Mr. Young was concerned that candidates on recent Grade 4 courses should have received a copy of this booklet. Mr. Le Breuilly agreed to mention this in the next edition of "Time Out" to check whether such candidates had received the booklet.

Discussion took place on the timing of the South West Newsletter and it was suggested that the publication date could follow South West Executive Meetings in order to allow material produced for the meeting to be published. Mr. Richards agreed to look at the schedule for publications to see if the meetings and newsletters could be tied in together.

A question was asked as to whether there were now official referee stands. Mr. Le Breuilly agreed to check this with the EVA Office and with the EVA Equipment Secretary.

Discussion took place on a possible Referee Seminar. It was agreed that one should take place, that a Referee might be invited from outside the region and also possibly a top coach from outside the region. It was suggested that the Seminar could be tied in with the Priory Tournament on Sunday September 1st from 10.00 a.m. until 4.00 p.m. Mr. Le Breuilly was to investigate this possibility.

8. Junior Development - Mr. Dingle reported on the progress that Mr. Latham had made working with younger juniors at Beaufort and with the Millfield Tournament to take place in March. Discussion took place on the difficulties of establishing links with schools and the cost of providing facilities for juniors within an established club.

9. South West Junior Squads - Mr. Richards explained that despite the opposition of the South West to the change in the age groups for this season, they had gone ahead following the EVA Executives backing of the schools and junior development commission proposals by a majority of one vote.

Concern was expressed at the effect this had had on the organisation of the South West Squads and that the Ladies now had no coaches or managers with previous experience. Discussion took place on possible coaches and managers and Mr. Richards agreed to make contact with some of the people who had been suggested.

The arrangements for the mens squads appeared to be progressing well and Ginger Latham, Jeff Allen and Lyn Allen.

10. Womens Development - Mr. Searle requested that the South West Executive hold back on decisions concerning the Dorset Womens Development Plan as they had not yet had an inaugural meeting of the Dorset Association. He agreed to bring proposals to the next South West Executive Meeting.



Mr. Williams enquired as to whether there were any additional monies available to aid Womens Development in Gloucester. There was some confusion as to whether the Gloucester Womens Development Plan had spent all of the money allocated to them during the previous season. Mr. Dingle suggested that this should be checked prior to the next meeting. This was agreed.

11. South West Secretary's Report - An Affiliation Report was available to the meeting. The Secretary asked members present to follow up the non-affiliation of certain clubs.
12. Treasurer's Report - Mr. Insley had produced an interim set of accounts. Discussion took place on these.
13. Area Reports -
  - a) Poole - Mr. Searle produced a report for the meeting and thanked Mr. Dingle for an entertaining and informative Referees' Course.
  - b) Jersey - report available to the meeting.
  - c) Gloucester - report available to the meeting.
  - d) Plymouth - Mr. Richards informed the meeting of the information he had received from Mr. Brenton following a telephone call to him. The Plymouth Association was holding an Open Air Tournament on July 14th and hoped to run a Grade 4 Referees Course in March\April.
  - e) North Devon - Mr. Richards had managed to contact the new Area Secretary for North Devon by a telephone call and had a discussion with them about a number of issues. They had hoped to run a Referees' Course but were finding it difficult to get sufficient numbers to make it viable. He had suggested a combined course with either the Exeter or Plymouth Associations.
14. EVA Regional Representatives report - Mr. Williams provided a report for the meeting. He spoke about the new proposals from George Bullman, EVA Director, concerning affiliations. These were not supported by the members present. The National League review had taken place - there was some concern expressed at the wishes of the Competitions Commission to make the National League Division 4's sub national i.e. organised by individual regions. There was very strong feeling that a Kestours Cup or equivalent was needed for teams playing in Division 4 - Regional League.
15. Super Cup to take place on September 14th\15th at Hutton Moor Leisure Centre, Weston-super-Mare. Mr. Richards informed the meeting of the discussions that he and Mr. Bullman had with Woodspring District Council and the possibility of them allowing publicity to go through their Marketing Department and some active work with schools through their Sports Development Officer.

Mr. Gooding offered to act as Publicity Officer again for the event.

16. South West Sports Council - A paper from the South West Sports Council had been distributed prior to the meeting which explained that volleyball was not one of the sports on which funding would be concentrated by the Sports Council over the next few years. There was much concern about this particularly with regard to funding for the Junior Squads. It was felt that it may not be possible to offer a programme similar to that of previous years without Sports Council Funding. Mr. Richards explained the points made to him by Mr. Millard of the Sports Council in a recent meeting and it did seem that one good point in favour of the concentration of resources programme was that if and when volleyball became one of the sports on which funding was concentrated there could be sufficient funding available in a year to provide some professional help i.e. some sort of Development Officer.



It was agreed that Mr. Richards should continue to contact the Regional Director, Mr. Barsan to express the concern of the South West Volleyball Association about the ending of funding in the region from the Sports Council.

17. Date of Next Meeting - the next meeting will be a combined AGM and Executive Meeting and will be held on June 15th at Bath Sports Centre.

18. Any Other Business

a) Mr. Gooding expressed concern at the number of matches that had been postponed in the Premier Division of the South West League. Members present agreed that this should not happen and suggested to Mr. Gooding that he immediately fine any teams who were guilty of breaches of the rules.

b) Mrs. Harrison described to the members the programme that had been outlined for development of the National Ladies Squads and in particular the regional or divisional squads that would hope to develop younger players. She was to be one of the assistant GB squad coaches and hoped to develop some junior training squads within the region.